

AAUW-Long Beach VANTAGE

December 2015 Volume 45

Issue 4

Celebrating the Holidays

Mary Lamo and Valerie Little Program Co-Vice-Presidents Saturday, December 5, 2015

This is a festive and joyous time of year when we all come together with AAUW members, family, and friends to celebrate our annual Holiday



Wassail. The word wassail is a salutation wishing health to a person, used in England in early times when presenting a cup of drink or when drinking to a person.

The 2015 Holiday Wassail will be held on Saturday, December 5 at the

home of Deloris Mayuga from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There will be plenty of refreshments for everyone to enjoy. This is a perfect opportunity to have potential members get to know the branch in a more intimate setting.

Reservations are not needed for this event. We look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday, December 5 for this memorable occasion. Stop in for a cup of Wassail and stay to share good food with friends. We look forward to seeing you.

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.

Branch News

<u>Courtesy</u> Best wishes to DECEMBER birthdays!



Note to members: Jean Aldrich has moved and would love to hear from you at... 200 N Dale Ave. Apt 224 Anaheim, CA 92801 714-226-0039

God gave us memory so that we might have roses in December. James M. Barrie

CALENDAR EVENTS

All meetings are the first Saturdays, except in January and May (changed to avoid holidays). All speaker-with-business meetings will be held Saturday mornings at the Old Ranch Country Club in Seal Beach – 9am to noon.

December 5 * – January 9 February 6 – March 5 – April 2—May 14 * – June 4

* The December Wassail, held in the morning, and the * May Garden Party, held in the afternoon, will be at private homes.

AAUW-LONG BEACH website: http://longbeach-ca.aauw.net/

AAWU email address:



2

AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com

We're on Facebook! https://www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca

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Long Beach Inc. (CA) Branch SAVE THE DATE: AAUW CA Convention in

San Mateo in April 2016

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS—All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time at 6:30pm with meeting at 7:00pm. All meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist Church at Atherton and Bellflower Blvd. Room 2. Dates: December 14*— February 15— April 18. (*second Monday)

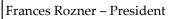


FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS—All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time 6:30pm with meeting at 7:00pm. Meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist church, Room 2. Dates: January 18—March 21 – May 16

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 <u>georgeljackson@gmail.com</u> or call 562-377-1670.

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

President's Message



3

It's that time of year where we're heading into the holiday season with hopefully cooler weather and being thankful for the meaningfulness of our lives. Being an active member of AAUW is definitely meaningful – we're all advancing equity for women and girls in whatever way we can.

Whether it's adding to the AAUW Fund for projects, fellowships and grants, educating the community about equity, educating ourselves about the world, inspiring middle school girls to excel in the STEM fields, being a branch leadership volunteer, or making our voices heard with our elected officials, we're making a difference first within ourselves and then with those around us. We're powerful! Think of how much our own branch raised for fellowships, grants, and research at our lively Luncheon Most Deadly (over \$3400) while promoting female authors.

And, there's a little something more each of us can do. Are you a *Two-Minute Activist*? If not, it's easy to become one and easy to participate. It takes just two minutes to let your elected official at the national or state level know how you feel about an issue. AAUW sends you an email notice once in a while; the note is pre-written but you can make changes to it; press "Submit" and your pre-selected representatives receive your opinion. Register at

<u>http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist</u>. Our multiple voices do make a difference when representatives are making a decision. Look at what AAUW CA helped accomplish in the California legislature with the recent passage of the strongest pay equity laws in the nation.

More meaningful branch engagement coming up on the horizon: Title IX action, Tech Trek, the 2016 STEM Career Conference, Scholarship recipient selection, StartSmart opportunities (member Marie Kiss is our branch's first trained StartSmart facilitator), plus more.





Looking forward to seeing you at our first informal branch event of the year – the Wassail - on December 5th. Bring your good cheer, whatever you volunteered to provide, and the friends you'd like to have join the branch – it's always a lovely social event. And in-between, may you have a wonderful Thanksgiving!



We are happy to report that we have 4 new members to the AAUW, Long Beach Branch. As the new Co-VPs of Membership, we would like to thank everyone for your support and look forward to informing everyone about the new members we receive from your family and friend referrals. New Members

Sunny Zia: Sunny graduated from University of California, Irvine in 2003 with her M.Sc. degree in Civil Engineering/Water Resources. She is also on the Board of Trustees for Long Beach City College. The proposal for a Student Affiliate on the LBCC campus was submitted to Sunny and her fellow board members.

Farrah D. Farhang: Farrah is currently a student at California State University, Dominguez Hills, pursuing Human Resources Management. Previously, she worked as System Analyst with Southern California Edison. She is also involved in quite a few organizations and volunteer activities: Community Emergency Response Team Active Member (FEMA Certified), Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children (CASA), fundraising for cancer, Board member in Chinook Pass Cabin Owners Association (CPCOA), and Toastmasters.

<u>Kathleen A. Hooper:</u> She graduated from CSULB in 1976 with her BA degree in Liberal Studies, and in 1991 with her MS degree in Special Education. She is a retired teacher, formerly with El Rancho Unified School District.

Julia E. Hornby: She graduated from CSULB with her Mechanical Engineering degree. She currently works at Jacobs Engineering. She is also a member of the Society of Women Engineers, and Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Younger Women's Task Force, Long Beach

Mina, Leah (our Parliamentarian), and I are working on establishing a Younger Women's Task Force (YWTF) in Long Beach. The YWTF will reach out to younger women who may be deterred from joining the AAUW Branch for economic reasons. Additionally, the YWTF, Long Beach Chapter will bridge the gap between college students and our more mature members and include women in their 20s, 30s, and 40s in advancing equity for women and girls. Current AAUW members can join if they

Flo Pickett & Shelley Arnold Co-Chairs—Public Policy

Public Policy

AAUW strongly supports the vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education. **Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972** was the first comprehensive federal law to prohibit sex discrimination in education. It covers women and men, girls and boys, staff and students in any educational institution that receives federal funds. More than Athletics:

- Title IX affects all areas of education funding to evaluate their current policies and practices

- To adopt and publish a policy against sex discrimination

- To implement grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of both student and employee discrimination complaints.

Schools must publicly appoint at least one employee to coordinate Title IX compliance.

AAUW –LB Public Policy Task Force has begun its outreach to the Title IX Coordinator at LBUSD to introduce ourselves and share our mission. This is the kind of rare opportunity where we can make an immediate difference in the lives of women and girls. All interested members are welcome to join us. There is no Public Policy meeting in December – see you in January!

Long Beach Human Trafficking Task Force

The Task Force is made up over fifty organizations including: faith-based groups, local, state, and federal government offices, concerned citizens, and organizations that serve the needs of victims/survivors of human trafficking. At each meeting the group begins with introductions and an organization highlight, then breaks into four groups: Prevention, Prosecution, Protection, and Human Trafficking 101 (where you learn the basics of human trafficking).

Alex attends the Prevention meeting where they are planning for the Youth Exploitation and Safety Symposium (YESS). This event will be held at LBCC Liberal Arts Campus on **February 20th**, 2016, from 10:00 to 3:00. The theme for YESS 2016 is healthy relationships, which has the potential to decrease the risk for being trafficked. The symposium will have workshops targeting youth, college students, and older adults to inform them about topics that relate to having healthy relationships, such as consent ("'yes' means 'yes'"). The Task Force is also working to enforce SB-1193, which is the law that stipulates certain businesses (motels, massage parlors, etc.) must publicly display a poster explaining the warning signs of human trafficking.

<u>Meeting Details</u>: The Task Force meets every 1st Thursday of the month from 11:30am to 1:00pm. All meetings are held in the basement of the Lutheran church at 905 Atlantic Ave, Long Beach, CA. Feel free to contact Alex Bellenger or Mina Naghavi with any questions.

Calling All Volunteers for the 2016 STEM Conference



We are looking for volunteers to assist at the 13th AAUW Long Beach Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Career Conference. At this yearly Conference, women in STEM careers present workshops to middle-school girls to excite them about the possibilities of such careers and encourage them to attend college. Speakers already confirmed include a dietitian, chemical engineer, structural engineer, financial advisor, automotive production engineer, environmental scientist, nurse, sustainability engineer, and, new to the Conference, human factors psychologists.

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! You will not be disappointed volunteering at this Conference.

We are in the process of finalizing the logistics but we are targeting the Conference to be scheduled for **Friday, February 26, 2016 from 4:00pm - 7:00pm**. *(volunteers arrive earlier!)* at Long Beach City College (Liberal Arts Campus).

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

Darlene Declan Administrative Assistant



Regular Board business was conducted at the October 19 Full Board meeting. The following motions were made and approved:

By direction of the Executive Committee, Cacilia Kim moved that Policies and Procedures 13.c.ii.6 be revised to be: Plan and implement Branch fundraising activities for the AAUW Fund.

By direction of the Executive Committee, Cacilia Kim moved that AAUW Funds be changed to AAUW Fund in the following Bylaws: Article VI, Sections 1 & 2, Article X, Section 1; Policies & Procedures: 6, 7a, 13c, 13c.iii, 13c.iii.1, 13c.iii.2, 13c.iii.4, 14e.i, 16a, 16d, 16e; Standing Rules: 3a.

J. Cacilia Kim & Raquel Sanchez Co-AAUW Fund VPs The AAUW Fund



Thank you to all AAUW friends who shared the evening with me at the Press Telegram Amazing Women event. I appreciated that you were there.

I'd like to give you an update on the AAUW Fund - we have raised \$4,770 so far. The money is raised to support an array of programs and activities that combat barriers to gender equity for women and girls.

Thank you to all donors.





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.

Antigues and Collectibles, has gone dormant. If interested in starting up a group again, a list of interested members exists. Contact: Judith Kaho at 562-429-2790 or Ellen Mathis at 562-433-6509



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; <u>catherine j cunningham@yahoo.com</u>. e eg

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 Group meets weekly to discuss, share opinions and ideas on a critical global issue. Participants: It's time to order Great Decisions Discussions Books. The cost of a book is \$25. Please make your check out to Julie Taboada, I will gladly accept your check at the December meeting. You may also mail it to me: Julie Taboada, 239 Campo Dr., Long Beach, Ca 90803. If you have not signed up for a Discussion group but plan to participate, sign up at the December meeting. You may also contact a group coordinator-they are: Norma Grady-Tuesday mornings; Flo Pickett-Wednesday evenings; Deloris Mayuga-Friday afternoons. Contact: Julie Taboada at 562-856-0709 or jutaboada@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 or Fay Denny faydenny@yahoo.com 0



Literary Ladies Group meets to discuss and compare thoughts on a selected book, fiction or non-fiction. Each member takes a turn recommending and leading the group. The group comes together to hear thoughts and insights from others in the group. They meet the 2nd Monday of the month at 12:30 p.m. There is a maximum of 12, and a waiting list. Contact Sharon Westafer, 🔀 562-493-4749 if interested. The book for December is Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker by Jennifer Chiaverini.

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. For the next meeting - Contact Shelley Arnold shelleyarnold1@aol.com 4211 Marber Ave, Lakewood, 90713.



Residential Rentals Discussion Group meets the 3rd Wednesday of odd months year round from 10:00-11:30 am. Our next meetings are in 2016: Jan 20th, Mar 16th and May 18th. Anyone with an interest in residential rental is welcome. We cover current landlord/tenant topics, share experiences and work to keep current in the housing industry all in an informal setting. Ellen Mathis and Joan Gustafson Co-Chair and invite you to check the group out.

NEW! Book Group AND Bridge Group forming. We (Linda Patten and Ellen Mathis) have a list of several names. If you would like to 'Kick Off' a new Group for either area, contact Ellen Mathis, 562-433-6509 or epmathis@verizon.net for help setting up an "interested people meeting" to discuss details (what, where, time, etc.).

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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