

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



LAGUNA BEACH LITERARY LUNCHEON

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and with an abundance of caution, the Literary Luncheon has been rescheduled to Saturday, March 13, 2021, at the Surf & Sand Resort.

The annual Literary Luncheon is our major fundraiser in support of our many scholarships and outreach efforts to support the education of girls and women in the community. We would be very grateful if you would consider donating your ticket payment to help our Branch continue in its work for the coming year or rolling your ticket purchase over until next year. Upon your request, we can also issue a refund of your ticket payment. Of course, all raffle ticket purchases will be refunded.

Please send us your instructions if you haven't already responded, along with your mailing address, by sending an email at aauwlbf@gmail.com, or sending us a note. Our address is AAUW-LBF, P.O. Box 189, Laguna Beach, CA 92652.

If you have any further questions, please email Audrey Locke, Literary Luncheon Co-Chair, *adsaxonlocke@gmail.com*.

Thank you again for your ongoing and enthusiastic support of our mission to enhance the lives of women and girls.

Because of the corona virus, all group meetings of AAUW Laguna Beach have been canceled or postponed.

Meanwhile keep informed by logging on to our https://lagunabeach-ca.aauw.net aauw website, or two Facebook accounts to keep connected. Details on joining the new AAUW Laguna Beach Social Group Facebook page are on page 5.

AT A GLANCE:

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Quick Peek Dates

Stay in touch by joining the AAUW Laguna Beach Social Group on Facebook

See Calendar on page 2 for more complete information.

CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The spring is slowly showing its aromatic gorgeous face. For today, I've enjoyed a beautiful meditative walk reflecting on current events.

I'm in awe of our sisterhood and how wonderfully we have behaved in these trying times. Our AAUW Laguna Beach members have shown amazing solidarity, strength and fortitude. For that the entire executive board and the Literary Luncheon Committee members are grateful. Due to our members' ages and many with compromised immune systems, the Board of Directors cancelled all our events at the March meeting. A massive gratitude goes to all those who have donated to the cancelled Literary Luncheon. So many not only sent extra donations, they also donated the money they have paid for their tickets.

I'd like to close with some things I'll be doing in these lonesome, reflecting times.

- Keep my spirits up and stay in contact with my support system.
- Read some of the books on the stacks of unread.
- Write poetry and journal. My grandchildren will learn from it!
- Clean out closets and shelves.
- Paint or most likely color my adult coloring books!
- Can't knit, crochet, or sew, but that would have been great!
- Make a collage, work on memory boosting puzzles. Start gardening again!
- Walk and meditate.
- Watch funny shows and laugh as much as I can. I'm sure you with your creativity you can add your own activities.

I'd like to close with the opening of a poem by **Maya Angelou**.

"It is the Glad Season.

Thunder ebbs to silence and lightening sleeps quietly in the corner. Floodwaters recede into memory. Snow becomes a yielding cushion to aid us

Snow becomes a yielding cushion to aid us As we make our way to higher ground."

> Oceans of Love, Farie Momayez DrFarie@yahoo.com

April 2020 Calendar

Because of the Coronavirus, there are no scheduled face to face meetings until further notice. Stay in touch by joining the AAUW Laguna Beach Social Group on Facebook and calling or emailing AAUW-LB friends.

Rescheduled: Art Tour on April 4th.

Dear Art Lovers,

Unfortunately, our art trip must be postponed. I have checks to return to many of you, or with your permission, I will shred them. Please advise which you prefer.

I was broken hearted when I heard this news of cancellation. Then to my surprise, I received a phone call from Charles Arnoldi's liaison. You will remember Charles was to meet us to tour his exhibition at the Fisher Museum. I am hoping it is possible to set a new date for our event, early May, to follow the same itinerary and visit with Charles Arnoldi at the Fisher as planned. Stay tuned! Wash your hands!

QUESTIONS? Jennifer Yelland jennifersyelland@ yahoo.com

2019-20 AAUW Laguna Beach Board of Directors

Co-Presidents:Lesley DanzigerVice Presidents:Jennifer YellandPrograms CoChairs:Amy Jackson, DMembership Coordinator:Jean BrothertonTreasurer:Roberta KanterSecretary:Alison KingAAUW-LBF Director:Jean Vivrette

Lesley Danziger, Farie Momayez Jennifer Yelland, Madeleine Peterson Amy Jackson, Deana Pink Jean Brotherton Roberta Kanter Alison King 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

Interbranch Council (IBC) – Orange County Update

From Karen Dennis, Chair karendennis@mac.com

IBC-OC is a group of 7 AAUW branches in Orange County under the guidance of AAUW CA led by a chair, treasurer, and secretary elected yearly.

The following is the number of members in each branch as of February 1, 2020:

- Laguna Beach 162 members
- Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley 36
- Newport/Mesa/Irvine 63
- Placentia/Yorba Linda 24
- San Clemente/Capistrano Bay 135
- Tustin/Santa Ana/Orange 79

• Westminster/Fountain Valley/Huntington Beach (W/FV/HB) 127.

The presidents of the branches or their designees have met every two months except July to discuss issues of interest to all branches. This year some of the meetings have focused on improving communication (what works and what needs work), increasing membership numbers, sending girls to Tech Trek, and promoting the AAUW Funds luncheon in the fall. We also share strategies of success we find in fund raising, increasing membership, and organizing community programs.

Both Placentia/Yorba Linda and the Newport/Mesa/ Irvine branches are voting this spring on whether or not to disband, and the presidents are working with AAUW CA on the process. The future of the Math and Science Conference at Fullerton College that has been associated with the Placentia/Yorba Linda branch is uncertain. Co-presidents of Laguna Beach and Tustin/Santa Ana/Orange have been communicating with these two branches inviting their members to join their branches if they indeed vote to disband.

For years the IBC held a Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Luncheon for all branches that had a speaker on women's employment and legal issues to promote awareness of LAF. The luncheon also encouraged networking among the branches. Instead of a luncheon this year, IBC-OC co-sponsored the Stop Human Trafficking community event with the AAUW Mission Viejo/Saddleback Valley branch and Mission Viejo Chamber of Commerce.



Karen Dennis & Farie Momayez at the Feb.22 event

2020-2021 AAUW-LB Slate of Officers

Co-Presidents:	Farie Momayez,
	Lesley Danziger
Co-Vice-Presidents:	Madeleine Peterson,
	Nancy Miller,
	Audrey Locke
Membership Coordinator:	Jean Brotherton
Programs Co-Chairs:	Audrey Seymour,
	Joan Stratton
Treasurer:	Roberta Kanter
Secretary:	Alison King

This slate will be voted upon by members in April, and details on the voting process will be emailed to members.

AAUW California ONLINE EVENT SAVE THE DATE: April 18 (Saturday) 1:00-3:00 PST.



In this unprecedented time of the COVID-19 virus, we must look for creative ways to stay connected with family, friends, and fellow AAUW members. We didn't want to wait until this Annual Meeting to share the good news that the Westin hotel refunded all of the money that we had on deposit when we were forced to cancel the convention.

Challenging times often trigger innovation and AAUW members love a good challenge. We have a creative solution to still hold our important and inspiring Annual Meeting. We will be able to celebrate our successes with you, but we'll do it VIRTUALLY! We are creating an online event to share some of the important activities that would have occurred at the Annual Meeting. You can still be there without leaving your own home!

Meeting Details

It's easy to participate. You can join by phone (audio only) or by computer. The meeting materials will be posted on the AAUW California website (copy and paste this link into your browser https://www.aauwca.org/2020-annual-meeting-presentations/) prior to the meeting so that you can follow along if you are unable to join by computer.

How to Join the Zoom.com webinar:

- By computer: When prompted, enter the meeting ID: 414 976 6806
- By phone: Dial 301-715-8592 Enter the meeting ID: 414 976 6806

Agenda: (subject to change)

Some of the important items: Convention workshops updates, Branch anniversaries and Five Star branches, Branch recognition awards, project grants, State Named Gift Honoree and branch fund awards, Speech Trek award announcement, and looking to the future, and Introduction of new board members.

We are excited about finding this new way for our members, branch leaders and the state board to stay in touch. We look forward to your participation, even though virtual!

AAUW California Board of Directors

Important Webinar by National AAUW: "AAUW and the Impact of the Coronavirus"

To hear and see the webinar about the impact of the virus on AAUW and plans for the future by national AAUW, go to our AAUW Laguna Beach website https://lagunabeach-ca.aauw.net.

• Click on the Calendar at the top of the home page. • Scroll down to the bottom of the Calendar page and look to the right. • Find AAUW NATIONAL NEWS & click on "AAUW and the Impact of the Coronavirus."

• Get a cup of coffee, water, or another beverage and listen to our AAUW president, Kimberly Churches, who speaks about 30 minutes, followed by Q & A.

AAUW Laguna Beach Social Group on Facebook

Join your stay-at-home AAUW Laguna Beach friends by participating in the new private AAUW Laguna Beach Social Group on Facebook.

The purpose of this group is to keep the members connected socially.

- share what you are doing
- tell some joke
- give hints on how to stay sane in this time, such as reading to grandchildren via Skype.
- recommend movies, books, or post some pictures and poems.

All AAUW Laguna Beach members are welcome to join this group. Only caveat is no political commentary.

Directions: Go to Facebook.com and type in "AAUW Laguna Beach Social Group" into the Search box. If you are on a phone, the entire Facebook page may not display, so you may have to scroll to the right to answer Facebook.

Here is what you will see when the "AAUW Laguna Beach Social Group" opens.



https://lagunabeach-ca.aauw.net

POETRY CORNER



Pandemic

What if you thought of it as the Jews consider the Sabbath the most sacred of times? Cease from travel. Cease from buying and selling. Give up, just for now, on trying to make the world different than it is. Sing. Pray. Touch only those to whom you commit your life. Center down.

And when your body has become still, reach out with your heart. Know that we are connected in ways that are terrifying and beautiful. (You could hardly deny it now.) Know that our lives are in one another's hands. (Surely, that has come clear.) Do not reach out your hands. Reach out your heart. Reach out your words. Reach out all the tendrils of compassion that move, invisibly, where we cannot touch.

Promise this world your lovefor better or for worse, in sickness and in health, so long as we all shall live.

by Lynn Ungar 3/11/20 poet living in San Francisco

POETRY WRITERS INTEREST GROUP

Members are composing, sharing, and reading. New members are welcome at any time. Co-chairs are Kas Sartori and Grace Songolo.



Kas, Leah, Grace, Karen Phelps, Noelle

AT MY DEATH by Karen Phelps

At my death throw my ashes to the winds let them ride away. Then come visit me everywhere and know I am there. Stay awhile sniff the air notice the seasons feel the wind on your skin sense a change, lean against a tree and know its texture its smell its tolerance its very essence, the moods of the sky are always speaking wrap up against the chill night take note. the flowers awesome who could have imagined, respect the tiny things that have a part in all this and the wonder of the furry and scaled and finned of us feel the wholeness of it all feel... Take in the love of the creator. and see from your heart

because we're here together.



Jean Brotherton, Membership Coordinator jeanlagunabeach@cox.net

RENEWAL SEASON IS NOW OPEN!

Your membership team thanks everyone who will be renewing her dues for FY 2020-2021 ... especially those members who will be renewing online by the easy "one click" method of using their credit cards! The voluntary Membership Payment Program (MPP) offers electronic options to simplify and provide convenience, efficiency, and cost savings to our dues payment and processing. All dues (branch, state and national) are paid through this program saving our branch treasurer Roberta Kanter precious time having to write separate checks to national and state. (Members without Internet access will receive Dues Renewal forms in the mail).

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the MPP process, this is the message from AAUW that you'll see "pop up" in your email box after April 15 -- if you don't see this AAUW email, perhaps it landed in your junk mailbox:

"AAUW branch members exemplify teamwork, leadership and excellence in our local communities, and we're honored that you continue to be an integral part of this team, making a difference in the lives of the women and girls right where you live. Your membership does that, regardless of your level of participation.

It's time to renew your AAUW membership. As an AAUW member whose state and branch has opted to participate in the Membership Payment Program (MPP), you will be paying all of your dues - branch, state, and national -- all at once. There are two ways to renew your membership. 1) To renew online, click here to renew with your credit card.

2) To renew by check: Make your check payable to your AAUW branch, and mail it to your treasurer listed below." As you will discover, "one click" renews your dues by credit card it's just that easy!

If you opt to pay your 2020-21 dues by check, make \$109.00 payable to AAUW-LB (\$56 is tax-deductible) and mail to:

> Roberta Kanter 22405 Wood Grove Rd. Lake Forest, CA 92630

If you have any questions about the MPP process, contact me or Treasurer Roberta Kanter rkanter512@ gmail.com.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 2020 - 2021

JANSEN, Angela 1564 Glenneyre angela@angelajansenandassociates.com Laguna Beach 92651 U. of Maryland; Johns Hopkins Sch. of Pub. Health; Maryland Sch. of Med. BS; MS; PhD

SMITH, Sandracell 909-674-7567387 Cypress Dr., Apt. \$5smiths7573@gmail.comLaguna Beach 92651U. of Wisconsin; CSU San Bernardino;Azusa Pacific U.BS Child Development & Family Life;MA Reading Ed;MA Education

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12 AAUW PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES for 2020 Susan Kent, Chair shore.kent@gmail.com

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is proud to announce its gender policy agenda, which outlines our priority issues for the 2020 election season. As a non-partisan organization, AAUW does not endorse specific candidates, but throughout our 140-year history, we have been a staunch advocate for policies that improve the lives of girls, women and their families. Here's what AAUW would like to see implemented to advance gender equality in education and the workplace.

1. Economic Security

Women working full time still typically make 82 cents on the dollar as compared to men, and women of color experience even wider gaps. Policymakers need to close the stubborn gender and racial pay gaps.

• *Federal:* pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, the Pay Equity for All Act and the Fair Pay Act. Implement regulations to help businesses identify and correct biased pay practices, such as collecting wage data aggregated by sex and race.

• *State and local:* states should identify holes in existing laws and work to fill those gaps. Municipalities should enact salary-history bans and require wage-data collection.

2. Implement Paid Leave and Paid Sick Days

Unlike the majority of developed countries worldwide, the U.S. does not guarantee paid time off for illness, family care or parental leave. Offering such paid time off would improve worker performance, benefiting employees, employers and the economy. Elected officials must adopt policies to give workers paid time off for illness and care giving.

Federal: pass the Family and Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY) Act and the Healthy Families Act. *State and local:* states should establish paid leave programs or insurance laws for illness and care giving. Governors can enact policies providing protections to state workers if the legislature will not act. Municipalities should pass legislation providing protections to municipal workers if the state will not act.

3. Stop Harassment in the Workplace

Instituting robust protections against sexual, racial and other forms of harassment in employment will lead to great economic security for women. Policymakers should prioritize policies that put workers first and allow everyone to do their jobs without the threat of harassment or retaliation.

• *Federal:* pass the BE HEARD in the Workplace Act, the EMPOWER Act, and the Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act.

• *State:* ban mandatory arbitration and nondisclosure agreements as a condition of employment, expand the workers covered by anti-harassment laws, and codify strong anti-retaliation policies.

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12 AAUW PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES for 2020 continued...

4. Raise the Minimum Wage and Eliminate the Tipped Minimum Wage

Women comprise a majority of the low-wage workforce, and Black women and Latinas are significantly over-represented in the low-wage workforce. Elected officials need to raise the minimum wage to an adequate level to keep millions of families from living in poverty.

• Federal: pass the Raise Wage Act of 2019.

• *State:* pass legislation to raise the state minimum wage to \$15 per hour and eliminate the tipped minimum wage. Repeal any laws preempting localities from raising the minimum wage above the state level.

5. Close the Retirement Gap

Because of such factors as the gender pay gap and time away from work for care giving responsibilities, women lose out on hundreds of thousands of dollars in earnings, making it difficult for them to accumulate savings. Lawmakers need to address the retirement wage gap by protecting Social Security and strengthening retirement benefits and programs, including pension improvements.

• *Federal:* maintain and strengthen current Social Security benefits, including full cost-of-living adjustments, guaranteed lifetime benefits, a progressive benefit formula, spousal and widow benefits and disability and survivor benefits.

• *State:* require employers to offer a retirement savings plan for workers or create a marketplace to facilitate plan assessments.

6. Protect Pregnant Workers

Pregnant workers are sometimes pushed out of their jobs unnecessarily, but simple reasonable accommodations could help protect their health and ensure that they could continue working to support their families. Lawmakers should support pregnant workers by ensuring that they do not have to choose between their own health or the job and income they need.

• Federal: pass the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act.

• *State:* establish protections for pregnant workers so that they can access reasonable accommodations.

7. Education

Defend and Strengthen Title IX. Since the passage of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, schools have made significant strides in providing equal access to education. But barriers still exist, particularly for women and underrepresented populations. Elected officials must bolster the protections afforded by Title IX and faithfully implement and enforce this vital law.

• *Federal:* pass the Hold Accountable and Lend Transparency on Campus Sexual Violence Act, the Patsy T. Mink and Louise M. Slaughter Gender Equity in Education Act (GEEA), the Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act, and advocate against regulatory action seeking to weaken Title IX protections and enforcement.

• *State:* enact laws that align with the statutory provisions and intent of Title IX, making it clear and easy for schools to support students in accessing their education.

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12 AAUW PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES for 2020 continued...

8. Reduce Student Debt

Women hold two-thirds of the nation's \$1.46 trillion educational debt. Policymakers should protect grant programs, champion tuition- and debt-free options and expand loan forgiveness programs.

• *Federal:* protect and expand the Pell Grant Program, make loan repayment and forgiveness programs more accessible to borrowers and address the costs students face beyond tuition by supporting programs like the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMP-IS) program.

• *State:* enact loan repayment and forgiveness programs, increase need-based grant aid, and create "promise" programs that cover tuition and non-tuition expenses so the neediest students can succeed.

9. Expand Opportunities for Women and Girls in STEM

Careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) are rapidly growing, but bias and discrimination inhibit women and girls from pursuing these fields. Lawmakers should help battle implicit and explicit bias by promoting programs that increase women's participation and advancement in STEM education and careers.

• Federal: pass the STEM Opportunities Act.

• *State:* establish grants and programs that encourage women and minorities to pursue STEM education and training.

Foundational Rights

10. Expand and Protect the Right to Vote

Voting discrimination is a threat to the very foundation of our democracy. Ensuring the right to vote is a prerequisite to establishing all the other policies AAUW advocates. Elected officials must protect and expand voting rights. • Federal: pass the Voting Rights Amendment Act.

• *State:* establish automatic voter registration, promote early and online voting, institute voting modernization measures, support criminal re-enfranchisement and end partisan gerrymandering by creating nonpartisan redistricting procedures.

11. Ensure Access to High-Quality Healthcare

It is critical to women's economic security to have access to high-quality, affordable healthcare, including reproductive health care and family planning, and to have the control over such decisions. Policymakers must ensure all people have equal access to such care.

• *Federal:* pass the Women's Health Protection Act and protect the Affordable Care Act.

• *State:* expand access to health care, specifically reproductive health care, and states that have enacted harmful policies must roll them back.

12. Ratify the Equal Rights Amendment

The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) would guarantee constitutional equality between men and women — a concept the majority of Americans agree is necessary and that most people believe is already codified. Law-makers should ratify the ERA to ensure that advances we have made in women's equality are not changed or revoked.

• *Federal:* pass the joint resolution removing the deadline for ratification of the ERA or support the language of the ERA as a new amendment.

https://lagunabeach-ca.aauw.net



Thank You Sponsors and Donors! [Due to COVID-19, the 33th Annual Literary Luncheon Laguna Beach Festival

Due to COVID-19, the 33th Annual Literary Luncheon Laguna Beach Festival of Women Authors has been rescheduled to March 13, 2021]

<u> Ticket Donors</u>



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