



**Torrance Branch
2017 - 2018**

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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TORRANCE AAUW!



Join the Celebration!

Take a trip down memory lane with us through fifty years of AAUW Torrance! Check our branch memorabilia tables, hear our Founding Members tell about early branch projects, socialize with members, and more!

Saturday, June 2, 2018,

10:30 am to 1:00 pm at

The Depot

1250 Cabrillo Ave., Torrance 90501

\$40 per person

Includes a hot gourmet chicken or vegetarian plate, salad, rolls, a variety of desserts, and coffee or iced tea.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Torrance Members,

What a year! The Torrance branch of AAUW witnessed the passing of an exciting year filled with successful monthly meetings and time spent on new endeavors. The Torrance branch launched their Fiscal Year 2017-18 with a successful and well-attended "Welcome Back Breakfast" meeting on September 16 and followed up the next month with the Tech Trek celebration. October also witnessed "Start Smart," a salary negotiation program which launched its first session at California State University, Dominguez Hills on October 26, 2017. November was witness to a very moving presentation given by our own member, Billie Lee Langley, regarding Human Trafficking. The STEM fields are rapidly becoming the most in-demand and lucrative in the world and during the February branch meeting, Dr. Kathleen Yip shared her mesmerizing success story from being a Tech Trek camper to pursuing an education in medicine and achieving her MD! In March, to highlight International Women's Day, Melissa Liu Cruz shared her story of her upbringing in an Asian-American household to the path of becoming a Mobile Product Manager in Cubic Transportation as a second-generation Asian American. April was bustling as the Torrance Branch members went to the Comedy & Magic Club in Hermosa Beach to raise funds in honor of its 50-Year Anniversary as well as attended the AAUW-CA convention in Irvine.

As June ends the fiscal year, the branch celebrates its 50th anniversary event at the Depot Restaurant in Torrance. This event's preparation has been planned all year to make the celebration memorable and the achievement unforgettable!

Enjoy your summer! *Indrani*

Next board meeting: Tuesday, June 5, 7:30 pm, at Indrani's home. RSVP: ichat905@gmail.com

LOS ANGELES INTERBRANCH COUNCIL

LACIC: Updates & Announcements for 2018 - 2019 Term

The Los Angeles Interbranch Council (LACIC) concluded its 2017-2018 term on Sunday, 5/20/2018 with a presentation by JUDY MILESTONE, AAUW Beach Cities & PVP branch member. Judy used AAUW's research paper to give a unique perspective of current college student debt expectations with a focus on women graduates and the particulars of career and life versus (their) expected debt obligations.

In addition, LACIC's May meeting included the 2018 - 2019 Officer Installation, conducted by Kathleen Doty, 2014 - 2016 AAUW-CA President and chair of the 2018 CA Convention.

LACIC's new term begins with the September 9, 2018 program and its five meetings will continue to be held on the second Sunday from 2:00 - 4:00pm at PIH, 12401 Washington Blvd., Whittier, CA. LACIC is currently comprised of 14 branches in Los Angeles County.

LACIC officers for the upcoming term are:

Co-Chairs: Susan Negrete (PVP & Torrance) & Sharon Westafer (Long Beach)

Secretary: Daphne Ching-Jackson (Long Beach)

Treasurer: Patricia Cuocco (Greater Whittier)

Program Co-Chairs: Ginny Hatfield (San Fernando Vally) and Rozanne Child

Membership Ambassador: Kay Odgers (PVP & Torrance)

Susan Negrete – Chair, LACIC



EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

The next monthly EPC meeting will be held **Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 6:30pm at Village Court Del Amo, 21345 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance.** To be buzzed into the lobby, use the call box for Nancy Brock. Take the elevator to **the 1st floor Community Room.** Contact Nancy at 650 678-5522 if you are unable to enter.

Our **Tech Trek Camper Orientation** will be held **Sunday, June 3 at Hull Middle School Multi-purpose Room, 2080 W. 231st St., Torrance from 1 to 4 pm.** **Pat Arnett and Janice Pomerantz** are co-chairing this event. **Pat Carroll** is coordinating refreshments. **Karen Hassen** has arranged for the purchase and printing of all the camper T-shirts and water bottles with the Tech Trek logo. Our photographer again this year will be **Jessica Hassen.** **Susan Negrete** will be speaking to the parents during the question and answer session at 3:00 from her perspective as a Dorm Mom. Set up for the program will be **Sunday morning from 10:30 to 1:00.** Member help is welcome for set-up and/or during the event. We are also very fortunate to have the assistance of some TTAG members and Service Club members from West High. This is a very fun event and wonderful opportunity to meet our 30 new campers who will be attending their week of Tech Trek Camp this summer. **You might just want to come and see what it's all about! If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Pat Arnett or Janice Pomerantz.**

Torrance Middle School Campers will be presented to the Torrance School Board on **Monday, June 4 at 7pm at the new West High School Auditorium.** The event will include the ribbon cutting for the new auditorium. **Susan Negrete** will introduce the campers and present the certificates of congratulations from State Senator Ben Allen, Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi, and Torrance Branch AAUW. Members are welcome to attend. Thank you **Gloria Liu** for making the AAUW certificates.

Athena Paquette Cormier, Margot Sullivan, and photographer **Maymie Chenoweth** attended the Redondo Beach School Board meeting where **Athena** presented the certificates to the four Redondo Beach campers.

We are excited to report that **Karen Peters** and **Alice Hill** will be a Dorm Moms this summer! If anyone would like more information about this great opportunity, contact **Judith Hill or Susan Negrete** who would love to share about their experiences.

We have many thanks to express to all of our hard-working dedicated team. Many of the names have already been mentioned above, and to **Michele Freck** who is tireless in her search for scholarships and keeping our funds and grant money in order, **Alice Hill** for the amazing job of coordinating, communicating with the camps and campers, and sending off the camper paper work, **Peggy Monga** for her leadership and valuable help in all areas and keeping everything on track, **Nancy Brock** and **Suzanne Siney** for always being there to help and **to Nancy**, we are so grateful to you for providing a place for us to meet. (My apologies if I have omitted anyone.)

We hope YOU will consider joining our EPC as we begin our new season in the fall. For more information contact, Peggy Monga at filmgroup@earthlink.net

Margot Sullivan, EPC, margotsullivan@aol.com

RESERVATION FORM

Join us as we celebrate
TORRANCE AAUW'S



*A Trip Down Memory Lane,
plus a hot gourmet lunch prepared by Chef Shafer at*

The Depot

1250 Cabrillo Ave., Torrance 90501

Saturday, June 2, 2018,

10:30 am to 1:00 pm

\$40 per person



TORRANCE AAUW TURNS 50!

Saturday, June 2, 2018

Guest reservation form
COST: \$40 per person includes hot lunch.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Luncheon choice: Chicken _____ Vegetarian _____

Please list the names and meal choices of your guests: (Use back for additional names)

**Mail this form and your check, payable to Torrance AAUW, to be received by May 25, 2018, to:
AAUW Torrance Treasurer, P.O. Box 1392, Torrance, CA 90505**

MEMBER NEWS

Heartfelt Thanks

So many members contribute to make the branch a success. We each contribute in our own way. Elaine Bohrer has particularly contributed a lot to the branch. I would like to thank her for all her hard work for the branch over the years. She has carried the branch for several years and stepped in wherever needed. She has performed many tasks, including

- Telegram editor for many years
- Branch Directory editor for many years
- Branch President for multiple terms and Program VP
- Founder and main volunteer for Girls in Gear STEM panel discussions
- Start Smart committee chair for pay equity workshops presented at CSUDH
- Designer for numerous program flyers
- Created and updated several Torrance Branch brochures for prospective members (tri-folds)
- Helped on many committees, including the 2014 and 2015 Fundraiser Teas
- Recruited her husband Tom to help for many tasks, including setting up chairs for our branch meetings

Regrettably, Elaine has resigned from the board and the branch. She will focus her efforts on the ACLU. We will miss her. Thank you, Elaine. We wish you all the best.

If you have anyone else who has contributed a lot, please write up an article and submit it.

In Sympathy

Please join me in expressing our sympathy to longtime member Betsy Adams, whose husband passed away earlier this year. Also, we mourn the passing of Patricia Gaugh. She was a charter member, past president, and active member until lately.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If you have not renewed yet, please mail your dues to Lisa Blank. If sending payment after June 10, 2018, add late fee of \$10.

Gloria Liu, VP Membership

THE TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST!

Public Funds for Public Schools: Oppose Private School Vouchers!

Public funds belong in public schools. When those funds are re-directed to private and religious schools through school voucher programs, we put the education and civil rights of women and girls at risk. Private and religious schools are not held to the same civil rights and accountability standards as public schools, and for this reason AAUW has long opposed the use of public funds for voucher programs.

Although promoted as “school choice,” vouchers do not provide true choices for students and parents. Not all public school students can access voucher schools, as private schools can reject any applicant they choose. Most concerning, private schools often do not have to adhere to federal civil rights laws, specifically Title IX, allowing for the discrimination of students on the basis of sex, disability, or English language ability. It is imperative that we use taxpayer dollars for educational programs that are held to high standards and measures of accountability. Voucher programs provide little accountability to taxpayers because many private schools do not adhere to the same curriculum and reporting requirements of public schools. Research has also shown that voucher programs do not improve academic opportunity and student performance; students enrolled in voucher programs usually perform at the same level or below that of students in public schools.

Urge your members of Congress to stand up for public education by opposing private school voucher programs! Take action now. Tell Congress we shouldn’t give our tax dollars to unaccountable private schools. Instead of funneling federal taxpayer dollars to private schools, Congress should invest these funds in public schools that are accessible to all students, no matter their gender disability, economic status, or educational achievement.

Make your voice heard: Tell your senators and representatives to protect funding for public schools and to oppose any school voucher schemes that may come before the 115th Congress. AAUW will help you find your representatives and their contact information. Go to aauw.org and then to Two- Minute Activist page or click on the following link:

http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=24679



Torrance Branch

2018-2019 Dues Renewal Statement FOR RENEWING MEMBERS ONLY

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: (home) _____ (cell) _____

(work) _____ E-mail _____

NEW: Check here if you prefer that your home address NOT be included in our e-directory: _____
(All information will still be included in the printed directory.)

How would you like to receive the AAUW Torrance Branch newsletter (Torrance Telegram)? Indicate below:
Emailed _____ Mailed copy (see below for suggested donation) _____

Indicate any Torrance Branch Directory updates or corrections: (use back if you need more space)



Dues Breakdown: AAUW Assoc.: \$59 (\$56 of which is tax-deductible)
+ CA AAUW: \$20 + Torrance Branch: \$22 = \$101 Total

If a Renewing Member at Torrance Branch pay: **\$101.00**

If a Renewing Life Member – pay only State and Branch dues: **\$42.00**

If a Dual Member* and renewing with Torrance Branch pay: **\$22.00**

(*Dual members must have paid 2018-2019 National, State and Branch dues at a branch other than Torrance.

Indicate name of other branch _____)

If sending payment after June 10, 2018, add Late Fee: \$10.00

Optional donation to support Tech Trek branch administrative costs: _____

Optional \$5 donation to receive Branch newsletter by US Mail: _____
(copying, postage)

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Please make renewal check payable to: **AAUW Torrance** and send this form with your check to:
AAUW Torrance Treasurer, P.O. Box 1392, Torrance, CA 90505



OPTIONAL TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION OPPORTUNITIES!

Help further the mission of AAUW to advance equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. Donate now! For AAUW Fund 501c(3) donations, contact AAUW

Torrance below. Please include a **separate** check payable to "AAUW Fund."

Contact Michele Freck micfreck@gmail.com to make tax-deductible Tech Trek donations to AAUW-CA-SPF 501c(3).

*FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT aauwtorrance@gmail.com or visit <http://torrance-ca.aauw.net>

INTEREST GROUPS

Diversity Book Group



Date & Time: Fri., June 22, 6:30 pm
Location: Home of Karen Peters; see your directory for address.
RSVP: Karen, 310 941-3338 or kpeters1009@gmail.com

***When Breath Becomes Air*, by Paul Kalanithi (2016)**

At the age of 36, on the verge of completing a decade's worth of training as a neurosurgeon, Paul Kalanithi's health began to falter. He started losing weight and was wracked by waves of excruciating back pain. A CT scan confirmed what Paul, deep down, had suspected: he had stage four lung cancer, widely disseminated. One day, he was a doctor making a living treating the dying, and the next, he was a patient struggling to live. Just like that, the future he and his wife had imagined, the culmination of decades of striving, evaporated.

With incredible literary quality, philosophical acuity, and medical authority, *When Breath Becomes Air* approaches the questions raised by facing mortality from the dual perspective of the neurosurgeon who spent a decade meeting patients in the twilight between life and death, and the terminally ill patient who suddenly found himself living in that liminality. At the base of Paul's inquiry are essential questions, such as: What makes life worth living in the face of death? What happens when the future, instead of being a ladder toward the goals of life, flattens out into a perpetual present? When faced with a terminal diagnosis, what does it mean to have a child, to nurture a new life as another one fades away?

As Paul wrote, "Before my cancer was diagnosed, I knew that someday I would die, but I didn't know when. After the diagnosis, I knew that someday I would die, but I didn't know when. But now I knew it acutely. The problem wasn't really a scientific one. The fact of death is unsettling. Yet there is no other way to live." Paul Kalanithi passed away in March 2015, while working on this book.

Evening Literary Group



Date & Time: Tues., June 19, noon.
Potluck and book planning for the coming year.

Location: The home of Betsy Adams; see your directory for address.
RSVP: Betsy, 310 377-0624 or seamath@cox.net

The Evening Literary Group takes July off.

Women in Transition (WIT)



Date & Time: Wed., June 6, 7 pm
Home of Susan Negrete: See your directory for address.
RSVP: by Monday, June 4, to Susan Negrete, susimone@aol.com or if questions, 310 377-0642.

Topic: Presenting Our Face & Body to the World

WIT Summer Schedule:

- To accommodate the 4th of July holiday, WIT will meet on Wednesday, July 11, 2018. Same time and location. Topic = TBA.
- WIT does not meet in August
- WIT Return-from-summer Meeting and Potluck on September 5, 2018. Same time/location. Topic = "What I Did on My Summer Vacation"

Film Group



Date & Time: Wed., June 27, 7 pm
Location: Home of Elaine Bohrer; see your directory for address.
RSVP: Elaine, 310 376-3352 or elnbohrer@aol.com

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

PICKPOCKET (1959)(2005 at Redondo)(2014 at Torrance)(Rated NR) This stylized drama from Director Robert Bresson, follows the trials of a Paris pickpocket named Michel, a thief who grows so successful at his craft that he worries his luck will run out. Despite his own fears, Michel remains chained to his compulsion to steal. "Michel is thinking of himself. He gathers his narcissism around himself like a blanket. He ... treasures an image of himself as a man so special that he is privileged to steal from others."—Ebert Great Movies. Available at Redondo, Torrance and Netflix DVD

SHOOT THE PIANO PLAYER (1960)(2005)(Rated NR) Charlie (Charles Aznavour), a once-famous pianist, is now stroking the keys in a Parisian saloon. When his brothers get in trouble with gangsters, Charlie inadvertently gets swept up in the chaos and is forced to rejoin the family he once fled. This highly stylized melodrama from director François Truffaut employs all of the hallmarks of French new wave cinema. "A superb combination of genre movie and Truffaut's special brand of perfectly observed, humanist detail."—Empire Magazine--Rotten Tomatoes 92%. Available at Redondo, Torrance and Netflix DVD



Torrance Branch
PO Box 1392
Torrance, CA 90505



TO:

CALENDER OF EVENTS 2018

- June 02** Saturday, 10:30 am, 50th Anniversary Luncheon, Pg. 1
- 03** Sunday, 1:00 pm, Tech Trek Camper Orientation, Pg. 3
- 04** Monday, 7:00 pm, Torrance Mid. Sch. Tech Trek Campers Presentation Pg. 3
- 05** Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Board meeting, Pg. 2
- 06** Wednesday, 7:00 pm, WIT meeting, Pg. 7
- 14** Thursday, 6:30 pm, EPC Meeting, Pg. 3
- 19** Tuesday, noon, Evening Lit. meeting, Pg. 7
- 22** Friday, 6:30 pm, Diversity Book Gp. meeting, Pg. 7
- 27** Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Film Gp.,Pg. 7

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, philanthropy and research.*

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