



# West Harris County Branch

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

VOLUME XXXXIII NUMBER 3

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2018

## West Harris County Board of Directors

President

**Sharon Jorgeson**

281.558.4382

[sjorgeson@gmail.com](mailto:sjorgeson@gmail.com)

President Elect

**Mary Peterson**

Program Vice President

**Carolyn Stoffel**

Membership Vice President

**Jo Glidewell**

AAUW Funds Vice-Presidents

**Nancy Ennis**

**Georgia Kimmel**

Recording Secretary

**Sara Dalton**

Finance Officer

**Diane Roberts**

Corresponding Secretary

**Suzanne Dalati**

Newsletter Editor

**Melba Armstrong**

[mkar@consolidated.net](mailto:mkar@consolidated.net)

December Newsletter Deadline:

**November 14, 2018**

## ***Stay Informed***

Branch website:

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

National website:

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

## ***NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING***

***\*Tuesday, November 27, 2018***

***7:00 P.M.***

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



Rev. Gregory Han a "half-Asian, Midwestern-raised, Jesuit-educated, Harvard-trained, Texas residing, Presbyterian minister" will present "***Faith in Our City: Houston's Religious Diversity and Communities.***" Since 2014 he has led the interfaith and interreligious dialogue and educational efforts at Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston as Director of Interfaith Relations.

***\*Please note that our Tuesday November 27 meeting date differs from that shown in the directory.***

*Carolyn Stoffel, Program Chair*

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Holiday Party***

***December 1, 2018***

***Saturday, 5:00pm***



The date of our branch Holiday Party has been changed from the traditional first Sunday in December to Saturday December 1, 2018. The change was made in deference to our Jewish members who will begin the celebration of Hanukkah on Sunday December 2.

Please refer to the flyer at the end of the newsletter to get all the details regarding the party.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall is in the air and our branch members are participating in all we have to offer. As you enjoy our many activities, please take a moment to thank the hard working and committed folks who work behind the scenes to make our branch so successful. Here are a few of the many. By now you should have received your 2018-2019 directory. Mary Andersen again edited and produced this much anticipated publication. Nancy Guilloud spearheaded its distribution. Melba Armstrong puts her editing and graphic talents toward our monthly newsletter. You are all treasures.



The Expanding Your Horizon committee is now in full swing preparing for our conference on **Feb. 23, 2019**. Presenters are being recruited, new funding sought and logistics worked out. Please keep the date open as many volunteers will be needed the day of the conference.

Your board continues to work for you. The Procedures and Policies have been updated and a group of dedicated folks are in the process of writing a new branch 5-year strategic plan.

If you missed the Harvest Moon Ball, you can still make a donation to AAUW Funds and to the Baker-Telfer Scholarship Fund. For a description of these branch philanthropic endeavors and where to mail your check, please see pages 4 & 5 of your directory.

Please note that the November branch meeting has been changed to **Tuesday, November 27, 2018**. The program starts at 7:00 pm but come early for fellowship and snacks. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but sometimes these changes are out of our control.

A change we decided to make is the date of the Holiday Party. Traditionally, we have it the first Sunday in December. This year that date falls on the first day of Hanukkah. To respect our Jewish members, we have rescheduled the party to **Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018**. Check out the invitation elsewhere in this newsletter for time and place.

*Sharon Jorgeson, WHC Branch President*

### Next WHC Branch Board Meeting November 12, 2018

The next branch board meeting will be at Sharon Jorgeson's home, 12518 Honeywood Trail, Houston, TX 77077 at 6:00 p.m. All members are welcome. Please RSVP your attendance to [sjorgeson@gmail.com](mailto:sjorgeson@gmail.com).

## EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS

### SPOTLIGHT ON EYH!!

Here we are at our EYH "Fund-A-Thon" at the home of Fundraising Committee Chair, Rose Ennis. Rose called for a day of filling out grant applications in paper and online. We met at Rose's house on October 6 and spent a day filling out forms and uploading documents. We completed five funding applications! Thank you to Rose Ennis and Mary Anderson!!



Which reminds me, EYH is still looking for sponsors and underwriters. If you work for, or have a contact with, a corporation that supports education in the community, please let them know about EYH. It's so helpful to have a contact inside a company that we can connect with and then find out about the company's community giving program. Please think about your connections to the corporate world and contact Rose or myself and we can do the rest. Thank you

*Lilian Care, EYH Chair, 2018-2019*



## AAUW FUNDS CORNER

Did you know that you can help fund the AAUW Funds while you grocery shop??

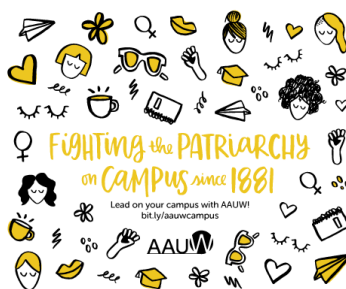
At Randalls, you can link our Good Neighbor number, 1427, to your Remarkable Card.

At Kroger, our Community Rewards number is QY091. You can link it to your Kroger Card.

Let us know if you have questions.

*Nancy Ennis & Georgia Kimmel, AAUW Funds VPs*

## **PUBLIC POLICY**



### **1920 – Votes for Women!**

2018 – 98 years later. We have votes, but do we have equality? We do not yet have an Equal Rights Amendment. We do not yet have equal pay. We do not yet have anything close to equal representation. We are still forced to fight for reproductive rights and other rights that are being taken away. Where does AAUW stand on these issues and is the organization still relevant and necessary today?

Several of these factors have come to startling light in Oct. when Dr. Donna Strickland won the Nobel Prize in Physics – only the third woman in 117 years. At present Dr. Strickland is an *associate professor* of physics at the University of Waterloo, with, I assume a similarly uninspired salary. Why is Dr. Strickland not a full professor? She has stated that she never asked to be. But we can question whether the University ever identified her, mentored her or nurtured her to progress.

AAUW works on the pay gap – which is still at 80 cents for women to \$1.00 for men. Low salaries don't only affect women day-to-day; they are a huge part of the reason women have far lower retirement savings and benefits. AAUW Salary Negotiation Workshops are held at colleges around the country.

STEM representation for women is low – physics is a notable example as a field with one of the lowest representations of women. AAUW helps women in STEM fields through research and grants.

(NOTE, THE FOLLOWING ISSUES ARE NOT CONNECTED TO DR. STRICKLAND – BUT THEY ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO WOMEN ON CAMPUS BOTH AS STUDENTS AND IN ACADEMIA.)

On another topic, campus sexual harassment/assault is a huge problem on college campuses (20% - 25% of college women and 15% of college men are victims of forced sex during their time in college with 90% unreported) . Click [here](#) to read a recent article from the San Jose *Mercury News* that details the prevalence, focusing on tech & STEM.

THIS IS ANOTHER ISSUE WHERE AAUW IS ON THE FRONT LINES, BRINGING THE PROBLEM TO LIGHT, PROTECTING WOMEN, INCLUDING AN ENDING CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT TOOL KIT, AND ADVOCATING FOR THEIR RIGHTS. IN ADDITION AAUW'S LEGAL ADVOCACY HELPS WOMEN FIGHT DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT IN THE COURTS.

Finally, equal representation. The United States ranks 104<sup>th</sup> (ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH!) in the world in female representation in government. Right now we have 23 female senators – not even 25% - and yet we are 51% of the population. In the House the number is 84 – not even 20%. This year we have record numbers of women running. We have an opportunity to start righting this egregious wrong. AAUW, founded in 1881, was active in the then radical fight for the right of women to vote. Let's use it!

West Harris County Branch is mostly white, certainly privileged, and mostly retired. Yet I see active women in our group working, in step with the AAUW mission and policies, to help other women on all the issues mentioned above. I am impressed and inspired. We fight so that our granddaughters and great-granddaughters (hopefully) won't have to.

*Roslyn Metchis/Pat Farnell/Dorothy Lauterbach, Public Policy*

## November 2018 Activities and Interest Group News

### BOOK GROUPS



#### Afternoon Contemporary Literature

**Wednesday, November 7, 1:30 p.m.**

*The Stars are Fire* by Anita Shreve

Hostess: Linda Fosseen, 12514 Queensbury Lane

713.468.3273

#### Contemporary Readers

**Wednesday, November 7, 1:00 p.m.**

*The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn

Hostess: Patty Cordrey, 202 Galveston Crossing #311

281.216.6102

#### Enjoying History

**Monday, November 12, 1:30 p.m.**

*Putin: His Downfall and Russia's Coming Crash*

by Richard Lourie

Hostess: Cindy Hickock, 523 Briar Path

281.493.2525

#### Monday Evening Contemporary Group

**Monday, November 5, 5:00 p.m.**

*Turtles all the Way Down* by John Green

Los Tios Mexican Restaurant, Memorial Drive at Kirkwood

#### Mystery

**Tuesday, November 20, 1:30 p.m.**

*False Witness* by Dorothy Uhnak

Hostess: Frances Mayberry, 7915 Windy Creek Drive

713.466.6844

#### Outstanding Literature Group

**Tuesday, November 13, 9:30 a.m.**

*Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren

The Egg and I, 9099 Westheimer Rd @ Jeannetta

### BRIDGE GROUPS – Various



#### Current Bridge Groups:

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday (7:00 p.m.)**, Jane Judson, 713.828.8267

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday (10:30 a.m.)**, Peg McNealy, 281.679.7299

**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday (10:00 a.m.)**, Melba Armstrong, 281.392.3190

If you are interested in playing with a particular group, please contact the group coordinator listed above.

### BYWAY BIRDERS



On **November 15-19**, the Byway Birders will travel to the Rio Grande Valley to see birds like Green Jays, King Birds, and Cactus Wrens. We will be using the Hampton Inn in McAllen as our base. If you are interested in joining us, make your reservations at the Hampton Inn and let Edie O'Brien know that you plan on going. We include spouses and friends on our trips. These are some of the areas that we may visit as time allows.

#### Edinburg Scenic Wetlands & World Birding Center

#### Quintana Mazatlan World Birding Center

#### Bentsen Rio Grande State Park

#### Estero Llano Grande State Park

#### Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge

#### Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge

We also hope to arrange a trip on the Rio Grande by pontoon boat. Please contact Edie at 281.496.0942 or [medieobrien@att.net](mailto:medieobrien@att.net) for additional information or to join the group for this exciting trip.

### GARDEN DIVAS



The Divas are visiting "In the Garden" on **Tuesday, November 13**. This delightful nursery has been in the Spring Branch area since 1999. The nursery focuses on local growers and artists. We will enjoy a delightful introduction to this quaint garden and a history of it given by the owner Suzan Galvan. 1405 Cedar Post Lane, 77055.

After our visit we will visit a local family owned restaurant - Polonia; serving such Polish favorites as pierogi, golanki (cabbage rolls), original polish sausage, bigos (hunter stew) and many more delightful entrees.

Meet for carpooling in the Memorial City Satellite Lot South of Sears. **We will leave at 9:30.** To RSVP, email [smboone@gmail.com](mailto:smboone@gmail.com).

### GIRLS' NIGHT OUT...

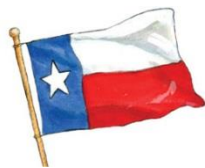


The Girls' Night Out group will meet for dinner at **7:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, November 15**, at Union Kitchen. The restaurant is located at 12538 Memorial Drive (713.360.2000). Happy Hours are 3:00-7:00 p.m. You can get directions to the restaurant and also peruse the menu on their web site at [The Union Kitchen](http://TheUnionKitchen.com).

Please make plans to join the group for an evening of good food and interesting conversation. All AAUW members are welcome. Please email or call Jan Groves ([jamgroves@aol.com](mailto:jamgroves@aol.com) or 281.497.2295) by Saturday evening, **November 10** to reserve your place at the GNO table.



## CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



### New Texas State Museum at San Felipe de Austin

Last spring this wonderful museum celebrating the site on the Brazos

River that Stephen F. Austin chose for his settlers was officially opened. WHC Member, Jane Wood, a noted history buff, was there and raved about this great new repository for Texas history. Now, you'll have the opportunity to be the first on your block to see it when Jane leads our Cultural Activities group there on **Tuesday, November 13** for a day of exploring and learning.

We'll travel to San Felipe de Austin on a Precinct 3 bus which we'll meet, as usual, on the south side of Barryknoll between Gessner and Memorial Way, directly across from the Cinemark Theater in Memorial City Mall. **Departure will be promptly at 8:45 a.m. and we expect to be back around 3:00 p.m.**

Following a guided tour of the museum, we will enjoy a country lunch on site along with a talk from the Site Manager.

If you are interested in joining us, please send an email to [jane.Wood9@icloud.com](mailto:jane.Wood9@icloud.com) or call 832.767.4146. Cost for the day's adventure, which includes the usual \$1.00 for our driver's lunch, is \$23 which will be collected as you enter the bus. You can pay in cash (exact change, please!) and/or by personal check made out to Jane L. Wood. All Aboard!

### December – Houston Chamber Choir Christmas Concert at the Villa de Matel

**Back by popular demand!** Our enjoyment for prior years' visits to this annual concert has inspired us to repeat the experience. If you missed it before – or even if you were there – you'll want to save **Saturday afternoon, December 8**, for this year's totally new concert. Our leader once again will be Barbara Butler with her able assistant Martha Hebert. Watch the December newsletter for details. Or, if you want to be sure to be there, contact Barbara at 713.305.0570 or [barbarabutler1959@att.net](mailto:barbarabutler1959@att.net) now.



## GOURMET DINING

### Classic Gourmet

Please join us **Saturday, November 10, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.** for our second dinner in this year's series: "I Hear America Cooking." Our dinner will focus on foods from San Francisco. Our hostess will be Misako Ajouz. If you have questions please contact the coordinators: Tina Simpson, 281.558.1031 or Barbara Cook 713.782.4398.

## GOURMET DINING Continued

### Nouveau Gourmet

Our Nouveau Gourmet dinner will be hosted by Laura Cahill at her home, 2806 Manila, on **Saturday, November 3**, at 6:30 p.m. The theme will be Spanish cuisine. Please RSVP to Diane Satham at 281.497.6259 or [distatham@msn.com](mailto:distatham@msn.com) if you wish to attend.

## 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. The groups meet twice a month from February to May.

The AAUW West Harris County Branch has three discussion groups: a first and third Thursday afternoon group (2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.), chaired by Martha Ewell; a second and fourth Tuesday afternoon group (2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.), chaired by Pat Thomsen; and a second and fourth Wednesday evening group (7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) chaired by Willette Norman.

The briefing books and DVDs for Spring 2019 are published in late fall and can be ordered through the group leader, purchased directly from the Foreign Policy Association at [www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org), or purchased from the Brazos Book Store. More information will be available later in the fall.



## HIKING HONEYS

On **Thursday, November 15**, the Hiking Honeys will travel to Sheldon Lake State Park, which is 19 miles from downtown Houston. We will hike along trails, decks and bridges over and around 27 naturalized ponds. The ponds furnish diverse habitats and excellent bird-watching. The trails are flat and comprised of decomposed granite. Hiking time is approximately 1 ½ hours. Afterward, we will either picnic or have lunch at a nearby restaurant. We will meet at 9 AM at the triangular parking lot off Barryknoll behind Memorial City Mall.

The hike leader is Sara Dalton. Please contact her if you would like to join us on this hike. She can be reached at [dalton.sara@comcast.net](mailto:dalton.sara@comcast.net) or 281.693.3824. We hope you can join us.

## **MAH JONGG MAVENS**



Mah Jongg MAVENS: Learn to play the American version of this ancient game. Our members are always willing to teach beginners who want to join the group. Contact Mary Kain, [mlkain@hal-pc.org](mailto:mlkain@hal-pc.org) or 713.824.3988, to add your name to the email list. Tiles are supplied and you may borrow a card to begin playing with us. We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of each month, 1:00-4:00 p.m. at Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road at Westview.

## **VICARIOUS VOYAGERS**



**An interest group for travelers**

Coordinator: Diana Guarniere, [guarniered@gmail.com](mailto:guarniered@gmail.com)

**The group will not meet in November or December.** The next meeting will be **January 31, 2019**. Details of the travelers' vicarious visit to Italy will be published in the January newsletter.

## **WINE, WOMEN & WISDOM**



Come and join us at McCormick & Schmick in City Centre on **Monday, November 19**, starting at 4:00 pm. We meet to enjoy conversation and the Happy Hour food and beverage menu. All are welcome. Parking is free in the garage.

For more information, contact Marie Helmy at 281.787.6396 or Dorothy Lauterbach at 512.217.7899.



.....**WISE...**

**Women in STEM,**

**Entertainment, Enrichment and Education**

**December 3-9, 2018: Celebrate Computer Science Education Week** - volunteer in a local school as a Code Buddy. Starting in elementary school, social norms, gender biases, institutional privilege, and other factors reduce girls' exposure to Technology, Engineering, and Computer Science. If you would like to lend a helping hand please contact Karen North. For additional information or to be added to the email list, contact Karen North at [knorth@me.com](mailto:knorth@me.com) or 713.789.6482.



**Set clocks back November 4!**

## ***WELCOME***

We wish to extend a warm and enthusiastic welcome to the following new member of West Harris County Branch. We encourage you to become involved with some of the branch's many projects and activities. We are happy to have you with us.

### **Shirley Matthews**

1019 Memorial Village Drive

Houston, TX 77024

Home Phone: 713.465.9859

Email: [7134659859@gmail.com](mailto:7134659859@gmail.com)

**Please add Shirley to your 2018-2019 directory.**

## ***DIRECTORY UPDATES***

Please make the following revisions to your 2018-2019 directory:

### **Cordrey, Patricia L. (Patty)**

New Address: 202 Galveston Crossing #211

Houston, TX 77077

New Email: [plcordrey1@gmail.com](mailto:plcordrey1@gmail.com)

Delete Home Phone

### **Dalati, Suzanne G.**

New Address: 14855 Memorial Drive, Apt. 2309

Houston, TX 77079

### **Dodson, Mary**

Corrected Address: 202 Galveston Crossing #314

Houston, TX 77077

### **Nayak, Neethi**

Corrected Address: 2121 Allen Parkway Apt 3007

Houston, TX 77019

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](mailto:AAUW.Margaret.Carlson@gmail.com).

### **Member News Notification**

Please notify **Suzanne Dalati**, Corresponding Secretary, at [sdalati@att.net](mailto:sdalati@att.net), about any member news that is important to share with the membership and has been authorized to share by the member involved.



## Holiday Party

December 1, 2018

Saturday, 5:00pm



Happy Holidays

Yao Restaurant  
9755 Westheimer Rd.

\$30.00 per person(spouse/guest invited)

Send check made out to AAUW-WHC to:

Diane Roberts

Finance Officer

5607 St. Paul Street

Bellaire, TX 77401

