

AAUW Coast Lines

AAUW Mission: To Advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research



ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 10, 2 pm at Hesse Park

May/June 2016

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Voting via email, the Council unanimously approved the candidates for elected office for 2016-2017 as proposed by the Leadership Development Committee.

Branch Chair—Elayne Nahman

Membership Co-chairs—Kay Odgers and Leann Roque

Treasurer—Faith Morrow

We appreciate the continued commitment made by the candidates and look forward to another successful year under their leadership.

DUES ARE DUE!

It's time to renew your membership for 2016-2017!

Our membership year runs from July 1 to June 30 and annual dues are \$91.00.

Renew early (before June 1) and take advantage of the **\$2.00 early bird discount.**

Please use the separately attached Renewal Form and send it together with your check payable to AAUW-PVP to:

AAUW PVP

P.O. Box 2443

Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274



MESSAGE FROM THE BRANCH CHAIR

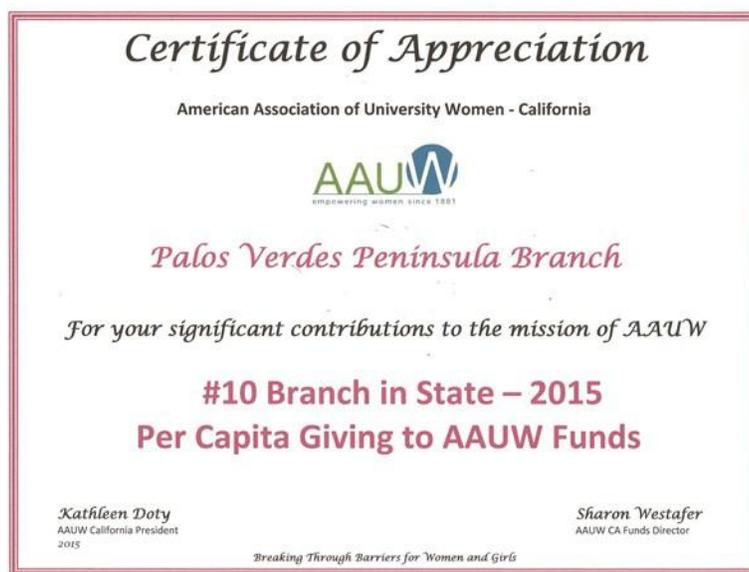
We had the pleasure of having Kathleen Doty, AAUW-CA President speak to us at the last Council Meeting on Saturday, March 12th. She provided a wonderful overview of what is happening at both the National and State levels. It was both interesting and informative. Several of us commented that we learned several things about AAUW that we were not aware of before. AAUW-CA and various branches throughout the State put on a publicity campaign regarding Pay Equity Day which was on April 14 to make people aware of the discrimination in gender pay. The Annual State Convention was held on April 15-17 at San Mateo. Four members attended from our Branch--Nancy Mahr, Susan Negrete, Kay Odgers and I. Each of us participated in various workshops or in my case, part of a panel discussion. And the biggest surprise of all is that our Branch received a Certificate of Appreciation for being the 10th highest donor to the AAUW-CA funds (see below). On the local level, the interviewing process has been completed by 5 AAUW members who read 19 essays and interviewed 8 applicants from Marymount California University. AAUW plans to send 5 Marymount students to the Leadership Conference in Washington, DC. We are also in the planning stage for the Recognition Luncheon (formerly called Awards Luncheon) on June 4th and as usual, it will be a great time to award our honorees and socialize with each other. Don't forget our Annual Meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 10th from 2 - 4 pm at Hesse Park. See you there!



REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS

Everyone is invited and welcomed to the Branch Council Meetings. You do not need to be an elected or appointed officer to attend. Please come to the Tuesday, May 10th meeting and let your voice be heard.

Meeting is at Fred Hesse Park, Fire Room, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd. Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275 2:00 - 4:00 pm



HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE MODERN ERA

By Michele St. Clair

Human trafficking doesn't affect us, right? So why should we care about something so remote and a problem we can't do anything to stop anyway?

Well, human trafficking is not remote. It's right here in California, in our own neighborhoods. And there *are* things we can do to help curb it.

Based on statistics kept by various organizations, California has a disproportionately large share of this extreme violation of human rights, in spite of a series of laws that the California legislature has passed to try to reduce its incidence.

As globalization erases the borders between countries, the challenges of stopping the flood of human exploitation continue to multiply. Human trafficking has grown to be one of the largest organized criminal activities in the world, second only to drug trafficking. Social scientists estimate that 27 million women, men, and children are victims at any given time. AAUW reports that human trafficking has also emerged in the past decade as one of the fastest-growing criminal activities in the world. And the consequent human suffering is immense.

Traffickers use violence, debt bondage, and other forms of coercion to manipulate victims into engaging in commercial sex acts or labor services against their will. "Human trafficking is a violation of human rights where an individual is forced or tricked into work and unable to leave for any number of reasons," says Tiffany Williams, advocacy director at the Institute for Policy Studies' Break the Chain Campaign (www.ips-dc.org). It's important to note that this definition rests on force and coercion, not movement across borders. Indeed, much of human trafficking is done for the purpose of extracting labor services.

Labor-trafficked victims are coerced, but instead of being sexually exploited, victims are abused in a variety of labor settings including domestic work, small businesses, large farms, and factories.

This form of modern-day slavery uses trickery, force,

and coercion, and it can be found in our very own neighborhoods. Surprisingly, in bedroom communities some unscrupulous couples keep housekeepers and nannies in modern bondage. Teachers are brought from overseas and forced to sign over 10 percent of their salaries. Undocumented agricultural workers are often taken advantage of by "coyotes" and agribusiness to work long hours for little or no pay. Underage boys and girls are tricked into sex slavery. (In fact, due to their extreme vulnerability, all sex workers under the age of 18 are considered to be trafficking victims.)

Though the epidemic of human trafficking affects people from all backgrounds, social classes, and cultures, it disproportionately affects women and girls who account for 55 percent of forced labor and 75 percent of all trafficked victims around the world.

This is why AAUW has made human trafficking one of the issues it officially works to eliminate.

We as individual AAUW members can help in a number of ways. Inform your friends and family, and your neighbors about the widespread incidence of human trafficking. Be alert to possible instances of labor-trafficking in your community. When meeting with elected officials, inform them about the facts and your concerns. Sign up for AAUW Action Alerts and follow up when AAUW emails them to you.

Should you become aware of suspicious activity that suggests human trafficking, it's important to report it. To do so, call one of these hotline numbers:

The National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline

1-888-373-7888 or

The U.S. Department of Justice Hotline

1-888-428-7581

TAKE ACTION - JOIN AAUW'S ACTION NETWORK

One easy way for AAUW members to take action is to respond to the state Action Alerts and national Two-Minute Activist messages. Each call for action includes background information on the issue and language for you to use in sending your message. You can use only the language provided, or you can add text of your own. Then just click on a button and you have taken action.

It's easy to become part of AAUW's Action Network. Just go to the national website (www.aauw.org) and click on What We Do. Then select Public Policy from the sidebar menu on the left. And select Two-Minute Activist from the sidebar on that page. You will see an invitation to subscribe. Put in your email and click on Sign Up. When you sign up, give your address or zip code and you will automatically be subscribed to the AAUW California Action Alerts as well as to the national Action Network.

With AAUW's strong membership, we have the power to generate hundreds of messages in California and thousands nationwide. Sign up and make use of this effective action tool. It really does only take two minutes!

Submitted by Nancy Mahr

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

TO OUR NOMINATED BRANCH NAMED GIFT HONOREES FOR 2015

Each year the Branch honors outstanding women for their extraordinary service to the PVP Branch and AAUW's work and mission. We are proud to announce our 2015 "named gift" honorees. They are Denise DeVenuto, Eileen Edelson and Annie McBride. The combined Branch and individual member **donations** to the AAUW Funds have been given in their honor.

Denise DeVenuto has chaired the Tech Trek Committee since 2014. She is responsible for every aspect of sending more than 15 girls a year to AAUW STEM camps: from camper selection to our culminating fund raising event Celebrate Tech Trek. She also mentors alumnae campers and represents our branch on the South Bay Tech Trek Alumnae Committee which organizes events such as Women in Stem Careers Forums.



Eileen Edelson has cheerfully volunteered to serve in myriad ways for many years. She has held numerous elected offices, most recently records coordinator. She chaired committees and projects such as leadership development (nominations), the holiday social, Techtime and more. When there is a need she steps up and always carries through so effectively.



Annie McBride is a new member of the Branch, but has been working with us since the inception of our scholarship program (2013) to send Marymount California University (MCU) students to AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWAL) in Washington DC. She has beautifully engineered the NCCWSL logistics from faculty nominations to cut-rate airfares. It is due to Annie that AAUW is so well recognized as a presence at MCU.



Denise DeVenuto, Eileen Edelson and Annie McBride will be recognized at the branch Awards Luncheon in June, 2016. It is women like these that empower the branch and carry forward the mission of AAUW.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership co chairs, Leann Roque and Kay Odgers are proud to present 4 new members to our branch:

Alexandra Abel is a soon-to-be graduate from Marymount California University (MCU) with a Psychology degree. Alexandra was introduced to AAUW when nominated and sponsored to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in Washington D.C. of May 2015. She works as a Student Tutor and Mentor at MCU. Alexandra's passion is working with students and helping them achieve academic success and pursue their dreams.

Alexandra's ultimate career choice/dream is to become President of a University and advocate for student success and equality.

Kimberly Hernandez is currently a Senior at Marymount Ca. University and will graduate Saturday, May 7, receiving a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business with an emphasis in Entrepreneurship & Management, hoping one day to own her own event planning service. When first introduced to AAUW, she was nominated and then picked to attend NCCWSL, May, 2015. There she fell in love with the environment and women all working towards the same goal, equality.

Kimberly is available to help plan events, big or small.

Dorothy Ingebretsen is a former branch member and happy to rejoin. She grew up on the Peninsula and returned after retiring 12 years ago. She holds a Stanford B. A. and a USC M. S. in Library Science, working in library, high school university and corporate settings.

Her interests include swimming, reading and music. She is taking piano lessons again.

Judith Jacques is originally from Chicago and lived in L. A's South Bay for 13 years. Recently she and her husband moved to Melbourne, Fl. for 1 1/2 years for his job. Thankfully, they are back in the South Bay as of 3 months ago. She graduated from Marymount Ca. University in 2014 with a Psychology BA and is the recipient of a leadership grant allowing her to attend NCCWSL in D.C. Through MCU, she has been a AAUW member since 2013, having renewal membership given to her as a grad gift from our branch. She is extremely grateful, hopes to work hard, be involved, join a committee and make her voice heard on AAUW's behalf on AAUW's agendas and women everywhere.

Recognition Luncheon



The Red Onion

Saturday, June 04, 2016

11:30-2:30 p.m.

\$28.00

3 entrée choices

Enchilada/chili relleno, Deluxe taco,

Southwestern salad

For reservations call

Bonnie Durling at 310-377-0728

Readers Theater Presents



POTPOURRI



Entertaining historical vignettes.

Some old

Some new

All about women

All true

Sunday, May 15, 2016

2 to 4 p.m.

Hesse Park

Refreshments will be served

Adults \$25.00, Children \$10.00

For reservations call

Carol Torelli at 310-378-1882

AAUW Readers Theater Celebrates 40th Anniversary

On Sunday, May 15 th (see insert above for details) the AAUW PVP Readers Theater will celebrate its 40 th anniversary with a production called *Potpourri* at Hesse Park. **The presentation is open to the public.**

AAUW Readers Theaters director and major playwright, Jacqueline Mason, has been a part of the group for many of the past 40 years, and recalls how the group was formed. "It was the Bicentennial in 1976 when a group of members decided to do something special to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Under the leadership of Frances Fenimore, a circle of readers performed a dramatic reading of some of the insightful and touching letters John and Abigail Adams exchanged while he was serving in the Continental Congress. The presentation was an immediate hit and Readers Theater became an ongoing part of AAUW's many activities."

Since those early days, Readers Theater has grown into a group of 15 readers, who now perform original plays, featuring famous and not so famous women, throughout LA county. Their efforts have raised over \$16,000 for AAUW educational projects.

Don't miss it! Bring a friend, your daughter and/or your granddaughter to this wonderful afternoon of insightful and entertaining readings all about women and all true from Betsy Ross to Pearl Hart, the woman who committed the last stagecoach robbery.

Support AAUW with a lovely afternoon of drama and fun. Call Carol for your reservations today!

FREEDOM FROM FEAR

As part of our Freedom From Fear educational initiative over the past several months, it was agreed at Council that those who wish to could make a personal donation to go directly to the clients of Rainbow House, the agency in San Pedro that provides temporary housing and assistance to victims of domestic violence.

Many thanks for your generous response! On March 23rd I delivered six sets of sheets for twin beds, six complete sets of towels (face, hand and bath) a large selection of personal hygiene items plus three gift cards. All of the items were new, as is required, and will be used in the shelter itself or go with the clients as they make new homes following their time at Rainbow. I estimated the value of the items at between \$450 and \$500 plus the face value of the gift cards. Thanks again for giving a hand up to these women and children.

Donations from members can continue to be made directly to Rainbow Services

Submitted by Margery Norris

PENINSULA LIBRARY ARCHIVES PROJECT

The public library is happy to house our AAUW History. During the coming months Connie Davenport will gather together pieces of our branch history currently housed by various members, organize them and present them to the Library in August. Connie will be asking people to assist her in this endeavor.

***PLEASE NOTE THERE IS A CHANGE IN VENUE
FOR THE UPCOMING MEETING.***

MAY 2016 WIT MEETING

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

TOPIC: Positive Attitudes: Power of Reframing & Turning No into Yes

Women in STEM Careers Forum

May 14, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Redondo Beach Library, 2nd floor Meeting Room
303 No. Pacific Coast Hwy.

Co-sponsored by Torrance, Beach Cities, and PVP branches of AAUW, Redondo Beach Library, and the South Bay Tech Trek Alumnae Group.

For more info. Contact:
Denise DeVenuto
dendev88@gmail.com

**RSVP to Rowie at rowiewolf@juno.com or
Tel: (310) 373-5970 by Tuesday, May 3,
2016.**

INTEREST GROUPS—MAY & JUNE 2016

AAUW – WHO ARE WE ANYWAY? (WAWA)

Bi-monthly, 3rd Tuesday 10am-12 pm
Chair Sherry May 310-378-4122
Annual Retreat June 28: Home of Judy Purvis

ARTS & ARTISTS 3rd Tuesday 7pm

Chair Nancy Leonard 310-519-1606
May 17: home of Kathleen Fitzgerald
Modern Sculpture- Rodin and Brancusi
June 21: home of Kathleen Fitzgerald
Art between Two Wars – Kandinsky to Picasso

BRIDGE-ETTES 3rd Tuesday 1pm

Chair Margery Norris 310-514-3980
May 17: home of Fran Wielin
June 21: home of JoAnn DeFlon

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE 2nd Mon. 9:30am

Chair Barbara Prassas 310-519-8044
May 9: home of Sharon Butler
An Unnecessary Woman by Rabih Alameddine
June 13: home of Donna Day
Case Histories by Kate Atkinson

ECLECTIC READERS 3rd Thursday 2pm

Chair Jan Cofer 310-791-8337
May 19: home of Myrna Plost – *One Eyed Jack* by Christopher J. Lynch
June 16: home of Dale Richards – *Finding Nouf* by Daniel James Brown

GREAT DECISIONS Northside 3rd Monday 10am

Chair Kathleen Fitzgerald 310-373-0946
May 16: home of Susan Wallace *Topic: International Migration*
June 16: home of Susan Wallace *Topic: Korean Choices*

ART APPRECIATION

Chair Nancy Rayner (nrayner777@gmail.net)
3rd Wed. 2-4 pm, May 18 & June 15. Home of Susan Negrete. *The Importance of First Impressions and Greatness In Painting.*

GREAT DECISIONS PV Shores 3rd Monday 9.30 a.m.

Chair Sharon Andrade 310-541-2417
May 16: South Shores Clubhouse *Topic: Korean Choices*
June 20: South Shores Clubhouse *Topic: The UN's post-2015 development agenda and leadership*

GRAND SLAMMERS 2nd Thursday 1pm

Chair Sara Bowlus 310-541-2767
May 12: home of Fleur Yano
June 9: home of Sara Bowlus

NIGHT BOOKS 2nd Monday 7pm

Chair Rowie Wolf, 310-373-5970
May 9: home of Connie Davenport -*The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah
June 13: Dinner – Seashore Seafood
PCH and Calle Mayor – Torrance

READERS THEATER 2nd Monday 7pm

Chair Jacky Mason 310-377-3896

WALKERS Every Thursday

Chairs Kathleen 310-373-0946, Cordelia 310-541-3261
Call Kathleen to confirm walk is on cliffs at the south end of Hawthorne Blvd.

WOMEN IN TRANSITION (WIT) 1st Wed 7pm

Chair Susan Negrete 310-377-0642
(See page 6 for location)

PINOCHLE 3rd and 4th Tuesday

Chair Elayne Nahman 310-541-6839
Location: Palos Verdes Shores Clubhouse

GREAT DECISIONS – May 13 Friday 5.30p.m.

Initial meeting at the home of Bonnie Durling
310-377-0728

LUNCH BUNCH Last Thursday of the month

Chair Jann Segal (jannsegal@earthlink.net)
12 noon at Fu Yuan Low



First Class
Postage

American Association of University Women
Palos Verdes Branch
P.O. Box 2443

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

AAUW Mission Statement

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

CoastLines

Palos Verdes Branch

Editor: Eunice McConaughy

eunicemc @pacbell

310-530-5847

Articles for the summer issue of CoastLines are due July 15.

Branch Calendar

Annual meeting May 10 ,2pm-Hesse Park

Readers Theater May 15, 2-4 pm-Hesse Park

Recognition Luncheon June 04, 11:30 am to 2:30 pm