

Join us on March 14 at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library and hear more about Torrance's first librarian, Isabel Henderson.



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

President's Message from Keri Gilbert

Hello Torrance Branch!

I am very excited about our March meeting. Lisa Blank will present a program based on her research of the lives of working women from 1895 – 1925. In this case, the women were librarians at Redondo Beach Public Library and Lisa will discuss the similarities between them and other women during that period. We are partnering with the Torrance Public Library and the event will be held at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library at 2:00 pm on Saturday, March 14. I hope you will all plan to attend.

At the summer retreat we decided to look for a speaker discuss financial security for women which is a strategic focus of AAUW this year. I spoke with a contact at Schwab and they have just developed a program on that exact topic! I am trying to get a speaker for our May program, but it might need to be a weeknight. Stay tuned! (May is apparently financial life planning for women month. Who knew?)

We will also hold our election at the May meeting, so please let us know if you are interested in a position or being on the nominating committee.

On March 15, the Torrance Historical Society is holding a program on the history of women's soccer at the museum at 2:00 pm. All are invited!

I strongly encourage everyone to attend at least one of the Start Smart sessions. Elle and Michele have done an amazing job bringing this program to Cal State Dominguez Hills and they need our support and enthusiasm.

Have a great month and I hope to see you at several events!

~ Keri Gilbert

Please send Torrance Telegram articles by March 20 to heycamster66@gmail.com

Educational Partnership Committee (EPC)

Tuesday, March 10 ***day change*** at 6:30 pm

RSVP to host: kabitarebecca@gmail.com

by Margot Sullivan

Please join us for our next EPC meeting in March at the home of Kabita Kumar. This meeting is especially important for those who are reading the applications to select campers for Tech Trek Camp. The reader packets will be available to be picked up at the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting to pick up your packet, please make other arrangements with Peggy Monga. Reading will take place from March 10–16 and Reader Captains will submit their results to Peggy by March 20. School buddies serve as Reader Captains. **Members are invited and urged to help with the reading.** Please contact Peggy Monga if you would like to be a reader. It's very rewarding and is done in the comfort of your home! Information on the reading and selection process will be given at the March 10 meeting. We also have readers from our corporate sponsor, Moog Aircraft Group. Thanks to Janice Pomerantz and Kabita Kumar for doing the follow-up on all the applications and to Janice for completing the data base.

We are hoping to send 28-30 girls to Tech Trek Camps this summer. To do this, we need your help. Several of our corporate sponsors are not able to participate in sponsoring campers this year. Currently we are able to fund 23 campers. We have 15 middle schools that

**Tuesday, March 10
6:30 pm**

have nominated girls, and it is our goal to send 2 girls from each school. EPC is dedicated to providing this wonderful opportunity of STEM to as many middle school girls as possible. **Thank you to our current sponsors: Watson Land Company in Carson, Saatchi and Saatchi, Continental Development Company, Keck Foundation, the Weinan Family and members Pat Carroll, Kabita Kumar and Karen Peters for their sponsorships.**

We are still in need of sponsors to provide for at least 5 more campers. A sponsorship is \$1,000 which would be wonderful, but we also are very grateful for and welcome partial sponsorships of any amount. You may write a check to AAUW CA-SPF and on the memo line please write: Torrance Branch Tech Trek. Mail checks to Michele Freck.

Michele has been working very hard to reach out to corporate sponsors and many others. We ask for your help to give middle school girls the amazing experience of Tech Trek STEM Camp. At the Celebration in October you will learn firsthand what a wonderful educational opportunity camp provides. *Thank you!* Hope we'll see you on March 10!

Start Smart Volunteers Needed

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 us for the next Start Smart Workshops. It's a great experience and we would be honored to have you with us.

On **Tuesday, March 17** and **Thursday, March 19**, AAUW Torrance will present three Start Smart workshops for Michael Grimshaw's entrepreneurial students at California State University, Dominguez Hills.



We will offer five sessions, at 4:00 - 5:15 pm and 5:30 - 6:45 pm respectively, with part one on Tuesday and part two on Thursday and a full workshop from 7:00 – 9:00 pm on Tuesday.

Additionally, we will present a Start Smart workshop from 5:30 – 6:30 pm on **Wednesday, March 11** to the Latin Students Business Association at California State University, Dominguez Hills.

YOU COULD BE A TEACHER, OR A NURSE: A LOOK AT WOMEN AND WORK IN REDONDO BEACH, 1895-1925

Presented in partnership with the Torrance Public Library

AAUW Torrance member, Lisa Blank, PhD, MLIS, reveals some surprising findings based on her investigation of the lives of 40 women and girls who worked or studied at the Redondo Beach Public Library.

Saturday, March 14 at 2:00 pm
Katy Geissert Civic Center Library
3301 Torrance Blvd, Torrance.



Public Policy

You've Come a Long Way Baby... But You're Not There Yet!

By Ginny Hatfield,
AAUW-CA Public Policy Committee
submitted by Michele Croci

Perhaps many of you will recall the Virginia Slims advertising slogan from the late '60s, "You've come a long way, Baby." This slogan aptly fits the rise of the feminist movement in America which most of us agree dates back to the Seneca Falls, NY convention in July 1848.

August 26, 2020 will mark the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the culmination of the Women's Suffrage Movement. It took over seven decades for a woman's right to vote to be guaranteed as the law of the land.

Since then, we have seen successive waves of the Women's Rights movement. Activists in the 1960s and '70s sought equal rights and opportunities along with greater personal freedom for women, similar to the goals of the suffragists, the first wave of feminism. But this second wave of feminism also encompassed every area of women's experience — including politics, work, the family and sexuality. Major legislative victories were accomplished during this period: the Equal Pay Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, Legalization of birth control for married and unmarried couples, Title X Family Planning Program, Title IX, the Roe v Wade decision and passage of the ERA.

Third-wave feminists sought to question, reclaim, and redefine the ideas, words, and media that have transmitted ideas about gender, gender roles,

womanhood, beauty, and sexuality, among other things; while Fourth-wave feminism refers to a "resurgence of interest in feminism that began around 2012 and is associated with the use of social media." (Wikipedia) The focus has been on justice

for women and opposition to sexual harassment and violence against women. The movement is "defined by technology," according to British feminist Kira Cochrane, and "is characterized by [social media tools] that challenge misogyny and further gender equality." Issues in the forefront include street and workplace harassment, campus

sexual assault and rape culture. Scandals involving the harassment, abuse, and murder of women and girls have kickstarted movements such as the "Me Too" Movement.

Where will feminism go from here? We've still got our work cut out for us as well as some unfinished business: namely the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, which has now obtained approval by the requisite 38 states, and faces court challenges or perhaps a legislative solution; and the ratification by the U.S. Senate of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the international bill of rights adopted by the United Nations in 1979. AAUW has played a notable role in all these waves of feminism and I am sure will continue to do so as we strive for social and economic justice — because we're not there yet.



**Wednesday, March 4
7:00 - 9:00 pm**

WIT (Women In Transition) Group
Wednesday, March 4 at 7:00 pm
at a private residence

RSVP by noon on Monday, March 2
susimone@aol.com or 310-377-0642

Sharing: Why I Came to WIT - Why I've Stayed. WIT Group is the first AAUW interbranch interest group formed in the South Bay. AAUW members from Torrance, PVP & Beach Cities branches meet the first Wednesday of each month to discuss topics important to all women.

**Friday, March 20
6:30 pm**

The Diversity Book Group
Friday, March 20 at 6:30 pm
at the home of Alice Matthews

The Only Woman in the Room by Marie Benedict (2013)

The Only Woman In The Room is a true story about Hedy Lamarr. It starts when Hedy Kiesler is a 19-year-old aspiring actress in Vienna being pursued by Fritz Mandl, the wealthiest man in Austria. He gained his wealth by selling munitions in the period leading up to World War II.

**Tuesday, March 24
7:00 pm**

Evening Literature Group
Tuesday, March 24 at 7:00 pm
at the home of Eunice Hargrove

The Library Book by Susan Orlean

Weaving her life-long love of books and reading with the fascinating history of libraries and the sometimes-eccentric characters who run them, award-winning journalist and New York Times bestselling author Susan Orlean (*The Orchid Thief*) re-opens the unsolved mystery of the most catastrophic library fire in American history.

Coming in April, **Unsheltered**, by Barbara Kingsolver

← Celebrating WIT's 10th Anniversary!

**Thursday, March 26
7:00 pm**

Film Group
Thursday, March 26 at 7:00 pm
at the home of Margot Sullivan

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

SMILES OF A SUMMER NIGHT (1955)(2004)(Rated NR) Director Ingmar Bergman weaves an intricate romantic ruse with his film about a country estate... in turn-of-the-century Sweden. During a long, lazy summer, eight singles gradually become four couples, often switching partners along the way. Starring BAFTA-nominated Best Actor and Actress Gunnar Bjornstrand and Eva Dahlbeck. "The film is entirely about adultery. Most unusual for Bergman, it is a comedy. It flirts at times with screwball, but chooses more decisively to use the kind of verbal wit that Shaw and Wilde employed." —Ebert ★★★★★ One of Ebert's Great Movies.

Available at Redondo and Torrance libraries and DVD Netflix.

SARABAND (2003)(2005)(Rated R for brief nudity, language and a violent image) Writer-director Ingmar Bergman tells the tale of a once-broken family and another that's beginning to fall apart. Long divorced, Johan and Marianne rekindle their romance during a stay at Johan's summerhouse. He's been hiding out there with his son, Henrik (the product of a former marriage) and his granddaughter, Karin. Karin finds a maternal confidant in Marianne... and longs for her dead mother. Starring Liv Ullmann and Erland Josephson. "Saraband is a meditation on the pathology of selfish relationships.... Bergman is telling us that life will end on the terms with which we have lived it. If we are bitter now, we will not be victorious later; we will still be bitter." —Ebert ★★★★★

Available at Redondo libraries and DVD Netflix.

LACIC Centennial Tea
Sunday, March 8

RSVP requested by March 4.
Please send check c/o Ginny Hatfield, 11579 Hesby Street, Valley Village, CA 91601.



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

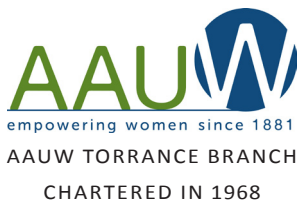
In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographic location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or socioeconomic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

Diversity Statement

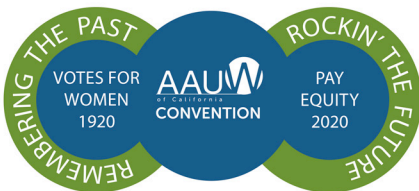
The purpose of AAUW is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Mission Statement

PO Box 1392
Torrance, CA 90505



AAUW CA Convention, April 17-19 Remembering the Past...Rockin' the Future!



Remember...
Hotel registration deadline is March 20
Convention registration deadline is April 10



AAUW is 2018 United Nations Global
Citizen Award winner

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WIT *Celebrating 10 Years!*

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