



# West Harris County Branch

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

VOLUME XXXX NUMBER 10

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2016

## West Harris County Board of Directors

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713-974-0828

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**Pat Thomsen**

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**Joanne Lane**

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September Newsletter deadline:

**Aug 12, 2016**

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### **Stay Informed**

Branch website:

[www.aauw-whc.org](http://www.aauw-whc.org)

National website:

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

## SPRING RECOGNITION LUNCH

**Saturday, June 11, 2016 at 11:00 A.M.**

**Lakeside Country Club  
100 South Wilcrest Drive  
Houston, TX 77042**

We will honor the Baker-Telfer Scholarship recipients, install the new AAUW West Harris County Board, and enjoy an informative presentation from Andrea (Andie) Gardner of the International Longshoremen's Association.

The cost is \$35 and includes a choice of entrée (either meat or non-meat), dessert, and coffee or tea. The registration and payment deadline is May 27. Make your check out to AAUW-WHC and put "spring luncheon" on the memo line. Mail the check to Barbara Cook, 214 Big Hollow Lane, Houston, TX 77042. We will not be able to take your payments on the day of the lunch.

Pat Thomsen, Program Chair

## SAVE THE DATE



### **AAUW WEST HARRIS COUNTY BRANCH PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS COFFEE**

Saturday, August 27, 2016 9:30-11:30 a.m.

**MEMORIAL DRIVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Please contact Sheila Jaynes with the names of potential members who will then be invited to attend the event.

Email: [sjaynes50@yahoo.com](mailto:sjaynes50@yahoo.com)

Phone: 281-392-3134

Cell Phone: 713-412-4586

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We had a wonderful time at the AAUW-Texas Convention. West Harris County was recognized as 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state in funds donations. Those of us there attended great workshops about equal pay, diversity in universities, fundraising, and the



changing look of branches. The most interesting speaker was Ginger Kerrick, the assistant director for the International Space Station at NASA. An accomplished young woman, she has a fascinating story and is known for many firsts

in her career. As I close out my presidency, I take on another role as Texas V.P. of Funds. I look forward to this new adventure. Thank you for being such a wonderful group to belong to and making my job so easy! Happy Summer!

*Traci Jensen, WHC Branch President*

## EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS 2016



### Expanding Your Horizons in Science and Mathematics™

Looking for a great opportunity to volunteer? Join the EYH Steering Committee in planning for EYH 2017 - the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AAUW West Harris County branch's EYH. We are looking for volunteers to help with a variety of jobs to make this a great event for middle school girls. The event is a major outreach project for our branch and we would love for you to be a part of this special day. If you are interested, please contact Laura Fiorentino Cahill, EYH Committee Chair, at 832-755-3753 or by email at [Laura.Cahill1960@yahoo.com](mailto:Laura.Cahill1960@yahoo.com).

*Laura Cahill, 2016 EYH Chair*

## MEMBERSHIP

Congratulations West Harris County AAUW! We have been very successful recruiting new members this year and have the opportunity to award **THREE** free national memberships. You must have your dues paid by **June 11** or pay at the luncheon to be eligible to win the \$49 national dues. You can pay online, by check to Barbara Cook, or bring your dues payment to the Recognition Luncheon on June 11.



*Susan Boone, Membership Chair*

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL



It's that time of year -- as in time to renew your AAUW membership. As an AAUW member whose state and branch has opted to participate in the Membership Payment Program (MPP), you have an option of paying all of your dues - branch, state, and national - at once and online with a credit card.

There are three ways to renew your membership:

- 1) If you received an email from [memberinfo@aauw.org](mailto:memberinfo@aauw.org) with a dues reminder, click on the link in the body of the email and it will take you to the page to pay your dues. If all the information in the national database was correct, the email was sent on April 4. Some corrections were made and you may have received this email within the last week or two. If you think there is an error in the amount that you owe, please contact AAUW using the information shown in this email.
- 2) If you DID NOT receive this email, or do not have a copy of it now, you can access [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), choose "join" from the very top right, (or any of the other links on the page that say join, then choose the join/renew button on the next page). You will need to login to access the Membership Payment Program. If this is the first time to access the site, you will be asked to register. If you do not know your membership ID, there is an option to access it. You will then have an option to pay your dues online with a credit card. Make sure you include State and Branch
- 3) To renew by check, make your check payable to your AAUW branch, print the form attached to the back of this newsletter (page 7), complete it, and mail it to your branch finance officer listed below.

Barbara Cook  
TX7113 - West Harris County  
214 Big Hollow Lane  
Houston, TX 77042-1016

*Barbara Cook, Finance VP*





## FUNDS CORNER

### Ann Richards American Fellowship Fund (4324)

AAUW-Texas established an Educational Opportunities Foundation fellowship fund in honor of former Governor Ann Richards. In October, 2008, the AAUW National Board approved the Ann Richards American Fellowship and assigned fund number **4324**. Most of us remember the silver-big-haired governor. She was an outspoken advocate for women and minority rights. The Fellowship is fully endowed at \$200,000 and as of end of April, \$74,000 is needed to reach endowment. Donors of \$100 (or more) will receive a commemorative pin of a Texas lone star on a field of red, white and blue and philanthropy recognition for their Branch.

*Mary Kain and Nancy Guilloud, Funds VP's*

## 2016-2017 BRANCH DIRECTORY



All new information or corrections for current members for inclusion in the 2016-2017 Branch Directory must be in by **July 31**. Please review your contact information in the current directory. If any needed changes or corrections have not already been published in the newsletter during the past year, please email them to Mary Andersen, [mande7707@hotmail.com](mailto:mande7707@hotmail.com). Note: If your street address ends in Drive, Lane, Court, Street, etc. and this designation is not included in your present listing, members who are looking for directions to your house online may be misdirected.

The number of new members joining at the August coffee results in heavy input and it is a push to get all of the information in, proofed, and the new directory printed for distribution shortly after the new branch year starts in September. This is a good thing, but makes it necessary to have current member information up-to-date prior to the coffee. During the first weeks of August the editor must get all current member information updated and proofed. This includes deleting the information for non-renewing members. **As a result, those who have not paid their dues by July 31st will not be included in the new directory.** Directory information for those members who pay their dues after July will be published in the next edition of the branch newsletter.

*Mary Andersen, Directory Editor*

## VOLUNTEERING

Many of our members participate in tutoring and mentoring students in SBISD and HISD - from elementary to high school. Carolyn Stoffel had a particular challenge this past year under a



new SBISD program which helped integrate refugee children into American schools. She had already been mentoring and tutoring for several years at Nottingham Elementary when along with other volunteers and parents she was asked to participate in this program.

It started in January 2015 at another school with 18 students whose families were coming into the U.S. through the Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program. First they were taught about bathroom signs, where the cafeteria, gym and playground were, how to stay in line, how to use school supplies, etc. With the help of ESL teachers who taught them basic English and American school culture they were able to talk about families, siblings and their concerns.

This school year, 2015-2016, SBISD had 43 new refugee students with little or no English. The program was changed from ESL teachers only to one where volunteers could provide assistance in very small groups. Because the enrollment at Nottingham was low, the majority of the students were placed at that school.

Carolyn had already been tutoring a 4<sup>th</sup> grader there. When she and a dozen or so volunteers attended an orientation session, she wondered if she was up to the job. She was assigned three first graders - one spoke Swahili and two spoke Arabic. She said, "I rationalized these children have witnessed a lot of trauma in their young lives. They were excited to learn and we could undertake this journey together. I tried to make learning English a more fun experience by using games and activities that would stay with them moving forward." Although the children have made progress, it is uncertain as to whether they will return to Nottingham Elementary next school year. SBISD has not released information on the Refugee Program for September but if you have ESL training and wish to tutor or mentor, call Carolyn and or go to website and volunteer.

*Edith Dunlop, Volunteer Committee*



## **JUNE 2016 ACTIVITIES & INTEREST GROUP NEWS**

### **Vacation time and summer plans.**

Many of our groups will not meet again until our new 2016-2017 agenda begins in September. Please look for information about the upcoming events in the September newsletter.

Have you heard about some of the exciting things your friends are doing in one or more of our interest groups? Have you been thinking about trying something new this next year? Contact the coordinators of those groups that may be just what you are looking for to get more information and/or sign up to participate.

Leaders for all the groups are listed in the Directory, but if you have questions and/or would like help to make a connection, please contact Activities Coordinator, Jan Groves, 281-497-2295 or [jamgroves@aol.com](mailto:jamgroves@aol.com).

### **BREAKING NEWS!**

Barbara Hopkins and Pat Farnell have revived our movie lovers group. The first outing was to see *Money Monster* on Tuesday, May 17, at the Memorial City Cinemark Theater. If you want to be included on the contact list to share a movie experience with others who enjoy the cinema, contact Barb at 281.589.2523 or Pat at 281.496.7277

## **BOOK GROUPS**



### **Afternoon Contemporary Literature**

**Wednesday, June 1, 1:30 p.m.**

2016-2017 Book Selection Luncheon

Hostess: Susan Dunten, 1706 Rushbrook Drive  
281-497-9150

### **Contemporary Readers**

**Wednesday, June 1, 1:00 p.m.**

2016-2017 Book Selection Luncheon

Hostess: Beth Leachman, 12122 Boheme  
713.468.8483

### **Enjoying History**

**Tuesday, June 13, 12:00 Noon**

2016-2017 Book Selection Luncheon

Hostess: Mary Anderson, 5426 Wigton Drive  
713.503.8784

### **Evening Contemporary Literature**

**Monday, June 6, 6:30 p.m.**

2016-2017 Book Selection Salad Supper

Hostess: Barbara Hopkins, 12715 Skyknoll  
281.589.2513

### **Mystery**

**Tuesday, June 21, 1:30 p.m.**

2016-2017 Book Selection Meeting

Hostess: Carol Telfer, 12503 Shepherd's Ridge  
281-497-2268

### **Outstanding Literature**

The group will not meet again until September.

## **BRIDGE GROUPS – Various**



There are six active groups (women's and couples') which meet throughout the month on various afternoons and at night. If you would like to be a substitute for one of these groups, please call Edith Dunlop at 713.677.0753.

## **BYWAY BIRDERS**



Byway Birders will have a potluck dinner and planning meeting at Mary Dodson's on **June 18** at 6 p.m.. Please RSVP to Mary to let her know what you plan to bring. Bring your calendar and some good ideas. H 713-974-3089, C 713-516-4266 or [mpdodson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mpdodson@sbcglobal.net).

## **CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**



Our trip to Round Top for an afternoon concert by the Festival Hill Orchestra on **Saturday, June 11**, has been cancelled due to conflict with the rescheduled Branch Recognition Luncheon now set to be held that day. We hope to return to Round Top next June.

### **Cultural Activities 2016-17 Season Planning Meeting**

If you have ideas as to where you'd like one of our Cultural Activities trips to venture in the coming year, plan now to attend a meeting to be held on **Thursday, June 9**, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Cultural Chair, Priscilla List, 6923 Lawler Ridge, to set the 2016-17 schedule. In addition to ideas, volunteers will be needed to lead these trips, so be sure to bring your "giving" self, too. Please RSVP your plans to attend to Priscilla at [priscillalist@att.net](mailto:priscillalist@att.net) or 713-680-8681. If you have ideas, but can't attend the meeting, please be sure to let her know about those as well. Remember, there are no bad ideas!





## GARDEN DIVAS



The Garden Divas' June "outing" will be a bit early to try and beat the heat. We are going to Boone's Farm, also known as my place in the country, on **May 24**. It is a 2-1/2 hour drive from my house. We will begin planning for next year's activities. All are welcome to come for the day and even the night. Think a fun slumber party with fire pit and hot tub! We will have a stop in Georgetown at Our Lady of the Rosary Cemetery and get a chance to experience one of Williamson County's Master Gardener's projects. While there, you will enjoy a sack lunch that you prepared for the trip. Afterwards, we will visit and plan the outings for the 2016-2017 calendar year. It would be GREAT to get the dates and events in the directory!

Please contact me, [samboone@gmail.com](mailto:samboone@gmail.com), **before May 22** if you are interested in coming to the planning session. Carpools can be arranged and the group will leave Memorial City Thursday morning at 8:30. In the meantime, begin thinking of fun places to go or special events for 2016 - 2017.

## GENEALOGY



### **We need a leader. Will you take the job?**

The Genealogy Group will not meet again this year. News about the reorganized group will be published in a future newsletter. If you are interested in coordinating this group's activities focusing on research of family histories, please contact Jan Groves at [jamgroves@aol.com](mailto:jamgroves@aol.com).

## GIRLS' NIGHT OUT



The Girls' Night Out group will not meet again until September. Make your plans to join this group for some fascinating conversation and some fantastic dining venues.

All members are encouraged to attend our Girls' Night Out (GNO) 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 be on the GNO mailing list and haven't already signed up, please contact Sheila Jaynes.

## GOURMET DINING



**Both the Classic Gourmet Group and the Nouveau Gourmet Group will not resume their dinner plans until September.**

If you are interested in joining either of these groups, please contact the coordinators: (Classic) Tina Simpson 281-558-1031 or Barbara Cook 713-782-4398, (Nouveau) Diane Statham at [distatham@msn.com](mailto:distatham@msn.com) or 281.497.6259.

## GREAT DECISIONS



These groups which focus on current global issues that affect the United States will not begin meetings until February 2017. If you are interested in being part of these groups, contact Martha Ewell, [marthaewell@att.net](mailto:marthaewell@att.net), (afternoon) Hazel Chahar, [chahars@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chahars@sbcglobal.net), (evening).



## HIKING HONEYS

The Hiking Honeys' have no hikes planned until September. If you are interested in joining this active group, please contact Gail Richey at 281.440.0353



## 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@halpc.org](mailto:mlkain@halpc.org).



## VICARIOUS VOYAGERS

### **A travel interest group**

The Vicarious Voyagers have completed their 2015-2016 travel agenda. Information about the fascinating places that the group plans to explore next season will be published in the 2016-17 AAUW-WHC Directory.

For more information about the group, please contact Diana Guarniere at [guarniered@gmail.com](mailto:guarniered@gmail.com).



## WINE, WOMEN & WISDOM

Wine, Women & Wisdom is going to take a break until September. **The June 6 meeting is cancelled.** Contact Marie Helmy at [oolit3@att.net](mailto:oolit3@att.net) if you are interested in learning more about this group.



## WISE...

For information about the activities of this group during the coming months, please contact Karen North, [knorth@me.com](mailto:knorth@me.com).

## THE STYLE SHOW... WHAT A SUCCESS!



Despite the weather and competition from other events, the style show raised over \$1050 and that doesn't include Talbot's 10% donation on their proceeds of the night. Our Runway Mavens included Mary Andersen, Susan Boone, Hazel Chahar, Nancy Guilloud, Marietta Hostak, Carolyn Stoffel, and Carol Trujillo. They were superb. All in attendance seemed to be in a shopping mood! The final tally will be reported later. Thank you to all for your support.



### 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.*

To insure that you do not miss any communications from the Branch, please send updates or corrections to your contact information to Nancy Guilloud at [nanguilloud@aol.com](mailto:nanguilloud@aol.com).

*There will be no newsletter in July or August. Check us out in September.*





## July 2016-June 2017 Dues Notice

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Indicate type of membership	Member Type	TOTAL DUE	“Total Dues” includes		
			National	State	Branch
_____	Regular Branch Member*	\$70.00	\$49	\$10	\$11
_____	Paid Life Member*	\$21.00	0	\$10	\$11
_____	Honorary 50-Year Member	\$0.00	0	0	0
_____	Dual Member (WHC - secondary)	\$11.00	0	0	\$11

Write check payable to: **AAUW - WHC Branch.** Send this form with your payment to:

**Barbara Cook**  
**Finance Officer**  
**214 Big Hollow Lane**  
**Houston, TX 77042**

**Please consider including your annual contributions to our projects:**

- **Contributions** to AAUW Funds (*Educational Foundation & Legal Advocacy Fund,*) and *Baker-Telfer Scholarship* are most welcome. Please make donations in separate checks payable to AAUW Funds, or Baker-Telfer Scholarship, our local scholarship fund for one graduating girl from each of our primary school districts: HISD, SBISD and Alief ISD.

	Enclosed is my check for AAUW Funds. (Fully tax deductible on income tax)
	Enclosed is my check for Baker-Telfer Scholarship (Fully tax deductible)

- **AAUW Dues/Fees Tax Deductibility**  
**2016-17 Personal Tax Information\***

The following is tax information to assist you with your personal 2016 taxes.

**\*AAUW National Individual Membership dues for fiscal year 2016-17 are \$49:**

\$46 is tax deductible, and \$3 is not tax deductible (because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities). **AAUW National Life Membership dues (one-time payment) of \$980 are fully tax deductible.** Tax deductibility details for special AAUW membership promotions are specified **in the promotion information.**

**Questions? Ask Barbara, 713-782-4398, or [chefbjcook@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chefbjcook@sbcglobal.net)**