



West Harris County Branch

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

VOLUME XXXXIII NUMBER 5

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2019

West Harris County Board of Directors

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February Newsletter deadline:

January 15, 2019

Stay Informed

Branch website:

www.aauw-whc.org

National website:

www.aauw.org

JANUARY BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, January 26, 2019, 9:30 AM

Tracy Gee Community Center

3599 Westcenter Drive

Saving Police Lives



Sarah Cortez transitioned from a corporate life of big salary and relative safety to strap on a uniform and gun to be a police woman in a highly populated man's profession. She has written books and many poems of the humanism part of the life she has witnessed since becoming a public figure as a police woman.

Join us on **Saturday, January 26, 2019**, to hear Sarah's view of the life she has seen and to enjoy a potluck lunch with fellow branch members. Please bring something to share such as a casserole, salad, or dessert.

Please note that the meeting date of the January meeting has been changed to January 26 at the scheduling request of the Tracy Gee Center. The meeting was advertised in the directory as being on January 19.

Be Part of the Decision-Making Process

The members of the Nominating Committee for AAUW-WHC Branch positions to be elected at the Annual Meeting in **March 2019** are: Pat Farnell, Chairman, Mary Peterson, Laura Cahill, Diana Guarniere and Jane Wood. Please consider becoming a part of the future of our branch by volunteering yourself for a position or put forth the name of a member that you feel would do a good job for one of the available positions.

- **President-elect:** a one-year term followed by a one-year term as Branch President
- **VP for Programs:** a two-year term
- **Finance Officer:** a two-year term
- **VP for AAUW Funds (1):** a two-year term
- **Corresponding Secretary:** a two-year term

If you are interested or want to suggest someone else for a position, please contact Pat Farnell at farnellpat@gmail.com by **January 15, 2019**. Please feel free to contact Pat or any other member of the nominating committee if you want more information about these positions.

Pat Farnell, Nominating Committee Chair

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"Cheers to a new year and another chance to get it right."
Oprah Winfrey

AAUW-WHC New Year's Resolutions for 2019

- Make a memorial donation to the Baker-Telfer Scholarship Fund in honor of Carol Telfer.
- Volunteer to be a facilitator for our Expanding Your Horizon Conference. Email Gail Rickey to participate. (patrickey@aol.com)
- Reach out to a fellow member who does not drive and offer transportation to a branch meeting or activity.
- Introduce yourself to a new member or another member you do not know.
- Consider becoming a branch leader and accepting a board position whether as an elected officer or committee chairperson.
- Check out AAUW's website (www.AAUW.org) to keep abreast of policies concerning issues that are important to women.

I wish each of you and yours a very happy new year and one that brings you good health and many new adventures as a member of AAUW-WHC Branch.

Sharon Jorgeson, WHC Branch President



*It is with great sadness that we note the death of one of our branch's most beloved members,
Carol Telfer.*

Carol passed away on December 20, 2018, after a short illness. She was just six days short of her 90th birthday.

Carol, while not a charter member, joined AAUW West Harris County Branch (WHC) during its first year, 1976. In the ensuing forty plus years, Carol has been one of the branch's most active members, having held the office of Treasurer, chaired Expanding Your Horizons (EYH), and having served on numerous committees and in other supporting roles. She managed the branch website for more than six years. During that time, WHC was recognized by AAUW Texas as having the best branch website and was awarded the Excellence in Education Award for Website at the 2004 AAUW Texas Convention. In 2003 Carol was nominated and was chosen as a finalist for the Parade Magazine/NFL Community Quarterback Award for her volunteer activities through AAUW and was recognized during half-time of the Houston Texans football game. For many years Carol greeted members and made sure that all who attended branch meetings and EYH events had nametags.

In 1994 Carol and Arlene Baker established the Baker-Telfer Scholarship as an AAUW West Harris County Branch initiative for local scholarships to be awarded to young women entering college and planning to major in mathematics or science. Carol and Arlene initiated the scholarship fund as a memorial to their sons, both of whom passed away at the age of 30.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Carol's family at this difficult time. May they be blessed with comfort, peace, and joyful remembrances of Carol.

If you would like to make a memorial donation in Carol's honor, the family has noted the Baker-Telfer Scholarship Fund as a preferred recipient. Checks may be sent to:

Pat Dach
6014 Ballina Canyon Lane
Houston, TX 77041.

EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS 2019

AAUW Needs YOUR Help – Saturday, February 23!

The task is easy. The commitment is short. The rewards are long-lasting: knowing that you have helped inspire girls in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade to envision careers in science, technology, engineering, and math.

EYH - Exploring Your Horizons - is our branch's main community outreach project. It is a one-day educational event designed to encourage middle school girls to pursue STEM careers. For many girls, EYH opens their eyes to possibilities for their future.

The EYH Steering Committee, headed by Lilian Care, began meeting in September to plan the 2019 event. We recruit approximately 50 presenters - women in the community who work in STEM careers. On EYH day, the 350 girls who attend take four different sessions, each led by a presenter or presenter team. They learn what it means to be a geologist or an engineer or a nurse practitioner. What skills do you need to have? What kind of education should you get? Where can you get a job? How much does it pay? Presenters do an excellent job of making the sessions interesting, with hands-on activities to get the girls involved.

We need a facilitator to assist each presenter or presenter team. A facilitator is essentially a classroom aide who handles details: making sure the girls are in the right classroom, handing out supplies at the direction of the presenter, distributing evaluation forms.

The job of facilitator is easy, BUT it is essential to the success of the event.

EYH is on **Saturday, February 23, at Spring Forest Middle School, 14240 Memorial Drive**. You can sign up to be a facilitator for morning sessions, afternoon sessions, or both. I will have a short training for new facilitators a few weeks before the event so that you can locate the school, meet other facilitators, and make sure you understand your responsibilities on EYH day.

Will you volunteer? Please contact me to sign up at patrickey@aol.com, or call me at 281.440.0353.

Gail Rickey, Coordinator of EYH Facilitators, 2019

2018 EYH Facilitators



Pam Doan, Gail Rickey, Marietta Hostak



Linda Fosseen



Lilian Care, EYH Chair, Jane Wood, Facilitator Coordinator

JANUARY 2019 Activities and Interest Group News

Jan Groves, Activities Coordinator

BOOK GROUPS



Afternoon Contemporary Literature

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

The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu by Joshua Hammer

Hostess: Cynthia Hickok, 523 Briar Path

281.493.2525

Contemporary Readers

Wednesday, January 2, 1:00 p.m.

Before We were Yours by Lisa Wingate

Hostess: Nancy Ennis, 1122 Ben Hur Drive

713.467.3698

Enjoying History

Monday, January 14, 1:30 p.m.

Killers of the Flower Moon: the Osage Murders and

The Birth of the FBI by David Grann

Hostess: Pat Dach, 6014 Ballina Canyon Lane

281.701.5846



Monday Evening Contemporary Group

Monday, January 7, 5:00 p.m.

'Round Midnight by Laura McBride

(*In the Midnight Room* is the same book in paperback now.)

Los Tios Mexican Restaurant

Memorial Drive at Kirkwood

Mystery

Tuesday, January 15, 1:30 p.m.

Midnight at the Bright Ideas Bookstore by Matthew Sullivan

Hostess: Pat Dach, 6014 Ballina Canyon Lane

281.701.5846

Outstanding Literature Group

Tuesday, January 8, 9:30 a.m.

Jude the Obscure by Thomas Hardy

The Egg and I, 9099 Westheimer Rd. at Jeannetta

BRIDGE GROUPS – Various



Current Bridge Groups:

1st Thursday (7:00 p.m.), Jane Judson, 713.528.6105

3rd Thursday (10:30 a.m.), Peg McNealy, 281.679.7299

3rd 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. Remember if you want to play easy relaxed bridge, there are foursomes playing at Tracy Gee every Wednesday. Just get on the sub list by letting Melba Armstrong know you are interested.



BYWAY BIRDERS

February Birding

Byway Birders will visit San Bernard and Brazoria National Wildlife Refuges on **Saturday, January 12**. We will meet at the parking lot on Barryknoll across from Memorial City Mall at 7:30 AM in order to be at the refuge by 9AM. We will eat lunch at a restaurant near the San Bernard River. Please contact Miriam Vyles 713.461. 2108 or mvyles@att.net.

In February, the Birders will visit the Aransas NWR and the Fulton/Rockport area. We will stay at the Fulton Inn and take a boat trip to see the whooping cranes and other birds. The boat captain is a good guide and very helpful in pointing out birds. We will leave **Friday, February 8**, returning on Sunday the 10th. If you plan to go on this trip, please contact Peg McNealy, peg525@gmail.com, soon and make your reservations at the Fulton Inn for two nights. There are no rooms reserved, so check for the best rate.

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Byway Birders traveled to the Rio Grande in November 2018
Pat Dach, Pat Pease, Mike Dach, Miriam Vyles, Peg McNealy



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

"Multi-Media Day" -- Tours of KPRC Channel 2 Broadcast Studios and The Printing Museum.

If you're a news junkie -- or even if you're not -- you'll want to join us on **Wednesday, January 16, 2019**, for this enlightening adventure in terms of discovering how we learn now -- and in the past -- about what's going on around us when we get an inside look at both the latest in broadcast and the earliest in print media techniques. We'll visit both locations in the morning and then head to the Red Lion British Pub where we'll have lunch in front of a fireplace and discuss what we've learned.

We'll meet our Precinct 3 bus at the usual location on the south side of Barryknoll directly across from the Cinemark Theater in Memorial City Mall, and leave promptly at 8:30 a.m. Cost will be \$8 for the museum and \$1.00 for the driver's lunch which will be collected as you enter the bus. Please have exact change ready if possible. This outing is limited to the first 20 who sign up, so if you're at all interested, be sure to contact our leader, Pat Farnell, at 832.867.2908 or farnellpat@gmail.com right away.

Plus, save Wednesday, February 20, 2019, for our next event -- "Scoping Out Houston's Public Art." Leader Cindy Hickok will take us on a tour of known (and unknown) art that's right before our eyes on a daily basis here in Houston. Watch the February newsletter for details, but if you want to be sure not to miss out on this unique experience, contact Cindy at cynthiahickok@sbcglobal.net or 281.493.2525.

GARDEN DIVAS



On **Tuesday, January 8, 2019**, the Divas will visit the Cockrell Butterfly Center at the Museum of Natural Science. This exhibit has a stunning, three-story glass structure built around a 50-foot waterfall! The simulated tropical rain forest is filled with exotic plants and hundreds of gorgeous live butterflies. These beautiful, delicate creatures imported from butterfly farms around the world will delight you as they flutter through the vegetation, stop to sip nectar or fruit juices, and occasionally alight on lucky visitors. (It is indoors in case January is a bit cool!)

Admission is \$9 (\$8 - 62+). We will spend 2 hours visiting the butterflies then venture to the Japanese gardens, weather permitting. With its waterfalls, bridges, and stone paths that wander among crepe myrtles, azaleas, Japanese maples, dogwoods, and cherry trees, the Japanese Garden is a peaceful hideaway in Hermann Park. The garden was designed by world-renowned landscape architect, Ken Nakajima. Natural materials are used, such as rock, wood, and plants, to give a feeling of serenity. The Japanese Garden features a tea house and winding paths to explore the lush gardens.

We will meet at the Memorial City Parking lot on the North side of Kingsride near Sears at 9:15 for carpooling.

After our garden visits we will have lunch at Hungry's 2356 Rice Boulevard. Mediterranean influence meets comfort food classics at this popular Rice Village spot, where both hummus and old-school meatloaf are on the menu. Burgers, pizzas, sandwiches, and salads round out the extensive menu. Please email smb Boone@gmail.com if you are interested in joining us in January.

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT



The Girls' Night Out group will welcome 2019 at the Guadalajara Hacienda on **Wednesday, January 16**, at 7:00 p.m. The restaurant is located at 9799 Katy Freeway (next to Hotel ZaZa). You may get directions and see the menu's many tasty choices at their website.

All AAUW members are welcome. Please make plans to join the GNO group for dinner. Email or call Jan Groves at jamgroves@aol.com or 281.497.2295 by **Sunday evening, January 13**, to reserve your place at the table.

GOURMET DINING



Classic Gourmet

Please join us **Saturday, January 12, 2019**, at 10:00 a.m. for our third dinner in this year's series "I Hear America Cooking". Our January gathering will be a New Orleans brunch. Our host will be Sharon Jorgeson. To be included in the brunch or if you have questions, please contact the coordinators: Tina Simpson 281.558.1031 or Barbara Cook 713.782.4398.

Nouveau Gourmet

On **Saturday, January 5**, at 6:30 p.m., Joyce and Alan Berger will host Nouveau Gourmet at their home at 2711 Kismet Lane. The theme is French Cuisine. For more information, contact Diane Statham at distatham@msn.com or 281.497.6259.

HIKING HONEYS



On **Thursday, January 17**, the Hiking Honeys will return to Terry Hershey Park which we have not visited since May 2015. We have not yet decided on the trail we will hike, but we have enjoyed several of them in the past. We will meet in the parking lot at 15200 Memorial Drive at 9:30 a.m. After the hike, we will have lunch at a nearby restaurant.

If you want to join us, please contact Melba Armstrong at 281.392.3190 or mkar@consolidated.net.

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 first meeting of the **1st and 3rd Great Decisions Thursday Afternoon Group** will be held **Thursday, February 7, 2019**, at the following location: 13194 Memorial Drive, the Adult Learning Center, Memorial Drive United Methodist Church (to the left of TJ Maxx), Room 460, **from 2:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.** The two topics for February will be *Refugees and Global Migration*, and *The Middle East Regional Disorder*. Please contact Martha Ewell, 713.782.2084 if you have any questions.

Inner Loop Great Decisions group will meet in February on the second and fourth Tuesdays from 3 to 5 p.m. The discussion will be followed by a light dinner. We need more members to be a viable discussion group. Husbands, friends and neighbors are invited. Especially if you live inside the loop, down town, museum district, West U, River Oaks area, we need you to participate. For more information contact Pat Thomsen Patthom75@att.net or Linda Marlin Marlinl@comcast.net.

The first meeting of the Great Decisions Night Group will be on February 13, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. The topic for discussion will be "Refugees and Global Migration." The place for the meeting has not been determined. Additional details about the meeting will be published in the February newsletter. For additional information, please contact Willette Norman, willetten@gmail.com or 281.497.3626.

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

Coordinator: Diana Guarniere, guarniered@gmail.com

Thursday Morning, January 31, 2019 – 10 AM

This month we will travel again to Italy and vicariously explore Assisi and Italian country charm as well as Siena and Tuscany's wine country. Bring something to share for a potluck brunch. Visitors are always welcome.

Please RSVP your attendance to our hostess for this month:

Dana Cutts
311 Blue Willow Drive
Houston 77041
713.785.5306
dpcutts@gmail.com



WINE, WOMEN & WISDOM

Wine, Women and Wisdom will meet on Monday, January 21, 2019, at McCormick & Schmick, City Centre location, for happy hour starting at 4:00 pm. All are welcome. For further information contact Marie Helmy at 281.787.6396 or Dorothy Lauterbach at 512.217.7899.



WISE...

Women in Stem, Entertainment, Enrichment and Education

Our WISE group will focus on EYH in January and February. We will be going to lunch at Evelyn's Park located at Bellaire and Newcastle and the AT&T Telephone History Museum located at Bellaire and 610 in January or early February.

Bridgette Mongeon will be our keynote speaker for EYH. She is developing STEAM curriculum surrounding her Alice Sculpture in the Park. See her [Alice Sculpture website](http://www.alicesculpture.com). For pictures at Evelyn's Park and AT&T for their HACEMOS Computer Science Education Week celebration, see <http://knorth.edublogs.org/2018/12/04/hour-of-code-2>.

If you did not have a chance to celebrate Hour of Code, you can still dance: www.code.org/dance.

We are still looking for computer science presenters for EYH. Please let Karen North, knorth@me.com, know if you have any ideas or want to join the WISE email list.

WHC members with December birthdays partying at Rudi Lechner's, 12/11/2018.

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*Front: Jane Wood, Pat Dach, Ruth Fowler, Barbara Hopkins,
Mary Peterson*

*Back: Margaret Carlson, Judy Ryan, Cynthia Hickok, Fran
Podell, Pat Pease, Peg McNealy, Imelda Beauchamp*

More than a dozen "December Birthday Babes" celebrated their December birthdays at Rudi Lechner's on December 11. This group started when several of the members – Barb Hopkins, Carol Telfer and Dawn Katz – were bemoaning the fact that their December birthdays got lost during the holiday season. So they decided to throw their own party and invite other AAUW members with December birthdays. This annual gathering has continued for many years under the leadership of Barb Hopkins. This year Jane Wood and Pat Pease led the effort. For many members, this is the only time we see each other, as the individuals are involved in a variety of interest groups. We shared information about our AAUW activities and why we enjoyed the various interest groups. We are already planning ahead to secure a date and location for our December 2019 celebration.

If your birthday month hasn't yet formed a group, you are encouraged to do so. A great time for fun, sharing and catching up on a year of progress!



DIRECTORY UPDATES

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

Eisenhauer, Julie

Cell Phone: 713.851.4703

Delete home phone

North, Karen

Corrected Email: knorth@me.com

Thomsen, Pat

Corrected Address: 300 Saint Joseph Parkway, Apt. 209
Houston, TX 77002

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 **Suzanne Dalati**, Corresponding Secretary, at 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.

Next WHC Branch Board Meeting January 14, 2019

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.

**2018 HOLIDAY PARTY PICTURES
DECEMBER 1 AT YAO RESTAURANT**

