

**AAUW Austin, TX Branch
Next Meeting**

Wednesday, April 11

10:00 AM

**Austin Woman's Club
(Chateau Bellevue)**

Free parking off Nueces St.

\$25 lunch

**RSVP by noon, April 9th
to Judy Reinhart
jareinhart@att.net**



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Calendar	AAUW in Action	BUZZzzzz

Our Mission. *Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*
<http://austin-tx.aauw.net>

Hot Science, Cool Talks

Past, present, and future climate change impacts on Texas water: Science and policy
Dr. Jay Banner, Director of the Environmental Science Institute

Texas comprises the eastern portion of the Southwest region, where the convergence of climatological and geopolitical forces has the potential to put extreme stress on water resources. Geologic records indicate that Texas experienced large changes in moisture sources and amounts on millennial time scales in the past, and over the last thousand years, tree-ring records indicate that there were significant periods of drought in Texas. These droughts were of longer duration than the 1950s “drought of record” that is commonly used in planning, and they occurred independently of human-induced global climate change.

Under essentially all climate model projections, Texas will become significantly warmer and drier, yet the magnitude, timing, and regional distribution of these changes are uncertain. With a projected doubling of the state’s population by 2065, science, engineering, policy, and economics are essential elements needed for the state’s planning for the projected changes. The challenges to enacting such planning are also considered.

MENU: Mixed Green Salad with Prosciutto, Melon and a Cantaloupe Vinaigrette; Oven Roasted Strip Steak with an Avocado Horseradish Crema served with Basmati and Wild Rice and Seasoned Vegetable; Old Fashioned Apple Pie with Vanilla Whipped Cream

When you RSVP, be sure to specify that you want lunch for \$25 or just program with beverages for \$5.

Dr. Jay Banner was born and raised in New York City and was interested in science from an early age. He attended the University of Pennsylvania as a Chemistry major and switched majors to Geology partway through to his Bachelor’s degree. He pursued graduate studies in geology and geochemistry at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where he received his MS and Ph.D. Then he was a postdoctoral fellow at the California Institute of Technology and Louisiana State University. He joined the faculty in the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Texas in 1990 in Austin, Texas. He is presently the Fred M. Bullard Professor in the Jackson School of Geosciences and Director of the Environmental Science Institute at UT-Austin.

Banner is a geochemist who investigates the impacts of urbanization on aquifers and streams, and the reconstruction of past climate change, soil erosion and ocean chemistry. Banner is on the Organizing Committee of UT-Austin’s new initiative, “Planet Texas 2050”, an interdisciplinary research program examining the challenges to a resilient Texas in the 21st century.

APRIL CALENDAR – Interest Groups and MORE

Contemporary Literature (at Fern Chester's)

April 2 *Traitor to His Class: The Privileged Life and Radical Presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt*
(7:15 PM) Author: H.W. Brands
Facilitator: Carol Fritz
Contact: Fern Chester, 512-345-1102

Out to Lunch

April 3 **Chinatown** (MOPAC location)
(11:00 AM) 3407 Greystone Dr.; 512-343-9307
Hostess: Barbara Houston
RSVP: Diane Brewer, 512-328-0474
zdramamom@gmail.com

First Friday AM Book Review

Hyde Park Church of Christ

April 6 *Who Rules the World?*
(10:00 AM) Author: Noam Chomsky
Reviewer: Delia Quintanilla
Hostess: Beverly Locklin

Hiking Club

April 7 Lady Bird Wildflower Center
(9:30 AM) Leader: Linda Welsh, lawelsh@gmail.com

PEARS

April 7 Dinner at Marker 10 and Capitol
(5:00 PM) Cruise Bat Tour
Planner: Milli Stecker & Phillip Craft
Contact: Milli Stecker
mstecker@austin.rr.com

Southwest Books

April 9 *The New Odyssey: The 21st Century*
(10:30 AM) *Refugee Crises*
Author: Patrick Kingsley
Hostess: Brenda Hahne
Facilitator: Lilac Bauer
Contact: Jennifer Swenson, 512-288-2894

Central Books

April 9 *The Train to Crystal City*
(10:30 AM) Author: Jan Jarboe Russell
Hostess: Mary Humke
Facilitator: Mary Lou Bell
Contact: Ann Marie Ellis, 512-282-9637

Creative Stitchery

April 18 Hostess: Beverly Locklin
(10:00 AM) Co-Hostess: Nancy Ellison

Culture & Cuisine

April 19 New York Wines Tasting
(6:30 PM) Hostesses: Tulis Escobar, Inés García,
Connie Muñoz
Contact: Barbara Houston, 512-633-
9766; barbyhouston@gmail.com

New Mystery Group

April 23 Animal Allies – An animal may help solve
(11:00 AM) the case or play a big part in solving it.
Mimi's in the Arbor Walk
10515 N. MOPAC
Leader: Pam Wolfe, piwolfe@yahoo.com

Art Tour

April 25 Visit with Photographer Greg (Gus) Davis
(10:00 AM) Gusto Studios/National Geographic
Creative Photographer,
#M 2309 Thornton Rd. 512-228-0995
Planners: Marsha Endahl Kramer and
Susan James
Contact: Diane Brewer, Zdramamom@gmail.com

Hiking Club

April 26 Private property off Hamilton Pool Road
(9:30 AM) Leader: Rebecca Benz, 512-289-8066
rebeccabenz0@gmail.com

MORE things to do this month – see page 5-6

April 19 **Mainspring Schools Luncheon**

April 20 **Austin Woman's Federated Club**
Children in Nature

April 20-22 **AAUW State Convention**, Houston, TX

April 21 **Women's Empowerment Conference**

April 21 **Love Concert by CMFW**

April 29 **Zonta Club Poetry Slam & Silent Auction**

AAUW in ACTION – see more at <http://austin-tx.aauw.net/>



STEM/STEAM News:

Per Lilac Bauer, 512-743-6338,
la_azucena@hotmail.com



A BIG thank you to Jackie Hardee and this group for GOODY BAG STUFFING for Girlstart's Girls in STEM Conference. (Over 600 bags stuffed by **Jackie Hardee** and team (**Nancy Andren, Naomi Baker, Roberta Coffin, Brenda Hahne, Anita Knight, Judy Reinhart, and Gayle Smith**). We assembled articles for the activity about **funambulists** (learned new word, meaning tightrope walker).

Member and Girlstart ED **Dr. Tamara Hudgins** reports that in 2017, Girlstart reached more than 25 THOUSAND girls, family members, and educators with their high-quality STEM education programs. They continue to grow!

April 28, 8-10 AM: Latinitas "Game Design Chica" Conference. Sign up to help with various duties with **Carol Midboe** (cmmidboe@gmail.com). Contact **Lilac Bauer** by email if you can donate specific food items -- and/or help stuff the snack bags at her house, April 23rd at 10 AM, then full bags at Latinitas office at 1:30 that afternoon. Contact **Katherine Staples** (staples@austin.rr.com) about the PM shift. Latinitas is also looking for volunteers to help re-format their curriculum activities to standardize it, making it easier on the volunteers who staff the AfterSchool Clubs. At your own time, on your own computer. Contact Lilac if you are willing to do this!



Continuing to put the FUN in FUNd-rai\$ing for AAUW!!

Debbie Starr and Anita Knight, co-Chairs



Sale of **used books** at March meeting raised >\$100.
Debbie is hauling remaining books to Half Price Books for more \$\$.

Many of the funds raised by the branch are and have been targeted to help complete the Ann Richards American Fellowship started by AAUW-TX*. At the April meeting, we will present Named Gift Certificates of Appreciation for each \$500 of contributions in 2017 – that will be these 11 special members deserving of recognition and appreciation: **Roberta Coffin, Kay Goodwin, Betty Grubbs, Brenda Hahne, Jackie Hardee, Janie Maldonado, Carol Midboe, Debbie Starr, Jennifer Swenson, Linda Welsh, and Sue Worden**. Several are new members, but all but Sue Worden are NEW honorees of the Named Gifts tradition.

At both April and May meetings, we will have a **Door Prize** of **2 tickets to Alamo Drafthouse Cinemas** to support the membership/renewal drive. A ticket will be given to those who renew onsite at the meeting; winner drawn during meeting. **One Greeting Card** will be given to anyone who also donates at least \$25 to AAUW with dues renewal onsite; 5 cards for \$100 or more donation.

Did y'all hear that National's dues would increase \$10 on July 2018? The branch Membership Committee moved that we start using National's online membership renewal process; and computers will be available at the April and May branch meetings to facilitate your online registration. See page 7 for more information about dues and renewal process.

AAUW in ACTION – see more at <http://austin-tx.aauw.net/>

**Co-President MARY ELLEN SCRIBNER:
AAUW Austin's MAP story 2017-2018**

Submitted to AAUW-TX for the state
Membership/Advocacy/Philanthropy Award

At the very first meeting of the current executive board, we chose as our guiding principle “Pay it forward”. We wanted our actions and activities to lead to a better future for women and girls including ourselves, and this outlook led to a very rewarding, productive and fun-filled year.

FUNdraising played a major role as we worked to support all AAUW Funds and to complete the Ann Richards Fellowship initiated by AAUW Texas—and have some fun at the same time. We worked with Ten Thousand Villages, Collin Street Bakery (Corsicana, TX), and the Kendra Gives Back (Kendra Scott Jewelry) program to raise money. Some of our members wrapped gifts at Barnes & Noble during the holidays for tips. We had raffles at our monthly meetings with such delightful prizes that everyone was eager to buy multiple chances. By far the most successful project was the sale of customized greeting cards. The suggested donation for each card was \$25, and with a donation of \$25 (frequently more!), the purchaser could choose a vellum insert with one of three messages: *(Giver's Name) made a generous donation to the American Association of University Women in honor/memory/celebration of (Name)*. Sales were timed for special occasions such as Mother's Day, graduation, or seasons of the year with photos that matched the theme. One advantage to having a good many older members, who maybe cannot spend an afternoon wrapping gifts during the holidays, is that these women love to write checks! We have some very generous members! At least half a dozen members have already donated to be a Sister of Ann, and we know there will be more. Our branch raised enough money to qualify for eleven named gifts this year.

Last spring the branch's UT fellowship committee was able to award fellowships of \$2,500.00 to three very deserving women. This spring we will again award fellowships to female doctoral students who have reached the dissertation level at the University of Texas; we just don't know how many yet.

The “Pay it forward.” theme informed most of our branch programs. Our first meeting of the year was held on the campus of Huston-Tillotson University, a venerable and traditionally Black university in Austin. The new president (first woman) described her journey to that position for us and shared her vision for the future of the university.

We kept ourselves informed and involved in the community through such programs as “Journalism in the Era of Fake News”; “Global Security Outlook: Counterterrorism in

Today's World”; and “Human Trafficking in Texas”. The primary election season inspired a recent program on Racial Gerrymandering in Texas. At least a dozen of our members are voter registration deputies. When we learned that Raheel Raza, a prominent Pakistani-Canadian journalist and activist, would be in Austin for a series of meetings, we scheduled a public meeting with her which we titled “Vital Voices” at a local library branch. We invited GlobalAustin to join us in this endeavor. Ms. Raza was truly inspiring on the topic of diversity—gender, religious, ethnic, sexual orientation, etc. We know that at least one person was there because she saw a flyer we had posted at the library, so we know we recruited at least one new AAUW member that day!

Since July 1, 2017, we have recruited 29 new members. We even snagged a few millennials --- very exciting to have these youngsters among us. We have some branch meetings on Wednesdays and some on Saturdays. Soccer moms appreciate the former and members with full-time jobs the latter. With such strong recruiting and a retention rate of 90%, we are closing in on 200 members. Currently, the membership vice president and her committee are putting together a “buddy system” that will link members who want to serve as buddies to new members or to others who want or need a buddy. This very engaged committee is also developing a survey to help determine how best to engage members and keep them engaged.

We enjoy each other's company and are there to offer encouragement and assistance in times of personal need. Attendance at monthly meetings has steadily increased, and our interest groups further bind us together. Women who join AAUW to play bridge or hike with like-minded women soon find themselves volunteering for STEM activities with Girlstart or Latinitas. One of our book groups became so large that it had to split in half. Some younger members have unexpectedly found a happy place of skill and wisdom in our long-standing stitchery group. We are the high school clique and college sorority all grown up into an organization of committed adults who value relationships, advocacy, and giving back. AAUW Austin's MAP to the future grows stronger with each new member!



Branch & Community BUZZzzzzzz

AAUW Austin member since 1997 and avid bridge player, **Marilyn Arrigona**, passed away Thursday, March 1st. Fun fact per bridge friend **Diane Brewer**: her beautiful, talented grandson, Andrés Garcia, is a member of the Boston Ballet Company. She was very proud of him and traveled to see him dance several times. Marilyn treasured her family, friends, bridge and book groups, and the fact that her city is an island of **blue** in a sea of **red**.

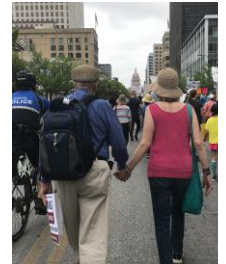
Zonta Club Human Trafficking Awareness Event – A Poetry Slam and Silent Auction – April 29, 2018
 5:00 – 8:00 pm – Barrel O’Fun – Alamo Drafthouse – Mueller, 1911 Aldrich Street, Suite 120
 Tickets are \$25/person and include 1 drink ticket – NOT APPROPRIATE FOR 15 AND UNDER. See: <http://austinzontapoetryslam2018.eventbrite.com>

Jason Gindele, the ED of Mainspring Schools hopes you will join him on Thursday, April 19 to learn about the issues facing Austin's families and children in poverty, celebrate the achievements of the last year and consider how we can help these children in the future.



- **What:** Mainspring Schools "Learning Starts Here" Luncheon
- **When:** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Thursday, April 19 (lunch served at 11:30)
- **Where:** Renaissance Austin Hotel
- **How:** tax-deductible \$75 registration fee

More than 2 million joined **March for Our Lives** in all 50 states, and more than 850 marches around the world! All ages like here in Austin.



Love Concert, on April 21st at 7 PM, at Oak Hill United Methodist Church, by Classical Music For the World (CMFW). CMFW has been providing live classical music concert events free of charge since 2010 in the Austin area, because music is a gift. But one of their core programs is called "Love Concert", at which they raise money for helping others while audience communicates with each other through the language of music. This event is part of the CMFW Spring Festival 2018, "Welcome All": Celebrating Refugee Families in Austin Area. The festival will start on April 14th with a solo cello concert performed by an Italian cellist. The Love Concert program includes CMFW Orchestra performance, refugee students' drum performance and singing, and quest speakers. For more info, see: <http://www.classicalmusicfortheworld.org/upcoming-events/welcome-all-april-21-2018/>.

As the Austin, TX branch of AAUW celebrates its 95th year, we honor these nonagenarians for their many and much appreciated contributions to our branch and community for many years. They are truly role models as they generously shared their time, talents, finances, and, most importantly, their friendships.

- Betty Blanton**
- Geraldynne (Jerry) Cassidy**
- Fern C. Chester**
- Catherine (Kay) M. Goodwin**
- Betty E. Grubbs**
- Lillian M. Kwas**
- Mary Hickey Micka**
- Nancy V. Myers**
- Ramona Hastings Nance**
- Barbara Butts Parkhurst**
- Jenny Lind Porter Scott**
- Katherine (Kay) Race**
- Suzu Lindeman Snyder**
- Frances W. Tomlinson**
- Martha S. Van Sickle**

Celebrate **Earth Day** with Austin Woman’s Federated Club Friday, April 20, 2018, 11:00 AM at Austin Woman’s Club



Children in Nature

with Karen Knight,
 Program Coordinator

in Austin Parks and Recreation Dept. for the
CITIES CONNECTING CHILDREN TO NATURE GRANT
 Contact: **Carol Blanchard**, 512-971-0197

MORE Branch & Community BUZZzzzzz

Last month Art Tours visited an artist who is a sister of member **Dr. Linda Quintanilla** and a former mayor of Sunset Valley. Here are some of the fun sculptures, captured on camera by **Susan James**.



UT Austin AAUW student org and the UT Computer Science Department hosted a AAUW **Start Smart** Workshop on March 20th. 14 students attended the workshop. The workshop was an amazing opportunity to be introduced to the art of salary negotiation. Through mock elevator talks and negotiations, and by hearing real-world examples of discussed techniques put into practice, students were able to engage the topic of salary negotiation in a hands-on way.



Thank you AAUW National and Luna for sponsoring the workshop, AAUW Austin for sponsoring the food and to the workshop facilitator Val Gomez for making the presentation engaging and educational.

Note that leaders of AAUW at UT, Priya and Kavya Ramamoorthy (latter is also a member of AAUW's Student Advisory Council), will be participating in the College/-University Student panel at the State Convention in Houston on Saturday afternoon.

The 2018 **Women's Empowerment Conference** sponsored by the Women's Community Center of Central Texas on April 22 has many options for volunteering.



Brenda Hahne is coordinating our participation with an AAUW table for outreach and networking. WE Con provides an opportunity to connect with others, and the community.

Why is AAUW Important to you?

Two questions were posed to AAUW members who came to the March 21st meeting. Armed with markers, members shared why AAUW is important to them and what did they hope and imagine for the coming year. Reviewing the responses was rewarding to Membership VP **Linda Welsh** as she reflected on why AAUW is important to her.

We love the connections with other awesome women and men through the shared values of our guiding mission, meaningful action, and lifelong friendships.

The long history of work on behalf of women and girls is what draws so many of us to the organization.

And as we think about our March speaker, Melinda Garvey's message, each of us can be a mentor for others. As Brooke Shannon, a new member notes, *"I am a PhD student at UT and it is empowering to meet, network with, and celebrate other university women!"*

The second question asked was, *"What do you hope and imagine for AAUW in the coming year?"* Some themes emerged from the responses: Community connections and partnerships, wonderful programs, increased membership, and better use of technology.

➔ Continued on page 7.

What do YOU hope and imagine for AAUW in the coming year?

Creating a stronger presence in the community and recognition of who and what AAUW is, becoming more active in the community and increasing our work with central Texas colleges and universities are ways members envision AAUW in the coming year.

Our members want to continue our relevant, engaging programs on issues that resonate with our mission and that address emerging issues, such as immigration reform and increased activism on behalf of women and children.

As you prepare to renew your commitment to AAUW for the coming year, please consider:

Why is AAUW important to you? And What do you hope and imagine for AAUW in the coming year?

➔ Send any responses to VP Membership, **Linda Welsh** at lawelsh@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Renewal for 2018-2019 program year:

Dues Increase: In the first time for nearly a decade, our national dues for the coming year have increased by \$10 to \$59. Annual dues from the members represent an important 13% of the national budget. They help sustain and grow AAUW’s programs and work that advances equity for women and girls. To learn more:

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/membership-dues-update/>

With the \$13 state and \$16 local dues, the total for the coming year is \$88.

Online Renewal Process: Our branch is becoming more tech-savvy; for the upcoming membership renewal our branch will be moving to the online national Membership Payment Program. This will save time and effort for our local branch volunteers.

In April, each member will be sent an individualized email for you to renew your membership online.

Don’t worry - If you prefer to do a paper process, you can still write a check.

NATIONAL NEWS

2018 AAUW Bylaws Amendment Vote. The AAUW Governance committee is proposing these three Bylaw changes to be voted on by the members:

- 3 year staggered board terms
- Opening board service to those outside AAUW membership
- Eliminate the degree requirement for membership

Educate yourself on the proposed changes at:

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/>

Members can comment on the proposed amendments until April 24th. Voting will begin on April 25 and continue through June 9, 2018.

Strategic Plan. A new National Strategic Plan is under development. Chief Executive Officer **Kimberly Churches** and the National Strategic Plan Task Force are on a listening tour around the nation to develop a new strategic plan for AAUW. The strategic focus will continue to be on:

- Pay equity
- Education
- STEM
- Leadership
- Title IX

There will be opportunities for member input in the draft plan. Look for a notice from AAUW in your email sometime in April. To learn more:

<https://www.aauw.org/2017/12/05/strategic-plan/>