

Serving members in Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Irvine, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Mission Viejo, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano

FEBRUARY 2020 SALON PROFILES OF WOMEN ARTISTS

February 23 is the eleventh annual Profiles of Women Artists salon. We in AAUW Laguna Beach Branch are very proud of the many talented and productive members among us. In addition to visual art making, we include the written output of several members. Contact



Deana Pink if you would like to showcase your work in this annual format in a future February salon.

Please join us for the upcoming 2020 presentation of the artwork of three members: *Ellen Rose*, oil and water color painter and collagist, Katie Slattery, pen and ink illustrator, particularly of her extensive travels, and **Loren Harris-Heller**, painter of flowers and figures. Ellen graduated with a fine arts degree from UCLA and is a recipient of numerous awards. She seeks out dogs and people who are interesting, unlikely choices for portraits, painted with TLC and empathy. Katie is a keen observer of the landscape. Her drawn records of where she's been are a pictorial diary, delightful to view without knowing where they were rendered. Loren is a masterful

colorist whose canvases are intense with dramatically rendered images. Please join us. **AT A GLANCE**:

WHEN: Sunday, February 23, 3:00 – 5:00pm WHERE: Home of Johanna Felder in Laguna Beach

Email or phone your RSVP to Deana Pink, sdpink2@cox.net or RSVP:

949-370-6360

PLEASE NOTE that reservations are required as the venue is a private home limited to 40 guests on a first come/first serve basis. The address is in your Membership Directory or contact Deana.



Honoring the Fashion Show event plan*ners:* Jean Vivrette and Audrey Seymour. Pictured from left, Audrey Seymour, Farie Momayez, Jean Vivrette, and Lesley Danziger. All volunteers who worked on the Fashion Show Fundraiser celebrated its success at Farie's home. A delicious dinner followed.

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Quick Peek Dates

Poetry Appreciation	Feb 13
Vesper Libris	Feb 20
Stop Human Trafficking.	Feb 22
Board Meeting	Mar 11
Poetry Writers	.Mar 16
Great Am Write-In	.Mar 21
Literary Luncheon	.Mar 28

See Calendar on page 10 for more complete information.

CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was fortunate to be able to attend the Women's March with over 20,000 women and men in Santa Ana on January 18th. Many local and state representatives were present, including Harley Rouda and Katie Porter, our local House of Representatives members.

Ironically I get daily reports from my birth country about people being killed while they are marching in peaceful demonstrations similar to the Women's March.

At the Women's March, we rallied on a variety of issues including civil rights, women's reproductive rights, equal pay, healthcare and the environment. It was peaceful, orderly and dignified. I was happy to see many AAUW members present, and I heard similar peaceful demonstrations were held across the country including Laguna Beach and Los Angeles.

Changes in the upcoming Primary Voting were announced. Everyone was encouraged to participate in this vital civil duty. It was announced that all registered Orange County residents will receive mail-in ballots that they can send in, or they can start voting in several voting centers 10 days prior to election day. Even on weekends! What is amazing is that people can register on Election Day!

Let us all cherish our democratic rights and participate in the election process. Our rights depend on it.

Farie Momayez, Drfarie@yahoo.com

FYI

Elaine Barnard, one of our charter members, said that her romantic story, "Holy Communion" was published in Active Muse. Here is a link to her work. http://www.activemuse.org/2019_Shishir_stories/Elaine Barnard.html

SERVING IN STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Strategies for closing the gender gap in STEM include legal advocacy, setting public policy, and shaping societal expectations. AAUW's Tech Trek (TT) program focuses on shaping middle school girls' expectations for themselves by demonstrating that STEM fields are exciting and accessible.

Our AAUW Laguna Beach Branch has been involved with Tech Trek since its inception in 1998. So far, we have sent 132 local middle school girls to week-long TT camps on six different college campuses. But that's not all we do! In 2019-20 our branch:

- provided support for scholarships and programs at the TT camp at UCSD
- funded grants for local girls to attend Girls in Ocean Science conferences at the Ocean Institute in Dana Point.
- joined with the San Clemente-Capistrano Bay Branch to create the South Orange County Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG SOC), extending the Tech Trek experience for girls previously sponsored by the two branches.

To support any of our STEM programs for middleand high- school girls, checks should be written to "AAUW-LBF" and mailed to AAUW Laguna Beach Foundation, P.O. Box 189, Laguna Beach, CA 92652, with "STEM" written on the memo line. To specify only Tech Trek scholarships and programs, write "Tech Trek" on the memo line. A full Tech Trek scholarship is \$900.

For more information, contact Alice Apkarian, aauw. apkariana@gmail.com or Nancy Miller, nancyhmc@cox.net.





33rd ANNUAL LITERARY LUNCHEON FESTIVAL OF WOMEN AUTHORS LUNCHEON 11:00 AM-2:30 PM • March 28, 2020

Author!! Author!!! Three bestselling authors will be ready to beguile you during the 33rd Annual Literary Luncheon Laguna Beach Festival of Women Authors on March 28th at the beautiful Surf & Sand Resort. Check your personal Invitation to read about these amazing women. You'll hear them describe their writing along with dashes of amusing anecdotes, all 'seasoned' with great charm. Don't miss this event where every year comments are heard -- "What outstanding authors!" -- "Best Literary Luncheon ever!"

Your support is crucial for our important fundraising effort to support El Morro School tutoring (TLC), middle schools girls to attend Tech Trek STEM camps at UCSD, scholarships for graduating high school girls, for college women at Saddleback, LCAD, OCC, and UCI. Funds also support Start Smart salary and benefits workshops for LCAD and OCC college women, and scholarships for women at LCAD and OCC to attend NCCWSL.

RSVP by March 20th by Check or Credit Card.

Tables of 8-10 have priority seating --- be sure to print your guests' names on a separate paper, and include their checks or your check for the total amount. Return your Reply Card before the deadline as tables fill up quickly at this usually SRO event. Make your check payable to AAUW-LBF, mail to AAUW-LBF, P.O. Box 189, Laguna Beach, CA 92652. For credit card payments, go online to *http://bit.ly/LiteraryLunch*. Hit the green "Tickets" button to purchase tickets.

Silent Auction Donations Needed! When you donate a theme basket or items, or request gift certificates from merchants, restaurants, spas, music or theater events, boat trips, etc., be sure to fill out a Silent Auction Form for each item. All donors will receive letters of thanks for their 100% tax-deductible gifts. Mail or drop off donations to Silent Auction Chair Joyce Bartlett's home in Laguna Hills. You can also drop off your donations to Karen Dennis's home in Laguna Beach. For information, contact Joyce at ijgbartlett@gmail.com.

Donate! Sponsor! Volunteer! Attend! We are grateful to all of you who will donate or request Silent Auction items, buy sponsorships, volunteer, and attend.

- Donate or request Silent Auction items
- Buy a Program Booklet Sponsorship
- Make a monetary donation
- Underwrite a project or event expense
- Volunteer for small tasks before or during the event All of us can make this year's Literary Luncheon a big successful fundraiser in support of AAUW's mission of empowering women and girls to reach their full potential by supporting our branch scholarships and projects.
- *Special Pre-Event Raffle* Enter to win a \$4,200 semi-antique Persian rug!! See page 6 for details.

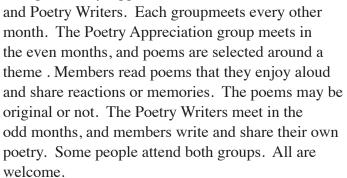
Questions?? Contact Literary Luncheon Cochairs Audrey Locke, adsaxonlocke@gmail.com, or Farie Momayez, Drfarie@yahoo.com. Thank you!

INTEREST GROUPS

AAUW-LB Interest Groups are a means of getting to know members with similar interests in smaller settings. We have 2 of 4 book discussion groups open for new members: Vesper Libris meets the 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 pm. Contact Janice Hayden janicemhayden@gmail.com for details. The Literary Ladies book group currently meets the 4th Fridays at 1:00 pm, but is undergoing re-organization. Contact Joan Stratton stratrj@aol.com for details.

SPOTLIGHT ON POETRY

We have two Poetry Interest Groups: Poetry Appreciation



Jean Paris and Karen Dennis are co-chairs of Poetry Appreciation, and Karen Phelps and Kas Sartori are co-chairs of Poetry Writers. Original poems from Grace Songolo, Karen Phelps, and Leah Vasquez will be in future Waves. Emails of these chairs are in the Membership Directory on page 6.

Mark Your Calendar: Poetry Appreciation will meet Thursday, Feb. 13, at 1:00 at the home of Rena Konheim in Laguna Woods. RSVP Rena at rabsin2@ gmail.com. The theme is love and romance since Valentine's Day is the next day. A good resource for poems is the internet, especially poetry.com.

This month in the Poet's Corner we are featuring "Growing Roses"

by Rena Konheim.



Growing Roses Rena Konheim

Where ever I live I grow roses Hybrid Teas, the hard ones Susceptible to black spot Loved by Japanese beetles

I was nine when Dad bought our house

Gold and pink, a symbol of home

My parents owned it for 59 years
The first year Dad planted 4 roses
They lined the front walkway

Jon and I moved 8 times
I always planted roses
Tea roses like Dad
Sometimes they withered

Some places are too cold
Occasionally I could have
A whole garden, just roses
An explosion of beauty

Here in California one Peace rose
Just one in the front sunspot
It blooms in the winter sun

Note and photo from Noelle McCredie Discroll of Poetry Writers meeting in January. After a lovely luncheon at Karen Phelps new residence, we took great delight in sharing our original poems – wonderfully creative thoughts and perspectives on life and its experiences. Many of the attendees at this meeting and other meetings, have expressed a desire to continue submitting their poetry for sharing, in support of our Poets Corner in the Waves. The Poetry Writers Interest Group welcomes new members at any time.



Kas, Leah, Grace, Karen Phelps, Noelle

From Karen Jackle, AAUW CA Public Policy Committee Equal Pay Day – Wear Red

According to WAGE (Women Are Getting Even) women earn one million less than men in their lifetime. AAUW has facilitated Start Smart and Work Smart Workshops, and you can learn more about these workshops at the website: https://www.pay-equity.org/day-kit.html. AAUW now offers an online one-hour Work Smart Workshop accessed from the aauw.org website for salary negotiation skills.

The next Equal Pay Day is Tuesday, March 31, 2020. This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year. The National Committee on Pay Equity https://www.pay-equity.org/day.html reminds us to wear red to symbolize how far women and minorities are "in the red" with their pay. Suggest to your "valentine," wearing red is not only for February 14 now.

AAUW Simple Truth update is based on the most recent released data from the U.S. Census Bureau. In 2018, women received just 82 cents for every dollar paid to a man. Women of color often face a wider gap: compared to white men, Black women make 62 cents on the dollar, and Latinas make 54 cents on the dollar. The pay gap has only decreased by a nickel in the 21st Century. Here is link from AAUW on Equal Pay Day: https://www.aauw.org/resource/how-to-equal-pay-day/

On the national level, the Paycheck Fairness Act passed in the House of Representatives and languishes in the Senate with no action yet taken. The Equal Pay Act requires that men and women be given equal pay for equal work in the same establishment. The jobs need not be identical, but they must be substantially equal. It is job content, not job titles, that determines whether jobs are substantially equal. Specifically, the EPA provides that employers may not pay unequal wages to men and women who perform jobs that require substantially equal skill, effort and responsibility, and that are performed under similar working conditions within the same establishment.

AAUW RECENT RESEARCH

Recent AAUW research, which you helped fund, highlights why our most urgent priority for 2020 is ensuring women get paid fairly.

Women are shortchanged on pay compared to men from the moment they enter the workforce. Sadly, the gap only grows over time, leaving women vulnerable long after they retire. Consider that:

- Women collect only about 80% of what men do in Social Security benefits.
- Women's pension income is 76% of men's.
- Women's overall retirement income is 70% of men's.

What's worse, a new AAUW analysis shows that workplace harassment, already known to be emotionally devastating, also curtails women's career opportunities and lifetime earnings.

Special Pre-Literary Luncheon Raffle!

Look for 4 tickets included in your Literary Luncheon Invitation, to enter a special drawing of a 5' x 7' Semi-Antique Persian Tribal Design Wool Rug Hand-Knotted Gabbeh Style in excellent condition -- value \$4,200.00.

1 ticket - \$25.00 or 4 tickets - \$90.00

Just fill out the information required on the tickets stubs and return with the Invitation Reply Card along with your check, made payable to AAUW-LBF, and mail to AAUW-LBF, P.O. Box 189, Laguna Beach CA 92652.

This unique Persian rug will be on display at the

Literary Luncheon event on March 28 where additional tickets may be purchase. (Winner need not be present to win).



TLC UPDATE

We're underway! On Thursday, January 9, the TLC tutors met with their respective classroom teachers to learn how they could best help the student to whom they've been assigned to work with during the next 5 months. Following these meetings, the tutors viewed a video in which Mr. Duddy, the El Morro Elementary School Principal, thanked the tutors for participating in TLC and credited the program with helping the school win a coveted National Blue Ribbon Award for explempary success in closing student achievement gaps. Mr. Duddy also expressed his belief that the students who participate in TLC feel more connected to the school community as a result of their participation. For the remainder of the orientation session, the two supervising teachers – Debbie Finnerty and Nicole Stewart -- along with Peggie Thomas reviewed program procedures and policies.

Work with the students began Tuesday, January 14 and will continue through May. Seventeen (17) students have been admitted to date in TLC – 10 2nd graders, 4 3rd graders, 2 4th graders and 1 5th grader. They will receive one-on-one tutoring from 26 tutors. An additional 9 volunteers serve as substitutes in the event a tutor is ill or on vacation. If you would like to be a part of this important program, it's not too late. Frequently, we receive additional requests from teachers to admit students throughout the year. We also invite you to observe the program. To volunteer or observe a session, please contact Peggie Thomas or Kathy Willman, TLC Cochairs.



Volunteer tutors at TLC's orientation session, January 9, 2020.

GREAT AMERICAN WRITE-IN 2019

"On behalf of Women For: Orange County, we would like to thank you for helping to make the 34th Annual Great American Write-In one of our most successful events ever! In 2019 we had approximately 550 attendees, including 108 students; and, with the help of 72 different advocacy organizations, we were able to generate almost 4250 letters and postcards to legislators and other decision-makers. All we can say is: WOW!! Thanks to all of you for once again making the Great American Write-In a perfect example of Democracy in Action. The question now is: can we top this in 2020? The answer is up to you!

Now is the time to mark your calendar for Saturday, March 21, 2020, for the 35th Annual Great American Write-In. You write the letters, and this group will mail them. Seventy-two booths last year distributed information on various issues. You can meet others of like minds while you select what you are passionate about and write to your elected leaders. It is a fun and exciting day to mingle and talk with so many attendees.

Last year AAUW Interbranch Council Orange County gave out information on Equal Pay for Equal Work. The location is again the Delhi Center, 505 E Central Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92707. You can drop in any time from 9:30 to 1:30 to write your letters and meet people at the booths who will be giving out additional information.

Questions? Contact Karen Dennis at karendennis@ mac.com.

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW Mission & Action Newsletter

AAUW-Supported STEM Act Becomes Law
In December, the bipartisan Building Blocks of
STEM Act was signed into law, with a little help from
AAUW Lobby Corps. The legislation expands educational opportunities in math and science for young
women and students of color. Thanks to Nevada Senator Jacky Rosen for championing the bill!

Girls for STEM at Mission Viejo High School

by Barbara Hamkalo



Barbara Hamkalo speaking before the STEM Club at Mission Viejo High School



Ms. Wenzel, Math Teacher, with Barbara Hamkalo

Last fall Karen Dennis was contacted by Sophia Sunkin, President of Girls for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) at Mission Viejo High School. The group was organizing a series of talks by women in STEM and was looking for a female academic scientist to share her experience. Since I'd talked with other groups on this topic, e.g. WINS (Women in Science) at the University of North Carolina, I immediately volunteered.

I spoke to the group on November 21 answering their questions about what the career is like; my career path; what it takes to be a successful woman in the field; and any advice I could give young girls in order to be a success.

Here I summarize my answers to their queries. My career path was an example of unexpected choices and terrific mentors. Nobody in my family had any connection with science. My father worked in the New York City Post Office, my mother was a homemaker and my brother was a professional musician. I attribute my interest in science to my attendance in an all-girls public high school in New York. The presumption was that we could do anything we set out to do. In my yearbook, I noted

that I wanted to be a physicist – don't know where that came from but when I learned that German was the foreign language required for a physics major that was it, since I'd taken several years of French. After taking courses in biology, psychology and political science, biology won. In my senior year I was encouraged to enter a PhD program by a biology professor – something not even on my radar. Fast forward, I received a PhD in zoology from U. Mass., did postdoctoral research at Harvard Medical School and Oak Ridge National Laboratory and landed a job as one of the first three female assistant professors in the School of Biological Sciences at UCI.

My advice to young women (and men) is that curiosity and the ability to deal with both positive and negative results of experiments pursuit of a project regardless of dead-ends is critical – don't give up! Ignore stereotypes and don't be deterred by the notion that you might not be as talented as a male colleague – prove them wrong.

Just remember: When you do an experiment, the results of which weren't anticipated, you learn something nobody else knows or has ever known – isn't that an amazing feeling?

We welcome Michelle Darkoh!



Brava to our newest, youngest commuting branch member who is making a difference in the world.

Born in southern California, Michelle spent her formative years growing up in several countries including Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, and England. After high school Michelle got the opportunity to attend college at Iowa State University. Having grown up in developing countries where educational and career resources for girls and women were limited, she resonates with the mission of AAUW in more ways than one. Her passion for health and wellness led her to pursue a bachelor's degree in Community Health Education and desire to work with promoting health within communities further led her to a master's degree in Public Health from Columbia University in New York City.

Over the course of her professional career, she has worked as a Consultant and Project Coordinator for several companies in the healthcare and information technology industries. Through a chance meeting with Leah Vasquez at a home of a mutual friend, she was introduced to the AAUW Laguna Beach Branch. As someone who loves the Laguna Beach area, she looks forward to getting more involved in the community. Michelle is an avid photographer and has a passion for the creative process in film, voiceover/ animation, and the performing arts. She recently had the thrill of lending her creative eye to photographing the first-ever AAUW-LB Fashion and Trunk Show fundraiser for college women in need. Michelle favorite words to live by: "Seize the day for today is yesterday's tomorrow."

Interview by Leah Vasquez, Membership Profiles

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Jean Brotherton, Membership Coordinator jeanlagunabeach@cox.net

Literary Luncheon

This fundraising event is a great opportunity for you to invite your family, friends and colleagues to enjoy hearing three award-winning authors. They also will have fun bidding on unique items in the Silent Auction, and taking part in the Raffle of a \$4,200 Persian rug!

This is also an excellent time for them as college grads to join our AAUW-LB Branch at the special reduced dues of \$79.50 (instead of \$109). So please escort them to the Membership Table in the foyer where our membership team, Linda Azamian, Roberta Kanter, and Madeleine Peterson, will be happy to enroll them by check or credit card.

Regular members can also pay their 2020-2021 dues at this time. For information or questions, please contact me at jeanlagunabeach@cox.net.

Welcome New Member

REDDING, Karen 949-715-7007 545 Poplar St. 949-433-9746 Laguna Beach 92651 *kredding@mac.com*

Boston University; University of Arizona

MS Psychology; MSW; PHD

Change of Address

HARRIS-HELLER, Loren 70435 Los Pueblos Way Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

2019-20 AAUW Laguna Beach Board of Directors

Co-Presidents: Lesley Danziger, Farie Momayez
Vice Presidents: Jennifer Yelland, Madeleine Peterson

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Jean Vivrette

Communications Coordinator: Karen Dennis

Laguna Waves Newsletter Editor: Karen Dennis Calendar: Margot Norris Layout: Marie Tippets

Proofreading: Jean Brotherton, Peggie Thomas Social Media/Facebook/Website: Janice Hayden

FREE COMMUNITY PROGRAM

February 22, 2020 ~ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

at the Norman P. Murray Community Center Room Sycamore B ~ 24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo



What you don't know hurts you, your family, and your community.



KATHIE

SANDRA MORGAN



BURNS

- **Jeff Jensen,** Orange County Sheriff's Department
 - Kathie Perino, Anti-Human Trafficking Initiative of Saddleback Church
 - Lauri Burns, CEO Vera's Sanctuary & Director of The Teen Project
 - Sandra Morgan, RN, PhD, Director of the Global Center for Women and Justice, and member of the White House Public-Private Partnership Advisory Council to End Human Trafficking

Questions? Contact Karen Dennis, Program Organizer aauwmvsv@gmail.com, (494) 525-6850

Sponsored by AAUW Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley,
AAUW Interbranch Council OC,
Mission Viejo Chamber of Commerce, and
The City of Mission Viejo

February 2020 Calendar

February 13 (Thursday) 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm: POETRY APPRECIATION at the home of Rena Konheim in Laguna Woods. RSVP hostess rabsint2@gmail.com. The theme will be romance and love. This group meets every other month. New members are always welcome.

February 20 (Thursday) 6:30 pm: VESPER LIBRIS book group at the home of Karen Dennis in Laguna Beach. RSVP Karen at karendennis@ mac.com. The book is *Last Days of Night* by Graham Moore. New members are welcome. We begin with a light dinner before discussion, so you must RSVP.

February 22 (Saturday) 10:00 am to 12:00 pm: Community Program on STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING at the Norman Murray Community Center, 24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo. Learn from a panel of experts about preventing human trafficking in south Orange County. Details on this free program are on page. 9.

Save These Dates in March

March 11 (Wednesday) 6:00 pm: BOARD MEETING in the Susi Q. Laguna Room, 380 Third Street, Laguna Beach. Board members are expected to attend. All members are welcome. For requests by committee chairs to be put on the agenda, contact board secretary, Alison King, aking@csusm.edu. There is no board meeting in February.

March 16 (Monday) POETRY WRITERS will meet at the home of Leah Vasquez in Laguna Beach, and theme is "Ides of a Cautionary Tale."

March 21 (Saturday) 9:30 am to 1:30 pm: GREAT AMERICAN WRITE-IN at the Delhi Center, 505 E. Central Avenue, Santa Ana, CA. This is a letter writing event to communicate with legislators on current issues. A hand written letter does influence legislators more than you might think. See page 6 for details.

March 28 (Saturday) the annual Literary Luncheon. Details on page 3.



Special Announcements

From now on, the Waves will not be password protected on the website. To protect your privacy, all home addresses in the Waves have been removed. Addresses can be found by looking up members' addresses in your Membership Directory or contacting the hostess listed.

Interest Group Changes

The following interest groups are undergoing changes. Please contact the group leaders for details.

- Morning Meet Up (Amy Jackson, sixactionjackson@gmail.com)
- Literary Ladies Book Discussion (Joan Stratton strarj@aol.com)
- Movie Group (Joan Stratton strarj@aol.com) This group has folded.



PAT JAMIESON, 1924-2019

We recently learned that Pat Jamieson, a member of AAUW-LB for over 25 years, passed away on October 19, 2019. Pat was an active and dedicated member of the branch until 2009, when she and her husband moved to a retirement community in Irvine. Pat was a tireless advocate for the education of young girls and women. She was especially concerned for the advancement of students for whom English was a Second Language. She initiated the Help-A-Child program at El Morro Elementary School which placed volunteer AAUW-LB members in the classrooms of teachers requesting additional help to work with small reading groups or to assist in other educational activities during the school day. Along with two other AAUW-LB members, Diane Kranser and Peggie Thomas, she started the afterschool tutoring program, The Learning Club (TLC), also at El Morro. The third member of the team was Diane Krasner.

TLC is now in its 21st year of providing one-onone tutoring to students in grades 2-5 who have been recommended by their teachers as needing additional support to better succeed in school. Pat leaves behind an enduring legacy in the community as well as many friends.