

AAUW-Long Beach VANTAGE

November 2013

Volume 43 Issue 3

In Support of Women in Need

Saturday November 5, 2013



Raquel Sanchez and Mary Ann Takemoto, Co-Program Vice-Presidents

Did you know that 1 out of 3 women in the U.S. and globally experience domestic or sexual violence? Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) women are the least likely to report abuse, even though 1 out of 2 AAPI women have been physically, sexually, and/or emotionally abused. The Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF) provides comprehensive services to AAPI survivors of sexual assault. It is the only agency of its type that meets the cultural and language needs of AAPI women and their families.



We are fortunate to welcome Debra Suh, JD, as our speaker for the November meeting. Ms. Suh is the Executive Director of the Center for the Pacific Asian Family. She is an experienced civil rights attorney who has been a leader in a number of community organizations. Please join us for the November branch program to hear about the pioneering work that CPAF is doing to support immigrant Asian and Pacific Islander survivors of domestic and sexual violence. The meeting will be at The Center at Sycamore Plaza on November 2,

2013 at our regular meeting times. We hope to see you there!

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

COURTESY

A month to celebrate the things we are thankful for....



Best wishes to November birthdays!

Did you know it is also:

All Saints Day—Nov. 1st

Veteran's Day-Nov. 11th

Thanksgiving Day—Nov 28th

Native American Heritage Month

Child Safety Protection Month

Peanut Butter Lovers Month!

"Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns."

- George Eliot

CALENDAR EVENTS & NOTICES

Thursday, November 21st

Cultural Adventures Trip to the Endeavor

Saturday, December 7, 2013

Wassail—at Bay Shore Comm. Congregational

Saturday, January 4, 2014

Lunch at the Grand

AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE:



http://www.aauw-longbeach.org

AAWU email Address:

AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com

We're on Facebook!

http://www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca

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<u>FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS (Elected, appointed and other administrative are encouraged!)</u>
All meetings are held on the **third Monday** of the month from September to May at the Unitarian Universalist church, 5450 E. Atherton St—Room 2. Social time 6:30 p.m. and meeting at 7:00 p.m. Dates: Oct.21, Jan 20, March 17

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS (Elected Board members)

All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month at the Unitarian Universalist Church-Room 2. Social time at 6:30 p.m. and meeting at 7:00 p.m. Dates: Nov. 18—Dec.7 (* 9 am-before Wassail at Bay Shore Comm. Congregational Church)—Mar. 17—Feb.17—April 21



ANNUAL CHANGEOVER MEETING—May 19, 2014

Please send communication to Editor: Rebecca Low rlow1@hotmail.com or call 562 - 596-8832

Board Briefs

The regular meeting of the Executive Committee met on Monday, September 16, 2013 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Long Beach. Regular Executive Committee business was transacted. The following motion was passed:

• Carol Smith moved that the Board recommend to the Branch that Branch dues for graduate students enrolled in a regionally accredited college or university be set at ½ of the yearly Branch dues for a regular dues paying Branch member.

Submitted by: Darlene Daclan, Secretary

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President's Message



Daphne Ching-Jackson - President

The 8th of the month comes up so quickly each month! I woke up at 6:30 a.m. realizing it's time to submit a report for Vantage Editor Becky Low's November issue today!!

After running several ideas through my mind I decided to offer my perspective on AAUW Long Beach Branch. Yes, probably a little early to do an assessment on the Branch, but prior to becoming an active participant in Branch activities earlier this year, I was sitting on the sidelines. It was a comfortable seat being minimally involved and maybe coming to an occasional meeting that might interest me. When Flo Pickett asked me to consider President-Elect about this time last year I thought "I could do this with a 'co'" but members I asked were not in the right circumstances to go on this ride with me. Eventually I told Flo I would do it solo and my involvement grew in the Spring of 2013. Now that I'm fully engaged in Branch activities, I feel so fortunate to have been asked to serve as President this year. We've had 2 terrific meetings that came together really well. Here are some additional reasons:

- 1) We have a really awesome membership recruitment team in Carol Smith, Lamis Hashem and Betty Thompson! They are progressive in their thinking about tapping into avenues where potential members exist. Send them names of your friends!
- 2) Our Co-Program Vice Presidents, Mary Takemoto and Raquel Sanchez have brought new life to our programs! I love their fresh thinking and both indicate they are thoughtful about what Branch members may want to learn about.
- 3) Elsa Karen Braden and Cacilia Kim are fantastic AAUW Funds Co-VP's. They know their educational opportunities and legal advocacy information so well the facts and figures and anecdotes just flow out of their months. For the past two months I've listened to them and have learned so much. And I thought I knew it!
- 4) Darlene Daclan, Secretary and Administrative Assistant, and Darci Fersch, Treasurer, are both task-oriented and I know I can rely on them to come through. Both of them know their jobs and approach everything with intelligent and high standards.
- 5) I also want to mention that I've known Sharon Westafer for a number of years and her enthusiasm and commitment to AAUW Funds is admirable. Sharon's commitment goes up to her office as State Director for AAUW CA, something that not all members relish. However Sharon is a unique person who is passionate and a real role model for all of us.
- 6) Becky Low has consistently (for the past 2 months) published a great Vantage. This is a thankless job and I'm very thankful that Becky is at the helm again this year.

Why have I taken up this space to talk about all of these individuals? These are Branch members who are your leaders who keep Branch business and programs running smoothly! Additionally, they have managed something I didn't think was possible: they have stimulated my enthusiasm and commitment this year, something that had been misplaced for a few years. These women give devoted volunteer service to AAUW Long Beach and I'm so happy to serve with them as elected officers and Board members this year. Of course there are other individuals who are working diligently behind the scenes and they will be identified in Part II.

If you're a new member, come to the next meeting and meet these wonderful women!

Membership Matters



Student Affiliate Outreach:

AAUW National has developed partnerships with universities throughout the nation to engage college students in issues of equity for women and girls, and to encourage them to join AAUW as student affiliates. Many universities in Southern California are now partners with AAUW, and we are fortunate to have Jeane Caveness, Assistant Dean of Students at CSULB, and Mary Ann Takemoto, Interim Vice President, Division of Student Services, as members of our Branch and our Branch liaisons with CSULB. At our November meeting, we look forward to welcoming a small group of students from CSULB to hear our speaker and to socialize with our members over lunch. Reaching out to university students, engaging them in our work and encouraging them in their pursuit of education are investments in the futures of these students and in the future of our AAUW Branch as well.

Proposed Change in Membership Dues for University Graduate Students:

At the November meeting, Branch members will be asked to vote on a proposed change in Branch membership dues for university graduate students. Two years ago our Branch membership lowered the cost of our Branch dues to 1/2 of the yearly dues amount of our regular members for undergraduate university students. The Executive Committee is now proposing that Branch dues for graduate-level university students also be changed to 1/2 of the yearly dues amount of our regular members. If this proposal is approved by the membership it will offer graduate students the same lower dues benefit offered to undergraduate students. Lowering financial barriers to student affiliate memberships in our AAUW Branch will assist us in recruitment and involvement of these students in our Branch and in the work of AAUW.

WE WANT YOU! - STEM CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to assist at the 11th AAUW Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Career Conference. At this yearly Conference, women with careers in math, science, technology and engineering present workshops to middle-school girls to excite them about the possibilities of such careers and encourage them to attend college. Volunteers for this event are needed to take on tasks like facilitating speakers, helping with registration, preparing bags and refreshments, and, this year, we are looking for more photographers!

At this printing, the final logistics are still in progress but more information will be included in future Vantage newsletters.

If you are interested in being a volunteer or have any questions about assisting at the STEM Conference, please email Darlene Daclan at darlene_daclan@yahoo.com or call at 562/673-6909.

Cultural Adventures Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mark your calendar for a 2 for 1 visit to see the Endeavor, the fifth and final space worthy NASA space shuttle to be built. The California Science Center is home to it and at the same time we will be able to see a

show at the IMAX Theater. We need a minimum of 30 people to attend.

The cost is \$7.00 per person. To make reservations call JoAnn Kuroda at 562-429-6923 or email her at sojoinlb@aol.com. Or contact Joan Gustafson jwg221@aol.com

Sharon Westafer Chair, AAUW CA Funds Committee

News from National



Marie Wolbach, Tech Trek Founder, Honored with "Classic Woman" Award

This week, *Traditional Home* magazine honored five women for their exceptional volunteerism with the Classic Woman Award. One of those awardees was AAUW member Marie Wolbach. We are excited and proud to see Wolbach recognized in this way, especially because we know better than most how truly exceptional she is.

Back in 1998, long before the national conversation around women in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields began, Wolbach knew the value of programs that inspired girls' excitement and confidence in STEM. With the help of an AAUW Community Action Grant, she founded the very first Tech Trek camp in California. The program was simple: Teachers nominated girls to attend Tech Trek, where girls stayed on a college campus for a week. Campers performed hands-on experiments, met women role models in STEM careers, and went on field trips to see the science and math they learned in class put into practice.

Wolbach's program has inspired the AAUW community across the country. Every year, AAUW members in California put in a tremendous effort to ensure that girls from all socioeconomic backgrounds can attend Tech Trek, raising funds throughout the state to provide scholarships to all campers. And their hard work has paid off. Tech Trek has been an enormous success, growing to 10 camps on eight California college campuses and inspiring camp alumnae to take advanced math and science classes and attend college at a higher rate than their peers do.

Now Wolbach's vision is being realized across the country. With Wol-

bach's encouragement and guidance, AAUW selected Tech Trek as an ideal candidate for national expansion. In the summer of 2013, AAUW members in four new states held camps that served more than 160 girls. And Tech Trek will continue to grow: AAUW will be announcing three new campus sites for 2014 this week.

We are grateful for the collaboration and support of Marie Wolbach and AAUW of California during the national Tech Trek expansion. We are continually inspired by her unique and successful work empowering girls through Tech Trek. Congratulations on your award, Marie — you truly deserve it!



Hone Your Advocacy Skills with New How-Tos

Interested in enhancing your advocacy skills? AAUW's Public Policy and Government Relations Department has compiled <u>resources</u> just for you! Find out more by <u>checking out our new how-tos</u>, which provide a variety of tactics and actions to make you a more effective advocate for women and girls.

Visit the website www.aauw.org

Fighting Sexual Assault with Title IX

A collective of current students and recent graduates launched a website to help students end sexual assault and improve the climate on their college campuses. The Know Your IX site features stories and resources, including a link to AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund resources page, where you can learn more about campus sexual assault, Title IX, and recent court cases.

AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

Cacilia Kim, Chair, Co-AAUW Funds VP



November is the meeting month that our Branch has designated as the time to raise special awareness and contributions specifically for the Legal Advocacy Fund or LAF. LAF is the special arm of AAUW that provides both financial and other support in high-impact sex discrimination cases in the workplace, college campuses, and most recently, in the military.

LAF funds currently provide critical support to a number of precedent-setting cases, including a pay equity and promotion lawsuit against Wal-Mart, a lawsuit on behalf of veterans and current service members of the U.S. military who were allegedly raped while on active duty, and female coaches working for various universities who are harassed and discriminated against simply because they are women.

AAUW has made a significant impact in these legal cases and can continue to do so – <u>BUT</u> only with your help. Contribution envelopes will be available at all tables at the November meeting. All those making a contribution will be eligible for a drawing for two \$100 gift cards to Nordstroms. The drawing for the gift cards will take place after our speaker's presentation and before the break for lunch.

If you cannot be at our November meeting, I will happily accept donations by mail at 4306 Fairway Drive, Lakewood, CA 90712. Please make your check payable to: AAUW Funds. On the "memo line," please add the Fund ID number 3999.

Thank you for your support and attendance at the November Branch meeting.

AAUW's ¡Adelante! Book of the Month Club

by Carol Smith

Book clubs are a fun, social way to open a dialogue on women, diversity, and change. Many AAUW members share a love of reading, and that love, partnered with a desire to seek out books written from diverse perspectives, launched a component of AAUW's diversity outreach program in 1996 — <u>AAUW's ¡Adelante! Book of the Month Club</u>. Since then, AAUW members have enjoyed exploring new ideas and perspectives through monthly discussions, both in person and through e-mail ¡Adelante! book groups meet in book stores, libraries, other public venues, and online, gathering both members and nonmembers to talk about issues of social justice based on the month's selection.

You can read an annotated list of the 2013-2014 book selections that were recommended by AAUW members at www.aauw.org/resources/adelante-book-of-the-month.

The anticipated release for the **Great Decisions** briefing book is January, 2014. The topics for Great Decisions 2014 are: 1. Turkey 2. U.S. and Israel 3. Climate change and food shortages 4. Political Islam post Arab Spring, focus on the Mahgreb 5. U.S. defense policy, focus on the new technology 6.U.S. energy independence and its effect on foreign policy 7. China's foreign policy 8. The global economy and U.S. trade policy Wording of titles and the order of the topics may change. More information about ordering books, our various meeting groups and any additional information will be in future Vantage newsletters. Contact Adele Brown if you have any questions. (562)594-6443 abrown511@verizon.net

BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

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Joining an interest group (or many) is a great way to get to know other members on a more personal level. Make friends while participating in fun, informative and educational activities. To start a new interest group, submit a description to the President and it will be passed to Ellen Mathis, Interest Group Coordinator for help with implementation.

Antiques and Collectibles, led by Judith Kaho, meets several times a year to share their love and appreciation of beautiful/interesting antiques, historical family items and collectables. Light refreshments are served by the hostess, sharing and conversation ensues; held at various homes or at a local retailer. Contact Judith at 562-429-2790.

Book Chat Plus Group members present the most interesting book they have recently read, film they have seen or the most exciting travel experience they have had. If time allows, all three! Light refreshments are served along with the intriguing conversation. Contact **Helen Sebring** at 562-596-0180.

Bridge Group plays at the Petroleum Club in Long Beach on the second Friday from 9:30 - noon. To inquire about a seat at the group meeting, contact **Cathy Cunningham** at 562-424-3166; catherine_j_cunningham@yahoo.com.

Cultural Adventures Group plans trips to museums and other points of interest. It is usually a mid-week tour & lunch scheduled several times a year. Join a group that enjoys checking out museums and cultural interests. Contact **JoAnn Kuroda** at 562-429-6923 or email at sojoinlb@aol.com. The next trip is to see the Endeavor and an IMAX movie on **November 21st. Reserve now!**

Great Books Group reads from an anthology published by the Great Books Foundation. It includes philosophy, poetry and fictional writing of prize winning and world renowned authors. Contact **Linda Patten** at 562-402-6831

Great Decisions Groups meetings are held in February and March. Members prepare by reading one chapter of the *Great Decisions* book; published by the Foreign Policy Association, about a situation of world importance. The self-moderated group meets to discuss the pros, cons, and issues of important topics. Each participant is encouraged to bring other sources of information. Everyone gets a turn/or pass, no one is "wrong" and all opinions are respected. One of the groups meets year round to discuss foreign policy. Each person pays for a copy of the book when available. Contact **Adele Brown** at 562-594-6443

International Cuisine Group meets and dines at restaurants of different ethnicity in the local area. It is usually scheduled every few months on a Wednesday within an easy drive. Car pooling is an option Come join a group who enjoys unique flavors of the world. Contact Joan Gustafson at 562-439-3130

Literary Ladies Group meets to discuss and compare thoughts on a selected novel, fiction or non-fiction.

Each member takes a turn recommending and leading the group on a recently published book. The ladies come together to hear the thoughts and insights of others in the group. They meet at Jean Aldrich's home on the 2nd Monday at 1:00 pm. There is a maximum of 12, but maintain a waiting list. Contact **Sharon Westafer** at 562-493-4749. The book for **November** is *The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman

Public Policy meetings, explore, discuss and support the active legislative issues of AAUW, which underscore our mission of promoting equity and education for all women and girls. The group passes on knowledge and information to all branch members and encourage them to become involved with AAUW issues. Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday. Contact Flo Pickett - an assistant leader may be needed!

Residential Rentals Discussion Group meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month year round, from 10:00–11:30 am. Anyone with an interest in residential rentals is welcome. We often have a topic, share recent landlord experiences and work to keep our knowledge current. An email/call to Joan Gustafson or Ellen Mathis will ensure there is a chair at the table for you. Next meeting is on November 20th.

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AAUW Long Beach Branch

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.

P.O. Box 15-023 Long Beach, CA 90815 Periodicals U.S. Postage PAID Long Beach USPS 361-850



AAUW BRANCH MEETING Saturday, November 2, 2013

Social: 9:30 am

Business Meeting: 10:00 am

Program: 11:00 am

Lunch: 12:00 noon

Place: The Centre at Sycamore Plaza

5000 Clark Ave, Lakewood

Meal: Chinois Chicken Chop Salad

Charbroiled Chicken Breast Lettuce, Carrots, Green Onions Mandarin Oranges, Almonds Wonton crisps, Sweet Ginger

Sesame Soy Dressing

Cookies—Iced Tea, Coffee, Water

Price: \$30.00 per person

Questions: Fay Denny



RESERVATION RETURN

Send your registration and check payable to AAUW LB to Joan Gustafson, 221 Bennett Ave, LB, CA 90803

Mombol (0)		

Guest / Note

,———

No. of Reservations _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Member(s)

I would like to make _____ reservations

for the meeting and program ONLY.

RSVP by October 28th

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