



# West Harris County Branch

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

VOLUME XXXIV NUMBER 1

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2019

## West Harris County Board of Directors

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281.558.6398

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

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[jdennis3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jdennis3@sbcglobal.net)

Oct Newsletter deadline:

**Sept. 15, 2019**

### ***Stay Informed***

Branch website:

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

National website:

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

## **SEPTEMBER BRANCH MEETING**

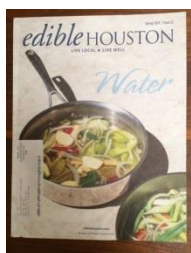
**Tuesday, September 17, 2019**

**7:00 PM**

**Tracy Gee Community Center**

**3599 Westcenter Drive**

Kim Korth, publisher of *Edible Houston* magazine, whose motto is **Live Local, Live Well**, will begin the 2019 – 20 season as she reveals some of the secrets she has found while investigating Houston's food scene.



Our meeting will be at Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter, Tuesday, September 17. Come at 6:30 to enjoy hospitality among new and old friends, and the program by Ms. Korth at 7:00. **Please note:** This will be our only evening program this season.

The 2019 – 20 slate of programs will cater to a variety of interests, each designed to further our own education as well as that of others. We encourage each of you to attend. Beginning on October 19, all meetings will take place on third Saturday mornings. October 19 we will meet at Memorial Drive Methodist Church, while all other meetings will be at Tracy Gee Community Center. Watch our newsletter for further details each month.

*Cynthia Hickok, Program Vice President*

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**October 28, 2019**



## **MISSION POSSIBLE CELEBRATION**

### **Fall Fund Raiser**

**Support the AAUW Fund of your choice**

We all enjoy a good celebration, but we prefer to keep it simple. And no event is simpler than a nonexistent one. Instead of our branch spending weeks planning a fancy fundraiser, we're going to focus on supporting AAUW's Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Don't spend your time going to an event, wearing an uncomfortable fancy dress or shoes. We'll be asking you to donate knowing that 100% of your charitable contribution support programs that empower women.

## President's Message

*We hope everyone had a restful summer. Your board has been busy planning our August Coffee and a year of interesting programs and activities. We want to thank Sharon Jorgeson for her wonderful leadership this past year. I am looking forward to this year as your new president.*

Mary C Peterson, WHC Branch President



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## BAKER-TELFER SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The Baker-Telfer Scholarships in the amount of \$1100 were awarded at the June luncheon.

The recipients were:

Binh Nguyen, a student from Alief ISD. She will be attending Texas A&M and plans to study Biology.

Stephanie Fuentes-Moreno, a student from Spring Branch ISD. She plans to study Pre-Med at the University of Houston.

Giselle Ruiz, a student from Houston ISD. She will study Computer Science at the University of Houston.



Stephanie Fuentes Moreno



Giselle Ruiz and her parents

## AAUW – WHO WE ARE



### MISSION STATEMENT:

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

### VISION:

Equity for all.

### VALUES:

Nonpartisan.

Fact-based.

Integrity.

Inclusion and intersectionality.

Visit AAUW National's website at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) to read about AAUW's strategic plan that focuses on education and training, economic security, and leadership.

## AAUW-WHC:

Is available to you through many avenues.

Check out our website at: [www.aauw-whc.org](http://www.aauw-whc.org).

Friend us at: [facebook.com/aauwwhc](https://facebook.com/aauwwhc) – AAUW - West Harris County.

Give us a tweet at: [twitter.com/aauw\\_whc](https://twitter.com/aauw_whc) - @AAUW\_WHC.

These sites are listed are listed on the first page of the branch directory.



## REPORT OF FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Financial Review Committee met July 23, 2019, for the annual review of West Harris County Branch's financial records. The committee, consisting of Pat Dach, Nancy Ennis, Mary Kain, Georgia Kimmel, Carolyn Morris, Mary Peterson, Diane Roberts, and Kathy Urquhart, reviewed the four sets of 2018-2019 books. All books were found to be in good order.

Following are the balances as of the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2019):

- AAUW West Harris County Branch: \$14,821.96
- AAUW Funds: \$398.41
- Baker-Telfer Scholarship Fund: \$7,111.45
- Expanding Your Horizons: \$8,514.24

Margaret Carlson, Chair

### Next WHC Branch Board Meeting September 9, 2019

The next branch board meeting will be at Mary Peterson's home, 1277 Country Place Drive, Houston, TX 77079 at 6:00 p.m. All members are welcome. Please RSVP your attendance to [mpetersonread@gmail.com](mailto:mpetersonread@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.

To insure you do not miss any communications from the Branch, if you have a change in your contact information, please inform

Mary Andersen at

[AAUW.Mary.Andersen@gmail.com](mailto:AAUW.Mary.Andersen@gmail.com)

## September 2019 Activities and Interest Group News

Jan Groves, Activities Coordinator

### BOOK GROUPS



#### Afternoon Contemporary Literature

**Wednesday, September 4, 1:30 p.m.**

*The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict

Hostess: Sharon Jorgeson, 12518 Honeywood Trail

281.558.4382

#### Contemporary Readers

**Wednesday, September 4, 1:00 p.m.**

*The Gown* by Jennifer Robson

Hostesses: Barbara Butler and Martha Hebert

West Campus, Memorial Drive United Methodist Church

13186 Memorial Drive

#### Enjoying History

**Monday, September 9, 1:30 p.m.**

Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow

Hostess: Pat Dach, 6014 Ballina Canyon Lane

713.843.2679

#### Monday Evening Contemporary Group

**Monday, September 9, 5:00 p.m.**

*Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*

by Yuva Noah Harari

Diane Statham, 281.497.6259

Los Tios Mexican Restaurant, Memorial Drive at Kirkwood

#### Mystery

**Tuesday, September 17, 1:30 p.m.**

*Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann

Hostess: Melba Armstrong, 22423 Tullis Trail Court, Katy

281.392.3190

#### Outstanding Literature Group

**Tuesday, September 10, 9:30 a.m.**

*Alexander Hamilton* by Ron Chernow

Hostess: Barbara Butler, 713.305.0570

La Madeleine, Carillon Center, 10001 Westheimer Road

### BRIDGE GROUPS – Various



#### **Current Bridge Groups:**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday (7:00 p.m.), Jane Judson, 713.528.6105

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 subbing for a particular group, please contact the group coordinator listed above.

### BYWAY BIRDERS



On **Saturday, September 7, 2019**, Byway Birders will travel to Bolivar and Anahuac NWR to look for shorebirds. We welcome novice and experienced birders. We will meet at 8:00 at the parking area on Barryknoll across from the food court area at Memorial City. We will start birding at the Bolivar ferry peninsula landing. Bring water, snacks, hat, sunscreen and mosquito repellent. Lunch will be at the Ocean Grill or Steve's Landing. Please contact Lou Fowler if you are meeting to carpool or if you will join the group at the restrooms at the peninsula ferry landing at 10 a.m. Please contact Lou at 713.206.1046 or [mlfowler22@att.net](mailto:mlfowler22@att.net).

On **Saturday, September 28, 2019**, we will go to Smith Point to see migrating hawks. We will also bird Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge. We will meet at 8:15 a.m. in the parking area on Barryknoll across the street from the food court at Memorial City Shopping Center to form carpools. Bring binoculars, hats, lunch, snacks, drinks and bug spray. Please contact Sharon Jorgeson, [sjorgeson@gmail.com](mailto:sjorgeson@gmail.com) or 281.703.5939 to RSVP or if you have questions.

### CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



#### A Visit to MFAH's Newly Consolidated Art Conservation Lab

Join other AAUW art enthusiasts as we kick off the Cultural Activities program year on **Wednesday, September 25**, with a visit to the recently consolidated Center for Conservation at the Museum of Fine Arts, followed by a leisurely lunch at Brennan's of Houston. Our host and tour guide is Per Knutas, the newly appointed Chairman of the Department of Conservation, who began his tenure at MFAH in July.

The state-of-the-art Center for Conservation, built atop the MFAH parking garage on Fannin, brings the Museum's distinguished conservation teams together in one of the largest, continuous spaces for conservation of any public museum. The one-hour tour will include a walk-through of the space with visits to each of the labs including paintings, frame, objects and sculpture, and decorative arts. We'll have the opportunity to observe the team of conservators and research scientists who evaluate the MFAH collection of nearly 70,000 objects, review works of art being considered for acquisition as well as examine and acclimatize objects on loan from other institutions.

Other than the customary \$1.00 we collect from everyone for the bus driver, your lunch at Brennan's is your only expense. The tour of the Center for Conservation is free!

We will meet our Precinct 3 bus at our usual spot on the south side of Barryknoll between Gessner and Memorial Way, directly across from the Cinemark Theater in Memorial City



*Continued from page 4*

Mall and leave promptly at 9:00 a.m. to ensure that we arrive at MFAH in plenty of time for our 10:00 tour. We expect to be at Brennan's for an early lunch around 11:30 and should be back at Memorial City no later than 2:00 p.m.

Don't miss your chance for an up-close look at this exciting behind the scenes aspect of MFAH. Please contact Judy Starr at 713.301.6886 or [judydystarr830@gmail.com](mailto:judydystarr830@gmail.com) to reserve your spot on the bus. We're looking forward to welcoming you to our first event of the year!

**Plus, save Saturday, October 12, for our day at the Alley Theatre beginning with a backstage tour of the recently renovated facility and followed by an afternoon performance of Shakespeare's "The Winter's Tale."** Watch the October newsletter for details, but -- because space will be limited -- if you want to be sure to make that trip, contact Marie Helmy at 281.787.6396 or [OOLIT3@aol.com](mailto:OOLIT3@aol.com) right away to get your name on her list.

## **GARDEN DIVAS**



The Garden Divas will be visiting the Fern Plantation Nursery in Magnolia, Texas on **September 10**. (Note this is the SECOND Tuesday due to Labor Day). The owner and president of the Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society, Darla Harris, will give us a 30 minute talk about ferns, then we will tour the nursery. She and husband Joe built 5 greenhouses - 13,000 square feet - to house their passionate homegrown operation.

Afterwards we will have lunch at the Magnolia Diner, a 50's style diner with a Hollywood twist, Southern hospitality, and Texas sized portions.

Please RSVP to arrange carpools. ([smboone@gmail.com](mailto:smboone@gmail.com)). Meet at our regular spot at Memorial City south of Barryknoll at 9:00 a.m.

## **GIRLS' NIGHT OUT**



**Girls' Night Out will not meet in September.**

At this time, the group does not have a coordinator to plan the bi-monthly dining out experiences.

If there is a member or group of members of the GNO who wish to continue the group activities and are willing to volunteer to coordinate those activities, please contact **Jan Groves** at 281.497.2295 or [jamgroves@aol.com](mailto:jamgroves@aol.com).

## **GOURMET DINING**



### **Classic Gourmet**

Please join us **Saturday, September 14, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.** for our first dinner in this year's series Texas Cuisine – Influences from Various Cultures. Our first dinner will focus on the influence of Mexico on Texas cuisine. Our host will be Barb Cook. If you have questions, please contact the coordinators: Barbara Cook at 713.705.7832 or Kris Bybee-Finley at 304.610.8708.

### **Nouveau Gourmet**

Joyce Berger will host A Gordon Ramsay Dinner for 12 on **Saturday, September 7** at 6:30 p.m. at her home. For additional information and directions to her home, please contact Joyce at 713.462.1507.

## **GREAT DECISIONS**



Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The groups organize during October and November and meet for group discussions twice monthly, February through May.

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**The Great Decisions 1st and 3rd Thursday Afternoon Group** meets from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. February through May. Briefing books will be ordered for the spring 2020 meetings in late October. Contact Martha Ewell at 713.782.2084 or [marthaewell@att.net](mailto:marthaewell@att.net) for additional information and to join the group.

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**The Inner Loop Great Decisions Group** will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday afternoons February through May, beginning **Tuesday February 4, 2020** at 3 pm. The meetings are held in various members' homes, followed by a pot luck light dinner or an optional dinner at a local restaurant. If you are interested in joining our group, please write to: Pat Thomsen [PatThom75@att.net](mailto:PatThom75@att.net) or Linda Marlin. [Marlinl@comcast.net](mailto:Marlinl@comcast.net).

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**Great Decisions Evening Group** meets from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays February through May. Our topic discussion books and DVD will be ordered by **November 16, 2019**. For additional information about this group or how to join, please contact Willette Norman at 281.497.3626 or [willetten@gmail.com](mailto:willetten@gmail.com).

## HIKING HONEYS



On **Thursday, September 19**, the Hiking Honeys will travel to Bear Creek Park to begin our September through May schedule. We will hike the 2 mile loop Nature Trail. The trail is rated easy and offers creeks, woods, ponds, and open fields as scenery. Lunch plans will be finalized and communicated later. We will either take a picnic lunch or eat at a nearby restaurant. Melba Armstrong is coordinating this hike. We will carpool from the parking lot on Barryknoll Drive across from the Cinemark Theater in Memorial City leaving at 9:30 a.m. We welcome all members to join us even if it's just for one hike. If you would like to go, please contact Melba (281.392.3190, [mkar@consolidated.net](mailto:mkar@consolidated.net).) Hope to see you there.

## VICARIOUS VOYAGERS



An interest group for travelers.

Diana Guarniere, Chair [guarniered@gmail.com](mailto:guarniered@gmail.com)  
281.493.2997

Nancy Bowden, Co-Chair [nanbowd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nanbowd@sbcglobal.net)  
281.589.7423

**Thursday, September 26, 2019 - 10 AM – The Heart of England: Intellectual, Royal & Industrial**

This group will begin the year by exploring the heart of England with visits to Oxford, Cambridge, Blenheim Castle and Ironbridge Gorge through the latest Rick Steves' PBS DVD.

Participants are to bring something to share in a **potluck brunch** along with news of your latest adventures. Newcomers are welcome. RSVP your attendance to our hostess for the day:

**Diana Guarniere, 13814 Kimberley Lane, Houston, TX 77079 (Contact info noted above.)**

**Heads Up: Sunday, October 13 - 2:30 PM.** The Voyagers and their guests will attend the Houston Symphony Pops performance of *"Rick Steves' Europe: A Symphonic Journey."* Tickets are to be purchased on your own through the **Jones Hall box office 713.224.7575**. Some of you may already have season tickets to the symphony. Transportation will be by private cars – no bus will be provided. Those planning to go can arrange to go in carpools. An email list will be sent out to facilitate finding friends to carpool closer to the date. (Parking is either \$10 or \$12, depending on which garage is chosen.)

After the concert, the group will return to the Memorial area to a European restaurant for dinner and discussion with separate checks provided. Although going to the restaurant after the concert is optional, an RSVP is required. Please contact Nancy Bowden (noted above) to be put on the dinner reservation list.

## WINE, WOMEN & WISDOM



Wine, Women & Wisdom will meet on **Monday, September 16**, at McCormick & Schmick City Centre from four to six. Come and enjoy happy hour food and beverages. All are welcome.

## WISE...



**Women in Stem, Entertainment, Enrichment and Education**

Our WISE activity will be to inspire a high school girl to apply for the national AiC award. Aspirations in Computing is a talent pipeline program of the National Center for Women & IT.

See <https://www.aspirations.org/SparkInterest> to create a spark. Read about aspirations of young women at <https://www.aspirations.org/innovator-innovator>.

Mentor a student to help them describe a problem that they would like to solve using technology or enhance their essays. Sign up to review applications, as it is very inspiring to see what girls are doing across the country. Please contact Karen North to join our September social. Hear about our meeting at Schlumberger and share your ideas to scale STEM education.

