



Breaking through Barriers

for Women and Girls

American Association of University Women – Austin Branch

September 2010

Volume LXXVIII Number 7

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

Sept. 8 – Second Wednesday Bridge. 4 p.m. Call Judy Reinhart (345-5936) for more information.

Sept. 11 – Branch meeting & lunch at Wyndham Hotel, 3401 IH35 & Woodward St., 10:15 a.m. Panel “Going Green Into The Future.” Registration: 9:45 a.m.

Sept. 13 – Contemporary Literature at Old Quarry BL. 7:15 p.m. *The Spice Route*. Discussion leader: Karen Jordahl. Fern Chester (345-1102) or Dorothea Berasley (343-0370).

Sept. 13 – Books & Brunch Southwest with hostess & facilitator Maria Inés Garcia, 6310 Abilene Tail. 10:30 a.m. *Sarah’s Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay. RSVP: Marsha Endahl Kramer (906-2033 [h] and/or 906-6566).

Sept. 14 – Classic Book Study Group at Ralph Yarborough BL. 7 p.m. *Billy Budd* by Herman Melville. Discussion leader: Annette Haslund. (Evelyn Boyer, 836-1492).

Sept. 14 – Mah-Jongg. 7:30 p.m. 7920 Mesa Trails Cove. Ann Berasley (837-2250) or Janie Patterson (343-3058).

Sept. 15 – Creative Stitchery. Hostess: Dorothea Berasley, (343-0370) & co-hostess Barbara Parkhurst (335-8421). (Dorothea Berasley, 343-0370).

Sept. 16 – Culture & Cuisine with Anneliese Ellerton, 8016 Chervil Drive (241-8425). Co-hostesses: Mary Owens, Lynn Cooksey. Chair: Veronica Johnson, (338-1254).

Sept. 20 – AAUW (Action, Armchair, Unparallel, & Wannabe) Travelers. Ralph Yarborough BL, 2-3:30 p.m. Cap Dao Great Temple (Viet Nam) by M. E. Scribner followed by planning session. Co-chairs: Mary Ellen Scribner (255-8428); Adrian McCulloch (820-1917).

GOING GREEN INTO THE FUTURE

Do you know that Austin is one of the top ten **green** cities in the U.S.?



Okay, so you know that already, but you will definitely want to know more about how that came to be and what is being done not just to sustain our community as a top green city but to do so in the most responsible ways possible. The panel of experts who will deliver our September 11 program, “Going Green into the Future,” is comprised of Karl Rábago, Susan K. Reiff, and Kristina Loomis. Have your questions ready!

Karl R. Rábago is vice president for distributed energy services with Austin Energy, the municipal electric utility for the City of Austin. He has nearly twenty years experience in electricity policy and regulation, emerging energy markets development, clean energy technology development, and the implementation of sustainability principles. A graduate of Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Business Management, Mr. Rábago is an attorney (University of Texas Law School, J.D. with Honors) with post-doctorate degrees in environmental (LL.M., Pace University School of Law) and military law (LL.M., US Army Judge Advocate General’s School).



Susan Reiff is an expert in sustainability and resource protection with thirty years of experience directing major policy initiatives in Texas and



nationally. In 2004, she became executive director of the Wildflower Center. She led the center’s transition from a non-profit organization to a research unit of The University of Texas at Austin in 2006 and spearheaded its growing recognition as a national leader in landscape sustainability and plant conservation. A graduate of Texas Christian University with a B.S. degree in environmental sciences, she has a master’s degree from the Lyndon B. Johnson

School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin, and has taught environmental policy courses there.

Kristina Loomis is a Masters of Architecture student at the University of Texas at Austin where she has just begun her third year of a four-year program. Kristina grew up in the Mojave Desert of southern California where issues of design and energy conservation were rarely topics of discussion.



She later earned her bachelor’s degree in Fine Art and Graphic Design at Principia College in Elsah, Illinois. Several years after her undergraduate

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES (continued)

Sept. 21 – Light Cuisine—Out to Lunch. 11 a.m. Moonshine, 303 Red River. Hostess: Betty Owen. Chair: Veronica Johnson, (338-1254).

Sept. 22 – Art Tour Group. 10 a.m. Hostess: Betty Owen. The Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum, 2313 Red River. *Cronkite: Eyewitness to a Century*. Free admission & parking! Chair: Diane Brewer, (328-0474).

Sept. 22 – Fourth Wednesday Bridge. 4 p.m. Call Sarah Ezell (343-8394) for more information; hostess & location change monthly.

Sept. 28 – Mah-Jongg. 7: 30 p.m. 7920 Mesa Trails Cove, Ann Berasley (837-2250) or Janie Patterson (343-3058).

Every Thursday – Bridge at the Senior Activity Center. 9:30 a.m.-12 noon. Call Dorothy Ramsey (442-3841) for more information.

LOOKING AHEAD

The First Friday Book Review Group (October 1) and PEARS (October 24) will have their first meetings in October.

October 9 – Branch program & luncheon.

October 16-17 – Texas Book Festival, State Capitol.

November 2 – Election Day – Be sure to vote!



CONTACT UPDATES

Linda Leff – new e-mail –
lindaleff@gmail.com

Adrian McCulloch is now only cell phone –
512. 820.1917

Nancy Myers – new e-mail –
ganvmyers@austin.rr.com

(continued from p. 1) experience, Kristina's interest in architecture was spurred by reading about the relatively "new" cultural movement called sustainable architecture or green building. Within this movement, Kristina's desire to contribute toward the improvement of our world found a ready home. Today her goal is to design buildings which are simultaneously beautiful and respectful of our natural environment. Thanks to Anita Knight and Carol Fritz for arranging such a stellar panel for our first meeting of the year.



A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT FOR 2010-2011

🔴 🔴 🔴 **Saturday, September 11, 2010** 🔴 🔴 🔴

9:45 – 10:15 a.m. < Registration

10:15 – 11:15 a.m. < “Going Green into the Future” panel discussion with Karl R. Rábago, Susan K. Reiff, and Kristina Loomis

11:15 a.m. < Branch business meeting

12 noon < Lunch

This year we are committed to opening our monthly Saturday morning programs to anyone who is interested in the topic for the day, and we have changed our meeting timeline so the program precedes the business meeting and luncheon to better accommodate speakers and visitors. Registration will begin at 9:45 a.m., and the program presentation will begin at 10:15 a.m. and will last for about an hour followed by the business meeting. There will be a brief break and networking opportunity after the business meeting to give the hotel staff time to set the tables for those remaining for the luncheon.

The menu for the September luncheon features something else new for 2010-2011! We will enjoy a Southwestern wrap of grilled chicken breast with mixed field greens, black beans, avocado, and roasted corn tossed in achiote ranch dressing in a whole wheat tortilla and served with pasta salad and fruit garnish. Dessert and tea and/or coffee are also included. The cost is \$20 for a timely reservation with payment to be made the day of the luncheon; a check is preferred or you need to have the correct change. The Branch must pay for all reservations made, so a member who does not keep a reservation or make a timely cancellation will be billed for the full cost of the luncheon. If a member arrives without a reservation and expects to eat lunch, the cost of the meal is \$30. In this situation, please check in with **Dorothea Berasley** or **Sylvia Gregory** (reservations) and **Inés Garcia** (treasurer) at the registration table to determine availability and to make payment; do not approach hotel staff directly as this is a business transaction to be handled by the treasurer.

By the 6 p.m. Wednesday deadline, Dorothea or Sylvia also needs to know if you are attending the program but not staying for lunch, the name of any visitors you are bringing even if they are not making a lunch reservation, or if your luncheon reservation has any special dietary requirements such as a vegetarian meal. Seating for members and guests attending only the meeting/program is in chairs set up apart from the luncheon tables, so it is important to let Dorothea know that you will be attending the program even if you are not staying for the luncheon. The September 11 meeting will be at the Wyndham Hotel, the same venue as last year.

MESSAGE FROM BRANCH PRESIDENT



The AAUW Austin Branch has a lot of work to do this year, but the main emphasis must be on building membership. We must not let ourselves become stagnant. How do we do that? Every member should obtain some AAUW business cards and “Join AAUW” brochures. I have the brochures

for anyone who asks for them. Business cards can be low cost or even free with only a charge for postage from places such as vistaprint.com. When you tell friends, neighbors, associates, or co-workers you are going to an AAUW board meeting, luncheon, or art tour, and they ask what AAUW is, you will be able to give them something tangible that explains what AAUW does as well as a card to contact you. The membership committee is very busy with the membership open house, etc, but it is up to every member to recruit that wonderful new member. New members, after paying their dues, will be recognized at the business/ luncheon meeting and will be presented with an AAUW tote. Thank you for all the good work you have done. The year is just beginning in September, so let’s see what we can accomplish!

Kay Watson, Austin Branch President

2010 AAUW NATIONAL MEMBER SURVEY

Your interests are important to us! Please tell us about them and help shape AAUW’s programs and activities by completing this survey.

The deadline to complete the survey has been extended to September 30, 2010. If you have any questions, please call 800/326-2289. Thank you!

--Carolyn H. Garfein, AAUW President

If you haven’t already completed the survey, please go to the following link < https://svc.aauw.org/survey/EMS2010/aauw_ems2010_t.cfml> and follow the instructions to complete the survey—it’s important to the future of the organization! You will need your AAUW membership number which you can find on the mailing wrapper of your Outlook or get from AAUW by calling the number listed above.

AAUW ACTION NETWORK

AAUW’s Action Network makes it easy for advocates to influence Congress to act on issues critical for equity for women and girls. Help Action Network grow and be even more of a force in our nation’s capital. Urge your friends and family to join AAUW’s [Action Network](http://www.aauw.org/act/issue_advocacy/) < http://www.aauw.org/act/issue_advocacy/>



Dear AAUW Member,

Adopted at the 2009 AAUW National Convention, the concept of "One Member, One Vote" moved AAUW national elections from a delegate-only process to an every-member opportunity. Each member can now have a personal voice in helping to direct the future of AAUW and the right to vote for candidates, proposed bylaws amendments and resolutions, and the proposed Public Policy Program.

With the new One Member, One Vote section on our website, members may now propose bylaws amendments, resolutions, and Public Policy Program revisions and additions — and discuss these proposals online. Also, once the candidates are announced, you will also be able to "meet" them online through biographies, video, and candidate links. In addition to frequent website and other online updates, key information will be available to all members in the Fall, Winter, and Spring/Summer issues of AAUW Outlook as well. All members are encouraged to explore the opportunities, participate in the discussions, and share ideas with fellow members through the One Member, One Vote pages of the AAUW website and other information channels (branch meetings, state conventions, Facebook, online chats, etc.). A One Member, One Vote Current Topics Briefing and related Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) are available to assist you. To access the One Member, One Vote section from the AAUW home page, click on Member Center (in the top right corner), log in with your member ID, and then select One Member, One Vote from the list on the left.

Your Member ID is 1000000.

Members can always find their member ID on the AAUW Outlook mailing label or by using the Member ID Lookup tool available on the login page of the Member Center.

Sincerely,
Linda D. Hallman,
CAE AAUW Executive Director

BRANCH COMMUNICATIONS CONTACTS

Communications Co-Coordinators: **Dorothea Berasley** – aauw-austin@sbcglobal.net - (343.0370); **Sylvia Gregory** - aauw.satgreg@yahoo.com - 345.3420).

Newsletter Editor: **Mary Ellen Scribner** – (255.8428) – mescribner@alumni.utexas.net - The newsletter deadline is 9 a.m. on the 20th of the month.

OCTOBER "SMALL TREASURES" SILENT AUCTION

Another "Small Treasures" silent auction is planned for the October branch meeting and luncheon. The one last year was such fun and so successful in raising funds for EF, now the Educational Opportunities Fund. Please plan to bring your own "small treasures" for the auction (i.e., any item[s] you may have received as a gift or bought and will never use). Included in the auction will be the annual Collin Street Bakery delectable cake, and thanks to the Long Center for the Performing Arts, a certificate for two admissions to a "Long Center Presents" production.



Anita Knight, AAUW Funds co-chair

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION/LIFETIME LEARNING OPPORTUNITY



The fifteenth annual Texas Book Festival will take place at the State Capitol on Saturday and Sunday, October 16-17, 2010. TBF founder, Honorary Chair, and former First Lady Laura Bush, author of *Spoken From the Heart*, will speak at a gala fundraiser to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the organization. Festival author and

schedule information for the 2010 Book Festival is not yet available but will soon be posted on the festival website. However, it is not too early to volunteer! Last year, over 900 enthusiastic book lovers volunteered their time and talent to make the Texas Book Festival a huge success. Go to <http://texasbookfestival.org/Volunteer.php> and sign up! Editor's tip: I always go for an "inside job," that is inside the Capitol where there is AC!

STUDY GROUP FUN

Books & Brunch Southwest maximized their experience of Elizabeth Gilbert's *Eat Pray Love!* Read it, discussed it, saw the movie together—each activity accompanied by the venue appropriate refreshments!



AAUW at ACC

The ACC Foundation invited the Branch to set up a display and recruit members as the Austin Community College staff was welcomed back to school for the fall semester on August 20. Marsha Endahl Kramer, membership vice president, and Gail Simpler seized the opportunity to share the AAUW mission, goals, and program plans for the coming year as well as to recruit new members among ACC teachers, professors, and support staff. More than twenty staff dropped by the table to share their past affiliations with AAUW, ranging from a former member, a previous scholarship winner, to expressing appreciation for the latest AAUW research report that discusses the number of women going into math, science and technology. It was also an opportunity to suggest that faculty members encourage their students to apply for the Frances Malmberg Endowed Scholarship at ACC. The first scholarship in memory of Ms. Malmberg was awarded in 2005; in her will she bequeathed \$80,000 to be used for the scholarship which annually distributes 3% of the principal. Branch Webmaster and ACC faculty member Melinda Townsell was on hand to help recruit members.

Contributed by Marsha Endahl Kramer



REMINDER! PROGRAM/LUNCHEON TIME CHANGES BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER

9:45 – 10:15 a.m. ◊ Registration
10:15 – 11:15 a.m. ◊ Program
11:15 a.m. ◊ Branch business meeting
12 noon ◊ Lunch

AUSTIN BRANCH PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCE ON TEACHING ABOUT THE UN

The Austin Branch of AAUW is collaborating with other groups in the Central Texas area to plan a Conference on Teaching About the United Nations. The conference will be held in Austin on April 2, 2011, at the LBJ Auditorium.

Elizabeth Newell is representing the Branch on the Austin Steering Committee of The Committee on Teaching About the United Nations that is planning the one-day event. Although the conference will be designed to link the needs of teachers to the priorities and perspectives of the UN, it will be of interest to others as well.

The tentative title for the conference is “Global-Local Partnerships for the 21st Century – A UN Collaborative.” Plans are to have three strands: social justice, sustainability, and education trends and opportunities. Suggestions for speakers, panel members, and leaders of breakout sessions are needed. The committee is also exploring additional funding sources. If you have any suggestions in these two areas, please contact Elizabeth Newell at enewell4@austin.rr.com or 345-1686. As the planning process proceeds, the Branch will be asked to become involved in additional ways.

Two other branch members are serving on the committee as representatives of other organizations: Dr. Rosemary Morrow, Director of Social Studies for the Texas Education Agency, and Sandi Causey, Convention Registration Solutions.

The Committee on Teaching About the United Nations was founded in 1996 by Sally Swing Shelley, a senior officer in the United Nations Department of Public Information, and Barbara M. Walker, an educator at the Washington International School, to provide support for teachers. Soon afterwards, Anne-Marie Carlson of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International formed a team of volunteer experts to enable educators to develop new and better ways of teaching about the United Nations and its civil society partners. Carolyn Donovan represents AAUW National on this team.

The first conferences were held at the United Nations in Washington, D.C. Additional conferences have been held in Atlanta, GA.

Additional information about CTAUN and its earlier conferences can be found at www.teachun.org.

Contributed by Elizabeth Newell

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP OPEN HOUSE IS BIG SUCCESS!

More than seventy AAUW-Austin Branch members, potential members, and guests gathered on Sunday afternoon, August 22, to kick off the 2010-2011 Branch year. All were welcomed by Membership Vice President Marsha Endahl Kramer and Branch President Kay Watson who also presented past president pins to Dr. Rosemary Morrow and Inés Garcia. Reminders of the value of belonging to our national, state and local organization (a 100,000-voice strong vibrant community of powerful personal and professional contacts, relevant information, and valuable resources) were evident.

A table loaded with delicious refreshments occupied the center of the hall, and while everyone enjoyed the refreshments, they were able to browse and sign up at display tables set up by each study group including AAUW (Action, Armchair, Unparalleled, & Wannabe) Travelers, AAUW Art Tours, Books & Brunch Southwest, three different bridge groups, Classic Book Study, Contemporary Literature, Creative Stitchery, Culture and Cuisine, First Friday Book Review, Light Cuisine—Out to Lunch, Mah-Jongg, and PEARS. AAUW Funds Co-Chairs Anita Knight and Gail Simpler also staffed a table answering questions about the Educational Foundation and Legal Advocacy Funds and the work that is done through them. Adrian McCulloch oversaw a table for Expanding Your Horizons and got an early start in recruiting volunteers for the March conference for young girls organized by Girl Start with volunteer support from AAUW. Mainspring School's newest "wish list" was distributed, and Ann Berasley, who has just completed a term as Texas State President, was thanked by many for her service.

We were happy to have two members in attendance who have been much in our thoughts lately. Long time member and former Branch President Nita Hornback very recently lost her husband, so it was good to see her at the open house. It was a special treat to have Rita Kraft, who has been waging such a valiant fight against cancer, looking so chipper and lovely as she joined Diane Brewer at the art tour table.

Congratulations and many thanks to Marsha Endahl Kramer, membership vice president, and to Judy Reinhart, study groups coordinator, for organizing and hosting a very enjoyable and successful open house. Over a dozen new members joined, and several former members rejoined. Names and contact information for all new members will be published in the October newsletter.

Contributed by Marsha Endahl Kramer & Mary Ellen Scribner



◀ Present & Past Presidents
Three Generations of AAUW
Members ▶



◀ Sylvia wore a dress!
Rita's back! ▶



OPEN HOUSE AUGUST 22

AUSTIN BRANCH LEADERSHIP 2010-2011

- *Kay Watson – President – 447.2883 – kwatson03@austin.rr.com
- *Linda Leff – Program Vice President – 302.4373 – lindaleff@gmail.com
- *Marsha Endahl Kramer – Membership Vice President – at 906.2033 (H); 906.6566 - HughMarsha@aol.com
- *Dorothy Vance – Secretary – 373.3612 (H); 673.9696 (C) – arnoff321@cs.com
- *Inés Garcia – Treasurer; Yearbook Chair – 444.5643 – mig43@sbcglobal.net
- Dorothea Berasley - Telecommunications - 343.0370 - aauw-austin@sbcglobal.net
- Sylvia Gregory – Co-Telecommunications - 345.2420 – aauw.satgreg@yahoo.com
- Larayne Dallas – Archivist – 346.6830 or 495.4503 – ldallas@austin.utexas.edu
- Dr. Sylvia Garcia – UT Fellowship Chair – 288.6745 – gar04317@yahoo.com
- Tom Watson – Hospitality Chair – 447.2883 – kwatson03@austin.rr.com
- Janie Maldonado – Historian – 339.7742 or 414.4223 – jamaldonado@austinisd.org
- Mary Ellen Scribner – Newsletter Editor; International Affairs Chair – 255.8428 – mescribner@alumni.utexas.net
- Betty Owen – Mainspring Schools Advocacy Chair – 444.6015 – wrigleyac@gmail.com
- Raemar Shown – Expanding Your Horizons Chair – 258.1069 – raemar_shown@lycos.com
- Judy Reinhart – Study Groups Chair– 345.5936 – jareinhart@att.net
- Gail Simpler – AAUW Funds Co-Chair – 834.9481 – gsimpler@mail.utexas.edu
- Anita Knight – AAUW Funds Co-Chair – 329.8575 (H); 922.4469 (C) – dbasknight@aol.com
- Adrian McCulloch – Database Administrator – 820.1917 – adrian.mcculloch@gmail.com
- Dale Willimack – Diversity – 288.0913 – dwillimack@austin.rr.com
- Dr. Rosemary Morrow – Bylaws – 251.7212 – rmorr5@sbcglobal.net
- Natalie Balden – Women's Issues Chair – 288.7748 – nbalden@sbcglobal.net
- Elizabeth Newell – Parliamentarian – 345.1686 – enewell4@austin.rr.com
- Carol Fritz – Public Policy – 837.6835 – carolfritz@ymail.com

*Indicates elected officers; all others are appointed.