



Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch May 2013 Volume 55 Number 9

Annual Branch Meeting

Leadership Council Meeting and Election of Officers

Come to this branch annual meeting and hear the exciting news about what is happening in our local education community. Learn how our branch has made a special effort to work with colleges and universities in the last few years and, as a result, Marymount College Palos Verdes has now become an AAUW Affiliate Member.

Dean Shane Armstrong, Marymount Dean of Student Life, will talk about what is happening on campus, the major changes and expansion, and the school's commitment to women students and interest in working with our branch. You'll hear about plans to select Marymount women students to attend the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in late May.

No Reservations Needed Just Come

Tuesday May 14 2 pm to 4 pm Hesse Park



Refreshments will be served

From the Council Chair ...

"Breaking through Barriers-Leading across Generations." That's the focus of the AAUW National Convention in New Orleans this June.

In the recent issue of *Outlook* Linda Hallman, the AAUW Executive Director, reminds us that "we've always been good at identifying and rallying around issues that affect women in all stages of life. ...our intergenerational advocacy is something that makes us stronger."

In thinking about "leading across generations", I started thinking about our own branch and the work that we do with girls and young women at various ages. Under the leadership of **Mary and Maria Ashla**, Junior Girl Scouts have fun learning more about science. At the Middle School level, our Tech Trek program provides the opportunity for girls to spend a week on a college campus exploring science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Many of you work with **Dale Richards** and **Mary Palmer** to make this opportunity happen for these girls. Thanks to the creative energy of **Shirley Borks**, we recognize the educational and over-all achievements of high school seniors with our Valedictorian Program. And this year, *for the very first time*, thanks to **Trish Dilligan**, we look forward to working with Marymount College Palos Verdes, to provide scholarships for young leaders to attend AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

After the interesting information about WIT (Women in Transition) by **Susan Negrete** at the March Leadership Council meeting, followed by the engaging presentation **Helen Dennis** made at our March 30 community meeting, there is a lot of interest in providing an opportunity to explore more about "Later Life." Stay tuned.

May 14 is our Annual Meeting at Hesse Park, 2-4pm. In addition to our election of officers, representatives from Marymount College Palos Verdes will talk about the exciting new things that are happening on campus. You'll not want to miss it.

Sherry

AAUW-PVP 2013 CALENDAR						
May 14	Annual Meeting and Leadership Council at Hesse Park from 2-4 pm.					
May 22	AAUW Torrance sponsoring showing of <i>The Invisible War</i> at Torrance Library. Contact Susan Negrete at <u>susimone@aol.com</u> for details.					
	Palos Verdes High School Awards Assembly, Shirley Borks will attend as branch rep.					
May 23	Potluck luncheon and viewing of <i>The Invisible War</i> at the home of Judy Purvis. Reservations are necessary and space is limited.					
May 28	Peninsula High School Awards Assembly, Shirley Borks will attend.					
June 1	Awards Luncheon at the Red Onion - Call Mary Shackle to reserve.					
June 6	Rancho Del Mar High School Graduation/Awards, Shirley Borks will attend.					
June 9-12	AAUW National Convention in New Orleans.					
June 11	Leadership Council 2013-2015 Planning Meeting.					

One Member, One Vote National Election



One Member, One Vote was adopted by the delegates at the 2009 AAUW National Convention. It provides every member the opportunity to have both a personal voice in the process of directing the future of AAUW and the right to vote for candidates as well as proposed bylaws amendments, resolutions and the proposed Public Policy Program. All national members, including life members, whose dues are current, are eligible to vote.

All voting will take place online unless a member sends a specific request to AAUW for a paper ballot. Requests for a paper ballot can be made by e-

mailing <u>connect@aauw.org</u> or calling 800-326-2289. <u>Vote now - online voting ends on June 10</u>.

To vote, you must use the member number and PIN number, which were already e-mailed to all members. These numbers are also printed on the back page of the Spring/Summer *AAUW Outlook*.

Voter Guide - A voting guide is included in the current *Outlook* and is also posted on the voter website, with a link also featured on the AAUW homepage.

AAUW California Voting is Open

Every member should have received an e-mail message from "AAUW CA Ballot" on Sunday, April 21, providing a personal voting code and a link to the on-line ballot for California elections. You are encouraged to use the on-line voting process which is straightforward and easy to vote. Connecting via the link in the e-mail message will make voting a very simple and direct process and you can cast your ballot in less than two minutes. <u>Vote now- online voting ends May 11</u>.



If you would prefer to type in the web address manually, or have any difficulties with the link, go to <u>http://vote-now.com/go/AAUW/</u> then enter your voter registration number from the e-mail.

To request a paper ballot, please call toll free 888-993-3736 and follow the prompts. The automated system will request your unique voter registration number from the e-mail. All paper ballot requests must be submitted by April 29.

If you did not receive an e-mail or have questions about the election process, please contact **Roxy Villa** at <u>office@aauw-ca.org</u> or 916-448-7795. For technical assistance, please reply to the e-mail to connect with <u>vote-now.com</u>. After you vote, you will receive a confirmation e-mail confirming that you have cast your ballot in the AAUW California election.

VOTE NOW Here are 2 opportunities to vote <u>your</u> choices!

Public Policy 101 – Here's How It Works

Our Public Policy Program underscores AAUW's mission and speaks to women's needs, aspirations and concerns across their life spans. There are two Public Policy committees – National and State. The National Committee bases its activities on the organization's broad principles: quality education; economic, social and physical well being; freedom from violence; reproductive choice; racial, ethnic and gender diversity; global peace, justice and human rights.

There are also national biennial action priorities that are selected based on the principles and on viability of the issue, critical need for the issue, strong member support and the potential for AAUW to make a distinctive contribution.

From the principles and priorities, AAUW develops its Federal policy agenda each year. This is where our legislative action focuses. Some issues coming up for National attention in the coming year are: human trafficking, violence against women, gun violence and pay equity.

The State Public Policy Committee finalizes the public policy action priorities for AAUW California. These are developed from the biennial public policy survey completed by individual AAUW members throughout the state.

Based on AAUW's general public policy principles and our State action priorities, AAUW CA works to influence the state legislative debate and takes positions on fundamental issues. The State Public Policy Committee also develops the legislative agenda each year. This is done with the help of the AAUW California lobbyist – **Shannon Smith-Crowley**. In the current legislative session (2013-2014), over 3,000 bills had been submitted by legislators. Our lobbyist and State Public Policy Chair, **Sue Miller**, created a list of 125 bills that appeared to have significance for AAUW interests. These bills were parceled out to the Public Policy committee members, each receiving 8 or 9 bills to research, analyze for relevance to AAUW priorities and mission and recommend a position – support, watch, oppose, amend.

In late March, the committee met and reviewed all the bills. The list was narrowed to 25 bills that our lobbyist would follow and take action on as needed. These cover a wide range of subject areas: education, workplace fairness, election reforms, bullying, human trafficking, health care/reproductive rights, gun violence/domestic violence.

You are part of this equation! As these bills and federal bills go through the system, our Public Policy Committees will send out Action Alerts for individual members to use in support or opposition to a measure. Please go to the national and state websites and subscribe, so that you can be part of AAUW's public agenda: <u>www.aauw-ca-org</u>; <u>www.aauw.org/takeaction</u>. You can also track individual pieces of state legislation using AAUW California's online tracking system. It will give you full information on bills: the author, text, analysis and status.

When you are on the National website, subscribe to Washington Update & Action Network. It's a great way to keep up to date on our federal legislative work. AAUW Public Policy is important to the organization and it is important to each member – to you!

Submitted by Nancy Mahr, CA Public Policy Committee

Membership

WELCOME

Joanne Dusseau, Marlin More, Beverly Fridley, Kathryn Lee, McNair Maxwell and **Elayne Nahman** who joined at the March 30th program.

Joanne Dusseau became interested in our branch when she attended a performance by Readers Theater and met **Jacky Mason**. Joanne grew up in Lafayette, Louisiana and majored in Philosophy at the University of Colorado. She spent two years in Australia as a model and then moved to Paris and was a model at the couture house of Christian Dior. When Joanne came to southern California, she attended the College of Financial Planning, was a stockbroker and then worked for eighteen years as a contract negotiator for the U.S. Air Force in El Segundo. For twenty years she has been a reader in elementary schools through the Screen Actors Guild's "Book Pals."

Marlin Sue More is already involved in Readers Theater. She met **Marion Martelli** through her volunteer work at the Library and heard a lot about AAUW. Marlin grew up in Hollywood, graduated from UCLA and earned a Masters in Library Science at the University of Oregon. Her husband was an officer in the U.S. Air Force and they lived in the Canal Zone and in Hong Kong. Marlin was the librarian at several schools and the coordinator/training librarian for LAUSD where she was employed for twenty-five years. She is also very involved with "Ride to Fly", an all volunteer equine therapy group at Portuguese Bend.

Beverly Fridley is a native of Los Angeles and graduated from USC with a major in education and minors in music and psychology. Beverly taught in Torrance before she earned her Masters in Psychology at Pepperdine University where her husband was on the faculty. While raising four children, Beverly started teaching a 7 am class in Psychology at Harbor College before teaching full-time at Harbor for twenty years.

Kathryn Lee grew up in Maryland and attended Syracuse University in New York where she majored in Film and minored in Theater. She and her husband came to California when he was in a doctoral program at UC Irvine and they also lived for a year in Munich, Germany. She was busy with archival work in film publishing before concentrating on Foreign Languages and has tutored French and Italian at El Camino College. Before moving to Palos Verdes, Kathryn lived in West LA and was a member of AAUW/Santa Monica and then Manhattan Beach. She learned about AAUW/PVP from the New Neighbors Club of PVP.

McNair Maxwell has several friends in our branch. Originally from North Carolina, she attended Sweetbriar College. After marriage and moving to California, she earned her Masters in European History at UCLA. After teaching for a year, she took time to be at home with their two children. McNair also has a teaching credential in Latin and taught high school students in Palos Verdes where her students won 13 of 14 state championships in Latin. She is interested in learning more about our book groups and WIT.

Elayne Nahman is a native of Pasadena and has always lived in Southern California. She graduated from USC and is a licensed clinical social worker. Elayne worked in the medical field, including hospice care, and she and a partner who is a nurse opened their own hospice consulting business which they sold in 2011. She saw the notice in the Daily Breeze of the Helen Dennis talk and is interested in learning more about AAUW/PVP.

New members are especially encouraged to attend the Leadership Council meeting on May 14 for an opportunity to meet members and participate in an interesting agenda!

Submitted by Trish Dilligan, Membership Co-Chair

In the Spotlight: The Art and Artists Group

In 2006, **Jacky Mason** showed **Nancy Leonard** a DVD. "My daughter gave me this," she told Nancy. "It is very well done. Do you think it could be used to start an AAUW Interest Group?"

Needless to say, **Nancy** did think so, and eight AAUW members began enjoying a series of lectures on *French Impressionism* and *Impressionists* from a DVD lecture series from *Great Courses*. Seven years later, what started as an experiment has developed into an "adventure in art" for the Art and Artists interest group that Nancy still chairs.

The group has expanded not only in size, but in interests as well. They explored *Impressionism* thoroughly through the original lectures, and went on to obtain from *Great Courses*, over 50 additional lectures by well-known professors from various universities on such subjects as "The World's Greatest Paintings" and "Museum Masterpieces of the Louvre". "We are learning so much", says Jacky, who has been a long-time member of the group. "My grandfather was a painter, and I have always loved art. Now I love it even more."

Currently, at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of every month, the members gather at the home of **Kathleen Fitzgerald** to watch and discuss lectures on "The History of European Art". They view the DVD lecture and talk about the contents over dessert, which members take turns providing. Often a special report about a particular artist is prepared by one of the members to augment the understanding of the subject.

Twice the group has gone on excursions, to LACMA and to the Norton Simon Museum located in Pasadena, for special exhibitions to view the paintings that they had discussed. "We have plans to American explore next," art says "And we Nancy. can go on and on depending on where our interests take us."

What could be more illuminating and fun!



Art and Artists members from left to right (standing) Shirley Kay, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Sheila Steinberg, Fleur Yano, Lenore McCormick and Jeanne Wilson, (seated) Donna Day, Mary Palmer, Sherry May, Grace Leonard and Jacky Mason. Members not pictured are Becky Dyer, Carol Wharton, and Nancy Leonard who chairs the Art and Artists group.

AAUW/PVP Survey Highlights Community Volunteerism

Hundreds of volunteer hours are provided each year by AAUW/PVP members to over 60 organizations. This is one of the findings of the recent branch member survey conducted by the Community Service Task Force.

Last year, Council Chair Sherry May, at the encouragement of the Leadership Council, established the Community Service Task Force to determine if our branch is satisfied with our outreach programs or might wish to pursue additional local community connections. It was decided that the first step would be to determine where and how our members were already involved in volunteering and supporting local programs. As a result, in February, a brief survey of local community outreach activities was mailed to 124 current branch members. The task force was pleased to get responses from 58 members which was a return of almost 47%. Thank you to all our members who took the time to respond to this survey.

The tabulated survey results show that the volunteer support our branch members provide to dozens of local community programs is quite extraordinary. Members serve on boards of directors as well as in a variety of leadership positions. They volunteer as teachers, tutors, counselors, docents and in a variety of clerical positions as well as doing fundraising, tending to those in need and visiting the sick and dying. Hundreds of hours each year benefit more than sixty (60) organizations ranging from art, education, theater, music, museum and medical groups to church and charity groups and an almost infinite number of non-profits which range from social enterprises to service organizations. And our members generously back up their volunteer service with financial support for these same organizations.

It didn't come as much of a surprise that at the top of the list was the Palos Verdes Library District. AAUW Palos Verdes has a long and rewarding history in working with PVLD and dozens of our members have been associated with the library as volunteers over the course of decades. Other well represented groups were the Norris Theater, the Assistance League, the Palos Verdes Art Center and the Volunteer Center and its associated Affinity Group.

If nothing further comes of this survey save for the acknowledgement of our members continued dedication to so many worthwhile community programs, we should congratulate ourselves for our efforts and celebrate jobs well done.

In the coming months, we'll be exploring ways in which our branch might use the information gathered in this survey. If you have any ideas, suggestions or questions, or would like to be involved in planning the next steps, please contact **Sherry May**. The list of outreach programs identified in this member survey will shortly be available by e-mail to members by request to your *CoastLines* editor. Thank you to **Maria Ashla** and **Muriel Blatt** for compiling the data.

Helen Dennis Talk Very Well Received



On Saturday morning, March 30, 2013, the Community Room of the Peninsula Center Library was filled with people to hear Helen Dennis speak on Building Blocks for Resilience in Later Life. The eight building blocks discussed were Community, Physical Activity, Mental Activity, Personality, Attitude, Relationships, Nutrition and Purpose. Current research and examples were used to explain the importance of each aspect and the overall effect was uplifting and empowering.

Ms. Dennis also spoke about Project Renewment, the First Retirement Model for *Career Women*, a book she co-authored with **Bernice Bratter**. There was a lively discussion and question and answer session at the end and then Ms. Dennis surprised the audience by giving out and signing copies of Project Renewment.

Helen Dennis is a nationally recognized leader on issues of aging, employment and retirement. She has received numerous awards for her university teaching at USC's Andrus Gerontology Center and for her contributions to the field of aging. Author of three books and over 40 articles, frequent speaker and weekly columnist on Successful Aging (reaching almost 1 million readers), she has assisted over 10,000 employees to prepare for the non-financial aspects of their retirement.



Borks

Above: Sherry May and Helen Dennis Photo by Connie Davenport

Below: Those attending the new members luncheon following Ms. Dennis' presentation included Cordelia Hwang, Mary Wallace, Helen Dennis, Sherry May, Susann Wallace and Trish Dilligan Photo by Eileen Edelson

Right: Mary Watson, Muriel Blatt, Rowie Wolf Far Right: More than 80 attend Helen Dennis presentation Photos by Shirley





Right: Beverly Fridley and Louise Loether Below: Sherry with Susan Wallace and Janet Smith Photos by Shirley Borks





Above: Doing kitchen duty and keeping the coffee fresh Judy Purvis, Eileen Edelson and Carol Torelli Photo by Shirley Borks







Left: Connie Davenport and Sid Wielin Above Right: Cindy and Norn Miller Photos by Shirley Borks

Submitted by Connie Davenport

The Invisible War

The Invisible War is an investigative documentary about the epidemic of sexual assault in the U.S. military and premiered in 2012 at the Sundance Film Festival where it won the Audience Award. It has received other honors including an Academy Award nomination for Best Documentary.



AAUW has supported this film from its premier and continues to make efforts to educate members and the broader community about sexual assault in the military and the impact that rape and the retaliation for reporting it has on thousands of service members. The plaintiffs from two AAUW LAF supported lawsuits, *Cioca v. Rumsfeld* and *Klay v. Panetta*, are featured in the film

Ways You Can View this Film

The Invisible War will be presented on PBS SoCal on *Independent Lens* on Monday, May 27, at 10 pm. *The Invisible War* is available for purchase on DVD and for rental from Netflix. The Palos Verdes Library District has the DVD available for check out as a new DVD.

It's Time to Renew Your Membership

It's that time of year again and time for all of us to renew our membership for 2013-2014!

From now until June 1, dues are only \$83.00 as an incentive to write and mail your check now to: AAUW/PVP, 30451 Ganado Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes 90275

After June 1, the dues are \$85.00. Thank you for taking the time to renew early.

AAUW (American Association of University Women) Beach Cities Branch presents:

The 14th Annual Authors' Luncheon

Women Write the World

A Fundraiser for AAUW Tech Trek Science Camp for Middle School girls and Educational Scholarships

Saturday, May 18, 2013, 11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Torrance Doubletree Hotel, 21333 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance, CA

\$60 per person

Authors: Ramona Ausubel, Reyna Grande, Dora Levy Mossanen, Amy Wilentz With emcee Maggie Anton

Includes luncheon, program, silent auction, book sales and signings Contact: Becky, <u>ritan@verizon.net</u> or (310) 374-6120

<u>May 2013</u>				CoastLines
<u>GROUP</u>	DATE	TIME	PLACE	<u>CONTACT</u>
AAUW – Who Are	We Anywa 5/16 Thursday	y? (WAWA) 10:00 am	Home of Eileen Edelson 310-541-1969 Monthly discussion group about AA	Judy Purvis 310-375-8578 AUW mission
Arts & Artists	5/21 Tuesday	7:00 pm	Home of Kathleen Fitzgerald 310-373-0946 Monthly meeting for art lovers See page 6 for more on this group Please contact Kathleen Fitzgerald helping to start a second group	Nancy Leonard 310-519-1606 I if you are interested in
Bridge-Ettes	5/21 Tuesday	1:00 pm	Home of Mary Palmer 310-378-9406 Call Margery if interested in being a	Margery Norris 310-514-3980 added to sub list
Contemporary Lit	e rature 5/13 Monday	9:30 am	Home of Marilyn Morton 310-547-5517 <i>Clara and Mr. Tiffany</i> by Susan Vre June: <i>The Lady and the Unicorn</i> b	
Eclectic Readers	5/16 Thursday	2:00 pm	Home of Anne Destabelle 310-541-8469 <i>Drift</i> by Rachel Maddow June: <i>My Beloved World</i> by Sonia	Jan Cofer 310-791-8337 Sotomayor
Great Decisions -	- Northside 5/20 Monday	Group 10:00 am	Home of Penny Stein 310-377-5648 Topic #3: "NATO" Facilitator: Connie Davenport	Kathleen Fitzgerald 310-373-0946
Great Decisions -	- PV Shores 5/20 Monday	Group 10:00 am	PV South Shores Clubhouse Topic #3: "NATO" Facilitator: Deedee Rechtin	Sharon Andrade 310-541-2417

That Tells What Kind Of Life You Have Lived.



<u>GROUP</u>	DATE	TIME	PLACE	<u>CONTACT</u>
Grand Slammers	5/9	1:00 pm	Home of Ginny Whittier	Sara Bowlus
	Thursday		310-377-9787	310-541-2767
	Call Sara if interested in being added to sub list			
Lunch Bunch	5/22 Wednesday	12 noon	Palos Verdes Country Club Call Nancy to confirm attendance	Nancy Kellogg 310-377-2427
			•	
Mah Jongg	Every Friday	1:00 pm	Contact Myrna for dates and locations Contact Anne Destabelle at 310-5 interested in lessons	Myrna Plost 310-541-6743 541-8469 if you are
Night Deeke				
Night Books	5/13 Monday	7:00 pm	Home of Mary Shackle 310-541-4630 <i>The Sense of An Ending</i> by Juliar June: Dinner at Luna Rossa	Rowie Wolf 310-373-5970 n Barnes
Readers Theater				
	5/13 Monday	7:00 pm	Home of Marion Martelli 310-377-3729 All interested members are welco	Jacky Mason 310-377-3896 me
Malleana				
Walkers	Every Thursday	7:00 am	Cliffs at the south end of Hawthorne Blvd Weekly 60-90 minute walk – Four	Kathleen 310-373-0947 Cordelia 310-541-3261 -legged friends welcome
Women in Transition (WIT)5/17:00 pmMalaga BankSusan Negrete				
	Wednesday		2514 Via Tejon, PVE Monthly discussion group for wor	310-374-2116

Small Tasks Reap Big Rewards

Connie Davenport is looking for a member who likes to write and is interested in working with the media to assist in preparing press releases. To learn more, contact Connie at 310-541-4380.

Marion Martelli is looking for someone to assist in publishing our branch newsletters. If you'd enjoy this type of creative work, call Marion at 310-377-3729.



http://aauw.org http://aauw-ca.org http://palosverdes-ca.aauw.net/

American Association of University Women Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch P. O. Box 2443 Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

AAUW Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research

AAUW Vision Statement

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls

CoastLines

CoastLines is the monthly newsletter of the AAUW Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch edited by Marion Martelli.

CoastLines is distributed to members via e-mail as a PDF file. Those requiring printed and posted copies are requested to make an annual contribution of \$10 to cover printing and postage.

Deadline for copy and photos is the 10th of each month preceding the issue month. CoastLines is issued September through May with a combined issue for December/January. In some years, a ninth issue may be posted in June or August.

Materials should be forwarded to Marion Martelli at <u>vinmar@cox.net</u>. For changes in your e-mail account to ensure receipt of *CoastLines*, contact Marion. For members receiving *CoastLines* via postal delivery, please notify Faith Morrow at <u>morrows@verizon.net</u> of any changes.

Branch Message Board



One Member, One Vote AAUW <u>National</u> Election See page 3 for <u>National</u> election details!

AAUW <u>California</u> Election See page 3 for <u>California</u> election details!