



American Association of University Women AAUW Austin (Texas) Branch

AAUW Texas State Convention April 25-27, 2014

Hosted by Northeast Tarrant County Branch

THE BEST STUFF IS IN THE MIDDLE
Saturday Keynote Speaker

Jan Reid
author of the book

Let the People In:
The Life and Times of Ann Richards



Convention Speakers
AAUW National
Malinda Gaul
Mark Hopkins
TX Freedom Network
Kathy Miller
Center for Public Policies Priorities
Ann Beeson

AAUW Texas <http://www.aauwtexas.org>



Free Parking

Hyatt Place

1601 Hurst Town Center Drive
Hurst, Texas, USA, 76054
Official lodging for the convention
817-577-3003
<http://fortworthhurst.place.hyatt.com>

\$99 Per
Night
Single/Double
Hot breakfast
included

REGISTRATION: \$225

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION: \$195

Expires by: March 1, 2014
Don't miss out!



Free Parking

Hurst Conference Center

1601 Campus Drive
Hurst, Texas 76054

January 10 Branch meeting with Dr. Karen Pope at
Westwood Country Club
Reservation deadline is Monday,
January 6 by calling Diane Brewer at
512.328.0474 or emailing zdramamom@austin.rr.com

January Calendar of Branch Activities

January 6, 7:15-8:30 p.m. Contemporary Literature. Old Quarry BL. *The End of Your Life Book Club* by Will Schwalbe. Discussion leader: Milli Stecker. Chair: Fern Chester, 512.345.1102.

January 7, 12:30 p.m. Board Meeting. Howson BL.

January 8, 3 p.m. Movie & Dinner. Call Lois Shaevel at 512.266.0273 for specific details.

January 8, 4 p.m. Second Wednesday Bridge. Contact: Judy Reinhart, 512.345.5936.

January 10, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Branch Meeting. More information on p. 1 and in next column on this page.

January 13, 10:30 a.m. SW Book Group. *Einstein: His Life and Universe* by Walter Isaacson. Facilitator is Dr. Ann Wright. Hostess is Mary Kate Fredrickson (6805 Via Correto, 78749). Chair: Inés Garcia, 512.444.5643.

January 15. Creative Stitchery. Hostess: Angie Clark (512.258.5668); co-hostess: Frances Tomlinson (512.899.9244).

January 16, 6:30 p.m. Culture & Cuisine. Hostess: Carol Fritz. 1011 Silbury Drive, 78758. Moroccan cuisine. Chair: Anneliese Ellerton (512.241.8425).

January 21, 11 a.m. Out to Lunch. The Frisco (6801 Burnet Road). RSVP required. Chair: Ruth Falck: ruthfalck@yahoo.com or (512.550.6449).

January 22, 4 p.m. Fourth Wednesday Bridge. Contact Sara Ezell (512.343.8494).

January 22, 10:00 a.m. Art Tour. Hostess/ planner: Gail Simpler. A Visit with Artists Carole and Charles Sikes; 16500 Forest Way, Austin, TX, 78734-1108 (Hudson Bend area of Lake Travis; 512.266.1139; <http://sikesart.com/>). Lunch: Los Pinos Mexican; 4919 Hudson Bend Road, Austin, TX 78734. Please carpool if you can! Chair: Diane Brewer. RSVP: zdramamom@austin.rr.com.

THE BRANCH

The first Branch meeting of 2014 is Friday, January 10, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Westwood Country Club (3808 W 35th Street). Noted art professor Dr. Karen Pope will speak on the topic of "Great American Women Artists." The cost of the lecture/ lunch is \$30.00 Please make your reservation not later than Monday, January 6, 2014, by calling **Diane Brewer** at 512.328.0474 or emailing zdramamom@austin.rr.com.

Joyce Pulich, chair of the AAUW Fellowships Committee, reminds us that the Branch's doctoral fellowships will be awarded in April 2014. If you can volunteer a few hours in early April to read the applications and help with the selection process, please contact Joyce Pulich at joycepulich@sbcglobal.net or 512.656.1776.

HOUR OF CODE NUMBERS SHOW AAUW'S COMMITMENT TO STEM



During the week of December 9-15, the AAUW community came together to help change the face of STEM through Computer Science Education Week and the Hour of Code. The results were amazing: 375 people signed a petition, and 17 states and branches convinced leaders to proclaim Computer Science Education Week in their communities. Best of all, AAUW held 25 Hour of Code events around the country. In Austin, Mayor Lee Leffingwell offered the proclamation, and the Hour of Code took place at Girlstart. Branch members—and programmers—**Janani Janakiraman** and **Dr. Kay Keys** joined **Lilac Bauer**, Branch Girlstart liaison, at Girlstart for the Hour of Code. They observed Girlstart staff teaching students a software program (Frogger) that was really fun, engaging, and taught them programming.

January Calendar of Branch Activities

(continued from preceding page)

January 24, 8 a.m. Hiking Group.

Hamilton Greenbelt in Lakeway. Leader Mary Zeitler: 512.345.5337 or mzeitler@austin.rr.com. Contacts: Ginny Tannebring (512. 922.9645 or ginnyz@sbcglobal.net) or Beverly Locklin (blocklin@austin.rr.com or 512.343.0782).

January 26. PEARS. Attend the matinee at the Palace Theater in Georgetown; the play is "Lend Me A Tenor." Nancy & Roger Danley (512. 864.1544) are hosts & will have a social at their home following the play.

January 31. Angelina Eberley Luncheon. The Austin History Association invites the community to attend a luncheon program beginning at noon at The Driskill Hotel. See p. 5 for more information. To order tickets: <http://www.austinhistory.net/2014eberlyluncheon/>.

Every Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Bridge at the Senior Center. Call Dorothy Ramsey (512.442.3841) for more information.

First Friday Book Review. No meeting in January; will resume in February. Chair: Gayle Smith (512.345.5585).

April 25-27, 2014

AAUW Texas State Convention

hosted by
Northeast Tarrant
County Branch

Hurst Conference Center 1601
Campus Drive
Hurst, TX 76054

Early Bird Registration Ends
March 1, 2014: \$195.00
Thereafter: \$225.00

[http://aauw-tx.aauw.net/
events-projects/events/2014-
state-convention/](http://aauw-tx.aauw.net/events-projects/events/2014-state-convention/)

THE BRANCH

BRANCH BOARD MEETING

The first 2014 Branch board meeting is Tuesday, January 7, 12:30 p.m. at Howson Branch Library. The agenda will include a budget year-to-date review, as well as discussion of bylaws and fundraising. If you have an idea for a fundraising activity or event, you may communicate it to President **Anita Knight** or Funds Chair **Elaine Diefenderfer**, or you may personally bring it to the attention of the board, as meetings are open to all members.

FORMER BRANCH PRESIDENT PASSES AWAY

Annot Faye Millwee Littlepage was born on December 18, 1933, to Robert and Ada Millwee in Dallas, Texas. She left this earth on November 21, 2013, in Temple, Texas. She is survived by her husband of fifty-seven years, Clarence Robert Littlepage Jr., sons Clarence Robert Littlepage III, Charles Lee Littlepage III and wife, Lori and grandchildren Samantha and Alexander Littlepage. Annot received her undergraduate degree from Rice University and her Doctorate of Education from the University of Tennessee. After a long career in education, she became a realtor in Austin. She enjoyed sewing, birding and traveling with her husband. She was very active in AAUW Austin, serving as Branch president in 1991-92.



JOIN THE LEADERSHIP TEAM!

Branch committees are in need of and would warmly welcome new members; see pages 20-21 of our yearbook for a list of the branch standing and special committees. If program or membership or finance or public policy appeal to you and you would like to help, please send a message to austinaauw@gmail.com. Mainspring Schools and STEM activities, UT fellowships selection committee (see p. 2), and yearbook could also use interested volunteers. Most important is the need for someone to help with PR and publicity. Be a force for the future of the Branch!

THE BRANCH

PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES TO BE FEATURED AT THE 46TH BIENNIAL STATE CONVENTION

Two public policy issues will be featured at the biennial state convention, April 25-27, 2014: *Women's Health Care Access* and *Engaging Texas Women Today*.

On Saturday, April 26, a panel entitled, "Women's Health Care Access: More Than a Women's Issue," will examine the impact of the Texas Legislature's 2011 funding cuts and the State's decision to eliminate Planned Parenthood affiliates from state-funded women's health care services. AAUW member Georgia Kidwell will moderate the panel which includes Dr. Anne Epstein, member of the Lubbock Board of Health; Kelly Hart, Planned Parenthood of North Texas; and Joe Potter, Principal Investigator for the Texas Policy Evaluation Project.

The number of women served with contraceptive care, breast exams, pap smears, and screening for health risks, such as diabetes, hypertension, and high cholesterol, has been reduced through clinic closings and cuts in staff and hours. This is more than a women's issue.



On Sunday, April 27, the closing session (10:45-11:30 a.m.) will provide information on what we must do in the next few months. Speak-in on "Beyond Good 'Ole Boys and Ma

Ferguson: Engaging Texas Women Today," Ann Beeson, Executive Director, Center for Public Policy Priorities, will discuss creative new forms of engagement and outline what AAUW members can do to inspire more women to get involved. The year 2014 is important for women. It has been noted that Texas routinely ranks last in civic participation; we can change that!

Dr. Carol J. Fritz
Public Policy Chair
bearcat@austin.rr.com
512.837.6835

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Austin History Association's Angelina Eberley Luncheon.

This annual fundraiser will be on Friday, January 31, 2014, at noon at The Driskill Hotel. "When Austin, Texas became Austin...through the eyes of journalists." Ticket price for each individual is \$125.00. Tickets are now available. <http://www.austinhistory.net/purchase2014eberlytickets/>

Texas Intensive English Program (TIEP)

"Every year TIEP welcomes different groups of exchange students (including foreign English teachers, university and high school students) who come to study English. We help foreign students stay with American families in order to learn about the culture and to practice their English, which also gives the host American families the opportunity to learn about international cultures. We provide the homestay hosts with a stipend to help cover costs incurred. We have an upcoming hosting opportunity of Japanese university students on February 8."

For more details and to participate, contact Dina Shehata, Administrative Assistant, Texas Intensive English Program; 512.477.4511 or dina.shehata@tiec.org.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT: Diane Brewer

AAUW Austin is starting off the new year with a great program on January 10, at 10:30 a.m., at the Westwood Country Club. This will be one of the year's high lights as Dr. Karen Pope will be presenting "Great American Women Artists." I have heard her once and eagerly await hearing her again. Her fans in Central Texas are devoted to her for her knowledge of art and the exceptional tours she leads. If you haven't already made a reservation, please contact me at zdramamom@austin.rr.com or 512-328-0474 to make one. Do it right away as the deadline approaches!

The Branch meeting is important for another reason: half-year dues begin in January for new members, and those attending our Branch meeting and joining at that time will become members for just \$25.25! National is continuing its "Shape the Future" program for enticing new members with reduced rates, and \$25.25 (\$12.25 National, \$5 State, \$8 Austin) is as low as it gets! So, members, bring along a friend, see a great program, have a lovely lunch, and give her the opportunity for a bargain membership!

This month another accomplished young woman, **Shiphrah Evelyn Meditz**, has become the 183rd member of AAUW Austin. A 2013 graduate of the University of Auckland, with B.A. in both English and social anthropology, she spent most of last year in Scotland where she was director, writer, and producer of an indie film, a dark fairy tale, "The Dying Eye." Shiphrah attended Westlake High School and has been in communication with several of us over the past year while seeking production funds for her film. She recently took employment with EZ Financial Group and resides in the Lost Creek neighborhood. Her address is 3664 Lost Creek Boulevard, Austin, TX 78746-1509. Her home phone is 512.328.0467 and email is shiphrahmeditz@gmail.com. She has a website <http://www.meditzproductions.com/> and can be found on Facebook <<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Dying-Eye-Movie/347861201943095?ref=hl>>. Immediately upon joining the Branch, Shiphrah volunteered

to help with the Barnes and Noble giftwrapping fundraiser in late December and has spread the word that she is interested in other volunteering opportunities with our organization. She will not be able to attend the first branch meeting due to her new employment, but looks forward to meetings that will work with her schedule. Welcome, Shiphrah!

In January we look forward to welcoming several new members who are taking advantage of the reduced rate for dues. Both **Marsha Endahl Kramer** and **Dixie Schurle** became friends with Connie Levy in a swimming exercise group. Connie is attending the Pope meeting with Marsha and Dixie and plans to join that day. Connie is another who is associated with the film business as her son has produced a film making the rounds called "Spinning Plates," a documentary about the restaurant business and its top chefs. Connie recently completed a book which is currently in the hands of the publisher! More about her later!! There are several other women with whom I have been corresponding who plan to join, including Joan Dixon, who is **Jean Bessent's** mom. So the year may be half gone, but we continue to grow, grow, grow!

I love that there are so many women who are at the top of the political sphere and others who are taking the highest leadership positions in the business world. Let us hope that with more women taking charge there will be peace within reach of all the world's citizens. As we think about the new year, please consider these words from an inspirational calendar I love: *The New Year lies before you like a spotless track of snow. Be careful how you tread it for every mark will show.*

Have a wonderful year, friends!

Diane Brewer

Membership Vice President 2012-2014

zdramamom@austin.rr.com

512.328.0474