



# Vantage

June 2020  
Volume 49, Issue 10

## AAUW Mission :

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

## AAUW Vision:

Equity for all.

## AAUW Values:

Nonpartisan.

Fact-based.

Integrity.

Inclusion and Intersectionality.

## AAUW Diversity Statement:

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation on the basis of age, disability, gender, location, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or

## New Board Beginnings

*Ginny Baxter, Program Vice President*

At this time, we are scheduled to hold the June 6, 2020 year-end Branch meeting at the Golden Sails Inn, assuming the "Safer at Home" requirement is lifted by then. This event will include Installation of the 2020-21 Board.



Dr. Ginny Baxter, AAUW Member and Long Beach City College History Professor Emeritus will share the history of Female Suffrage in the US and the culmination of the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920. In 1972, Ginny initiated a History of American Women class, the second held at a California community college. Since that time three sections of the class have been offered every semester. Ginny received her BA and MA in US History from Occidental College in Los

Angeles. She enjoys sharing vignettes on US First Ladies as well as Women in Film and Women during the Civil War.

A lover of travel, she has visited all 7 continents and for many years she and Charlotte Joseph led tours to Washington DC and Europe. In 2014 she started her company, Ginny's Getaways, in which she pays her own way and gives her commission to charities; AAUW (Long Beach Branch) STEM and Work Smart being two of many recipients.

However, if the "Safer at Home" requirement is still in force, we plan on holding a virtual meeting using Zoom.com technology to connect with one another. Our goal is to get as many people online for the June meeting as possible. Please read all emails and look for further details about the June 6 meeting and AAUW activities. Stay well!



# From the President

by Denise Montoya

## A Great Way to End the Year!

Congratulations to our 100-year-old AAUW – Long Beach Branch, which has now gone virtual! Leadership has gone online to communicate with members, problem solve, and plan for 2020-2021! In the last few weeks, we have been so grateful to have been able to listen in on the AAUW – CA Annual Meeting virtually and the recent AAUW – National Zoom program.

You may also be interested in listening in on one of the AAUW – National’s 2020 Convening Series using this link: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/2020-convening/> Last week, I enjoyed learning about the research done by AAUW American Fellow alumna Marjorie Spruill, Professor Emerita, U. of S. Carolina. She is the author of “Divided We Stand: The Battle Over Women’s Rights & Family Values that Polarized American Politics”. It was a fascinating presentation. Other topics include: “Getting Out the Vote During the Pandemic”, “AAUW Updates and Diane Rehm”, “New Website Launch”, “The Gender Agenda”, and the first in the series – “Together in 2019, Together in 2020.”

Getting back to the AAUW – CA Annual Meeting, I’d like to make you aware that our wonderful Long Beach Branch was recognized in the awards section of the meeting for having “outstanding mission-based programs during 2019 – 2020! Programs were chosen based on the criteria of their relevance to the AAUW mission and their effectiveness. Program topics included human trafficking, mentor, pay equity, STEM/STEAM, suffrage, Title IX, and women’s history. Long Beach was recognized for our Human Trafficking program on March 7<sup>th</sup>. I want to thank member Charlotte Joseph for submitting the following program descriptions to AAUW – CA!

### Calendar Dates to Note

May 18	Full Board meeting
Sat. June 6	Next Branch meeting pending

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July 18	Summer Board Retreat
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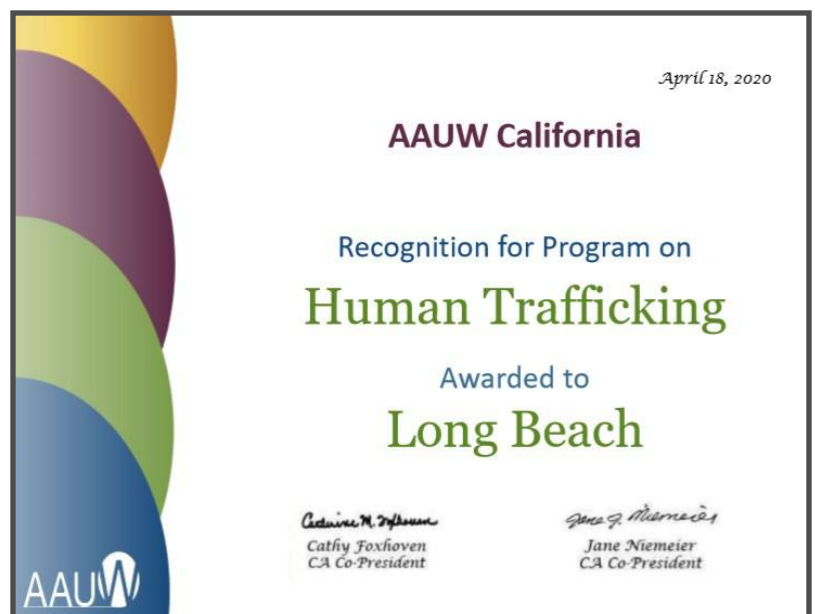
### Contact Us

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**For Vantage info: Rebecca Low  
rlow1@hotmail.com**



## From the President ... con'td

by Denise Montoya

“Human trafficking is modern-day slavery and involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. It is estimated that human trafficking generates many billions of dollars of profit per year, second only to drug trafficking as the most profitable form of transnational crime. One in three teens is recruited with 48 hours of running away from home or foster care. Guest speakers were advocates Mary White, Executive Director of *Gems Uncovered*, a local Long Beach nonprofit, and Melodie Fox, educator, advocate and author of *Freedom Has a Name: My Name is Also Freedom: The Shari Ho Story*. They related the experiences of abused and trapped women living in fear and shared their efforts to help those caught up in this silent web. Ways to identify and assist these victims were explored.”

The second program award came under the category of STEM/STEAM, and it was for the Tech Trek program at the February 28<sup>th</sup> branch meeting ! Again, Charlotte submitted the following program description.

“AAUW – Long Beach has been sponsoring young women to attend Tech Trek Camps since the program was founded by AAUW – CA in 1988. For girls, the weeklong camp sparks their curiosity and places them on a path toward success in STEM fields.

This program welcomed back three former Tech Trek participants who shared the life-changing impact of this program. The speakers were Rachel Thompson, a Ph.D. candidate in Physical Therapy at CSULB who attended Tech Trek 10 years ago, Gech Huong Huv, a high school senior at CA Academy of Math & Science (CAMS), Long Beach Unified School District, who attended four years ago and is heading to the University of San Francisco with a major in Environmental Engineering, and Karintha Marshall who attended the very first Tech Trek Camp 20 years ago and now heads the IT department at a nonprofit organization. These ladies have excelled in their fields and have received multiple recognitions for their scholarship and efforts to make a difference in their communities.”

Join us at the final meeting of the year - whatever form it takes and celebrate AAUW –Long Beach!



# Branch Business

We have elected, through a combination of online voting and hard copy ballot, the following people to serve as Elected Officers next year. Our June 6, 2020 Branch Meeting and Installation of Elected Officers will celebrate them!

AAUW – Long Beach Branch is proud to announce the Elected Officers for 2020 – 2021. Many congratulations to you all! Thank you for stepping up to lead the Branch!

Program VP – Herlinda Chico  
Membership VP – Dee Dee Catalano  
AAUW Fund VP – Barbara Vangsness  
Treasurer – Pat Ferrer  
Secretary – Linda Westman

Co-Presidents Elect and VP's - Jeane Caveness and Stelet Kim will be elevated to the position of Co-Presidents. They will share some of their new ideas and special insight for the upcoming year!

# Feminist Activists

by Rita Powell

## **DOROTHY PITMAN-HUGHES and GLORIA STEINEM - almost 50 years later.**

Feminist activists Dorothy Pitman-Hughes and Gloria Steinem raised their fists in solidarity while posing for photographer Dan Wynn. The iconic pose of women's empowerment and the ongoing struggle for equal rights first ran in Esquire Magazine. More than 45 years later St. Augustine, Florida photographer Daniel Bagan, created an updated image. Decades after their partnership, speaking on intersectional feminism, and the founding of Ms. Magazine and the Women's Action Alliance, their impact has not waned.

They are women in their 70's, again standing side by side with fists raised, adding a message of equal rights that resonates with power for a new generation. Again their message has not dimmed with age.

The Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, in October 2017, acquired this portrait into its collection, validating the historic significance of their black power salute of equal rights for women and minorities. This defiant black power salute helps open us to dialogue on sexism and racism that is still vitally needed today. It truly demonstrates their continued hope for positive change.

Steinem and Pitman-Hughes remain an inspiration to activists across the country as they continue to push for racism and gender equality. A hundred years of the suffrage movement has not eliminated racism, classism and sexism.

Even decades later, their power and beauty show no sign of age, just wisdom reflected in their soft smiles.





## Just Dues & More

by Mary Lamo

As Membership Treasurer, I have been asked two questions: Why should I pay dues? What do I get for paying dues? I can easily give my response, but I wanted to know how National would answer these questions, and I found the following compelling reasons:

"Annual dues currently account for 13 percent of AAUW's annual budget. They help to sustain and grow AAUW's programs and work that advances equity for women and girls. We believe we can do great things together and thank you for your continued support. When you join AAUW, you invest in yourself and in the power of a community." (source: AAUW website 02/25/2019)

In April you received an email with the subject "AAUW Membership Renewal for Fiscal Year 2021" from AAUW National. The email contained specific information about your membership and included the two pieces of information you needed to renew your membership:

1) an MSD (Member Services Database) link to renew online and 2) how to pay by check. You can use the link to update your member record and contact information (except name changes contact [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)); make a contribution; track your membership; and get history for tax purposes. Additionally, you can view our branch's member roster and leader contacts.

**2021 Membership Renewal is \$105**, with \$59 for National dues, \$20 for AAUW CA dues, and \$26 for LB Branch dues. The National Paid Life Member membership is a one-time tax-deductible amount of \$1180. Undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in AAUW partner universities and colleges (which includes most of our local universities and colleges) benefit with FREE AAUW National and AAUW memberships. Undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in NON-AAUW partner universities or colleges will pay \$18.81 in annual National dues, plus \$10 AAUW CA dues. These students can then join our Branch for only \$13.

The Long Beach Branch participates in "Shape the Future" campaigns, giving new members who join at a public event a 50% discount to National dues; and "Give a Grad a Gift" program which gives AAUW members the opportunity to gift one year of National dues to a recent college grad. If you have any questions please contact Mary Lamo.

## Public Policy

by Flo Pickett

Need something to fill your vacant hours? Been waiting until you have time? ...**Now is the time!** Go online at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) to Explore Issues: Education, Economic, Workplace Issues of interest to Women. Browse. There is something for everyone.

By checking issues that AAUW works and takes action on, we can all become more aware, more knowledgeable, and involve ourselves in making a difference in our country at this time. Join other members, local, state, and national, who are involved in women's education, economic and workplace issues. AAUW is active on local, State and National levels.

**You can be too. Keep up. Get involved. Start here...now. Stay safe, but participate.**

### **LB Branch Funds (if we meet in person)**

Help build our Scholarships with a **Monthly Opportunity Drawing** at each Branch meeting. Please bring shiny, sparkly, fun Treasures.... Names R—S Be thinking about non-wrapped treasures to bring for the Draw in **JUNE!** Contact Carol Clanton

**Buy Tickets!** Support our Special Projects!

1 Ticket = \$1.00

6 Tickets = \$ 5.00

15 Tickets = \$ 10.00



# Member Profiles

by Daphne Ching-Jackson

## Have You Met Becky Low?

**Rebecca (Becky) Low** is one of the real stalwarts (defined as loyal, reliable and hardworking) in the Long Beach Branch. She tends to be quiet until you meet her. Her warm and pleasant personality (she laughs easily) puts you at ease. She has been a member of AAUW Long Beach for 10 years. With this final profile of the year, we are departing from featuring a new member. We are featuring Becky, Editor of the Vantage the Branch newsletter. There's where she earns her stalwart stripes!

Becky, has served as the Vantage Editor for approximately 9 years. (She edits 10 editions a year, multiplied by 9 that means she is responsible for 90 editions of the Vantage!) That ranks as "*stalwart*" (maybe even "*unsung*"). A demanding job in any organization!

Becky handles this job easily. It is always filled with good information for Branch members. She put a new face to the Vantage this year giving the publication a new design; a very inviting, attractive and contemporary look. It's important in any organization to have a newsletter to keep the members informed and feeling like a part of a worthwhile organization. With the AAUW mission and all that goes on in the Branch, Becky consistently supports the AAUW mission 10 months of the year with the excellent Vantage editions. (No doubt, Becky is still supporting the mission the other two months!)

A native of Long Beach, she attended Long Beach City College, then transferred to UC Irvine to earn a B.A. in Linguistics. She also earned an MA in Vocational Education from CSULB. She is the administrator at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), a Center in the College of Health and Human Services at CSULB. OLLI offers 80-95 widely interesting non-credit courses each quarter to individuals 50 years of age and older. When asked what she would like AAUW members to learn about her, she shared the following:

"Being an exchange student to Germany in the year after high school changed my life. I spent time re-visiting that family and feel lucky to have that connection for over 50 years. I have worked, traveled, lived in 25 countries but am also happy to return to Long Beach and my job at OLLI that is so fulfilling. Hope to see AAUW members at OLLI, too!"



## HOW TO HAVE A PROGRAM WHEN YOU CAN'T

Looking for a way to put on a program when you can't gather?

The AAUW—CA Communications Committee has given us the perfect tool to do just that. Have you tried a Zoom meeting yet?

Choose an easily accessible movie about a woman who had or is having an impact to the AAUW mission. It can be a documentary or not. There are many possibilities, such as *Harriet*, *On the Basis of Sex*, *RBG*, *Girl Rising*, etc. Everyone can view the movie at their leisure. Then set up an online discussion of the movie utilizing Zoom. Think of it as a remote movie club.

Help each other through the isolation of sheltering in place by continuing to meet in any way possible. It might just be the start of a new interest group.

# BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

**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 branch meeting 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](mailto: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 Kuroda** at 562-429-6923 or email [sojoinlb@aol.com](mailto:sojoinlb@aol.com)



**Great Decisions Group** meets weekly to discuss, share opinions and ideas on a critical global issue. To all Group Members: Great Decisions books will be available starting in December for 2021. Planning to participate? please contact your group leader or **Rita Powell** at 562 685 2096.



**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 or email [faydenny@yahoo.com](mailto:faydenny@yahoo.com).



**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 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 12:30 p.m. Contact **Sharon Westafer**, 562-493-4749 if interested. The book selection will resume at a later date.



**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](mailto:flopickett@gmail.com)



**Residential Rentals Discussion Group** meets the 3rd Wednesday of odd months year round from 10:00-11:30 am. Our meetings are July 15, Sept. 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. Contact Co-Chairs **Ellen Mathis** – [epmathis@verizon.net](mailto:epmathis@verizon.net) or Joan Gustafson – [jwg221@aol.com](mailto:jwg221@aol.com)



**Movie Mavens** enjoy each others company at a movie and then chat about it over coffee afterwards. We are looking for a new leader for this group... **Contact the President for info.**



**Under the Umbrella Book Group** - The "new" Book Club will meet the 3rd Saturday of the month at 2:00 PM at Bev Krivokapich's home in Los Alamitos. We will read a variety of genres. We have room for more members! Ask Beverly about the titles to be read. Contact **Beverly Krivokapich** 562-596-1826 or email [bevkrivo@yahoo.com](mailto:bevkrivo@yahoo.com)



<https://www.meetup.com/American-Association-of-University-Women-Long-Beach/>

## RESERVATION RETURN FORM

Send registration and check payable to  
AAUW—Long Beach to

**Ellen Mathis** 63 St Joseph Ave  
Long Beach, CA 90803-3158

epmathis@verizon.net or 562-433-6509

(Or: Place envelope/check in mail slot to right of door)

Member Name (s) / Guest

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed for Meal \_\_\_\_\_

I choose a Vegetarian option \_\_\_\_\_

I will pay \$5.00 for meeting / program only \_\_\_\_\_

Use PayPal account to send \$\$\$ to  
aauwlongbeach@gmail.com. Select Send to a Friend  
so the branch isn't charged a fee.

### RESERVATIONS by May 25

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

## AAUW BRANCH MEETING

**Saturday, June 6, 2020**

<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Mingle or Meal ?</b>
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Business Meeting</b>
<b>10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Program</b>
<b>11:55 a.m.</b>	<b>Opportunity Draw</b>

**Place: Golden Sails Inn or Your Home**

**Meal: Plated meal to be determined**

**Price: TBD**

**Look for emails to clarify the meeting details.**

Questions about the location?

Contact Charlotte Joseph

Email: importantjoseph@aol.com



### AAUW-Long Beach Branch

Send address changes for  
AAUW Vantage to P O Box  
15023, Long Beach, CA  
90815

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

