



# TRICITY DISPATCH

Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach  
July/August 2025

## Membership Matters

During the “lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer,” we want to encourage you to continue thinking about your membership in AAUW. Think about friends and family you could encourage to become a part of our organization. We offer opportunities for social events, exploring our community, and supporting education for young and adult women returning to school to continue their college education.



Traditionally, we like to have a gathering to welcome our new members and invite prospective members to hear more about our Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach Branch of AAUW. In order to make plans, we need to know if there are any new members or prospective members who would like to attend such a gathering in July or August. If you are interested, please contact Sandra Guerrero ([sandraguerrero@me.com](mailto:sandraguerrero@me.com), 626-234-8501) or Cheryl Kelly ([cherylkelly48@gmail.com](mailto:cherylkelly48@gmail.com), 424-558-0154) by **June 30** so we can plan accordingly.



Last Year's  
Event





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### July

- 7 Program Planning 10:30 a.m.
- 10 Happy Hikers 10 a.m.
- 21 Budget Meeting 7 p.m.
- 16 New Member Brunch 11 a.m.
- 28 Book Review 7:15 p.m.

### August

- 4 Board Meeting 7 p.m.
- 25 Book Review 7:15 p.m.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER

Articles must be in no later than  
**August 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 June 2025 Board of Directors meeting was held on ZOOM.*

### Finance Officer's Report

#### **May General Fund**

Beginning Balance \$ 18,933.62  
Ending Balance \$ 21,049.72

#### **May Fund Account**

Beginning Balance \$ 22,090.26  
Ending Balance \$ 19,355.80

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

## BRANCH EMAIL ADDRESSES

### Membership inquiries and new member

[sandraguerrero@me.com](mailto:sandraguerrero@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

Hello Everyone,

We are excited to be your new co-presidents for the coming year. Many plans are being made to have more of our exciting speakers and interest group activities. We will be having fun and continuing to learn. Empowering young women through Tech Trek and scholarships for graduates from Golden West College pursuing university degrees will continue to be our main fundraising goal.

A little about us...

Janet has been a member for about 7 years. She is a retired teacher from Westminster High School where she taught for 45 years. Her current interest is in planning Quest for Knowledge adventures for our membership.

Lisa has been a member for about 3 years. In the late 90's-early 2000's, she was an active AAUW member of the Martinez Branch in the San Francisco Bay Area and served twice as Branch President. She attended the first Tech Trek at Stanford University in 1998 and conducted one-day workshops at the Mills College Trek Tech for a few years after that. So she was very excited to have the opportunity to be a Dorm Monitor for last year's Tech Trek at Whittier College and is looking forward to being a co-instructor for the robotics/coding core class this year. She has a degree in chemical engineering and a 30 yr career in environmental compliance. In addition to volunteering to promote STEM careers to young women, she is active with environmental non-profits.

Have a relaxing and enjoyable summer and we will see you in September.

Sincerely,

Lisa and Janet

### BUDGET MEETING

Monday, July 21 7 p.m.

This will be a meeting on zoom.

An email of the proposed budget will be sent out to those interested.

### PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING

Monday, July 7 at 10:30 a.m.

At the home of Carol Kanode

17382 Alta Vista Circle, HB

We have had exciting programs and will be planning more for next year. Have your ideas and suggestions ready and come join us on July 7 for a continental breakfast. All are welcome.

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



## INTEREST GROUPS

### QUEST SAVE THE DATE

Terra Cotta Warriors docent tour

Bowers Museum September 4

### HAPPY HIKERS

July 10      Corona del Mar      10 a.m.

We will be walking the beautiful bluffs above the ocean in Corona del Mar. We will meet at 10 a.m. in the parking lot in front of Bristol Farms at 810 Avocado Ave. in Newport Beach. This market is in the Corona del Mar Plaza adjacent to the Newport Beach Central Public Library. We will walk up Avocado to 2nd Ave. and turn onto Goldenrod, where we will take the historic Goldenrod Footbridge (1928) over to the ocean. We will walk along Ocean Blvd. seeing spectacular ocean views and equally spectacular homes. At the end we can go down to the beach and take the staircase up again to the bluffs. A warning- this is a long flight of stairs so some of you may prefer to stay above and loop back to meet us at the beginning at Lookout Point. Lunch to follow at Gulfstream Restaurant in the plaza. Please let me know if you can make it at [ralphkaj@aol.com](mailto:ralphkaj@aol.com). Many thanks! Ann

Also, because of the probable heat and planned vacations, we will be taking a hiking break in August. But never fear-- we will be back in September with new and exciting treks! Have a great summer!

### BOOK REVIEW

July 28, 2024

The book for July is

Remarkably Bright Creatures

by Shelby Van Pelt

Hostess: Barbara Smith

Let Barbara know what you are bringing

Leader: Terri Elders

7:15 Social

7:30 Meeting

7352 Emerson

Westminster

RSVP to Barbara by Saturday, July 26

714-897-9013 or [basmith10@verizon.net](mailto:basmith10@verizon.net)

August 25, 2024

The book for August is

When We Had Wings by Ariel Lawhon

Hostess: Barbara Smith

Let Barbara know what you are bringing

Leader: Pat Potter

7:15 Social

7:30 Meeting

7352 Emerson

Westminster

RSVP to Barbara by Saturday, August 23

714-897-9013 or [basmith10@verizon.net](mailto:basmith10@verizon.net)

**HONOR ROLL 2025-2026**

Is your name on this list? These are the members who have PAID for 2025-2026 as of JUNE 10. If you are not on this list, please send your check for \$122 to Jeanne Smith 19191 Harvard Ave Apt 330A Irvine 92612 949-391-8502

**Pat Allgeier, Marjorie Berling, Marie Bisson, Carol Black, Maxine Boyett, Beth Callaghan, Bonnie Castrey, Wendy Coates, Rita Collins, Barbara Creighton, Pat Dallas, Eleanor Demler, Gayle Douglas, Lynne Ehret, Terri Elders, Carmen Erber, Debra Farnum, Bette Flick, Barbara Gershman, Jeri Goldsbrough, Betsy Grajeda, Toni Gregory, Peggy Grzywacz, Sandi Guerrero, Dorothy Guillaume-Rutter, Roslyn Haley, Susan Harris, Barbara Islas, Pat Jenkes, Janet Johnson, Jean Jordan, Ann Kajdasz, Carol Kanode, Cheryl Kelly, Dicksie Kerns, Donna Kratter, Jeanne Kulpinski, Sybilla London, Rosalie Lyons, LuRae MacArthur, Louise MacDonald, Linda MacDonell, Judy Martin, Miriam Matulich, Sue McDannel, Judy McLeod, Georgia Merchant, Leanne Metzler, Judy Meyer, Patricia Muecke, Connie Nelson, Sandra Nelson, Pat Potter, Julie Ramphal, Kathi Rand, Vicki Rand, Zelda Rice, Janet Riness, Phyllis Sakioka, Barbara Smith, Jeanne Smith, Jen Solano, Christina Sumpter, Lisa Swanson, Terrie Taylor, Fran Thelander, Carol Valcarcel, Kathy VanWey, Janis White, LouAnn Wiese, Connie Wittman**

**AUTHORS' LUNCHEON**



This is a picture of three of the girls we will send to Tech Trek this summer. They are Eymar Yazgae, Sofi Dam, and Xiara Alvarez. They'll be at camp from June 15-21 at Whittier College

### **Pictures at the Golden West Scholarship Event**



### **Sherman Library Tour and Gardens**



#### **Public Policy Update**

**AAUW's Senior Director Policy & Member Advocacy Meghan Kissell has been very active in Washington DC advocating for women and girls and opposing cuts to education. On behalf of AAUW, she submits letters to congressional representatives and committees. Two letters of note that she submitted last month include opposition to cuts to higher education contained in the budget reconciliation bill (aka the big, beautiful bill) and opposition to the Educational Choice for Children Act, which would establish a nationwide voucher system that would divert public school funding to charter schools.**



**QUEST 2025-2026**

<b>September 4</b>	<b>Bowers Museum</b> <b>Terra Cotta Warriors docent tour</b> <b>Leaders: Connie Nelson and Maxine Boyett</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>Golden West College – Stem Cell lab</b> <b>Leaders: Ann Kajdasz and Linda MacDonell</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Kellogg House</b> <b>Leaders: Kathi Rand and Linda MacDonell</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>Heritage Hill Lake Forest</b> <b>Leader: Janet Riness</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>Christ Cathedral</b> <b>Leader: Linda MacDonell</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>Los Angeles Arboretum – Arcadia</b> <b>Leaders: Kathi Rand and Linda MacDonell</b>
<b>March 14</b>	<b>Goat Hill Train ride and tour</b> <b>Leaders: Beth Callaghan and Dicksie Kerns</b>
<b>April 18</b>	<b>Author's Luncheon</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Mary Lou Heard Garden Tour</b> <b>Leader: Barbara Islas</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>TBD</b>

**Quest Coordinators: Janet Riness and Barbara Islas**

**Members will be looking into some of these other possibilities:**

**Irvine Park Zoo – docent with their rescue program**

**OCC Planetarium – Sue McDannel**

**LA County Library**

**Old OC Courthouse – Barbara Islas**



## **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: Janet Riness & Lisa Swanson

Membership Co-VPs: Sandi Guerrero & Cheryl Kelly

Programs Co-VPs: Phyllis Sakioka & Carol Kanode

Fund Co-VP's: Donna Kratter & Ann Kadjdasz

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