



American Association of University Women AAUW Austin (Texas) Branch

CHRISTY PIPKIN FROM THE NOBELITY PROJECT IS NOVEMBER MEETING SPEAKER



Christy Pipkin is the executive director of the Nobility Project, which she and her husband, writer and filmmaker Turk Pipkin, co-founded in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The Nobility Project is an education and action nonprofit working in schools, on film and through community partner projects to promote basic rights for all of our children. Christy says, "I am a firm believer that local action has global impact, and that no act is too small to matter. At times global issues can seem overwhelming, but I like to remember when Desmond Tutu told us of a saying in Africa—'There is only one way of eating an elephant...one piece at a time.'"

At the November 13 Branch meeting, Christy will share the local and international projects on which the nonprofit is now focused. That includes the *1000 Books for Hope* campaign which is helping to fill five Kenyan libraries

with quality books. You are invited to take part in the effort by bringing to the Branch meeting a book (preferably hardcover) in which you have written an inspirational note to show your love. The books will go to libraries ranging from primary to high school, so don't stop with just one!

Ruth Falck has arranged for the November 13 meeting to be at Chez Zee American Bistro located at 5406 Balcones Drive. The luncheon meeting will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. There are several entrée options:

1. Pecan crusted salmon - with rice pilaf and green beans
2. Pork tenderloin with black cherry sauce – with rice pilaf and green beans
3. Grilled chicken and hummus - with mixed greens & lemon vinaigrette and grilled pita bread
4. Mediterranean pasta (vegetarian) – sautéed Kalamata olives and mushrooms in a garlic white wine sauce tossed with fettuccine, feta cheese and fresh basil

All entrées will be served with a garden salad, sourdough bread with olive oil, dessert, soft drinks, coffee & iced tea. Tax and tip are included in the price of \$22 per person; bring cash or check made payable to AAUW Austin (sorry, no credit cards). Cancellations must be made by Friday, and no-shows will be billed for the full amount of the luncheon cost.

PLEASE RSVP with your entrée selection before November 7th at austinaauw@gmail.com or call Ruth Falck at 550-6449 if you do not have access to email.

**Care for our
planet by car
pooling!**

**At the November 13 meeting we will also be
celebrating the 89th birthday of the
Austin Branch of AAUW!**



BRANCH BUSINESS

AAUW FUNDS NEWS

HONORING OUR OWN

For each \$500 the Austin Branch contributes to the various AAUW Funds, the Branch is able to honor a member with a "Named Gift" certificate from AAUW. This national program allows us to honor members who deserve special recognition and appreciation and whose service to the Austin Branch and to AAUW has been noteworthy. Please participate in this process by nominating a member or members who, in your opinion, deserve(s) this award.

How to nominate: please send an email or letter with the following information to the address below: 1) nominee's name; 2) your name; and 3) a brief paragraph stating the reasons(s) supporting this nomination.

Mary Braunagel-Brown, AAUW
Funds Chair
mbbsbb@earthlink.net or
7321 Roaring Springs Dr.
Austin TX 78736

The deadline for nominations is December 1, 2012. Please take a few minutes to "Honor Our Own." A "Named Gift" committee will review nominations, and the honorees will be introduced at a future meeting.



The Collin Street Bakery's club sales program in which a portion of your purchase price

of fruitcakes and other holiday treats benefits the Branch will continue right up to the holidays. Order forms with our Branch code are available (contact me), or order online at www.collinstreet.com/. If you order online, be sure to enter the code **AAUW-Co12** so the Branch will get credit for your purchases.

Thanks for your continued support of our fundraising activities.

Dr. Mary Braunagel-Brown,
AAUW Funds Chair - 301.4568;
mbbsbb@earthlink.com

AAUW and Girlstart: A Lasting Partnership

The relationship between Girlstart and AAUW has always been special: as a collective of empowered women seeking to improve the welfare of our future generations, as mutual colleagues in advancing STEM education for girls, and of course, in our work to foster the Girls in STEM (aka Expanding Your Horizons) program, a highly successful tradition. AAUW's commitment to Girls in STEM has allowed it to grow dramatically and to serve more girls in the region.

Owing to Girlstart's growth and the significant talents of the AAUW membership, there are possibilities to nurture and deepen our relationship at the same time we are afforded more types of volunteer oppor-

tunities for AAUW members. This new structure--effective September 2012--respects and values members' time as well as their collective and individual wisdom, skills, and expertise. We believe that this new structure will allow for an improved working relationship.

As Girlstart's volunteer needs are aligned with its updated and expanded programming, there will be several new opportunities for AAUW members to sign up for including *After School CREW* (Creative, Resourceful, Empowered Women); *Community STEM CREW*; and *Girls in STEM CREW* support.

Lilac Bauer, 291.9032
Girlstart Liaison
la_azucena@hotmail.com

**HOLIDAY
SOCIAL IS
DECEMBER
2nd
2-4 p.m.**



The past presidents of the Austin Branch cordially invite all members to attend the annual holiday social this year on December 2 at Westminster Manor, 4100 Jackson Avenue, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the fifth floor solarium. Come and share holiday cheer, music, food, and greet your AAUW friends.

Free parking is available in the TxDOT lot adjacent to Westminster Manor.

BRANCH BUSINESS

**MESSAGE FROM THE
BRANCH PRESIDENT**

A suggestion was made that we adopt a theme for the Branch program year. After Linda Young's inspirational speech at the AAUW-TX State Convention in April, I adopted something similar to her message of "Coalitions and Sisterhood," namely "Collaboration and Celebration." That entailed emphasizing networking as well as having fun! I hope you agree that collaboration on the CTAUN Conference, the "Austin Women Vote" project, Girlstart, and fundraising with Barnes & Noble bookstores and Paradox Players are all worthwhile. In addition, we have reason to celebrate with both a summer and a holiday social; interesting and eager new members; the Branch's 89th birthday in November; the new AAUW research report *Graduating to a Pay Gap* (which was made possible by support from a Giving Circle and contributions to the AAUW Eleanor Roosevelt Fund); and program speakers like our own very inspirational Gigi!

Changes have been made in the board structure with a goal of streamlining through consolidating/sharing roles, as well as in the monthly program times and venues with the hope of attracting new audiences and accommodating our varied schedules. Our new



Gigi Bryant , Chairwoman of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Council

website (<http://austin-tx.aauw.net/>) and publicity channels have netted greater attention to our Branch activities, and more outreach and community involvement can only increase our visibility and impact.

Speaking of change, there is always a conflict between hope for change and fear of change. All over the world we are seeing that, from the social media influence on the Arab Spring to Saudi and Afghan people who fear Western influences (scary for me to read in recent *Newsweek* about a Wahhabi woman in a large sheltered bigamous family who does not even want to drive), to you who may miss some of the old Branch ways. Your board has planned and undertaken several changes which we hope are positive and acceptable to

our diverse members and interests. We also welcome your ideas for programs, venues, newsletter and web content, and community involvement. Call or e-mail your board members and me. Thanks and have fun!

Anita Knight, 329.8575
Branch President
dbasknight@aol.com

**THE 2013 AAUW
NATIONAL
CONVENTION IS RIGHT
AROUND THE CORNER!**

Plans are under way to make this the most exciting, energizing, information-packed, and fun-filled national convention ever. If New Orleans is on your must-see or must-return-to list, 2013 is your year! Convention registration opens soon, so keep an eye on the website for details!

(<http://www.aauw.org/>)



Join us in New Orleans on June 9-12, 2013, as we explore the topic, *Leading across Generations!*



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By mid-October, the Branch membership count had reached 171 members; we are a healthy, thriving organization!

The most recent new member is **Geraldyn Cassidy**, who loves to be called Jerry. We are now sharing her dual membership with the Charleston, South Carolina Branch, where she was a very active participant. Her address is 6905 Bancroft Woods Drive, Austin, TX 78729. Jerry does not have email, but her phone number is 401.3782. She lives north and would love to participate in some of our activities, north folks, so give her a call if there is something afoot she might like. Jerry has a remarkable past as a symphonic orchestra violinist and as a writer! She received her B.A. in 1946 from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She has been an AAUW member since the sixties. During her South Carolina days she was president of the Charleston Branch, served on the South Carolina State Board, and was the recipient of three Education Foundation awards. She has been published in numerous newspapers and magazines; was president of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra League; and served as president of the Alliance of Unitarian Churches, Charleston. Gerry recently moved to Austin to be closer to her only daughter, Karen.

We are happy to welcome back **Rima Xoyamayagua-Undavia**, who recently renewed her membership but unfortunately not in time for the latest yearbook. Her contact

information remains the same as in the previous year's book: 8515 Parkfield Drive, Austin, TX 78758; phone 491.0522; work: 491.1175; and email: taksi_2000@yahoo.com. Rima is deeply interested in work on an international scope and supports the Bali Children's Project, which works to assist children, especially girls, who otherwise would not be educated. Rima is also interested in gardening.



Cheryl Page

At the October Branch meeting, new members **Ruth Rubio, Elaine Penn, Cheryl Page, and Maggie Kadlecek** were among the nearly forty people who turned out to hear Gigi Bryant's inspiring story of surviving the foster system. Survive she did! This beautiful,



Maggie Kadlecek

courageous role model takes her story straight to the Capital of Texas, where she works on behalf of foster children and makes herself available to those kids who need help NOW! She has a hotline that she responds to immediately. I loved hearing her story as did everyone in the room. Her whole point is that the foster system is broken and needs to be made much better, safer, and beneficial to the innocents who are placed into it. Bravo, Gigi, for the work you are doing!



Elaine Penn

Our membership continues to inspire me. Where else can you associate with so many women of talent and purpose?

Diane Brewer, 328.0474
Membership Vice President



The deadline for newsletter items is the 20th of the month. Please send items in digital format, if possible, to maryscribner@gmail.com.

November Calendar of Branch Activities

November 2, 10 a.m.

Book Review: Hyde Park Church of Christ. *Nothing Daunted: the Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West*, by Dorothy Wickenden, to be reviewed by Evelyn Boyer. Chair: Natalie Balden, 288.7748.

November 5, 7:15-8:30 p.m.

Contemporary Literature: Old Quarry BL, 7051 Village Center Dr. *Paris Wife* (Paula McLain). Discussion leader: Ginny Tannebring. Chair: Fern Chester, 345.1102.

November 7, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Dinner & a Movie: Call Dorothy Vance at 373.3612 (H), 673.9696 (C) or Lois Shaevel at 266.0273 (H) for specific details.

November 12, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. SW Book Group. Hostess is Mary Kate Fredriksen & facilitator is Lilac Bauer. *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward. Chair: Marsha Endahl Kramer, 906.2033 (H) or 906.6566 (C).

November 13, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Branch meeting. Chez Zee American Bistro. Complete information on page 1.

November 13, 11 a.m. Out to Lunch: Attend Branch meeting at Chez Zee. Chair: Veronica Johnson (338.1254).

November 13, 6:30 p.m. Second Tuesday Night Bridge. Contact: Elaine Penn, 970.5051.

November 14 10 a.m. Creative Stitchery with hostess Angie Clark (255.5668) and co-hostess Kay Goodwin (467.8255).

November 14, 4 p.m. Second Wednesday Bridge. Contact Judy Reinhart (345.5936).

INTEREST GROUP NEWS

The newly formed **hiking group** took its first hike on one of the best Steiner Ranch trails. Seven eager hikers joined coordinator **Dorothy Vance** at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, September 28. Dorothy said that she thoroughly enjoyed leading and sometimes following a most eager group of ladies who were surprisingly wide awake at that early hour! The weather report thankfully predicted that the oncoming storm system would not reach Austin till later in the day; still, the hikers were surprised by--but enjoyed--a short light shower as they moved along the trail. Two hours and about three miles later, they gathered for coffee and friendship at the local coffee shop.



Hiking group on Steiner Ranch Trail - Ginny Tannebring, Dorothy Vance, Lois Shaeval, Veronica Johnson, Cherie Wilson, Anita Knight, Ruth Falck

Art Tour Day Trip This Month!

On November 28 the art tour group will carpool to the Gault Site, an archeological dig located at 3433 FM 2843, Florence, TX 76527 [<http://www.gaultschool.org/Home.aspx>]. Admission is \$10 per person. The 1/4 to 1/3 mile trail is rough in a couple of spots. If someone thinks she might be uncomfortable on the trail, there is the possibility of riding a golf cart usually on the premises. Two portapotties provide toilet facilities.

The carpool meeting point (at 9 a.m. sharp!) will be in front of the Barnes & Noble Bookstore in La Frontera Village located at I35 and FM 1325. After visiting the site, we will have lunch at Wild Fire [check out their extensive menu at www.wildfiretexas.com/] in Georgetown. Our hostess is **Adrian McCulloch** (820.1917; adrian.mcculloch@gmail.com). For more information contact Adrian or art group chair **Diane Brewer** (328.0474).

INTEREST GROUP NEWS

November Calendar of Branch Activities
(continued from preceding page)

November 15, 6:30 p.m.

Culture & Cuisine: Hostess: Dixie Schurle (453.2289). [More information else where on this page.]

November 15, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Fourth Tuesday Book Group

with hostess & facilitator Lois Shaevel. *Kabul Beauty School: An American Woman Goes Behind the Veil* by Deborah Rodriguez. Chair: Ruth Falck (550.6449).

November 16

Hiking. McKinney Falls State Park. Contact: Ginny Tannebring (Home: 477.3579; Cell: 922.9645).

November 17

AAUW PEARS: *Ragtime Musical* at Zachary Scott Theatre. Leaders: Peggy & Leon Holland, 335.1224.

November 26

Branch Board Meeting: Howson BL.

November 28, 9 a.m.**Art Group Day Trip:**

Carpool meeting point is in front of the La Frontera Barnes & Noble. Proceed to Florence to visit the Gault Site archeological dig. Lunch at the Wild Fire in Georgetown. Hostess: Adrian McCulloch (829.1917 or adrian.mcculloch@gmail.com.) Chair Diane Brewer (328.0474). [More information on page 5.]

November 28, 4 p.m.**Fourth Wednesday Bridge.**

Contact Sara Ezell (343.8494).

Every Thursday, 9:30 a.m.

Bridge at the Senior Center. Call Dorothy Ramsey (442.3841) for more information.

Dorothy Vance and **Lois Shaevel** co-hosted the first gathering of AAUW's newly formed **movie & dinner group** Wednesday, October 3 at the Arbor Regal Cinemas. Ten members arrived promptly and quickly introduced themselves all around, and entered enthusiastically in the merriment of taking our first group photo in our theatre seats. As the movie progressed, unfortunately, disappointment and a sense of betrayal emerged while watching *The Master* unfold. A film to which many movie critics gave high praise was actually described by viewer reviews as "ponderous" and "opaque" despite superb performances by Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Joaquin Phoenix. But dinner at PF Chang's helped a great deal to raise our spirits and enliven the overall mood of fun again. Films under consideration for the future include *Anna Karenina*, *Les Miserable*, and *Quartet*. The next gathering is scheduled for November 7. To join the group call or e-mail Dorothy Vance (arnoff321@cs.com; 373.3612 H) or Lois Shaevel (266.0273; gatorgal66@yahoo.com.,)



Standing: Ruth Falck, Cheryl Page, Dorothy Vance, Syd Popinsky, Lois Shaevel. Seated: Carol Fritz, Rachel Flake, Veronica Johnson, Laurel O'Neill, Anneliese Ellerton.

Culture & Cuisine will be held on November 15 at the home of **Dixie Schurle**. The theme will be Thanksgiving, and Dixie is asking that those planning to attend contact her with two food items they would potentially like to bring. When she has all this information, she will plan the menu and then notify each person which one of her two items to bring. Contact Dixie at 453.2289 or arlodixie.schurle@gmail.com.



OUR MEMBERS

CONDOLENCES to RYAN'S FAMILY

Our hearts reach out to Branch family **Nancy Myers** (great grandmother), **Pam Myers** (grandmother), and **Tracie Montanio** (mother) in the loss of their precious little boy, Ryan Anthony Montanio.



Ryan was a happy baby who struggled with heart and lung issues from birth, and on Sunday, September 23, one week shy of his first birthday, he went to be one of God's little angels. Nancy says that "In his one short year Ryan gave us much joy with his infectious smile and personality. The family is grateful that the hospital took Ryan's heart and lungs for teaching and research purposes. It is our fond hope that another child someday will benefit from what they learn in his case." In that same loving spirit the family requests that memorials be made to the American Heart Association, Ronald McDonald House, Texas Children's Hospital, or Dell Children's Hospital.

A YouTube video created by Ryan's parents expresses the love and place in their lives that Ryan continues to hold: <http://youtube.com/watchv=3WpPMEnzhqE>

BRANCH MEMBER PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

Branch member **Shannon McKeon** studied foods and nutrition at Texas A&I University where she received a bachelor of science degree. In 2010, she received a master's degree in human nutrition from Texas State University and holds a state license as a credentialed dietitian/nutritionist. Now she has published *Food Consciousness: A Food Relationship Revolution*.



Shannon writes, "Somewhere in our evolution from Neanderthal to creative human to technological human, we have disconnected from our relationship with food as nourishment and foolishly connected to something that almost resembles medication

and/or entertainment. The American relationship with food has drifted away from eating whole foods prepared in the home to fast food dining, or buying items in the grocery store that are nutrient-depleted convenience foods. It seems that Americans have lost their sense of consciousness to the hypnotic marketing strategies of the food companies and have succumbed to being objectified as a consumer, not as wise spiritual beings having human experiences. What has happened to us?"

Shannon's book and much more information are available on her very attractive website, *Mind UR Food Where Consciousness & Nutrition Unite* [<http://mindurfood.com/Home.html>].

MAINSRING TEACHERS' WISH LIST

We don't have room to list all the individual teachers' wish lists this month, but here are some of their collective needs to think about as you begin your holiday shopping.

Office:

- Medicine for teachers (Advil, Pepto, etc.)
- Medicine for children (fever reduce, teething gel, etc.)

Kitchen:

- Three plastic cutting boards
- Coffee for teachers

All:

- Volunteers to read to the children
- Volunteers to help with art work
- Volunteers to help with the work in preparation for the move to the temporary building

Contact Betty to learn about other Mainspring needs, where to drop off items, or where to voice your wish to volunteer.

Betty Owen, 444-6015
Mainspring Schools Liaison



IT'S MY VOTE

I WILL BE HEARD
A A U W A C T I O N F U N D



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