

West Harris County Board of Directors

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April Newsletter Deadline:

March 15, 2017

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Stay Informed

Branch website:

www.aauw-whc.org

National website:

www.aauw.org

MARCH ANNUAL MEETING ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 7:00 PM

**Tracy Gee Community Center
3599 Westcenter Drive, Houston 77079**

Please plan on attending the branch's annual meeting on March 21, 2017. It is an important meeting as we will be electing officers to fill open positions. The nominating committee will present a slate of officer candidates (see page 2) and nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to voting. Also, the proposed branch document archival with the University of Houston library will be presented for membership approval. A quorum of 20% of branch membership (50 members) is required to vote on these issues.



Our featured speaker for this meeting will be Heloise Lynn, Ph.D., whose mother was an active AAUW member. Her topic will be *"Life Changes Through the Decades: Student – Wage Earner – Forest Dweller/Retiree...And Beyond."*

Heloise receiving award from the President of SEG

Heloise has worked 40+ years in the oil and gas industry, serving as a geophysicist analyzing reflection seismic data. As a consultant for the last 30 years, Dr. Lynn has worked field datasets from around the world: Saudi Arabia, Australia, China, Pakistan, North America, etc. In 2015, she was presented with the Fessenden Award by the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, for her life-time contributions on the analysis of field data containing evidence of azimuthal anisotropy. She attended Bowdoin College, Maine, for her BA (Geology-Math), and Stanford University for her MS and PhD (Geophysics).

She is married to Dr. Walter Lynn; their family includes Justin and Everett, each in their 30s. Her favorite hobby is long distance trail riding on her Arabian trail horse; yoga, bicycling, hiking, and swimming are also favorite activities. She currently winters in Texas with her horses, and summers in Colorado at their mountain ranch home.

Pat Thomsen, Programs Vice-President

SAVE THE DATE



**WHC Style Show
May 7, Sunday
6:30 to 8:30 PM**

Talbots in Town and Country Village

President's Message

"The time has come, the Walrus said, to talk of many things."



As I write this, EYH has enrolled over four hundred girls for the Expanding Your Horizons conference. Congratulations to Laura Cahill and her steering committee for a job well done. Many things in our Branch are coming to fruition and others are just in the planning stage. We have a wonderful slate of new officers, put together by Mary Anderson and her nominating committee. You will vote on these nominees at the March Branch Meeting. We will also vote on archiving our history with the Women's Collection at the University of Houston. We are continuing the work on the website, and the possibility of putting our Directory online. Name tags may take a new look, more to come as we work out the details. WHC has accepted the responsibility of co-hosting the AAUW State Convention, April 20-22, 2018. We will partner with North Harris County and Fort Bend County Branches. It will be held in a convention hotel in west Houston. Expect a call to lend your expertise and /or your time as a worker bee! Are you excited yet? If not, book your flight to D.C. in June and enjoy an amazing experience at the National Convention.

Nancy Guilloud, WHC Branch President

NOMINEES FOR 2017 ELECTION

The 2017 nominating committee proudly presents the slate of West Harris County AAUW branch officer nominees as presented to the Board of Directors:

President Elect: Sharon Jorgeson

Vice President Programs: Carolyn Stoffel

Finance Officer: Diane Roberts

Funds Vice Presidents: Hazel Chahar/Nancy Ennis

Corresponding Secretary: Jo Glidewell

I want to thank the committee members for their participation: Melba Armstrong, Cindy Hickok, Linda Morgan and Carolyn Morris. Election of officers will take place at the **March 21** membership meeting.

Mary Andersen, Nominating Committee Chair

No Longer in Boxes Under the Bed: AAUW WHC History

A positive vote to gift the AAUW West Harris County Branch documents to the M. D. Anderson Library at the University of Houston will have many benefits:

1. Protecting our records from age-related deterioration such as yellowing paper, fading photos, drying glue and tape
2. Preventing loss/misplacement of records over time
3. Becoming part of an important women's archive at a top-notch university library that already houses collections such as the Association for Women in Science, The Houston Heights Women's Club, Houston Area NOW and Other Feminist Activities Collection, River Oaks Business Women's Exchange Club, and many more
4. In time having access to searchable, digitized documents that make available our history and accomplishments to our members and to the broader public.

The Board recommends that AAUW West Harris County Branch gift the documents created by this branch since its inception in 1976 through 2015 and annually thereafter to the University of Houston M. D. Anderson Library for archiving in the Special Collections Department's Carey Shuart Women's Research Collection.

This proposal, unanimously approved by the Board, will be voted on at the **March 21, 2017**, meeting.

Martha Ewell, Historian



Charting the Course Campaign



Thank you! Goal reached!! The two-year **Charting the Course** campaign raised \$1 million in unrestricted funds ensuring that AAUW is well prepared to meet the issues facing us today and into the future. These unrestricted funds will be used wherever the need is greatest, empowering women in our communities, schools, workplaces, and positions of leadership and furthering the mission-based goals of AAUW.

Mary Kain & Hazel Chahar, Funds Vice-Presidents

March 2017 Activities and Interest Group News

****NOTICE****

Effective in January, 2017, Memorial City Mall 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. Access to the lot is from Barryknoll. **All county buses will also depart from this parking lot.**

BOOK GROUPS



Afternoon Contemporary Literature **Wednesday, March 1, 1:30 p.m.**

The Last Painting of Sarah De Vos by Dominic Smith
Hostess: Deanna Swindell, 1373 Country Place Drive
281.497.2318

Contemporary Readers **Wednesday, March 1, 1:00 p.m.**

Shadows of Damascus by Lilas Taha
Hostess: Judy Starr, 830 Edgewick Court
281.242.8242

Enjoying History

Monday, March 13, 1:30 p.m.
Victoria's Daughters by Jerrold Packard
Hostess: Pat Pease, 13 Litchfield Lane
713.824.1698

Evening Contemporary Literature **Monday, March 6, 7:30 p.m.**

The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah
Hostess: Tina Simpson, 14414 Carolcrest
281.558.1031

Mystery

Tuesday, March 21, 1:30 p.m.
Hunting Shadows by Chas. Todd
Hostess: Marilyn Arendt, 12414 Stafford Springs Drive
281.493.9090

Outstanding Literature

Tuesday, March 14, 9:30 a.m.
Isabella: The Warrior Queen by Kristin Downey
Meeting at The Egg and I, 9778 Katy Freeway, #600
713.461.3447

BRIDGE GROUPS – Various



BRIDGE GROUPS - LESSONS

All lessons at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Sage and Woodway. Fee for each 4 week course is \$80. 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: Mar. 27,, April 3, 10 and 24

10:00 - 12:00 a.m. - **Advancing Player 1** - Review bidding, competitive bidding, play of hand, defense.

TUESDAYS: Mar. 28, April 4, 11, and 25

10:00 - 12:00 a.m. - **Modern No Trump Bidding** - Ranges, responses, transfers, no trump slams.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. - **Bidding Review** - Fast paced class to review all aspects of contemporary bidding. Each session you will play 8 hands with supervision.

BYWAY BIRDERS



On **March 4** Byway Birders will travel to Jones State Forest and to Huntsville State Park for a day trip. Please contact Imelda Beauchamp, H 713-468-3709 or C 832-265-3664 imeldafb@gmail.com, if you plan to join the trip. We will meet at Memorial City in the designated parking lot at 8 a.m. More information about lunch plans will follow closer to that date.

On **April 21-23** we will be birding at High Island and Anahuac. We will travel to Winnie to stay at The Hampton Inn. This will enable us to get out earlier when the birds are more active and later when the birds arrive from their trip across the Gulf of Mexico. You can make reservations at their website or call the inn at 409-296-3525. You might check both to see where you get the best rate. If you can only stay one night you can do that as well. Please let Mary Dodson know if you are interested in joining the group. mpdodson@sbcglobal.net, 713-974-3089 or 713-516-4266.

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 migratory birds. 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 at 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



"Observing Houston's Past – Preservation Houston Neighborhood & Buffalo Bayou Park Cistern Tours"

Join us **Friday, March 24**, for our "Observing Houston's Past" excursion with our favorite guide, Jim Parsons of Preservation Houston, who will lead us on a walking tour of one of the earliest neighborhoods in the Museum District - The Turner Addition. It contains a fascinating variety of 20th century residential architecture ranging from picturesque 1920's suburban homes to modern and postmodern townhouses from the 1970's and '80s. The tour traces the development of the neighborhood and includes work by prominent architects.

Following lunch at the Kitchen at the Dunlavy by Lost Lake in Buffalo Bayou Park, we'll travel across the Bayou for the historic tour of the recently-restored Buffalo Bayou Park Cistern where we'll also experience the highly acclaimed multimedia art installation from the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, "Rain: Magdalena Fernandez at the Houston Cistern" which fills the cavernous underground reservoir with the sights and sounds of a rain-soaked night.

Cost for the day's events (excluding your lunch) will be \$30.00 payable in advance to Martha Ewell.

Our Precinct 3 bus will be ready for boarding at our new location on the south side of Barryknoll between Gessner and Memorial City Way, directly across from the Cinemark Theater in the Mall. Departure will be promptly at 10:00 a.m. We expect to return by 5:00 p.m. if commuter traffic cooperates.

This is proving to be a very popular event, so if you haven't already done so, contact Martha Ewell now at 713-782-2084 or m.ewell@sbcglobal.net to see if there's still room on the bus for you.

Plus, save **Friday, April 21**, when our "LaGrange At Large" day trip will include visits to the Quilt and Czech Museums, plus the Rohan Meadery. For details watch the April newsletter. Or contact Marie Helmy at 281-463-8842 or OOLIT3@att.net to reserve your seat on the bus right now.

GARDEN DIVAS



The Garden Divas will venture to the Buffalo Bend Nature Park on **Tuesday, March 7**. This unique 10-acre park, located near the Port of Houston Turning Basin, features wetland ponds, hike and bike trails, native plantings, interpretive signage and an overlook. Offering passive recreation and wildlife conservation, the site serves as a beautiful eastern trailhead along Buffalo Bayou.

After our Park visit, we will have lunch at the original Ninfa's in the 'East End'. The fajitas at the original Tex-Mex outpost on Navigation earn their cook the title of Mexican fare experts. Alongside the fajitas, staples like mole enchiladas, Oaxacan-style pork tamales, and jalapeño-stuffed Shrimp Diablo (not to mention the head-sized frozen margaritas) take some serious culinary chops, which means these dishes go far above and beyond Houston's other Tex-Mex eateries. Hope to see you at this event. Please contact Susan Boone smboone@gmail.com, to confirm your spot on our visit!

We will meet at Memorial City to carpool at 9:30 A.M. Please RSVP so I can email you directions for parking (or read the newsletter).

GENEALOGY



Marilyn Collins, an experienced genealogy researcher, is the 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 meet for dinner at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, March 8**, at Le Mistral French Restaurant at 1400 Eldridge Parkway, Houston, TX 77077, (832) 379-8322. The restaurant is located approximately two miles south of I-10 at Eldridge on the west side of Eldridge.

Please RSVP as soon as possible to Sheila Jaynes at sjaynes50@yahoo.com or call me at 281-392-3134 or call or text me at 713-412-4586. All members are invited to attend these dinners which are scheduled for every other month on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. If space permits, you may invite a friend as a potential new member of our branch. If you would like to add your name to our GNO mailing list, please contact Sheila Jaynes.

GOURMET DINING



Classic Gourmet

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

On Saturday, **March 4**, Nouveau Gourmet will meet for dinner at 6:30 p.m. at Bistro Provence, 13616 Memorial Dr. For more information contact Diane Statham at 281-497-6259 or distatham@msn.com.

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.

Great Decisions North Evening Group: *The North Group*

(A) will meet on **Wednesday, March 1**, at the home of Bette Liebgold at 7 PM where the topic of Conflict in the South China Sea will be discussed. Then, **Wednesday, March 15**, at 7 PM, the meeting will be held at the home of Pat Thomsen, where discussion will focus on Saudia Arabia in Transition.

Great Decisions South Evening Group

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

Great Decisions – Afternoon Group

The Thursday Afternoon Great Decisions Group meets the first and third Thursdays of each month through the month of May from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The discussion topics for March are *Conflict in the South China Sea* on **March 2, 2017**, and *Saudi Arabia in Transition* on **March 16, 2017**. Membership in this group is full for the remainder of the spring. Martha Ewell is the contact person.

HIKING HONEYS



Hiking Honeys will go north to Mercer Arboretum on **Thursday, March 16**. Our hike leader is Jane Campbell who is a volunteer at Mercer. Meet at Memorial City Mall in the triangular parking lot off of Barryknoll at 9 AM. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in this beautiful wooded park. If you can join the group, please let Jane know at drjmcamp@aol.com, 713-446-9591. For questions about Hiking Honeys, contact Gail Rickey, coordinator, at patrickey@aol.com.

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

On **Thursday, March 30, 2017**, at 6:30 PM, we will vicariously explore, along with our video host, Rick Steves, the lesser known corners of the former Yugoslavia – **Croatia, Bosnia and the best of Slovenia**. Please bring something to share for a light potluck supper. New members are welcome. **RSVP your attendance to our hostess for the evening:**

Carolyn Stoffel
14602 River Forest Drive
Houston, TX 77079
c-stoffel@sbcglobal.net

WINE, WOMEN & WISDOM



The group meets to enjoy beverages, snacks 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

WISE has completed its scheduled agenda for this year. Please contact coordinator Karen North at knorth@me.com if you would like more information about the goals, events and activities of the WISE group.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please update your directories with the following members' revised information:

Hebert, Martha

New Address: 17011 Apple River Drive
Cypress, TX 77433

Teague, Ann

Corrected Address: Houston, TX 77024

Also, please welcome new member, Robert (Bob) McNeil, husband of branch member Janice McNeil.

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 March 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 nanguilloud@aol.com.

***Cultural Activity: "Staying Alive
911 Call Center & Life Flight Tour
January 17, 2017***



WHC members were privileged to see a Life Flight land and then take a tour of the actual helicopter



Move your clocks forward one hour on March 12.