

2015-16 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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AAUW FUND VP

Open



**AAUW TORRANCE
2016 - 2017
SUMMER PLANNING SESSION**

*All Torrance Branch members are invited to help plan our 2016-17 year.
We need your input to keep us on track to follow our mission to
"advance equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education,
philanthropy and research."*

After a potluck lunch and social-time, we will begin our business meeting with a brief overview of the past year and then move forward with ideas and plans for the coming year.

We will first talk about the Educational Partnership Committee where all of our Tech Trek work is done. Pam Kenoyer has retired from the EPC leadership position. A meeting of the EPC is planned for July at which restructuring changes will be discussed. Elaine, along with EPC members, will report on these changes.

Next we will discuss our plans for beginning the AAUW "Start Smart" salary negotiation workshops that our branch hopes to initiate with CSU Dominguez Hills. Before the meeting Elaine will contact Tina Byrne from the AAUW Irvine Branch to learn exactly how we begin the process and how many hands will be needed.

Then we will set dates for next year's general meetings. Our Program VP, Jamie Watson, is a veritable font of ideas for speakers, and we will also be contacting AAUW CA for a "Leader on Loan" speaker and probably an Educational Foundation grant or scholarship recipient speaker as well.

Finally, we will discuss our branch budget and any changes that may need to be made. We hope to see you then!

**Date: Saturday, Aug. 6, 2016
Time: 11 am
Place: Home of Nancy Kenney
5301 Paseo de Pablo, Torrance**

RSVP to Nancy at
(310) 373-2441 or nancykenney365@msn.com
and she will tell you what food categories are needed for our potluck.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

EPC

Peggy Monga

filmgroup@earthlink.com

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HOSPITALITY

Open

President's Message

"It takes a village..." to make an AAUW branch successful! This fact was readily apparent at our June meeting when we thanked some of the many members who helped out last year, from our board members, to Educational Partnership Committee members, to all of those who helped on the Afternoon Tea Committee. For those of you who missed our show of appreciation because you could not make that meeting, THANK YOU!

Our branch's primary "mission based" program has long been our hugely successful Tech Trek program, managed for many years by Pam Kenoyer through her incredible organizational skills. Now that Pam has retired from her post we need branch members to step up and help keep this essential program going. Please contact Peggy Monga, Karen Hassen, Margot Sullivan, or any member of the EPC committee if you can help. Those with computer skills are especially sought!

We are also adding a second "mission based" program to our plate, AAUW "Start Smart" salary negotiation workshops. This program will help a wide range of women, from those first entering the work force as college grads to those seeking to re-enter the workforce or seeking a career change through obtaining a college degree. It has been found that the salary level at which one enters the workforce can have a profound effect on the future earning potential of that individual. This also holds true for the title one accepts for a position. My daughter told me of a colleague who began work as an "HR Trainee" and five years later was still officially classified as a "trainee." Guess what that did for her ability to find work at a higher level for her next job? We need to do our part, as women and AAUW members, to help narrow the wage gap between men and women and these programs seek to do just that.

If we as a branch are successful at establishing a "Start Smart" program, in the future we may expand it to include a "Work Smart" program, which comprises salary negotiation workshops for women already in the workforce.

PLEASE try to attend our Summer Planning Session (see page one); we need input and volunteers, from members helping to administer our programs, to members who will help do the "hospitality" functions at meetings (set up the coffee/tea machine, arrange for snacks.) See you then!

Elaine

Educational Partnership Committee

All hands on deck!

Instead of our regular July EPC meeting, **we are looking for a date to have a "what's next for EPC"** get together of all interested parties. The following is from the text of an email from Pam Kenoyer outlining some of our current issues. **This meeting should be in July, any weekend after the 4th.** Let us know if you are interested! And what dates you may be available! Check your emails!

EPC members would like to schedule a meeting with Branch leadership to discuss the future direction of, and Branch support for, Tech Trek, now that I have transitioned out of a leadership and active role. The meeting should probably be on a Saturday or Sunday and plan for 3-4 hours. I will look into the availability of the new North Torrance Community Room (next to the NT library) to hold the meeting unless someone wants to host it at his or her house.

[Besides] the EPC committee... *this invitation is to all branch members; we need everyone's support if we want Tech Trek continue as a Branch activity.*

Karen [Hassen] and I have been working on documenting and fine tuning the TT process, and outlining the multitude of tasks required to administer TT to the community. We currently offer TT scholarships to 15 local middle schools: 8-Torrance, 2-Redondo Beach, and 5-LAUSD (2-Carson, 1-Lomita, 1-Gardena, 1-Watts). I think it is currently the only AAUW mission-based program offered by the Torrance Branch.

This year, Karen volunteered to be the Tech Trek Branch Coordinator. In this role, she is now the primary contact person for communication to and from the TT camp directors; however, she should not be expected to take on all the tasks I have performed. (She also works 40+ hours a week and requires the added time to commute to and from Huntington Beach.) Susan Negrete has assisted with the grants this year, but there are other TT financial responsibilities relating to the 2017 camps, that need to be taken on. I have been working with both Karen and Susan this year to help make the transition as smooth as possible.

Peggy has been the EPC Co-Chair for many years and she has expressed the desire to lighten her load. In this role, she prepares the EPC meeting agendas and sends out the majority of the EPC-related communications. Peggy also recruits and coordinates the many Branch volunteers who are School Buddies and Readers, and she follows up with our school contacts throughout the TT nomination and application process. [This year she had assistance from Vicki Goorchenko and Janice Pomerantz.]

Margot has been taking and publishing the EPC meeting minutes and writing the EPC Telegram article since last year. She may also be interested in relinquishing one or both of these duties (we need to formally ask her).

Right now, I am available most Saturdays & Sundays except July 30th and August 6th. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best regards, Pam Kenoyer

Educational Partnership Committee, continued

Our Orientation went very well on Sunday, June 5! 68 girls from 3 branches attended—100% of this year's campers, plus parents and Branch members. We had a full house at Hull Middle School!

Many thanks to the EPC members who did the **early set-up on Friday, June 3**, despite our time being moved up 2 hours at the last minute, to 4 pm. Torrance participants were Pam Kenoyer and hubby Gerry, Pat Arnett and hubby Joe, Pat Carroll, Maymie Chenoweth, and Peggy Monga. PVP members Denise DeVenuto and hubby Joe, and Judy Purvis, as well as Beach Cities member Rocio Murillo and sons Diego and Joaquin were also pitching in! Many thanks to the new (last year) Hull Middle School Principal Patty Girgis for her assistance and the use of the facilities there.

During Orientation on Sunday, Pam Kenoyer and Pat Arnett MC'd our program. Besides many EPC members attending, **we had a great deal of help from TTAG** (Tech Trek Alumni Group) girls:

Logan Hayes--reception and speaker, Katelyn Maheia--reception, Jazmine Gonzalez--reception and speaker, Kendall Kirio, Amy Johnson, Andrea Rodas--speaker, and current member Jessica Hassen, who was our photographer again this year.

Additional thanks are in order to **Karen Hassen** for making up the attendance lists for reception, procuring and labeling the T-shirts and water bottles that we give out; **Maymie Chenoweth** who developed and tabulated the pre-camp STEM surveys, and assisted **Peggy Monga** with the Red Cross Emergency kits donated by Alcoa; **Pat Arnett** who assisted the girls with the STEM surveys—no parents allowed!; **Pat Carroll** who purchased and brought all our refreshments as she has done for many years; **Gloria Liu** who worked up and organized the nametags; **Margot Sullivan** for working reception and assisting the girls with their notes and other tasks, as she has done for so many years, too; **Janice Pomerantz** for checking up on the fabric markers—did they dry out?; and **Jessica Hassen** for assisting with the T-shirts and water bottles, and helping organize the TTAG members. All of the above, plus **Michele Freck** did these and many other tasks during our final set-up, program and take-down, in which we again had the enthusiastic help of the parents in putting up the folding chairs at the end of the program.

On the following Monday, at 6:30 pm, **Pam Kenoyer** went to the **Torrance School Board Recognition meeting** to present the TUSD Tech Trekkers with their certificates.

Good News! Alcoa Foundation has approved a new grant for 2016-2017. This \$25,000 Alcoa grant provides funding for the following: 5 TT campers in 2016, 6 TT campers in 2017, \$15,000 for technology upgrades such as laptops and tablets. Thanks to Pam Kenoyer with an assist from Susan Negrete, for creating and tweaking our requested grant application.

Save the date: Tech Trek Celebration at Toyota Automobile Museum Tuesday, October 18, in the evening.

Peggy Monga
EPC Co-Chair

Interest Groups

Diversity Book Group

Date & Time: Friday, July 15, 6:30pm

At the home of Ann Dupuy

RSVP to Lydia Hachmeister McCarver at lydiaemcbh@yahoo.com

The Price of Salt by Patricia Highsmith

The Price of Salt tells the riveting story of Therese Belivet, a stage designer trapped in a department-store day job, whose salvation arrives one day in the form of Carol Aird, an alluring suburban housewife in the throes of a divorce. They fall in love and set out across the United States, pursued by a private investigator who eventually blackmails Carol into a choice between her daughter and her lover. With this reissue, *The Price of Salt* may finally be recognized as a major twentieth-century American novel.

Diversity Book Group

Date & Time: Friday, August 19, 6:30pm

At the home of TBD

RSVP to Lydia Hachmeister McCarver at lydiaemcbh@yahoo.com

The Beginner's Goodbye by anne Tyler

Evening Literature Group

The Evening Literary Group takes July off. We will meet again August 23rd at 7:30.

For book and meeting location information please contact Lisa Blank at (310) 835-9613 or girlphd@juno.com.

WIT

The group voted to go dark only in July and begin our regular meetings in August with a more 'social' evening.

Date & Time: Wednesday, August 3, 7pm

TOPIC: What I Did on My Summer Vacation - Then or Now

At Private Residence

Please RSVP BY MONDAY, August 1 to Susan at susimone@aol.com

Or, for questions, call 310-377-0642.

Film Group

Note: We will not have an August Film Group meeting, as is our usual practice.

Date & Time: Wednesday, July 27, 7:00 pm

At the home of Ann DuPuy

RSVP to 310-316-4808 or ann.dupuy@gmail.com

Modern Indians coping amid the metropolis. Join us for light refreshments and conversation. Everybody's a critic! **THE LUNCHBOX** (2013)(2014)(Rated PG for thematic material and smoking) In his debut feature, director/screenwriter Ritesh Batra tells the poignant story of how a mistaken delivery in Mumbai's famously efficient lunchbox delivery system connects the main characters. Ila (Nimrat Kaur), a neglected housewife, and Mr. Fernandes (Irrfan Khan), a widowed office worker nearing retirement, communicate through handwritten letters and home-cooked meals. And "Mr. Batra makes their story touching and credible, an urban fable of hope in the face of disappointment." Nominated at BAFTA for Best Film not in the English Language. Available at Torrance Library and Netflix.

Interest Groups

Film Group, cont.

KAHAANI (2012)(NR). Set in the backdrop of the Durga puja festival in Kolkata (Calcutta), Director Sujoy Ghosh tells a gripping and suspenseful tale of a pregnant woman, Vidya Bagch, in search of her missing husband. Befriended by a sympathetic policeman, there are many twists and turns in her quest, wherein nothing is what it seems and danger lurks in every corner. Vidya moves deeper into the mystery, to reach a shocking end. "With each film she makes, Vidya Balan reaffirms her status as India's best actress."—Access Bollywood. Available at Torrance Library and Netflix.

Membership

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

We have many new members to welcome! Two are student members. Most joined since the Fundraiser Tea. **Please add them to your membership directory.** In the interest of privacy, we are only providing contact information, i.e., phone numbers and email addresses. Home addresses will appear in the paper version of the membership directory, which will be distributed to all members in the fall. In the meantime, if you need more information, please contact them directly or contact Keri Gilbert (aauwtorrance@gmail.com), Elaine Bohrer ELNBOHRER@aol.com, or Gloria Liu 310 683-3695.

Karen Sue Gottlieb is retired, interested in all interest groups. Attended and joined at the Torrance Fundraiser Tea, as a guest of AAUW PVP Rowie Wolf of Women in Transition. Karen will join PVP as a dual member.

Kgott10@gmail.com

310 539-4741 (h)

Michelle Polcari works at CBRE as US accounting manager. She jumped in completely and got memberships for both her daughters!

SandKimmom@aol.com

310 791-9838 (h)

Kimberly (Kimi) Polcari - full time student. Attends Marymount California University, graduating in 2017 in criminal justice / pre-law

KimiRaeP@aol.com

310 791-9838 (h)

Sandra (Sandi) Polcari - full time student. Graduated Cal Poly Pomona in Animal Science, Minor in Physiology. Attending St. George University working on Doctor of Veterinary Medicine 2020.

310 791-9838 (h)

SDPCheerChick@aol.com

Inetha Foster is a friend and neighbor of Nancy Brock. She is interested in the Educational Partnership Committee

Fiji.foster@yahoo.com

805.268.2032 (c)

Georgia S. Perkins is retired and interested in the Film Group and Out and About

gperkins2012@gmail.com

310 316 4702 (h)

RENEW NOW!

If you haven't sent in your check for membership renewal, please do so now. Send your check and membership renewal form to our Treasurer Keri Gilbert.

Keri Gilbert

1605 Acacia Ave.

Torrance, CA 90501

Renewal forms are on the AAUW Torrance website. Please check the directory for any changes and be sure to emphasize them on your renewal form. Our membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. The late fee (after June 10, 2016) is currently \$5.

Also, remember that you can join as an **AAUW life member** if you pay 20 x annual national dues (20 x \$49 = \$980) and then you will only need to annually pay state (\$20) and branch dues (\$22) for a total of \$42 (unless dues increase). If

Membership, continued

you know an AAUW member who would like to join our branch as a **dual member**, they would only have to pay our branch dues.

Branch Honorees

At our June Installation and Recognition breakfast, we honored several people for their contributions. Be sure to congratulate them!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST 50 YEAR MEMBERS!

The Torrance AAUW Branch would like to officially congratulate our THREE 50 year members:

KAY ODGERS
EVELYN YOUNG
SHIRLEY TURNER

Thank you for believing in and supporting the mission of AAUW for a half century!

Membership, continued

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NAMED GIFT HONOREES!

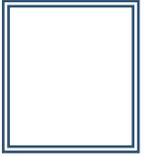
At the June breakfast meeting (installation) Torrance AAUW Branch announced our three named gift honorees for 2015- 2016, selected in March. Congratulations and thank you for your support over the years!

EVELYN YOUNG
MARY LOU BUSCH
EUNICE HARGROVE

AAUW Fund Large Donors

At the June breakfast meeting (installation) Torrance AAUW Branch we recognized our large donors to AAUW Fund. Thank you for your continued support! They have each contributed significantly to AAUW Fund.

Century Club - Kay Odgers
Chocolate Club - Gloria Liu
Major Donor - Carol Dean
Major Donor - Indrani Chatterjee



AAUW Torrance
Branch
P.O. Box 1392
Torrance, CA 90505

TO:

CALENDER OF EVENTS 2016

- July** 15 Friday, 6:30 pm, Diversity Book Group, Pg. 5
 27 Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Film Group, Pg. 5
- August** 03 Wednesday, 7:00 pm, WIT, Pg. 5
 06 Saturday, 11:00 am, Summer Planning Session, Pg. 1
 19 Friday, 6:30 pm, Diversity Book Group, Pg. 5
 20 Saturday, Deadline for submitting articles for newsletter
 23 Tuesday, Evening Literature Group, 7:30 pm, Pg. 5

AAUW Diversity Statement: *In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.*

AAUW Mission Statement: *AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.*

The DEADLINE for newsletter articles is the 20th of the preceding month.