

A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST!

October was a time for AAUW to enjoy the fruits of our labor! On October 6th AAUW CA was present at the signing of SB 358, the "California Fair Pay Act." On October 13th Torrance AAUW celebrated this year's 38 Tech Trek campers and their sponsors, and on October 18th AAUW CA presented scholarship and grant recipients at the Southern California Funds Luncheon in Irvine.

Oct. 6th Members representing AAUW CA witnessed Governor Brown signing the Fair Pay Act at Rosie the Riveter Historical Park. Current law prohibits employers from paying a woman less than a man when they are both doing equal work at the same establishment. With the Governor's signature, California will require equal pay, regardless of gender, for "substantially similar work." The new law also prohibits retaliation against employees who invoke the law, protects those who discuss wages and allows claims based on salaries at different workplaces.

Oct. 13th The Tech Trek Celebration, which was held at the Toyota Automobile Museum in Torrance, was a chance to send a big thank you to our generous sponsors:

ALCOA FOUNDATION, DIRECTV, EXXON MOBILE CORPORATION,
MOOG INC., SAATCHI & SAATCHI, TIME WARNER CABLE,
the WATSON LAND COMPANY, the W.M. KECK FOUNDATION,
the WEINAN FAMILY, the GOORCHENKO FAMILY and ATHENA PAQUETTE.

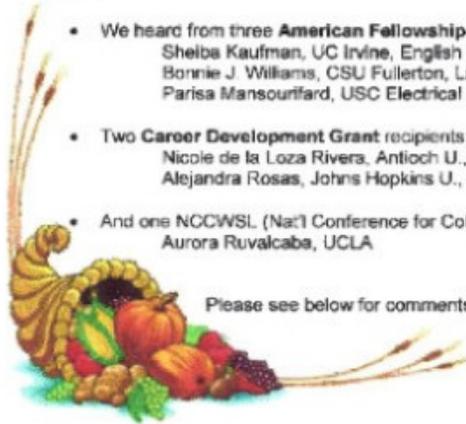
Also, a memorial scholarship was given in the name of BARBARA HUFFER. We then heard from our campers who told about the fun and educational experiments they performed in an array of disciplines from math and physics to biology and chemistry. Tech Trek is indeed an experience the girls are likely to carry with them for a lifetime.

Oct. 18th AAUW CA presented its Southern California Funds Luncheon. The Torrance Branch was represented by several members, including new member Helga Margraf-Fowler, Billie Lee Langley, Kay Odgers (who helped man the sign in tables, and is a dual member with PVP), Susan Negrete (dual member with PVP and AAUW CA State Director), Indrani Chatterjee (AAUW CA International Advocacy Rep.), and myself.

- We heard from three **American Fellowship** recipients:
Sheiba Kaufman, UC Irvine, English Literature
Bonnie J. Williams, CSU Fullerton, Language & Literature
Parisa Mansourifard, USC Electrical Engineering
- Two **Career Development Grant** recipients:
Nicole de la Loza Rivers, Antioch U., Public Administration
Alejandra Rosas, Johns Hopkins U., Communications
- And one **NCCWSL** (Natl Conference for College Women Student Leaders) attendee:
Aurora Ruvalcaba, UCLA

Elaine Bohrer

Please see below for comments from some of our luncheon attendees.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As mentioned above, I recently attended the So. California AAUW Funds Luncheon in Irvine. It is such a pleasure to hear from the young women as they tell us about how much AAUW's generosity means to them

Interest Groups

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and to their pursuit of higher education. I'd like to quote a couple of my fellow luncheon attendees:

From Helga Margraf-Fowler:

I liked the diversity the Funds were benefitting: A woman's work at the only women's shelter in downtown LA (an interesting fact by itself); an engineer researching a specialty mathematical sector of engineering; a woman with a PhD in English exploring speech patterns of Ebonics.

From Susan Negrete:

DR. BONNIE WILLIAMS ...I'm also a CSU Fullerton alum; I was just STRUCK by the fact that she's the first woman my alma mater hired at her level in the history of the school! I mean really, it is the 21st century. And she had an amazing sense of humor.

NICOLE De La LOZA RIVERA: She was so openly humble and grateful to AAUW that I was so touched. We share a commitment to the Downtown Women's Center (DWC) in LA, where she has been working. I have been supporting DWC since I met one of their Board members while working at Malaga Bank. They are the only skid row center that allows women to shower and eat without rules that monitors their life or attempts religious or spiritual conversion in order to receive help (this includes food/clothing for themselves and children).

AURORA RUVALCABA: (NCCWSL attendee) It's UCLA - my first alma mater - what else can I say?! PLUS she's a community college transfer and the first of 8 children to go to college. I loved her story of "La Nina de la Casa" ...the girl of the house. Also loved her message that there was no blueprint. "The woman I wanted to be had to be the woman I wanted to become."

It became abundantly clear that our donations and fund raising for the AAUW FUND is essential to furthering this very worthy endeavor which sits at the heart of AAUW's mission.

COMING UP: There will be no general meeting in November (the busy holiday season's beginning!), but be sure to mark your calendar with the date of our Holiday Party, Sunday, December 6th at approximately 4:30 pm. It will be held in the home of Pat Arnett and is sure to be an enjoyable afternoon. January 9th will be our next general meeting at the Torrance Airport Room. In April we will be having our Afternoon Tea Fundraiser! We are working on a special guest speaker and perhaps a raffle. More info to come!

NEXT BOARD MEETING: November 3rd, Tuesday, 7 pm, at the home of Elaine Bohrer. RSVP her at elnbohrer@aol.com or 310 376-3352 if you plan to attend.

Elaine

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Pat Arnett
acashe1@att.net

HOSPITALITY
Pat Carroll
tnpcarroll@aol.com

AAUW FUNDS

TERRIFIC NEWS - Toyota Auto Museum is letting us have our Afternoon Tea Fundraiser for AAUW Funds at their place on Saturday April 16, from 1 to 4 and waiving the \$2000 fee! They can accommodate up to 250 attendees, so we have to work hard to get attendance high. Start thinking about how to bring in lots of people and other groups. We don't want to have an empty room. The Museum is also going to provide a very special Silent Auction donation. Many thanks to Pat Arnett for securing the venue for us!

If anyone needs more incentive to raise money for this worthy cause, please see Elaine's articles in this newsletter for a report on AAUW CA's recent Fellowship and Grant Recipients Luncheon! The "Tea Committee" had our first meeting on October 6. Attending were Jamie Watson, Pat Carroll, Judy Hill, Gloria Liu. Pat Arnett, Margot Sullivan, Athena Paquette were unable to attend. We have our time and place!

We will need lots of help. Think about volunteering to help or coordinate some of the following. If you need more information before you volunteer, feel free to ask. We will need committees or people responsible for

1. Food - Judy Hill might chair, but may be absent
2. Silent Auction - Athena, Jamie. Last year's fundraiser netted half the monies from the Silent Auction. We will need donations.
3. Program/entertainment - Suggested topics or speaker?
4. Baskets for auction or raffle - Pat Arnett. We need donations of the contents. Watch for news about the themes of the baskets.
5. Decorations
6. Setup
7. Cleanup/ teardown
8. Reservations
9. Cashier for auction
10. Registration / check-in
11. Dishes - Pat Carroll and Jamie.
12. Linens - Pat Carroll and Jamie
13. Publicity
14. Servers
15. Do we need a carpool coordinator?

Would you like to know other branch members better? Help execute a successful event? Volunteer for one of these jobs. Have questions? Contact Gloria Liu - glsb7891@gmail.com or 310 683-3695 or one of the other committee members.

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

Our next EPC meeting will be Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 6:30 pm at Moog Aircraft Group, 20263 Western Ave., Torrance. Please contact Pam Kenoyer at pkenoyer@moog.com for admittance and directions. Our meetings are held the second Thursday of the month. Everyone is welcome.

The Tech Trek Celebration on October 13 was a wonderful opportunity to hear from all our campers (we sent 38 girls this year) about their amazing experiences during their week of STEM. It was so rewarding to see these eighth grade girls share about their classes and explain concepts they learned. Their enthusiasm, poise, and self-confidence were so inspiring to witness. We are appreciative of the educators, sponsors, and AAUW members who came to support and congratulate the girls. We are so very grateful to **Toyota** and Susan Sanborn for the use of the Automobile Museum and for all the facility arrangements that Toyota does for us. Thank you to member, **Jessica Hassen**, "photographer extraordinaire". Jessica captured the wonderful moments of the girls doing their presentations and meeting their sponsors. Jessica has first-hand knowledge of Tech Trek camp as she was a camper herself, and through Tech Trek, her mother, **Karen**, joined our branch. Many thanks for the delicious and much appreciated cookie and snack donations from our EPC members including **Pat Arnett, Nancy Brock, Judy Hill, Pam Kenoyer, Gloria Liu, Susan Negrete, Janice Pomerantz, Susanne Siney**, and **Kristi Wagner**. Thank you to the members who greeted and signed in the campers and guests: **Judy Hill, Judy Shaffer, Elle Oliver, Nancy Brock, Kristi Wagner, Billie Lee Langley, Karen Hassen, Maymie Chenowith, and Pat Arnett. Peggy Monga, Pam Kenoyer, Marinez Jones, and Elaine Bohrer** welcomed and introduced the campers, educators and sponsors and kept the evening's presentations flowing with warmth and efficiency. We thank all of our AAUW members who have served as school buddies and readers and those who help with the Orientation and the Celebration, taking on many jobs, and attending the monthly meetings for this valuable Tech Trek STEM program. We can't do it without YOU!

The **Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG)** presented an afternoon forum of women in STEM careers September 26 at the Redondo Beach Main Library. The girls are to be congratulated for a very interesting, inspirational, and informative event. They had fascinating women scientists! It was standing room only with young students and their families as well as members and guests from the three area AAUW branches. Watch for details on their next event. You won't want to miss it!

Now, we are ready to begin our plans for 2016 Tech Trek Camp. We hope you will join us. With our esteemed Pam Kenoyer who has led us for 16 years stepping back from a leadership role, we are encouraging lots of support from our branch members. We are so happy to welcome and thank three new members: **Elle Oliver, Kristi Wagner, and Marinez Jones** for all their help already!

Hope we'll see you on the 12th.

Margot Sullivan, EPC

TECH TREK

The Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG) coordinated and presented another successful Women in STEM Career Forum at the Redondo Beach Main Library on September 26th. More than 100 people were in attendance. A special thank you to the 12+ Torrance Branch members who attended. Your support means a lot to the TTAG girls!



Speakers and TTAG girls!



The Tech Trek Alumnae Committee (TTAC) includes AAUW mentors, Terry Hays-Horner (Beach Cities), Denise DeVenuto (Palos Verdes), Pam Kenoyer (Torrance) and Pam Salmen (not pictured)



The speakers included (L to R) Rachel Morford, Aerospace Corporation; Monica DeAngelis, National Marine Fisheries Service; Jackie Space, BMNT Partners; Julie Elbogen, LA County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau; and Jennifer Klein, Scitor Corporation.

INTEREST GROUPS

Diversity Book Group

Date & Time: Friday, November 20, 6:30pm At the home of Rachel Ambrose
RSVP to Lydia McCarver, 310-374-1505 or lydiaemcbh@yahoo.com

Crazy Rich Asians, By Kevin Kwan

Crazy Rich Asians is the outrageously funny debut novel about three super-rich, pedigreed Chinese families and the gossip, backbiting, and scheming that occurs when the heir to one of the most massive fortunes in Asia brings home his ABC (American-born Chinese) girlfriend to the wedding of the season.

When Rachel Chu agrees to spend the summer in Singapore with her boyfriend, Nicholas Young, she envisions a humble family home, long drives to explore the island, and quality time with the man she might one day marry. What she doesn't know is that Nick's family home happens to look like a palace, that she'll ride in more private planes than cars, and that with one of Asia's most eligible bachelors on her arm, Rachel might as well have a target on her back. Initiated into a world of dynastic splendor beyond imagination, Rachel meets Astrid, the It Girl of Singapore society; Eddie, whose family practically lives in the pages of the Hong Kong socialite magazines; and Eleanor, Nick's formidable mother, a woman who has very strong feelings about who her son should--and should not--marry. Uproarious, addictive, and filled with jaw-dropping opulence, *Crazy Rich Asians* is an insider's look at the Asian JetSet; a perfect depiction of the clash between old money and new money; between Overseas Chinese and Mainland Chinese; and a fabulous novel about what it means to be young, in love, and gloriously, crazily rich.

PLEASE NOTE: We do not meet in December and will return in January 2016

Film Group

Date & Time: Wednesday, November 18, 7:00pm At the home of TBD (check your emails)

RSVP to 310-316-7916 or margotrsullivan@aol.com

Join us for light refreshments and discussion. Everybody's a critic!

Note: we are meeting one week early to avoid Thanksgiving

Two by Spain's Pedro Almodovar. Both at Torrance Library and Netflix

ALL ABOUT MY MOTHER (1999)(2000)(Rated R) In this comic melodrama, grief stricken Manuela, a hard-working nurse, returns to Barcelona after the death of her son to search for the boy's father. She overcomes her grief and becomes caregiver to a colorful extended family. Ebert 3 ½ *

TALK TO HER (2003)(Rated R) A travel writer and a male nurse meet as they spend time at the bedsides of the women in their lives, who are both in comas. Ebert 3 1/2 *

Evening Literature Group

Date & Time: Tuesday, November 17, 7:30pm At the home of Dana Basiulis

Contact Lisa 310-835-9613 or girlphd@juno.com for more information.

Beautiful Ruins by Jess Walter.

Funny, romantic, and purely enjoyable, **Beautiful Ruins** is the story of an almost-love affair that begins on the Italian coast in 1962...and is rekindled in Hollywood fifty years later.

Coming in December: Holiday Potluck at the home of Betsy Adams.

Women in Transition (WIT)

Date & Time: Wednesday, November 4, 7-8:30pm At a Private Residence

RSVP by Tuesday, 11/3/2015 to Rowie at rowiewolf@juno.com or (310) 373-5970

The topic will be "Thoughts on Women Leaders"

Welcome Our Newest Members!

Michele Freck grew up in Hawaii and earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and her Masters in Education from UC Berkeley. She is currently working in a law office in Torrance.

Michele appreciates music and plays both the piano and the flute. She has already joined the Diversity Book Group and is interested in the Educational Partnership Committee.

Kristi Wagner earned her bachelor's degree from UCLA in General Math. She is currently working as a benefits administrator for a Trust company in Torrance.

Kristi has become an active member of the Educational Partnership Committee.

CALENDER OF EVENTS 2015

- November 04 Wednesday, 7:00 pm, WIT, Pg 6
- 12 Thursday, 6:30 pm, EPC Meeting, Pg. 4
- 17 Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Evening Lit. Group, Pg. 6
- 18 Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Film Group, Pg. 6
- 20 Friday, 6:30 pm, Diversity Book Group, 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.