

Welcoming New Members to the Torrance Branch

Patricia Almon Mor
(see page 4)

Torrance Branch Leadership

Keri Gilbert, President
Alice Matthews, Finance Officer
Nancy Kenney, Secretary
Gloria Liu, AAUW Fund VP

Committee Leadership

Peggy Monga, EPC
Cami Hamilton, Telegram Editor
Michele Croci, Public Policy
Kay Odgers, Member Profiles
Janet Flynn, Telegram Mailing
Ann DuPuy, Webmaster
Keri Gilbert, Digital Communications

Volunteer Leaders Needed

Membership VP
Program VP
Branch Tech Trek Coordinator

Please send Torrance Telegram articles by
November 18 to heycamster66@gmail.com

President's Message from Keri Gilbert

Hello Torrance Branch!

I am so sorry that I was unable to attend the Tech Trek celebration on October 15 (we were on a red eye to Boston) and it sounds like I missed a great event! I appreciate everyone who attended to support the campers, the sponsors and the committee members. I strongly encourage everyone to get in on the ground floor of next summer's camps and go to the EPC meeting on November 14.

Can you spare a few hours to help some college students start off their careers with competitive salaries? If so, please contact Elle Oliver or Michele Freck and join them at the next Start Smart workshops on November 5 at CSU Dominguez Hills. It is a great experience and you won't regret it!

We are still looking for a hostess for our holiday party in December. Please contact me right away!

I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Keri Gilbert

Please Note:

**Several groups have changed their regular meeting date this month and several are not meeting in December
Please see calendar on back**

Public Policy

by Michele Croci

Governor Signs 14 AAUW-Supported Bills Into Law

by Magaly Zagal, Legislative Advocate for AAUW-CA

The 2018-19 legislative season has come to a close, and by October 13, 2019 Governor Newsom signed 870 bills out of the 1,042 bills that were presented to him. Among the most significant of these were fourteen bills which will become law due to the advocacy and research support offered by AAUW-CA:

AB 9 -Extends the time for filing harassment and discrimination claims under California’s Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) from 2 to 3 years, allowing survivors additional time to seek redress.

AB 51 -Prohibits an employer from requiring an employee to waive any right for a labor code violation as a condition of employment, continued employment or receipt of employment benefits.

AB 59 -Directs county elections officials to consider a vote center location on a public or private university with the intent to increase youth voter turnout.

AB 170 - Closes a gap in the law to ensure that employers do not resort to subcontractor agreements for purposes of avoiding liability for sexual harassment claims.

AB 218 - Increases the civil statute of limitations period for commencement of a sexual assault cause of action. This will give sexual assault survivors sufficient time to access civil remedies.

AB 381- Ensures that prevention and bystander intervention outreach on dating violence information is made available to incoming students during orientation.

AB 543 - Ensures that all 9th through 12th grade students receive a written policy on sexual harassment information during orientation. AAUW’s report “Schools Are Still Underreporting Sexual Harassment and Assault” was critical in helping support the legislative analyses for AB 543.

AB 749 - Prohibits the use of “no rehire” clauses in settlement agreements that broadly restrict future employment opportunities for workers settling a sexual harassment or other claims.

AB 809 - Mandates that public postsecondary institutions provide notice to students to ensure that pregnant and student parents are aware of their Title IX rights.

AB 922 - Allows a woman providing human oocytes for research to be compensated for her time, discomfort, and inconvenience in the same manner as other research subjects.

SB 24 - Increases access to reproductive health services for students at public universities and colleges by providing medication abortion at student health centers.

SB 142 - Requires employers to have a written lactation policy and lactation spaces that meet minimum requirements for lactating workers. While existing law requires employers to provide parents with the time and space to express breastmilk, SB 142 places specific guidelines to ensure that parents are sufficiently protected in the workplace.



Promising STEM Legislation

The U.S. Senate recently passed the AAUW-supported Building Blocks of STEM Act (S. 737) introduced by Senator Jacky Rosen (D-Nev.). The bipartisan legislation will invest in early-childhood STEM education and break down barriers for girls in computer science. The bill will now move to the U.S. House of Representatives.

(October 10, 2019, AAUW Mission & Action eNewsletter)

Educational Partnership Committee (EPC)**Thursday, November 14 at 6:30 pm****at the home of Kabita Kumar****Please RSVP to kabitarebecca@gmail.com**

by Margot Sullivan

If you were fortunate enough to attend the Tech Trek Celebration on October 15 at Hull Middle School, you must be anxious to join EPC and be a part of our Tech Trek program! The Celebration was the culmination of a whole year of work by the EPC, and it was a GREAT evening featuring our 36 campers and their experiences, classes and field trips that were a part of their week at Tech Trek Camp.

The messages that the girls shared included how they learned the importance of team work and how everyone participated as a team at camp but that hasn't been their experience in their school classroom. They also shared how awesome it was to be with a group of girls who loved STEM just like they did. It was inspiring to hear of the life changing experiences they talked about and the gratitude they had for their sponsors and AAUW.

Thank you to all the members who came to support the campers — also to those who provided cookies. We are grateful to Patty Girgis, principal of Hull Middle School who welcomed us to Hull, provided equipment and ran all the audio-visual computer presentations. Three wonderful volunteers from West High Interact Club enjoyed helping so much they want to do more with our group. TTAG members Charlotte Maguy, Khushi Kumar and Lahari Arun were so valuable in all the help they provided introducing the campers, helping with the greeting and photo session and making a presentation to inform the campers about TTAG and the fun and informative programs they have. Peggy Monga was our M.C. for the evening. Alice Matthews spoke to the group about her experiences being a dorm mom. Maymie Chenoweth presented congratulatory certificates from State Senator Steven Bradford, Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi, and Torrance Branch AAUW to the LAUSD

Check Out New Featured Photos* Page

campers. *Monica Beivide, friend of Jessica Hassen, took all the photos. Kabita Kumar set up the refreshments. Janice Pomerantz worked on and printed the programs and name tags. Gloria Liu, Rachel Creasey, Ann DuPuy and Margot helped the campers with their presentations that included some very professional looking PowerPoints. Rachel also put together slides to introduce each camper with their information. Michele Freck set up a display of materials from the campers, made a PowerPoint presentation of camp life that played before the program began and contacted and welcomed all the sponsors. Pat Arnett and Maymie Chenoweth compiled the after-camp STEM survey that provides important data for our grants. Pat administered the survey to the campers. Rachel Creasey, Billie Lee Langley and TTAG greeted the parents, educators, sponsors, and guests. We were delighted that educators Linda Choy from Bert Lynn, Hoff Brooks from Caroldale, Lisa Veal from Adams, Dr. Trang Nguyen from Perras, Lisa Nunes from Magruder, Patty Girgis from Hull, Pete Loaiza, Dena Ludwig, and Emily McBeth from Jefferson and Tayo Balogun from Richardson, Linda Hunt and Felix Arroyo from Markham, and Tammy Kim from Stephen White were able to attend.

We were so happy to welcome Torrance School Board members Betty Lieu and James Han to the program. Our sincere gratitude to our sponsors, many of whom attended including: Cliff Weinan, Dr. Marie Pelligrini of W.M. Keck Foundation, Susan Dipalo from Saatchi and Saatchi, Dawn Salvatore and Jaquelin Sicilia Alvarez from Moog, Inc., Susan Coyne from Symantec, Karen Peters, Athena Paquette-Cormier, and Kabita Kumar. Karen Hassen registered campers while Michele Freck, with assistance from Pat Carroll, Judith Hill and Suzanne Siney registered the educators, sponsors, and guests.

Needless to say, the stars of the evening were our campers, and that's what it's all about!

Now we are ready to begin anew with our plans for 2020 Tech Trek. **Please join us on Thursday, November 14 at 6:30 pm for our EPC meeting!**

**Two Start Smart Workshops
CSU Dominguez Hills
Tuesday, November 5
@5:30-6:30 pm and @7:00-9:00 pm**

Work Smart

As an AAUW Member, you're an ambassador, helping to build relationships between AAUW and the public. Empower the women you know in the workforce on salary negotiation by sharing this free course. Log in today. For assistance, contact salary@aauw.org.

New Member Updates

Our branch welcomes new member Patricia Almon Mor. A graduate from Arizona State and the University of Arizona, Patricia received her Juris Doctorate and is now a Los Angeles Deputy City attorney. She specializes in labor and employment compliance and has worked at LAX for the last 13 years. She joined AAUW after her daughter Naomi attended Tech Trek at UC Santa Barbara. Patricia shares AAUW's mission of advancing gender equity in the workplace and creating opportunities for young women in STEM. We also welcome new members Eleanore Feldman, Mary Watson and student member Claudia Reyes.

Sharing Makes Us Stronger

by Cathy Foxhoven and Jane Niemeier, Co-Presidents, AAUW California

Recently I attended the San Diego Interbranch Council meeting. We had two wonderful speakers: Doreen Mattingly, the head of the Women's Studies Program at San Diego State, and Kseniya Belysheva, who received a scholarship from the San Diego IBC to attend National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

Next came my favorite part of our quarterly meetings. The branches shared some of their activities for the year. Kathi Harper, a state director from Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista, told about her new

program Gov Trek which will introduce government at all levels to high school girls in the area. Harriet Gerza, the IBC Chair, talked about how her Poway-Penasquitos Branch implemented Speech Trek in 2019, and their candidate won the state contest. My La Mesa-El Cajon Branch proudly displayed the 2020 AAUW California convention logo that was designed by our member, Noura Bishay, who is a former AAUW Fellow.

We, as branch members, are there to help each other. People at the meeting were excited to take back new ideas to their branches. And that is what our Board-to-Board publication is for – to share the excitement. Pass it on!

(October 6, 2019, AAUW Board to Board eNewsletter)

LACIC Update

L.A. County Interbranch Council

**Sunday, November 10 at 2:00 - 4:00 pm
PIH (formerly known as Presbyterian Hospital)
12401 Washington Blvd., Lower Level Conference
Rm. Whittier, CA**

<https://sites.google.com/site/aauwlacic/>

LACIC is comprised of members of AAUW CA's 14 branches in Los Angeles County; LACIC meetings allow members to meet, to connect with one another, to align with AAUW CA, and to affiliate with other like-minded organizations in LA County.

LACIC refreshment plan: Bring your own drink and individuals are invited to bring snacks to share.

**Wednesday, November 6
7:00 pm**

WIT Meeting

Topic: Navigating Caregiving

Wednesday, November 6 at 7:00 pm

at private residence

RSVP by November 4 to susimone@aol.com

**No December Group Meetings for:
Film Group, Diversity Book Group**

**Thursday, November 21
7:00 pm**

THE FAVOURITE (2018)(2019)(Rated R)

Nominated for 10 Oscars and starring Olivia Colman, Rachel Weisz and Emma Stone. In early 18th century England, a frail Queen Anne occupies the throne and her close friend, Lady Sarah, governs the country in her stead. When a new servant, Abigail, arrives, her charm endears her to Sarah and Abigail sees a chance to return to her aristocratic roots, and no one will stand in her way. "The Favourite... harbors serious themes and anxieties about womanhood underneath a deceptively feather-light surface."—Ebert ★★½ (Tomris Laffly). Available at Redondo and Torrance Libraries and DVD Netflix.

**Friday, November 22
6:30 pm**

The Diversity Book Group

Friday, November 22

at the home of Elle Oliver

*Please note that this is a change from the usual meeting date of the third Friday of the month

**Tuesday, November 19
7:30 pm**

Evening Literature Group

Tuesday, November 19 at 7:30 pm

at the home of Lisa Blank

The Lost Girls of Paris, by Pam Jenoff

A remarkable story of friendship and courage centered around three women and a ring of female secret agents during World War II. Vividly rendered and inspired by true events, Pam Jenoff weaves a mesmerizing tale of courage, sisterhood and the great strength of women to survive in the hardest of circumstances.

Film Group

Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 7:00 pm

at the home Margot Sullivan

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

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (1993)(2003)(Rated PG-13)

From Director Kenneth Branagh and starring Branagh, Emma Thompson, and Kate Beckinsale. With his wedding a week away, Claudio can't wait to marry the beautiful young Hero. To distract him, his best friend Don Pedro devises mischief: a romantic trap for the sharp-tongued Beatrice and the man she loves to hate, Benedick. Their amusement is almost spoiled by the jealous scheming of Don John. "The key to the film's success is in the acting, especially in the sparks that fly between Branagh and Thompson..."—Ebert ★★ Available at Redondo and Torrance Libraries and DVD Netflix. (Be sure to get the film by Branagh. Another with the same title came out later.)

White Chrysanthemum, Mary Lynn Brecht

A debut novel about the Korean "comfort women" prostituted by Japanese soldiers in World War II—and the strong bond between two sisters separated by the conflict. The heartbreaking history of Korea is brought to life in this deeply moving and redemptive debut that follows two sisters separated by the war.

AAUW offers membership to all graduates who hold an associates or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Student affiliate status in AAUW is available for anyone now studying for a degree at a qualified institution. Until graduating with that degree, a student affiliate may participate in all AAUW activities except for holding office or voting.

Membership

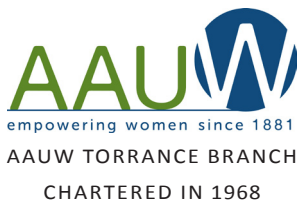
In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographic location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status.

Diversity Statement

The purpose of AAUW is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Mission Statement

PO Box 1392
Torrance, CA 90505



April 17-19, 2020
AAUW CA Convention
Westin San Francisco
Airport

**College students
are welcome to join!**

Tuesday, November 5
Start Smart Workshops

Wednesday, November 6
WIT Meeting

Sunday, November 10
LACIC Meeting

Thursday, November 14
EPC Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 19
Evening Lit Group

Thursday, November 21
Film Group

Friday, November 22
Diversity Book Group

December
Holiday Party TBA



*AAUW is 2018 United Nations Global
Citizen Award winner*