



# TRI CITY DISPATCH

Westminster-Fountain Valley-Huntington Beach  
May 2023

**Edward Humes**

**The Forever Witness:**

**How DNA and Genealogy**

**Solved a Cold Case**

**Double Murder**



Edward Humes is a Pulitzer Prize – winning journalist and non-fiction writer. He has authored 14 non-fiction books, including the bestselling Mississippi Mud, No matter How Loud I Shout, Baby E.R. and a Man and his Mountain.

Mr. Humes will be discussing his new book, The Forever Witness: How DNA and Genealogy Solved a Cold Case Double Murder. His book covers (1) the 1987 brutal murders of Tanya Van Cuylenborg and Jay Cook, and (2) the history and impact of combining DNA analysis and genealogy. The combination revolutionized the solving of cold cases, current violent crimes and identification of Jane and John Does.

For educators in our Branch, in 2001 Mr. Humes spent a year teaching a writing workshop at Whitney High School, Cerritos, CA. His observations while at school led to his narrative non-fiction book, School of Dreams (2004). Further, his book, Garbology, is a popular selection for the First Year Experience Program on college campuses.

## General Meeting

May 20, 2023

Golden West college  
15744 Goldenwest Street  
Huntington Beach

Meeting will be held in the  
Regional Criminal Justice  
Training Center, Multi-  
Purpose Room, on the  
Gothard Street side of the  
campus, Parking Lot H/1

Social

9:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Presentation

10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

Business Meeting

10:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Officers Election/Installation

11:00 – 11:45 a.m.

Menu: Corner Bakery's  
Continental Breakfast

\$18.00 check due by

May 15

AAUW: WM-FV-HB

c/o Sandra Guerrero

19120 Beachcrest Lane #A

Huntington Beach, CA



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### May

- 1 Board Meeting 7 p.m
- 4 Happy Hikers 10 a.m.
- 12 Quest 10:49 a.m.
- 17 Travel Group 3 p.m.
- 20 General Meeting
- 22 Book Review 7:15 p.m.
- 23 Movie Review 3 p.m.

### June

- 5 Board Meeting 7 p.m.

## 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 April 2023 Board of Directors meeting was held on ZOOM.

Finance Officer's Report

### March General Fund

Beginning Balance \$ 18,067.87

Ending Balance \$ 19,542.87

### March Fund Account

Beginning Balance \$ 13,210.11

Ending Balance \$ 22,813.52

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

## BRANCH EMAIL ADDRESSES

Membership inquiries and new members

[Rae6149@hotmail.com](mailto:Rae6149@hotmail.com)

Update member contact information

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

Programs

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

Website problems, comments, corrections

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

Click on the above links to email

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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

Send to Jeanne Smith

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



**Presidents' Message**

**"We know what we are, but know not what we can be." (William Shakespeare)**

**"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so we may fear less." (Marie Curie)**

**Dear Members:**

**Remember to come to the Authors Luncheon on April 15. It is our major fundraiser to support Tech Trek and Golden West Scholarships for women returning to college. In addition to the Silent Auction, we will have several raffles. Bring your good humor, lucky charms, and your checkbook.**

**Our May 20 Meeting is the last monthly meeting of this fiscal year. In addition to our speaker, we will elect and install next year's officers. We need a quorum, so, mark your calendars.**

**Dues (\$110.00) are due! Please remember to send your checks to Jeanne Smith. Please note she has a new address.**

**This year has been exciting and challenging. Please consider inviting a friend, neighbor, or acquaintance to join our branch. We welcome your ideas, thoughts, and suggestions.**

**Sincerely,**

**Donna Kratter and Getta Wolff, co-presidents**

**Heads Up! June/July Newsletter**

**Please begin planning now for your summer meetings. The next newsletter is combined June/July**

**DUES ARE DUE**

**(before June 5)**

**It is now time to pay your dues for 2023-2024.**

**Dues are late after June 5**

**Regular Membership: \$110**

**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 you received a bill from National for your dues, ignore it.**



## INTEREST GROUPS

### QUEST

Friday, May 12 10:49 a.m.

#### Train to San Juan Capistrano

The trains have resumed service, so we will give it another try. We are looking forward to our next Quest outing on Friday, May 12. Our adventure will begin at the ultra-modern train station in Anaheim where we will board a late morning Amtrak train headed to San Juan Capistrano. After our leisurely 35 minute train ride, we will head to lunch at El Adobe de Capistrano, a California State Historical Landmark. After lunch, ladies will have a chance to explore Capistrano before heading back to Anaheim. The train fare is a little less than \$30.

According to the Amtrak schedule, the train leaves Anaheim at 10:49 am, arriving in San Juan Capistrano at 11:24. We will be leaving Capistrano at 3:34 pm, arriving in Anaheim at 4:08

Please let us know if you are planning to join us. RSVP by May 1st to Betsy Grajeda so that we can make lunch reservations. We will send more specific details to those who plan to join us. Hope to see you in May.

Betsy Grajeda—[tgrajeda@aol.com](mailto:tgrajeda@aol.com) 714-287-7206

Zelda Rice--[uclarice1@msn.com](mailto:uclarice1@msn.com)

### BOOK REVIEW

May 22, 2023

The book for May is

At Home: A Short Story of Private Life

by Bill Bryson

Hostess: Barbara Smith

Leader: Terri Elders

7:15 Social

7:30 Meeting

7352 Emerson

Westminster

RSVP to Barbara by Saturday, May 20

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

### Movie Group

Tuesday, May 23, 3 p.m.

At the home of Karen Jackle

6132 Hamshire, Huntington Beach

The movie is Chevalier or the book

The Book Club by Mary Alice Monroe

RSVP to Karen by May 20

(714) 612-0028 or [karijac@gmail.com](mailto:karijac@gmail.com)

### Travel Group

Wednesday, May 17, 3 p.m.

At the home of Barbara Smith

7352 Emerson, Westminster

Yes, travel season is back.

Come learn where others have been  
and where they're going next.

RSVP to [basmith10@verizon.net](mailto:basmith10@verizon.net)

**HAPPY HIKERS****May 5****10 a.m.****Bolsa Chica**

Hi all- The next hike will be our annual trip to Bolsa Chica to see the newly hatched heron chicks! We will meet at 10 a.m. at the Bolsa Chica Conservancy Center at 3842 Warner Ave. in Huntington Beach. After our hike we will lunch at the Calico Fish House at 16600 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. (It used to be the Fish Camp.)

**PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE:** I will be out of town until May 4th so I switched the hike to Friday May 5 instead. I hope that won't be a problem for anyone. Please let me know if you can make it at [ralphkaj@aol.com](mailto:ralphkaj@aol.com) Many thanks!  
Ann



**Our March Quest included a wonderful tour of the Yakult USA factory in Fountain Valley.**



### **HONOR ROLL 2023-2024**

**Is your name on this list? These are the members who have PAID for 2023-2024 as of APRIL 10. If you are not on this list, please send your check to**

**AAUW  
c/o Jeanne Smith  
19191 Harvard Ave Apt 330A  
Irvine 92612  
949-391-8502.**

**Pam Alfieri, Pat Allgeier\*, Marjorie Berling\*, Carol Bertino, Marie Bisson\*, Wendy Coates, Terri Elders, Carmen Erber\*, Donna Ewing, Debra Farnum, Bette Flick, Betsy Grajeda, Peggy Grzywacz, Sandi Guerrero, Dorothy Guillaume-Rutter\*, Barbara Islas, Karen Jackle, Janet Johnson\*, Jean Jordan, Ann Kajdasz, Cheryl Kelly, Rosalie Lyons,\* LuRae MacArthur, Judy Martin, Miriam Matulich, Judy McLeod, Georgia Merchant, Lranne Metzler, Patricia Muecke, Pat Potter, Kathi Rand, Zelda Rice, Janet Riness, Barbara Smith, Jeanne Smith\*, Lisa Swanson, Fran Thelander\*, Carol Valcarcel, Fredricka Veenstra, Lou Ann Wiese\*, Getta Wolff**

**\*These are our 50 year members.**

### **Membership News**

**National has a new membership campaign called, "Shape the future." With this campaign we can offer 50% off of national dues when prospective members join AAUW at an event or meeting. We can also earn one free national membership for every two new members we recruit!**

**Remember, national dues are the largest part of our dues package, so these new members joining at an event will pay \$74.00 instead of \$110.00. The catch is: they must join AT the meeting or event (no, "Let me think about it") and they must be either entirely new to AAUW or someone who rejoins after two or more years of lapsed membership.**

**We will start bringing membership applications to all our meetings and to the Authors Luncheon, so please bring your friends and TALK IT UP!**

### **New Member**

**A warm welcome to our newest member Lisa Swanson! Lisa was an active member of the Martinez branch of AAUW in the early 1990s to 2000. She moved back to Huntington Beach 13 years ago and now finds herself in a position to join our branch. Lisa graduated from the University of CA, San Diego with a B.S. in chemical engineering. Her hobbies are stand up paddle boarding, reading, puzzles and Bunco. Lisa's special interest is reducing the world's carbon footprint and environmentally sustainable living. Not surprisingly she is very active in the Surf Riders Foundation. We are very happy to have her as a new member.**





### **NOMINATIONS FOR 2023-2024**

**The Nominating Committee would like to present the following slate to be voted on at the May General Meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor with the prior consent of the nominee. If there are no nominations from the floor the slate may be elected by “acclamation” or a voice vote will be taken. Election shall be by a majority vote of those present and voting.**

#### **ELECTED OFFICERS SLATE**

**CO-PRESIDENTS Donna Kratter, Ann Kajdasz**

**CO-VP PROGRAM Phyllis Sakioka, Carol Kanode**

**CO-VP MEMBERSHIP Sandra Guerrero, Sue McDannel**

**CO-VP AAUW FUND**

**SECRETARY Jennifer Solano**

**FINANCE OFFICER Kathi Rand**

### **How Did Huntington Beach AAUW Start?**

**Charlene Bauer was the force behind initiating AAUW in our area. The Penny Saver newspaper was her vehicle for gathering potential members. The Penny Saver was read by everyone in the early 1960's, and Charlene's \$1.25 ad seeking women interested in AAUW was effective. About 100 women responded! Charlene became the first president of the Huntington Beach AAUW Branch in 1968, for a two-year term.**

**The early meetings were held at members' homes. Childcare was often provided for daytime meetings. Evening meetings began later in a bank meeting room. Huntington Beach was sprouting with new housing, and young women were looking for opportunities to meet with others and do things for their new community. Monthly meetings with speakers and discussions led to long-term friendships.**

**Charlene was also on the board of the library as it was being developed, and she was active in the preservation of the wetlands and the League of Women Voters. In 2002 she was named Huntington Beach Citizen of the Year.**

**Together, Charlene and Ralph Bauer were leaders in the cultural and governmental structure of Huntington Beach. Ralph, a member of the City Council and a thoughtful contributor to civic life, passed away on July 12, 2022. If you've lost track of Charlene, you can reach her (714-293-5417) at her long-time home on Humboldt Island.**



**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 & Getta Wolff  
Membership Co-VPs: LuRae MacArthur & Sue McDannel  
Programs Co-VPs: Linda MacDonnell & Sandra Guerrero  
Treasurer: Peggy Grzywacz  
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  
12 Sirius  
Irvine, CA 92603