



AAUW-LONG BEACH VANTAGE

October 2008

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 38 Issue 2

Sharon Westafer, EF VP

Educational Foundation Fellowship Recipient October Program Saturday, October 4, 2008

The speaker for the October branch meeting, Bronwyn Chambers, is an International Fellow from Canada who received funds from the Long Beach Branch Anna Stofflet Townsend International Endowment. (See the EF article in this issue for more about Anna and the endowment.) Bronwyn is an interdisciplinary counselor and artist whose focus is on infant attachment, early development, and family relationships. She completed her art therapy studies at the Vancouver Art Therapy Institute in British Columbia and has worked at B.C. Women's Hospital, Cameray Child and Family Services, and within the Community School system on the Sunshine Coast. She is studying at Antioch University in Los Angeles where she is completing her MA in Clinical Psychology, with a traineeship in the Mindful Parenting Program at the Maple Counseling Center. Additionally, Bronwyn is completing studies towards her PhD in Pre-and Perinatal Psychology from the Santa Barbara Graduate Institute.



The meeting will be a self-catered luncheon. There will be envelopes on the tables for you to make your tax-deductible contributions to EF. Please make checks payable to AAUW-EF. Remember our goal this year is complete the funding of our R and P Grant. We have \$58,969.93 of the \$75,000 funding goal.

ATTENTION ALL BOARD MEMBERS

The October board meeting will NOT be held at St. Luke's! Please make a note on your calendar that it will be held October 20, 2008; 6:30 p.m., Linda Patten's House 19615 Jeffrey Circle, Cerritos, (562) 402-6831

AAUW's Mission Statement: *Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.*

AAUW's Value Promise: *By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.*

BRANCH NEWS

Mary Orr, Courtesy Chair

COURTESY

Sally Geiger had extensive surgery in August. I am happy to report she is now at home. Get well cards will cheer her up on the road to recovery. A card was sent on our behalf.

We sadly report that our President Linda Patten's mother died unexpectedly in August. A condolence card was sent to Linda and her family.

We were advised of the death of a former member, Valorie Hafner, On August 23, services were held at the Los Altos United Methodist Church. A condolence card was sent to her family in Buena Park.

AAUW Glendale Branch is hosting a brunch on September 20 in honor of our member, Janet Krueger (deceased). Jean Aldrich has details-- (562) 430-8688. Janet's daughter, Carolyn and her dance ensemble will be presenting a program in her mother's honor.

"Let us travel like water flowing in one direction". "Ho'omoe wai kahi ke kna'o". Graciously submitted to me by Dick Miller, Chaplain of the Long Beach Yacht Club. He attended the Polynesian Voyaging Heritage Week in Hawaii.

LACIC meetings are the 4th Monday of alternating months. Contact Linda Patten for more information.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Planned Monthly Branch Meetings

- 10/4 Lunch at Bay Shore Congregational Community Church
Bronwyn Chambers, EF Fellow, Speaker
- 11/1 Lunch, Long Beach Yacht Club
Financial Preparedness Speaker
- 12/6 Wassail, St. Luke's Episcopal Church
1/3 Lunch, Skylinks Golf Course
Chris Lytle, Manager Director, Port of Long Beach, Speaker
- 2/7 Lunch, Leisure World
Speaker will be from one of the local philanthropic organizations we support
- 3/7 Lunch, The Grand
Dr. Caroline Heldman, author of "*Rethinking Madame President*", Speaker"
- 4/2* Dinner, Assistance League Headquarters
International Relations Speaker
- 5/2 Afternoon Membership Garden Party
Location: TBA
- 6/6 Lunch, Old Ranch Country Club
Installation of New Officers

All meetings except 4/2 are on the first Saturday of the month

*4/2—Thursday evening meeting

PLEASE JOIN US

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

All are held on the third Monday of October, January, March, and May and start at 6:30 PM.
Dates: 10/20 (Linda Patten's Home) Remainder at St. Luke's: 1/19, 3/16, 5/18 (Joint meeting with old and new boards)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All are held on the third Monday of the month and start at 6:30 PM at Linda Patten's home in Cerritos, CA
Dates: 9/15; 11/17; 12/15; 2/16; 4/20

AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE: <http://www.aauw-longbeach.org>
Webmaster: – Marion D. Smith email her at mariondsmith@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"I could not at any age be content to take my place in a corner by the fireside and simply look on."
Eleanor Roosevelt (1888-1962)

Not content to "simply look on" your board and committees have been working towards bringing an exciting year to the Long Beach Branch.

Because many of our Branch members expressed dismay at the proposed closing of the Long Beach Main Library, Sharon Westafer confirmed with Association that we could use our AAUW name to urge the city council and mayor to reconsider their proposition. Many members of the board, your president, and committee members sent e-mails or letters to them in protest or to offer alternate solutions to the closing. We believe our actions showed the Long Beach community our support of institutions that support our mission.

AAUW is mentioned in the September 2008 issue of *Westways* magazine (pages 52-54) as an additional resource for writers and book-lovers in "The Write Stuff" article. I have a copy of this article that I can email to you. Please email me (Linda@lpatten.com) if you would like a copy.

There are significant proposed changes to the AAUW By-Laws as well as a few in AAUW-CA. Members of the Executive Board sent letters and emails to provide our suggestions and opinions. One of the major changes would be the membership criterion – one need not have any degree from an educational institution. Currently, one must have at least an associate's or nursing degree. Please investigate the intended changes and provide your own thoughts and ideas at www.AAUW.org and www.AAUW-CA.org.

The dates have been announced for the 2009 conventions with details available at their websites:

AAUW-CA - will be April 24-26 at the Hilton San Diego Mission Valley in San Diego

AAUW - will be June 26-28 at the Renaissance St. Louis Grand and Suites Hotel, in St. Louis

August 26, 1920 the 19th amendment to the constitution was passed. After 88 years we were very close to having a woman presidential candidate and we do have a female vice-presidential nominee. No matter which party you support, it is a good start, because **Equity is Still an Issue**.

Lamis Hashem, International Relations Co-Chair

GREAT DECISIONS

Summer is over and it is time to plan for the Fall and Winter activities. If you have ideas about what's going on in the world and would like to discuss them with similarly minded people, then you need to participate in "Great Decisions" meetings. The topics are based on the "Great Decisions" book published by the Foreign Policy Association. Helen and I will be collecting money at the October and November Meetings. (\$20.00 includes tax, shipping and handling.) . The meetings will be held at members' homes during February and March 2009. You may choose to attend either the morning or evening session. If you would like to join us or have any questions, please call Helen Sebring (562) 596-0180 or Lamis Hashem (562) 795-6605.

Jean Friedrichs

BOOK CHAT PLUS KICKS OFF NEW YEAR

Book Chat Plus will be held at the home of Jean Friedrichs, 2912 Walker Lee Drive in Los Alamitos on Tuesday, October 7th at 10:00 AM. We will discuss our summer reading over coffee and rolls. All members are invited. Call Jean at 562-598-9218 to let her know if you are interested and planning to come. This is a small, friendly group. You are invited to participate or just listen.

PUBLIC POLICY REPORT

AAUW California has taken a position on two of the Propositions on the November Ballot. They are Proposition No. 4, Parental Notification Initiative, and Proposition 8, Eliminate Right of Same Sex Couples to Marry. Both of these propositions were put on the ballot by initiative. What does this mean as opposed to a measure put on the ballot by the legislature? Unfortunately, it often means it has not been as well written. A bill coming out of the legislature has gone through at least two committees in each chamber and been voted on by the entire originating chamber (Senate or Assembly) before moving on to the other chamber to go through the same process. Whether you agree with the result or not, it has gone through a great deal more scrutiny than an initiative placed on the ballot by an interest group.

Proposition 4. Vote No. AAUW CA's position on this proposition is based on both Association and AAUW CA's public policy principles. There is no requirement for counseling in this proposition. It puts vulnerable teenagers in harm's way. Mandatory notification laws make scared pregnant teens who can't go to their parents do dangerous things. No law can mandate family communication. That begins long before a girl finds herself unexpectedly pregnant.

AAUW members have made reproductive rights a policy principle since 1977. We trust that every woman has the ability to her own informed choices regarding her reproductive life within the dictates of her own cultural, moral and religious beliefs. AAUW members advocate that these deeply personal decisions should be made without government interference.

Proposition 8. Vote No. In May 2008, the California Supreme Court published a decision that invalidated former Proposition 22, a statute. The court decided that narrowly defining marriage as between a man and a woman illegally discriminated against California citizens and residents. Subsequently, the exact wording from Proposition 22 qualified for the November 2008 ballot. The difference between Proposition 22 and 8 is that Proposition 8 is constitutional amendment rather than a statute; therefore, much more difficult to change. Using only 14 words the proponents want to use the state constitution to redefine marriage and discriminate legally against the lesbian and gay community by denying the right to marry. AAUW CA opposed Proposition 22 based on organizational abhorrence of discrimination in any form and strong member commitment to vigorous enforcement and expansion of civil rights. AAUW's public policy principles and these commitments were renewed at the 2007 convention in Phoenix.

Con Arguments: No single group within society should dictate what civil rights others may enjoy. When anyone is denied rights, we are all at risk.

(No individual with the power to perform marriages would be forced to do so against their conscience or religious beliefs. Betty Ann)

I'll keep you posted on this and other issues in both the Congress and the Legislature through out our new year.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Please join us at the October branch meeting as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Educational Foundation (EF). In 1958, the AAUW Educational Foundation was officially established to administer AAUW’s fellowship and grant programs, advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and around the globe. EF remains one of the world’s largest funding sources for graduate women. As mentioned in last month’s Vantage, AAUW members can now apply for all the Foundation’s fellowship and grant opportunities. (Visit the AAUW website and look under Education.) If you haven’t already done so, October’s meeting will be a good opportunity for you to contribute to EF. There will be colorful envelopes on the tables for your donations. Thank you to JoAnn Kuroda and her committee, who are planning a delicious luncheon for your enjoyment.

The program speaker will be Bronwyn Chambers, a Canadian International Fellowship recipient who received grant money from the Long Beach Branch Anna Stofflet Townsend endowment. Anna was a long time member of the Long Beach branch. She aspired to be a lawyer but her father told her it wasn’t an appropriate profession for a woman and so she became a teacher. She served as branch president from 1937 to 1938, was State Division President from 1950 to 1952 and was Vice President for the South Pacific Region from 1955 to 1963. Mrs. Townsend was a gracious member who was proud to have introduced Eleanor Roosevelt to attendees at an Association convention. The Anna Stofflet Townsend International Endowment was established in 1953 and completed in 1986.

The Huntington Library bus trip is confirmed for Wednesday, October 8. The cost is \$26, \$15 of which is a deductible donation to EF. The recently opened Chinese garden and the Huntington Gallery, originally the Huntington residence which has recently reopened after renovation, are beautiful. Contact Sharon Westafer if you would like to visit the Library.

Sign up for the SOUTHERN California EF Luncheon

On November 2, 2008, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m., at Knott’s Berry Farm Resort Hotel, 7375 Crescent Ave., Buena Park CA 90620, is the AAUW California luncheon honoring Grant and Fellowship recipients in Southern California. Cost: \$30.00.

RSVP Deadline: October 20, 2008

Reservation for Southern California Fellows Luncheon

(Cut and return)

Please circle entrée choice

Cashew Chicken Salad /Honey Orange dressing

OR

Steamed Vegetables w/ lasagna noodles & cheese

Includes beverage, rolls and boysenberry pie

NAME _____

BRANCH _____

POSITION _____

RESERVATIONS _____

AMOUNT _____

Send RSVP check payable to AAUW – CA to: AAUW CA, P.O. Box 160067, Sacramento, CA 95816-0067

TECH TREK OBSERVATIONS

Eager questions, thoughtful answers, enthusiastic giggles, and, at the thought of holding the tarantula, an occasional shriek! These were the sounds wafting through the Whittier College Campus during the August 4-8, 2008, Tech Trek week. Visiting branch members (there to assist, but little assistance was needed for the highly organized program) were very impressed with the level of science and technology the classes offered, as well as the knowledge and skills the girls brought that enabled them to fully participate and expand their understanding and experience. Highlights of the day included a lesson on DNA that culminated with each girl constructing her own edible DNA model, an exciting lesson on spiders including that much sought after opportunity to hold the tarantula, and, in the computer lab, the girls each made their own math computer game to take home on a CD. The girls were enthusiastic participants in all the activities and eagerly shared their excitement with us as we walked together from class to class. We left knowing that spending a week with these outstanding instructors while experiencing dorm life on a college campus had a very positive impact on these wonderful young ladies.

Carol Smith/Fay Denny, Co-Membership VPs

AAUW NEW MEMBER HONORED

Our AAUW-Long Beach Branch new member, Celine Malanum, was recently honored by the Business and Professional Women/USA organization (BPW) when they selected her to be their 2008-2009 Virginia Allan National Young Careerist. Young Careerists are dynamic and accomplished "Gen X" and "Gen Y"ers who are the next generation of leaders of the business world. Celine is certainly a dynamic person who is highly involved in work to further the education of disadvantaged girls. In her employment position with WriteGirl, she plans and implements a core program of creative writing workshops at six high schools in the greater Los Angeles region. Over 250 Los Angeles youth are served yearly by the combined programs of WriteGirl.

We heartily congratulate Celine for her accomplishments and for her honor from BPW, and we are delighted to have her as one of our new members.

Flo Pickett, New Member Orientation

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

For all new members who would like to know more about AAUW and get acquainted with other active women, there will be a new member orientation Wine and Cheese social- Friday, Sept 19, 5-7:30 PM at my residence at 2919 Studebaker Rd., Long Beach. All members welcome to come and share information about their activities and experiences in AAUW.

RSVP Flo Pickett 562 421-5348 or flopickett@charter.net for directions or questions.

Jean Friedrichs, Cultural Interests

ROSIE THE RIVETER IN LONG BEACH

The Friends of the Los Alamitos-Rossmoor Library will present Gerrie Schipske who will discuss her new book "Rosie the Riveter in Long Beach" on Sunday, October 5th at 3:00 PM. She will show slides and have a discussion on this historical time. Everyone is invited, but reservations are requested as light refreshments (courtesy of Charo Chicken) will be served. Call the Library at 562 430-1048, or call Jean Friedrichs for more information. Books will be available for signing. Gerrie Schipske is on the Long Beach City Council and a member of our Branch! The Library is located at 12700 Montecito Road behind the Shops at Rossmoor.

AAUW Membership

At our Association Convention in Phoenix in 2007, the delegates voted to change our degree requirement for membership to allow women and men holding associate degrees to become members of AAUW. Therefore, anyone holding an associate (AA or AS) degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution is eligible for membership. Do you know someone like this that would be a good member for our branch?

Where do we find members? Think of all of the different organizations and groups in which you participate. Do you ever mention AAUW to your friends? Do you tell them about our dynamic group of members that work for "advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research"?

Think about inviting a prospective member to our October branch meeting where we will be featuring a recipient of one of our Educational Foundation awards. Carol Smith and I will have membership packets available at the meeting to give to prospective members; or send the name and address information to us and we will be glad to send information to them. Thank you.

AAUW BRANCH MEETING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2008

BAY SHORE COMMUNITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
5100 THE TOLEDO
LONG BEACH, CA 90803
562-433-0401

Social: 9:30-10:00 am
Business Meeting: 10:00-11:00 am
Program: 11:00 am-12:00 noon
Lunch: 12:00 noon-1:00 pm

Menu: Three salads (Green Pea, Pasta and Fruit)
Roll and butter
Dessert
Coffee, tea or water

Price: \$18.00

Questions: Jean Aldrich (562-430-8688), Barbara Cottrell (562 431-2445) or JoAnn Kuroda (562 429-6923)

Deadline: September 30, 2008

Those making a lunch reservation have made a financial commitment and refunds shall not be made.

Carpooling encouraged as church parking is limited.

RESERVATION RETURN

Send your registration and check payable to AAUW Long Beach Branch. Please mail to Bobbi Burket, PO Box 90502, Long Beach, CA 90809. (562) 599 3927

Deadline for Reservations, September 30, 2008

Member(s)

Phone (Day) _____ Evening _____

Guest(s)

Address(s)

No. of Reservations ____ Amount Enclosed _____

I would like to make ____ reservation(s) for the **meeting and program only.**

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INTEREST GROUPS

Public Policy, Please contact Betty Ann Rauch 562 431-6679 for information.

Book Chat Plus will meet Tuesday, October 7. Please contact Jean Friedrichs for more info, 562 598-9218.

Great Books please contact Linda Patten 562 402-6831.

Community Connections will meet on Monday, September 15, 2008, at Marie Callender's, Rossmoor, at 630 PM. Contact Anne Supple for more information, 562 665 8361

Literary Ladies meet the second Monday of the month at Jean Aldrich's home 1PM. Our October book selection is "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks. Please contact Pat Ferrer at 562 597 4781 for more information.

Equity Players meet "as needed." New members always welcome. Please contact Lou Es Greene at 562 434-6477.

Antiques and Collectibles please contact Barbara Gleason, 562 421-2206, for information.

Bridge Groups. Please call first to verify, day, time, and place:

Other Wednesday Bridge	1 st & 3 rd Wednesday	Noon – 4:00 PM	Emily Elgin	562 498-0646
Friday Bridge	2 nd Friday	9:30 AM – Noon	Cathy Cunningham	562 424-3166

Editor: Patricia A. Ferrer, panderoh@aol.com 562-597-4781



In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

AAUW Long Beach Branch
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