



TRI CITY DISPATCH

Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach
June 2025

OUR YEAR IN PICTURES





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June

- 2 Board Meeting 7 p.m.
- 5 Happy Hikers 9:30 a.m.
- 6 Quest Planning Meeting 10 a.m.
- 12 Quest 10:45 a.m.
- 23 Book Review 7:15 p.m.

DUES ARE DUE

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

FOR JULY/AUGUST

Articles must be in no later than

June 15, 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 May 2025 Board of Directors meeting was held on ZOOM.

Finance Officer's Report

April General Fund

Beginning Balance \$ 18,708.62

Ending Balance \$ 18,933.62

April Fund Account

Beginning Balance \$ 20,161.16

Ending Balance \$ 22,090.26

Website: wm-fv-aauw@weebly.com

BRANCH EMAIL ADDRESSES

Membership inquiries and new member

sandraquerrero@me.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

"The future depends on what we do in the present." Mahatma Gandhi

As our terms of co-presidents come to an end, We are deeply grateful to have had the privilege to work with such intelligent and dedicated women. Thank you, Lisa and Janet, for stepping up to lead our branch. We are confident you will actively engage us in supporting AAUW's mission. Thank you also to our continuing dynamic and experienced board members for agreeing to serve on our board.

Our 32nd Authors Luncheon is now in the books. The authors told their very different stories which touched our hearts. They also paid tribute to the work that our group does to promote equal educational opportunities for women and girls. Thanks to all the committee members for your talents, time, and expertise for making this a successful event. We raised at least \$7,000 towards camp and scholarships.

Enjoy all the June holidays!

Warmly,

Donna Kratter and Ann Kajdasz, co-presidents

Quest Planning Meeting

**Friday, June 6 at 10 a.m.
At the home of Getta Wolff
19472 Summer Breeze Lane, HB**

We have had an exciting Quest for Knowledge year and will be planning our next one. Have your ideas and suggestions ready and come join us on June 6. All are welcome.

There will be snacks!

RSVP to Janet Riness

riness@roadrunner.com

DUES ARE DUE (before June 5)

**It is now time to pay your dues for
2025-2026.**

Dues are late after June 5

Regular Membership: \$112

Dual Membership: \$18

Life Membership: \$38

Send your check to Jeanne Smith

19191 Harvard Ave, Apt 330A

Irvine, CA 92612 949-391-8502

Make check payable to: AAUW

**NOTE: IF CA STATE INCREASES THEIR
DUES THEN THE AMOUNT WILL BE
\$122 FOR REGULAR MEMBERS**



INTEREST GROUPS

QUEST

Thursday, June 12 10:45 a.m.

Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA)

628 Los Alamitos Ave. Long Beach (free parking)

\$10 admission fee for the museum

Please join us for a docent led tour of the only museum in the United States dedicated to modern and contemporary Latin American Art.

Lunch to follow at the famous "Lola's" Mexican Cuisine. Lola's is located one mile away from the museum at 2030 E. 4th Street, Long Beach.

Plan to meet at MOLAA's parking lot at 10:45 a.m.

Contact Beth Callaghan if you plan to attend at elibethann.callaghan@gmail.com

Please state if you plan to attend Lola's for lunch before June 1st.

BOOK REVIEW

June 23, 2025

The book for June is

The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes

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, June 21

714-897-9013 or basmith10@verizon.net

HAPPY HIKERS

June 5 San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary 9:30 a.m.

5 Riparian View Irvine

This is one of the richest wetland areas along the southern California coast. The entire 300 acres is planted densely with native trees and shrubs and irrigated with water from holding ponds that are part of a state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant. Many aquatic birds and plants can be seen along the 2.5 plus mile loop. It is an easy walk with restrooms available. We will meet at the parking lot at the above address at 9:30. Carpoolers can meet at the Central Library at 8:45. Lunch to follow. Let me know if you are coming and/or want to carpool at ralphkaj@aol.com



Public Policy Update

Every other year, the national member-led Public Policy Committee, working with national AAUW staff, solicits member input on AAUW's Public Policy Priorities and puts forth recommendations to the AAUW Board of Directors on proposed changes. The comment period was in January, and all members have an opportunity to vote on them until May 13. The principles continue to emphasize core values regarding education, economic security and social justice. The proposed policy priorities for federal advocacy focus on equity in higher education and include endorsement of the 2024 update to Title IX regulations and emphasis on specific components important for women's economic security including education, pay equity, caregiving burdens, and retirement safety nets. The proposed policy priorities include advocating for recognition that the Equal Rights Amendment (passed 1972 but failed ratification in 1982) has met the constitutional requirements for ratification as articulated in the U.S. Constitution. The proposal also states that the focus is domestic and removes issues that, while valuable and important components to equity, go beyond the scope of AAUW's focus on higher education and were deemed too broad.

In addition to voting on the proposed policy priorities, members are asked to Take the Pledge for Gender Equity which includes five actions that we can take and range from seeking the facts beyond the headlines to contacting one's representatives when legislation threatens access and equity in education. You can review the actions and Take the Pledge at <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

HONOR ROLL 2025-2026

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

Pat Allgeier, Riva Apodaca, Marjorie Berling, Marie Bisson, Carol Black, Maxine Boyett, Beth Callaghan, Bonnie Castrey, Pat Dallas, Gayle Douglas, Lynne Ehret, Terri Elders, Carmen Erber, Bette Flick, Jeri Goldsbrough, Betsy Grajeda, toni Gregory, Peggy Grzywacz, Sandi Guerrero, Dorothy Guillaume-Rutter. Roz Haley, Susan Harris, Barbara Islas, Pat Jenkes, Janet Johnson, Ann Kajdasz, Cheryl Kelly, Dicksie Kerns, Donna Kratter, Jeanne Kulpinski, Rosalie Lyons, LuRae MacArthur, Louise MacDonald, Linda MacDonell, Miram Matulich, Judy McLeod, Georgia Merchant, Leanne Metzler, Judy Meyer, Pat Muecke, Connie 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, Terri Taylor, Fran Thelander, Carol Valcarcel, Janis White, Lou Ann Wiese, Connie Wittman

2025 GOLDEN WEST SCHOLARSHIPS

Our AAUW Branch has selected the following four dedicated GWC honors students to receive our 2025 scholarship awards of \$550 each. Scholarship committee readers Eleanor Demler, Andrea LaVela, and Cheryl Kelly carefully reviewed applications, and based upon merits such as academic achievement, community service, and potential for leadership and success, these four worthy candidates were chosen:

Samantha Sarmiento, who plans to become an elementary school teacher, is a top student who both works and has volunteered her time as a GWC student advocate and helped to run a children's book club. Samantha feels that active listening is an important aspect of teaching.

Quynhvy Hoang has completed the GWC nursing program at the top of her class, while both tutoring chemistry students and volunteering at Fountain Valley Hospital as a Vietnamese translator and patient advocate. Ms. Hoang is a first-generation college student.

Jessica Vu has also completed the GWC nursing program, works two jobs, and volunteers with the Alzheimer's Association of O.C. Her long term goal is to become a nurse practitioner. Jessica stresses "The importance of being humble and always being open to learning something new".

Trang Kieu is graduating GWC as a math major who works to support her family. She is a first-generation college student who, during the pandemic, turned around her family's failing business by converting it into an online endeavor. She has overcome many other hardships that would have stopped others. Challenges only serve to remind her that, "I can rewrite my story no matter where I start".

In addition to the AAUW scholarship funds, Samantha Sarmiento will receive \$250 from the Pyle Family Endowment, and Quynhvy Hoang will receive \$250 from the Berlinger Family Endowment. Each of these deserving women will be duly congratulated at the GWC reception. We see a bright future ahead for all!

DUES ARE DUE

**(SEE PAGE 3 FOR
INFORMATION)**



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: Sandi Guerrero & Cheryl Kelly
Programs Co-VPs: Phyllis Sakioka & Carol Kanode
Treasurer: Kathi Rand
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