



West Harris County Branch

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

VOLUME XXXII | NUMBER 1

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2017

West Harris County Board of Directors

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October Newsletter Deadline:

September 15, 2017

Stay Informed

Branch website:

www.aauw-whc.org

National website:

www.aauw.org

SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, September 19, 2017, 7:00 PM

Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Drive

Reaching for Research and Educational Opportunities
on a Minority Campus



Dr. R. Michelle Sauer-Gehring, currently working in the Office of Research Opportunities at Prairie View A & M, will relate her experience in working with professors to find funding opportunities in research and education for the minority serving institution. Dr. Sauer-Gehring is a graduate of Texas A&M and Baylor College of Medicine fellowship participant. After graduation, she was an Assistant Professor at University of Texas Health Science Center-Houston.

Dr. Sauer-Gehring was an accomplished scientist with grants and publications and clinical studies. At the same time, she became interested in nonprofit medical clinics in remote areas of the world. She became an integral part of medical mission trips to India, Haiti, Peru, Nepal, and Guatemala. She still maintains support in mission trips and international study.

Carolyn Stoffel, Program Vice-President

SAVE THE DATE



HARVEST MOON BALL

The very best ball

*You C*A*N*N*O*T* attend*

*Save the date: **October 28, 2017***

Proceeds go to the AAUW Fund of your choice.

President's Message

I'm looking forward to serving as your Branch President this year! The exceptional group of women serving as Board Members and Committee Chairs will no doubt make this job a joy. I welcome all members' comments and suggestions, so don't hesitate to contact me with your concerns – we all want our West Harris County Branch to be as successful as possible.

The AAUW National Convention this past June certainly revved up my Women's Issues Activist leanings! If you haven't done so already, I encourage you all to sign up with "[Two-Minute Activist](#)" on the national aauw.org website. The program makes it so easy for your voice to be heard on national issues concerning women, by the right people at the right time. I signed up for the text message alert option, but there is also an email alert option. The "two-minute" designation isn't an exaggeration either – it's that quick and easy to leave a message with our legislators.

I hope to see you all at our New Members' Coffee in August!

Anne Amador, WHC Branch President

2017-2018 Proposed Budget

Following is the proposed 2017-2018 budget for AAUW-WHC Branch. The budget is endorsed by WHC Branch Board of Directors. Please review and be prepared to vote on acceptance of this budget for the upcoming year at the Membership Meeting on **September 19, 2017**.

Cash Balance as of 6/30/2017 **13,077.00**

REVENUE

Spring Luncheon	2,660.00
Local Dues	2,479.00
Holiday Party	2,783.00
Directory Ads	440.00
Directory Sales	35.00

TOTAL INCOME 8,397.00

EXPENSES

Memorials	215.00
Spring Luncheon	2,800.00
Hospitality Supplies	120.00
Convention	1,000.00
Holiday Party Expense	2,000.00
Membership	1,300.00
Newsletter	150.00
Operating Supplies	400.00
Directory	1,200.00
Directory Online Expense	1,000.00
Corresponding Secretary	50.00
Postage	100.00
Program	100.00

TOTAL EXPENSES 10,435.00

Positive Net Cash **11,039.00**

Diane Roberts, Finance Officer



FUNDS CORNER

It has just come to our attention that there will be a push to close out the Ann Richards Fellowship, which will allow it to move to a Fund. Beginning September 1, 2017, every dollar donated to the Ann Richards Fellowship will be matched dollar to dollar by AAUW Texas. Keep this in mind as you consider donating, especially for the Harvest Moon Ball. It will continue to be matched until the 2018 AAUW Texas Convention in Houston next year!

Hazel Chahar & Nancy Ennis, AAUW Funds VPs

FINANCIAL REPORT 2017 AAUW WEST HARRIS COUNTY

The Financial Review Committee met July 10, 2017, to check the financial records of the AAUW Branch, EYH, AAUW Funds and Baker-Telfer Scholarship. As stated in the AAUW WHC "Procedures and Local Policies," the treasurers reviewed books other than their own but were available to answer any questions. These records were corrected if necessary and are now in good order.

Carol Telfer, Chair

Committee Members: Pat Dach, Margaret Carlson, Barbara Cook, Mary Kain, Anne Amador, Diane Roberts, and Sharon Jorgeson

Branch Honorees

During the annual Spring Luncheon, several members were recognized for their support of our branch. Those recognized at that time include Nancy Guilloud, our immediate past president who did a spectacular job! Also recognized was Laura Cahill, our chairman for Expanding Your Horizons conference - which was most successful. Dawn Katz and Jan Groves were recognized for their many years of support to the branch. And last but not least was Barbara Cook, our treasurer, who kept our finances straight and always so well organized! We are so grateful to have such thoughtful and hardworking members. Thanks so much, ladies!

Hazel Chahar, AAUW Funds VP

EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS 2017-2018



Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) will be held on February 24, 2018. This will be the 26th year that West Harris County Branch has sponsored this event. This is a one-day workshop for middle school girls where we encourage them to pursue studies or a career in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics.

We still need some volunteers to fill key positions on the EYH Steering Committee. If you are interested, please contact me.

Lilian Care, EYH Chair 2017-2018

EYH NEEDS YOUR HELP

Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) needs your help. We have over 400 middle school girls from throughout the Houston area attending this incredible program promoting science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). EYH costs approximately \$25,000 a year. Students only pay \$6.00, and that has remained the same for 26 years. Presently it costs \$39.00 per student to fund this event. We have over 100 AAUW members volunteer in a myriad of capacities so that also keeps the costs down.

However, this year we were unable to raise the money we needed and had to dip into our savings fund. Therefore, we are seeking some suggestions from our membership who might have direct contacts with foundations, companies, or employers in the area that could be contacted for sponsorship. It will also help if a personal introduction or name to contact can be given.

With so many layoffs in the energy field, it has impacted our fundraising efforts. Companies who we have depended on in the past have not been forthcoming so far this year. Please contact Rose Ennis, Fundraising Chair, at roseennis@att.net with possible contacts. This is an amazing program that connects middle school girls with professional women in the STEM fields and deserves to be continued for many years in the future.

Rose Ennis, EYH Fundraising Chair

BAKER-TELFER SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Three local high school seniors were presented as the recipients of the 2016-2017 Baker-Telfer scholarships at the Spring Luncheon on Saturday, June 3, 2017. The young ladies, who are self-nominated for the scholarships, will pursue degrees in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Their applications were selected from those received by Baker-Telfer chair, Pat Dach, and the committee. Each of the awardees received \$1200 to help in defraying their college expenses. The recipients are:

Angelina Ossimetia from HISD-Bellaire High School, who will attend Brown University

Paula Ortiz Hernandez from SBISD-Spring Woods High School, who will attend Texas A&M University-College Station

Amna Tanveer from Alief ISD-Hastings High School, who will attend the University of Texas-Austin

Funding of the Baker-Telfer scholarships is through branch member donations.

AAUW Texas State Convention

When: April 20-22, 2018

Where : Houston, Texas

Location: Embassy Suites (Energy Corridor)
11730 Katy Freeway
Houston, Texas

Hosts: West Harris County Branch
Fort Bend County Branch
North Harris County Branch

SPECIAL ADDRESS UPDATE

Dawn Katz, who moved to Wisconsin on August 1, would like her WHC friends to have her new address:

Village Point Commons
101 Walnut Circle, #1117
Grafton, WI 53024

AAUW National Convention 2017

Traci Jensen, Anne Amador, and I attended the National Convention this June in Washington DC. The National AAUW is in the midst of many changes. The building that AAUW owned in the center of Washington DC has been sold and all offices have moved to a much more modern and new office building. We have a new CEO, Kimberly Churches, who spoke to the convention having only been at the job for two weeks! She is impressive, dynamic, and eager to start her time with AAUW. The newly elected Board of Directors with Julia Brown at the helm was announced. This was the result of "one member, one vote." Every member of AAUW had the opportunity to vote.

Approximately 800 members came from all over the United States. The keynote speaker for opening night was Judy Woodruff, anchor for PBS News Hour. She has been in journalism for over thirty years. She gave a positive approach to news media of all kinds and talked about the challenges facing the news media in this time of instant social media.

The next day 800 women went to the "Hill" to lobby their senators and representatives on strengthening Title IX positions and pay equity. AAUW has just completed an in-depth study that shows women are the largest group facing college debt because of not being able to obtain pay equity. Twenty five Texas AAUW members went to Senator Cruz's office and Senator Cornyn's office, talked to their appointed aides, and gave them the research booklet and a folder with all of our names. Anne and I went to Congressman Culberson's office and talked with his aide on the same issues.

Friday was spent in workshops concerning branch involvement, STEM, obtaining new members, standing for AAUW issues, education issues, and the tools to work with college women in AAUW. The plenary sessions included speakers and panel discussions with women in the legal advocacy field, the political field, and testimonials from those who have been helped by Title IX. The last night had a very special dinner. Dr. Trent, an amazing woman who is an AAUW PhD recipient, told her story about going from a forced child bride in Africa to becoming a PhD in America. Her work to bring education and health to her part of Africa was riveting. This beautiful story was followed by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor. She also had an amazing story of growing up with hardships only to become the first Hispanic Supreme Court Justice. Her passion and dedication to the Court system in America was inspiring.

It is always a special experience to be with women from all over the nation who share AAUW. Watch for the next national convention, which will be in three years, and plan to attend!

Nancy Guilloud

MEMBERSHIP

The information below is important for all NEW West Harris County Branch members.



If you are an existing member and still need to order, please follow the instructions below. We're hearing more reports everyday about how nice it is to have portable name tags to wear to all the AAUW functions. Ordering your name tag is easy and wearing it helps us get to know you.

Go To - AAUW.source4.com

Select - Wear AAUW (the first item)

Select - Photo of the Name Tag

Select - Pin or Magnet - (\$8.00 for pin closing and \$10.00 for magnetic closing)

Select - Quantity

Select - "Customize" and fill in the information requested (name, university, and name of branch) **Refer to example above.**

Make sure the information for the name badge is correct and proceed to checkout.

I will be glad to assist persons who have trouble ordering their name tags online.

Sheila Jaynes, Membership VP

To insure you do not miss any communications from the Branch, if you have a change in your contact information, please inform **Margaret Carlson** at AAUW.Margaret.Carlson@gmail.com.

Member News Notification

*Please notify **Jo Glidewell**, Corresponding Secretary, about any member news that is important to share with the membership and has been authorized to share by the member involved.*

September 2017 Activities and Interest Group News

BOOK GROUPS



Afternoon Contemporary Literature

Wednesday, September 6, 1:30 p.m.

Our Souls at Night by Kent Haruf

Hostess: Daphne Scharar, 1202 Briarbrook Drive
713.783.2987

Contemporary Readers

Wednesday, September 6, 1:00 p.m.

At the Edge of the Orchard by Tracy Chevalier

Hostess: Margaret Gruss, 14418 Cindywood Drive*
281.589.0411

*Home of Margaret's daughter, Debbie Moffett

Enjoying History

Monday, September 11, 1:30 p.m.

The Men Who United the States by Simon Winchester

Hostess: Diana Guarniere, 13814 Kimberley Lane
281.493.2997

Monday Evening Contemporary Literature

Monday, September 11, 5:00 p.m.*

Empire of the Summer Moon by S.C. Gwynne

Meeting Place: La Madeline, City Centre location
*Second Monday due to Labor Day on September 4

Mystery

Tuesday, September 19, 1:30 p.m.

Before the Fall by Noah Hawley

Hostess: Susan Dunten, 1706 Rushbrook Drive
281.497.9150

Outstanding Literature Group

Tuesday, September 12, 9:30 a.m.

Black Narcissus by Rumer Godden

Meeting Place: The Egg and I, Bunker Hill location.

BRIDGE GROUPS – Various



If you have never played bridge before, there is a class beginning **Tuesday, September 12**. Enroll now.

All lessons are at **St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Sage and Woodway**. Class fee is \$120. For information on making reservations and for paying fees, contact Joyce Ryan, jryan9620@sbcglobal.net, 713-301-0624 or Edith Dunlop, edunlop527@aol.com, 713-677-0753.

TUESDAYS: September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 10, 24

(No class on September 17)

10:00 - 12:00 a.m. - **Competitive Bidding**

Intro to innovative methods of hand evaluation when all partnerships are bidding. Preemptive bids at 2 and 3 level and responses, take out doubles and advances, and overcalls and advances are also taught.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. - **Beginning Bridge**

Never played before - or it has been 20 or 30 years since you've played? Do you want to learn new modern methods of bidding and hand evaluation? This class is for you.

For information on subbing in established bridge groups (listed in Directory) or further information on the Oct./Nov. workshops on **Popular Conventions** and **Beginning Bridge Review**, contact Edith Dunlop.



BYWAY BIRDERS

On **September 30**, ByWay Birders will travel to Smith Point to observe clouds of hawks as they gather and migrate by land to Mexico, Central America and South America.

We will leave at 8:00 a.m. from the parking lot behind Dillard's in Memorial City Mall. Bring a lunch, drinking water, hat and binoculars. We will visit Smith Point first then drive to Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge where we will eat lunch and continue birding.

The contact person is Mary Peterson at 281-558-6398, mpetersonread@gmail.com. Please let Mary know if you are meeting at Memorial City or meeting us at Smith Point.



GARDEN DIVAS

The Garden Divas are venturing to the Nelson Water Gardens and Nursery on **Tuesday, September 12**. We will be able to view flowering and aquatic plants as well as learn about gardens with fountains and exotic fish. They have supplies, aquatic plants, land plants, and the professionals in water gardening to make things happen for the novice and semi-pro water gardeners. We will be able to see lovingly bred and raised fish that will be a grace to anyone's water garden.

After the visit, we will enjoy lunch at Tsukiji Fusion Sushi. Note this is the 2nd Tuesday in September. We will carpool from the north satellite parking lot of Memorial City at 9:30, **Tuesday, September 12**. Nelson Gardens is located at 1502 Katy-Fort Bend Road if you would prefer to meet us there. Please RSVP to Susan Boone, samboone@gmail.com, by **September 10** so arrangements can be made for lunch. Hope to see you there!

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT...



The Girls' Night Out Group will meet for dinner at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, September 13, 2017**, at La Hacienda Restaurant at 14759 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX (281) 493-2252. It is located west of Dairy Ashford on Memorial Drive.

This family owned Mexican restaurant has served our Memorial area neighborhood since 1973. The menu features authentic Tex-Mex food that is delicious and very economically priced. Eating at La Hacienda is such a memorable experience that many of the customers return again and again, year after year.

To join us for dinner, please contact this month's hostess, Jan Groves at 281.497.2295 or jamgroves@aol.com by Sunday, **September 10**.

All members are invited to attend these dinners which are scheduled for every other month on the second Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to add your name to our GNO mailing list, please contact Janis Groves, coordinator of the Girls' Night Out Group.

GOURMET DINING



Classic Gourmet

Due to a scheduling conflict, we've postponed our first dinner of the year from September until October. Please join us **Saturday, October 14, 2017**, at 7:00 p.m. for our first dinner in this year's series – A Culinary Tour of Italy. Our first stop is Tuscany. The dinner will be hosted by Sharon Jorgeson. If you have questions contact the coordinators: Barbara Cook, 713-782-4398, or Tina Simpson, 281-558-1031.

Nouveau Gourmet

Instead of **September 2** as that is Labor Day weekend, we will gather on the evening of **September 9** at 6:30 p.m. to share a wonderful Ethiopian meal at award winning LUCY. So named for one of our earliest hominid ancestors who was also from Ethiopia, LUCY is located at 16800 Southwest Frwy in Houston. For additional information, contact Hazel Kjos at 713.499.9668.

P.S. Lucy visited Houston several years ago, and we were lucky enough to meet her at the Natural History Museum although she didn't have much to say.

GREAT DECISIONS



Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD, and meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. We have three groups that you could consider joining. We order books in December or January and the groups meet from February to May.

The afternoon group meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 2-4:00, chaired by Martha Ewell.

The 2nd and 4th Wednesday evening group meets at 7 pm, chaired by Willette Norman.

The 1st and 3rd Thursday evening group meets at 7 pm, chaired by Pat Dach.



HIKING HONEYS

Because of the heat even at the end of September, we are going to go underground and hike the downtown tunnels. This hike is for everyone, no matter how fit. There are shops and restaurants along the way and places to sit and relax while others explore.

Meet at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, **September 21** at the usual place behind Memorial City Mall. If you are interested in coming on this adventure, please email Jane Campbell at drjmcamp@aol.com. More details will be available later via email to those who signed up for our first hike of the year.

LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES



For all of you who enjoy a good movie Barb and John Hopkins are coordinating a movie group this year. Please contact Barb at hopkins@hal-pc.org or 281.589.2513 to join the group of movie lovers.

The schedule of movie events will be dictated by the release of "good" movies that will be viewed at Memorial City. If you are interested, contact Barb Hopkins to add your name to the list to be contacted about the date and time of each movie experience on either a Monday or a Tuesday afternoon.



MAH JONGG MAVENS

The Mah Jongg Mavens meet every first and third Fridays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road. The group is informal and verifies who will attend the day of play via email. We play with one or multiple tables of 3 or 4 players as dictated by attendance. If you would like to spend a pleasant 3 hours with congenial "clickers," please join us. To get on the mailing list, contact Mary Kain at mlkain@hal-pc.org.

VICARIOUS VOYAGERS



An interest group for travelers

Coordinator: Diana Guarniere, guarniered@gmail.com

Thursday MORNING, September 28, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

Join us for travel inspiration as we vicariously explore the Netherlands, Amsterdam and beyond. **This year, please note that we will meet at a NEW TIME.** We will gain insights from Rick Steves, our DVD guide. Please bring something to share for a savory brunch. New members are always welcome. RSVP your attendance to the hostess below:

Diana Guarniere
13814 Kimberley Lane (East of Kirkwood)
Houston, TX 77070
guarniered@gmail.com
(H) 281.493.2997; (C) 832.465.5578



WINE, WOMEN & WISDOM

This group meets to enjoy beverages and enlightened conversation at McCormick & Schmick's City Centre location, every other month. Our meeting time is from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM on the **first Monday** of the month. Our next meeting will be on **Monday, October 2**. All AAUW members are invited to attend any or all of the Happy Hour events. Contact Marie Helmy at oolit3@aol.com or 281.463.8842 for additional information or to be added to the email distribution list.



WISE...

Women in Stem, Entertainment, Enrichment and Education

Our AAUW WISE group would like to invite you to **Energy Day, Saturday October 21**. If interested, you can help at the teacher registration table for a couple of hours between 10 and 4. Energy Day Festival 2016 had more than 25,000 attendees. You will have time to see all sorts of STEM-focused exhibits and interactive demonstrations. It's a great way to get excited about STEM and the future of STEM industries, and share about our EYH conference. See <http://energydayfestival.org/> for more info and to learn about their academic awards. Contact Karen North, knorth@me.com, if you would like to join in on the fun.



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



MFAH's "Mexican Modernism: Paint the Revolution, 1910-1950"

Our exciting 2017-18 Cultural Activities season kicks off on **Wednesday, September 27**, with a return visit to The Museum of Fine Arts where we'll experience this spectacular "Mexican Modernism" exhibition which charts the development of modern art in Mexico and the social, political, and cultural forces that shaped it over the course of nearly half a century. It features some 175 works by artists such as Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Jose Clemente Orozco – including prints, easel paintings, large-scale portable murals and more. ***Paint the Revolution*** is unprecedented for its breadth and variety.

Price for MFAH Members is free, but cost for others is \$18 for adults and \$13 for seniors which will be collected as you enter the museum.

In keeping with our Mexican theme, lunch will be at Hugo's restaurant, famous for its Mexican cuisine.

As usual, we'll travel on a Precinct 3 bus which we'll meet in our now usual spot on the south side of Barryknoll between Gessner and Memorial City Way, directly across from the Cinemark Theater. We'll collect \$1 for our driver's lunch as you board the bus.

Departure will be promptly at 10:00 a.m. We expect to be back at Memorial City by about 2:30 p.m.

If you'd like to join us for this enlightening day, contact our leader, Carol Gee at 713-785-9303 or cdgee777@yahoo.com right away as this promises to be a very popular event. Guests will be welcome if space permits. But remember, county rules require that if you go on the bus, you must also return on it, so don't make alternative arrangements for returning to the parking lot.

Plus, save **Tuesday, October 24**, for our San Bernard River Paddle Wheeler Voyage. Watch the October newsletter for details. Or, contact Jan Groves at 281-497-2295 or jamgroves@aol.com if you can't wait to sign up.

Next WHC Branch Board Meeting September 11, 2017

The next branch board meeting will be at the First Congregational Church, 10840 Beinhorn Road at 5:30 p.m. All members are welcome. Please RSVP your attendance to anamador@earthlink.net.