

American Association of University Women

Austin (TX) Branch

September 2011

Volume LXXVIV Number 7

BRANCH MEETING — SEPTEMBER 10, 2011

Inside this issue:

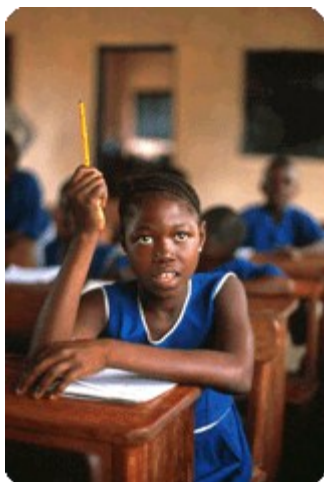
President's Message; Kudos to Members	2
August Open House	3
Meet our Newest Branch Members	4
National AAUW American Fellowship Recipients	5
September Activities Calendar	6
September Activities Calendar, <i>continued</i> ; more Kudos to Members	7

Phyllis Hickey, Operation Services Administrator for the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG), a professional honor society of women educators, is the featured speaker at our first branch meeting of the year. She will describe the "Schools for Africa" project DKG has undertaken in partnership with UNICEF. It has a special focus on girls, orphans, and vulnerable children.



In describing the project, Hickey will make global to local connections. She will also discuss the Conference for Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN) held recently in Austin, and will provide information about AAUW's role in global endeavors.

A former teacher and principal, Hickey received her B.A. in Behavioral Sciences and certification in elementary education from Annhurst College and M.A. in Computer Education from Eastern Connecticut State University. She is a long-time member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, serving in local, state, and international positions.



Newsletter Deadline is noon on the 20th of the preceding month. Send to: gsimpler@mail.utexas.edu

Questions? Call me at 834-9481 or 560-6329.
Thanks, Gail Simpler

Wyndham Garden Hotel

3401 IH 35 (NE corner IH 35 and Woodward St.) Austin, TX 78741

9:45—10:15 a.m. Registration, Socialize and Network

10:15—11:15 a.m. Program

11:15 a.m. Branch business meeting

12:00 p.m. Luncheon (\$20 w/reservation; \$30 at the door)

All members planning to attend should RSVP to Sylvia Gregory by 6 p.m. the Wednesday before the meeting via e-mail at aauw.satgreg@yahoo.com or by phone—345-2420. This includes members *only* attending the meeting, as well as those staying for lunch to ensure ample seating. There will be open seating for all members and guests. Everyone will be given their nametags when they check in. Those staying for lunch will also receive a lunch card to put at the place of their choosing. This procedure will encourage all members to mingle and allow the wait staff to serve lunch more efficiently.

Menu: Asian Chicken Salad: chilled sliced grilled chicken, mixed field greens, chow mein noodles, julienne carrots, tomato wedges, chopped peanuts with cilantro lime vinaigrette. All plated luncheons are served with House salad or Caesar salad, rolls and butter, Chef's Choice dessert, iced tea, hot tea, regular and decaffeinated coffee.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

The AAUW Austin Branch has just completed a sensational year driven by hard-working board members and volunteers. We have grown our branch membership. We have balanced the branch budget, which by the way, was audited as correct. We have enough money to offer an additional scholarship to a local college or university student and buy some needed equipment for our branch meetings and functions. The branch goals were written and approved, and we are well on our way to accomplishing those goals. New interest groups have sprung up.

Many dedicated members have worked on more than one committee. They have worked wherever they are needed. For example, **Gail Simpler**, who has more than her share of duties, stepped up to take on the job of newsletter editor. **Inés García** not only updated our budget and transferred funds to a facility which pays us more interest, but she also compiled and published our branch yearbook. She has updated this with a new yearbook that will go to print shortly. She is always there for advice and assistance. Inés has volunteered her home for meetings and assists with other meetings. **Marsha Endahl Kramer** has taken her duties as Membership Vice President to new heights with a significant increase in membership. Marsha started a new interest group called Books and Brunch Southwest. **Linda Leff** has performed admirably and quietly in providing our branch members with timely and appropriate programs for our branch meetings. Two of the main-stays of our organization are **Sylvia Gregory** and **Dorothea Berasley**, who have provided our telecommunications system. This is like a full time job with no boundaries on days and times. They have always been on call to send out information, as well as remind members of meetings and take reservations for lunch. Our Parliamentarian, **Elizabeth Newell**, is also an AAUW Texas state representative. She always attends our board meetings where she keeps us legal. She is now in the process of forming up the State Convention which will be held in Austin.

The above mentioned members will be honored by receiving an Award for Excellence. I need your help in finding other members who work beyond expectations for future awards. Just take a blank page, write in the name of the member, and tell me why that member should receive recognition. This year we will concentrate on making AAUW an interesting and fun place to be. We want to retain our wonderful members. Congratulations to you all for an extraordinary year. I wish YOU ALL a dynamite 2011-2012!

Kay Watson, President
AAUW Austin Branch

MORE KUDOS TO BRANCH MEMBERS...

The Austin Branch of AAUW joined the Greater Austin YWCA in honoring and congratulating our member **Maria Luisa "Lulu" Flores** at their recent Women of the Year Awards Celebration. Lulu received a Lifetime Achievement Award for all her efforts to help the women of Texas through her involvement with Planned Parenthood of the Texas Capital Region, the Women's Advocacy Project, and the Center for Battered Women (now SafePlace). She has also put her legal training and experience to good work for the National Women's Political Caucus, the Austin Women's Political Caucus, and the Hispanic Bar Association of Austin.

Four of her AAUW fans/sisters were pleased to attend the YWCA award dinner and were delighted to be recognized from the podium!



Congratulations to member **Gigi Edwards Bryant** for her cover photo and nine page feature story in the August 2011 issue of *Austin Woman*. It tells about her complicated and challenging early life, her philosophy, courage, and faith. These helped her become the skilled, successful, and well respected child and community advocate she is today. We are proud to have Gigi as a member of the Austin Branch.

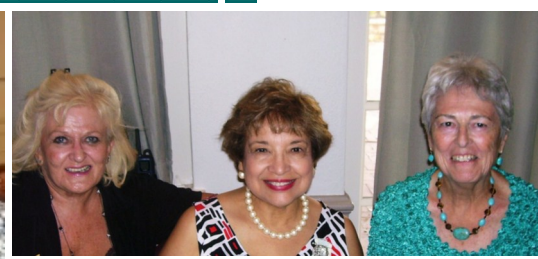


Open House - August 21, 2011

The Parish Hall of Good Shepherd Church was filled with high energy and creative displays documenting the dedication and fine work being done by our members. Members and guests mingled while having refreshments and learned about study and special interest groups, collaborative events with community partners, our University of Texas at Austin Fellowship, and AAUW Funds. Many viewed the quilted Holiday wall hanging being raffled to benefit the Educational Opportunities Fund and volunteers were found for many activities. We were blessed with a wonderful array of food and drink, flowers, and balloons. Sign-up sheets for a year of programs and events indicated this is going to be a very interesting, fun, and worthwhile year in the Austin Branch. New members were introduced and welcomed.

With your support and participation, we will continue to create an atmosphere of joy, strength, warm hospitality, and friendships that is authentic and inspirational. Our 130 year legacy is real and exciting. We share a strong commitment to educational and economic equity for women and girls with more than 100,000 "can do" members across the country. We are dedicated to supporting the mission of AAUW through

Research, Education, Advocacy, and Philanthropy.



NEW MEMBERS

Please join me in giving our new members a warm welcome:

Karen Duke (km_duke@hotmail.com) has a BA from Texas State University, (English, Communications/Theatre, and Education), a MA from The University of Texas at Austin (English/Education), and a PhD from the University of Houston (Curriculum and Instruction). Her last position was the Director of Education for the University United Methodist Church. Karen's hobbies and interests include reading, writing, traveling and being a grandmother.

Amy-Rose Forbes-Erickson

(forbes-erickson@mail.utexas.edu) is a 2011-2012 AAUW Fellowship recipient. She earned her BA *with honors* in Theatre Design at Central St. Martin's College of Art & Design, (London, England), her MA in Theatre from the University of Kentucky (Lexington), and is currently pursuing her PhD in Performance as Public Practice at The University of Texas at Austin. She is a published author of a chapter in *Africa and the Politics of Popular Culture*. Her husband Larry Erickson and precious three year old daughter attended the Open House. Amy-Rose is interested in "resources for mothers and families in need" and her hobbies include decorating and working on creative projects.

Julia Guernsey (juliaguernsey@mail.utexas.edu) is a 2010-2011 AAUW Fellowship recipient. She earned her BA from Marquette University, MA from the University of Wisconsin (Milwaukee) and PhD from The University of Texas at Austin. She is currently an associate professor in the Department of Art and Art History at UT Austin and has a son and daughter who are 14 and 11 years old.

Patricia Horton (patricia@runeskald.net) just graduated in May from St. Edward's University in Organizational Communication in Business. She is Harriet Horton's daughter-in-law and just moved from being a student affiliate to a full voting member! Patricia works for Round Rock ISD and the Round Rock Housing Authority as a Parent Community Outreach worker, giving support to middle schools in RISD. Married to Jasper Horton, they have a 10-year-old daughter. Her interests include Girl Scouts, jewelry making, American Marketing Association, equality for women, reading, and entertaining her daughter.

Tyra Lewis (tyra-lewis@sbcglobal.net) earned her BA at Boston College and MA from the University of Missouri in the fields of Spanish/Latin American Literature and Afro-Hispanic Literature. She is currently teaching Spanish at Austin Community College and is in customer service in retail.

Barbara "Bari" Sandstedt (bbsands2@gmail.com) earned her BA in Education/Psychology at Allegheny College (Meadville), a MA at the University of Pennsylvania, and a M Ed at the University of Delaware (Reading Specialist). She last worked as a Title I Reading Specialist in the West Chester Area School District in Pennsylvania. She has published a number of articles including "Relationship Between Memory Span and Intelligence of Severely Retarded Readers," and has served as Vice-President of the Nashville Symphony Guild and President of the Chester County Reading Association. Bari is an Elder and Deacon at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Her interests include: literacy, hunger, health, reading, writing, tutoring, helping with food banks, and serving at the Crossroads (Honduras). She also enjoys tennis, travel, ikebana, and photography.

Vivian Smith (vk-smith@austin.rr.com) earned her BA at Ottawa University (KS) in Education and her MA at Ball State University in Management. She retired as the Executive Director for the Breast Cancer Resource Center and currently is doing Consulting and Executive Coaching. She is married to Allan Tillman and has two family members who are active in the AAUW Kansas City Branch.

Manjula Sundaralingam (mrs7903@austin.rr.com) earned a BS in International Business from the University of Evansville (IN) and a MBA in Finance and Management from Southern Illinois University (Edwardsville). She is a tax advisor for H & R Block and volunteers at Faith in Action Caregivers and Caritas Soup Kitchen. Married to Christopher Lorren, she has one son who is a UT Austin student. Her hobbies are stamp collecting and watercolor art.

Submitted by Marsha Endahl Kramer



Breaking through Barriers

AAUW American Fellowships Program

American Fellowships support women scholars completing doctoral dissertations, conducting postdoctoral research, or finishing research for publication. Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

The oldest and largest of AAUW's fellowship and grant programs, the American Fellowships program began in 1888, a time when women were discouraged from pursuing an education. Now one of the largest sources of funding for graduate education for women, AAUW has provided more than \$83 million to more than 11,000 fellows and grantees since awarding its first fellowship to Vassar graduate Ida Street, a pioneer in the field of early American Indian history.

Scholarships and Awards 2011–12 Summary

Dissertation Fellowships: 58

Postdoctoral Fellowships: 11

Publication Grants: 14

Total Fellowships: 83

Women of Color: 17%

Eligible Applicants: 900

Total Awards: \$1,549,000

Congratulations to our new members who are American Fellows!

Name: **Amy-Rose Forbes-Erickson**

Degree and Field: Ph.D., Performance as Public Practice

Institution: The University of Texas at Austin

Location: Austin, Texas

Award Year: 2011-12

Project Name: Performance of Fluid Identities and Black Liminal Displacements



Amy-Rose Forbes-Erickson is an artist, theatre designer, and performance scholar. Her research challenges philosopher Judith Butler's notion of a fluidity of identities and investigates whether or not a fluidity of identities exists in West Indian women's gender performances. Her career goal is to start a women's arts organization dedicated to the promotion of disadvantaged Caribbean women artists and performers.

Name: **Julia Guernsey**

Degree and Field: Publication Grant, Art history and criticism

Institution: The University of Texas at Austin

Location: Austin, Texas

Award Year: 2010-11

Project Name: Potbellies, Fat Gods, and the Ancestors: Sculpture and Social Dynamics in Pre-classic Mesoamerica



Julia Guernsey is an associate professor in the Department of Art and Art History at The University of Texas at Austin, where she specializes in Mesoamerican art and culture. She is writing a book that focuses on the role of sculpture at the cusp of state formation in pre-classic Mesoamerica.



FIND OUT ABOUT ALL THE FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS AWARDED THIS YEAR
BY GOING TO THE MAIN AAUW WEBSITE: <http://www.aauw.org/>

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

September 6 - Classic Book Study Group meets at the Ralph Yarborough Branch Library, 2200 Hancock Dr. at 7 p.m. *The Power and the Glory* by Graham Greene. Discussion leader: Annette Haslund. Chair: Evelyn Boyer, 836-1492.

September 10 - Branch meeting and luncheon at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, 3401 IH 35 & Woodward St. Registration — 9:45 a.m. — Program — 10:15 a.m. Phyllis Hickey, speaker. "Schools for Africa Project" Lunch at noon follows business meeting.

September 11 - PEARS will take a Bat Watching Boat Ride at 7:30 p.m.; dinner at Threadgills before heading to the boat dock. RSVP to Mary Frances Rogerson, 394-5688. Chair: Veronica Johnson, 338-1254.

September 12 - Books and Brunch Southwest will gather at 10:30 a.m. at the home of hostess and facilitator Cherie Wilson, 9302 Lauralan, to discuss *Team of Rivals*. RSVP to Cherie, 288-0597. Chair: Ruth Falck, 551-8333.

September 12 - Contemporary Literature meets at the Old Quarry Branch Library, 7051 Village Center Dr. at 7:15 p.m. *The Way the Crow Flies: A Novel* by Ann-Marie McDonald. Discussion leader: Mary Ellen Scribner. Chair: Fern Chester, 345-1102.

September 14 - Second Wednesday Bridge, 4 p.m. Call Judy Reinhart, 345-5936, for more information; hostess and location change monthly.

September 15 - Culture and Cuisine meets at the home of Peggy Holland, 10705 Leafwood Lane, at 6:30 p.m. Co-hostess is: Rima Xoyamayagua-Undavia. "The Soul of India" is the theme for the evening. RSVP to Peggy, 335-1224 or Rima, 491-0522. Chair: Mary Owens, 454-9339.

September 19 - AAUW Travel Study Group meets at the North Village Branch Library, 2505 Steck Ave. at 2 p.m. to learn about Norway with Veronica Johnson. Co-Chairs: Mary Ellen Scribner, 255-8428 and Adrian McCulloch, 820-1917.

September 20 - AAUW Out to Lunch meets at North by Northwest (NXNW) Restaurant, 10010 Capital of TX Hwy. N at 11 a.m. RSVP to Hostess: Carol Fritz, 837-6835. Chair: Veronica Johnson, 338-1254.



Veronica Johnson will be glad to tell you all about PEARS, Out to Lunch, and the LAF Fundraiser at 10,000 Villages on Monday, Dec. 5, 2011!

STUDY/INTEREST GROUPS

One of the benefits of being a member of the Austin Branch is the opportunity to participate in ANY study or interest group. Some belong to just one; many enjoy the activities in a number of groups. Have an idea about starting a new study or interest group? Great! Contact Judy Reinhart, Study Group Coordinator (345-5936) and she will be glad to assist you. All study groups must abide by AAUW policies and principles. Attendees are expected to be members of the branch. AAUW-eligible guests may attend no more than two (2) meetings of the same study group per fiscal year. Need specific information about a group? Call the group Chair!



The AAUW (Action, Armchair, Unparalleled, and Wannabe) Travel Study Group explores the world on third Mondays.

Continued on next page

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES, *continued*

September 21 - Creative Stitchery meets at the home of Hostess Fern Chester, 8618 Willowick Dr. at 10 a.m. Co-Hostess: Jan Roberts. Remember to bring sack lunch. Co-Chairs: Jan Roberts, 371-0782 and Dorothea Berasley, 343-0370.

September 28 - Fourth Wednesday Bridge, 4 p.m. Call Sarah Ezell, 343-8394, for more information; hostess and location change monthly.

September 28 - Art Tour Group learns about conservation and preservation of cultural property on paper from Cheryl Carrabba, Director and Conservator of Carrabba Conservation, Inc., 9002 Anderson Mill Rd. at 10 a.m. Hostess: Mary Ellen Scribner. Lunch: DiMassi's Mediterranean Buffet, 12636 Research Blvd., (all inclusive lunch buffet: \$9.99). Chair: Diane Brewer, 328-0474.

Every Thursday Bridge - Bridge at the Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave. (29th and N. Lamar) — 9:30 a.m. to Noon. Chair: Dorothy Ramsey, 442-3841.



Kay Goodwin, Marsha Endahl Kramer, Rose Erlich, Etta Endahl
Kay Goodwin, Austin Branch President 1971-1973, recently played her violin with The Silver Strings Orchestra at the Heritage at Gaines Ranch to entertain Austin Branch residents Rose Erlich and Etta Endahl. Rose celebrated her 99th birthday this year. Etta joined AAUW in 1944; Kay joined AAUW in 1949. Membership Vice President Marsha Endahl Kramer enjoyed attending the musical event with her mother and branch members.



Study Group Coordinator Judy Reinhart helped Peggy Holland and Dixie Schurle greet members and guests at the Open House.



Austin Branch member **Linda Young**, shown with her Executive Board (center in blue jacket), was just elected President of the National Women's Political Caucus for 2011-2013. Their website says "...Linda has been involved with the Caucus for decades and was the former 1st Vice President and VP-Development. We look forward to an exciting term full of growth and momentum in our mission to increase women's political participation in all walks of life. We want to thank the Board of 2009-2011, especially 2007-2011 President **Lulu Flores** for all the dedication, strength and courage she has shown over her four years of service..."

CONGRATULATIONS TO LINDA!

and thank you to Lulu for her years of service to encourage women's participation in political endeavors.



SAVE THE DATE

October 8, 2011

Our Branch Meeting will be held
at the newly renovated
Mainspring School building
1100 West Live Oak
Watch for Details!