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aauwpfarnell@gmail.com

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Diana Tiberia

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January Deadline, 2024

December 15, 2023

Stay informed!

Branch website: aauw-whc.org

National website: aauw.org



VP Programs wishes everyone a very happy holiday season! There is no Branch meeting in December. Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Saturday, January 20th.

Happy Holidays to all and best wishes for 2024!

Lilian Care
Program Vice President



President's Message



Dear West Harris County Branch Members,

Hello Fall and Rain. Thanks to all of you for your generous support both to AAUW Funds and the Thomsen-Baker-Telfer Scholarship Fund. I hope you will continue to support AAUW by getting personally involved, either by accepting a Board position or joining a committee. I will be sending out a survey in the next few weeks regarding all the different areas you can participate in. Please look it over and check the areas that interest you.

Don't miss the Holiday Party on December 10th! Details are on the following page. RSVP by sending your check to Diana Tiberia.

Happy Holidays and a Peaceful and Happy New Year,

Poupette Farnell
President

Request for Nominees for Branch Officers

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for the 2024-2025 Branch Board. The positions that are open are President-Elect, Membership Vice President, AAUW Funds Vice-President and Recording Secretary. Please consider nominating members you think would be appropriate for these positions. Also, we highly recommend self-nomination. All nominations need to be in by January 11, 2024. The nominee will be listed in the March newsletter and voted on at the March Branch Meeting. The members of the nominating committee are Jo Glidewell, Helen Santire, Carole Ballew, Rose Ennis, Kris Bybee-Finley, Cindy Hickok and Maureen Kraker. Please contact Jo Glidewell, Nominating Committee Chair at wcglide@gmail.com or 936-327-2085, to make a nomination or if you have further questions.



AAUW Holiday Party Buffet

December 10, 2023, 5—7 p.m.

Catering Room at Eagle's Trace
Senior Living Community

14703 Eagle Vista Dr., Houston, TX 77077

Menu

Garden Salad w/choice of dressing

Chicken Piccata, Baked Cod, and Beef Medallions

Dauphinoise Potatoes, Rice

Green Beans Almondine and Asparagus

Double Chocolate Cake and Turtle Cheesecake

Iced Tea, Water, Coffee

Mini Wine Bottles included with dinner

Cost—\$43.00 Make check to AAUW-WHC; send check to:

Diana Tiberia, 22223 Coriander Drive, Katy, TX 77450

Checks should be received by November 30, 2023.

Carpooling to Eagle's Trace is encouraged due to limited parking.

Ask for directions to the Catering Room at the Gate.





VOTE in the RUNOFF ELECTIONS

Saturday, December 9th, 7 am - 7 pm

In Harris County the City of Houston, Texas, will conduct a Runoff Election for the following City officers:

- Mayor
- Council Members, District D, District G, and District H
- Council Member, At-Large Positions 1, 2, 3, and 4
- City Controller

Candidates are listed at <https://houstontx.gov/2023-runoff-election.html>

Election Day polling locations may change up until Election Day. Current Election Day polling location information and other information will be available at:

Harris County: www.harrisvotes.com

Montgomery County: <https://elections.mctx.org>

Fort Bend County: <https://www.fortbendvotes.org>

In total, 451,203 Harris County residents, or about 17% of all registered voters in the county, cast their ballot in the November 7th election. That means approximately 1 in 5 eligible voters elected the candidates who won. Turnout tends to be an even lower percentage of voters who cast ballots in the runoff elections. Those who vote elect our public officials. Do your part. Vote.

Georgia Kimmel
Public Policy Chair

MEMBERSHIP:

"Tis the season for giving" it has been said of this time of year. As a member of AAUW-West Harris County Branch there is a great opportunity to give and help a young lady with a scholarship that could change her life. Your present doesn't have to be wrapped, just signed!!! A check to Thomsen-Baker-Telfer Scholarship fund could give three young ladies each an opportunity to make a difference in her life, and possibly other women. Please send a gift, OF ANY SIZE to Thomsen-Baker-Telfer, NO SHOPPING IN CROWDED MALLS necessary!!! Thank you and Happy Holidays!



Carolyn Stoffel
Membership Vice President

DECEMBER 2023 ACTIVITIES & INTEREST GROUP NEWS

Sharon Jorgeson, Activities Coordinator

Hiking Honeys



The Hiking Honeys will not hike in December due to the proximity of Christmas. Our next hike will be on **Thursday, January 18th** at Keith Weiss City Park.

Great Decisions: Afternoon and Evening Groups

Great Decisions is a discussion program based on global issues selected by the Foreign Policy Association. This year's topics are:

- Mideast Realignment
- Climate Technology and Competition
- Science Across Borders
- China Trade Rivalry
- NATO's Future
- Understanding Indonesia
- High Seas Treaty
- Pandemic Preparedness



Meetings are held via ZOOM from February through May. All members are welcome. For more information and to be placed on the contact list for the afternoon group, please contact Pat Thomsen, patthom2@sbcglobal.net (713-302-8899) or Linda Marlin, marlinl@comcast.net (713-469-00856). Contact Willette Norman for more information and to be included on the contact list for the evening group at willetten@gmail.com (281-450-8875).

Byway Birders

Byway Birders are planning an outing on **Saturday, December 16th**. More information concerning time and place will be available by email.

On **Saturday, January 13, 2024**, we will bird Brazoria NWR and San Bernard NWR.

If you would like to receive emails from the birding group, email patdach@gmail.com.



Bridge Groups



Please contact the coordinators of these bridge groups if you are interested in joining their group as a regular or substitute.

First Thursday (7:00 p.m.) Jane Judson 713-528-6105

Third Thursday (10:30 a.m.) Peg McNealy 281-679-7299

Gourmet Groups – Classic and Nouveau Combined

The Gourmet group does not meet in December. Please join us on **Saturday, January 13th at 11 a.m.** for a New Orleans themed brunch. For further information, please contact the co-chairs: Barb Cook 713-705-7832 or Kris Bybee-Finley 304-610-8708.

Culture Group: Notice was received right before publication that this trip is full. Be sure to join us for the January trip. Details under “Save the Date” below.

The Culture Group is headed to the theater for Christmas Fun Friday, December 8th!!

Join your friends for a fun dinner at a local favorite venue followed by the holiday play, “A Texas Carol” at A.D. Players Theater, 5420 Westheimer. The Dinkel family is headed to Mee-Maw Jane’s East Texas ranch for what might be her last Christmas. You will NOT want to miss this repeat holiday show. Christmas is rolling around quicker than we think. Reservations are coming in for those wishing to attend our holiday play. Early payment is required. There are still places available. We will meet at the Memorial City Parking Lot at **4:00 pm** and leave at 4:15 pm. It is on the south side of Barryknoll between Gessner and Memorial City Way, directly across from Cinemark Theater. Our first bus stop will be dinner at Lorenzo’s Restaurant on Washington, a fan favorite. Then on to the play. Curtains up at 8 pm. Your check for \$36 is your reservation made out and sent to Linda Morgan, 11934 Riverview Dr., Houston, Tx. 77077. 281-989-6499. We look forward to seeing you.



SAVE the DATE!



The Culture Group will visit the Innovation Corridor in Mid Town **January 17, 2024**. This is a First-Time destination you won’t want to miss! Ion is Houston’s new home for the innovation community. In the heart of mid-town along the Light Rail line, the ION building is home to a Who’s Who of companies cross collaborating on solutions in energy, education, healthcare, technology, and venture capital.

Originally the Sears department store (built in 1939), the ION building was the first to open in May 2022. We will go inside and experience this center for exciting new collaborations and solutions.

The group will travel to the Ion District via a Precinct 3 bus from Memorial City and have lunch there at the Lymbar, an open theatre kitchen specializing in Latin and Mediterranean small plates and shareables. Contact Susan Boone for more information or to reserve a seat at 713-854-7537 or smboone@gmail.com.

Vicarious Voyagers



Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, January 25th**. Venue to be announced. Jane Wood will do a presentation on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Look for more information in the January Newsletter.



Garden Divas

The Divas December Holiday Special Horticultural Tour at Brookwood will be on **Friday, December 8th**. (Note: This is not our regular meeting time due to poinsettia deliveries). Brookwood Citizens are famous for growing poinsettias! The Brookwood Horticulture enterprise produces approximately 50,000 poinsettias a year and provides meaningful work to over 100 adults with disabilities. Their citizens are passionate about nurturing vibrant poinsettias and take great pride in producing a quality product for you to enjoy. The other plants there are very special as well. We will enjoy a delicious lunch in the on-site restaurant, the tour, and of course, shop in the wonderful gift shop!

The group will carpool from the Memorial City Mall parking lot on Barryknoll and leave at **9:15 a.m.** Please let Susan Boone, smboone@gmail.com, know whether you will be joining us by Friday, December 1, so we can get a head count for lunch reservations. We are looking forward to this special holiday event.

Book Groups

Afternoon Contemporary Literature

We will be meeting on **Wednesday, Dec. 6th at 1:00 p.m.** at Eagles Trace. We will discuss The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi. Please contact coordinator Linda Morgan at 281-989-6499 or Cheryl Smith at 402-651-2445 for more information.

Contemporary Readers

On **Wednesday, December 6th at 1:00 p.m.** we will be discussing Horse by Geraldine Brooks. Our group will meet at the home of Sue Phipps, 6336 Woodway Drive, Unit 1905, 713-204-3982. For more information, contact Coordinator, Sharon Pope, 713-376-0940, spope576@gmail.com or Co-coordinator, Cathy Urquhart, 832-454-5017, curquhart80@gmail.com.

Enjoying History Book Club -

We will meet on **Monday, December 11 at 1:30 p.m.** at the Tracy Gee Community Center Library. We are discussing Astoria by Peter Stark, led by Pat Dach. Please email me with any questions. Nancy Guilloud, nanguilloud@aol.com.

Evening Contemporary Literature

Please join us on **Monday, December 4 at 5:00 pm** when we will discuss West With Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge. We will meet at Los Tios Mexican Restaurant, Memorial Dr. at Kirkwood. The coordinator is Jo Glidewell, wzglide@gmail.com; 936-327-2085.

Mystery Book Club

We will meet on **Tuesday, December 19 at 1:30 p.m.** at the Tracy Gee Community Center Library to discuss The Woman in the Library by Sulari Gentill. The leader will be Nancy Guilloud. Please contact Pat Pease popease@aol.com or Kris Bybee-Finley, 304-610-8708, brazitku@gmail.com for more information.

Outstanding Literature

The Outstanding Literature book group will have a major change of venue for our **Tuesday, December 12** meeting. We will meet at the same time, **9:30 a.m.**, but we will meet at the home of Miriam Vyles at Eagle's Trace. Refreshments will be served. We will be reading The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison and Barbara Butler will lead our discussion. Please contact one of our co-coordinators for further details about our venue for December 12. Leigh Rappole, leighrap@aol.com, 281-596-016, or Barbara Butler, barbarabutler2021@gmail.com, 713-305-0570.

Zoom Eclectic Book Group

Thursday, December 21 at 2:30 p.m.

This is Happiness by Niall Williams. Leader: Carolyn Morris. All meetings occur on ZOOM. Members are welcome to join us for one or all of the books. Please email Carolyn Morris (Coordinator) at morriscarolyn16@gmail.com for the Zoom invitation. Co-coordinator: Pat Thompson, patthom2@sbcglobal.net 713-302-8899





DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Cindy Erdin	Dec 02	Kathryn Motard	Dec 14
Jane Wood	Dec 06	Peggy Strong	Dec 20
Imelda Beauchamp	Dec 07	Diane Statham	Dec 22
Patrici Dach	Dec 09	Margaret Carlson	Dec 23
Margaret Gruss	Dec 10	Pat Pease	Dec 26
Frances Podell	Dec 10	Loretta Coussirat	Dec 27
Cynthia Hickok	Dec 11	Mary Peterson	Dec 27
Janice Kerekgyarto	Dec 14	Margaret McNealy	Dec 28

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO DIRECTORY

Please add the following information to your directory:

Fatima Abdulla

5090 Richmond Avenue, Houston TX 77056
H: 713-416-1068
ms.fatimaabdullah@sbcglobal.net

Martha L Armstrong (Martye)

1218 Campton Court, Houston TX 77055
H: 713-957-2086 C:713-598-6881
martye.armstrong@hotmail.com

Susan Dunten – new address

P.O. Box 96 Whittier NC 28789

Jackie Shelton – new email address

jxshelxx@gmail.com