



# University Woman Texas!

**Our Mission:** AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

**Our Value Promise:** By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

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## President's Message: Why did we join?

**By Ann Berasley, President**

Most of us can remember when we joined AAUW. For some of us that was a few months ago, for others a few years ago, and, for the rest of us, a few decades ago. Take a minute to think about why you joined and if it is the same reason you are a member today.

"AAUW's mission" is a frequent response to why members join and renew.

But how do we know we are following our mission? It is very easy to get comfortable doing the same projects and events each year.

To help us keep focused, AAUW has adopted the acronym PEARL, which stands for Protect, Educate, Advocate, Research and Lead. Each AAUW program or activity should tie to one or more parts of PEARL.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## Your Invitation to Houston, April 23-25, 2010

**By Marietta Hostak and Celina Torres Fennell**

Join us for the AAUW Texas State Convention, April 23-25, 2010 at the Marriot Houston Westchase, Houston, Texas. Theme of the convention is "Opening Opportunities for Women and Girls."

Meet the new Association president, Carolyn Garfein who will speak on Saturday.

You are invited to learn about

the latest information on bylaws, policy changes, public policy and other new updates in AAUW. Many workshop sessions will cover the hottest AAUW topics and issues.

For example, a pre-convention workshop on "\$tart \$mart W.A.G.E. Program, Training AAUW



Facilitators" by Annie Houle is scheduled for Friday afternoon.

The Texas Convention is an outstanding event that should not be missed.

## Texas branches were well represented at AAUW's St. Louis Convention

These members were among the 35 or more Texans who in June learned about "Breaking Through Barriers," at the 2009 AAUW Convention in St. Louis.

Read more about the convention on page 7 where there are instructions on how to watch online the AAUW Texas' first Webinar held in Austin July 25th.



## Toss your hat in ring for a state office before Oct. 1

By Mary Edwards, Nominating Committee Chair

It is time to nominate new AAUW Texas Board officers. We have planned our branch events for the 2009-2010 season, we look forward to the state convention in Houston in April 2010, and now we need to nominate members to run for the board of directors.

Working with the AAUW Texas Board of Directors is a rewarding experience. The next biennium (2010-2012) will be important--a transition time. AAUW is being reorganized, and the new state board will have the excitement of building on these changes.

Offices to be filled include President, Program VP, Membership VP, Vice Presidents for the Educational Foundation and for the Legal Advocacy Fund, Secretary, Finance Officer, and District Representatives.

Consider placing your name or the name of someone you know who is qualified for nomination. Nominees must consent to having their names placed in nomination.

Branches are filled with capable, qualified officer candidates. If you have been actively involved in AAUW at the branch, district, region or state board level you may be the perfect person for a larger role in state business. You will find it a most rewarding experience.

To obtain nomination forms; go to the state website, [www.aauwtexas.org](http://www.aauwtexas.org), contact your district representative or branch president, or contact me: Mary Edwards, AAUW Texas Nominating Committee Chair, 611 Timber Circle, Houston, TX 77079, 281/920-4249, [vhemle63@texas.net](mailto:vhemle63@texas.net).

**Deadline for Nominations: Midnight, Oct. 1, 2009.**

## Donations: Understanding new AAUW Funds under PEARL

By Anita Knight, Educational Foundation Fund VP

With the change in the structure of AAUW comes a change in the terminology we use to refer to the designations for our giving. AAUW charitable programs, which will now be known as the **AAUW Funds**, are organized under the PEARL acronym.

**PROTECTION** of the legal rights of those facing discrimination (formerly AAUW-LAF) includes funding of Case Support, Plaintiff Travel and Education, Grants, and Campus Outreach Projects.

**EDUCATION** of women for a lifetime of success (formerly AAUW-EF) which includes the Fellows Alumni Initiative; Fellowships, and Grants & Awards.

When you donate to Fellowships, and Grants & Awards be sure to designate a specific fund, grant or award. For example, you can designate the new Ann Richard American Fellowship #4324 as the fund you want your donation to support.

To locate the specific named fellowship or grant you wish to donate to, refer to *Names Honored* in the

Member Center of [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) to identify the appropriate fund name and number.

**ADVOCACY** for laws that are fair to women includes programs that Advocate for laws and policies that are fair to women and supports branch activities through Public Policy Impact Grants.

**RESEARCH** supports the research to provide understanding of issues that are important to women and girls and includes the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.

**LEADERSHIP** supports programs that develop women's potential to lead in their schools, communities and country (formerly AAUW-LTI) and includes the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, Campus Action Projects, Campaign College and \$tart \$mart.

Checks should be written to **AAUW Funds** and are tax-deductible. Members may donate online using a credit card, by going to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and selecting the "Contribute" tab on the top right of the home page.

Contributions to support the Lobby Corps and the Congressional Voting Record are not tax-deductible and checks should be written to **AAUW Action Fund**.

## Book a table at April Convention

By Pat Ross, Branch Services Officer

Branches may book display tables at the April 2010 Texas Convention for branch sales for AAUW programs \$15/half table, and \$30/full table.

Contact Patricia Ross, [paross@aol.com](mailto:paross@aol.com), to schedule your tables.

### Ann Richards American Fellowship Fund

- ▶ Approved October, 2008
- ▶ Goal of \$200,000 in 15 yrs.
- ▶ \$11,068.35 accrued by July, 2009
- ▶ Star pin for donations of \$100 +
- ▶ Designate Fund # 4324



## Sign on to Advertising Opportunities

AAUW offers a way to attract customers or patrons through advertising opportunities at the 2010 Texas Convention. Place ads in both the convention program book and the website. Advertising to AAUW members can be a cost-effective part of any marketing effort.

For more information on advertising, underwriting and sponsorship opportunities for the AAUW Texas 2010 Convention, contact Patricia Ross, paross@aol.com.

The AAUW Texas program size is 4 ¼" x 8 ½".

### RATES-- Convention Program Advertising

Full Page	\$150
Half Page (horizontal or vertical)	\$75
Quarter Page	\$35
Two line Support Messages	\$10

AAUW accepts electronic (preferred) or camera-ready ads. AAUW reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. Products are not tested and listings do not imply endorsement. Advertisements must be non-sexist and nonviolent.

## Regional Director says Good-bye

By Shirley Breeze

It has been the greatest experience of my life to meet all of you across the Southwest Central Region during the last four years. I have participated in committee, board and general meetings, seminars, conventions, legislative days, fundraising events, new member receptions, community events, study groups, and leadership conferences.

Always I have found committed, active groups ever willing and able to move the mission of AAUW forward. Everywhere I went I was warmly welcomed and made a part of the activity. I have certainly gained more than I have given. With the change in AAUW structure comes another way of working with grassroots members; this new method will, I am sure, provide an even greater connection to AAUW for all members.

The St. Louis Convention was certainly a great success thanks to all of you who came or just cheered us on from your home base.

AAUW has a great future, one as much needed in today's society as it was when it began 128 years ago. Equity for women and girls is still a dream in many areas of society. Should I be able to assist you in any way, please contact me, sbreeze@mindspring.com.

## President's Message—

(Continued from Page 1)

AAUW Texas created the PEARL awards to recognize branches who are embracing our mission.

The 2009 awards were announced at the Webinar. Congratulations branches! Look for your branch on page 6. For more information on the branch programs and activities submitted, visit [www.aauwtexas.org](http://www.aauwtexas.org).

“My friend, role model, and/or mentor” is another theme in members' stories of why they join and renew. This other person, usually a woman, has made an impact on that member's life. Being an Austin Branch member has helped me find friends, role models and mentors. We connect with other women by participating in programs, working on projects, attending training sessions and conventions, and serving on committees and boards. Plan to attend the state convention and consider serving as a state officer to build your AAUW network of friends, role models and mentors.

“To take the minutes, to fill out a non-profit tax return, or to host fundraising events.” I have heard many member stories about joining AAUW, but I have yet to meet one member who joined for these reasons!

Yet, when we become members of an organization, we also become its stewards – taking care of the organization for all the members' benefit. Some of us take on small or behind the scenes roles, while others take on the bigger or more visible ones.

This issue is packed with information to help you fulfill your stewardship role -- from processing contributions to the AAUW Funds, to filling out IRS forms, to submitting bylaws changes, to setting the direction for AAUW Texas at the convention in April 2010.

## 2010 PEARL Awards Deadline March 1

Branches are reminded that the PEARL Awards entries are due by **March 1, 2010**. The instructions and entry forms are posted on [www.aauwtexas.org](http://www.aauwtexas.org).

## Because Equity is still an Issue!



Lilly Ledbetter

Lilly Ledbetter, who has become the face of women's equity, spoke at the convention, and stayed throughout to get acquainted with many of the attendees. In the years since the Supreme Court held 5-4 that Goodyear Tire could deny her equal pay, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act was written and passed by Congress, and signed into law in January 2009 by President Obama.



Jackie Littleton

## Elections and Appointments AAUW Board of Directors

- ◆ Jackie Littleton (Tyler Branch) was elected for a second term as an AAUW Director-at-Large
- ◆ Kathy Anthon (Northeast Tarrant County Branch) was appointed as an AAUW Director-at-Large



Kathy Anthon

# Five student Leadership Programs supported by AAUW

**By Elizabeth Newell, Central District Representative**

AAUW supports women on college and university campuses through five Leadership Programs (formerly the Leadership and Training Institute, LTI).

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) is held each June in Washington, D.C., for college and university women students, faculty, and administrators to gain leadership, career development, political, and networking skills.

The Campus Action Project awards

grants to deliver programs that address a gender issue in the community. In the fall, teams of students and faculty can apply for up to \$5,000 to design and implement a program on a specific women's equity issue.

This year the CAP topic is barriers women and girls face entering and staying in STEM fields. Applications are now available on the AAUW website.

The Student Advisory Council is comprised of a panel that advises AAUW on student issues, serves as campus leaders, and helps with the annual student conference.

Campaign College supports workshops

to develop leadership skills to prepare women to run for student government and post-college elected offices.

\$tart \$mart sponsors workshops provide women, who are college juniors and seniors, with knowledge and skills when approaching the job market to negotiate salaries and benefits to receive fair and realistic compensation. AAUW collaborates with the WAGE Project in this program.

## **Board of Directors Highlights From July 25-27 in Austin**

**By Dusky Wells, Secretary**

The AAUW Texas Board of Directors held its first meeting of the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

The board:

- Confirmed the appointment of Malinda Gaul, San Antonio Branch, as the Public Policy Chair.
- Voted to continue state dues for all student affiliates at \$1 per year. The \$1 dues apply to the new e-student affiliates as well.
- Adopted the 2009-2010 AAUW Texas Budget.
- Reviewed the progress on the strategic plan and made some modifications to the activities supporting our strategic goals.

The next meeting will be held in Houston, November 13-15, 2009.

## Call for Bylaws and Resolutions

**Proposals to be considered at the April 2010, AAUW Texas Convention to be held in Houston must be submitted by October 1, 2009.**

**For additional information contact Pam Wolfe at 512-388-5433 or piwolfe@yahoo.com.**

## 2 Outstanding Members to be Honored in April

AAUW Texas will honor an Outstanding Member and an Outstanding New Member at the 2010 AAUW Texas Convention in Houston. Deadline to submit nominees is **March 1, 2010**.

**The Outstanding Member Award** nominee should be a member who has helped shape AAUW Texas or the State of Texas, by making lasting contributions to AAUW throughout the years.

**The Outstanding New Member Award** nominee must be a member of AAUW for fewer than two years, who has made innovative and positive contributions to a local branch of AAUW Texas.

Specific requirements and forms to make nominations for these two awards are on the AAUW Texas website.

# AAUW Texas Budget approved for 2009-2010

By Margaret Bentley, AAUW Texas Finance Officer

Year-end and budgeting for the new year are busy times for AAUW Finance Officers. Results against budget for last year were presented at our Texas Executive Board Meeting, and a current year budget was refined and approved.

Our budgets are zero based, meaning expenses will equal or be less than our budgeted income. This past year we had a positive net income of several thousand dollars, and are looking forward to another financially positive year.

The new budget is again quite conservative. We project membership income at less than this past year. Some decrease is due to the Galveston Branch shutting down fol-

lowing Hurricane Ike. Recruiting efforts could close that gap. The other two income items are the Branch Officer Training in place of our traditional Leadership Conference normally scheduled in July and the Biennial State Convention set for April 2010. The budgeted income and expense for these two events net to zero.

The two training seminars we presented in May in Houston and Dallas along with the Webinar presented in July compose our Branch Officer Training. Income and expenses for all three will be booked in this year's financials where it was budgeted. Financial results and the projected budget can be found on the AAUW Texas website.

## IRS sets deadline for branches to file e-Postcard

All AAUW branches, with annual gross receipts of less than \$25,000, are required by the IRS to electronically file an annual Form 990N, also known as an e-Postcard. Filing deadline is **Nov. 15, 2009**. **You will not receive any direct notification reminders or forms from the IRS.** This form must be electronically filed; no paper form is available.

**Information Required:** Branch employer identification number (EIN); formal (legal) name; mailing address; name and address of a principal officer/authorized representative of the organization; tax period, which is July 1 – June 30; confirmation that annual gross receipts are still normally under \$25,000.

**Filing Instructions:** Go to <http://epostcard.form999.org>. If you have previously submitted a Form 990-N skip to Step 2 and create your Form 990-N, otherwise follow instructions to register as a new user; click on **Create your Form 990-N (e-Postcard)** and input your login ID and password; complete the electronic form and submit; The IRS will notify you via email within 30 minutes whether your submission was accepted or rejected. Rejected submissions will be accompanied by further instructions to

correct the problem. For branches listed on AAUW's Group Exemption or with new EIN's, everything should work smoothly. If your branch is not listed on the Group Exemption and you have not filed in the past, you might receive an error message. In that case, call the IRS Specialty Tax Line at 1-801-620-6288, Monday-Friday, Central Time 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (9 a.m.–5 p.m. MT) to request your EIN be reactivated. You will then be able to follow the procedures described above.

## Convention Credentialing by Branches

Branches are represented by delegates at the AAUW Texas Convention in April 2010. In order to vote, the branches must submit their branch delegates to the AAUW Texas Finance Officer for certification, no later than **March 31, 2010**.

In early February 2010, all branch presidents will receive a packet with information and forms regarding the credential process. This will include a list of branch membership by category as of Feb. 1, 2010 that is based on information received on Branch Dues Reports. This membership count is the basis for the number of votes available to a branch. The number of available votes will also be included in the packet.

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# 2009 PEARL Awards recognizes these branches

The following branches earned recognition in the Protect, Educate, Advocate, Research and Lead areas of PEARL.

## Protect

Arlington  
Austin  
Corpus Christi  
Dallas  
Farmers Branch/Carrollton  
Kerrville  
Northeast Tarrant County  
North Harris County  
Plano/Collin County  
San Antonio  
Tarrant County  
Tyler  
West Harris County

Farmers Branch/Carrollton  
Kerrville  
Montgomery County  
Northeast Tarrant County  
North Harris County  
Plano/Collin County  
San Antonio  
Tarrant County  
Tyler  
West Harris County

North Harris County  
Plano/Collin County  
San Antonio  
Tarrant County  
Tyler  
West Harris County

Tarrant County  
Tyler  
West Harris County

## Educate

Arlington  
Austin  
Corpus Christi  
Dallas

## Advocate

Arlington  
Austin  
Corpus Christi  
Dallas  
Farmers Branch/Carrollton  
Kerrville  
Montgomery County  
Northeast Tarrant County

## Research

Arlington  
Austin  
Corpus Christi  
Dallas  
Farmers Branch/Carrollton  
Kerrville  
Montgomery County  
Northeast Tarrant County  
North Harris County  
Plano/Collin County  
San Antonio

## Lead

Arlington  
Austin  
Corpus Christi  
Dallas  
Farmers Branch/Carrollton  
Kerrville  
Montgomery County  
Northeast Tarrant County  
North Harris County  
Plano/Collin County  
San Antonio  
Tarrant County  
Tyler  
West Harris County

# Branches to shine at ‘String of PEARLs’ event

By Pat Ross, Branch Services Officer

A new event at the AAUW Texas Convention, called *String of PEARLs* will applaud branches for projects, events, or activities that help successfully break through barriers and open opportunities so that all women have a fair chance. It enables branches to share their efforts and energize their fellow members at the state convention.

AAUW PEARL projects, events, and activities will be featured during the Reception event Friday evening **April 24**.

Chosen branches will prepare a one-page handout and a display poster that provides an overview of their project, event, or activity. Branch leaders are also encouraged to bring brochures, flyers, or other materials that comprehensively describe their project.

Branch leaders will be welcome to distribute their handouts throughout the convention to fellow attendees.

A branch member should be available at the provided table space during the Friday Welcome Reception to describe the project, discuss its successful outcome, and to answer questions.

Branches can be provided with an easel to display the poster. If the branch is able to provide their own easel that would be appreciated.

To arrange for participation, please contact Patricia Ross at paross@aol.com or by mail at 4218 St. Ives, Sugar Land TX 77479 before **March 1**.

## **String of Pearls Presenter**

**Branch Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Branch Project:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Short Description:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Branch Contact:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_



These Texas members attended the May 30, Leadership Training for Branch Officers at Brookhaven College.

## Leadership Training and the Inaugural Webinar

By Kathy Anthon, Legal Advocacy Fund VP

In May there were two lively, highly informative and successful leadership trainings held in Houston and Dallas. At both meetings the agenda included:

- What's New and How Does It Effect Your Branch
- Nominations for the Incoming State Board (2010-2012)
- Counterpart Sessions
- Public Policy

- Proposed Changes in the AAUW Bylaws

- Town Hall Meeting

In total we had 74 attendees. The attendees gathered great ideas and found it to be a good use of their time. Our thanks to all who attended.

Following the biennial Association Convention the AAUW Texas State Board presented its first web based training. We had a few hiccups and we appreciate the patience that our

attendees showed. We had 17 branches in attendance and great questions at the end of the session.

If you missed it, or want to view the Webinar again, go to the Texas web-site: [www.aauwtexas.org](http://www.aauwtexas.org)

You will see us using more of this web based training in the future as well as audio conference calls.

Send your comments, ideas and suggestions to [Kathy@anthon.com](mailto:Kathy@anthon.com).



## Technology Corner

Because Texas encompasses so many square miles and includes over 4,000 branch and Members-at-large our connection to each other is essential. A subscription to AAUW Texas' email service will make us all more productive, plus save a lot of time and postage.

At this time we only have 189 AAUW members subscribed to the AAUW Texas email service.

Since March 2008 AAUW Texas has sent out only seven email alerts. We do not intend to abuse our use of the service. When you receive an email alert it will be because we feel that it is something that cannot wait for the publishing of the next *UWT!* newsletter.

The *UWT!* editor will also use this service to alert members when each new *UWT!* is posted on the AAUW Texas website for downloading. That means you will receive *UWT!* in color, and quicker than in the mail.

Subscribing is not difficult. Just follow these simple directions: Go to <http://www.aauwtexas.org> and click on: "[Sign up HERE](#) for AAUW Texas e-mail."

Fill in the information accurately. (Typos will cause it to not work.)

Next, the following verifier email will come back to your email address. And you must respond to this email.

We received your request for information from the [aauwtmembers](#) group. AAUW Texas has selected our service to aid them in communicating the latest state information to their valued members.

CONFIRM BY VISITING THE LINK BELOW:

<http://www.aweber.com/z/c/?xxxxxxx>

Click the link above to give us permission to send you information. It's fast and easy! If you cannot click the full URL above, please copy and paste it into your web browser.

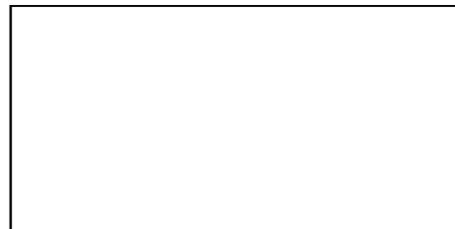
If you do not receive the above email inviting you to verify, then check your junk mail or spam mail and open it there. Look at the tool bar at the top of the page and click on "Approve Sender."

Any questions, contact our webmaster, Margo Johnson or membership VP, Pris Mowinkel.

Welcome to the 21st Century.



American Association of University Women Texas  
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**Our Vision Statement:** AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

**Our Diversity Statement:** In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.