



American Association of
University Women
AAUW Austin (Texas) Branch

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY 2014 “Equality for women is progress for all”



Join UNAUSA Austin Chapter and GlobalAustin for a Panel Review of “Austin Women Who Make a Difference Internationally.”



Anjum Malik - Managing Partner, Alhambra U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Felora Derakhshani - Founder and Executive Director for ACT Women, UNA Austin, Peace Through Commerce
Elizabeth Davis - COO, Miracle Foundation



UNA Friend : \$70, Includes UNA membership
Guests : \$40, UNA Members : \$35
Students : \$30 Sponsor a student!

Tickets may be purchased by:
Paypal on UNAAustin.org,
email jsadegh@yahoo.com
or phone Judy Sadegh 512.496.5771

RSVP by March 3

Friday, March 7, 2014 : 6:30 - 9:00 PM
Austin Woman’s Club, 708 San Antonio St., Austin, 78701

March Calendar of Branch Activities

March 3, 7:15-8:30 p.m. Contemporary Literature. Old Quarry BL. *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed. Discussion leader: Mary Zeitler. Chair: Fern Chester, 512.345.1102.

March 3, 1-3 p.m. Board Meeting. Lamar Senior Activity Center, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave.

March 5, 3 p.m. Movie & Dinner. Call Lois Shaevel at 512.266.0273 for specific details.

March 7, 10 a.m. First Friday Book Review. Hyde Park Church of Christ. *Heaven is for Real* (Todd Burpo) and *Proof of Heaven* (Eben Alexander). Reviewer: Judy Reinhart. Chair: Gayle Smith (512.345.5585).

March 10, 10:30 a.m. SW Book Group. *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett. Hostess is Ruth Rubio (2142 Barton Hills Dr., 78704). Facilitator is Kathy Csoltko. Chair: Inés Garcia, 512.444.5643.

March 12, 4 p.m. Second Wednesday Bridge. Contact: Judy Reinhart, 512.345.5936.

March 16. PEARS. Wine Tasting Tour by commercial van. All Branch members are invited (see p. 6). For further information contact Millie Stecker 512.263.1075.

March 18, 11 a.m. Blue Star Cafeteria (4800 Burnet Road #C300). RSVP required. Chair: Ruth Falck (512.550.6449 or ruthfalck@yahoo.com).

March 19. Creative Stitchery. Hostess: Beverly Locklin (512.343.0782); co-hostess: Rachel Flake (512.343.1742).

FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT

The AAUW mission is the goal for programs, activities, contributions, and INVOLVEMENT! Thanks to all who are involved in current advocacy/activism for AAUW programs, volunteering for STEM, FUNdraising, public policy, SBOE textbook review, etc. One of our best role models for involvement in AAUW and the community for many years is **Nita Hornbeck**, now retired in Georgetown, but still as active as her health allows. We will honor more like her in May with "Named Gifts."

In my early years in AAUW in Michigan, National AAUW had biennial topics for study and four area reps: Education, Cultural, Community, International Relations. Thus, there was something for EVERYone! I hope our newer members agree we have something for you---books and bridge are the favorite study groups, but we have food, hiking, and social connections as well. Public policy entails state and national issues that appeal to some of us with time and energy, but otherwise \$3 of your dues applies to the lobbying and activism at the national level of AAUW. Locally, we are gearing up for Equal Pay Day in April - see **Carol Fritz's** article on page 3. Check out other community events at which we can network and make a difference: the UNA-Austin International Woman's Day celebration dinner on March 7, the WE CONference on March 26-27, and of course, our continued support for STEM Mission in Action with Girlstart and Latinitas. New and seasoned members should consider registering and being official delegates to the AAUW-TX Convention in Hurst, April 25-27, because it is an opportunity to feel and learn about AAUW at another level. Check out the program at http://aauw-tx.aauw.net/files/2013/10/UWT-Winter-2014-final_2.8.14.pdf.

Anita Knight
Branch President 2012-2014
dbaskin@aol.com
512.329.8575

THE MORE YOU KNOW...

Volume 65, Issue 3, of the *University Woman Texas*, Winter Edition, is hot off the presses and available in electronic format <http://aauw-tx.aauw.net/files/2013/10/UWT-Winter-2014-final_2.8.14.pdf>. As you review your copy, you will notice several exciting endeavors, and most notably, details regarding the AAUW Texas Convention on the front page!

Subscribe to *AAUW Outlook* magazine <<http://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/outlookmag/>> to get in-depth coverage of the most pressing issues that women face today, from the gender pay gap to human trafficking. Find out the latest in feminist news and how you can get involved.

March Calendar of Branch Activities

(continued from preceding page)

March 20, 6:30 p.m. Culture & Cuisine. Hostess: Inés Garcia, 6310 Abilene Trail, 78749. Co-hostess: Gail Simpler. Chair: Anneliese Ellerton (512.241.8425).

March 26, 10:00 a.m. Art Tour. Hostess/ planner: Christine Berkland and Carol Fritz. Gethsemane Lutheran Church; 200 West Anderson Lane, 78752. www.gethsemaneaustin.org. Lunch: Red Lobster, 109 West Anderson Lane, 78752; (Redlobster.com or 512.451.8406.) Chair: Diane Brewer. RSVP: zdramamom@austin.rr.com or 512.328.0474.

March 26, 4 p.m. Fourth Wednesday Bridge. Contact Sara Ezell (512.343.8494).

March 28, 8 a.m. Hiking Group. San Marcos. Leader: Anita Knight (512.329.85751 or dbasknight@aol.com). Contacts: Ginny Tannebring (512.922.9645 or ginnyz@sbcglobal.net) or Beverly Locklin (512.343.0782 or blocklin@austin.rr.com).

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

April 25-27, 2014

AAUW Texas State Convention

Hurst Conference Center 1601 Campus Drive Hurst, TX 76054

<http://aauw-tx.aauw.net/events-projects/events/2014-state-convention/>

PUBLIC POLICY

ROAD SHOW TO THE CONVENTION

For several months, we've been collecting signatures to "Stand Up for Texas Women and Families" and are nearing the date to present them to Governor Perry and other elected officials. The big day will be Thursday, April 24, the day before the AAUW Texas State Convention convenes in Hurst. Also, on that day we will stage a "Road Show to the Convention" here in Austin. We are inviting AAUW members from all over Texas to stop in Austin en route to the convention, so we can show that the entire state stands for equal pay, affordable health care, and quality education. State **President Jeannie Best** and Texas organizer, **Melodía Gutiérrez**, will be here, but wouldn't it be great to have even more AAUW leaders in town?

Here's how you can help. If you know members from other parts of the state, please invite them to visit you for bed, breakfast, and the activities on April 24. Members of state committees might invite those with whom they serve. Should we have a dozen or more visitors, we may need volunteers willing to make a new friend by offering hospitality to an attendee. Please contact **Dr. Carol Fritz** <bearcat@austin.rr.com> if you'd like to be on the list. You can also help by registering for the convention.

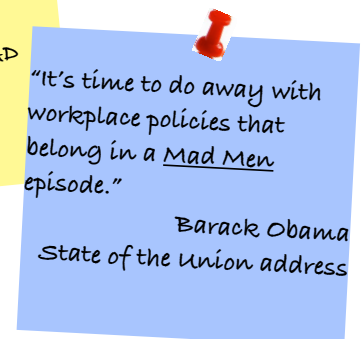
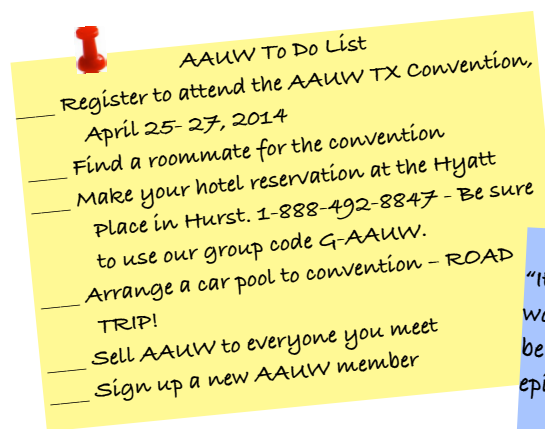
Activities on the 24th include the 1:30 p.m. presentation to the governor in a room at the Capitol to which members of the press will be invited. Everyone is urged to attend. We hope to make the evening news.

Other events on the 24th include an early morning bake sale on an ACC campus, training for visits to legislators' offices, group visits to offices to publicize the petitions, and an early evening "Cocktails and Convos" at a local restaurant for short speeches by invited speakers, followed by Q&A.

Even with the legislature not in session, some members may be in town for committee meetings, and it is always important to establish contact with legislative aides; aides are often the most productive contact with an elected official because they have the legislator's ear and advise them. You want them on your side!

More information will follow as the schedule is finalized.

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



FROM THE MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT: Diane Brewer

This February was typically short, but not so typically, *cold!* This Texan, however, likes a good cold winter because we rarely get one. I have enjoyed bundling up and spending time indoors. However, we women ventured out on February 8th to the Wyndham Hotel where we heard Dr. Shirley Sprinkles share her stories about growing up in the South. We had a very nice lunch, and planner **Larrie Amsler** made a fine introduction of our speaker! **Prez Anita** was traveling this time, so **Veeep Sylvia Garcia** presided as well as chose our wonderful



Program VP Dr. Sylvia Garcia presided over the meeting at which Dr. Shirley Robinson Sprinkles spoke.

lunch. There were forty-two people there to enjoy the meeting, and I thought it was a wonderful group of interested participants including some very new members including **Freda Bryson** and **Suellen Mills**, and other fairly newbies including **Michelle Martin**, **Mine Tafolar**, **Elaine Diefenderfer**, and **Shiphrah Meditz**. It was great to see **Iilene Payton** returning to our meeting in good health and **Nita Hornbeck** with **Pat Rehm** of Georgetown AAUW visiting once again. **Dr. Aggie Curry-Jones** and **Myrtle Bell** were also nodding their approval at Dr. Sprinkles and her recollections. Many more, too numerous to list came along and we so appreciate your participation! You know who you are! I was thrilled at the turnout because we do not have a formal meeting in March, and it was great to see all of you.

“Getting There,” a column by Ben Wear in the *Statesman*, always grabs my attention because I have been very frustrated with getting anywhere in Austin of late. I was pleased to see that **Rima Xoyamayagua** was featured in his column recently venting her frustrations with the options given her by mass transit. It is very frustrating to see more and more people coming to town and fewer, narrower roads and crowded buses to get where we need to go. Glad to see Rima protesting a poor situation!

Last month I proudly stated our membership was at 188, and it still is!! This is the first time in a long time that we have not signed up a new member, but we are getting close to the end of our membership year, and we can even start taking dues again for renewals in March. Spread the word to your friends: anyone joining in March, 2014, will have a membership good through May of 2015. We board members are also eager to have some feedback from you about such things as the branch meetings, times, days, venues, and the way we produce our annual yearbook/directory. Be thinking of how these issues have affected you and be ready to share. We want to know!

Prez Anita shared with me that **Jocelyn Bingham Brandt** and family have recently moved to the Steiner Ranch area, and that their baby, who early on had some challenges, is doing very well! Bravo! They are now at 417 Dawn River Cove, Austin 78732-1986. **Martha Van Sickle** recently returned from visiting her son for the summer-fall months and then decided to move over to Westminster Manor, at 4100 Jackson Avenue, Apt. 510, Austin 78731-6085. Martha has a new phone number, too: 512.243.7190. Martha is another dear member who now needs the occasional ride to things. If you can include Martha in your activities, please do! Our AAUW Angels are doing a great job. **Janet Widoff** scooped up **Jerry Cassidy** and **Mine Tafolar** on the 8th, and **Ruth Falck** frequently includes **Jerry** in her car, too. **Pat Rehm** brought **Nita Hornbeck** to the branch meeting, and I know there will be others who can assist more of our members who would prefer not to drive.

In other news, we were sorry to learn that **Evelyn Boyer** lost her mom in recent months, as has **Eugenie Whalen**, whose mom passed away in February. Plucky **Mary Owens**, who in just over a year has come through a major move to Bastrop, survived a terrible wreck and recovered from her injuries, has now returned home from the hospital once more, having come through a major operation. She is doing well, according to good friend **Anneliese Ellerton**, and is already planning a return to interest groups.

Our nominating committee has been working hard to bring us a new slate of officers, and we appreciate them! We are fired up about new people who are taking responsibility, and we know of many talents and interests in our newest members. There is no better way to make a difference in AAUW and our struggle for the future of women than stepping up and taking a leadership role, small or large. Thanks to those who do! As Membership VP for another year, those who send in their dues for next year *early* will be my personal heroes!

Thanks so much and have a great March!

Diane Brewer

Membership Vice President 2012-2014
zdramamom@austin.rr.com or 512.328.0474

BRANCH BUSINESS

SLATE FOR APRIL 2014 ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

A nominating committee composed of **Marsha Endahl Kramer, Barbara Houston, Elizabeth Newell, Judy Reinhart, and Mary Ellen Scribner** has completed its work. At the February Branch meeting, Chairwoman **Marsha Endahl Kramer** announced the slate of officers to be voted on at the April meeting. The candidates are:

- President - **Anita Knight**; Co-President - **Inés Garcia** (2014-2015)
- Membership Vice President - **Diane Brewer** (2014-2015)
- Treasurer - **Marina Rivers**; Co-Treasurer - **Soon Merz** (2014-2016)
- Secretary - **Dr. Kay Keys** (2014-2016)
- Program Co-Vice Presidents - **Judy Reinhart, Ruth Rubio, and Dr. Janet Widoff** (2014-2016)

Prior to the vote at the April 12 Branch meeting, additional nominations may be made from the floor. Also before the voting begins at that meeting, a by-law must be passed to modify the terms of office for the president and the co-president and treasurer for this year only in order to begin staggering terms for the executive officers of the board of directors.



NAMED GIFTS RECOMMENDATIONS

The Austin Branch contributions to national AAUW funds for 2013 totaled \$3,788.30. That means that we have seven possible “named gifts.” Please submit suggestions to me of members deserving of recognition for special contributions to the Branch and/or the community. See pp. 25-26 of yearbook for history of this process. We will recognize these people at our May meeting.

Elaine Diefenderfer
Funds Chair
elaine.diefenderfer@gmail.com

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE

The bylaws committee, **Janie Maldonado** (chair) and **Pam Wolfe**, is recommending a bylaws change. This change will be discussed and voted on at the April Branch meeting.

Current version:

Article VII: Officers

Section 4. Officers shall serve a term of two years or until their successors have been elected or appointed and assume office. The term of each officer shall begin on July 1.

Proposed version:

Article VII: Officers

Section 4. Officers shall serve a term of two years or until their successors have been elected or appointed and assume office. The office of the president and membership vice-president shall begin their term July 1, every odd year; and the terms of the branch program vice-president, secretary, and treasurer shall begin July 1 every even year.

Rational:

Now that we have two-year terms for our elected board, it is time to stagger their terms. This will provide a more fluid flow for the board since the possibility of the entire elected board being new during the same biennium is greatly reduced. In order to create the staggered terms, the offices of the president and membership vice-president do not have to be elected until 2015 and take office July 1, 2015. The current bylaws uphold this timing. However, the branch will elect these officers for a one-year term, one time only at the April 2014 business meeting along with the other elected officers.

Janie Maldonado
Bylaws Committee Chair
janie_maldonado@hotmail.com

PEARS GROUP INVITES MEMBERSHIP TO JOIN WINE TASTING EVENT

On March 16 the PEARS group is going on a wine tasting tour by commercial van and would love to fill the van with AAUW friends--singles or couples! For more information, contact **Millie Stecker** at 512.263.1075.



BRANCH BUSINESS

AD HOC TEXTBOOK REVIEW
ACTION GROUP

In 2015, the State Board of Education (SBOE) will adopt new textbooks for use in Texas public schools in all social studies and history courses from kindergarten through twelfth grade. We need to ensure that those textbooks present an unbiased historiography, are inclusive, and are accurate in current research and practice. The best way to do that is to pay attention and give input whenever possible. Opportunities for positive input and support might include testifying before various committees and perhaps the SBOE, attending rallies and meetings, writing letters to the editor or op ed pieces for the newspapers, etc. On February 20 Senator Jane Nelson held a hearing at the Capitol on women's health issues; **Michelle Martin** was there. Right after the



hearing, Texas Freedom Network held a "Stand with Texas Women--Again" event in the outdoor rotunda; **Mary Ellen Scribner** was there. Although textbook selection per se wasn't on the agenda, sex education in Texas schools was a topic at these events as were other issues affecting Texas women, children, and families.

If you were unable to sign up to be a part of this group at the February Branch meeting and would like to, please send an email to maryescribner@gmail.com.

STEM MISSION IN ACTION DATES

March 4, 10 a.m. Girlstart

Coffee and Star Party Fundraiser

All come for coffee and viewing of Girlstart's new planetarium! Donation: proceeds go for goodie bag supplies (Girlstart STEM Conference) and C.R.E.W. Interns Scholarship Fund.

March 10-14 Latinitas

Media/Technology Spring Break Camp

Volunteers needed 9 a.m.-noon or 1-4 p.m. (any day) for registration, helping in break-out sessions, or on fieldtrips to SXSW activities. Hosted by and at the Mexican American Cultural Center.

March 28 Girlstart

STEM Conference Support

Needed: Four volunteers to post address labels/stamps on postcards sent to remind girls not in the Afternoon Program of the Girlstart STEM Conference.

April 4 Girlstart

STEM Conference Support

Needed: Fifteen volunteers on Friday, April 4, 10 a.m.-noon or noon-2 p.m. We will be at Girlstart stuffing the goodie bags for the Girlstart STEM Conference.

April 26 (1/2 day) Latinitas

Business Chica Conference

Needed: Volunteers for registration and break-out sessions; also, for sending out donation request letters, and stuffing goodie bags at the Latinitas office (1107 South 8th Street, 78704). Hosted by the McCombs School of Business, The University of Texas.

Lilac Bauer

Girlstart/Latinitas Liaison

la_azucena@hotmail.com

Technology & Learning

BRANCH BUSINESS



At the February meeting Marsha Endahl Kramer (left) reported from the nominating committee the results of its work prior to the April Branch election (p. 5). Anneliese Ellerton added her name to an *ad hoc* committee (p. 6) forming to take an active role in the review process for new social studies textbooks for Texas Public Schools.

AAUW TEXAS 46th BIENNIAL STATE CONVENTION IN HURST ON APRIL 25-27

The theme of this year’s conference is "The Best Stuff IS in the Middle." How many times have you asked yourself, "Why can't there be a middle ground where we can all work to the benefit of the people of Texas?" Well, we say there can be! And at the convention, we'll talk about how we can create that middle ground together.

Early bird registration ended March 1st, and the cost of the convention is now \$225. The registration form is online at <http://aauw-tx.aauw.net/events-projects/events/2014-state-convention/>.

The Hurst Hyatt Place’s convention rate is \$99 single/double for what is really a suite that can accommodate up to four people. The deadline to make your hotel reservation at the convention rate is March 20. Complete information for making a hotel reservation is also on the website.

The Winter issue of *University Woman Texas* (see p. 2 of this newsletter) profiles the outstanding group of speakers and workshop presenters who will be at the convention.


BRANCH MEMBERS TO BE INDUCTED INTO AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN’S PROFILES OF PROMINENCE

The Austin Metroplex Chapter of National Women of Achievement will induct thirteen honorees for the Thirteenth Biennial African-American Women’s Profiles of Prominence 2014. Branch members **Dr. Beulah Agnes Curry-Jones** and **Barbara Foreman** will be honored as co-founders of the Austin Chapter NWOA, Inc., with the President’s Award. “Aggie” is the retired chair for Huston-Tillotson University Fine Arts Department, a music educator, a church musician, a community volunteer, an education mentor, and a longtime member of our Branch. Barbara is a retired public servant for state and federal government. Currently, she is a special events planner; an education consultant; a civic volunteer; co-founder of The Group, a community service organization; and an AAUW member.

This year’s program, which culminates with the organization’s 25th anniversary celebration, will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2014, at St. James Missionary Baptist Church (3417 East Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Austin, 78701) at 6 p.m. with a reception afterward. It is free and open to the public. For more information, contact **Barbara Foreman** at 512.924.2529.

FROM OUR SISTERS IN AAUW-GEORGETOWN

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
Georgetown Branch**



Invites you to attend the
Style Show, Luncheon &
Purse Auction
at
BERRY CREEK COUNTRY CLUB

Styles by
Diva Chicks
Hummingbird Hollow
The Screen Door

**March 22, 2014
10:30 am**

Cost \$30

For tickets: Karen Limbaugh (512-868-2648) or librarian101@earthlink.net
For information: Brenda Scholin (512-731-6627)

Supports AAUW Educational Programs

THE BRANCH & THE COMMUNITY



Join us for a conversation about the future of access to opportunity through higher education. Texas is on the forefront of national demographic shifts and a bellwether state for diversity in higher education, and the University of Texas at Austin was a party in the U.S. Supreme Court's recent ruling in *Fisher v. University of Texas*.

This all-day conference will bring together scholars, advocates, educators and students to examine contemporary debates involving diversity in higher education. In addition to examining the Supreme Court's decision in *Fisher* and the questions currently before the Fifth Circuit, panels will explore race-based versus class-based affirmative action, achieving diversity through race-neutral admissions plans, and the ripple effects of diversity in higher education. Marta Tienda, a Princeton sociologist who has studied the impact of the Texas Top 10% law as well as the role of diversity in higher education more broadly, will provide the keynote address at a seated lunch reception.

The conference is presented by the University of Texas School of Law's William Wayne Justice Center for Public Interest Law, Civil Rights Clinic, and Texas Journal on Civil Liberties & Civil Rights, and sponsored by the University of Texas Heman Sweatt Symposium on Civil Rights and the University of Texas at Austin Division of Diversity and Community Engagement.

The conference is free, but space is limited and registration is required. For more information and to register: <http://www.utexas.edu/law/centers/publicinterest/events/fisher.html#register>.



The first annual Women's Empowerment CONFERENCE, presented by the Women's Community Center of Central Texas will be a two-day gathering in Austin on March 22-23, 2014, for women, girls, and those who care about them!

- * Workshops - The conference will have panel discussions, skill shares, and presentations running all day both days. No matter what your interest or background, you are sure to find something that speaks to you.
- * Teens & Tweens - WE CON will have a separate track featuring participant-led presentations and workshops that center on issues of interest to and affecting women and girls under the age of 18.
- * Resource Fair - With the goal of creating connections and building community among central Texas women and girls, there will be space for socializing and discussion as well as a fair where local organizations will be available to answer any questions and let you know how you might become more involved.

WE CON Austin will be at the Norris Conference Center, 2525 Anderson Lane, Austin 78757. To learn more and to register, go to <http://weconaustin.org/#!/event-register/2014/3/22/we-con-austin>. There are low-income and student tickets available. If those options are still prohibitive, please drop us a line and we'll make something work. We don't want cost to be a barrier for anyone, so if you can, please consider giving a little extra to support our scholarship fund or sponsoring someone who can't afford to attend.

SAVE THE DATE - JUNE 13-14, 2014

AAUW MID-WEST REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Lodge of the Four Seasons; Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri. Reasonable hotel and meal rates; choice of 11 different breakout sessions; public policy panel; open forum; all-participant opening reception; various other events/activities.

Lisa Maatz, AAUW Vice President of Government Relations <> Keynote Speaker