



Fall 2006
Volume 63, Issue 1
**Membership and
Branch Development**

Inside this Issue

- 1** Keys to the Future: A Member-Get-A-Member Campaign
- 2** AAUW TX Outstanding Member
AAUW TX Outstanding New Member
What Teachers Make
- 3** Barbara McDonald Day Declared
Public Policy Program Update
- 4** Letter re Anisa Adem
- 5** "Status Quo No Longer an Option"
Education: Gateway to ???
State Budget Highlights
- 6** TX Conference for Women
AAUW TX Strategic Plan
Branches by District Rep
Regional Director's Message
Russian Women Visit Tyler
- 7** Board Meeting Highlights
International Affairs Corner
- 8** Position Opening
Letter to the Editor
From the President's
- 9** AAUW Headquarters Tour.
What is a Legacy Circle?
- 10** AAUW TX Board Officer
Contact Information
- 11** AAUW Texas Calendar
- 12**

AAUW Texas
P. O. Box 26827
Austin, Texas 78755-0827
www.aauwtexas.org

University Woman Texas!

Keys to the Future: A Member-Get-A-Member Campaign

By Priscilla Mowinkel, AAUW TX Membership VP

Because personal involvement by all members is the primary key to the future of AAUW, Association has initiated a new tool called "Keys to the Future: A Member-Get-A-Member Campaign." All members are being challenged to recruit at least one paid member between now and June 15, 2007. This campaign comprises three phases.

- Phase One: June 1- November 28, 2006
- Phase Two: Nov 29 - March 15, 2007
- Phase Three: March 16 - June 15, 2007

There are rewards and incentives for each of the three phases. During the 2007 Annual Association Convention to be held in Phoenix there will also be a grand prize awarded. **All members who have recruited at least one new paid member will be entered in a drawing to receive a trip to the 2009 Association Convention in St. Louis, MO.**

Three important rules of procedure must be followed.

1. Your name and ID number must appear on the MAL application or branch ADR form in order to receive credit for recruiting members.
2. New **Shape the Future** campaign recruits will count. Both the guest/referral list and

the ADR form must be sent to the AAUW Membership Department along with dues. Both the Shape-the-Future new member and your ID # and info must be noted.

3. Give a Grad a Gift recruits will not count. Please refer to http://www.aauw.org/member_center/member for a more detailed explanation.

Association has given branches great marketing tools, but it is up to you to make the sale! Ask yourself, **Who** is AAUW? What do **you** like and admire about AAUW? Why do you think anyone would want to join your branch?

If you **believe** in your answers then you will also make potential members **believe**.



AAUW leaders proudly display their certificates earned by recruiting new members during the launch of the AAUW Keys to the Future: A Member-Get-A-Member Campaign – Linda Conger is in the center on the back row (Conference of State Leaders, June 2006) . Join your colleagues and help grow AAUW!

"We can't become what we need to be by remaining what we are." - Oprah Winfrey

Miriam Tormollan Named AAUW TX Outstanding Member 2004 – 2006

Miriam Tormollan of the Austin branch of AAUW was honored as the state's Outstanding Member at the 2006 AAUW TX Convention in San Antonio.

Miriam has been a member of the Austin Branch of AAUW for over a quarter of a century. She has not only been an active branch member, she has been an active AAUW Texas member.

Miriam's diligent work on educational and political issues based on AAUW policies and research, brought sexual harassment solutions to the attention of the Austin School Board. This culminated in a strong, district-wide policy change.

Traveling to Beijing to attend a worldwide women's conference, working in Expanding Your Horizons to prepare and encourage girls to seek self development through higher education and equity in careers, and speaking to Gay/Lesbian groups on combating sexual harassment, Miriam has shown her personal determination to seek self development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change for all.

Miriam not only believes in the AAUW Mission Statement, she has also lived it and spread its message each day throughout her adult life. For these accomplishments and many too numerous to detail, AAUW Texas recognizes Miriam Tormollan as their Outstanding Member of the 2004-2006 biennium.

Congratulations, Miriam!!!!



Linda Conger, left, presents award to Miriam Tormollan, center. Pat Ross looks on from the right.

Joy Vann Named AAUW TX Outstanding New Member 2004 – 2006

Joy Vann of the AAUW Lubbock branch was named the state's Outstanding New Member at the 2006 Convention.

"Joy's energy and enthusiasm thrust her into active membership in 2004 after she had retired from teaching high school English in the Lubbock Independent School District. She attended the state convention that year in El Paso, building her interest in the mission of the national organization. She is now completing her first year as branch president, and it's been a mighty year!" stated her nominator.

Under her leadership, the branch has added 20 members and started a new university community program. The branch's most successful fund-raising campaign ever was largely the result of her efforts and organization. The branch also received five star awards at the recognition luncheon.

"To sum it up," said the nominator, "Joy is the kind of member and leader who makes things happen and brings others along with her as she does it. She has an affirming way that lets people know they are appreciated, and she strives to bring out the best in our members and our organization."

Congratulations, Joy!!!!



Joy Vann, left, accepts award from Linda Conger

WHAT TEACHERS MAKE

Contributed by Nita Hornbeck, Austin Branch

The dinner guests were sitting around the table discussing life. One man, a CEO, decided to explain the problem with education.

He argued, "What's a kid going to learn from someone who decided his best option in life was to become a teacher?" He reminded the other dinner guests what they say about teachers: "Those who can, do. Those who can't, teach." To stress his point he said to another guest; "You're a teacher, Susan. Be honest. What do you make?"

Susan, who had a reputation for honesty and frankness replied, "You want to know what I make? I make kids work harder than they ever thought they could. I make a C+ feel like the winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor. I make kids sit through 40 minutes of study hall in absolute silence."

"You want to know what I make? I make kids wonder. I make them question. I make them criticize. I make them apologize and mean it. I make them write. I make them read, read, read. I make them show all their work in math and perfect their final drafts in English.

"I make them understand that if you have the brains, and follow your heart, and if someone ever tries to judge you by what you make, you must pay no attention because they just didn't learn."

Susan paused and then continued. "You want to know what I make? I MAKE A DIFFERENCE. What do you make?"

Barbara McDonald Day Declared

Contributed by Marietta Hostak, AAUW TX LAF VP

On July 30, 2006 Barbara "Bob" McDonald, a member of West Harris County Branch of AAUW, was honored with a City of Houston Proclamation at the Sunday church service and reception in her honor at the Fair Haven United Methodist Church. "Bob," as her friends and family all know her, has been volunteering at Fair Haven Food Pantry for 25 years and has been its director since 1987.

What started out as something to do has evolved into a full-time volunteer job. She is on the "job" five days a week totaling more than 1500 hours a year.

She started hauling food for the pantry because she just happened to have a pick-up truck. Three trucks later she is still the one who spends Thursday and Friday every week hauling food from donors back to the pantry. This of course is in addition to directing activities at the food pantry, making presentations to possible donors and volunteers, and reporting pantry activities to the church board.

The Fair Haven Food Pantry is one of the largest private food assistance programs in the greater Houston area. The yearly average for feeding the needy is over 9,000 families representing approximately 35,000 people. Food valued at nearly \$800,000 is distributed with an actual cash expenditure of around \$82,000. Over 93% of every dollar given goes directly to purchase food and to feed the hungry. Less than 7% is for pantry utilities and permits.

"Bob" has been a member of the West Harris County branch of AAUW for the past six years. During that time she has helped with various Expanding Your Horizons'

committees including three years on the, you guessed it, EYH Food Committee. As you might expect for someone of such a giving nature, she has also served for three years on the branch Education Foundation committee.

"Bob's" friends all know her as a caring and non-judgmental person, soft-spoken but determined to do what is right, and having a smile and twinkle in her eye which wins her many friends. AAUW is proud to have "Bob" McDonald as a member.



Barbara McDonald in the Fair Haven Food Pantry

Public Policy Program Update

By Georgia Kidwell AAUW TX Public Policy Chair

As a result of the Impact Grant the Texas AAUW received in 2005 from Association, the "Uncovering the Truth in Political Rhetoric" presentation was developed. Each branch should have a copy of this power-point presentation that was given at the state convention. It can be used as a branch program or as a program presented to other organizations and school groups in your community. With the general election coming this fall, it is a good time for a discussion of political advertising.

Also on the disk is a downloadable PDF version of the Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout Manual, with information about recruiting volunteers, building coalitions, planning candidate forums and voter registration drives and getting publicity. To receive a printed copy of

the manual, contact the Public Policy and Government Relations Department at VoterEd@aauw.org or 800-608-5286.

I would encourage branch leaders to organize Woman-to-Woman Turnout campaigns this year and to start planning for elections in 2008. Regardless of size, any branch can implement a campaign that targets women voters. The manual shows how to create a plan that fits the number of available volunteers so branches large and small can become involved in this critical effort. Texas ranks 48th in its turnout of women voters – this is a wonderful way for AAUW to make a difference in getting the voices of women heard.

There is also a Power of One Vote poster in the centerfold of the Spring/Summer issue of AAUW Outlook that members received. It should be pulled out and publicly displayed.

Be aware of the AAUW Public Policy Resources that are available online: Action Alert, Action Network and Two-Minute Activist.

Please contact me if you need any help with Public Policy: Georgia Kidwell at grgkdw@yahoo.com or 817-282-0712.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Jan 28 – 30, 2007
Women's Legislative Days
Austin, TX**

**July 20 – 22, 2007
Leadership Conference
Austin, TX**

June, 2006

Dear AAUW Friends:

I am writing this letter to you because I know as AAUW members you support causes that promote equity for women, education and self-development over the life span, and positive societal change.

A fellow AAUW member, Anisa Adem, of Plano, Texas, could use your support in her efforts to advance the rights and privileges of Ethiopian girls.

I met Anisa two years ago while I was serving as Membership VP of the Plano/Collin County Texas branch. She is a first-generation immigrant and Muslim mother of two. She called me up one day and said that she was interested in our organization because she had heard that we were very active in promoting equity for girls. I talked with her about AAUW and went by her house to give her application materials and she immediately joined. Since then we have become friends and she now will be serving our branch as the incoming Membership VP under my leadership as President.

Anisa has gained notoriety in our area because she organized a soccer team of Ethiopian girls. She organized this team because her own two daughters felt that there was no opportunity for girls to participate in sports in their culture. Paul Meyer of the *Dallas Morning News* wrote an article about her entitled *Ethiopian Woman Using Soccer to Challenge Girl's Cultural Roles*. She has also received a commendation for her efforts by the mayor of Plano. She has also founded the Ewket Ethiopian School, an organization for girls to study the Ethiopian language and traditions.

Anisa knew about the Ethiopian Sports Federation in North America and knew that they have annual tournaments in large cities in the US. She contacted the organization and asked if their girls' team could play in the tournament in Seattle over the July 4th weekend of 2004. She received a letter back saying that it would be an honor to have girls play and they would have another girls' team organized to play them. They were scheduled to play in the Seattle Seahawk Stadium during prime time at 3:00 PM. The girls raised \$20,000 through fund raising efforts such as car washes, etc. 22 girls went along with chaperones and coaches.

Much to their surprise when they arrived in Seattle they were told that their time slot had been changed to 10:00 PM when there would be no one to observe. Also they had been promised an opportunity to play another girls' team. The team they had to play against was composed mostly of boys. When they were confronted they said that they couldn't find any girls.

Anisa and her organization have filed a discrimination suit against the Ethiopian Sports Federation of North America (ESFNA). A prominent Seattle female attorney is handling the case. It will be heard in the King County Courthouse in Seattle at 8:30 am on Monday June 26, 2006.

Anisa is asking for reimbursement for their fees at the tournament plus legal fees. Her other objective is to force this group to give equal rights to girls in their organization. At the present time they have 27 soccer teams participating all comprised of boys. Her attorneys have told her that their tax exempt status is threatened by such discrimination. Also their policies are certainly in violation of Title IX.

This action on Anisa's part takes a lot of courage because in the Ethiopian community women do not speak up and certainly do not perform as activists.

You could help in this worthy cause to further the rights of these girls by writing letters to this organization requesting that they give equal opportunities to girls in their organization.

The following e-mail addresses can be used to reach this organization:

President@esfa.org

dagonafer@yahoo.com

Thanks for any support you might give this cause:

Regards,
Carol Crawford
President Plano/Collin County Texas AAUW Branch
3017 Bonsai Drive
Plano, Texas 75093

Note from Editor: Anisa appeared for her hearing in Seattle on Monday, June 26. Also appearing to support her were several members of the Seattle branch of AAUW. Her case was dismissed without prejudice because she had not hired her Seattle attorney in a reasonable time limit. The good news is that the court, by dismissing the case, showed that there are legal grounds to sue the Federation. The Seattle attorney plans to file the case as soon as possible. This gives Anisa time to advocate her case.

“Status Quo No Longer a Viable Option”

by Priscilla Mowinkel, AAUW TX Membership VP

The message “Status Quo No Longer a Viable Option” emerged during the AAUW Conference of State Leaders held in Washington DC, June 23-25, 2006. Obvious during a recent North Texas Interbranch leadership training workshop, hosted by Dallas, was the number of branches no longer operating “status quo.” Instead they choose to think “outside-the-box” to encourage growth and change for their branches.

Examples included members of 1-4 years in AAUW who had accepted their branch’s call to action by assuming leadership roles. Three branch presidents originally assumed their leadership position with only two years of membership in AAUW and two of those now with only four years of membership currently serve as the coordinators for the 2008 state convention. Do they lack experience? Of course not! They bring to their branches fresh ideas and abundant outside experience plus opportunities for networking and collaboration. Culture, age, and gender diversity was also visible among the participating workshop members including participating AAUW male members. The members who recruited and encouraged these new and diverse members must be commended for their innovation.

What can you do within your branch or your interbranch council to challenge the “status quo”?

EDUCATION: GATEWAY TO WHAT???

By Lane Powell, AAUW TX Program VP

Now that I have your attention, here’s a hint: According to

research, economic security is a top issue of interest and concern for all women. This topic cuts across age, race, income, regional and political differences. Moreover, it is viewed as a broad and timely issue that can engage a diverse population of women at the local level with great potential for national and international results.

Let me urge you to make “Education: Gateway to Economic Security” a focus of your local programming. Here are some suggestions:

1. Equal Pay Day 2007 has been set for **April 24, 2007**. As you may know, Equal Pay Day is a symbolic date (not an exact date) at which women's earnings catch up to men's of the previous year.
2. Pay equity is an important part of women's economic security and there are many great ways for both states and branches to get involved in raising awareness around this issue. There are a number of resources on AAUW's website (<http://www.aauw.org/payequity>).
3. Introduce the WAGE Club idea. WAGE (Women Are Getting Even) Clubs are a new grassroots effort designed to help close the wage gap and get women paid fairly at work. AAUW is joining forces with our coalition partners to promote the clubs as a year-round activity that raises awareness about pay equity issues. Check out the information at http://www.aauw.org/issue_advocacy/actionpages/StartaWAGEClub.cfm

Top Eight Reasons to Attend the 2008 AAUW TX Convention

1. **RENEW** friendships with AAUW TX members.
2. **MAKE** new friends with AAUW TX members.

3. **BUY** AAUW products for branch members or self.
4. **PARTICIPATE** in intellectually-stimulating dialogue on current women’s issues.
5. **LISTEN** to outstanding speakers, recipients of Education Foundation assistance, and Legal Advocacy Fund plaintiffs as well as presentations on other projects that AAUW supports.
6. **CONTRIBUTE** to the deliberations during the biennial AAUW TX business meetings.
7. **EAT, DRINK and HAVE FUN** at the Dallas Lincoln Center Hilton Hotel/Convention Center.
8. **NETWORK** with other branches for program and membership ideas.

The 2008 AAUW TX Convention will be held April 25 – 27, 2008. This is a very special convention as we will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Dallas and San Antonio branches, the first to be chartered in Texas.

State Budget Highlights

By Linda B. Conger

The AAUW Texas 2006 - 2007 budget was adopted July 22, 2006 at the State Board meeting. An abbreviated version follows:

INCOME:

Interest – Checking Account	50
Membership Dues	27,703
A. G. Edwards Funds	2,433
TOTAL INCOME	\$30,186

EXPENSES:

Committees	100
Communications	5,300
Conventions/Conferences	3,000
Executive	16,010
Membership	3,450
Program	1,376
Administrative	950
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$30,186

Texas Conference for Women

By Linda B. Conger

On October 12, 2006 AAUW Texas joins over 100 groups around the state as a supporting organization of what has become Texas' premier networking and educational event for women: the 7th Annual Texas Conference for Women.

Conference attendees are expected to outnumber 7,500 and will have access to more than 75 of the nation's most inspiring speakers. Each will lead seminars in important topics that span such issues as health and wellbeing, education, politics, personal finance and more. The three confirmed keynote speakers are (1) Grammy award-winning gospel legend **Yolanda Adams**; (2) **Nancy Goodman Brinker**, founder of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and Ambassador to Hungary; and (3) Martha Stewart, entrepreneur and businesswoman extraordinaire.

Of particular interest to AAUW is the continuation of the Texas Conference for Women scholarship program, now in its fourth year. Since its founding, the scholarship program has awarded \$85,000 to hardworking women scholars at Texas institutions of higher education. This year, the program will award six \$5,000 scholarships to qualified Texas women pursuing careers in the fields of the arts, business, education, math and science, public service and nursing.

In addition, the popular Young Women's Track to junior and senior high school girls will again be offered. These seminars are designed to help young Texans discover the confidence and skills they need to succeed.

AAUW TX will have a table and we would welcome volunteers to help staff it during the conference. Early-bird registration is \$90 until September 12 and you can register online at www.expotexllc.com/conferences/tcw/2006/index.php

For more information on the seventh annual Texas Conference for Women, call (512) 432-1785 or visit www.TXConferenceforWomen.org

AAUW Texas Strategic Plan 2006 – 2008

Mission

AAUW promotes education and equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

Purpose

The purpose of AAUW Texas shall be to further the Association purposes and policies within Texas. AAUW Texas shall organize new branches of the Association within the state, promote, encourage, and coordinate the work of the branches throughout the state of Texas, and cooperate in AAUW and regional work. (bylaws, May 2006)

Goals

- 1) Create and provide dynamic mission-based, theme-focused programming.
- 2) Increase membership.
- 3) Provide opportunities to strengthen Branch and State leadership.
- 4) Establish a recognized identity across Texas.

Objectives and strategies for achieving the objectives are being developed by Board members and will be approved at the November AAUW TX Board meeting.

AAUW Texas District Representatives 2006-2008 Branch Responsibilities

West – Dusky Wells

Abilene
Amarillo
Brownfield
El Paso
Lubbock

Central – Anna Montague

Austin
Georgetown
Huntsville
Kerrville
Nacogdoches
Polk County
San Antonio

North –Margie Poole

Arlington
Fort Worth
Grand Prairie
Northeast Tarrant County
Tarrant County
Vernon
Wichita Falls

North – Elaine Wells

Dallas
Denton
Farmers Branch-Carrollton
Mesquite
Plano-Collin County
Richardson
Tyler

North – (To Be Appointed)

Greenville
Southwest Dallas County
Stephenville
Sherman/Texoma

South – Remi Willoughby

Alvin
Fort Bend
Galveston
Montgomery County
North Harris County
Orange
Southeast Harris County
West Harris County

South – Melba Zaremba

Corpus Christi
Harlingen
Laredo
McAllen

Message from Regional Director

By Shirley Breeze

After a few weeks of summer relaxation, we are all ready to start a new AAUW year with renewed vigor. I want to commend the hard working boards who have been meeting during the summer and making decisions and plans for the new year. Best of luck to all of you!!

Many new, exciting endeavors are coming from the Association. In the next few months, leading up to the convention in Phoenix in June, we will be hearing about a new focus for our organization to keep it vital and responsive for the next 125 years! Your Association has set a number of goals for the new year. These include having every state celebrate the 125th Anniversary in some manner. Other goals include 50 percent participation of the members in the new Member-Get-A-Member campaign; encouraging state and branch attendance at the 2007 Association convention (look for a new structure for this event); promotion of the programmatic theme Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security; and more institution participation by students in the Conference of College Student Women Leaders.

The Regional Conference was an exciting event well attended and fiscally responsible. Thanks go to all of you who attended and assisted with the many activities and events.

In recent weeks, states in the Region have received a number of recognitions: Arkansas and Oklahoma have been awarded Impact Grants; Missouri and Texas were recognized by Platinum Awards in the 21st Century Recognition Program; Texas was among the top ten states in total

contributions to the Educational Foundation; Arkansas was among the top ten for per capita contributions to LAF. Missourian Jan Scott has been appointed to the Association Resolutions Committee. Congratulations to all of us!!!

Make plans to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of AAUW on November 28 or throughout the upcoming year. Plan an event that includes your state legislators at which AAUW gets recognition for its long-lasting commitment to equity for women; have a proclamation signed by an official; hold a press conference or a special event; have Marion Talbot (in the form of an interpretive presentation) visit your first fall meeting; invite prospective members to meet her and hear her speak. Or plan to have her for your holiday event or spring luncheon.

If you wish to contact me, call 314-831-5359 or e-mail sbreeze@mindspring.com.

Open World Leadership-Russian Women Visit to Tyler

By Betty Tirey, Tyler Branch

The Tyler Branch of AAUW is collaborating with the League of Women Voters - Tyler to host four Russian visitors and one facilitator through the 2006 Russian Civic Hosting Program. Sponsored by the Open World Leadership Center, a program within the State Department of the United States, the purpose is to enable emerging Russian leaders to gain firsthand exposure to the American system of democracy through visits to local communities.

Because The Open World Hosting Program recognizes the important contribution women make to building a civil society in Russia, we selected **Women as Leaders**

as the theme of their visit. We want to introduce the visitors to how women develop and utilize leadership in Tyler, Texas, in such areas as government, politics, education, social services, business, healthcare, justice and law enforcement, and non-governmental organizations (NGO).

Our Russian guests arrive in Tyler on Friday September 29th and leave on Saturday, October 7th. The joint Steering Committee has begun plans for an educational, interactive, and hopefully a memorable experience for the visitors.

The eight day schedule will include panel discussions, observations of local business, educators and public leaders in action, informal opportunities for exchanging ideas and viewpoints, and participating in various social and cultural events. We are planning activities that will provide them insight and understanding into our way of organizational and business management, public policy, public relations, leadership development, coalition building, fundraising, and grassroots organization.

AAUW 125th Anniversary Spotlight

Save the date, November 28th, to celebrate AAUW's 125th anniversary. [Information and activities](#) are posted on the web site now. States and branches are also encouraged to submit their own plans for the 125th anniversary to aauw125th@aauw.org.

We are also seeking recommendations for recognizing and celebrating the 125th anniversary. To submit a recommendation contact aauw125th@aauw.org and a submission form will be sent to you promptly.



Board Meeting Highlights

by Liz Stepp, AAUW TX Secretary

The 2006-2008 AAUW Texas Board of Directors held its first meeting in Dallas(Irving), July 21st - July 23rd:

President Linda Conger welcomed the entire Board, and thanked Shirley Breeze, AAUW Southwest Regional Director, and Jackie Littleton, Strategic Planning Leader for their willingness to lead and attend.

Jackie Littleton led the Board in the development of a Strategic Plan for the biennium.

The Business Meeting followed with reports and direction coming from President Conger, Finance, Programs, Membership, Educational Foundation, Legal Advocacy, Branch Services, International Affairs, Public Policy, Parliamentarian/Bylaws, Communication and Regional officers, directors and chairs. In addition, the Conference of State Leaders, opportunities for collaboration, 2008 Convention, Branch Histories, and State Committees were represented and reported.

Motions:

The Board of Directors voted to: MOTION 1: I move that the 2006-2007 budget be tabled for review and adjustment until tomorrow morning(Sun), 07/23/06. Made by Linda Conger and Seconded by Lane Powell. Passed Unanimously.

MOTION 2: I move that we ask Nancy Myers or another Austin member to respond to the phone and mail of the Administrator for a six-month period; giving time to evaluate the need for a State Administrator. Made by Georgia Kidwell, Seconded by Margie Poole. Passed unanimously.

MOTION 3: I move that we accept by acclamation Nancy Myers for Nominating Committee Chair and Elia Guittierez, Alternate Chair. Made by Lane Powell. Passed unanimously.

MOTION 4: I move that we establish an International Fellowship. Motion made by Mary DuBoise, seconded by Karen Morris. Passed unanimously.

MOTION 5: I move that we approve the 2006-2007 Budget. Made by Georgia Kidwell and Seconded by Margie Poole. Passed unanimously.

MOTION 6: I move that we grant Greater Lewisville Branch permission to disband. Made by Priscilla Mowinkel and Seconded by June Hill. Passed unanimously.

International Affairs Corner

by Karen McKibben Morris, AAUW TX International Affairs Officer

The Johnson Foundation's Wingspread Conference Center in Racine, Wisconsin, was the site in March 2004 for a gathering of thirty-two leaders from throughout the United States. Participants came from international exchange non-governmental organizations, local communities, educational institutions, corporations and local governments. Their intent was to develop a consensus and strategy for convening a National Summit on Citizen Diplomacy.

Acting as unofficial ambassadors, citizen diplomats participate in educational exchange programs and/or host such programs and exchange students here in our country. By focusing on public education and networking events, Americans are able to interact with, learn about and come to appreciate citizens of other cultures. The Coalition for Citizen Diplomacy, a non-profit organization, was established after September 11, 2001 and has created a nationwide network of community groups, rotary clubs, educational institutions, and international exchange groups, each of which is working to establish an agenda of initiatives to create citizen diplomats within their own communities. The Coalition represents a vehicle by which our AAUW branches can tap into citizen diplomacy resources. Today this group is leading a nation-wide effort to raise the profile and strengthen the impact of the citizen diplomacy movement.

To learn more about the Coalition for Citizen Diplomacy and to access our publications, please contact info@citizen-diplomacy.org.

"Citizen diplomacy is based on the concept that, in a democracy, individuals have the right, even the responsibility, to help shape foreign relations."
(Source: <http://www.citizen-diplomacy.org>)

As International Affairs Officer, I want to encourage every branch toward this shared goal of learning more about our world neighbors in an effort both to educate ourselves and to counteract the often erroneous assumptions made about our neighbors living in other world cultures. There are numerous pragmatic approaches to such learning and I hope to share those in this and upcoming UWT! editions. To begin, I urge each branch book club to include at least one international read on your 2006-07 selections. Many branches have included such books as the Kite Runner and Reading Lolita in Tehran, sparking energetic and informative discussions. The Mt Vernon branch was able to host an Afghani American who shared his own experiences of growing up in Afghanistan compared to the author's experiences. A major priority of the AAUW International Affairs Committee is to involve branches in global issues. As our year progresses, I hope to raise awareness of a number of such mission-based groups, often with local contacts, through which our branch program planners can connect, remembering that consistency with AAUW's public policy program is essential. Lastly, I would invite each member to begin to ask your fellow members about where they were born, places they have lived, and/or their own ethnic and cultural heritage. You may, like me, be very surprised to discover how many of our own members and friends are "world citizens" and can serve as speakers and/or resources to the branch.

For clarification, questions or more information, contact me at Karen.mckibben@gmail.com or jclark@meridian.org at Association.

Position Opening –

Here's a job that many of you may have been waiting for: **University Women Texas! (UWT!) Editor**. The UWT! is published six times per biennium. If you have a desire to be a part of the important AAUW Texas communication team in our response to the AAUW mission, you need to consider this position. Some questions you may have:

- **Q:** Will I have to write everything?
A: Editors don't write; they set deadlines, solicit and receive articles from AAUW TX members and have editor's privileges. (Hee hee hee.)
- **Q:** I'm not very good with technology, so how can I handle this?
A: The President of AAUW Texas has an excellent technical consultant to assist with technical issues. (Carl, her husband.)
- **Q:** I don't know much about layout, design and other publication issues, so how would I handle that?
A: The President of AAUW Texas has a semi-capable layout artist (Carl, her husband.) who has talented professional contacts he can exploit in difficult situations.
- **Q:** How can I ensure that the draft issue is ready for publication?
A: The President of AAUW Texas has a speed-reading, spell-checking, syntax-enforcing, grammar-freaking proof-reader who will give the issue a good read before publication. (Carl, her husband.)
- **Q:** What are the benefits?
A: You get to be on the inside! You get to join in Executive Board meetings, with expenses paid, and hear all of the nitty-gritty details of what's going on and what's about to happen.

Could anything be more fun? Call Linda and volunteer today!

Letter to the Editor:

As you may know, Hurricane Rita hit Orange last September. I would venture to say that every member sustained damage to homes, workplace and definitely to churches and civic entities. Some of these places were completely destroyed. Due to this event, we did not have one general meeting last year and are trying to get back

on our feet. Could State assist us this year? We could use a dynamic speaker for our September Program. We are definitely in need of something positive and mentally challenging! Also, is there any financial support that we could apply for? As you know keeping only 5 dollars of the 60 in dues is difficult for local branches. I would greatly appreciate hearing from you.

Terese McKee, President, Orange Branch, rowenamckee@yahoo.com

Dear Terese,

As far as a speaker at your September branch meeting, I would be happy to come and to bring your new District Representative with me. When is your meeting?

As far as financial assistance for your branch, I thought I would put an article in the next issue of UWT! about your branch's situation and see if the membership can help. Unfortunately, there aren't any sources for general financial support for a branch -- they are targeted to sponsoring community projects, etc. As far as support from the state, we would be delighted to help you in any way we can (other than financial). We have a VERY tight budget this year.

In equity and sympathy,
Linda

To members of AAUW TX:

I know the Orange Branch would appreciate any help you could give to them.

As it turns out, I had a conflict with the date of their September meeting so we are scheduling another date for my visit. The AAUW TX Board will help them in any way we can.

*In equity and appreciation,
Linda B. Conger
President, AAUW TX*

From the President:

In my years of corporate and volunteer management positions, I have learned that a leader is only as good as her team. I have THE BEST team a leader could ask for. To a person, they are passionate about their position and about AAUW. Each of them has "hit the ground running" and a lot of work and planning has been accomplished since we took office July 1.

Just a few examples of the work that is being done:

1. The AAUW TX Board developed its strategic plan for 2006 – 2008 and members are now developing their strategies for accomplishing their goals.
2. The Membership Committee is busy planning for membership growth on college campuses, via the Internet, and in the corporate environment.
3. We are in the process of establishing a 501(c) (3) for use by the state board and branches in order to get tax-deductible status for scholarships and projects.
4. Our 6 newly-elected District Representatives are making their plans to better serve all branches.
5. Improvements to the AAUW TX website are being developed.
6. Plans for the 2008 Convention are well underway.
7. The Program Committee is planning ways to incorporate our theme, "Education: Gateway to Economic Security" into all our programming.
8. We are in the process of developing tools for branches to use for visibility; e.g., business cards, brochures, stationery.

We are all willing to do whatever it takes to support you and your work. We just need to know what you need so let us hear from you!!

In equity,

Linda

AAUW Headquarters Building is Also An AAUW Museum

While in Washington, D. C. this summer for the Conference of State Leaders, I took advantage of the opportunity to tour the AAUW Headquarters. I did so out of a sense of obligation, thinking I would see a lot of cubicles and meet some staff members I hadn't met before – which definitely would have been worth my time. What I saw, however, was priceless!

Our guide, Scott, was informative as well as entertaining, and is passionate about preserving AAUW's history.

AAUW has had five headquarters; the first was an oak trunk (on display in the current building) which was shipped from president to president until 1919.

The other headquarters were buildings which AAUW has owned. Headquarters #3 and #4 were bought by members' contributions and their names are listed in two separate books.

There are two Georgia O'Keefe paintings in the building: one is an original purchased by AAUW in the mid-40's for \$120! The other is a print donated to AAUW in 1979 in recognition of a successful 10-year affiliation with Consumer's United Group.

Some other pieces of interest include:

- "Mother and Child" sculpture by the Bolivian artist and 1940 – 41 International Fellow, Marina Nunez del Prado. She donated it in 1981 in honor of AAUW's Centennial.
- "Pioneers in Progress" Carvings" which are three huge mahogany panels depicting 17 women in various fields of achievement, three of whom were AAUW members (Alice Freeman Palmer, Jane Adams, and Florence Sabin). The

panels were donated to the Association on its 75th Anniversary in 1957 by former AAUW Treasurer Dorothy Bridgman Atkinson Rood. Her husband, John, is the artist.

- Wilma Mankiller print presented to the AAUW Education Foundation by New Mexico AAUW in honor of Wilma Mankiller, recipient of the 1993 AAUW Achievement Award.

I could go on and on, but suffice it to say it was impressive. There are magnificent objects from all over the world given to AAUW by International Fellows; wonderful declarations recognizing AAUW for fulfilling its mission in various ways; interesting AAUW memorabilia; many handmade gifts; furniture with historical significance; and last, but not least, AAUW's library which houses its archives dating back to 1881.

I would encourage any of you who go to Washington, D. C. to take the time to visit the AAUW headquarters. The staff is eager to show it off and they love for members to visit!

What is a Legacy Circle?

By Mary DuBoise, EF VP

What is a Legacy Circle? Have you seen members wearing the circular pins with a pearl drop at a convention or branch meeting? They are in recognition of the members of AAUW who have planned a monetary gift to Association, Educational Foundation, LAF or the Leadership & Training Institute as the beneficiary of their estate.

So, what does this really mean? It means the work for equity of AAUW will continue. Also, it means that what we, as AAUW members, considered important in our lives was also important when we planned our estate. We left money in our will or through life insurance, 401K, or some other means to AAUW.

What steps do you have to take to leave money to AAUW? You can put the AAUW name on a life insurance policy or on an account. You can also leave money in your will using the correct bequest language that is available on the AAUW website.

If you have questions, you can contact Gloria Benton at bentong@aauw.org or call her at 202-728-7627 or contact me, at mary.duboise@sbcglobal.net or 817-577-3713.

New District Representatives Working With You

By June Hill, Branch Services Officer

The District Director's responsibilities were realigned at the State Convention and more fully defined at the AAUW Texas Board meeting held in July. The new title is 'District Representative' (DR), to more accurately describe their role, and the dedication and energy each one is willing to share with the branches are awesome. A list of branches by DR is on page 6.

One point for a dedicated member in the North Texas Interbranch area to consider is the vacancy for the third District Representative position in the North Texas District. Please think long and hard and then call me, Priscilla Mowinkel, or Linda Conger and volunteer to be a part of this dynamic group on the AAUW Texas Board. We will revisit the division of the branches when this position is filled to assure we have the best coverage possible for all branches.

Branch officers, please remember your District Representative is there for your benefit and will be available to come to your branch for a program/meeting, help with events going on in your branch where you might need some guidance, answer questions or get information for you if you need help – the District Representative is ready to work with you. Call her and get acquainted – you can be a great team for AAUW during the next two years!

President

Linda B. Conger 830-798-6579
P. O. Box 2726
Canyon Lake, TX 78133
lbconger@earthlink.net

Program Vice President

Lane Powell 806-797-0197
3310 79th Street
Lubbock, TX 79423
powells18@cox.net

Membership Vice President

Priscilla Mowinkel 972-247-8781
3336 Dorado Beach
Farmers Branch, Texas 75234
pamowinkel@comcast.net

Educational Foundation VP

Mary DuBoise 817-577-3713
7921 Kendra Lane
North Richland Hills, Texas 76180
mary.duboise@sbcglobal.net

Legal Advocacy Fund VP

Marietta Hostak 281-497-5858
12510 Shepherds Ridge Drive
Houston, TX 77077
mhostak@sbcglobal.net

Secretary/Historian

Liz Stepp 817-459-2819
1608 Lillian Avenue
Arlington, TX 76013
lstepp@sbcglobal.net

Finance Officer

Margaret K. Bentley 972-572-0449
1420 Daventry Drive
Desoto, TX 75115
txaauwtreasurer@comcast.net

District Representative – Central

Anna Montague 830-460-3604
1141 Oak Ridge Drive
P. O. Box B64
Bandera, TX 78003-0064
anna.montague@kerrvilleisd.net

District Representative – North

Margie Poole 817-226-2256
1807 Carriage House Circle, #3103
Arlington, TX 76011
mpoole@dallasnews.com

District Representative – North

Elaine Wells 903-561-8703
7809 Abbey Court
Tyler, TX 75703
gramcentral@sbcglobal.net

District Representative – North

Vacant

District Representative – South

Remi Willoughby 713-776-3715
8226 Furlong Lane
Houston, TX 77077
oluremiw@gmail.com

District Representative – South

Melba Zarembo 956-380-0275
1421 S. 16th Avenue
Edinburgh, TX 78539
mmzarembo@yahoo.com

District Representative – West

Dusky Wells 325-675-5904
3900 N. 9th
Abilene, TX 79603
dusky_wells@armc.net

Branch Services Officer

June Hill 817-473-0588
1543 Inverness
Mansfield, TX 76016
junejimhill@charter.net

International Affairs Officer

Karen McKibben Morris 713-861-6386
523 33rd Street
Houston, TX 77018
karen.mckibben@gmail.com

Parliamentarian/Bylaws Chair

Pam Wolfe 713-464-0269
3601 Eagles Nest
Round Rock, TX 78664-1131
piwolfe@yahoo.com

Public Policy Chair

Georgia Kidwell 817-282-0712
308 Brookview Drive
Hurst, TX 76054
grgkdw@aol.com

Communications Team (Off Board)

the link Editor
Linda B. Conger

Public Relations Chair

Linda Dobbs Willis 817-481-2396
3612 Lakeview Drive
Grapevine, TX 76051
ldobbswillis@verizon.net

UWT! Editor

Vacant

Website (Design)

Debbie Campbell 713-667-2645
5035 Jackwood
Houston, TX 77096-1506
debbie@anomaly.org

Website (Maintenance)

Margo Johnson 281-499-3327
3314 Palm Desert Lane
Missouri City, TX 77459
Margohj@aol.com

SWC Regional Director

Shirley Breeze 314-831-5359
138 Kings Drive
St. Louis County, Missouri 63034
sbreeze@mindspring.com

2008 Convention Local Arrangement Committee Co-Chairs

Marta Mountjoy 972-644-5582
2115 Portsmouth Drive
Richardson, TX 75082
mdmountjoy@earthlink.net

Maria Viera-Williams 214-341-5880
8608 San Souci Drive
Dallas, TX 75238
vierawilliams@sbcglobal.net



October 2006

20 Texas Conference For Women, Austin

The Link Published

November 2006

17 - 19 AAUW TX Board Meeting, Houston

28 AAUW's 125th Anniversary

December 2006

31 Deadline for dues/fees to be received by Association to be included in February 1 membership count.

31 Deadline for EF and LAF contribution reports due to EF and LAF chairs.

January 2007

1 Begin charging new members/affiliates half-year dues/fees.

26 - 28 AAUW TX Board Meeting, Austin

28 - 30 Women's Legislative Days, Austin



American Association of University Women Texas
 P. O. Box 26827
 Austin, Texas 78755-0827

NONPROFIT ORG.
 US POSTAGE PAID
 AUSTIN, TEXAS
 PERMIT NO. 1780