



West Harris County Branch

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

VOLUME XXXI NUMBER 5

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2017

West Harris County
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February Newsletter deadline:

January 15, 2017

Inside This Newsletter:

- EYH
- Election of WHC Officers
- Archiving WHC History
- Activities
- Directory Updates

Stay Informed

Branch website:

www.aauw-whc.org

National website:

www.aauw.org

JANUARY BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, January 21, 2017 at 10:00 A. M.
Tracy Gee Community Center – 3599 Westcenter Drive

Human Trafficking and Houston's Response

Human trafficking is modern day slavery.

Victims of human trafficking are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion, for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labor. Victims are young children, teenagers, men and women.

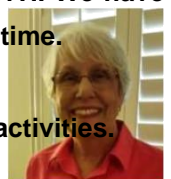
Human trafficking is a violation of basic human rights. It needs to be addressed from a human rights perspective that centers on efforts to restore the most basic human rights of a trafficked person...their human freedom.

Plan on attending the January branch meeting where Jaime Choate of United Against Human Trafficking will speak to us on Houston's response to this problem and UAHT's goal to end human trafficking through awareness, education and outreach.

President's Message

AAUW-WHC New Year's Resolutions for 2017

1. Each member volunteer at least three hours to help with EYH. We have over 400 girls counting on us. Email Laura Cahill to give your time. (Laura.Cahill@hctra.org)
2. Use our website for up-to-date news about our branch and activities. Susan Boone keeps the website full of branch and national news. (www.aauw-whc.org)
3. Learn how we hope to archive our forty years of Branch history.
4. Visit or go to at least one activity or cultural event a month. Our Branch has so much to offer. It is not only a learning experience, but a wonderful way to meet other members.
5. Check out the AAUW National Convention in Washington, D.C., June 14 – June 17. There are always inspiring speakers, cultural tour opportunities, and the exchange of ideas and insights with AAUW members from all around the United States.



Put on your roller skates and let's get busy in the New Year!

Nancy Guilloud, WHC Branch President

No Longer in Boxes Under the Bed: AAUW WHC History



The Special Collections Department of the University of Houston Library is seeking documents for the Women's Archive. Women's organizations such as the AAUW West Harris County Branch offer a unique view of women's ways of taking community action in the Houston area. Our branch has excellent sequential documents dating from 1976, such as history scrapbooks, minutes of meetings, photos, and miscellaneous documents. The U of H Library is very interested in obtaining these documents for their archival collection. If our branch chooses to donate these records, they would be digitized for online use and in doing so contribute to the study of women's accomplishments in the Houston area. The U of H Library would provide searchable, universal digital access to the rich history of our branch for our members and for the general public. Once donated, the documents become part of the permanent archival collection of the U of H Library's Special Collections where they are protected from further deterioration in the library's state-of-the-art archival storage facility. Any members wishing to view the original documents would have easy access to them in the Special Collections Reading Room in the M. D. Anderson Library located on the main campus. The Women's Archive is part of the Women's Archive & Research Center, established in 1996.

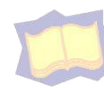
Following visits by some of our Board members to the Special Collections Department and discussions with Vince Lee, Archivist of Women's Studies at the M. D. Anderson Library, the Board has unanimously approved further investigation into archiving the branch's historical documents with the University of Houston Library. Over the course of the spring, the Branch membership will have the opportunity to learn more about this initiative and to vote approval to gift this material to the Library. This would be a great honor for our Branch and a way to preserve our history and make it easily accessible.

Martha Ewell, Historian

JANUARY 2017 Activities and Interest Group News

2016 has come to an end, so we put away our calendar filled with our daily activities and reminders of how we spent the year. So many memories are recorded on those pages to be revisited later. Now we reach for the new Calendar, 2017, with its blank pages to be filled with important items for each day: birthdays, notes, family activities, doctors' appointments and reminders of AAUW activities or interests that you want to include in your monthly plans.

Look at the interesting activities that are offered by our various groups this month. Whatever your interest, there is a group for you. Pick something that grabs your attention; contact the person coordinating that activity to participate. Then write that commitment on the first page of your brand new 2017 Calendar. Have a great year, day by day.



BOOK GROUPS

Afternoon Contemporary Literature

Wednesday, January 4, 1:30 p.m.

The Sympathizer by Viet Thanh Nguyen

Hostess: Linda Fosseen, 12514
Queensbury Lane 713.468.3273

Contemporary Readers

Wednesday, January 4, 1:00 p.m.

Circling the Sun by Paula McLain

Hostess: Margaret Gruss, 11805 Meadowglen
Lane #1310 281.580.0411

Enjoying History

Monday, January 9, 1:30 p.m.

Lawrence in Arabia, War, Deceit, Imperial Folly and the Making of the Modern Middle East by Scott Anderson

Hostess: Pat Dach, 6014
Ballina Canyon Lane 713.849.2679

Evening Contemporary Literature

Monday, January 2, 7:30 p.m.

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

Hostess: Linda Marlin, 1527
Maux Drive 713.465.9466

Mystery

Tuesday, January 17, 1:30 p.m.

Sweet Tooth by Ian McEwan

Hostess: Pat Dach, 6014 Ballina
Canyon Lane 713.849.2679

Outstanding Literature

Tuesday, January 10, 9:30 a.m.

Our Sours at Night by Kent Haruf

Hostess: Joanne Lane,
1214 Mossycup 713.461.1637

BRIDGE GROUPS – Various



LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NEW YEAR

All classes are at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Sage & Woodway, with online registration and fee payment by credit card. Contact Edith Dunlop (edunlop527@aol.com) or Joyce Ryan (jryan9620@sbcglobal.net, 713-977-3360, Cell 713-301-0624) if you have questions or need more information.

January

Mondays – Jan 9, 23, 30, Feb 6

10:00 – 12:00 a.m. – Beginning Bridge Practice Class
This is for you if you have taken a beginning class or played years ago but need a thorough review. Fast-paced.

Tuesdays – Jan 10, 17, 24, 31

10:00 – 12:00 a.m. – Play of the Hand
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Defense

The Jan classes are 4-week classes for a fee of \$80.

February/March

Mondays – Feb 13, 20, 27, Mar 6, 13, 20

10:00 – 12:00 a.m. Judgment Doubles

Tuesdays – Feb 14, 21, 28, Mar 7, 14, 21

10:00 – 12:00 a.m. – Competitive Bidding
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Beginning Bridge

The Feb/Mar classes are 6-week classes for a fee of \$120.



BYWAY BIRDERS

Birding Sheldon Lake

Our Birding group will meet on January 7, 2017, at 7:30 a.m. at Dillard's' parking lot for a trip to Sheldon Lake State Park. The park is located just off Beltway 8 at 14140 Garrett Rd. We should see numerous water birds as well as other birds and animals. The park, which was once a fish hatchery, has a number of trails highlighting diverse areas such as 28 naturalized fish ponds, restored coastal tall-grass prairie and wetlands. Please let Sharon Jorgeson (sjorgeson@gmail.com or 281-703-5939) know if you will meet at Dillard's' or at the park. We will plan to picnic at the park if weather permits. If it is too cold, we will eat at a nearby restaurant. We will contact everyone a few days before the event with a decision about picnicking or restaurant.

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

"Staying Alive" – 911 Call Center & Life Flight Tours

There's still time for you to join us on Tuesday, January 17, when we'll kick off the New Year with tours of these two important lifesaving entities. We'll start at the Harris County 911 Call Center where we'll be shown the complete facility and learn all about how it works. Following lunch, we'll then go to the Medical Center to the 12th floor of the Hermann Pavilion where the helicopters are located and learn just how our world-famous Life Flight service operates.

Between these fascinating stops, our lunch will be at Baba Yega Café where you can select whatever you want from their extensive menu.

Our Precinct 3 bus will be ready for boarding at the usual spot in the Memorial City Mall parking lot (Southeast corner at Barryknoll & Memorial City Way). Departure will be promptly at 9:30 a.m. We expect to return by 2:30 p.m.

If you'd like to be with us for what promises to be a very unusual, but important adventure, contact Nancy Ennis at 713-467-3698 or nrennis@gmail.com. Guests will be welcome after members have claimed their seats on the bus.

Plus save Thursday, February 16, for our special VIP Tour of the ExxonMobil Petrochemical Complex arranged by Exxon Retiree and WHC Member Jane Wood. Watch the February newsletter for details. Or contact Jane now at 832-767-4146 or janewood@hal-pc.org to reserve your seat on the bus.

GARDEN DIVAS



The Garden Divas will be meeting at 10:00a.m. on Tuesday, January 3, in the H.E.B. meeting room at Bunker Hill and I-10 (9710 Katy Freeway).

We will be starting off the new year with a hands-on class in flower design. Loretta Coussirat, a trained and experienced designer, will conduct the class, teaching basic design guidelines and helping us create our own lovely fresh flower centerpiece — yours to take home.

Please send your check for \$20 to Loretta Coussirat, 350 Wycliffe Drive, Houston 77079 by December 23 to reserve your spot. For additional details please contact Susan Boone, samboone@gmail.com or 713.460.3912 .

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 meet for dinner at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 11, at Liberty Kitchen at the Treehouse (more commonly known as the Treehouse) located at 963 Bunker Hill, Houston, TX 77024, (713) 468-3745. The restaurant is located just south of the I-10 feeder on the west side of Bunker Hill. We will be seated in the upstairs private room. Seating can be difficult in this popular restaurant, so we have been asked to limit our attendee list to twenty.

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 you would like to add your name to our GNO mailing list, please contact Sheila Jaynes.

GOURMET DINING



Classic Gourmet

Please join us Saturday, January 14, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. for our third dinner in this year's series – Celebratory Dinners with Star Chefs. Our January dinner is an Asian New Year celebration featuring recipes from Martin Yan. Our host will be Sharon Jorgeson. To be included or 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 meet on Saturday, January 7, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Betsy Duncan for a Taste of Cajun cuisine. For more information, please contact coordinator, Diane Statham at 281.497.6259.

GREAT DECISIONS



Great Decisions – Evening Group

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. Those north of I-10 near Beltway 8 will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evenings, and if you are south of I-10, the group will meet on 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Hazel Chahar at chahars@sbcglobal.net or call 713-294-0784.

Great Decisions – Afternoon Group

The afternoon group chaired by Martha Ewell, marthaewell@att.net, will not begin regular meetings until February, 2017. If you are interested in being part of this discussion group, please contact Martha for additional information and perhaps join the group. Look for more details in the February issue of the newsletter.

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.

DIRECTORY UPDATES are ONLINE**HIKING HONEYS** 

On Thursday, January 19, the Hiking Honeys will return to Buffalo Bayou just outside of Downtown for a 3 mile hike covering the middle section of the newly renovated fabulous park along the bayou. The trail is mostly paved and level. We will enjoy lunch at the equally fabulous Kitchen at the Dunlavy.

Plan to carpool from the Dillards' parking lot in Memorial City Mall, leaving promptly at 9 AM.

If you want to join us, please contact hike leader Jane Wood at 832-767-4146 or mail her at jane.wood@hal-pc.org.

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.

VICARIOUS VOYAGERS

An interest group for travelers

Diana Guarniere, Coordinator, quarniered@gmail.com.

The Vicarious Voyagers will meet Thursday, January 26, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. to experience travel in SWEDEN guided by TV tour guide, Rick Steves. The evening will begin with a light potluck supper. Please bring something to share with the group. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dana Cutts, dpcutts@gmail.com, 713.785.5306

WINE, WOMEN & WISDOM 

This group will not meet in January or 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

The next meeting of the WISE group will be February 25, 2017. The topic will be "Expanding Your Horizons Outreach." Look for more detailed information about the meeting in your February newsletter. You may also want to learn more about the topic at www.evhouston.org. For more information about WISE, contact Karen North at knorth@me.com.