



# TRI CITY DISPATCH

## Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach February 2025

### Shake It Up, Baby!

**On February 15 we will shake, rattle & roll, as our guest lecturer will be Michael Forrest, Ph.D., who holds a U.S.C doctorate in geophysics (earthquake science). He has been teaching at college level for over 30 years, in subjects as diverse as California geology, earthquakes, rocks and minerals, and oceanography.**

Michael's doctoral thesis focused on microseismicity and fault evolution in Southern California (at which time he told future wife Eleanor on their first date that the Vincent Thomas Bridge they were driving over could "snap in half any second" because the Palos Verdes Fault Line runs perpendicular to it, in the waters below. She married him anyway.)

Michael has written several field trip guides, and often conducts adult student groups through the hills of Whittier and Palos Verdes, and leads cub scouts and their leaders on beach walks to learn where all that sand comes from.

**On February 15, Michael will lecture to our group about local faults, geology and the earthquake history of our area. Additionally, he will discuss earthquake hazards and safety in the home.**

So hold onto your chairs as we embark upon a world of swaying buildings and snapping bridges! If you miss this one, it's no one's "fault" but your own.

### General Meeting

**February 15, 2025**

**Center for Spiritual Living**

**7641 Talbert Avenue**

**Huntington Beach**

**Social**

**10:00 – 10:15 a.m.**

**Speaker**

**10:15 – 11:15 a.m.**

**Business Meeting and Lunch**

**11:15 a.m.**

**Menu: Corner Bakery**

**Box Lunch includes:**

**Turkey/avocado sandwich,  
salad, fruit cup, cookie,  
beverage**

**Vegetarian option by request**

**\$25.00 check due by**

**February 9**

**AAUW: WM-FV-HB**

**c/o Kathi Rand**

**306 Coral Reef #53**

**Huntington Beach, 92648**



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### February

- 3 Board Meeting 7 p.m.
- 6 Happy Hikers 10 a.m.
- 13 Quest 9 a.m.
- 15 General Meeting 10 a.m.
- 19 Travel Group 3 p.m.
- 24 Book Review 7:15 p.m.

### March

- 3 Board Meeting 7 p.m.
- 15 General Meeting 10 a.m.
- 27 Quest

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles must be in no later than  
**February 10, noon.**

Send to Jeanne Smith

[dandjsmith@earthlink.net](mailto:dandjsmith@earthlink.net)

### BOARD MEETING

*The board consists of all officers and committee chairs. Meetings are usually held the first Monday of each month. All members are encouraged to attend. The January 2025 Board of Directors meeting was held on ZOOM.*

Finance Officer's Report

#### December General Fund

Beginning Balance \$ 18,577.01  
Ending Balance \$ 18,348.13

#### December Fund Account

Beginning Balance \$ 14,588.33  
Ending Balance \$ 14,715.16

**Website:**<https://wfh-ca.aauw.net/>

### BRANCH EMAIL ADDRESSES

**Membership inquiries and new member**

[sandraquerrero@me.com](mailto:sandraquerrero@me.com)

**Update member contact information**

[ralphkaj@aol.com](mailto:ralphkaj@aol.com)

**Programs**

[carolkanode@me.com](mailto:carolkanode@me.com)

**Website problems, comments, corrections**

[jenjimmyrick@gmail.com](mailto:jenjimmyrick@gmail.com)

**Click on the above links to email**



### Presidents' Message

**“What you do makes a difference. You have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.” Jane Goodall**

**Dear Members,**

**We hope you relaxed this month following a busy holiday season. Hopefully by now you are writing the correct year. Our first general meeting of 2025 will be February 15<sup>th</sup>. Remember to bring a guest. We are always looking to expand our membership because there really is strength in numbers!**

**Our 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Authors Luncheon will be on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Your dedication and hard work have been pivotal to the success of our fundraiser. Please start inviting guests and soliciting donations from local businesses.**

**Ann and I would like to invite new members and experienced members to participate in a leadership role for 2025-26. We are all important in securing the future of our branch. Thank you for your long-standing commitment towards AAUW's values and priorities. Happy February! Show love and kindness to all!**

**Warmly,**

**Donna Kratter and Ann Kajdasz, co-presidents**

### QUEST - MARCH 27, 2025

**Mark your calendars now for our up coming visit to  
Dr. Willellia Howe-Waffle House  
and Medical Museum in Santa Ana near the courthouse**

**More information in the March newsletter**

**Janet Riness**

### Travel Group

**Wednesday, February 19th at 3 p.m.**

**Where: Judy McLeod's  
17391 Almelo Lane  
Huntington Beach  
714 655 7125**

**Come join us for information on travels near and far. Everyone is welcome.**

**Let Judy know, if you are able to attend.**

**Questions, call Rita Collins 714-840-3642**



## INTEREST GROUPS

### Quest

Thursday, February 13 9 a.m.

**Los Angeles County Arboretum &  
Botanical Garden  
301 N. Baldwin Ave.  
Arcadia, CA 91007**

**Senior Admission \$11.00**

**Tram Tour \$ 8.00**

**Tram Times: 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 2 p.m.**

**Unique 127-acre botanical garden and historical site located in the heart of historic Rancho Santa Anita**

**Meet at Hof's Hut, 12489 Seal Beach Blvd., at 8 a.m. if you wish to carpool. If you drive yourself, please plan to arrive by 9 a.m.**

**Lunch will be at the Peacock Café, located on the premises, at noon.**

**Please RSVP to Kathi Rand at [kathirand@yahoo.com](mailto:kathirand@yahoo.com) if you are coming, plan to carpool, and stay for lunch.**

### BOOK REVIEW

**February 24, 2025**

**The book for February is  
Escape From Camp 14  
by Blaine Harden**

**Hostess: Jeri Goldsbrough**

**Leader: TBA**

**7:15 Social**

**7:30 Meeting**

**5711 David Webster Circle  
Garden Grove**

**RSVP to Jeri by Saturday, February 22**

**714-897-8549 or [jerig@mac.com](mailto:jerig@mac.com)**

### HAPPY HIKERS

**February 6, 2025      Buck Gulley Trail, Corona Del Mar      10 a.m**

**The hike will be to the Buck Gulley Trail in Corona del Mar. The trail is a peaceful and fun hike through a central watershed in the Newport Beach foothills. It's an easy approximately 4 mile walk with a total ascent of 460 feet. Parking is at the end of 872 Poppy Avenue in a residential neighborhood. If you wish to carpool we will meet at Mimi's Cafe at the corner of Brookhurst and Ellis at 9:30. Please e-mail me at [ralphkaj@aol.com](mailto:ralphkaj@aol.com) if you are coming or wish to carpool. Lunch to follow as always! New members are very welcome to join us and it is a nice easy walk.**

**Ann Kajdasz**



**Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach, CA**

Thank you for your donation to the Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach Branch of AAUW. The silent auction will be held in conjunction with our 32nd Authors Luncheon on Saturday, April 26, 2025.

All monies raised will benefit programs such as scholarships for women returning to college and Tech Trek.

Please mail or make arrangements for pick-up with the AAUW member who has solicited the donation before **Wednesday, April 16, 2025**.

For questions, please contact: Donna Kratter at [dkratter@hotmail.com](mailto:dkratter@hotmail.com)

Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Item(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Or Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation made  
payable to AAUW : Wm-FV-HB

AAUW / Federal TAX ID # 23-7163865

Please return this original with your donation to  
Ann Kajdasz 7412 Seabluff Dr. #111, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

We appreciate your generosity and support as we work together to provide educational opportunities for women and girls.

Donna Kratter and Ann Kajdasz, Co-Presidents  
AAUW Westminster- Fountain Valley - Huntington Beach branch  
For more information about AAUW, please visit AAUW-California website: [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org)



Dear Business Leaders,

The Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach Branch of AAUW is requesting donations for a silent auction that will be held in conjunction with our 32nd Authors Luncheon.

All monies raised from this event will benefit programs such as scholarships for women returning to college and Tech Trek (CA camps designed for young girls with a focus on math, science and technology).

The Authors Luncheon will be held Saturday, April 26, 2025, at Mile Square Golf Course. Remarkable authors John Thill and Hong-My Basrai along with a prior participant from the Tech Trek program are scheduled to present. This event is open to the public and we encourage you to attend. Please see our Branch website for ticket information later this year.  
<http://aauw-wm-fv-hb.com>

Your donation of one or more items of merchandise, tickets, services, gift certificates or cash will be greatly appreciated and recognized in our program. A donor receipt is attached.

Please make arrangements for pick-up before Wednesday, April 16, 2025. Contact information: Ann Kajdasz, 7412 Seabluff Dr. #111, Huntington Beach, CA 92648 or the AAUW member that contacted you. If you have questions, please contact Ann at [ralphkaj@aol.com](mailto:ralphkaj@aol.com).

Thank you for your generosity and support as we work together to provide educational opportunities for women and girls.

Sincerely,

Ann Kajdasz  
Co-President, AAUW-WM-FV-HB branch  
For more information about AAUW, please visit AAUW – California website: [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org)



Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach, CA

**32nd ANNUAL WM-FV-HB AUTHORS LUNCHEON**  
**"PASSAGES: OUR JOURNEYS AND STORIES"**  
**Saturday, April 26, 2025**

Mile Square Golf Course, 10401 Warner Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Menu: Grilled Marinated Chicken Breast, Chive Mashed Potatoes, Garden Vegetables, and Decadent Chocolate Brownie Dessert

10:00 Check-in Silent Auction Book Signing

11:30 Welcome 11:45 Luncheon 12:30 Author Presentation

---

**RESERVATION FORM**

***Please cut and mail this form with your check for \$85.00 payable to AAUW:WM-FV-HB by April 14, 2025.***

Tables of 8 may be reserved. In order to sit together send check/checks in one envelope along with list of names. Mail your reservation early to assure good seating. Please note any dietary needs (gluten free, Vegan, Vegetarian, etc.)

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you wish it to appear on name tag)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone/Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Needs \_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to duplicate this form for additional reservations.

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations

I am unable to attend but wish to make a 100% donation to AAUW: WM-FV-HB

Scholarships for women \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Or

Tech Trek (CA science, math camps designed for young girls) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Mail reservation form and check(s) to:***  
***Zelda Rice, 4565 Birchwood Ave, Seal Beach, CA 90740***

**NO WALK-INS, THIS IS A NON-REFUNDABLE EVENT**  
**Your check is your reservation**



## 2025 AAUW Author Luncheon

### Passages: Our Journeys; Our Stories

#### John W. Thill

**John Thill.** born in Oceanside, attended Oceanside and El Camino High Schools, then studied business and speech communication at San Diego State University. His father had influenced him to pursue bodysurfing, hunting, and fishing. He is now a wildlife conservationist.

After college, he worked for the Jazzercise Corporation and helped establish JM Television Productions. For 24 years he served in the Hi-Noon Rotary Club and the Rotary Club of Carlsbad, experiences that helped him develop lifelong friendships and a new understanding and appreciation for service. For 19 years Thill worked as a partner in Carlsbad's Personal Strengths Publishing Company. He supported and facilitated leadership and team-building courses for PricewaterhouseCoopers, Indian Health Services, Amazon's Leadership Institute, Harvard's School of Public Health, the University of California Office of the President, and USC's Marshall School of Business.

It took him 36 years to finish and publish A California Love Story, a compilation of letters exchanged between his grandparents in the 1920s.

#### Hong-My Basrai

Born and raised in Saigon, Vietnam, Hong-My Basrai (née Lê Thị) is fluent in Vietnamese and French. From a very young age, Hong-My has demonstrated a propensity for literature and a love of languages. Transplanted at age 22 to Southern California, she learned English and improvised upon the borrowed language to make it her own.

She holds a degree in Chemical Engineering, and an informal degree in self-taught English. Hong-My is the author of Behind the Red Curtain, A Memoir, about her seven years living inside fallen Saigon under communism. Her writing appears in Eastlit Literary Journal, 2011.

She is a member of the Writers' Club of Whittier, and a board member of Finlandia Institutes of the Arts, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to recognize, support, and expand literary activity in the Inland Empire. She also serves on the board of PIVOT to elevate progressive Vietnamese Americans' political voice.

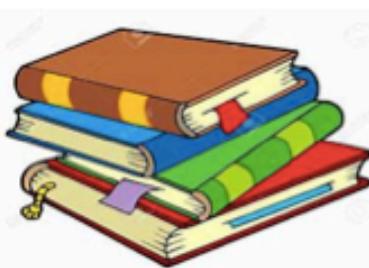


Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach, CA

WESTMINSTER- FOUNTAIN VALLEY- HUNTINGTON BEACH BRANCH

**THE 32<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL AUTHORS LUNCHEON**

**“PASSAGES: OUR JOURNEYS AND STORIES”**



**SATURDAY APRIL 26, 2025**

**MILE SQUARE GOLF COURSE**

**10401 WARNER AVENUE FOUNTAIN VALLEY**

**10:00AM – 2:00PM**

**FEATURING LOCAL AUTHORS :**



Hang-My Basrai:

Behind the Red Curtain

John W. Thill:

A California Love Story



**SILENT AUCTION BASKETS, DRAWINGS, BOOK SALES & SIGNINGS**

**RESERVATION FORMS AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE**

**AT <http://wfh-ca.aauw.net>**



**Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach, CA**

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

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

AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization for women offering action for equity, personal and professional growth, community leadership and friendship.

Co-Presidents: Donna Kratter & Ann Kajdasz

Membership Co-VPs: Cheryl Kelly & Sandi Guerrero

Programs Co-VPs: Phyllis Sakioka & Carol Kanode

Treasurer: Kathi Reed

Membership Treasurer: Jeanne Smith

Newsletter Editor: Jeanne Smith

Communications: Manager Jennifer Solano

Web Master: Jennifer Solano

Facebook Site Manager: Jennifer Solano

Address Correction Requested

American Association of University Women

Tri-City Dispatch

19191 Harvard Ave. Apt. 330A

Irvine, CA 92612