



West Harris County Branch

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

VOLUME XXXI NUMBER 6

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2017

West Harris County
Board of Directors

President

Nancy Guilloud

713-785-6336

nanguilloud@aol.com

President Elect

Anne Amador

Program Vice President

Pat Thomsen

Membership Vice President

Sheila Jaynes

AAUW Funds Vice-Presidents

Mary Kain

Hazel Chahar

Recording Secretary

Melba Armstrong

Finance Officer

Barbara Cook

Corresponding Secretary

Joanne Lane

Newsletter Editor

Melba Armstrong

mkar@consolidated.net

March Newsletter deadline:

February 15, 2017

Inside This Newsletter:

- **President's Message**
- **Funds Corner**
- **Directory Updates**
- **Activities**

Stay Informed

Branch website:

www.aauw-whc.org

National website:

www.aauw.org

EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS - 2017

Saturday, February 25, 2017, 8:00 AM – 3:15 PM

Spring Forest Middle School

14240 Memorial Drive

Houston, TX 77079



EYH 2017 is here and the EYH Steering Committee has organized a fantastic conference this year. Come join us in celebrating the branch's 25th EYH anniversary and help the next generation of young women to enter Science, Technology, Engineering and Math careers. Now, more than ever, these young women need our support! The Steering Committee is looking for volunteers, especially those who can assist in the classrooms on the date of the event (facilitators). If you are interested in being a facilitator, it's not too late! You can work a half day in the morning from 9 a.m. until noon, with lunch included, or in the afternoon from 11:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., which also includes lunch. You can also work the full day. For more information, please contact Jane Wood at jane.wood@hal-pc.org. We also need volunteers to stuff folders for the day of the event. If you are interested in helping with folder stuffing, it will be held from 9:30 a.m. until noon on February 13, 2017 at the home of Arlene Baker. Please contact Arlene at abaker-patch@comcast.net. You can also contact Laura Fiorentino Cahill, EYH Committee Chair, at 832-755-3753 or by email at Laura.Cahill1960@yahoo.com, or EYH co-chair Lilian Care at tigermoon1@sbcglobal.net. Looking forward to seeing you at the conference!

Laura Cahill, EYH Chair

JOIN WOMEN LEADING WOMEN

AT THE

AAUW BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

The AAUW Juggernaut will hit Washington, D.C.
June 14 – 17, 2017

Enjoy an Eduvacation by taking this opportunity to see the sights of our nation's capital while exchanging leadership ideas and opportunities with other AAUW members.

For the latest information visit www.aauw.org or
www.facebook.com/AAUW.National.Convention.

President's Message

This month we celebrate 25 years of our community outreach program, Expanding Your Horizons. It will be held on February 25. Laura Cahill is your contact person, laura.cahill@hctra.org, to volunteer. I have been a member of our Branch for nine years, and we have had an average of 450 girls participate in this event each of those years. We do not have a way of knowing if this has touched these girls as they grow and mature. One thing is certain; we give them the opportunity to learn about careers that they may not have thought possible. They learn that they, too, can be a vital part of the community they live in. Teenagers have so many things in their lives today; social media, substance abuse, trends that are good and bad, and peer pressure. We present to them another alternative to their future, a future they may not have even known existed. We plant a seed and hope that it will take root. Every girl is worth our effort. Thank you to all of our volunteers who are working so hard to make this happen for these future young women.

I am sending warm feelings to a very special group of women this Valentine's Day. That would be you!

Nancy Guilloud, WHC Branch President



A BIG, thank you, West Harris County Branch members! Our year end donation tally to National is a whopping \$10,855.48. The top four funds' donations were: AAUW Funds (9110) - \$5,935.48, Ann Richardson Fellowship (4324) - \$1,120 and tied in donations were Educational Opportunities (4336) - \$1,675 and Lois List Fellowship (4282) - \$1,675. Your support of the AAUW mission is outstanding!

Mary Kain, Funds VP

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we report the death of Evelyn H. Tearnan, mother of AAUW West Harris County branch member Lynn Smith. Evelyn was an active member of AAUW WHC Branch from its early days until she moved to Dallas twenty years ago. She died in Dallas on January 13, 2017, at age 96.

Condolences may be sent to Lynn and Stan Smith, 6321 Sea Isle, Galveston, TX 77544. Gifts in memory of Evelyn Tearnan may be made to AAUW Funds and mailed c/o Mary Kain, 195 Litchfield Lane, Houston, TX 77024.

DIRECTORY UPDATES are ONLINE



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 Joanne Lane, Corresponding Secretary, about any member news that is important to share with the membership and has been authorized to share by the member involved.

Next WHC Branch Board Meeting
February 13, 2017

The next branch board meeting will be at the home of Nancy Guilloud, 11110 Tupper Lake, Houston 77042 at 5:30 p.m. All members are welcome. Please RSVP your attendance to nanquilloud@aol.com.

FEBRUARY 2017 Activities and Interest Group News

****NOTICE****

Effective in January, 2017, Memorial City Mall has asked all AAUW groups using their lots to begin parking in a newly designated lot that is located across the street from the mall on the south side of Barryknoll. It is a small triangular lot with the point of the triangle on the west side and the base on the east side. The lot is flanked by apartment buildings on the east side. Access to the lot is from Baryknoll. All county buses will also depart from this parking lot.

BOOK GROUPS



Afternoon Contemporary Literature

Wednesday, February 1, 1:30 p.m.

The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

Hostess: Dana Cutts, 311 Blue Willow Drive 713.785.5306

Contemporary Readers

Wednesday, February 1, 1:00 p.m.

Brooklyn by Colm Tolbin

Hostess: Judy Hamelers, 1126 Ben Hur Drive 713.464.2132

Enjoying History

Monday, February 13, 1:30 p.m.

Dear Leader by Jang Jin-sun

Hostess: Judy Ryan, 11805 Meadowglen Lane, #11805 281.416.4980

Evening Contemporary Literature

Monday, February 6, 7:30 p.m.

Being Mortal by Atul Gawande

Hostess: Roslyn Metchis, 110 Litchfield Lane 281.673.9971

Mystery

Tuesday, February 21, 1:30 p.m.

Let Me Die in His Footsteps by Lori Roy

Hostess: Carol Telfer, 12503 Shepherd's Ridge 281.497.5264

Outstanding Literature

Tuesday, February 14, 9:30 a.m.

Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy

BRIDGE GROUPS – Various



St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Sage & Woodway

Fee for each 6-week class course is \$120.00. Online registration and fee payment by credit card. For information contact Edith Dunlop, edunlop527@aol.com, or Joyce Ryan, jryan9620@sbcglobal.net, 713-977-3360, C - 713-301-0624.

MONDAYS: Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20
10:00 - 12:00 a.m. - Judgment Doubles

TUESDAYS: Feb. 4, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21
10:00 - 12:00 a.m. - Competitive Bidding

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. **BEGINNING BRIDGE** - Never played before - or 20 years ago? Learn modern methods of bidding and hand evaluation.

This the last Beginning Bridge until Fall.

BYWAY BIRDERS



Byway Birders will bird the Katy Prairie on Saturday, February 4.

The prairie is an amazing area for wintering waterfowl. Each year thousands of ducks and geese flock to the prairie from colder climates. We will meet at the parking lot of the Bear Creek Community Center at 8:00. We will bird there and then look for ducks at Paul D. Rushing County Park. Then we will head out to Warren Lake to look for pelicans, snow geese, hawks, caracaras and sparrows. Bring water and snacks. Lunch plans will be announced closer to the date depending on the weather. If you want to car pool from Memorial City, please work that out by using "reply all." We can also car pool from Bear Creek. Please let Diane Statham know if you plan to go. (distatham@msn.com, 281-497-6259, Cell 713-826-5066.)

A Weekend of Birding in the Hill Country.

Byway Birders will travel to Junction, Texas, May 7-9. We will visit Llano St Park to see spring migrants. It is a beautiful time of the year to be in the hill country. We are making reservations now. If you are interested, please contact Pat Dach, dachpd@hotmail.com or 281-701-5846 for more information.



A CINEMA EXPERIENCE



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.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



ExxonMobil Petrochemical Complex VIP Tour

This month's cultural trip on Thursday, February 16, will take us to the largest refinery and chemical complex in the United States, owned by ExxonMobil in Baytown, for a special VIP Tour arranged by WHC member and Exxon retiree, Jane Wood.

Our visit will start with a brunch at which our tour guide will provide us with a big-picture view of what happens at the complex and the varied array of raw materials and products that come into and out of the large port facility on the ship channel. This will be followed by a 45 minute driving tour of the facilities. There will be plenty of time to interact with our guides during the two hour visit. (Note: For safety reasons in the event of an emergency at the plant, you must be ambulatory. No wheel chairs or walkers.) Following our tour, we will lunch at the famous Teapot Depot in the Highlands, a restaurant which Jane highly recommends from prior visits there.

Our Precinct 3 bus will be ready for boarding at the newly designated Memorial City Mall parking lot that is located across the street from the mall on the south side of Barryknoll. Departure will be promptly at 8:00 a.m. We expect to return by 2:30 p.m.

To save your spot on the bus, contact Jane Wood at janewood@hal-pc.org or 832-767-4146. Guests will be welcome after members have claimed their seats on the bus.

Plus save Friday, March 24, for our "Observing Houston's Past" excursion when our favorite guide, Jim Parsons of Preservation Houston, will lead us on a walking tour of one of the earliest neighborhoods in the Museum District. Then, after lunch, we'll visit the Buffalo Bayou Park Cistern for a historic tour and to experience its newly-opened audio-visual installation, Rain. Watch the March newsletter for details or contact Martha Ewell at 713-782-2084 or marthaewell@att.net to sign up right now.

GARDEN DIVAS



The Garden Divas experienced a fantastic flower arranging class taught by Loretta Coussirat. The lesson was enjoyed by all and we certainly enjoyed the beautiful arrangements.

We were scheduled to learn about vertical gardening in February. Unfortunately, we need to move this outing to later in May. Watch the newsletter and/or email samboone@gmail.com to be included on the Diva mailing list.

GENEALOGY



Marilyn Collins, an experienced genealogy researcher, is the new coordinator who is reorganizing the Genealogy group this year. If you are interested in researching your family history, she will guide you in finding your ancestors using various techniques and resources. Please contact Marilyn at 281.556.8989 or marilync@hal-pc.org for information about the meeting day, time, and place.

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT



The Girls' Night Out group will NOT meet in February. Our next dinner is planned for Wednesday, March 8. We will meet the second Wednesday of every other month unless otherwise specified. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. These dinners are enjoyable and you are welcome, if space permits, to bring a prospective member as a guest.

If you would like to be added to the GNO mailing list, please contact Sheila Jaynes by email at sjaynes50@yahoo.com or by calling 281-392-3134 or by calling or texting 713-412-4586.

GOURMET DINING



Classic Gourmet

Classic Gourmet does NOT meet in February. Please join us Saturday, March 11, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. for our Fourth dinner in this year's series – Celebratory Dinners with Star Chefs. Our March dinner celebrates things coming up green featuring recipes from Martha Stewart. If you have questions contact the coordinators: Barbara Cook 713-782-4398 or Tina Simpson 281-558-1031.

Nouveau Gourmet

The Nouveau Gourmet dining group will NOT meet in February. The next dinner will be on Saturday, March 4. For more detailed information, please contact coordinator Diane Statham at 281.497.6259 or Cell 713-826-5066.

GREAT DECISIONS



Great Decisions is a small group discussion of current world issues. The guide is issued by the U.S. Foreign Policy Association each year. We meet in members' homes every two weeks from February through May. Due to increased interest, we are forming two evening groups this year.

Great Decisions North Evening Group: The North Group (A) will meet on Wednesday, February 1, at the home of Pat Dach at 7 PM where the topic of The Future of Europe will be discussed. Then, Wednesday, February 15, at 7 PM, the meeting will be held at the home of Linda Marlin where discussion will focus on Trade, Jobs and Politics.

Great Decisions South Evening Group: For detailed information about the February meetings of the South Group (B), please contact Willette Norman, 281.497.3626 or willetten@gmail.com.

Great Decisions Afternoon Group: The first meeting of the Spring 2017 Great Decisions Thursday afternoon group will be at Martha Ewell's house, February 2, 2017. The afternoon group will meet the first and third Thursdays of February, March, April, and May, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Martha Ewell at 713-782-2084 or m.ewell@sbcglobal.net for further details.

HIKING HONEYS



Memorial Park's Cambodian Trail is our destination for Thursday, February 16. We will meet in the newly designated Memorial City Mall parking lot at 9:30 AM. After about a two-hour hike, we will eat lunch at Beck's Prime Restaurant. Our hike leader is Diane Statham. Let her know if you wish to participate. Email distatham@msn.com.

For further information about Hiking Honeys, contact Gail Rickey, coordinator, at patrickey@aol.com.



Hiking Honeys at Edith Moore Sanctuary in January 2017

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

Diana Guarniere, Coordinator, guarniered@gmail.com

The Vicarious Voyagers will NOT meet in February. The group will meet on Thursday, March 30, to explore the Balkans guided by TV tour guide, Rick Steves. If you are interested in participating, please contact hostess, Carolyn Stoffel, 14602 River Forest Drive, c-stoffel@sbcglobal.net or 281.558.5666.

WINE, WOMEN & WISDOM



This group will not meet in February.

The group meets to enjoy beverages and enlightened conversation at McCormick & Schmick's City Centre location. 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, March 6, 2017. All AAUW members are invited to attend any or all of the Happy Hour events. Contact Marie Helmy at oolit3@att.net or 281-463-8842 or Jane Cooper at xicooper@aol.com or 281-531-8839.

WISE...



Women in Stem, Entertainment, Enrichment and Education

Our WISE leader, Susan Boone, hosted an Hour of Code snowflake creation party before the EYH meeting in January. This enhanced the Code Buddy Training at SBISD Tech Center sponsored by AAUW. Thank you to all who attended. See <http://knorth.edublogs.org/2016/11/20/hour-of-code-training/> for more information and to sign up as a volunteer.

Our main event for February is EYH on Saturday, the 25th. Please sign up to be a WISE facilitator or volunteer for this very important event.