



American Association of University Women

Alhambra - San Gabriel Branch



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

January, 2017

Cheryl Plotkin
President

Virginia Orenos
Program VP

Kathleen & Jim Doty
Newsletter Editors

Delora Brown
Membership VP

Presenting

Sheri Fink

International speaker and best-selling, award-winning children's author, creator of The Whimsical World of Sheri Fink, inspiring and delighting kids while planting seeds of self-esteem.



11:00 AM

January 14, 2017

First United Methodist
Church

9 N. Almansor St., Alhambra

\$20.00 per person
includes Lunch

Please respond using the form below
no later than January 9, 2017

AUTHORS LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

No later than January 9, 2017, please send reservations and payment to:

Cheryl Plotkin, 201 S. Golden West Ave., Arcadia, CA 91007

Save me _____ seats @ \$20.00 = _____ Total Due

Guest Names: _____

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.

President's Message

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Did you all remember your year-end donation to AAUW Fund?

I am looking forward to our wonderful Author Lunch on January 14. I am hoping everyone will be there and bring your friends.

Before you know it the branch will be electing new officers. Please think about how you can support our branch.

Happy New Year!

Cheryl

Tech Trek

Tech Trek Committee would like to thank our members, their family members and friends for helping to make our fall fundraisers so successful. We earned over \$1,000 from the fashion show and the See's candy sale. We also would like to thank everyone for participating in the Ralph's Community Program. If you are not signed up or you know someone who shops at Ralph's, it is easy to sign up now by just calling Lilia Hall (626-570-8067) or Sue Carr (626-808-5428) and we will get you an application.

In January we will be starting the selection process for our 2017 Tech Trek Campers. Sue Carr and her committee will be working hard on reading applications, setting up interviews and choosing six girls from Alhambra and San Gabriel schools to represent our Branch at the Whittier camp in June. If you would like to be part of this process, just call Sue Carr at (626-808-5428).

Lilia & Sue

Public Policy

Happy New Year! As I write, 2016 is coming to a close – none too soon for some. The Presidential election is over and new terms for the legislatures in Washington, D.C. and Sacramento are getting under way. Equity is still an issue, and you can be certain that AAUW will be active for those bills that advance our cause and against

those that set us back. Watch out for Legislative updates from National as well as AAUW CA. I will endeavor to keep you up to date, but you can help yourself by signing up for the Two-minute Activist on both the AAUW National and AAUW CA websites.

Kathleen

AAUW Fund

It is a new year and a time for a new beginning. 2016 was a tough year but as always we must remain strong in our advocacy for women and girls.

The good news is that we should have Kathleen's honorarium finished shortly. The raffle tickets for "Dinner with the Doty's" are selling amazingly well.

How nice to have new blood, fresh ideas, and a new perspective on earning money for the honorarium and for the Fund in general. We get mired in "we have always done it that way" – lots of new activity and ideas are what we need.

We are busily working on getting the speaker for the tea in March. No definite information yet but all the speakers were amazing at the Fund luncheon in October. I believe the video is available for viewing on the AAUW CA website.

May our stars burn bright in 2017 and all the wishes we dream for women and girls everywhere take a step in the right direction.

Deanna

Membership News

Happy New Year to everyone and may 2017 be a wonderful year for all of you members and for our Branch. I again want to welcome our new members during the past 6 months. Two new members, Elena and Joe, have become involved in the Drama Group and the Evening Book Group. I hope other members will check the back of the Newsletter and begin to get involved in more than just the meetings. Read the entire newsletter- don't just skim. Join us. I hope to see all of you at the Author's Lunch on January 14. Invite a friend and I will be happy to give her or him a membership form. It will be half price for the remainder of membership year.

Delora

Tech Trek

Docents Needed for Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts

Bonnie Gonzalez and I will be asking our members, their relatives and friends to sign up for a shift at the 2017 Showcase House April 23 through May 21st.

This is a great fundraiser since we make \$40 for Tech Trek for every shift we work. We hear the house will be in La Canada this year. If you would like to help us, we will be starting to sign up volunteers at the January meeting. Thanks to all for supporting this great AAUW Community Program!



Photo of 2016 Showcase House

Lilia

Sheri Fink

Our Authors Luncheon speaker will be Sheri Fink, inspirational speaker, best-selling and award-winning author, and the creator of “The Whimsical World of Sheri Fink” inspirational brand.

She creates books, products, and experiences that inspire and delight kids of all ages while planting seeds of self-esteem. All five of her children’s books were #1 best-sellers, including *The Little Rose* which was a #1 Amazon Best-seller for over 60 weeks, became the #1 Top-Rated Children’s eBook on Amazon, and was adapted into a stage play.

Sheri has expanded her brand with books, live experiences, beauty items, and music all designed to create magical experiences for her Fans. Sheri became a #1 best-selling recording artist on Amazon with the 2014 release of her first inspirational album, *Love Notes*.

Frequently asked about the secret to her success, Sheri released her daily practices that enable her to achieve her dreams in *My Bliss Book*, a daily journal designed to help

you create more magic, passion, and aliveness in your life while achieving your dreams.

In 2013, CBS Los Angeles selected her as one of the top three authors in her local area, a distinction she shares with Dean Koontz. Sheri’s books have been honored with several awards including three gold medals in the Readers Favorite International Book Awards, and is a recipient of the prestigious Gold Mom’s Choice Award honoring the best in family friendly entertainment.

Sheri was honored with the 2013 Extraordinary Inspiration Award for her long-lasting commitment to spreading inspirational messages of hope and self-esteem through her books, her moving life story, and her brand.

In the words of Jack Canfield, co-creator of *Chicken Soup for the Soul* and New York Times Best-selling author of *The Success Principles*, “The Whimsical World of Sheri Fink children’s brand is an excellent resource for award-winning and quality children’s books that encourage actions of tolerance, acceptance, and, perhaps the hardest lesson to be learned of all, staying true to the core of one’s self.” [continues on next page]

ACTIVITIES

Where the Fun will be in January

Sheri is an empowering speaker who shares her strategies on overcoming adversity and living life with passion and aliveness as well as her inspirational journey. Her talks focus on authenticity, confidence, and personal empowerment. In addition, Sheri speaks to elementary school students about the importance of kindness, what it takes to be a successful author, and the behind-the-scenes of transforming an idea into a book.

Sheri has spoken to and inspired thousands of people throughout North America including events for PBS, Barnes and Noble at The Grove, USC, and UCLA, corporations including Macy's and California Pizza Kitchen, and has keynoted for the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Southern California Writers Conference, the American Association of University Women, and the South Bay Women's Conference.

Sheri and her books have been featured in hundreds of articles, programs, websites, and shows, including on NBC's The 10! Show, CBS Los Angeles, The Huffington Post, Life After 50 Magazine, The Good Life with VeegMama, and Publishers Weekly. Sheri has appeared on the cover of several magazines along with feature articles that inspire readers to believe in themselves and take inspired action to transform their lives.

Sheri has been honored to participate in pop culture events including Comic-Con, the MTV Movie Awards, the Primetime Emmy Awards, Book Expo America, and the People's Choice Awards.

Sheri is proud to serve as a spokesperson for Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), a non-profit organization that provides free books to underprivileged elementary school students, and to volunteer in the Pediatric ICU at Children's Hospital.

In addition, she is a founding member of the Evolutionary Business Council, an international, invitation-only council of speakers and influencers dedicated to teaching the principles of success in order to make the world a better place, and a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI).

Sheri's newest adventure is a contemporary romance. She was inspired to write *Cake in Bed*, her debut novel, to empower women to be their authentic selves and to not settle for less than they deserve in life or in love, because everyone deserves to have their cake and eat it too ... preferably in bed!

The preceding is from <http://www.sherifink.com/bio/>

Professional Women Gourmets are gathering at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 7th. Hosted by Jane Anderson.

Walkettes meets every Sunday morning at 7:30 a.m. We walk for approximately one hour and have breakfast at approximately 8:30 a.m. In case of rainy or doubtful weather we meet at the restaurant at 8:00 a.m. For further information or directions, please call Mary Smeritschnig.

Board Meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. (socializing starts at 7:00 p.m.) on Monday, January 9th, in Cheryl Plotkin's home, 201 S. Golden West Ave., Arcadia.

Restaurant Gourmets are gathering at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 14th at Crossings in South Pasadena. Contact Deanna Arthur for information, reservations and directions. Spouses, children, friends and neighbors are welcome!

Drama will read *Moon Over Buffalo* a short comedy by Ken Ludwig, at 7:30 p.m. on **Tuesday**, January 10th in Kathleen Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra. 8 Characters--EVERYONE is welcome!

General Meeting: Authors luncheon, 11:00 AM on Saturday, January 14th. See page 1 for details.

Evening Books will get together at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 23rd to discuss *I Saw a Man* by Owen Sheers. Janice Lee's home, 633 E. California Blvd. #101, Pasadena. EVERYONE is welcome!

AAUW Fund Raffle

Dining with the Dotys



Let us prepare a semi-formal dinner for you and three of your friends in our home in Alhambra on May 13th (or as arranged). Raffle tickets are \$10 each – 3 for \$25. Please make checks payable to "AAUW Fund". All tickets and proceeds must be turned in by April 1, 2017 to the Dotys (1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra, CA. 91801). The winning ticket will be drawn on April 17, 2017. Ticket holders do not need to be present at the drawing to win. One hundred percent of ticket proceeds will be donated to AAUW Fund to help complete unfinished AAUW California endowments. Questions? Call 626-284-0763