



TRI CITY DISPATCH

Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach
January 2024

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As we say goodbye to 2023 and look forward to 2024, we can take some time to reflect on what our branch has accomplished and what we want for our future. Our mission statement is “to advance gender equality for women and girls through research, education and advocacy” How have we followed this and how well do our members think we have done?

In 2023, we sent 6 girls to Tech Trek at Whittier College, and provided scholarships to several women returning to school at Golden West. We enjoyed stimulating Quests, and Book Review and Movie Review meetings. We improved our health with Happy Hikers and Golf. We held general meetings with engaging speakers. We broadened our horizons with Music and Dance and the Travel Group. We also welcomed 12 new members to our Branch.

With so much talent and dedication among our members, we hope 2024 will be even more exciting and meaningful. We would like to encourage junior and senior high school scholars to sign up for Gov Trek, Speech Trek , or Stem Ed. There may be some members who would be interested in mentoring Golden West students in the career that they had. We will continue to support CA legislation seeking equality for women and girls. We can all bring potential new members to our activities and make guests feel welcome. We can donate to the Authors Luncheon, Tech Trek and our scholarship fund.

As we assess the future for our branch, please let us know what you think we can do to widen our appeal and the branch's contributions to our community. That said, we can all be proud of our programs, and our group of wonderful AAUW-WM-FV-HB ladies. You all make the world a better place!

Very happy holidays and a prosperous, healthy New Year!

All the best, Ann and Donna



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

- 2 Board Meeting 7 p.m.
- 4 Happy Hikers 10 a.m.
- 11 Quest 9:45 a.m.
- 17 Travel Group 3 p.m.
- 22 Book Review 7:15 p.m.

February

- 5 Board Meeting 7 p.m.
- 8 Quest 10 a.m.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles must be in no later than
January 10, noon.

Send to Jeanne Smith
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 December 2023 Board of Directors meeting was held on ZOOM.

Finance Officer's Report
November General Fund
Beginning Balance \$ 18,464.44
Ending Balance \$ 17,549.53
November Fund Account
Beginning Balance \$ 13,882.53
Ending Balance \$ 13,901.25

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

BRANCH EMAIL ADDRESSES

Membership inquiries and new member
suemcdanel@yahoo.com

Update member contact information

ralphkaj@aol.com

Programs

carolkanode@me.com

Website problems, comments, corrections

jenjimmyrick@gmail.com

Click on the above links to email

Presidents' Message

Dear Members,

"Gratitude is the Attitude." We want to thank you for your time, participation, and enthusiasm towards our branch. We will not be having a general meeting in January. Do you know a life long learning woman who would like to come to our February meeting? We always welcome additional women to help advance our values.

Wishing you and yours a happy, healthy, and peaceful holiday season. We look forward to celebrating with you all in 2024!

Warmly,

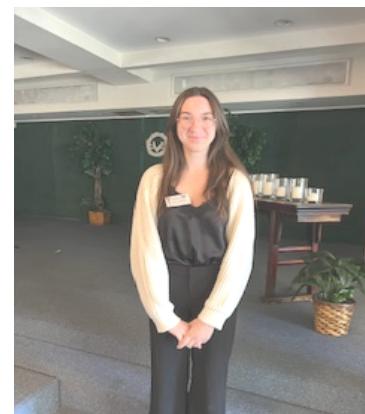
Ann and Donna



Quest Brembridge House Long Beech



Tech Trek Presentation



**Golden West
Scholarship Recipient**



INTEREST GROUPS

QUEST

Thursday, January 11 9:45 a.m.

Tour of the Groundwater Replenishment System
Orange County Water District
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley

Upon arrival to the OCWD campus check in with the guard shack attendant; then proceed to the visitor parking area. Look for the flagpole and enter the administration building (red tile roof building). Let the receptionist know you are here for a scheduled tour. Your tour guide will greet you and escort you to a conference room for a brief presentation and then a walking tour of the facility. Closed-toed shoes are required. Personal Protection Equipment (hard hat and safety vest) will be provided to you to wear on the tour route.

Tours typically last 2 hours.

Lunch will be at Mimi's Café
18461 Brookhurst St.
Fountain Valley

Please RSVP by January 1, 2024 to Kathi Rand
(310)710-0092 or kathirand@yahoo.com

BOOK REVIEW

January 22, 2024

The book for January is
Demon Copperhead

by Barbara Kingsolver

Hostess: Sybilla London
7:15 Social

7:30 Meeting
9482 Asbury Cir.

Westminster

RSVP to Sybilla by Saturday, January 20
714-401- 5935 or syblondon@hotmail.com

Looking Ahead: Swimming to Antarctica
by Lynne Cox

TRAVEL GROUP

Everyone is welcome.

We will share travel stories, give tips on
cruising, and get ideas for future travel.

January 17 3 p.m.

Hostess: Rita Collins
16872 Phelps Lane
Huntington Beach

RSVP Ritarisk@aol.com or 714-310-1036



HAPPY HIKERS

January 4, 2024 Orange County Zoo Irvine Regional Park 10 a.m.

We are trying something different this January. Quest tried to visit the zoo a while ago but the trip was cancelled due to the fire at the Tustin Hanger. So I thought we could do it this month. We will meet at the zoo entrance at 10 a.m., tour the zoo and maybe walk around the park if we have time. Lunch will be at the Lazy Dog Cafe 13290 Jamboree in Irvine. Please let me know if you are coming at ralphkaj@aol.com. Meanwhile, happy holidays and happy New Year! Ann

WE NEED AUTHORS LUNCHEON DONATIONS

Our annual Authors Luncheon is coming up April 13, 2024. With the holidays arriving, many of you will be receiving gifts or gift cards you can't use. Please consider saving them to donate for our auction. If we have a successful fundraiser we can send 6 girls to Tech Trek next summer. So please think about donating new items and gift cards. We also need baskets. You can bring any items to our general meetings or contact one of the Board members to pick them up. Many thanks for your generosity! Ann



Lobby Days 2024 Save the Date!

By Amy Hom, Co-chair AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Mark your calendars! AAUW California will hold our 2024 Lobby Days event on April 2 and 3, 2024. An interest survey including a registration form will arrive in your inbox mid-January. Please be sure to complete and return the form so as to be added to the communications list for the event.

We encourage all AAUW California members to participate in this act of advocacy that is essential for achievement of our legislative priorities. In addition to our members, we plan to invite college students to join the event. Their participation will enable us to reach more legislative offices, and we hope that this introduction to our organization will inspire these advocacy-minded young people, who share our values, to join AAUW.

Starting in January, our committee will evaluate new bills introduced in the state legislature which are aligned with our Public Policy Priorities: Economic Security for All Women, Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students, Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society, and Increased Representation of Women in Leadership Roles. In early March, our committee will meet to discuss our evaluations and select 30-35 bills for our 2024 Legislative Agenda that best represent our priorities. We will also choose the top 3 bills to advocate for during Lobby Days.

Lobby Days 2024 is scheduled to take place when the legislature returns to session after their Easter break, and will span two days to provide flexibility so that we can secure as many meetings as possible. We are planning a hybrid event with meetings scheduled virtually over Zoom as well as in-person at the Capitol. Members who live in and around Sacramento will have the option to participate in person. Legislative offices are equally willing to meet virtually or in person, and the virtual option makes it easier for AAUW members around the state to participate.

Our AAUW California Legislative Advocate will schedule meetings with the legislative offices. The committee will assemble teams of AAUW members and college students, matching them with Assembly and Senate districts. Training materials on the bills and the event will be posted on the state website in mid-March, and a mandatory training webinar will be held on March 25, 2024.

If you have participated in Lobby Days in the past, we would love to hear your feedback on what worked and what didn't. Please send your comments to publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org.

Lobby Days is a wonderful opportunity to meet with your legislators and advocate for legislation to promote gender equity and improve the lives of women and girls. We hope that you will join us in this important activity to advance our values.



Quest

Thursday, February 8 10 a.m.

Tour of the Leatherby Libraries
Chapman University
1 University Dr.
Orange

The two-hour tour includes The Center for American War Letters, Huell Howser Archives, Holocaust Memorial Library, and Oskar Schindler Archives. We'll be met right inside the Leatherby Libraries entrance, west side of the building, just south of the Chapman University parking structure. Visitor parking is on main level, B1. Pay at the kiosk by the elevator and take open stairs or elevator. Parking is \$3 for four hours, \$5 for 12 hours. Carpool arrangements can be arranged.

We'll walk to lunch at Rutabegorz, 264 N. Glassell St. We'll order from the regular menu at Rutabegorz, which features healthy foods. It accommodates up to 23 people in its back room.

Email Terri at telders@hotmail.com to confirm your attendance by February 1.

First New Member Happy Hour!

Our Branch is fortunate to have 12 new members this year! They want to make new friends, join Interest Groups, attend monthly meetings, and support our mission of gender equity.

In November Sandi and Sue arranged our first New Member Happy Hour at Stacks restaurant in Huntington Beach. It was attended by new members: Lisa Swan, Barbara Creighton, Lynn Hoover, Roselyn Haley, and Gayle Douglas and Board members: Ann Kajdasz, Sue McDannel, Kathi Rand, and Sandi Guerrero. This blend of new members and Board members created a great night of networking and companionship. Sandi and Sue plan to schedule more casual get-togethers for new members in 2024. New members will receive email invitations. If you have any questions, please contact Sandi Guerrero, sandraguerrero@me.com.



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: Sue McDannel & 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