

AAUW
Austin, Texas Branch

**** Next Meeting ****
Sunday, Aug. 21, 2016
3-5:00 PM

St. Mark's
Episcopal Church
2128 Barton Hills Drive
<http://stmarksaustin.org/directions/>



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 New members

Our Mission. *Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

Handicap access

**** Annual August Membership Social ****

Parking plentiful

Meet new members - Sign up for interest groups

Explore opportunities for participation – Enjoy strawberry shortcake!

Why do folks join AAUW?

Newer member **Lala Niemeyer** writes: *I really get so much from the presentations. I have met some really nice people and caught up with a few from years past.*

Another HONORARY (50-year) member, **O.R. Schmidt** tells us: *I became a member of AAUW when I joined the faculty of the State College of Iowa (now the University of Northern Iowa) in Cedar Falls, Iowa. I joined because it seemed to be the thing to do; i.e., the women I knew and appreciated/admired were members; joining was a good way to meet people who shared my values and goals. I have continued my membership because I want to continue to support these goals and values.*

And **Diane Brewer** reminds us: *This past member year has been full of excellent programs, our interest groups have had many enjoyable experiences, and there have been abundant volunteer efforts.*

Susan Fenwick, one of AAUW card design winners: *What I love about AAUW is the opportunity to work as a team to promote equality for women and girls, while having fun, enhancing leadership skills, and creating lasting friendships.*

See also **Marsha Endahl Kramer's** thoughts on page 5.

MEMBER BENEFITS: see

<http://www.aauw.org/membership/benefits/>

AAUW has partnered with Office Depot and Office Max to bring you a free national discount program. Members of AAUW can now save up to 80 percent off preferred products, online and in stores! If you did not get one in the mail, print your free card at <http://www.officediscounts.org/aauw.html>.

AAUW is pleased to announce a new member benefit with Target. Every time you make a **Target.com** purchase, you can now donate to AAUW — and take advantage of weekly flash sales and promotions! Simply use AAUW's dedicated link, bit.ly/AAUWtarget, to shop for your favorite items at Target and support AAUW programs.

And **YOU** can benefit AAUW via AmazonSMILE!

INVITE A GUEST OR A NEW MEMBER SO THEY CAN BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH THE MEMBERS AND ALL OF THE WONDERFUL OFFERINGS AUSTIN HAS FOR THE NEW FISCAL/PROGRAM YEAR, 2016-2017.



Print and share invitation on page 4 OR from your recent email.



AAUW CALENDAR

Study Groups are waiting for new signups in August and then convening as follows:

(Study group chairs - please remember to send the information you would like published no later than the 20th of each month to dbasknight@aol.com.)

Art Tour: 4th Wednesdays

Bridge: Thursday AM's, 2nd & 4th Wednesday 4 PM

Contemporary Literature: 1st Monday evenings

Creative Stitchery: 3rd Wednesday mornings

Culture & Cuisine: 3rd Thursday dinners

Friday Morning Book Review: 1st Friday mornings

Out to Lunch: 3rd Tuesdays

PEARS: days and times vary

Southwest Books: 2nd Monday mornings

MORE things we are invited to do this Fall:

September 23 ACC HIGHLAND CAMPUS
KICK OFF VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

September 27 National Voter Registration Day

October 12 West Lake Hills Chamber of
Commerce Election Forum at
Westlake H.S. Performing Arts
Center

October 26 Girlstart Gamechangers' Luncheon
11 AM - 1:00 PM
at the JW Marriott Hotel
Featuring Candice Morgan,
Head of Diversity at Pinterest

September 10 Branch meeting TBA

Watch for more info in September issue.



**YOU can help with
voter registration –
see info and dates,
on page 3.**

**VOTING is such an
Important privilege!**



WANTED: YOUR article/editorial/
commentary for the branch monthly newsletter

Please send to **Anita Knight** at dbasknight@aol.com.
If you did not get the Social invitation, let me know.

Theater (or music, dance, comedy) FAN? Consider an invitation to AAUW for a Seat Filler Membership Club. Be a "hot potato" rather than a "couch potato". See onthelistaustin.com/one-month-invite.

September Leadership Academy, a 5-session workshop for people 50+, will be a great learning opportunity for senior volunteers to further cultivate their skills and enrich our community through service. By Coming of Age in Travis County. For more information, see <http://comingofageaustin.org/people-50/leadership-academy/>

and/or contact Kate Cadenhead, Ph.D., at Kate.Cadenhead@traviscountytexas.gov.

AAUW in ACTION

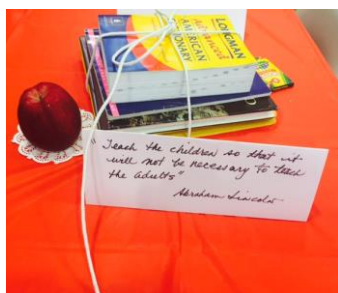
STEM News: from Lilac Bauer 512-743-6338
la_azucena@hotmail.com

We hope to have an AAUW table at the annual Girlstart Gamechangers' Luncheon, at the JW Marriott, October 26. Buy your ticket today! Support STEM in Central Texas.

Latinitas will hold a College Chica of some theme at ACC.

MAINSRING APPRECIATION LUNCHEON:

We continue to offer tremendous support of the Mainspring Schools. A big word of thanks goes to **Betty Owen**, who has worked with Mainspring for many years, and to **Janie Maldonado**, who has worked as a co-chair this past year. The annual staff luncheon included colorful decorations by **Marina Rivers**; Vegetables (**Betty Owen, Diane Brewer, Dianne Wheeler**); Desserts (**Jennifer Swenson, Freda Bryson, Eugenie Whalen**); Salads (**Janie Maldonado, Marsha Endahl Kramer, Mary Frances Rogerson**); and Main Dish (**Sue Ellen Jeffers, Anita Knight, Maggie Kadlecsek**). In addition, money contributions were received from **Gerry Cassidy, Larie Amsler, Mary Humke**, and others.



WHY USE SOCIAL MEDIA FOR ADVOCACY AND DIGITAL ACTIVISM?

(per workshop at state convention – ppt available)

Free Public messaging

Easy access to influencers/officials

Networking & building connections

Increasing visibility for your branch

Promoting your programs & events

Easily adapted to personal schedules

GOALS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE:

- ★ Increase visibility for your branch
- ★ Influence policymakers & constituents
- ★ Recruit members & activists



GET OUT THE VOTE CAMPAIGN

The major policy initiative for this year is to get voters registered to vote for the presidential election. We are encouraging members to be trained as voter registrars and then to participate in various activities planned with Austin Community College in the next few months. Training is offered at two places, the Travis County Clerks's Office and the Unitarian Church.

For Travis County, the training is offered on July 5, August 2, and September 6th at one of these times: 10:30, 12:30, and 6:30 p.m. Contact Cheryl Reese at 512-854-3976. The training is held at the Travis County Clerk's Office, 5501 Airport Blvd.

Training at the Unitarian Church is held the second Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at 4700 Grover Avenue. Please email your request to Mary Patrick at map@mail.utexas.edu or call 512-452.6168.

The last day to register to vote is Tuesday, October 11, 2016 so this will be an intense, short term effort. The general election will be held Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

Once trained, contact either **Sylvia Garcia** at 512-826-1371 or **Jean Bessent** at 512-921-0545. They will be scheduling the voter registrar volunteers for various events at Austin Community College campuses. One major event will be held on Friday, September 23, 2016, so mark your calendars.

NEWS and Sharing

AAUW Austin Branch Board Contact Information: 2016-17 (Keep until you receive your copy of the new Yearbook.)Elected EXECUTIVE BOARD

Co-Presidents	Marina Rivers	marinarivers@gmail.com	512-386-1905
	Marsha Endahl Kramer	HughMarsha@aol.com	512-906-6566
Program VP	Lillian Reyes Gates	312@austin.rr.com	512-285-6625
Membership VP	Elaine Penn	epenn9915@gmail.com	512-970-5051
Secretary	Resa Dunn	resa-dunn@att.net	713-907-8938
Treasurer	Kathy Robertson	k4robertson@yahoo.com	978-658-0924

APPOINTED

Archivist	Larayne Dallas	Ldallas@austin.utexas.edu	512-346-6830
Bylaws & job descriptions	Pam Wolfe	piwolfe@yahoo.com	512-388-5433
Fund Co-Chairs	Anita Knight & Marsha Endahl Kramer		
Hospitality	Diane Brewer	zdramamom@austin.rr.com	512-328-0474
Interest Groups Coordinator	Brenda Hahne	bwhahne@gmail.com	832-233-4254
Mainspring Schools; Parliamentary	Janie Maldonado	janie_maldonado@hotmail.com	512-339-7742
Newsletter editor	Anita Knight	dbasknight@aol.com	512-329-8575
Public Policy Co-Chair	Sylvia Garcia	gar04317@yahoo.com	512-826-1371
Public Policy Co-Chair; UT Fellowships	Jean Bessent	jeanbessent@gmail.com	512-921-0545
STEM Liaison/Women's Issues	Lilac Bauer	la_azucena@hotmail.com	512-743-6338
Sunshine; Historian	Larie Amsler	samtex_US@yahoo.com	512-923-4630
Web/PR	Janani Janakiraman	janani66@hotmail.com	512-414-4223
Yearbook Editors	Ines Garcia	mig43@sbcglobal.net	512-587-8154
	Janie Maldonado & Gayle Smith	gaylesmith1@juno.com	512-345-5585

ACC Foundation reports that our Malmberg Endowed Scholarship recipient Morgan Hinojosa earned 7 hours with a 4.00 GPA this spring, and a cumulative 3.78 GPA.

The Austin Public Library processed the book titled The Hand-Stitched Flower Garden, by Yuki Sugashima, purchased in memory of long-time member Dorothea L. Berasley, mother of Ann.

Remember our member Rachel Flake in your heart as she faces the rigors of Stage 4 lung cancer and chemo.

**Milli Stecker wishes to CONGRATULATE
THESE NEW HONORARY MEMBERS
with a generous donation to
AAUW Funds:**

Myrtle Bell	Anita Knight
O.R. Schmidt	
Mary Ellen Scribner	Gail Simpler

**MEMBERSHIP VP ELAINE PENN
& THE AUSTIN AAUW BOARD
INVITE YOU TO THE ANNUAL**

SUMMER SOCIAL



**SUNDAY, AUGUST 21ST, 3-5:00 PM
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2128 BARTON HILLS DRIVE**

**NO RSVP NECESSARY
BUT SUBMIT NAMES OF INVITED
FRIENDS/GUESTS/PROSPECTIVE
MEMBERS TO
ZDRAMAMOM@AUSTIN.RR.COM**



NEWS and Sharing

Co-President Marsha's Message:



If asked to share a 1-minute "elevator speech" about membership in AAUW what would you share? When first asked to demonstrate mine, I was attending the 2013 National Convention in Washington DC. I remember the excitement of being in a room with >1200 attendees of women from all over the country of all ages and stages who were "walking the talk," about gender equity, leadership, equal pay for work of equal value and the concept of "guilt-free membership" (meaning members are free to be as involved as they wish in a branch and still be welcomed and appreciated).

You have made the important decision to join or renew your membership in our awesome Austin Branch, and Co-President Marina Rivers and I want to welcome you to our 2016-2017-program year! We pledge to continue to build on the amazing momentum set by past leadership teams.

Members join or rejoin for many different reasons but each one of you adds to the strength of our branch, state and national organizations. AAUW was given the great honor of being invited to participate in the White House Summit on the United State of Women in Washington, D.C.; themes were economic empowerment, health & wellness, educational opportunity, violence against women, entrepreneurship and innovation, along with leadership and civic engagement. Check out aauw.org to feel energized and educated about the myriad important programs being handled thanks to your national dues and donations! And keep checking our dynamic branch website: austin-tx.aauw.net for information, photos and links.

Many of our members choose to focus on our variety of local special interest groups. Other members are regular attendees at our monthly general meetings for presentations on timely topics and optional lunches for socialization. If you want to re-start former groups such as "Armchair Travel" and a writer's group or new groups from "scrap-booking" to "investing", *all it takes is 3 or more members and a person willing to lead!* In this important election year our Public Policy team is tackling voter registration. Our Fund-Raising committee will try new ways to socialize and raise important dollars; perhaps even collaborating with a local college or university to present "*Start Smart*" about salary negotiation.

Nineteen attended the luncheon meeting Marina and I hosted for "Old Board-New Board" officers, affirming that our Branch needs and recognizes women with skills and talents willing to share their time as volunteers. **There is a special place for YOU in this Branch!** "Stepping up" to lead or participating in committees gives us opportunities to learn and practice new skills or use ones you already own and share experiences gleaned in other organizations or branches.

How easy it is to integrate into this community of bright, interesting, "Can-Do" women after relocation, retirement or changes in careers or marital status. I for one was so appreciative of my AAUW involvement last year after losing both my late husband and mother (who was a 72-year member of AAUW.)

See you Aug. 21st at our Membership Open House and celebrate the endless possibilities to feel pride in our affiliation. Try your "elevator speech" on a friend and bring her along for food, fellowship and a chance to check out our branch activities!

FUNd-rai\$ing for AAUW!!

At the August Membership Social we will introduce a "Pilot Project" to raise much-needed funds for national projects that are making a huge difference in the lives of girls and women.

We will have greeting cards with one photo print on the outside (your choice or stock photo) and a lovely simple statement (possibly on parchment paper) on the inside stating that this card is being sent to the recipient in honor of, or in thanks for, or as a memorial, for your donation of \$25 (to the AAUW Fund or a particular Fellowship).



The donor receives an official thank you from the committee. Your friend or relative receives the beautiful card with your name listed as the donor and everyone "wins!" Our funds grow, the donor gets a tax write-off (as their check or cash is sent to national) and your friend or family member gets a lovely surprise in the mail. The non-profit from whom we borrowed this idea raised \$500 the first year and \$7000 this past year # 7.

We have a small committee so far and we are happy to hear from volunteers who'd like to help with this worthy cause. Please contact either Co-Funds Chair, **Anita Knight** (dasknight@aol.com) or **Marsha Endahl Kramer** (HughMarsha@aol.com) or any Funds Committee member: **Lilac Bauer, Jean Bessent, Mary Kate Fredriksen, Susan James, Elaine Penn, Kathy Robertson, Mary Ellen Scribner, and/or Eugenie Whalen.**

WELCOME to our newest MEMBERS!

Cantu, Mary

Mary is the niece of Tulis Escobar, has a BBA in Finance from Texas A&M, and is presently working for GoMedigap in Round Rock helping to provide soon-to-retire or retirees throughout the country with Medical supplement insurance. She had a career in banking for over thirty years.

Driscoll, Jean

Jean is a dual member with the LaCrosse, WI branch and is a cancer survivor of twenty years. She grew up in Minnesota and graduated from the University of MN with a BA in Sociology in 1968. Her family lived in nine states including Pennsylvania, Illinois, New Hampshire, Florida (where her children were in high school), and Wisconsin where they eventually bought a farm in Viroqua. She has belonged to AAUW in many of those locations, and her children are now adults and live in Wisconsin and Connecticut. She and her husband recently bought a condo in Austin and split their time between Texas and Wisconsin.

Hahne, Brenda

Brenda moved to Austin in 2009 after living in Houston for 20 years and previously was a member of Austin AAUW. After being a consultant to small business leadership and employee development for several years, she left her job and has rejoined AAUW after a four-year lapse. She has a daughter who lives here, a son in San Antonio, two grandchildren and looks forward to a less stressful lifestyle. She is a cancer survivor and looks forward to rejoining the Culture & Cuisine group. She loves reading, gardening, good movies, the theater, and playing games.

Humke, Mary

Mary moved to Austin last October after living in Boulder, CO for twenty years and is a lifetime member of AAUW having belonged to branches in Minneapolis, MN, McLean, VA, and Boulder, CO. She was a primary teacher in her first career and a travel agent the last twenty-five years. She is originally from Wisconsin but moved to those places as her husband's career with The Nature Conservancy unfolded after thirty-eight years. He passed away fourteen months ago and just thirteen months after Mary was diagnosed with ALS. They were married for fifty years and traveled to all seven continents and have two adult children and three grandchildren. She moved to be near her daughter and resides at Brookdale Gaines Ranch, a senior-living community; her son and family live in Antigua, Guatemala. Mary loves the outdoors, water exercise, Tai Chi, yoga, reading, music, and the theater.

Jacquart, Jolene

Jolene is a dual member with the Austin, MN branch of AAUW and graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She lives in Hyde Park and is currently working on a graduate degree in clinical psychology. She's taking research classes this summer and loves outdoor biking, fishing, hiking, and has run the Austin marathon. She and her partner travel as much as they can in the USA and have hiked the Austrian and Swiss Alps and traveled to India and Nepal. Her mom is a longtime member of AAUW and gifted her membership in our branch. Jolene would like to be involved in the presidential campaign somehow.....*let's work on that!*

Kiszely, Pegge

Pegge (nickname for Margaret) is originally from Detroit; she received her BA from Michigan State University, and her JD from Lincoln Law School in CA. She was a junior high school teacher, as a single Mom worked as the first female sales manager in the paper industry, migrated to CA after her 3 children were grown to study law. She is now a semi-retired attorney, specializing in arbitration for insurance. She moved to Texas a few years ago where one of her 3 children lives; the others are in Boston and Sacramento.

Lazarus, Joan

Joan grew up in Vermont, got her BA at S.U.N.Y. Buffalo in Speech, Theatre, and English, MA at the University of Wyoming in Acting and Directing, and MFA at Arizona State in Drama and Theatre for Youth. She taught high school English and Speech in Kansas, Nebraska, and Wyoming for six years and sixteen years at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Joan is Professor of Theatre at UT, came to Austin in 1998 and likes to do water exercise with AAUW friends and to swim, dance, and attend book groups. She is the author of Signs of Change: New Directions in Theatre Education and honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award AATE and others.

Masiello, Lea

Lea received her BA, MA, and PhD from the University of Cincinnati in English Literature, Linguistics, and Rhetoric and was Professor of the Department of English at Indiana University of Pennsylvania where she wrote Writing in the Senior Seminar. Lea is originally from Western Pennsylvania, has three daughters, has lived in Austin since 2014 and is now retired. She is VP for Programming for the League of Women Voters, a musician with the Hill Country Harpers and Trillium groups, and likes to read and swim.

**WELCOME NEWEST MEMBERS!****Midboe, Carol**

Our first official new member for the 2016-2017 year served in Operation Desert Shield (1988-92) in the U.S. Army as a recognized Sergeant who went on to earn her BS in Electrical Engineering from UT in 2001. She has now worked for 18 years in the semiconductor industry and is currently employed at Luminex Corporation in biomedical instrumentation processing. Her military service was recognized with an Army Commendation Medal and Army Achievement Award for her work at Yuma Proving Grounds. This mother of three (an engaged son, 24, and two daughters, 9 and 11) also finds time to volunteer with Traffic911 on the Williamson County Juvenile Justice team. Beyond working, single parenting, and serving her community, Carol is an avid learner and reader, enjoys a world of physical activities. This energetic activist also supports Safeplace, Allies Against Slavery (ending modern day slavery in Central Texas about which we were informed in a recent branch meeting!), Global Fund for Women, Human Rights Watch, and various STEM organizations for women among other interests. She is a prime example of what AAUW stands for: she has broken the glass ceiling repeatedly and succeeded in many male-dominated areas.

Munoz, Consuelo (Prefers "Connie")

Connie is a dual member with the Corpus Christi branch and lives in Georgetown. She received her BA and MA from Texas A & I in English/Health & Physical Education and Secondary Ed/Administration/Health & Physical Education, respectively. She taught in the classroom for 13 years, retired from being principal of Bishop, TX Primary School in 2003 and then 'finally retired' in 2013 from being principal of the Corpus Christi Independent School District. Connie has a daughter who lives near Austin with her two-month old grandson, and she looks forward to being a part-time nanny; she also likes to read and play cards with her Corpus Christi friends and Austin AAUW friends Ines Garcia and Tulis Escobar.

Saurborn, Laura (Prefers "Laurie")

Laurie graduated from the University of Chapel Hill at North Carolina with a BA in Psychology. She went on to earn an MFA in Creative Writing from the Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College. A writer, photographer, and teacher, she is the author of two poetry collections and is at work on a book of stories. Currently, she teaches creative writing at UT Austin, and also directs the undergraduate creative writing program. She found her way to AAUW after reading the 2012 report, "Graduating to a Pay Gap."

Swenson, Jennifer

Jennifer received her BA from Univ. of Texas at Austin in 1970, then an Accreditation for Montessori International in 1976, and she taught Montessori for thirty-five years. She belongs to the AAUW art tour group, book club, and fund raising committee, may join Culture & Cuisine, and attends aqua aerobics with several of her fellow AAUW members. Her husband is an R.N. in ICU at St. David's South Austin, and their son lives and works in Austin.

Watson, Pamela (Prefers "Pam")

Pam, a native Austinite, earned her BS at Abilene Christian University in Biology in 1973 and her MEd at Texas State in 2009. As a young teacher, she taught high school Biology at Del Valle and was a longtime, recognized teacher of Life Science in Eanes ISD. Now retired, she looks forward to exploring new activities in retirement, including the AAUW Art Tours and OTL groups. She and Diane Brewer were friends and colleagues at Hill Country Middle School. She is a longtime member of Delta Kappa Gamma, and taught Sunday School for decades at her church.

Wells, Maria

Maria earned her BA and MA at the University of Pisa in 1960 in Foreign Languages: French, Spanish, German, English, and Latin and her PhD in Modern Languages and Literatures. In the mid-fifties she was the recipient of many major grants from UT and scholarships from the Institute of American Studies in Rome. Since the mid-1970s Maria has been the Liaison between UT and the Italian Consul in Houston and the Italian Embassy in Washington. From 1989-2010 she gave presentations and wrote publications focusing on Carlo Levi and was a Fulbright Scholar twice; Cavalier in the order of Merit of the Italian Republic. From 1997-2005 Maria was Adjunct Professor at the Univ. of Texas, now retired. Currently she is researching the origins of Greek families in Trieste, The Austro-Hungarian Empire in the archives of Chios, Greece. She is a member of ZONTA International, Assoc. of Business and Professional Women. Her mother had a career as Executive Secretary for the representative of the Foreign Trade Commission in Trieste. She spoke four languages, as did her father. Marie was married to William Wiseman Wells, an attorney at the time of death, who had retired from his position as Executive Director of the Sunset Commission. She has two daughters, both UT graduates; one lives in Greece and the other in Austin.

