

Celebrate the Holidays with Wassail

Saturday December 2, 2017

Pam Rayburn & Lindsay San Miguel
Co-Program Vice-Presidents



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 2017 Holiday Wassail will be held on Saturday, December 2 at the home of Cacilia Kim and Lee Tsao 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 2 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.*

Courtesy

Best wishes to December Birthdays

3— First Day of Advent

7—Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

13— Santa Lucia Day

24—Christmas Eve 25—Christmas Day

Hanukkah



Helen Sebring's celebration of life memorial service is on Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 2:30 p.m.
The service will be held at:

Roundtree Gardens Chapel
12151 Dale Street
Stanton, California 90680

Keep looking up...that's the secret of Life!
~ Snoopy

CALENDAR EVENTS

Meetings are the first Saturdays, except in December and March.

AAUW-LONG BEACH website:

www.aauw-longbeach.org



AAUW email address:

AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com

We're on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca

Follow AAUW on LinkedIn

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/AAUW-Long-Beach-CA-Branch-7001584/about>

Come forward and volunteer your talented self as a candidate for Board of Directors of AAUW California. Share your skills and passion for education and equity for women and girls. Step up to fill the office of Secretary or one of the four Director positions for 2018-2020. Complete the [Candidate Nomination Form](http://www.aauw-ca.org/elections-nominations/) electronically. (<http://www.aauw-ca.org/elections-nominations/>)

Deadline for submission is December 8th 2017.

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: November 20— December 18— February 19— April 16.

FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS—All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month except January. That will be on the 4th Monday—Jan. 22nd.
Social time 6:30pm with meeting at 7:00pm.
Meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist church, Room 2.



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 georgeljackson@gmail.com or call 562-377-1670.

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

President's Message



"Nothing is impossible. The word itself says, I'm possible" — Audrey Hepburn

What a year it's been! We tackled 2017 with our usual gusto. We started the year with a panel of inspirational women who shared their experiences about serving in the military. Some of us donned pink hats and marched with thousands of others in the historic women's march in Los Angeles. Our 14th Annual STEM Conference was another roaring success – 1,990 girls so far have had the opportunity to get direct, hands on experiences from dynamic women who work as software engineers, chemists, architects and many other exciting STEM careers. Our new AAUW Work Smart program is out of the pilot stage and now an official Branch project. And the fabulous and hardworking AAUW Work Smart team is busy working with local leaders and businesses to train 5000 women in 5 years about how to better negotiate their salaries — a key tool in fighting the gender pay gap.

And we didn't just talk about money, we also raised it! And gave it away to provide fellowships and grants to women pursuing higher education and to support worthy projects like the YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley's TechGyrls program that exposes underserved girls to jobs in STEM fields. We also raised money to support the many amazing programs through AAUW state and national. In fact, our Branch, once again, was one of the top ten in the state for giving.

And while we're talking about fundraising -- Congratulations to Fay Denny and her committee for the wonderful October Luncheon Most Deadly! Over 100 attendees enjoyed hearing mystery author Anne Perry speak while eating a delicious lunch and bidding on gift baskets and the "money hat". \$4,000 will be sent to AAUW for the Educational Opportunities Fund. Thanks to all those who supported the fundraiser. And for those who could not attend, you can still make a donation to the AAUW Fund!

And as always, we squeezed in a lot of fun throughout the year as well. We had bus trips to the Broad museum, ate crepes at the La Creperie Café, went to the theatre to learn about Henrietta Swan Leavitt, a 19th Century astronomer, and relaxed and got to know each other better at garden parties and new member socials.

2018 is right around the corner. It's now time for our annual Wassail. Let's have a cup or two of the sweet cider on December 2nd and get ready for another fantastic year!

As Branch Historian this year I would like, in memory of her recent death, to share one of Helen Sebring's writings from a past Interest Group endeavor, *Branch Snapshots*. Branch History Snapshots was a Project of the Write Stuff Interest Group.



AAUW LB Branch Year 1928-29 - President Mrs. Florence McFarland

Our year book memories of AAUW at our apartment are a marvelous history of the times for Long Beach women. A Miss Anna Hill reported to the LB College Association, a predecessor of AAUW-LB, that modern artists were charlatans and their art was sweeping away the ideals of the world. But she was optimistic for the future. Other programs or speakers that year included the music of early California, a report on the advancement of feminine groups, early childhood health, an assemblywoman, the local PTA and an approval to support the idea of fellowships for women scholars. (an early EF?) Their activities were teas, dinners, bridge and parties. They evoked the word "gay" to describe good events.

Women's groups grew rapidly then. One new club chartered with 25 members and within a year boasted 100 members. Erline Aldrich stated in the Long Beach Sun, Tuesday, February 5, 1929 that a leader must have a keen mind, broad vision, love of humanity and faith. Old landmarks of Long Beach like the Ebell Club figured prominently as meeting spots that year. Formality and the uses of "Miss" and "Mrs." were important in their writing. Press coverage was extensive. The times were as different as the clothing and yet amazing similar then and now. It is a treat to look through over 75 years of our history of women in Long Beach.

Snapshot by Helen Sebring

Ellen Mathis, Branch Historian

Membership Matters: The holiday season invites us to reconnect with each other in a special way---by reaching out to old and new friends, by working together in our AAUW branch programs for equity for women and girls, and by taking action to support women and girls in our nation and throughout the world.

Our annual December branch Wassail gathering gives us a wonderful chance to connect with each other in a relaxed and social way. As we move into the holiday season, think about bringing your friends, colleagues and family members to our branch wassail gathering, so they can experience our warm greetings and learn more about our many branch programs that advance equity for women and girls.

New and Returned Members: Please welcome our newest member, **Kori Carrasco**, who is the niece of our member Elsa-Karen Braden. Kori is a retired U.S. Army Reserve officer. Please look for Kori at our meetings to welcome her and to invite her to become involved in our AAUW branch programs. Kori's contact information is (310) 488-6071 (C); and armyldy@mail.com. We also welcome **Sunny Zia** who has recently renewed her membership in AAUW and in our AAUW branch. Sunny's contact data is (949) 933-0343; sunny.zia1@gmail.com. Please add the contact data for Kori and for Sunny to your Yearbooks so you can connect with them and invite them to the branch programs and interest groups in which you are involved.

AAUW Work Smart Project Update

Mary Lamo, Frances Rozner & Sharon Westafer

Many thanks to our AAUW Work Smart in Long Beach Working Committee: Daphne Ching-Jackson [Community Outreach], Karen Gustafson [Facilitators], Mina Naghavi [Marketing] and Anne Supple [Logistics and Supplies]. We've been strategizing and organizing for next year - toward our project goal of 5000 attendees in 5 years. The 2018 goal is at least 10 workshops, one per month (except August and December). With their renewed focus on Pay Equity, AAUW has decreased the fee we pay to them for each workshop so our new Long Beach sponsorships will be \$850, instead of \$1000.

We were surprised in late October with an offer from AAUW of several LUNA sponsorships, dependent upon the workshops being conducted prior to January 1. Working quickly, we've scheduled two workshops (November 14 and December 6) - with expectation of a third - and need your help to inform any women you know about this great opportunity to learn how to negotiate their pay and benefits. What life-enhancing skills to have available with which to start the new year! Workshop details and registration can be found at www.salary.aauw.org/longbeach/

With one year under our belts, the Facilitators and Committee will be celebrating on November 11, along with discussing the most recent updates to the AAUW Work Smart curriculum. We'll be offering 2018 sponsors the opportunity to choose the month in which to hold their workshop, so please keep a look out for prospective women, businesses and organizations who care about pay equity and contact Frances, Mary or Sharon so we can follow through.

There are different ways to volunteer for this project. You can be an assistant to the Facilitator at a workshop, help with registration, set-up and take-down - contact Anne. Help market the workshops through your social media - contact Mina. Contact Daphne if you know about free classroom-style

settings available in greater Long Beach or organizations interested in hosting a workshop. And if you'd like to be a Facilitator, contact Karen for details.



Calling All Volunteers for the 2018 STEM Career Conference

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It's that time of year again!

We are looking for volunteers to assist at the 15th 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. We've added a seventh school this year - Stephens Middle School - and are still in the process of finalizing one profession, but here are the current nine: architect, astrophysicist, aerospace engineer, civil & environmental engineer, dietitian, speech-language pathologist, paleontologist, environmental scientist, and human factors researcher.



Volunteers for this event are needed to take on tasks like facilitating speakers, helping with registration, preparing conference bags and refreshments, and photographing key elements. Volunteering at this Conference is definitely inspiring!

The Conference is scheduled for Friday, February 23, 2018 from 4:30pm - 7:00pm. (volunteers arrive earlier!) at Long Beach City College (Liberal Arts Campus). Some of the volunteer opportunities occur during the week prior, if you can't attend on Friday. 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.

Flo Pickett
Chair—Public Policy

Public Policy



135%
INCREASE IN
PRICE OF COLLEGE ATTENDANCE
SINCE 1976



12%
INCREASE IN
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME
SINCE 1976



Public Policy meets the third Thursday at 4-6 PM at Judith Bergquist's home in El Dorado Park Estates.

One topic that gives a good discussion:

Women hold almost two-thirds of the United States' \$1.31 trillion of outstanding student loan debt. How did our country get here — and how do we talk about it? Share a one-pager with your community to increase awareness of women's struggle with student loan debt and kick-start grassroots movements to change the landscape for women looking to

attain a college education. Find it at <https://www.aauw.org/research/deeper-in-debt/>

Also, continue taking action for women's issues: Visit www.aauw.org Take Action

A Bushel of Thanks to our Long Beach branch for a most successful **Luncheon Most Deadly**. We had 102 attendees listen to Anne Perry give us some insights into her writing and into her upcoming book. Between the lunch sales, the Silent Auction and the Opportunity tickets for the Money Hat, the event made \$4000 for the AAUW Fund. Many thanks to the wonderful committee members who helped with the event: JoAnn Kuroda and her friend Gil Goodwin for being check-in and check-out staff; Gail Morrison for her wonderful press releases; Judith Kaho for overseeing the



Silent Auction items along with Julie Taboada and Linda Silver for the Money Hat; Sharon Westafer as Treasurer extraordinaire, and George Jackson for his technical support for Facebook and Eventbrite. I would like to publicly acknowledge my son, John Denny, for his design and publishing of the flyer and the program for the event. In addition, he provided "chauffeur" service for Anne Perry as she doesn't drive. Thank you to all the branch members that donated money and who attended the event. It truly is a whole branch activity.

On another note, I feel it is time for someone else to take the reins of the event. It has been a wonderful nine years but I think it is time for a change. Please give serious thought to being the chair of Luncheon Most Deadly. I would be willing to assist anyone who steps forward. Planning for next year needs to begin in January. Thank you all for your support.

Fay Denny, Chair—Luncheon Most Deadly

It's almost time for Great Decisions 2018.

For the last few months, both the American public and the world have been watching our new administration. What's new in foreign affairs? The Foreign Policy briefing materials begin with a consideration of a historic shift away from the international policy which has dominated since WW2. What is the impact on America's position in the world? Following topics will include changing relationships with Russia and China. Then comes a look at the role of Media which has many new forms today. Other topics: our changing relationships with Turkey; the U.S. military's role in our global engagements; South Africa on the brink; and global health, its progress and challenges.

AAUW-Long Beach sponsors four discussion groups which meet during February and March at members' homes, on Wednesday evening, Thursday evening, Friday afternoon, or Tuesday morning. Members prepare by reading one section of the Great Decisions briefing book published by the Foreign Policy Association; other relevant sources are welcomed. The self-moderated groups discuss the pros and cons of the topic under consideration. Everyone has a turn to contribute or pass; all opinions are respected. Many of our members find the meetings to be thought-provoking and enjoyable.

If you are interested in joining one of the groups, contact **Flo Pickett** about Wednesday and Thursday nights, **Deloris Mayuga** for Friday afternoons, and **Norma Grady** for Tuesday mornings—or even about forming another group. The Great Decisions books cost \$25. Make out your check to **Norma Grady** and either send it to 3591 Claremore Avenue, Long Beach, 90808-3104, or bring it to the Wassail in December. I will need the orders by December 21. Hope to hear from you. If you have questions, please call me at (562) 596-2819.

BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

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Joining an AAUW members-only 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 along to the Interest Group Coordinator, for help with implementation.

Reminder: All interest group participants MUST be AAUW Long Beach members. Guests may attend a meeting group or an interest group a maximum of three times before they are required to join AAUW. Interest groups are for the benefit of AAUW members.



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



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 other cultural interests. Contact **JoAnn Koroda** at 562-429-6923 at email sojoinlb@aol.com



Great Decisions Group meets weekly to discuss, share opinions and ideas on a critical global issue.

To all Great Decisions Group members: Great Decisions book information will be available at the branch meetings. If you plan to participate, you may also contact a group coordinator or Norma Grady at nsgrady1@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 **Fay Denny** at 714-894-0416 at email faydenny@yahoo.com.

See the notice for the October event below.



Literary Ladies Group meets to discuss and compare thoughts on a selected book, fiction or non-fiction. The group comes together to hear thoughts and insights from others in the group. Each member takes a turn recommending and leading the group. They meet the 2nd Monday of the month at 12:30 p.m. There is a maximum of 10 and currently a waiting list. Contact **Sharon Westafer**, 562-493-4749 or sharwest1@hotmail.com if interested. The book selection for Nov. is *The Underground Railroad* by Whitehead.



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 **Flo Pickett** flopickett@gmail.com



Residential Rentals Discussion Group meets the 3rd Wednesday of odd months year round from 10:00-11:30 am. Our next meetings for 2018 are January 17, March 21 and May 16. Anyone with an interest (owner or not) 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. Co-Chairs Ellen Mathis—epmathis@verizon.net - and Joan Gustafson — jwg221@aol.com - invite you to check the group out.



International Cuisine invites you to an Asian Buffet!

The next exciting International Cuisine excursion is at East Buffet Seafood & Grill! This is a restaurant that buffet fans will love, but especially for those of you who love Asian food. The restaurant features over 120 items to choose from and includes Chinese, Japanese, Mongolian BBQ and Korean dishes. To finish off your dinner, East Buffet also offers an array of desserts that will really "wow" you. The cost for dinner is \$15.99.

Plan for this next wonderful experience with International Cuisine and get it on your calendar now!

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018

Time: 6:30 pm

Address: 12100 E. Carson Street Hawaiian Gardens 90716

RSVP: JoAnn Kuroda, 562-429-6923 or email at sojoinlb@aol.com

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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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RESERVATION RETURN FORM

Send registration and check payable to
AAUW Long Beach to

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lee.tsao@hotmail.com or 562-425-7613

Member Name (s) / Guest

Amount Enclosed _____

_____ Vegetarian, Vegan, Gluten Free, Preference

_____ \$5.00 reservation for meeting / program only

Use PayPal account/ send \$ to _____
beach@gmail.com. Collect Family, Friends to
avoid usage fee to the _____

NO RESERVATION NEEDED!!

*A meal reservation is a financial commitment and
refunds shall not be made.*

AAUW BRANCH EVENT Saturday, December 2 , 2017

10:00 a.m. to 12 noon Wassail Party

Location: Home of Branch President
Cacilia Kim and Member Lee Tsao.
Street parking available. Check the
Branch Roster for address in Lakewood.

Meal: Delicious goodies donated by
Branch members

Price: No charge.

Questions about the location?
Daphne Ching-Jackson
at
dchingjack-
son@verizon.net

