May, 2017

Page 6-7 And More...

BUZZzzz

nd girls through research.

I Kramer – Page 8

AAUW Austin, Texas Branch Next Meeting Saturday, May 6, 2017 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	MEM	WYOUR BERSHIP AAA mpowering w	omen sinc	e 1881
Norris Center Northcross Mall RSVP to Diane by April 30th zdramamom@austin.rr.com	Page 2 Calendar O	Pages 3-4 AAUW in Action ur Mission. Advancing advocacy, education mbership Vote Editoria	Page 5 Get-acquaint equity for women n, philanthropy, an	Page 6-7 ed BUZZ and girls thro d research.

May 6: Annual Introduction of UT Fellows, **Installation of Branch Officers**

Fellowship Recipients 2017-2018

The UT Fellowship Team has awarded three fellowships of \$2,500.00 to three very deserving women. Jean Bessent, UT Fellowship chair, reported, that the team consisting of Joyce Pulich, Ruth Rubio and Mary Ellen Scribner, (Janet Widoff soon to join) had a difficult time narrowing it down to three winners from an outstanding field of 16 applicants

Deirdre Lannon Albrecht: A history PhD candidate whose dissertation is titled: "Finding Her Voice: The Humble Odyssey of Ruth Mary Reynolds." Her "project biographizes Ruth Mary Reynolds, a religious pacifist and missionary who helped found the American League for Puerto Rico's Independence in New York City in 1944.

Allison Kim: An Art History PhD candidate whose dissertation is titled: "Vasari as Painter: Imitation, Invention, and Professional Identity." Her dissertation "considers Vasari's painting production as an integral component of his professional identity.

Kristina Schoen: A Germanic Studies PhD candidate whose dissertation is titled: "Gaining language XP through story-playing: Meaning-making and L2 (second language) learner engagement in a narrativedriven digital game." Her "research aims to provide the holistic perspective on DGBLL" (Digital Game Based Language Learning) which is underrepresented in scholarship."

New Branch Officers

As members of AAUW we take pride in the contributions of our organization to the support of women's scholarship and equity in the workplace at both the association, state and the branch levels. Our success is possible only with the commitment of our membership under the direction of capable leaders.

Thanks to the Nominating Committee (Ines Garcia, Tamara Hudgins, Anita Knight, Delia Quintanilla, and Janet Widoff), the following slate of Board Officers for 2017-18 was presented and accepted by acclamation at the April 12th branch meeting. They will be installed on May 6. Please attend to extend your full support to incoming officers of AAUW Austin Branch.

- Co-Presidents:
 - Mary Ellen Scribner • Elaine Penn
 - VP Membership: Linda Welsh
- Treasurer: Roberta Coffin



May, 2017

MAY CALENDAR				
•	ary Literature at Fern Chester's:	PEAR	e.	Planning meeting & dinner
May 1	Capital Dames: The Civil War and the	May 2	-	Mimi's at Galleria
	Women of Washington	(5:00		
(7:15 PM)	Author: Cokie Roberts	(0.00	,	512-261-0627, <u>magliz@sbcqlobal.net</u>
	Leader: Fern Chester			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Contact: Fern Chester, 512-345-1102			
Out to Lund	ch:			Planning meeting for the coming year
May 2	Shady Grove and PLANNING!	May 2	24	and fabulous BRUNCH at Mary Frances
(11:00 AM)	1624 Barton Springs Road			Rogerson's home, 2022 Goodrich Avenue, 512-394-5688
	RSVP: Diane Brewer, 512-328-0474			Contact: Diane Brewer
	zdramamom@austin.rr.com			zdramamom@austin.rr.com
Firet Friday	AM Book Review:			
May 5	Mark and Livy			this second and invited to de this would
	Author: Resa Willis	IVI	URE	things we are invited to do this month
	Reviewer: Gayle Smith			and next: SAVE THE DATES!
	Hostess: Beverly Locklin			
	Contact: Beverly Locklin, 512-343-0782			
	blocklin@austin.rr.com			AAUW members in good standing with
				e email addresses at our national office
Branch Mee	eting:			received an email with instructions to
May 6	Branch meeting			ine. Just like with our 2015 election, this tained a unique, personalized link that
	Come and celebrate our UT Fellows!			mbers to vote online without having to
	See page 1.			eir member ID or voter pin. Because the
Southwest	Books			ed email is unique to each member, it
May 8	Fieldwork			be shared. Members can also navigate
	Author: Mischa Berlinski			ne ballot from the AAUW homepage and
(10.007.00)	Hostesses: Sylvia Garcia, Susan			their member ID and voter PIN. Those will be included in the voter email and on
	James			of your Spring <i>Outlook</i> magazine. Voting
	Facilitator: Dixie Schurle			June 15.
	Contact: Ann Marie Elllis,			
	512-282-9637	June	14-1	17 AAUW Biennial National Convention
				Washington, D.C.Austin members
Creative St				attending: Delia Quintanilla, Pat Rehm,
May 17	Hostess: Fern Chester			Linda Anderson Welsh, Pam Wolfe
(10:00 AM)	Co-hostess: Lynn Cooksey Contact: Fern Chester, 512-345-1102	June	23	Summer/Joint Board Meeting
	fernchester@aol.com			PM) North Village Branch Library
		、		2505 Steck Ave.
Culture & C		_		
May 18	Planning Potluck with Picnic Foods	June	24	11th annual African American Book
(6:30 PM)	Hostess: Lynn Cooksey			Festival at the Carver Museum and
	Contact: Barbara Houston,			Library Contact: Mary Ellen Scribner
	512-633-9766 barbyhouston@gmail.com			512.255.8428,
	barbynouston@gnan.com			maryescribner@gmail.com
		-		

AAUW in ACTION

CO-PRESIDENT Marsha's MESSAGE: This is my last



letter to you as outgoing Co-President! There are so many reasons to celebrate the members and achievements of this past program year 2016-2017.

Your Board of Directors from day one has been dedicated, creative, hardworking and has

gone "above & beyond" when serving this branch. Co-President **Marina Rivers** single handedly planned our excellent programs and arranged for the monthly venues, chaired our General Meetings and helped me support individual officers as they served their varied roles. I set agendas, in consultation with officers wanting Board input on issues, handled the Board meetings, followed up where needed and represented you at various community events. Our secretary **Resa Dunn** insured excellent records of what happened this past year and Treasurer **Kathy Robertson** kept accurate books and brought to our attention items needing Board attention. **Elaine Penn**, ably handled our huge and growing membership aided by attention to details and greeter & art tour leader extraordinaire **Diane Brewer**.

Judy Reinhart, who partway through the year stepped into the VP of Program role, is already hard at work planning for this coming year with her committee. **Anita Knight**, after Co-Chairing the Funds Committee with me for 1½ yrs. now serves as Co- with new enthusiastic and skilled member **Debbie Starr**, and they are continuing the very successful card project.

By-Laws have been updated as have job descriptions, thanks to Pam Wolfe and Janie Maldonado, who as long time loval branch members have been helpful with sharing important knowledge of the past with an eye on the future. We have benefited from Pam Wolfe serving as our AAUW State President and the job she, Sylvia Garcia and Jean Bessent have done with Public Policy this year with April Lobby Day, and our January Pro Women's Rights March was extraordinary for planning, communication and the turn out of our members! Jean also underwrote and hosted a regional reception the night before Lobby Day and chaired the committee for UT scholarships. Janie served as liaison to Mainspring Schools (which we founded during WWII for disadvantaged families) and is currently organizing our annual staff luncheon for the teachers. Kay Keys led an enormous task along with our talented and creative web mistress Janani Janakiraman of researching, adding to and editing our HERstory (currently on our web site, austin-tx.aauw.net, awaiting any additions per your perusal). We are hoping this material will be published into a booklet, complete with photos. (Special thanks to long time former President Veronica Johnson, now active in Minneapolis AAUW, for sharing her information and photos.) Continue on page 4

STEM News: from Lilac Bauer

512-743-6338 <u>la azucena@hotmail.com</u> Thanks to all who helped with STEM events. We filled 615 bags for the Girlstart project with everything from their opening STEM project to pencils."

<u>Girlstart goodie bags</u>: Roberta Coffin, Lilac Bauer, Mary Kate Fredriksen, Kay Keys, Mary Frances Rogerson, Gayle Smith, Jackie Hardee, Marsha Endahl Kramer, Brenda Hahne.



Latinitas Design Chica Conference: Mary Braunagel-Brown, Roberta Coffin, Janani Janakiraman, Anita Knight, Maanasa Nathan, Judy Reinhart & niece from Fort Worth, Mary Ellen Scribner. Kavya & Priya Ramamoorthy presented a robotic workshop.

FUNd-rai\$ing for AAUW!!

New Co-Chair **Debbie Starr** has prepared a new set of cards with flowers, women, beautiful scenes and your choice of *in honor, in memory,* or *in celebration.*

Pick one or more at our meetings for a \$25 tax deductible for your donation to AAUW Fund(s). At the April meeting, we already raised over \$300!

See also "Named Gift" honorees on page 6.

May, 2017

AAUW in ACTION

President's Message Continued...

Brenda Hahne has been our special Interest Group Chair and has seen several groups grow to record numbers; some needing to split amicably to accommodate numbers hosted in private homes. Lilac Bauer served again as our dedicated liaison to GirlStart and Latinitas and ensured plentiful volunteers and resources were available for their projects. Some behind the scenes work needs recognition: Betty Schmidt's newsletter copying and mailing and touching base with our homebound members with no access to computers is much appreciated, as is Larie Amsler's role as our Sunshine person and special Hospitality assistant. Larayne Dallas, archivist for many years, gathers our information and submits it to the Historical Center. Past President Ines Garcia did another fabulous job, almost single handedly, on this past year's Yearbook. Soon Merz, again served as our liaison with ACC and has helped with the website & several venues. Last but not least, is Anita Knight for whom I gave a special President's Award last month. Her newsletter is exemplary; her role as Past President and much valued, trusted and wise consultant weekly on so many issues, from assisting the **HERstory** project to chairing the Nominating Committee, continues to make my job and the Board's so much more "doable."

It has taken all of us to do all the projects and participate in gatherings small and large. We "person" a table at the Women's Empowerment Conference, we meet and greet people both formally or informally at book fairs, community events (such as those celebrating Black History Month), book-author gatherings, we attend monthly general meetings, we continue to educate ourselves with fine speakers, publications and networking about local, statewide and national women's issues. Many of you either chair or serve on committees helping to do the detailed work necessary to make a difference. Many of you have stepped up to volunteer, from gift wrapping to raise funds, stuffing 615 *GirlStart* bags to support their conference, driving older members to and from meetings, to your generous support of funds.

We need to recognize the twin daughters of Janani Janakiraman, Kavya and Priya Ramamoorthy, both student members of our branch, along with our college/university partner, UT liaison Dr. Soncia Reagins-Lily, and supported by their mother, founded the new UT AAUW-Student affiliate branch. Their leadership and dedication has been evident since first getting involved with our branch when researching Title IX for an award winning nation-wide history project as high school students. On Equal Pay Lobbying Day, Kavya spoke to representatives from across the state about this group and serving as campus leaders of the next generation of women students studying to earn their university degrees.

The energy, awareness, fellowship, friendships and dedication shown by you, our members, continue to awe and inspire me. A few of you participate only by paying your local, state, and national dues but that is OK. Your membership as part of 170,000 members and supporters makes us strong. Our voice is strong, our goals are lofty and our membership in this important organization deserves our pride and recognition.

PUBLIC POLICY: Sylvia Garcia at 512-826-1371 Sylvia hoping to have a new co-chair – call her for special activities and advocacy!

Equal Pay Day Lobby Day



Thanks, Jean Bessent, for sharing your home for the lobby day training and social event. About 18 attended in preparation for the next day at the Capitol.

APPRECIATION IN ACTION: Mainspring School Teacher and Staff Appreciation Lunch

May 3, 2017, 12:00 (noon) 1100 W Live Oak St. 78704

The Mainspring School was founded by AAUW during WWII for children of disadvantaged families and is still going strong! ".

Every year the Austin Branch of AAUW treats the faculty and staff of the school to a luncheon. On May 3, 2017, at noon we will bring covered dishes of salads(3), casseroles(3), and desserts(3). We will also need some tea or lemonade for beverages. Janie already has two volunteers to bring a salad and a dessert. Would you like to help to bring one of the two remaining salads, one of the three casseroles, and one of the two remaining salads? You do not have to stay throughout the luncheon. You could drop off your dish, stay and chat with the staff, and/or leave as your schedule requires.

Please let Janie Maldonando know if you will be able to help.

Text, email, or call:

Janie Maldonando at 512-922-6351 janie_maldonado @hotmail.com

May, 2017

GET ACQUAINTED

Membership and PINS per Marsha:

A number of people who attended recent General Meetings have asked about the new recognition program with the first 15 of 5-year increment pins for membership having been distributed. **Elaine Penn**, membership VP, Co-President **Marina Rivers** and I are so proud to have a physical display of the 103 out of 185 members who have been loyal members from 5 to 50 years! All their names and years were printed in the March 2017 newsletter as we "caught up" with this generous gift from National. When you attend the general meeting you will be given your pin, or if you are only able to attend monthly Interest Groups we can arrange for your Chairperson to have your pin.

Membership Renewal began last month for the 2017-2018-program year. I urge you to Google **aauw.org** and read about our programs, honors, outreach events, and other information available on our national website. The Virtual Women's Movement History Museum" is outstanding; the "programs in a box" can be used for AAUW programs but are often used by teachers and corporate trainers and others who are inspired by their suggestions. Scholarship opportunities abound, member discounts are available and links to awesome materials on leadership development, fund raising, negotiating skills, resources etc. that you can use in many phases of your life are right there...easy to access.

You will need your member number, which is printed beside your name in our Membership Directory. With your Member Number you can print copies of your AAUW donations if you itemize for income tax. Read what staff and volunteers at National are doing to ensure our mission goals are known to decision makers. Please check it out....and feel a part of our sisterhood of 170,000 across the country. Our branch is our "touchstone" but our national membership volunteers and staff value each and every one of us as together we are the strong, courageous and competent fabric that weaves this very important organization together working for women since 1881! Wear your new pins not just on your nametag but also on clothes at other places in the community. It's a great way to share your pride in the choice you made to continue your membership and to celebrate your years of loyalty!

Introducing AAUW's

New CEO, Kimberly Churches



AAUW is excited to announce that **Kimberly Churches**

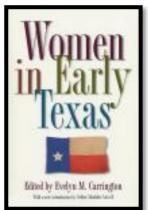
will be our chief executive officer starting June 1, 2017. Kimberly comes to AAUW from the Brookings Institution, where she strategically guided the public policy organization, providing vision and problemsolving skills, expansive partnerships and external relations, and fund-raising as the managing director. Before joining Brookings, Kimberly was an associate vice chancellor at the University of Denver, a director of development at the University of North Florida, and a division director at the American Heart Association. She has extensive experience working collaboratively on education (K-12 and higher education) as well as capacity building among grassroots groups and national and international nonprofits. Churches earned her BA at Florida State University in English Education and the Certified Fund Raising Executive affiliation in 2002.

* * * **

Check out our **HERstory** on branch website:

http://austin-tx.aauw.net/about-us/our-history/ and http://austin-tx.aauw.net/member-accomplishments/

Janani Janakiraman and Kay Keys have done a great job of rounding up names and photos and posting bio/stories of our many amazing women in the branch HERstory. Janani states: *"It's been a fun ride learning and documenting the achievements of so many of our members."*



Branch BUZZzzzz

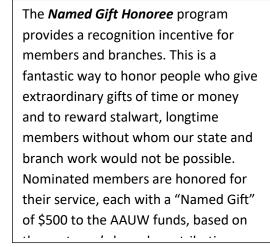
Changes at Mainspring - note from Executive Director Rudi Andrus

I wanted to let the members know that, after almost 11 wonderful years at Mainspring, I am retiring and moving to Albuquerque! We will be only 4 hours away from our daughter and grandbaby instead of the 10 hour drive that is killing us. Plus, it's an adventure!

I especially want to thank you for all that you've done for this precious preschool. From the Teacher Luncheons, to the Scholarship Fund, to showing me how active, educated women can take a lickin' and keep on kickin'. You're a group of vibrant, smart, interesting women and it's been fun to know you.

My replacement, Jason Gindele, starts in early April and we will have a month of transition time. I have every confidence that he will carry this School into the future, yet still keep his finger on the pulse of our past, which is so special.

Thank you all for everything. Very best wishes to you. Rudi



Pictured are the ladies who were recognized in April for branch 2016 contributions. They are as follows:

- 1. Betty Schmidt for behind the scenes snail-mailing of the monthly branch newsletters.
- 2. Diane Brewer for hospitality *extraordinaire*, always articulating the benefits of membership.
- 3. Elaine Penn for working fulltime but holding record for most interest group memberships.
- 4. Janani Janakiraman for creative management of websites (both branch <u>and</u> state) and inspiring the next generation of girls.
- 5. Jean Bessent for co-chairing Public Policy and hosting a pre-lobby day event, plus chairing the UT Fellowship Committee.
- 6. **Kay Keys**, as Historian, for working with Janani to embellish the HERstory and member bios on branch website, rounding up names and photos and posting bio/stories of our many amazing women in the branch HERstory. CHECK IT OUT!
- 7. Larie Amsler for work with notes, cards, name tags, historic personal memorials, and faithful hospitality..
- 8. Lilac Bauer, faithful STEM liaison for many years, organizing our help with Girlstart & Latinitas.
- 9. **Marina Rivers**, as a new member of the branch, for stepping up to be Treasurer when she was needed, then serving as Co-President, then left being full President, then developing a year's programs with venues in August.
- 10. Marsha Endahl Kramer for coordination of volunteer efforts, friendly member recruitment, initiation of fund-raising Card Project, as well as THE highest contribution to National Funds.
- 11. **Mary Frances Rogerson** for hosting everything from bridge to PEARS and art tours. She is very reliable and very supportive financially in a quiet way of branch missions and with her time.
- 12. Mary Humke, as former Membership VP in another state, for behind-the-scenes new member outreach to include their bios in branch newsletters.
- 13. Pam Wolfe for state leadership as well as working with Austin branch on bylaws, job descriptions, HERstory, and public policy.

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May, 2017

May, 2017

More Branch BUZZzzzz

WeCon (Women's Empowerment) Conference April 22, 2017

A number of our Austin members represented AAUW at the fourth annual Women's Empowerment **WeCon Conference** April 22, 2017. The official name is **WeCon** Healing and Resistance that was held at the Austin Community College Eastview campus. This is the 3rd year we have set up and worked at an AAUW resource table with our informative display and AAUW material from Public Policy and Fellowship information brochures to membership forms.

Conference (WE Con) is a whole day of workshops focusing women as leaders in their communities. We have a great need for women willing to do important work in Central Texas. The events included workshops for teens, workshops in Spanish, and complimentary childcare.

During the conference which our AAUW student members and founders of the new AAUW Student Affiliate Branch at University of Texas **Priya** and **Kavya Ramamoorthy** (who twin daughters of our webmistress **Janani Janakiraman**) led a popular and well attended workshop titled "Mind The Bot. " They were assisted by their other student branch officers **Nathan** and **Smrithi Mahadevan**. These four STEM young leaders taught participants the importance of maintaining their mental health by teaching them to program a robot to follow a path of material for the activities of creating anxiety jars and taught basic yoga moves.



Marsha Endahl Kramer, Roberta Coffin, Judy Reinhart, et al.

Over 35 community groups participated and attendees were offered breakfast, lunch, snacks and their choice in 3 sessions of 18 workshops on social justice, wellness, see-empowerment, advocacy, and the arts.

Remembering Our Sister - Rachel Pratt Flake

Rachel Flake joined the AAUW Austin Branch in July 2012. Rachel died at home on Easter Sunday evening about 10:00 p.m. She died peacefully in sleep. Rachel Elizabeth Pratt Flake was born in 1938 in St. Louis, Missouri,

She graduated from Jefferson City High School in 1956 and received a Nursing degree from Washington University. She married fellow student Robert H. Flake in 1960, moving to Austin in 1966 with their two daughters, Beth and Leslie.

OPEN MEMBERSHIP VOTE: Editorial by Marsha Endahl Kramer

In 1881 Marion Talbot and Ellen Swallow Richards invited 15 alumnae from 8 colleges to a meeting in Boston to create an organization of women college graduates that would "assist women in finding greater opportunities to use their education, as well as promoting and assisting other women's college attendance." The Association of Collegiate Alumnae, ACA (AAUW's predecessor organization) was officially founded Jan. 14, 1882. In 1885 the ACA took on one of its first major projects: justifying their right to exist. "A common belief held at the time was that a college education would harm a woman's health and result in infertility." This myth was supported by Harvard-educated Boston physician Dr. Edward H. Clarke." "Health Statistics of Female College Graduates" was published in 1885 and was the first of AAUW's many well-documented important research reports. That disproved this horrendously incorrect theory!

In 1921 the ACA merged with the Southern Association of College Women to create the American Association of University Women but AAUW has always claimed 1881 as it founding date. For 134 years our AAUW has based it's #1 fundamental premise on the fact that 100% of our members have earned a college or university degree! Now there is an amendment before us in this "one member/one vote" election that if passed would take away this degree requirement! It is up to us to determine the future of the American Association of <u>University</u> Women!

I cannot speak for our entire branch as Co-President nor tell you how to vote but can share that a majority of our Board and many well respected, active, involved members are strongly urging you to think carefully about this amendment and vote your heart and mind! This is "**Proposal 2**". I believe moving to "open membership" where anyone interested in supporting our mission (which is a commendable mission of course, of gender equity, equal pay, etc.) would change the very core of our branch. Our mission is so important but when you and I joined AAUW (as did my late mother in 9 different states) we were guaranteed meeting well educated, well-read, interesting women who shared one common achievement. **We had studied and completed and earned a college or university degree and I believe that makes us a very special group of which I am proud to belong!**

No, we are not "mentally ill nor infertile" (that common belief in 1885 of women who sought degrees) We are mentally healthy, strong, wise women committed to sisterhood with other graduates as we continue to support our AAUW mission: advocate for rights of women, equal opportunities, equal pay, etc., We support AAUW as a philanthropy and share in fellowship with like-minded, bright, well educated women. AAUW-Austin is not just another social "club." Membership has a significant meaning! Requiring a degree rather than being seen as a "barrier" as proponents of "open membership" claim I believe is an incentive, an inspiration to girls and women to match the achievement you and I (and my late mother) all have earned...a college or university degree! PLEASE study this amendment and vote your beliefs. Feel free to discuss this issue with our leaders and with each other! Your vote is vital!



Volume	XCIV,	Number	5
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Date form completed:_____

American Association of University Women AAUW – Austin, TX Branch Membership RENEWAL Information 2017-18

Please make checks payable to AAUW–Austin and mail check with completed forms to:			
Elaine Penn, 912 Dartmoor Drive, Austin, Texas 78746-5163			
Or use PayPal option ONLINE (Please add \$1 processing charge)			
http://austin-tx.aauw.net/join/			

<u>Dues:</u> Branch Member	(All but \$3.00 of National dues is tax deductible.) \$78 (National - \$49; State - \$13; Branch - \$16)	\$
Life Member \$29 (paid 20x National dues one time)		\$
Honorary Life Member \$0 (member has completed 50 years continuous membership)		
Student Affiliate \$25 (non-voting) (National - \$17; State - \$1; Branch - \$7)		\$
AAUW FUND donations: * 100% Tax Deductible Donations will be distributed by National AAUW to the projects most in need. * For a complete description of AAUW FUNDS, please go to <u>http://www.aauw.org/contribute/</u>		
LOCAL Donations: Austin Branch Opera	ting Funds	\$
	Total payment:	\$

Our Missions in Austin AAUW:

Donations to Girlstart, Latinitas, and Mainspring Schools should be made directly to the organization to ensure tax deductibility. Throughout the year there may be requests for in-kind donations and/or volunteer hours. For further help and information contact Lilac Bauer (la_azucena@hotmail.com).

Check your listing in last year's yearbook, and please fill in below if there have been any <u>changes</u> to your information in the past 12 months. If not, please just sign and date.

Name: Last	First	Middle (or initial)
Preferred name if different	Name of spouse/S.O.	Birthday m/d
Address:		Apt Zip
		Work_()
Email	Website URL	
Current Interest Groups in AAUW-	Austin you enjoy	
AAUW member since	Austin Branch member sin	ce
Signature		THANK YOU!
	rsonal contact info in newsletter and any specific item that you wish to	nd yearbook(Y)(N) o keep private and not publish.