



Breaking through Barriers

for Women and Girls

American Association of University Women – Austin Branch

November 2010

Volume LXXVIII Number 9

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

Nov. 1 – Contemporary Literature at Old Quarry BL. 7:15 p.m. *Marco Polo: From Venice to Xanadu*. Discussion leader: Carol Fritz. Co-chairs: Fern Chester (345-1102) & Dorothea Berasley (343-0370).

Nov. 5 – First Friday Book Review at Hyde Park Church of Christ, 43rd & Ave. B. 10 a.m. *Malgudi Days* by R. K. Narayan. Reviewed by Carol Fritz. Hostess: Natalie Balden. Chair: Natalie Balden (288-7748).

Nov. 8 – Books & Brunch Southwest with hostess & facilitator Cherie Wilson, 9302 Lauralan Drive. 10:30 a.m. *March* by Geraldine Brooks. RSVP: Marsha Endahl Kramer (906-2033 [h] and/or 906-6566).

Nov. 9 – Classic Book Study Group at Ralph Yarborough BL. 7 p.m. *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair. Discussion leader: Evelyn Boyer. Chair: Evelyn Boyer, (836-1492).

Nov. 9 – Mah-Jongg. 7:00 p.m. 7920 Mesa Trails Cove. Ann Berasley (837-2250) or Janie Patterson (343-3058).

Nov. 10 – Art Tour Group. 10 a.m. Hostess: Iilene Payton. Blanton Museum, 200 MLK Blvd. Self-guided tour of the “*Turner to Monet: Masterpieces from the Walters Art Museum*” exhibit. Admission is \$7.00 for seniors, and parking in the adjacent garage is \$3.00 with validated ticket. Optional lunch afterwards at the Blanton Café. Chair: Diane Brewer, (328-0474). **[Note the change to the second Wednesday due to Thanksgiving!]**

Nov. 10 – Second Wednesday Bridge. 4 p.m. Call Judy Reinhart (345-5936) for more information.

Nov. 13 – Branch meeting & brunch at *Girlstart*, 1400 West Anderson Lane, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. Speaker: Tamara Hudgins, *Girlstart* Executive.

Calendar: November 13, 2010

Clock: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

GPS: 1400 West Anderson Lane, Austin 78757



The November 13 Branch meeting at *Girlstart* is a change of venue, a change of menu, and promises to expand your horizons! So calibrate your calendars, clocks, carpools, and direction finders for an informative and fun morning at the *Girlstart* headquarters, 1400 West Anderson Lane. We will start with a deluxe continental breakfast catered by Jason's Deli, and then have a tour of the *Girlstart* headquarters with an overview of the STEM programs including EYH (Expanding Your Horizons). After a short business meeting, we can head home or to a nearby restaurant for lunch on our own.

Tamara Hudgins, the Executive Director of *Girlstart*, will give us a short tour and a brief talk. Tamara's professional background is in nonprofit management and development. She has managed and raised support for educational organizations and was executive director of a community foundation serving Williamson County (Texas) before joining *Girlstart*. Prior to her move to Texas in late 2005, Tamara was the executive director of a nonprofit that served more than 11,000 Chicago teachers and children every week. She is passionate about creating educational programs that improve teaching and learning, as well as maintaining civic vitality. She received her Ph.D. in Art History at Charles University in Prague and earned M.A. and B.A. degrees in art history from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Ohio State University, respectively. She has taught at the graduate level at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Central European University, and the Prague College of Studies in Art and Architecture.



Girlstart is a non-profit organization created with the mission to empower girls in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). They accomplish this mission by developing innovative models and processes for teaching STEM, empowering girls to achieve in STEM education and pursue STEM careers, and thereby feeding the national STEM workforce. Founded as SmartGrrls in 1997 in Austin, Texas, by our own AAUW member Rachel Muir, *Girlstart* has quickly established itself as a best case practices leader in empowering, educating, and motivating girls to enjoy and become more proficient in math, science and technology.

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES (continued)

Nov. 15 – AAUW (Action, Armchair, Unparalleled, & Wannabe) Travelers. Ralph Yarborough BL, 2-3:30 p.m. “Springtime in Japan, a Cultural Experience” by Adrian McCulloch. Co-chairs: Mary Ellen Scribner (255-8428); Adrian McCulloch (820-1917).

Nov. 16 – Light Cuisine—Out to Lunch. 11 a.m. Gloria’s at the Domain, 3309 Esperanza Crossing, Suite 100. Hostess: Iilene Payton, (338-2058). Bring your favorite light recipe or article to share and enjoy not cooking. Chair: Veronica Johnson, (338-1254).

Nov. 17 – Creative Stitchery. Hostess: Angie Clark 258-5668) & co-hostess Frances Tomlinson (899-9244). Chair: Dorothea Berasley, (343-0370).

Nov. 18 – Culture & Cuisine with Peggy Holland, 10705 Leafwood Lane 78750. Co-hostess: Adrian McCulloch. “Italy: Past, Present and Food.” We will meet at 6:30 p.m. The deadline for reservations is Saturday, November 13th. Please email (Chair) Mary Owens at domowens@aol.com if you want to be part of this group, but have not signed up.

Nov. 20 – PEARS. Austin Steam Train Ride. Please arrive at the station 45 minutes prior to train’s departure from Cedar Park. The train leaves Cedar Park at 10:00 a.m. for the two-hour journey to Burnet where we will enjoy lunch and shopping until re-boarding the train at 2:15 p.m. for the return trip to Cedar Park, arriving at 4 p.m. If you have any questions, email or call the hosts: Tom and Kay Watson (447-2883; kwatson03@austin.rr.com). Chair: Veronica (338-1254).

Nov. 23 – Mah-Jongg. 7: 00 p.m. 7920 Mesa Trails Cove, Ann Berasley (837-2250) or Janie Patterson (343-3058).

Nov. 24 – Fourth Wednesday Bridge. 4 p.m. Call Sarah Ezell (343-8394) for more information; hostess & location change monthly.

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

RESERVATIONS & DIRECTIONS FOR THE NOVEMBER 13 MEETING

Since 1997, **Girlstart** has served over 20,000 girls and 5,500 teachers and families with school-based programs, workshops for teachers, summer camps, science career conferences and expos, large-scale science events for families, and more. Through partnerships with the National Science Foundation, the Texas Education Agency, UT-Austin, Texas State Technical College, and local school districts, **Girlstart** has been recognized as an exemplary STEM education organization. The Austin Branch of AAUW became a co-sponsor in 1990 of *Expanding Your Horizons in Science and Mathematics*, a conference for young women in grades 6-8, designed to increase awareness of and enable students to talk with women in these fields.

The deluxe continental breakfast catered by Jason's will include assorted fresh and warm coffee cakes, bagels, muffins and all-butter croissants with butter, jelly and flavored cream cheese; market-fresh fruit including select organics and fresh-made creamy fruit dip; a choice of juices; and **Jason’s new 100% organic, estate grown and fair trade coffee!** The cost is \$10 with payment to be made the day of the brunch; a check is preferred or you need to have the correct change. Please make your reservation with Dorothea or Sylvia by the 6 p.m. Wednesday deadline. They will send you an e-mail reminder the week before the meeting.



A. Girlstart
1400 W Anderson Ln, Austin, Texas -
(512) 916-4775

BRANCH BULLETIN BOARD

Successful October Silent Auction Benefits Education Opportunity Fund

The silent auction at the October general meeting was fun and successful again, raising funds for AAUW Funds, particularly the Education Opportunity Fund. The lucky bidders went home with two autographed books, a variety of practical or decorative household items, and two tickets for the Long Center Presents 2010-11 season. The real bargains were Louis Vuitton items retailing for \$165 and \$300 which sold for \$6 and \$5, respectively! Even our speaker shopped!

The auction raised \$444 and the Collin Street Bakery cake raffle raised \$68. Winners of the rum cake and fruitcake were Joyce Pulich and Janie Maldonado, respectively. A total of \$512 was sent to National for Fund 4324 (Ann Richards American Fellowship fund). A big thank you to all who contributed to our success!

Anita Knight, AAUW Funds Co-Chair

Branch Treasury Will Benefit from Barnes & Noble Gift Wrapping Opportunity



Do you look forward to the winter holidays? Do you enjoy the excitement surrounding gift giving? The Barnes & Noble Booksellers (Arboretum) have given us the opportunity to participate in their yearly outreach to Austin non-

profit organizations. Austin Branch members are set to wrap gifts for B & N shoppers on Wednesday, December 8 from 5–9 p.m., Sunday, December 12 from 10 a.m.–3 p.m., and Monday, December 20 from 1–6 p.m. B & N provides all the paper, tape, and scissors. The times will be divided into 2 or 2½ hour shifts with two or three people each time. Be sure to sign up at the November 13 branch meeting.

The Austin Branch treasury is the beneficiary of 100% of the monies donated by B & N shoppers. We will be able to informally promote AAUW, allowing us to gain more visibility in the community. Over their loud speaker B & N will occasionally be encouraging their customers to stop by our table to have their purchases wrapped.

If you are unable to attend the November branch meeting, but would like to join in the fun, contact me at 834-9481 or gsimpler@mail.utexas.edu. Early Season's Greetings!

Gail Simpler, AAUW Funds Co-Chair

Raemar Shown Passes the EYH Clipboard

After twenty years of faithful and dedicated service to Expanding Your Horizons, Raemar Shown has decided to take a less active role in coordinating our Branch EYH activities with *Girlstart*. Branch President Kay Watson has appointed Adrian McCulloch as the new EYH coordinator.



Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conferences began over thirty-five years ago through the EYH Network at Mills College in Oakland, California. The EYH Network, (formerly the Math/Science Network) started in 1974 as an informal group of women scientists and educators in the San Francisco Bay Area who were concerned about low female participation in math courses. Then, in 1990 a few members of the Austin Branch of AAUW founded T.W.I.S.T. (Tomorrow's Women in Science and Technology), Inc., a separate local non-profit organization to support the national EYH program headquartered in California and to promote STEM activities for girls in Austin. Nancy Myers was their treasurer, and Raemar and Elaine Kant were active in the organization for which our branch provided volunteers. Since the early 1990s branch members have participated in the annual EYH conferences in Austin, and we continue to contribute volunteers to the program now sponsored by *Girlstart*. Adrian will soon be requesting your assistance for the Spring 2011 conference at UT! Please say "yes" to her request for just one Saturday morning of your time in March or April!

Some Great Reasons for Buying Collin Street Bakery Fruitcakes!



Quality, tin, experience, reorder rate, shipping, individually baked, great taste, and "profit" for us! The Austin Branch of AAUW has loyal customers for the fruitcakes and other delicious baked goods and gift items. We receive a percentage of

the sales for the benefit of our annual AAUW Funds contribution. In order to get "club" credit, use the CLUB ORDER FORM or call CLUB SALES at 800-747-8836. Our club account is C012. Pick up a brochure and order form at a general meeting, or go to the online catalog at https://www.collinstreet.com/pages/online_bakery/shop_by_catalog.

For questions, call Anita Knight at 329-8575

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Submitted by Marsha Endahl Kramer, Membership VP

By now all our 156 members should have received a 2010-2011 yearbook, a membership card with a number that allows access to the “Members’ Only” section of our national web site (aauw.org), and the September and October newsletters. On the national website one is able to print a branch roster and past contributions to national funds, as well as being able to view state and national officers and their contacts, plus deadlines for scholarships, fellowships and community grants. There are links to the many benefits of membership AAUW offers as well as a link to the Women’s History Online Museum.

Most importantly, as an educated, bright, thinking woman you will find the website essential for keeping up with current issues affecting women and families. A topic you have undoubtedly heard about recently is the increase in bullying in the classrooms and halls of our schools. Our AAUW research study on this topic offers solutions after clearly explaining the issues identified in this challenge. The “Why So Few” research study offers clear explanations of why girls and women do not enter engineering, science, math and technology. Become informed, whether it’s for your own cocktail party or soccer mom gathering or so you will have a clear perspective for your family, friends, colleagues, employers or employees.

To know what is happening, our branch web site <www.main.org/waauw> is constantly being updated (thanks to Webmaster Melinda Townsell.) Our newsletter is informative, accurate, and is a great marketing tool to perspective members. Print an extra copy to share with a potential member! Special events are advertised and are for the most part open to all members, and if the Board feels an issue is timely, important, and requires instant action, an e-mail will be sent to the “e-address” listed in the yearbook. The state website has undergone updates as well: <www.aauwtexas.org>

Corrections to the Yearbook should be sent to Marsha Endahl Kramer, VP-Membership (53) 906-2033 HughMarsha@aol.com (512) 906-2033. So far, Mary Cunningham Hedrick does NOT have an email address, and Pam Porcella’s apartment is # 805.

Progress on Career and Interest PDFs - Some members renewed this year with forms completed and others have database information that is over ten years old. In the next two months a membership committee member (Natalie Balden, Peggy Holland, Veronica Johnson, Gail Simpler, Ginny Tannebring, and Dorothy Vance) will contact you to insure we have the most important information about your careers, special interests, hobbies, sports, etc. An updated database will facilitate networking, leadership development, and friendship among Branch members.

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 (C) - 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

Elizabeth Newell – Bylaws – 345.1686 – enewell4@austin.rr.com

Anita Knight – AAUW Funds Co-Chair – 329.8575 (H); 922.4469 (C) – dbasknight@aol.com

Gail Simpler – AAUW Funds Co-Chair – 834.9481 – gsimpler@mail.utexas.edu

Dorothea Berasley - Telecommunications - 343.0370 - aauw-austin@sbcglobal.net

Sylvia Gregory – Co-Telecommunications - 345.2420 – aauw.satgreg@yahoo.com

Mary Ellen Scribner – Newsletter Editor & International Affairs Chair – 255.8428 – mescribner@alumni.utexas.net

Melinda Townsel — 388.0105 (H); 619.5216 (C) – mtownsel@gmail.com

Janie Maldonado – Historian – 339.7742 or 414.4223 – jamaldonado@austinsisd.org

Larayne Dallas – Archivist – 346.6830 or 495.4503 – ldallas@austin.utexas.edu

Tom Watson – Hospitality Chair – 447.2883 – kwatson03@austin.rr.com

Judy Reinhart – Study Groups Chair– 345.5936 – jareinhart@att.net

Carol Fritz – Public Policy – 837.6835 – carolfritz@ymail.com

Natalie Balden – Women’s Issues Chair – 288.7748 – nbalden@sbcglobal.net

Dale Willimack – Diversity – 288.0913 – dwillimack@austin.rr.com

Dr. Sylvia Garcia – UT Fellowship Chair – 288.6745 – gar04317@yahoo.com

Dr. Linda Young – Liaison with Higher Education – 233.7889 – lyoung@austincc.edu

Betty Owen – Mainspring Schools Advocacy Chair – 444.6015 – wrigleyac@gmail.com

Adrian McCulloch – Expanding Your Horizons Chair – 820.1917 – adrian.mcculloch@gmail.com

Carol Fritz – Public Policy – 837.6835 – carolfritz@ymail.com

*Indicates elected officers; all others are appointed.

MORE ABOUT NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Submitted by Marsha Endahl Kramer, Membership VP

Congratulations to new member Jocelyn Rose Bingham Brandt on her marriage to Bradley Brandt on October 23! She will keep all her names but please add Brandt to your directory.

Please add newly renewed member Linda Stone Bush to your directory. Her contact information is: 79271 Escala Dr., Austin, TX 78735; (512) 891-7733 (Cell); (512) 633-4499; fax (512) 891-7723; brainybush@aol.com. Linda has a BS in accounting from LSU in Baton Rouge, and she works for Prudential Realtors and was their Outstanding Agent for 2009. She is a platinum level travel agent with Global Travel (group travel to fun places), and she is also a recipient of the Avon Leadership Award. Linda published the preliminary "Deals Around Austin" (shopping deals, clothes, and selling houses) and serves on the board of directors of the Austin Symphony Orchestra and Austin Lyric Opera. She is also a life master bridge player.

Renewed member Lynn Cooksey is an advocate for international citizen diplomacy, is interested in genealogy, public policy, politics, international travel, reading, mysteries, and in spending time with her grandchildren.

Past VP of Membership Peggy Holland is interested in bridge, reading, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Peggy is the Past President of the Retired Officers' Wives Club, a charter member of UT EB Chapter, an AAUW Texas Woman of Distinction, and she made a cameo appearance in the movie "When I Rise" in 2010. Peggy sewed, stitched and decorated the lovely gift wine holders for the successful AAUW-Austin EF fundraising effort last year, and she is actively involved with her grandchildren.

Beulah Curry-Jones is a professor emerita, an "Austin Living Legend" (1998), was the 2003 recipient of the Dr. L. Kirven Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the Texas African Heritage Organization (TAAHO) and was inducted into its Hall of Fame. Her interests are bridge, travel, the arts, music, public speaking, music education, and ethnic issues. She is the daughter of late member Beulah M. Thompson.

Renewing member Aurea Reyes is interested in physical exercise, dance aerobics, aging gracefully, and gardening.

Lillian Reyes Gates is interested in reading, gardening, modern art, concerts, and festivals.



Here is a suggestion regarding membership connections: take time to get to know each other while dining during our general meetings or while attending our special interest groups. Last month, while chatting with new and long time members about mid-eastern politics, cultural similarities and differences, and comparative religion, a few of us were inspired to enroll in UT's seventeen-week NOVA Lifetime Learning program. Think about sitting with members with whom you are unfamiliar once in a while! Our members have led fascinating lives and are still actively creating new footsteps in our community!

Do you know which board member is a licensed pilot? Who plays tennis? Who is a photographer? A clinical social worker? Who helped train the Toronto Police Department in domestic violence response and worked in an infant development research project comparing city to family daycares and stay-at-home moms? Who has a clown and Barbie collection, and who is an ordained minister? How many of our members are also members of Delta Kappa Gamma and serves on their board?

The answers to all the above will be in the PDF document as soon as you complete your member information forms! Please do return the calls, e-mails and letters from the membership committee volunteer who contacts you!

You are invited...



*Holiday Open House
Sunday, December 5, 2010
2 - 5 p.m.*

*6310 Abilene Trail (Home of Inés
García)*

Hosted by the Past Presidents' Council

Cancer Claims Life of Branch Member

Rita Anne (Lawyer) Kraft, (67) of Austin, Texas, died October 2, 2010, after a fierce fight with cancer. She was born March 19, 1943, in Dayton, Ohio to John Russell and Frances Elizabeth (Reese) Lawyer.



Rita grew up in Zanesville, Ohio, where she attended St. Nicholas grade school then graduated from Bishop Rosecrans High School in 1961. She graduated from The Ohio State University with a bachelor's degree (medical technology) in 1965. She met her future husband, Leland Milo Kraft, Jr., there, and they were married on September 2, 1967. Their first daughter, Lisa Anne, was born in 1968 in Columbus, Ohio, followed by their second daughter, Michelle Leigh in 1969 in Opelika, Alabama.

Rita worked for several years in the medical field and in food research, finally getting her real estate broker's license in California in 1989. She was an active realtor and involved in community affairs for many years in Camarillo, California. Rita and Lee moved to Austin in 2007 to be near their daughter Michelle and family. She retired, but kept busy volunteering for Mobile Loaves and Fishes, church blood drives, and Habitat for Humanity, and was a member of St. Thomas More Parish. Rita loved being with her family and spoiling her five grandchildren, walking, cooking, doing crossword puzzles, reading, playing bunco, and being with her friends.

Surviving are Lee, her husband of 43 years; daughter Lisa Bermudez (husband Chris) of Oxnard, California; and daughter Michelle Murray (husband Peter) of Austin, Texas, and five grandchildren including Christian, Cali, and Curren Bermudez of Oxnard, and Connor and Tanner Murray of Austin; her sister Jean Hooper of Zanesville, Ohio; and several nieces and nephews and their children, two uncles and one aunt.

International Hospitality Council

The International Hospitality Council of Austin (IHCA) recently elected Anita Knight to the board, and Margie Kidd was appointed the new Executive Director when Victoria Lippman resigned to go to graduate school.

Dr. Sally Ride for Girlstart

The Girlstart Annual Fundraising Luncheon features as keynote speaker, Dr. Sally Ride, former NASA astronaut and the first American woman in space. Dr. Ride will talk about the importance of science education for girls on Tuesday, November 16th from 11:30-1:00 in the main ballroom of the Omni Hotel Downtown (700 San Jacinto at 8th Street). Ticket and table sales end Tuesday, November 9 at 5:00 p.m. <http://sallyride.eventbrite.com/>

"Joan of Arc, The Night Before..."

"Joan of Arc, The Night Before..." is a monologue in one act performed by Daniela Paluselli depicting Joan of Arc alone in her cell the night before she will be burned at the stake. While the subject matter may at first sound dire, the content is encouraging, empowering, enlightening and inspiring. Three performances at the BOYD VANCE THEATRE in the George Washington Carver Museum & Cultural Center (1165 Angelina St.) are \$20 each or \$15 for students and military. Performances are November 5-6 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 7 at 5 p.m.

The Austin Branch will receive \$5 for each \$20 ticket referral or \$2 for each \$15 referral, so if you go, please credit AAUW when you purchase tickets. Several Branch members plan to attend the Sunday performance. More about the play at www.joanofarcthenightbefore.com

University of Texas Scholarship Fair

UT Fellowship Chair Dr. Sylvia Garcia was joined by Dorothy Vance at the annual fall scholarship fair held at the University of Texas. Not only did Sylvia and Dorothy encourage young women to apply for AAUW scholarships and fellowships but also encouraged them to join AAUW as a student and to continue for a lifetime!



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.