

AAUW-Long Beach VANTAGE

May 2015

Volume 44

Issue 9

Membership Garden Party

Saturday May 2, 2015

Raquel Sanchez and Jeane Caveness Co-Program Vice-Presidents

Come to our lovely annual Garden Party for fun, friendship and delicious refreshments, plus an opportunity to win raffle prizes! The Garden Party: May 2, 2015 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at the home of Lamis Hashem, 3312 Hill Rose Drive,

Rossmoor, CA 90720

Our annual Garden Party is always a lovely event offering time to relax and socialize with other members, to meet new members and new friends, and to browse our program and special interest group displays while enjoying delicious refresh-



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ments. We encourage everyone to bring friends, neighbors, colleagues and fellow volunteers in other organizations to our Garden Party. What could be better? Raffle prizes, great food, talented and active women and the opportunity for our guests to join AAUW and our AAUW branch. Dues for new joining members are reduced since this is a membership recruitment event that is open to the public.

Please come, bring your friends and have a wonderful time at our AAUW, Long Beach Branch Garden Party.

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 and girls have a fair chance.

Courtesy Best wishes to MAY birthdays!



We also celebrate...

- 1 May Day
- 5 Cinco de Mayo
- 10 Mother's Day
- 18 International Museum Day
- 25 Tap Dance Day

With condolences to **Sharon** on the recent loss of her husband, Dr. Robert Westafer. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Elaine Bernal, a new AAUW member, is working on her doctoral program at CSULB and also adds, "I was recently appointed by the Mayor Robert Garcia to be on the Human Relations Commission, and I recently started a collaboration with the Smithsonian and University of Virginia to develop middle school STEM curriculum." She's also the campus advisor for the AAUW student affiliate group at CSULB.

CALENDAR EVENTS & NOTICES

Thursday, May 7, 2015

Cultural Adventures to Huntington Library Saturday, June 6, 2015

Installation of Officers—Old Ranch CC

AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE:

http://www.aauw-longbeach.org.



AAWU email Address:

AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com

We're on Facebook!

http://www.aauw-ca.org/blog/index.cfm/2010/8/5/



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church at Atherton and Bellflower Blvd. Room 2. Date: April 20.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m. Meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist church, Room 2.



INCOMING / OUTGOING FULL BOARD MEETING

All current year and next year Board Members, Appointed Officers and Administrative Chairs are expected to attend the meeting on Monday May 18 Mark your calendar for this important meeting.



EMPOWERING WOMEN SINCE 1881



AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION

June 18-21, 2015 | San Diego

Has any of your contact information changed? Phone? Email? Address? Help us to keep you informed in a timely manner. Send your changes to Database Coordinator George Jackson, at qeorgeljackson@gmail.com or call 562-377-1670.

Send any Branch news or Courtesy items to Editor: Rebecca Low rlow1@hotmail.com

President's Message



A Room of Their Own: AAUW National Convention June 18-21

from Outlook spring/summer 2015

"There haven't been many spaces historically where women's voices were prioritized, but the convention is one of the best places to learn about what other women are experiencing and decide how to band together. Some of those decisions (and conventions) have gone on to make history."

The first official AAUW (Association of Collegiate Alumnae) meeting was held <u>in 1882</u> and held every year until <u>1922</u> when the name was officially changed to American Association of University Women. <u>In 1923</u>, Phyllis Rankin introduced the Equal Rights Amendment. It was a contentious issue. Members could not come to a consensus; they continued to disagree on the issue <u>until 1971</u> when delegates voted to support equal rights for all women under the law at the convention in Dallas. Also, in 1971, the big issue was abortion. AAUW stood on the side of choice – or as is being proposed this year: **quality and accessible health care including reproductive health care**, **not only choice**, **but access to birth control**, **pap smears**, **mammograms**, **and other vital health care services**.

At the 2009 convention, members decided to democratize our voting system <u>so that every member has the opportunity to vote individually</u> instead of through delegates to decide AAUW's future. And today, in the age of technology, we vote online as well as at the convention. **Read your AAUW Outlook spring/summer issue.**

(On the address label is your member ID number and your voter pin #) Voting takes place between April 1 and May 8, 2015. Make your voice count.

Membership Dues for 2015-2016

It's that time of year again. Dues notices will be sent to you very soon either by email or letter if you do not have email. The amount has changed as both National and California have raised their dues this year. We, the local branch, **did not**. Dues are now \$95 for regular members, \$46 for life members, \$26 for dual members, and \$41.81 for grad-student members. Honorary Life members pay nothing--we are honored to have you as members of our branch.

I encourage you to pay by credit card--definitely the more efficient way, as National will send you an immediate acknowledgement. And really good news this year if you do it this way: The renewal invoice you will receive now has a personalized link in it so that you can just click and renew online with your credit card. You will NOT need to log in with Member ID number and password and no need to find the Membership payment program.

If you wish to pay by check, please make the check out to AAUW (**not** to AAUW- Long Beach) as I must send the check to National in Washington. I will need your check by June 15 in order to have them in Washington by June 30, the end of our fiscal year. Please send it to Norma Grady, 3591 Claremore Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90808-3104. If you have any questions, I'm at (562) 596-2819.

Your support of AAUW and the Long Beach branch enables them to work on a broad range of programs benefitting women and girls.

Norma Grady, Membership Treasurer

Membership Matters



New Member: We have a new member who recently moved into downtown Long Beach and who has joined us. Welcome **Joyce Lott!** Joyce has already become active in our Great Books interest group and is interested in making friends in Long Beach. Joyce is a retired high school teacher who formerly lived in New Jersey. Here is her contact information: Joyce Lott, (562) 438-2584 (H); (609) 240-5744 (C); lottofjoy@gmail.com. Please look for Joyce at our meetings and welcome her to AAUW and to our AAUW branch.

Garden Party: We hope that everyone will come to the **May 2 Garden Party** and will bring their friends, neighbors and colleagues to meet our members and to learn more about our AAUW branch. Our Garden Party is a wonderful chance to relax and socialize, but it is also our major branch outreach event to bring new members into AAUW and into our branch. Please think about those in your social, employment or volunteer circle who might like to know more about AAUW and who might consider joining us and becoming involved in our work on behalf of women and girls. Because our Garden Party is a membership outreach event that is open to the public, anyone new who joins at the Garden Party can join at the reduced dues rate of \$70.50, with membership that will be effective though June 30, 2016.

Happy Spring, everyone. See you at the Garden Party.

Endowment Fund Interest Suggestions

Please submit your suggestions on how to use approximately \$630 of endowment fund interest in FY 2015/2016 to Pat Ferrer panderoh@aol.com or 365 Ultimo Ave, Long Beach, CA 90814. Note that \$66 of the interest has been set aside to pay for the Connie Inskeep Leadership Award. Section 8 of our policies and procedures states:

d. Interest from the AAUW Long Beach Branch Endowment Fund shall be used for a project (or projects) which support the AAUW mission statement. (Suggestions by May 5, 2015 please).

Board Briefs

Regular Board business was conducted at the March Board of Directors meeting. The following motions were made and passed:

- Ellen Mathis moved that Deloris Mayuga be appointed to be the Branch interface to the Trustee for the Magarian estate. The motion was seconded by Frances Rozner.
- Frances Rozner moved that the Branch add to Standing Rules #3 the following: pre-paid meeting meals that become available due to the absence of a member or guest may be re-sold. The motion was seconded by Shelley Arnold.
- Patricia Ferrer moved that Patricia Ferrer chair the Connie Inskeep Leadership Award committee. She is authorized to select 2 additional committee members, one cannot be on the Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Carol Smith.
- Joan Gustafson moved that a \$10.00 donation be made by bus riders going to the Huntington Library and Gardens Cultural Adventures May 7th. The motion was seconded Carol Smith.

Legal Advocacy Fund



Important Supreme Court Victory for Pregnant Workers in Young v. UPS

Peggy Young's case arose more than seven years ago, when she became pregnant while working as a UPS driver. Her doctor recommended that she avoid lifting more than 20 pounds during her pregnancy. When UPS learned of this restriction, it refused to let her continue to do her job. UPS also refused to give her a light duty assignment, even though it provided such accommodations to other workers, including drivers with on-the-job injuries and those who had lost their commercial driver's licenses for health or other reasons—<u>including DUI convictions</u>. Peggy sued, arguing that UPS had violated the <u>Pregnancy Discrimination Act (PDA)</u> when it refused to provide her the same sorts of accommodations it provided to other workers. But she lost her case without a trial and the decision was upheld by the 4th Circuit in 2013, leading Peggy to appeal to the Supreme Court.

In a 6-3 decision, the Supreme Court disagreed with the lower courts and emphasized that an employer who accommodates non-pregnant workers who are similar to pregnant workers in their ability to work cannot justify a refusal to accommodate pregnant workers, too. Moreover, even if an employer offers some other apparently legitimate reason for refusing to accommodate pregnancy, the employer will still violate the PDA if the employer's accommodation rules impose a significant burden on pregnant workers—for example, if the employer accommodates a large percentage of non-pregnant workers with physical limitations while failing to accommodate a large percentage of pregnant workers with physical limitations.

Peggy Young's case may now go to trial.

Shelley Arnold and Flo Pickett Chairs—Public Policy

Public Policy



Public Policy "Special" Meeting

Join us in the Bach Library Meeting Room as we screen the taped panel discussion "Solving the Equation". A panel of experts in tech-industry and academia give new insight into why so few women enter and stay in STEM careers.

The discussion coincides with the release of the new National AAUW research report, Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing.

All AAUW members and *friends* are welcome to come and view the film. Hope you will join us.

When: May 21, 2015 from 4:30 - 6:30

Where: Bach Library (corner of Carson and Bellflower) 4055 N Bellflower Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90808

Contact Shelley Arnold at shelleyarnold1@aol.com with any questions.



to AAUW Long Beach Branch and Its Generous Members!!

The Long Beach branch is once again in the top ten in the state for giving. Total contributions from branch members, and from the Luncheon Most Deadly, were \$11,153.00. Congratulations! And thank you to Fay, chair of the Luncheon committee, her committee, and to each of you who donated to the AAUW Fund in 2014. A total of \$509,701 was donated by AAUW California members and branches in 2014. We appreciate your commitment to AAUW and its mission to promote equity for all women and girls.

You may have noticed reference to the AAUW Fund instead of Funds. The AAUW Fund is the umbrella under which all of the projects of AAUW reside. While members may continue to donate to specific funds, AAUW is encouraging members to donate unrestricted funds so the money can be used where it's most needed.

The AAUW Fund advances AAUW's mission by sustaining all our programs and activities. Your unrestricted gift to the AAUW Fund helps incubate and disseminate programs that

- above all, advance equity for women and girls
- strengthen AAUW's role in the global community
- respond to and eradicate the persistent challenges facing women and girls
- leverage new opportunities and attract new audiences to our mission

Please contact Sharon Westafer, sharwest1@hotmail.com, if you have any questions.

Patricia Ferrer Chair

Connie Inskeep Award

We will be honoring the Connie Inskeep award winner at the June branch meeting and we need each of you to nominate someone in the Branch who has worked hard for the Branch and AAUW's mission. Connie served as President or Co-President of the Branch three times. She was an outstanding leader who demonstrated her love for AAUW by serving in leadership positions at the Branch, Interbranch Council and State levels. Her dedication and commitment to AAUW were inspirational to all who knew her. The criteria for selection are:

Leadership in the Branch that is consistent with the mission of AAUW, i.e. promoting equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research;

Leadership at the LA County InterBranch level; and/or Leadership at the AAUW California or National level.

Any of the criteria listed above either solely, or in combination, is acceptable for nomination.

The <u>previous recipients</u> of this award (in order received) are: JoAnn Kuroda, Joyce Clark, Jean Aldrich, Judith Kaho, Fay Denny, Deloris Mayuga, Daphne Ching-Jackson, Betty Ann Rauch, Joan Gustafson, Barbara Gleason, Ellen Mathis, Norma Grady, Elaine Babbush, Julie Mills, Sharon Westafer, Helen Sebring, Patricia Ferrer

Please submit your nomination no later than April 30, 2015 to Patricia

Ferrer, 365 Ultimo Ave, Long Beach, CA 90814 or email your nomination to panderoh@aol.com

BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

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. We meet the 1st Tuesday at 10 a.m Contact Betty Thompson, 562 - 430 - 8438 or bettythom@aol.com

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. Ideas welcome.

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.

Contact Adele Brown at 562-594-6443 or email at abrown511@verizon.net.

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 of LB. Car pooling is an option Come join a group who enjoys unique flavors of the world. Contact Joan Gustafson at 562-439-3130 The next adventure is being planned.

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 on the 2nd Tuesday at 1:00 pm. There is a maximum of 12, and a waiting list. Contact **Sharon Westafer** at 562-493-4749 if needed, about the meeting location and May book, *Nemesis* by Philip Roth

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.

This month's meeting will be **May 21 (the 3rd Thursday) -** See article on page 5 for details Contact **Shelley Arnold email shelleyarnold1@aol.com** 4211 Marber Ave, Lakewood, 90713.

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.

Any new ideas? Submit a plan to the President or to Ellen Mathis.

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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 the organization, on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability

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AAUW BRANCH MEETING Saturday, May 2, 2015

1:00 to 3:00 pm Annual Membership Garden Party

Place: Home of Lamis Hashem

3312 Hill Rose Drive Rossmoor, CA 90720

Meal: Please bring something to share or donate for the refreshments!

Coffee, Tea, Water, Iced Tea

Cost: Priceless!!

Invite friends and others who

might be interested in becoming members.

Questions about the location?

Contact Lamis Hashem or Carol Smith

