

February 2026

AAUW Branch General Meeting

Saturday, February 21, 2026

Center for Spiritual Living
7641 Talbert Avenue, HB

10:00 a.m.
Hospitality

Business Meeting
Program

“**VALENTINE MEMORIES - Ethical Wills**”
by Rev. Donna Baranyay
Center for Spiritual Living

Lunch
Box lunch from Corner Bakery

\$25.00 payment due by **February 11**
Mail check to: AAUW: WM-FV-HB
c/o Kathi Rand
306 Coral Reef #53
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

**** OR ****
Pay by Zelle:
aauw.wmfvhb@yahoo.com

 Practice Conservation!
Bring your refillable
water bottle!



Valentine Memories Ethical Wills

February Meeting Presenter:
Reverend Donna Baranyay
Center for Spiritual Living

An Ethical Will is a gift you leave your loved ones. It's a way you can express your experiences, values, and other important themes – life lessons you want to share. This is your legacy in the form of wisdom and advice for loved ones.

Rev. Baranyay will lead our workshop and books will be provided for you to write your personal memories.



The goal isn't to live forever, the goal is to create something that will.
Chuck Palahniuk

March Newsletter Deadline

February 23, 2026

Please submit information as a complete article in an email or attached as a Word document (.doc or .docx) format. Include “AAUW Newsletter” in your subject line and send to cherylkelly48@gmail.com.

Pictures of your groups are greatly appreciated!

Presidents' Message

"All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt." ~ Lucy
"Life is too short not to nap" ~ Snoopy

Many thanks to the joy and wisdom from Charles Schultz. Charles Schulz and his wife, Jean, were major supporters of Canine Companions for Independence, a service dog organization in which they donated 12 acres of land in Santa Rosa, California for dog training.

It is February and we move even closer to our annual Author's Luncheon fundraiser. This wonderful event will be Saturday, April 18 so ask your friends to join you at your table of 8 and turn in all the checks or cash with your "Women of Mystery" form to Zelda Rice. See elsewhere in this newsletter for the form and further information.

Many thanks to Toni Gregory and Ann Kajdasz for being the Hospitality helpers for the January meeting's set up and clean up. And a special thank you to Phyllis Sakioka for our flowers and décor every month. Take a look at the Hospitality List and see if you and a buddy could be the helpers for the June meeting.

May your February be filled with happiness, friendship and chocolate!

Janet Riness and Lisa Swanson
Co-Presidents

Here are the names of the people who have signed up to be helpers with the early set up for our meetings and the clean up afterwards.

Please arrive by 9:00 to help unload Phyllis' car, place lightweight plastic tablecloths over the church tables, add centerpieces, assist with the coffee set up, and brunch set up occasionally. After the meeting, clear the tables, place items back in Phyllis' car, return the urns to the kitchen, look around and smile!

Many thanks for volunteering, it is appreciated.

January 17 – Toni Gregory, Ann Kajdasz

February 21 – Maxine Boyett, Jennifer Solano, Bette Flick

March 21 – Barbara Islas, Vicki Rand

May 16 – Connie Nelson, Lizabeth Kerr



June 20 –

We had several sign up for May:

*Kathi Rand, Louise MacDonald, Gayle Douglas, plus the two listed above.
Might you be able to help in June? Please let Janet Riness know.*

HAPPY HIKERS

February 5, 2026 - 10:00am
Fairview Park

2501 Placentia Avenue
 Costa Mesa

Fairview Park is the city of Costa Mesa's largest park with a total of 208 acres. It has two Nationally Registered Cultural Resource Historic sites and 5 distinct habitat ecosystems. We will be hiking along the Santa Ana River Trail and through the adjacent Talbert Regional Park. It is an easy walk with chances to see a variety of plant and animal life. We will meet at the parking lot off Placentia at 10:00am. Lunch to follow of course!

Please e-mail me at ralphkaj@aol.com if you plan on coming. Many thanks and see you soon!

AUTHORS LUNCHEON NEWS!

The next meeting of the Authors Luncheon committee will be on **February 13 at 10:00am** at Donna Kratter's house 3899 Humbolt Dr. Huntington Beach. Please come with your ideas and willing hands! As you know, the Authors Luncheon is our main fundraising effort for Tech Trek and continuing education scholarships. Our members have always stepped up in the past to make this event a great success- and we really appreciate it! Let's do it again!

Many of you may have received presents and gift cards for the holidays that you can't use. Please consider donating them to AAUW for our silent auction. There may also be local businesses you frequent that would be willing to donate to support our mission.. To that end, we have included a formal AAUW donation request letter and a tax receipt form with this newsletter. You can bring any donations to our general meetings, or you can contact Ann Kajdasz (ralphkaj@aol.com) or Donna Kratter (dkratter@hotmail.com) to pick them up. Thanks to you all so very much!

Volunteers Needed

As a volunteer organization, we are always looking for people to "help make it happen"! Please consider the following needs. For these or any other areas of interest, please contact Janet Riness or Lisa Swanson.

Scholarship Chair

Scholarship Chair is only active about six months of the year, and requires only one person. If you are interested, please text or voicemail Eleanor at (714) 715-9789. I will be serving for another few months, and can show you the ropes.

TTAG

Are you interested in helping organize a field trip, service activity or class for our Tech Trek alumni? If so, please contact Toni Gregory.

AAUW Board Members

We will soon be preparing our slate of officers for next year (2026-27). Please consider how you might serve on the board. Be prepared to say "Yes!" if you are asked - or contact Janet Riness or Lisa Swanson.

February
Book Review

February 23, 2026

The book for February is
The Boys of Riverside by Thomas Fuller
Hostess: Jeri Goldsbrough
Leader: Jeri Goldsbrough

6:45pm Social
7:00pm Meeting
5711 David Webster Cr.
Garden Grove

RSVP to Jeri by Saturday, February 21
714-897-8549 or jerig6@mac.com



Quest for Knowledge

Thursday, February 12, 2026 - 9 am
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanical Garden

301 N. Baldwin Ave.
Arcadia, CA 91007

Unique 127-acre botanical garden and historical site located in the heart of historic Rancho Santa Anita. Tram tickets are available when you purchase your entrance fee at the door. If you wish to carpool, meet at Huntington Beach Central Library at 7:50 am, or at Hof's Hut on Seal Beach Boulevard at 7:30 am. If you drive yourself, please plan to arrive by 9 am. Lunch will be at the Peacock Cafe, located on the premises, at noon. This is outdoor dining, no reservations.

Adult Entrance Fee \$18

Senior Entrance Fee \$14

Tram Tour \$ 8

Tram Tour Hours: 10 am, 11 am, 1 pm and 2 pm

Please RSVP to Kathi Rand at kathirand@yahoo.com
if you plan to carpool from HB Library or to Janet Riness at
jriness@roadrunner.com if you plan to carpool from Hof's Hut.



