



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.

President's Message: Who Are You?

By Ann Berasley

Do you remember reading the book ***Are You My Mother?*** by P.D. Eastman as a child or more recently to your children or grandchildren? Just a quick recap for those of you who have not memorized this book.

A baby bird is about to hatch, so the mother bird goes off to find a worm for the baby's first meal. While she is gone, the baby bird hatches, falls out of the nest and goes out in search of its mother. Because it doesn't know what its mother looks like, the baby bird asks a number of animals and vehicles "Are you my mother?"

The baby bird gets four types of answers. First – the kitten that just looked and does not say a thing. Second – the cow, who said – "How could I be your mother? I am a cow". Third – the plane that just flew on by. Fourth – the "snort" (a piece of construction equipment) that frightens the baby bird, but puts it back in its nest. The happy ending to the story is that just after the "snort" places it in the nest, the mother bird returns and asks the baby bird if it knows who she is. The baby bird answers "You are my mother."

Many times our nominating committees at the branch, state, and Association level feel like the baby bird. They are looking for the officers needed to take the responsibility for nurturing and leading our organization. Being an officer requires making a commitment of time and energy. Nominating committees, unlike the baby bird, are not going to ask everyone they meet to be an officer. However, like the baby bird, they will have an open mind about who would be a good officer that will serve and represent the organization well. They also are just as persistent as the baby bird and will keep looking until they find just the right person for the job. Nominating committees also need members, who like the mother bird, will come up to them and say I am ready to be an officer.

If you were contacted today and asked to serve at the branch or state level, how would you react?

Like the kitten that sees, but does not hear the baby bird?

Like the cow that offers some information, but doesn't really help?

Like the plane that continues on its own mission without missing a beat?

Like the "snort" that offers the unexpected help?

Like the mother bird that willingly takes on the responsibility?

Please take time to consider whether you are ready to serve as an officer in our organization. Learn more by joining us at one of the two *Job Trainings for Branch Officers* events to be held in May in Houston or the DFW Metroplex, or by attending the Association Convention in St. Louis in June.

If you are ready for a state office, please contact the nominating committee chair, Mary Edwards, or any of the seven district representatives who serve on the nominating committee.

See the Call for Nominations on Page 8.

Spring 2009
Volume 63, Issue 3

Inside This Issue

- 1 President's Message
- 2 Leadership Training, and Application Forms
- 3 Meet Your District Reps
- 4 2010 Membership Dues and Retention
- 5 Focus on AAUW In North Texas
- 6 PEARLs Entry Form
- 8 Board Nominees Sought
- 9 AAUW in the 21st Century
- 10 Board Meeting Highlights
- 11 International Program Ideas
- 12 Board of Directors
- 13 Call for Bylaws for Texas Convention, April 2010



The Sweetness of Victory at the Supreme Court

In 2008, AAUW signed two *amicus curiae*, or "friend of the court," briefs. One was in support of Vicky Crawford in her sexual harassment case, *Crawford v. Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County*, and another was in support of the Fitzgerald family in their Title IX case, *Fitzgerald v. Barnstable School Committee*.

Both cases were heard before the U.S. Supreme Court in Fall 2008. In January 2009, the court ruled in favor of the plaintiffs in both cases. To learn more, read the blog entry "[Two Good Rulings from the Court](#)" co-written by the Legal Advocacy Fund and the Public Policy staff. These are major victories in the fight against sex discrimination, and AAUW's involvement shows the respect the organization receives by decision makers.

Two Leadership Training bargains for Texas Branches

By Patricia Ross, Branch Services Officer

Leadership training for new officers is essential for all Texas branches. This year the AAUW Texas Board has voted to hold two low-cost training sessions for branch officers in Houston (May 2) and Dallas/Fort Worth (May 30). Good leadership adapts to changing challenges and opportunities.

The one-day program will address proposed changes at the Association level as well as the new programs for branches which have been implemented. There will be counterparts training for specific branch roles.

This training, which will not require an overnight stay for attendees from most branches, and is certainly affordable. Just \$15 per person, and that includes lunch. Carpooling

is suggested. Branch officers from across the state are invited to attend whichever program is most convenient. Officers from out of the host area may request that a member meet their plane and request a host room in a member's home when they register. We are most grateful for those local members who are offering to provide local hospitality.

The first training session, scheduled for Saturday, May 2, will be held at Lone Star College, Greenspoint in Houston. Use the application below for Houston.

The second will be Saturday, May 30, in the Dallas/Fort Worth area: Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch, Texas 75244. The Registration Form for Dallas/Fort Worth is on page 3.

Registration Form Job Training for Branch Officers AAUW Texas/Houston Interbranch Council Leadership Training Lone Star College, Greenspoint Center, Room 306 250 N. Sam Houston Parkway East, Houston, TX 77060-2000 May 2, 2009 10:15 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Name	Badge Name
Address	City
State	Zip
Home Phone	Work Phone
Email	Position in Branch
AAUW Branch	State Office
Please indicate any special needs:	

Please print or type clearly. One person per registration form. **Registration deadline April 25.** Meal availability cannot be guaranteed with late registration. Full payment (\$15 for lunch and materials) must

Houston area members:

I would be willing to pick up an officer from an out of town branch at the airport

Bush _____ Hobby _____

I would be willing to host an out of town branch officer on Friday and/or Saturday night.

Out of Area members:

I will need to be picked up at the airport

Bush _____ Hobby _____ Flight _____ Time _____

I will need a match with a local host for rooming: Friday _____ Saturday _____

Mail this form and your check to: Marietta Hostak, 12510 Shepherds Ridge Dr. Houston TX 77077
mhostak@sbcglobal.net 281-497-5858

Tentative Schedule for both sessions

10:15	Welcome & Introductions
10:30	What's New & How Does it Affect Your Branch: Ann Berasley, AAUW Texas President Margaret Bentley, AAUW Texas Finance Officer Priscilla Mowinkel, AAUW Membership VP
11:45	Lunch
12:15-1:30	Counterparts Sessions
1:30	Jackie Littleton, Proposed Changes in AAUW Structure
2:00	Town Hall Q & A

Registration Form

Job Training for Branch Officers

AAUW Texas/North Texas Interbranch Council Leadership Training
Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch, TX, 75244
May 30, 2009 10:15am -3:00pm

Name	Badge Name
Address	City
State	Zip
Home Phone	Work Phone
Email	Position in Branch
AAUW Branch	State Office
Please indicate any special needs:	

Please print or type clearly. One person per registration form. **Registration deadline May 20.** Meal availability cannot be guaranteed with late registration. Full payment (\$15 for box lunch and materials) must accompany this registration form. Enclose check payable to: AAUW Texas.

Dallas/Ft Worth area members:

I would be willing to pick up an officer from an out of town branch at the airport

DFW _____ Love _____

I would be willing to host an out of town branch officer on Friday and/or Saturday night.

Out of Area members:

I will need to be picked up at the airport

DFW _____ Love _____ Flight _____ Time _____

I will need a match with a local host for rooming: Friday _____ Saturday _____

Mail this form and your check to: Elaine Wells, 7809 Abbey Ct., Tyler, TX 75703. 903-561-8703
gramcentral@sbcglobal.net

AAUW Texas has seven District Representatives to serve its branches

Some districts require more than one representative to cover its vast territory.

The Districts are: Central, North, South, and West.



Elizabeth Newell
Central District



Elaine Wells
North District



Margi Poole
North District

Meet your District Representatives

For those branches in the Central District your District Representative is **Elizabeth Newell**. Contact her at Centralrep@AAUWTexas.org, or 512-345-1686, 5703 Lakemoore Dr., Austin, Texas 78731. The Central District includes: Austin, Bryan College Station, Georgetown, Huntsville, Kerrville, Nacogdoches, Polk County, and San Antonio.

There are three North District Representatives. **Elaine Wells** represents: Dallas, Farmers Branch/Carrollton, the Student Affiliate at Brookhaven Community College, Mesquite, Plano/Collin County, Richardson and Tyler. Contact her at Northrep-east@AAUWTexas.org, or 903-561-8703, 7809 Abbey Ct., Tyler, Texas 75703.

Margi Poole is the North Rep-West. She represents: Arlington, Fort Worth, Grand Prairie, Northeast Tarrant County, Southwest Dallas County, Stephenville, and Tarrant County. Get in touch with Margi at: 817-226-2256, 1807 Carriage House Circle #3103, Arlington, Texas 76011 or Northrep-west@AAUWTexas.org.

Janet Peavler represents Denton, Greenville, Sherman/Texoma, Vernon and Wichita Falls. Contact Janet at 972-318-0160, 430 Remington Dr., Highland Village, Texas 75077 or Northrep@AAUWTexas.org.

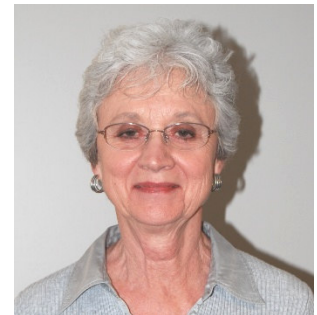
Elaine, Margi and Janet are also members of the North Texas Metroplex Interbranch Council.

There are two South District reps:

Marietta Hostak represents: Alvin, Fort Bend County, Galveston, Houston, Montgomery County, North Harris County. North Harris College Student affiliate, Orange, Southeast Harris County and West Harris County. Reach her at: 281-497-5858, 12510 Shepherds Ridge Dr., Houston, Texas 77077 or email at Southrep-north@AAUWTexas.org. She is a member of the Greater Houston Area Interbranch Council.



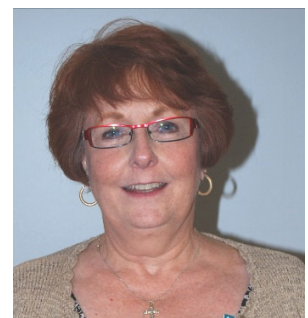
Janet Peavler
North District



Marietta Hostak
South District



Melba Zaremba
South District



Jeannie Best
West District

Melba Zaremba represents Corpus Christi, Harlingen, Laredo, and McAllen. Contact her at Southrep-south@AAUWTexas.org, or 956-648-7577, 1421 S. 16th Ave., Edinburg, Texas 78539.

The West District is represented by **Jeannie Best**. She represents: Abilene, Amarillo, Brownfield, El Paso, Lubbock and Plainview. Contact her at 325-672-1832, 849 Kenwood Dr., Abilene, Texas 79601 and email: Westrep@AAUWTexas.org.

Texas Membership Dues and Retention

By Pricilla Mowinkel, AAUW Texas Membership VP

Dues for 2009 - 2010

AAUW National dues for both branch members and members-at-large (MALs) for FY 2010 **will remain at \$49**. This was approved by the AAUW Board of Directors at their October 2008 meeting. Texas dues will remain **\$10**.

Beginning April 1, 2009, of the \$49 AAUW national individual member dues, \$46 is tax deductible, payable to "AAUW," our 501(c)(3) charitable organization; \$3 goes to support your AAUW Lobby Corps and election-related activities and are not tax deductible. However, you should still pay the dues in one payment, to "AAUW," for the full \$49 amount. Student Affiliate dues will continue to be \$17, \$16 of which will be tax deductible for the same reason. **STATE DUES ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS WE ARE NOT A 501(C)(3).**

Texas Membership Data

Texas evaluates membership status by using the retention rates of last year's new members. Next year we will again see how many new members individual branches were able to keep. Branches tend to recruit new members, but in some cases are unable to keep them once they join. In some cases branches lose more members than they recruit. The retention average for Texas was 81.76 percent.

Remember that 100 percent represents zero loss of new members. If your branch is not on the following list of branches achieving 81.76 percent retention, you need to talk with your district representative and try to discover why new members aren't remaining a part of your branch.

Please keep in mind that some of the listed branches are under 15 members and still considered at risk. Congratulations to the following branches.

North Texas Branches (82% or above)

Greenville, Southwest Dallas County, Vernon, Wichita Falls, Arlington, Grand Prairie, North East Tarrant, Tarrant, Stephenville, Farmers Branch/Carrollton, Mesquite and Tyler.

Central Texas Branches (82% or above)

Georgetown, Huntsville, Kerrville, Nacogdoches, Polk County, San Antonio, and Bryan-College Station.

West Texas (82% or above)

Amarillo, Brownfield, El Paso, and Lubbock.

South Texas (82% or above)

Orange, North Harris County, Southeast Harris County, West Harris County, Corpus Christi and Harlingen.

Structural changes and technology in AAUW's future

The twenty-first century is here and AAUW intends to continue to advance our mission with the aid of the latest technology as we grow into the 21st century and beyond. AAUW and AAUW Texas are both increasing their use of technology as the preferred method to deliver and receive information. This is due to the expense incurred when using hard copy.

Most branches will shortly select their officers for the coming year. As nominating committees meet to select their slate of officers they should keep in mind that to be effective their branch leaders need to be computer literate and have access to computers. They should consider it mandatory that the financial officer and membership vice president both have access to computers.

One of the proposed changes to the Association bylaws is to allow branches to alter their leadership structure to any configuration that will work best for their branch. Association will only require a branch to have a financial officer and a contact person (chair or president).

This change is being introduced because branches indicated they had difficulty filling all the offices

required by the Association bylaws. Texas was given permission two years ago to allow branches to re-organize under a committee structure and several branches chose to do so.

Of course a branch may choose to continue with all or part of their regular structure of officers. Regardless of its leadership structure, one thing that can be guaranteed is that if your branch leaders do not have computer capabilities, your branch will not remain well informed.



Spreading the word about AAUW Texas at North Texas Women's Month events

As an opportunity to raise visibility and to market AAUW, some AAUW Texas members participated in a number of north Texas community events.

Two tri-fold displays and sample research publications were displayed. The display boards contain information about AAUW's mission and recent state and national efforts on behalf of equity and education for women and girls. Public Policy brochures and membership forms were distributed.

Priscilla Mowinkel and Maria Viera-Williams attended the Women's Symposium, at Southern Methodist University, in Dallas, as one of the community organizations.

The 44th annual symposium's theme was "Women and the Monetary Truth." This annual forum brings together women and men of differing ages and ethnic backgrounds to examine and discuss topics of national interest.

Priscilla and Maria also attended the Women's Expo, "Women Taking the Lead To Save Our Planet" that was held at Brookhaven College, in Farmer's Branch.

The Expo highlighted women's businesses, health and wellness, safety, peace, the arts, careers, nutrition, media, and promoted a greener and healthier lifestyle. The Expo attracted participants throughout the North Dallas area, including students, educators, organizations, homeowners, and the surrounding business community.

Kathy Anthon and Maria took the display to International Women's Day, held at the Woman's Museum, in Dallas.

That event attracted area non-profit organizations and vendors of art, music apparel, jewelry, and beauty products. The annual event features an essay contest related to women's history or leadership.

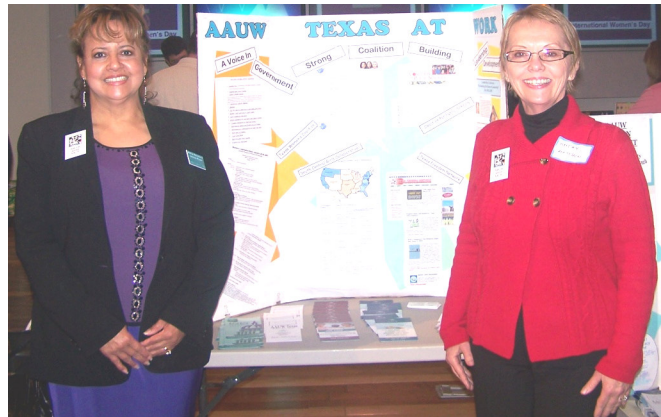
Maria also attended the "Open Forum: The Immigrant and Refugee Communities of North Texas," hosted by Peacemakers, Incorporated of Dallas. In addition to a tri-fold display, AAUW Public Policy brochures and membership information were distributed. Members of area branches attended.

A number of Dallas/Fort Worth Area AAUW members participated in the "Women of Color" Conference at the University of North Texas in Denton.

A table with AAUW publications, brochures, and AAUW TX information was displayed. Attendees included Priscilla, Maria, Janet Peavler who is the District Representative for North Texas and a member of the Denton Branch, Patsy Roe, and Dr. Sandra Spencer University of North Texas Director of Women's Studies and a Denton branch member is co-hosting the event.



Priscilla Mowinkel (l) and a new AAUW member from California at Brookhaven College, Farmers Branch, Texas.



Maria Viera-Williams (l) and Kathy Anthon with display board at the International Women's Day at the Women's Museum in Dallas.

**Ann Richards
American
Fellowship Pin
Available soon**



A star pin will be given to all individuals donating \$100 or more to the Ann Richards American Fellowship. Pins are being designed now and should be available in May at both training events.

Protect, Educate, Advocate, Research, and Lead...

PEARLs of wisdom needed for a fair chance

Deadline: April 30

Send electronically (preferred) to: Laurie Beardsley, Branch Recognition Committee Chair, at LCB88tiger@verizon.net. To send via email, go to www.AAUWTexas.org and complete the form online.

Or mail to: Laurie Beardsley,
1517 Steinway Ct
Plano, TX 75023

PEARL is how AAUW breaks down educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

P – AAUW PROTECTS the legal rights of those facing discrimination in many ways, at the local level and at the national level.

By helping a woman treated unfairly by her employer, and by educating college students how to protect their rights, the Legal Advocacy Fund ultimately protects us all.

How does your branch help AAUW PROTECT women or girls from discrimination?

E– AAUW EDUCATES women for a lifetime of success.

Through our Fellowships and Grants, scholarships granted in local communities, STEM programs for girls and financial literacy programs AAUW works to enable women have the education needed for every stage of life.

How does your branch EDUCATE women or girls?

A – AAUW ADVOCATES for laws that give women a fair chance.

Through a Lobby Corps that meets with and educates lawmakers on behalf of our members across the country, through voter education programs in our communities, and by having an expert represent our rights on Capitol Hill, AAUW advocates for our issues.

How does your branch ADVOCATE for AAUW issues?

R – AAUW RESEARCHES the educational and economic barriers that harm women.

Through the AAUW Eleanor Roosevelt Research Fund, from its charter report “*How Schools Shortchange Girls*” to our most recent reports “*Behind the Pay Gap*” and “*Where the Girls Are*”, AAUW exposes injustices and educating individuals, communities and lawmakers how to break down educational and economic barriers.

How does your branch support or use AAUW’s RESEARCH?

L – AAUW LEADS, and teaches others to lead, in our schools, communities, and our country.

AAUW gives women the opportunity to serve in leadership positions at the branch, state, and national level, acquiring skills and relationships that will open other doors of opportunity.

How does your branch LEAD and/or teach others to LEAD?

2010-2012**Call for Nominees to serve on AAUW Texas Board**

Nominations of AAUW Texas officers for the 2010-2012 biennium is hereby requested. The positions to be filled are as follows:

- * President
- * Program VP
- * Membership VP
- * Educational Foundation VP
- * Legal Advocacy Fund VP
- * Secretary
- * Finance Officer
- * District Representatives (by each district)

Any AAUW Texas branch, branch board or individual member may propose the name of one or more candidates for any AAUW Texas elective office. All names must be submitted in writing.

Because AAUW officers are usually required to devote considerable time to their duties, we encourage the nomination of candidates who are ready and willing to serve if elected.

To facilitate the nomination process a packet of information mailed to all branch presidents in March contained:

- * The names of the nominating committee members
- * Job descriptions as per the bylaws

* Copies of the three forms needed for submitting a nomination to the nominating committee: "Nomination", "Candidate Goals & Experience", and "Member Evaluation of Officer Candidate"

All forms must be sent to me postmarked no later than October 1, 2009. The nominating committee will accept and consider only that information which has been submitted on the approved forms. Feel free to duplicate these forms. I will be happy to answer any questions relating to the nomination procedure and can supply extra forms.

Your participation in the nominating process is important. Please turn your attention to this matter now and follow the procedure for submitting nominations as outlined in the branch president packets.

Mary Edwards
Nominating Committee Chair
611 Timber Circle
Houston, TX 77079
(281) 920-4249
vhemle63@texas.net
mle62@alumni.rice.edu

In Memoriam: Betty Price Anderson — 1933–2008

A long-time AAUW leader, Betty Price Anderson was born on August 18, 1933 and passed away on December 28, 2008 after a lengthy illness.

Long an active proponent of AAUW issues, Betty served as the local and state president for both the American Association of University Women and the League of Women Voters. She was a board member of both national organizations. She was named an AAUW Woman of Distinction, and the Lubbock Branch was renamed in her honor.

She was a tireless advocate for the health and well-being of all Texans. Betty spent most of her life in Lubbock. She received her BA from North Texas State University and her MA from Texas Tech University.

She received the League State President's Award and the National League's Voters Education Fund Leaders Award. Betty was appointed to numerous state agencies and committees, including the Texas Commission on Children and Youth and the Texas Department of Human Services Aged and Disabled Committee.

Betty served the Lubbock community in many ways by personally assisting the homeless, aged, disabled and children. She served on and chaired dozens of charitable organization boards and received numerous awards for her service, including Lubbock Woman of the Year.

She chaired the Texas Committee on the Humanities and the Texas Commission on Women. Betty was a board member of the Center for Public Policy Priorities since 1994.



Betty Anderson wrote an article about AAUW in Texas for the *Handbook of Texas Online*. Read it here: www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/AA/kaa1.html

AAUW in the 21st Century

By Ruth Z. Sweetser and Barbara L. O'Connor

Will 2009 be the year of AAUW's transformation? If so, each of us needs to be reminded that policies and procedures by themselves don't change an organization. Rather, it is YOU, the members, who have the opportunity to move AAUW from a 20th- to a 21st-century organization. Since transformation depends on the human factor, how does this happen?

First, we have to work together and think together as an entire community to ensure that we keep our AAUW Value Promise at all times. When planning branch activities or even personal activities, ask "How does this project or program or activity help keep AAUW's Value Promise?" In other words, how am I helping to break through educational and economic barriers for women and girls? Diligence in keeping AAUW's promise will make an enormous difference both in getting results for our mission and in branding our organization.

Whenever you read with your granddaughter, play in a bridge tournament that benefits the AAUW Educational Foundation, host a guest speaker on pay equity at a branch meeting, or write your member of Congress through our Two-Minute Activist portal, you're taking a step to break through barriers. Just asking yourself that question brings a new awareness to and appreciation of our work that is vital to making it succeed—and will help you focus as your branch plans its mission-based programming.

When you take that planning up a notch—asking how can my branch join with as many other branches and members as possible to apply our collective influence to a breakthrough—barriers, watch out! With nationwide engagement by members, our results, if documentable, will prove to be powerful and persuasive.

Second, plan to attend the 2009 AAUW National Convention: Breaking through Barriers, June 26–28, in St. Louis. There you'll have the chance to experience the new AAUW firsthand, to see with your own eyes what the future holds for our organization. You'll make AAUW history by participating in the bylaws votes, and, of course, you'll reconnect with old friends and make valuable and enjoyable new connections. But, please, come to convention well versed in the proposed bylaws and rationales; the briefings provide extensive information on these new approaches.

Third, adopt innovative tools and future-oriented thinking about what will make AAUW viable, attractive, and competitive. Yes, organizations compete for the attention and participation of current and potential members. If we are unable or unwilling to see the big picture of AAUW and its needs in 2009 and beyond, we risk the future of the entire organization.

So to finalize the corporate restructuring from three separate entities to one tax-exempt umbrella organization (501(c)(3) with a very small 501(c)(4) subsidiary, the Action Fund), we will need to adopt bylaws that support the respective legalities and functions. We also need new ways of operating that recognize updated ways to lead, technology that facilitates administrative work so volunteers can devote themselves to breaking through barriers, 21st-century ways of engaging with each other, and other practices.

A number of these innovative tools have been introduced through the series of briefings that AAUW has provided since early fall 2008. These tools include the Programs in a Box, which provide how-to's for mission-based programming; the Membership Pilot Program, which will allow leaders to manage their membership records online; and the Branch and State Local Scholarship Clearinghouse Pilot Program, which will help branches market their scholarships and select their recipients from a pool of prescreened applicants. Our new method of submitting a leadership position application will allow members to express general and specific areas for service, along with an inventory of skill sets they can bring to these positions. The type of work expected of the regional director is so valuable that we are revamping and strengthening that role to ensure grassroots engagement for the new AAUW.

At the AAUW state spring meetings, board members and other leaders—champions—will present and facilitate discussion on all these transitions. Be sure to take advantage of this personalized learning opportunity, especially in preparation for the convention in St. Louis.

Each of these changes marks a departure from our business as usual, yet they are all designed to address our organizational shortcomings. It is up to us to take hold of what organizational development teaches us, leave behind AAUW practices and thinking that don't work, and build on AAUW's unmatched legacy to reshape its potential for the future. We need to be smart, as well as educated!

The critical question is, How will you help AAUW move into the 21st century? As noted, the forward-looking framework and policies/procedures are being developed for your consideration and decision. How you think about AAUW, its future and its promise, will determine both how you receive proposed changes and, more important, what you do with the new AAUW once it is in place. You—both individually and collectively as the AAUW community—are the agent on which AAUW's success rests!

The new AAUW is going to be a force to be reckoned with. With a community of nearly 100,000 determined women and men, focused on a single objective—to break through barriers for women and girls—we will be unstoppable.



Breaking through Barriers

The Clock is Ticking Down Have you Registered yet?

2009 AAUW National Convention
Breaking through Barriers
June 26-28, 2009
St. Louis



Each branch can send one delegate for each 25 branch members. Remember if your branch does not send delegates, it will not be represented and cannot vote at this convention.

If you are attending the convention or are still undecided, but want to share hotel expenses contact District Representative Janet Peavler at jpeavler2@tx.rr.com. Janet is working to match-up roommates from Texas for the convention. She will help match you up with another Texas member who also needs a roommate.

Are you still undecided about going to the Association Convention on June 26-28, 2009 in St. Louis, Missouri? Here are a few more reasons to consider attending:

- Sharpen your leadership skills.
- Acquire first-hand knowledge of AAUW's structural changes and next steps.
- Be involved in AAUW elections, briefings and business sessions, and skill-building workshops.
- Attend stimulating plenary sessions and be inspired by distinguished speakers, such as Lilly Ledbetter.
- Share stories and concerns on issues with other AAUW leaders—new and past acquaintances and friends—from all over the United States.
- Vote on the proposed bylaws and the future board.

We are holding a Webinar on Saturday, July 25—Join us

By Kathy Anthon

What in heaven's name is a Webinar?

If you go to Wikipedia the internet gurus will tell you that a Webinar is: Web conferencing used to conduct live [meetings](#) or [presentations](#) via the [Internet](#).

Now you are saying why do I care about this webinar information? The answer is that AAUW TX will be offering a post Association Convention webinar on Saturday July 25th at 10:00 a.m., Central Daylight Time. The topic will be all of the new and exciting information that was discussed and approved in St. Louis.

In this web conference, each participant (one branch officer,

the branch board or the entire branch) sits at one [computer](#) and is connected to other participants via the internet. We will have a presentation that will be shown via the computer. You will also need a speakerphone (one on a cell phone will work; a home phone may be better for a large group) for the audio portion of the presentation. At the end of the meeting you will have the opportunity to ask questions.

As we get closer to the time the Branch President will receive the information on where to call for the audio connection and the link for the presentation. I hope that you will all plan on attending and will enjoy the cost and time savings of joining this meeting from the comfort of your own home

Highlights of AAUW Texas Board of Directors Meeting

By Dusky Wells, AAUW Texas Secretary

The 2008-2010 AAUW Texas Board of Directors held its third meeting of the biennium in Austin on February 28 – March 1, 2009. Between meetings, the board conducts business by email. The Board of Directors voted:

- To defer discussion of Site Selection Committee until after Association Convention in June 2009.
- To purchase and distribute a star pin to all individuals

who donate \$100 or more to the Ann Richards American Fellowship.

The board received an update from Shirley Breeze, Southwest Regional Director, regarding the Association Convention and the Association state and branch scholarship clearing house. She also congratulated Texas for participating in the membership pilot program, which allows electronic dues payment.

The board received an update on Association Bylaws from Jackie Littleton, Association Director-at-Large,

who is from the Tyler Branch. Jackie presented "Breaking through Barriers" for women and girls. This power point presentation, both a long and short version, is on Association website and discusses the upcoming changes to Association bylaws.

These changes, which are the result of a process that began more than three years ago, will be voted on by the membership at Association convention. As part of this process, the Association looked at its programs and retained only those that support the mission or value statement.

International Program ideas for branches

By Maria Viera-Williams, AAUW Texas International Affairs Liaison

International Matters

AAUW's International Affairs Committee (IAC) recently launched "International Matters" - Project Papers for Branches, a resource designed to assist branches in international programming. A major priority of the AAUW IAC is to involve branches in global issues. State and branch leaders are encouraged to select those issues and/or topics that coordinate with the particular needs of their constituencies and communities. In developing international programs, AAUW Association suggests that special attention be given to issues related to AAUW's mission and Value Promise. Follow links cited for information.

International Affairs programs are consistent and support the 2007-2009 AAUW Public Policy priority issues: *to achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women and to guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society.*

AAUW's International Corner http://www.aauw.org/About/international_corner/index.cfm

International Affairs for Branches-Resources for Programming Global Issues http://www.aauw.org/member_center/programs/IAC/

The topics are as follows: 1) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Eileen Menton), 2) HIV/AIDS (Phyllis Driver), 3) Citizen Diplomacy (Joanne Clark), 4) Women, Peace and Security (Carolyn Donovan), 5) Human Trafficking (Claritza Jimenez), 6) Economic, Social, and Political Development of Women (Bonnie Lincoln), 7) Education of Women and Children (Esther Mabry)

Program in a Box

International Woman's Day: http://www.aauw.org/member_center/programs/IntlWomensDay2009.cfm

Convention for the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) http://www.aauw.org/member_center/programs/cedaw.cfm

ORGANIZATIONS WITH SIMILAR GOALS / INTERESTS
Great Decisions (www.greatdecisions.org)

Features impartial, thought-provoking analyses on eight issues of concern to U.S. policymakers today. The 2009 edition features articles on *U.S. and rising powers, Afghanistan/Pakistan, Energy & the global economy, The Arctic, Egypt in the 21st Century, Global food supply, Cuba after Castro* and *Universal human rights*. (Editor's Note: Some branches have Great Decisions Study groups).

World Affairs Council (www.worldaffairscouncils.org)
If your area has a World Affairs Council in your area, members and guests discuss *Great Decisions* topics and invite speakers on topics that often coincide with AAUW's mission and public policy issues.

One Shared World (www.onesharedworld.org)

One Shared World encourages American women to learn

more, connect more and do more to support United States development assistance efforts. Focusing on health, education and economic progress, One Shared World aims to connect American working women to the many public and private efforts that help people in developing countries overcome poverty, hunger, illiteracy and disease. It highlights the similarities between American women and those in cities, towns and villages in every corner of the globe. This shared aspiration moved AAUW to become a key partner in their campaign to celebrate women around the world whose grit, ingenuity and dignity are an inspiration and a force for change.

International Museum of Women (www.imow.org)

AAUW has become a partner in the International Museum of Women's *Imagining Ourselves: A Global Generation of Women*. The project reaches out to a new generation of women – one billion women between the ages of 20 and 35 – to answer the question, "What defines your generation?" It draws upon the thoughts of young women worldwide to reveal a generation of women poised to take the reigns of global leadership like no other generation in history – a generation of women who believe that anything is possible for young women today. *Imagining Ourselves* is a platform for young women to create change in their lives, their communities, and their

world. *Imagining Ourselves*.

www.imaginingourselves.imow.org

CARE: Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (www.care.org)

CARE is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty. CARE places special focus on working alongside poor women because, equipped with the proper resources, women have the power to help whole families and entire communities escape poverty. Women are at the heart of CARE's community-based efforts to improve basic education, prevent the spread of HIV, increase access to clean water and sanitation, expand economic opportunity and protect natural resources. CARE also delivers emergency aid to survivors of war and natural disasters, and helps people rebuild their lives. AAUW has become a partner with CARE.

Women's Edge Coalition (www.womensedge.org)

The Women's Edge Coalition advocates international economic policies and human rights that support women worldwide in their actions to end poverty in their lives, communities and nations. The program raises awareness about women's roles in development and in their economies among policymakers in Congress and in the Administration; with others in the development community; and with the general public. The Women's Edge Coalition actively works to increase the U.S.'s investment in international assistance programs, especially programs that invest in women and girls, so that we tap women's full potential to reduce poverty in their families, communities and ultimately, their countries.



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Call for Bylaws and Resolutions

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

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

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.