

**UNIVERSITY WOMAN TEXAS!****AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN****Women of Distinction**

*Nomination for the "Women of Distinction" Awards
is a prestigious honor.*

Deadline for nominations is DECEMBER 1, 2007

**Award recipients will be announced at the
2008 AAUW TX Convention in Dallas, TX.**

To help celebrate our 100th anniversary,
the American Association of University Texas will develop a presentation,
"100 Years of Visionary Leaders – Women of Distinction",
We want 100 women to be included in the presentation.

Women of Distinction Awards:

Linda Conger

Arts & Culture- Distinctive achievement
in the creation or performance,
development, preservation, or pa-
tronage of the visual, literary or per-
forming arts

**Business, the Professions & Entrepre-
neurs-** Distinctive achievement
through leadership in management
or administration in the private sec-
tor, or in entrepreneurial or innova-
tive endeavors

Education & Training -Distinctive
achievement in education, training
and development, continuing edu-
cation, or alternative learning pro-
grams

Health & Wellness

Distinctive achievement in serving
the emotional, physical or spiritual
well-being of individuals or the
community, through personal or
professional service, leadership or
education

Public Service- Distinctive achieve-
ment through leadership and ad-
vocacy in management or admini-
stration in the public or not-for-profit
sector

**Science, Technology, Engineering
or Math**

Distinctive achievement through
research, clinical, or applied ex-
pertise in the biological, physical
or social sciences, medicine,
technology, math, agriculture or
the environment

Volunteer Community Service

Distinctive achievement as demon-
strated by leadership or involvement
in philanthropic or voluntary commu-
nity programs or organizations.

Although nominees in this category
may be employed in another field,
selection is based on their voluntary
work only. We would like to have a
majority of the nominees be mem-
bers. Posthumous nominations will
be accepted with preference
given to nominees who can attend
the Convention. We would love to
have at least one nominee from
each branch; branches may nomi-
nate more than one individual.

AAUW advances equity
for women and girls
through education,,
research and
advocacy

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The Nomination Packet
can be found on the
website:

www.aauwtexas.org

ASSOCIATION

Gov. Perry Appoints Bentley as Presiding Officer Texas Physician Assistant Board



AUSTIN – Gov. Rick Perry has appointed Margaret K. Bentley of Desoto as presiding officer of the Texas Physician Assistant Board for a term to expire at the pleasure of the governor. The board serves to protect and enhance the public's health, safety and welfare by establishing and maintaining standards of excellence used in regulating physician assistants and ensuring quality health care for the citizens of Texas.

Bentley has served on the Texas Physician Assistant Board since 2000, and is chair of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee. She is the CFO and chief operating officer for the Crosetto Foundation for the Reduction of Cancer Deaths and for 3D-Computing, Inc. She is also the former chief operating officer for the Autism Treatment Centers of Texas. Bentley is the CFO for the American Association of University Women, Texas, and chairs the Audit Committee for the Mental Health Association of Greater Dallas. She is a member of and earned professional certifications from both the Society of Human Resource Management and American Compensation Association. She is also a graduate of Leadership Southwest.



TEXAS MEMBERS ON ASSOCIATION BOARD

JACKIE LITTLETON

Director at Large

PAT ROSS

Nominating Committee

PRISCILLA MOWINKEL

Membership

**Doing their part in the
transformation of AAUW**

Convention It was a wonderful convention! All the proposed bylaws (with a few minor adjustments) were approved. We are on our way toward making the Association a more viable, responsive, fiscally stable organization! The major speakers were inspiring; the workshop sessions were very productive. I was privileged to be elected to serve the Southwest Central Region again as Regional Director and also selected to serve as one of two RDs on the Association Board. The Association and Educational Foundation boards will meet the end of July to start the process of implementing the decisions made by the membership. Also, at this meeting, decisions will be made about future national conventions and regional conferences.

At the Regional Caucus in Phoenix, Pat Ross (TX) was elected to serve on the Association Nominating Committee for SWC Region and Grace Butler (MO) was elected as alternate. Also, congratulations to Jackie Littleton (Tyler Branch) for being elected as an Association Director at Large. Be sure to take advantage of the many excellent communications sent by the Association, such as EdEqChange and Washington Update and the new Mission-based Programming brochure. Items to continue to monitor include the continuing battles to maintain the status of Title IX, the anti-affirmative action situations in the states, and the Association's continuing work with the National Girls' Collaborative Project.

Let your voice be heard as the Association moves into the future. Contact an Association officer about your suggestions, concerns, and ideas.

Shirley Breeze Southwest Central Regional Director



ASSOCIATION

The Association Convention in Phoenix was historic, educational, inspirational, and fun! In an unprecedented move, the delegate body voted UNANIMOUSLY to pass the bylaws to restructure the Association and form the foundation for the AAUW of the 21st century. Further, the delegates gave themselves a standing ovation for the unanimous vote! It was quite an emotional moment.

Another historic move was made when we elected a man as a director-at-large to the Association Board! We now have the most diverse Association Board in our history – gender, age, race and Association Board experience. I think that is a great step toward creating an organization which represents ALL women and girls, and one which reflects our diversity statement.

You were represented, and represented well, at the convention by 22 delegates. They took their responsibilities seriously: they attended briefings, they attended all the business sessions, and they attended “Meet the Candidates” so they could make well-informed choices for Association officers. Texas and the Southwest Central (SWC) Region fared very well at the Convention: Jackie Littleton from the Tyler branch was elected director-at-large to the Association Board; Pat Ross from the Fort Bend County branch was elected by the Region to the Association Nominating Committee; and Shirley Breeze, SWC Regional Director, was one of two of the ten Regional Directors elected to sit on the Association Board.

If I were to sum up the Convention in one word, it would be “focus”: focus on the future, focus on our mission, focus our activities, and focus our behaviors. Two videos unveiled at the Convention are available for purchase through ShopAAUW. (a list of videos can be found on page 14)

AAUW is at a pivotal point in its history; we have an opportunity to transform it into an organization which will prevail another 125 years but we must think and act differently from the way we currently think and act. I’m counting on all of you to be a part of the transformation!

Linda Conger. President Texas AAUW



DELEGATION TO ASSOCIATION CONVENTION. PHOENIX, 2007

Back Row (L-R)- Janet Peavler ,Denton; Georgeanne Gillian, NE Tarrant; Linda Adams, NE Tarrant; Susa Alami, N. Harris; Marietta Hostak W. Harris; Linda Conger, Austin-& Tarrant; Carl Conger, San Antonio; Margaret Bentley, SW Dallas; Malinda Gaul, San Antonio- Middle Row (L_R)- Georgia Kidwell, NE Tarrant; Jean Dodds, NE Tarrant; Kathy Anthon, NE Tarrant; Elaine Wells, Tyler; Maria Viera –William, Dallas; Priscilla Mowinkel, Farmers Branch; Pat Ross, Fort Bend
Front Row (L-R) Margie Poole, NE Tarrant; Martha Matthews, NE Tarrant; Pat Clendenin, Dallas; Danna Wilkerson, Tyler; Jackie Littleton, Tyler.



“Leaders Envisioning The Future”



“Before we can envision our future, we need to be clear about who we are now.”—Linda Conger posted on Blog— July 26, 2007

Lisa Maatz The brilliant, inspirational, enthusiastic AAUW's Director of Public Policy and Governmental Relations was back by popular demand. She helped us to understand how public policy shapes our future.



The Lubbock Branch was given the LAF poster from Association Convention for having had the highest per capita donation to LAF in state, 2006. L_R— Amy Maynard-co membership; Stephanie Nash, president; Joy Vann, past president; Lane Powel. State Program



Emmy-award -winning journalist, Jeff Crilley helped us to learn a creative way of ensuring our future by getting the publicity we want and need. Futurist Terri Grimm taught us how to begin creating the future we want for AAUW..

“You should be very proud and excited about a fantastic Conference. The whole weekend was perfect.” Malinda Gaul- Texas AAUW Past President- San Antonio
With Carl Conger, San Antonio



“Just wanted to tell you I how much I enjoyed the Conference. I must admit I go to these things thinking “what else can they tell me” and I always am pleasantly surprised. This one, however, was exceptional. So creative, so much to learn, so much time for networking.” Jackie Littleton and Pat Ross who was selected to be on the Association Board SW Central Regional Nominating Committee

Note from Pittsburg Member-

“Ada” writes: Pittsburg Branches is over 110 years old.

I met members of Texas delegation notably Linda Conger at 2007 AAUW Convention in Phoenix and learned about your Leadership Conference. I bring greetings from Pittsburg and am working on recruiting my daughter who is a young attorney in Austin to AAUW Texas.

You all have been so wonderful warm and welcoming. I have enjoyed interacting with you. Please look us up whenever you are in Pittsburg- Ada.

Adaeze Otue Ezekoye-



ADA with Elaine Wells, Tyler Branch

TEXAS CONNECTION

Finance

Margaret Bentley

I was very pleased to meet so many of you at the Leadership Conference in Austin last month. I was sorry to see that only two of the branch treasurers were able to attend. I had planned to do a comprehensive training with treasurers. Information for treasurers is included on the Conference CD. For those of you who did not attend the Conference, I hope you will order the CD. There are many very helpful documents included such as information on the new Association database which is a godsend for treasurers and membership VPs alike...

In future issues of UWT, I will be providing the financial results of the Leadership Conference. As we heard clearly at the AAUW Convention, members want to know the financial results of conferences and conventions. Since this is one of the benefits you receive for your Texas dues, I'm sure you will be interested. As you know, AAUW-TX pays room, registration and included meals for one member from each branch to attend this biennial conference. More branches need to take advantage of this opportunity. The AAUW-TX books for this past fiscal year are now being audited. Once that is finished, I will publish a report of financial position. I expect these reports to be in the next UWT.

We have just begun our new fiscal year and I am pleased to present our approved budget. We are increasing emphasis on membership and Branch development. I am sure that you will be hearing more about these activities from Membership VP Priscilla Mowinkel.

Secretary Liz Stepp

Minutes— July 20, 2007

- President Linda Conger welcomed the entire Board, and recognized and thanked all Board guest participants, which included Association's Lisa Maatz, former Texas President Pat Ross, and newly elected Director at Large Jackie Littleton.
- Financial reports were submitted and reviewed by Margaret Bentley, Finance Officer.
- Shirley Breeze presented the Southwest Conference Regional Director's Report, and asked that we encourage mission-based programming at the Branch level.
- LAF VP Marietta Hostak reported that Texas is #9 in nation for donations!
- It was our pleasure to congratulate our own Jackie Littleton in her new position as Director at Large. Jackie commended Association's Michelle Weatherall and staff for their "grassroots interest" in AAUW. She encouraged all present to continue to give input into the decision making process, as well as to do their part to encourage computer literacy.
- It was decided to take a collection at the Leadership Conference in memory of Texas' Lady Bird Johnson for the Barbara Jordan Fellowship Fund.

Excitement was in the air as we hastened to conclude Board business and begin the much anticipated Leadership Conference weekend.

2007 - 2008 BUDGET Approved January 28, 2007

INCOME	
Membership Dues	27,250
Texas Leadership Conference	1,000
Texas Convention	33,075
Grants & Stipends	300
Investment Dividends	2,532
Interest - M/M	268
TOTAL INCOME	\$64,425
EXPENSE	
Website	200
UWT	4,200
UWT Postage	800
Public Relations	100
Telephone	250
Total Communications	5,550
DC Leadership Conference	300
Texas Convention	30,040
TX Leadership Conf	4,000
Total Conventions, Conferences	34,340
Board Meetings - Meals	2,000
Board Meetings - Hotel	4,500
Board Meetings - Travel	5,500
Bylaws/Parliamentarian	50
AAUW Texas History Task	100
Insurance and Bond Cost	300
President (+travel)	2,300
Secretary/Historian	200
TWU Project	1,200
Treasurer	500
Misc.	50
Total Executive	16,700
Branch Services Officer	50
Membership VP	600
District Representative	500
Seeds of the Future	300
State Travel Visitor Exp.	1,000
Women's Conferences	1,000
Total Membership	3,450
Equity Coalitions	300
International Affairs	300
Program Vice President	200
Public Policy Chair	200
Task Force Impact	335
Texas Pay Equity Day	50
Educational Foundation	100
Legal Advocacy Fund	100
Total Program	1,585
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$61,625
NET INCOME	\$2,800

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

Legal Advocacy

Legal Advocacy Fund Celebrates 20 years of PIE

At the 2007 AAUW convention, LAF announced the 2007 Progress in Equity Award winner –the Women in Transition (WIT) program at Charter Oak State College of New Britain, Connecticut. The WIT program provides higher education opportunities for low-income, underemployed single mothers to make the transition from low-paid work to a college degree through distance education without cost or barriers of time and place. LAF also awarded the 2007 honorable



Marietta Hostak

mention to the Leaders in Residence program at the University Toledo in Ohio, where AAUW members of the local branch work hand in hand with the university on equity issues important to the community.

The PIE award, which was started in 1987, has awarded as much as \$111,700 to 30 institutions. If you know of a deserving program in your community, please contact your state LAF vice-president, Marietta Hostak, for help in nominating the Program for Progress in Equity award.

Texas is Ninth in Nation for Total LAF Donations

At the National AAUW Convention, Texas was recognized as 9th in the nation for our total donation of \$17,328.63 to the Legal Advocacy Fund and 7th in the nation for our percentage growth of 8%. Congratulations to all of the branch liaisons and to the members who supported LAF during 2006. You are applauded for your commitment to help fight sex Discrimination in higher education.

HOT OFF THE PRESS

NEW SOUTH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE OF TEXAS HAS BEEN APPOINTED. THE BRANCHES SHE WILL REPRESENT ARE:

Alvin, Fort Bend County, Galveston, Montgomery County, North Harris County, Orange, SE Harris County, and West Harris County

I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Marietta Hostak** as the AAUW TX District Representative for this part of the South District of Texas. She can be reached by e-mail at mhostak@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 281-497-5858.

Marietta is extremely knowledgeable about AAUW and is eager and enthusiastic about the opportunity to work with you in any way she can. Please call on her!

In equity Linda conger

"Children are apt to live up to what you believe of them"
Lady Bird Johnson



Educational Foundation

Honor TWO GREAT TEXAS WOMEN with One Donation!!

How can you honor TWO TEXAS WOMEN with one donation?

You can honor both women by donating to the Educational Foundation for **Barbara Jordan Fellowship** in memory of **Lady Bird Johnson**. Your branch will also receive credit from AAUW for your donation.

This idea was first put into place at the Leadership Conference in Austin and your leaders attending donated \$635 to the Jordan Fellowship in memory of

Mary DuBoise

Lady Bird Johnson.

The Johnson Family will be notified by Association of the contributions made by AAUW Texas members.

How do you do this? Make a check payable to: AAUW EF and in the Memo section write: Barbara Jordan Fellowship in Memory of Lady Bird.

Be sure to include information about the branch which is to receive credit for your donation.

Mail the check to:

Please note that this is only through October 1, 2007

Mail check To:
Mary DuBoise TX EF
7921 Kendra Lane

North Richland Hills, TX 76180 1711

Public Policy Program

Georgia Kidwell

Warning Voting May Be Habit Forming

Woman-to-Woman Manual

Georgia Kidwell

The election season draws near, Branches are encouraged to do voter service activities to get out the vote. AAUW has prepared a wonderful comprehensive resource, called Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout, a manual for community based campaigns to mobilize women to vote. The manual provides branches with resources to increase participation and voter turnout. The manual and an accompanying power point presentation can be ordered from Association or downloaded off the AAUW website.

At the final business session of the convention, delegates approved the 2007-09 Public Policy Program. The Program provides a basis for AAUW members' actions at the local, state, national and international levels.

There are two parts to the Program. The first is the Public Policy Principles for Action. This is a broad statement of our mission. The second part is the Biennial Action Priorities. These are priorities for federal action chosen according to the criteria of viability, critical need, strong member support and potential for distinctive AAUW contribution or leadership.

There are three categories of the Biennial Action Priorities which AAUW advocates:

- To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity and diversity.
- To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women.
- To guarantee equality, individual rights and social justice for a diverse society.

After lively debate the Public Policy Program was adopted unanimously as amended by the delegates.

The Public Policy Program in its entirety can be viewed on the AAUW website.

80th Texas Legislature Session Georgia Kidwell

The 80th Session of the Texas Legislature is over. History was made when the House and Senate passed HJR 19, a constitutional amendment to record all votes on final passage and make the results easily accessible to the public. Proposals for constitutional amendments do not require the Governor's signature. This amendment will appear on the ballot in the November 6, 2007 election. AAUW and many other organizations have worked hard to get "recorded votes" passed. Now we must work to get out the vote, so this amendment passes.

Another success was the passage of HB 109 the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) legislation, which restores much of what was lost in 2003, when the legislation caused many children to lose eligibility.

Because of the efforts of many organizations in support of reproductive health issues, no anti-choice bills were passed. SB 129 a campaign finance disclosure bill passed that would require elected officials to report the value of cash gifts.

HB 8 made mandatory a minimum sentence of 25 years to life for aggravated assault against a child under 14 years if age. Also it eliminated the statute of limitations in cases of sexual assault against children and doubles the statute of limitations in other cases of violent sexual offenses to 20 years.

Along with the Coalition for Public Schools, we were ready if any voucher bills were introduced. We were pleased when there was no interest in such legislation this session.

WARNING VOTING MAY BE HABIT FORMING

Voting is a habit— People who vote have a pattern of voting and are members of social networks of voters. On the flip side— people who do not have the habit of voting may be members networks that do not include many regular voters

*AAUW branches can increase the numbers of regular voters by bringing nonvoters into their network. This can be done **women to woman***

Branch Services

STATE TERRIFIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The **Texas STAR Awards** were presented to 17 branches at the Leadership Conference. Each of these branches earned from four to nine STARS for their work and support of the AAUW mission. Congratulations to each branch and the members – you each deserve a round of applause!

Every branch should begin collecting information now and plan to submit an application next spring for recognition at the AAUW Texas State Convention in Dallas. The application request will be sent to all branch presidents in February – watch for it and get your information in by the deadline. We want to celebrate with you in your successes and share ideas on ways to promote AAUW and make us visible in our communities.



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Membership Matters—

Priscilla Mowinkel

Major structural changes to AAUW were initiated during the Phoenix convention in June. Suggestion for more changes will be on AAUW's agenda over the next two years. Most of these necessary changes occurred because of a lack in operating funds. Therefore, we must acknowledge that Membership does Matter!

Membership = dues = operating funds!

(For referral I suggest that you order the DVD, Sherry Schiller: Change and AAUW's Strategic Process Plenary, the plenary presentation held last June 30. (See page __ for ShopAAUW .)

Recognizing that both increased membership recruitment and retention was needed in Texas, your state organization made the decision last year to start the process of re-organizing and re-inventing at the state level. Central to this goal was the formation of a **Membership team** whose directive is to investigate and create new branches, student affiliate groups and corporate branch involvement. At this time the Bryan/College Station branch has been re-activated and in the middle of September, Laredo will also reconvene. Three new student affiliate groups are also being formed in the Houston area.

In order to be successful each branch member needs to identify what their branch is today and what they want it to be tomorrow. The basic data which exemplifies the upward climb which AAUW faces include the following age gaps:

- 42% of all membership-70+
- 31% of all membership-60-69
- 24% of all membership-40-59
- 2.5% of all membership -30-39
- <1% of all membership—under 30

AAUW TX values the 73% of membership 60 years and above; after all, they were originally our innovators and movers of AAUW. However, as a member of the 60+ group I recognize that it is more comfortable to maintain the status-quo. Nevertheless, in order to survive we need to begin thinking "outside of the box". Sherry Schiller, the AAUW strategic process consultant, requested during the convention that branches and members "reflect on tough questions, such as survival, relevance, and the culture of our organization today and what actions are essential for AAUW to survive for another 125 years." She also demanded that everyone "look for the good...to believe that you can make the difference and frame for the positive but at the same time "create your own reality." I invite you to do the same and when you come up with new ideas or questions please contact me so that we can act upon and share them. AAUW does have a positive future as long as we recognize **Membership Matters.**

“Honoring our Legacy, Embracing Our Future”

It is critical that branch members be involved in recruitment and retention!

- * Recognize that recruitment **must** occur **24 hours** a day, **7 days** a week and **52 weeks** a year
- * Recognize that recruitment and retention are the responsibility of all members
- * Embrace the fact that *Equity is Still an Issue* because equity gaps still persist in education, the wage gap persists for all women in all sectors of employment, sex discrimination still exists, and women face a greater risk of poverty in retirement

USING THE MEMBER SERVICE DATABASE

1. Go to www.aauw.org
2. Login to the member center.
3. Click :Member Services (On-Line) from the left hand menu.
4. Login. Note that the login screen has a “register” link for first time users and a “recover my password” link if you need that.
5. Select an action, depending on your role in the branch/state,.

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

The primary key to the future of AAUW is
PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT.

Current members are in the best position to identify and recruit new members. A personal commitment by members to assure AAUW's continued strength is key to the organization's future.

PHASE ONE CHALLENGE:

To all members, branches and states, recruit at least one new paid members between the dates of June 16, 2007 and December 31, 2007

REWARDS:

Names of recruiters on web site - [Hall of Fame Certificate](#) of recognition to everyone who recruits a new member

Exclusive [AAUW Keys to the Future Logo Award Winner Lapel Pin](#) to those who recruit **five (5) or more** new members.

Members recruited in Year Two will be counted with those recruited in Year One toward the MGM Logo Lapel Pin.

SPECIAL INCENTIVES

- Individual who brings in highest number of new members receives \$100 gift certificate at Amazon.com
- Branch that brings in the highest number of new members, \$50 Amazon gift certificate
- Branch that brings in the highest number of new members by percentage, \$50 Amazon gift certificate
- State that brings in the highest number of new members receives an exclusive AAUW Keys to the Future banner
- State that brings in the highest number of new members by **percentage** receives an exclusive AAUW Keys to the Future banner

New Branch Development

AAUW will again be present in two communities that have been without branches for several years, Bryan/College Station and Laredo. Bryan/College Station The communities are being reorganized under the guidance of **Jackie Littleton** who along with Pat Ross is handling new branch development for the Texas Membership Committee.

On August 25, Jackie, and representatives of the AAUW TX board, Linda Conger, President; Priscilla Mowinkel, Membership VP; and Margaret Bentley, Financial Officer traveled to Texas A&M to meet with campus and community people interested in organizing an AAUW branch. Instrumental in the organization of this branch is Dr. Anita Nicholson who has been working with AAUW Texas for over two years to try and start a branch. The Bryan/College Station branch has a rich history and Jackie, Priscilla, Margaret and Anita spent the day preceding the organizational meeting visiting the Archives at A&M and going through the catalogued branch records. Another organizational meeting will be held September 22 in Bryan where strategic planning will be facilitated by Jackie Littleton and Elaine Wells, District Representative from Tyler.

Meanwhile, Dr. Lu Marie Ducharme of Laredo is reorganizing the Laredo AAUW branch under the guidance of Pat Ross, Sugar Land and Melba Zaremba of Edinburg. Melba is the District Representative for South Texas. The Laredo branch will also have a strong connection with the Laredo Community College. The Texas Membership Committee is continually looking for many different opportunities to form new branches and welcome any requests or suggestions.

Priscilla Mowinkel, Pat Ross, Jackie Littleton



BRANCH CONNECTIONS



IN THE
SPOTLIGHT!

♦ *Arlington AAUW Receives Media Award*

Arlington is honored to have received a Fort Worth Star-Telegram STARS Award. (Star-Telegram Awards Recognizing Service) The Branch was awarded the George W. Hawks Large Organization of the Year 2006 Trophy and \$500 to give to a non-profit organization of our choice.

Below is a synopsis provided by our public information chair **Diane Feldman**: The fifty-five year old Branch began a used book sale twenty-four years ago to fund community projects related to literacy and education and to support the Educational Foundation (EF). The Branch has completed two EF \$35,000 research and project grants, the second one in the name of their late, former president Mary Swisher Smith. In addition to funding community projects, the group provides volunteers for them, as in the case of Reading Is Fundamental in the Arlington I.S.D., the oldest, continuing RIF program in Texas, which was begun by the Branch. Also, three University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) women students a year are given financial assistance to complete their undergraduate degrees. Almost a quarter million dollars in book sale profits have been distributed by the 100-member branch since 1982.

Ann Brooks President

♦ *Austin*

Last Spring members from Austin Branch met with **Long Meiyun** of Guangxi, China, as part of the International Visitor Leadership Program. Ms Long, county official, explained the effective process as a choice between the two best candidates, all of whom are members of the People's Communist Party. When

asked about dissent in China, Ms Long said there was almost none and that a certain percentage of women are required to be involved politically at each level of government and gender equality prevails throughout the country. She was especially interested in the Austin Branch and suggested that perhaps country students might qualify.

Dale Willimeck, Past President

♦ *Sherman-Tacoma Branch*

Our main membership luncheon event took place on September 10th. Prior to the luncheon an article was published in the newspaper inviting qualified women who are interested in joining AAUW Members are encouraged to invite guests that they think would be interested in joining the Sherman chapter. -

Marilyn Krwtsinger, President

♦ *Greenwood Branch*

Greenville branch is looking forward to our new year. We are beginning the 2007-08 year with two new members and the prospects for a few more members to possibly begin at our first meeting Saturday the 8th of September. We are pleased that our District Representative **Mrs. Janet Peavler** will be our special guest speaker. We will be having our annual Used Book Sale and scholarship fundraiser in October. Plans are being made to begin our sale of nuts in November.

Lou King, President

*Braggin Rights
Braggin Rights*

LEGAL ADVOCACY

TOP BRANCH PER CAPITA

- ♦ Lubbock \$25.12
- ♦ Houston-\$18.63
- ♦ Fort Bend-\$15.87
- ♦ Amarillo-\$15.86
- ♦ San Antonio-\$14.79
- ♦ Tarrant-\$12.08
- ♦ Denton-\$12.02
- ♦ Dallas \$11.64
- ♦ Georgetown \$10.71
- ♦ Farmers Branch \$10.27

Congratulations!

LEGAL ADVOCACY

TOP BRANCH DONATIONS

- ♦ San Antonio-\$2,234.00
- ♦ Austin-\$1,676.00
- ♦ Lubbock-\$1,507.00
- ♦ West Harris-\$1,115.00
- ♦ Tyler-\$915.00
- ♦ Dallas-\$861.00
- ♦ Tarrant County -\$761.35
- ♦ Fort Bend County \$714.00
- ♦ North Harris-\$685.00
- ♦ Kerrville-\$635.00

CORRECTION ON EF DONATION

Mary DuBois— EF VP

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BRANCH— was listed in last issue as having donated \$22.05 per member for 2006. The correct donation from Montgomery County was **\$25.69**. Congratulations!

Greater Houston Area Interbranch

Kirlew Matthie, President

{Galveston Fort Bend, Montgomery County,
North Harris, Southeast Harris, West Harris.}

Student Affiliate Forum was the program for the meeting in March, 2007. The forum was lead by **Bridgette McGowan-Hawkins** of Prairie A& M. Students representing DeVry, Prairie A&M, North Forest Community, Wharton Junior College and University of Houston were present. Some of concerns and needs voiced by the affiliates:

- * Mentoring from others who have gone through college processes
- * Tips on time management skills
- * Need for Career Shadowing to solidify their career choice
- * List of adults who willing to house international students when they are on short holidays
- * Guidelines for international students to assist them in simple task such as obtaining school ID, etc.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT! Plano/Collin County

Carol Crawford, President

Dear AAUW Friends:

At our Sept. Branch AAUW meeting we viewed the DVD about one of our members, **Anisa Adem**, and her struggle to have her 22 girls soccer team included in games at the Ethiopian Sports Federation of North America. I am writing this request to you because I know as AAUW members you support causes that advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

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. She has been struggling to have her 22 girls soccer team included in games at the Ethiopian Sports federation of North America. Anisa is a first-generation immigrant and Muslim mother of two. Anisa says that her daughters asked a simple question with no easy answer. It hung in the air, searching for the place where culture, gender, and religion meet.

The question was "Why can't girls play soccer here? Is it the Ethiopian culture or Muslim culture?"

We would like all AAUW members to visit the website www.Gopetition.com and sign the on line petition to let girls be included in the Annual Ethiopian Sports Tournament. This is an issue that AAUW Texas has endorsed and we would appreciate just a few minutes of your time to make progress in the equity of women in all cultures.

*Braggin Rights
Braggin Rights*

TRIBUTE TO GEORGIA KIDWELL



Northeast Tarrant County Branch recognized their member, Georgia Kidwell with a completed Research and Projects Grant in her name. The branch worked very hard to raise the \$35,000 required and now the grant will provide funds to branches across the nation.

In the photo— right to left

Mary DuBoise TX EF; Georgia Kidwell; Priscilla Mowinkel, TX Membership VP; Linda Conger, Texas President

PLEASE SIGN PETITION TO INCLUDE GIRL SOCCER TEAMS IN ETHIOPIAN SPORTS FEDERATION OF NORTH AMERICA

The Ethiopian Sport Federation in North America Association holds its 25th annual soccer tournament in the Washington DC ,July 4th, 2008.

"Will we continue the tradition of shunning a girl's team or make strides. Although the Ethiopian girls and women have enthusiastically supported the tournament, the focus of the main event is the men's soccer team. There are 27 men's teams and no women teams. Furthermore, the organization board members consist of all men."

Website www.gopetition.com
Anisa Adem— August 14, 2007

Anisa thanks AAUW for its support

GLOBAL EQUITY

AAUW Public Policy and International Concerns

Karen McKibben Morris, International

AAUW Public Policy Program– 2007-2009 The Association public policy program continues to underscore our mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. We hope to speak to women's needs, aspirations, and concerns across their lifespan.

You will want to familiarize yourself with this highlight of the 2007-2009 public policy initiative as it concerns our International efforts:

AAUW:

- ◆ believes that global interdependence requires national and international policies that promote peace, justice, human rights, sustainable development, and mutual security for all people. We advocate public discussion to ensure enlightened decisions on these issues.
- ◆ support a strengthened United Nations and its affiliated agencies. To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society, AAUW advocates support for U.N. programs that address human rights and women's and girls' concerns.
- ◆ Advocate implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action from the 4th World Conference on Women and subsequent declarations.
- ◆ Affirm our commitment to the U.N. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).
- ◆ Support international family planning programs that are consistent with AAUW policy.

The work of AAUW builds upon over a century of responsible public participation at the local, state, national, and international levels. AAUW is committed to continuing to work in partnership with diverse allies.

GLOBAL EQUITY – Does AAUW work on global equity issues? AAUW has long been committed to promoting equity for women and girls around the world. One Document AAUW is concerned with: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women



INTERNATIONAL MATTERS NEW AAUW PROJECT IS LAUNCHED!

AAUW INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE is pleased to launch "International Matters"-Project Papers for Branches, a resource designed to assist branches in international programming- The topics are as follows:

- Citizen Diplomacy
- Women Peace and Security
- Human Trafficking
- Economic Social and Political Development of Women
- Education of Women and Children
- International Federation of University women

For more information go to the website—www.aauw.org-International_Corner
Or contact Linda Hiebert—
International Affairs-AAUW

Women Soaring-Overcoming Obstacles

Linda Gilbert

.This is the theme for Houston Interbranch and it is fitting for the articles I read in The New York Times.

PRESIDENT SARKOSY OF PARIS breaks political barriers by appointing an unprecedented number of women and France's first powerful minister of North Africa descent. His cabinet of 30 was reduced to 15 and seven of those will be women. The top woman in the government is Michelle Alliot-Marie who will oversee law enforcement and intelligent agencies. Women were also chosen as minister of education, culture, health, sports, and agriculture.

ALGIERS A quiet revolution is under way—women are emerging as an economic and political force unheard of in the rest of the Arabian world. Women make up 70% of Algerian lawyers, 60% of its judges and dominating the field of medicine. Women are contributing more to household income than men. Those who study the region say that they are taken aback by this data, but suggest that an explanation may be in the educational system and the labor market.

Horse of Another Gender: A filly won Belmont Stakes for the first time since 1906—Rags to Riches. This can be taken as a feminist statement, a victory by a gallant horse carrying five pounds less because in racing the fillies are considered the weaker gender.

I wish you could see AAUW from my vantage point.

Jackie Littleton

Education Opens A World of Opportunity

Literacy, informal adult education, formal education – whatever you call it, it empowers people, opens up a whole world of possibilities never thought of before by the poor, women, and girl children. An educated girl grows up to be an educated woman, one who develops self confidence and associates with other women like herself.

She gains access to many opportunities she never had before – increasing her income and investing, developing managerial skills and entrepreneurial abilities, and ownership of resources (whether money, land, property, a business, or investments) – which increases her autonomy.

She gains respect in her family, becomes an important decision maker in her community, and thereby a very important citizen and a model for all women.

In a male dominated society with traditions of limiting the opportunities of women, education has been a human right that has been denied women for a very long time.

With attainment of her full humanity, a woman is more likely to earn economic security for herself and her family.

Karen McKibben Morris.

*We envision a world
where AAUW is a leader
in assuring equity for
women and where all
women are valued—
What do you think?"*

As a brand-new Association Director-at-Large, I am meeting and working with members on both boards who represent the best AAUW has to offer. Members of both the Association Board and the Foundation Board bring a diversity of experience, background, age, race, and even gender, but a common commitment to furthering our mission. Reading the vitae of members who want to chair and serve on the committees and task forces that do so much of the work for our organization was a really humbling experience. Hearing first-hand about the exciting things that are being done for women's equity in every

state and region was thrilling. Learning about the tools that are available to help all members improve their communities, and meeting the hard-working staff that has created them was eye-opening. And, that was only the first meeting! But, actually, you can see AAUW from my vantage point. You don't have to be a member of the Board.

The brand-new, easy-to-navigate website is available to every member who has a computer or a friend with a computer. Committees and task forces, both at the state and national levels, are always looking for members with new ideas. As the Strategic Process that was approved in Phoenix moves forward, your participation is crucial. To keep up with the process, access the website www.aauw.org and look for EqChange. And, let your state officers, our Regional Director Shirley

Breeze, and me know what you think. Let's make sure this is a dialogue, not a monologue!

Our first conversation may be an easy one. The Boards are "test-driving" a few new versions of two very important statements after we heard from you in Phoenix.

Proposed Mission Statement: "AAUW stands up for women through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research—because equity is still an issue." We're looking for a better verb or phrase than stands up for. What do you think?

Proposed Vision: "We envision a world where AAUW is a leader in assuring equity for women and where all women are valued." What do you think? I look forward to hearing from you.

jackie-littleton@yahoo.com

-JACKIE LITTLETON -is a retired teacher, having taught 30 years in public and private schools, universities, and museums. She is former associate editor of The Docent Educator, a quarterly magazine for museum educators. Jackie has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Texas Woman's University and master's degree in education from the University of Louisville. She has been a member of AAUW since 1974, and was former AAUW state president in Tennessee. She has served on the AAUW Texas Board as Legal Advocacy Fund Liaison and Chair of the Restructuring Task Force. She is presently an active member of the Tyler Branch, serving as by laws chair and historian. She has served on numerous non-profit boards, including Camp Tyler Foundation and Young Audiences of Northeast Texas.

Jackie is excited to work with the Association Board of Directors in moving the recently developed Strategic Initiative forward.

Elaine Wells— Tyler Branch

YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR BRANCH ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

AAUW offers a rich array of promotional and marketing tools. There are several ways you can use these tools:

- ◆ Branch programs
- ◆ Share with public by inviting to meetings
- ◆ Share with Community through forums, workshops.



President Linda Conger, and Priscilla Mowinkel have comprised a list of CDs /DVD that are available on the AAUW website and from other sources..

1. *AAUW: Because Equity is Still an Issue*
Video-\$7 DVD \$12 +S/H
2. *Sherry Schiller: Change and AAUW Strategic Process Plenary- A stimulating and thought-provoking presentation AAUW and its future.*
Video-\$7.00 DVD-\$12 +S/H
3. *No Soccer for Girls? When Girls can't play-is it the religion? Or the Culture?*
It is the story of a Plano, TX AAUW member, Anisa Adem who attempts to use soccer to challenge girls' cultural roles. .
DVD-\$20.

Purchase From Other Source

"Fresh Faces of AAUW: Honor the Past; Embrace the Future"

Produced by Michigan Membership Committee

\$10- order from:

State Service Office

P.O. Box 4128

Battle Creek MI 49016 or

Shirley Breeze-

sbreeze@mindspring.com

Resource CD from Leadership Conference

This CD can give you answers to questions about:

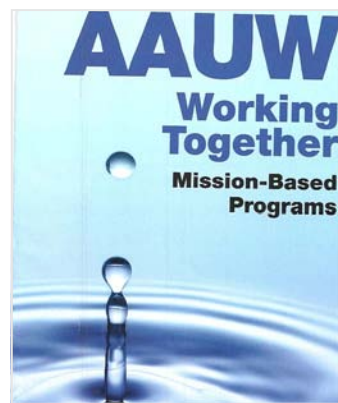
- Branch services
- By laws and procedures
- Finance
- Fundraising
- History of AAUW
- International activities
- Membership Matters
- Programs-Mission Based Programs
- Public Relations
- Rosters
- Websites

Cost \$10- Order by sending check made out to AAUW to

Linda Conger, President Texas

P O Box 2726

Canyon Lake TX 78133



New Brochure with Mission Based Activities for Your Branch .

GIVE A GRAD A GIFT!-

You can give a recent grad a free AAUW membership—at no cost to you or her. She will receive a free one-year membership (\$49 value.) She can join a branch at any time but will be responsible for branch and state dues. (unless branch wishes to pay)

A great marketing tool for AAUW while exposing grad to the power that comes to belonging to a national women-led organization .

DID YOU SAY FREE SPEAKERS?



Texas State Securities Board
P O Box 13167. Austin TX 78711

*IS YOUR ORGANIZATION LOOKING FOR A **FREE** SPEAKER?*

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Call JoAnne Kocurek, Education Coordinator-
512-305-8305 or
Email: jkocurek@ssb.state.tx.us

FYI To insure that you receive your materials from AAUW, your mailing and email address need to be kept current. To change any information, go on line w.aauw.org/member_center/forms/recordchange.cfm or Helpline-1 800-326-AAUW

ROSTER ASSOCIATION AND STATE

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Public Policy— Georgia Kidwell NE Tarrant County	grgdw@yahoo.com 1-817-282-0712				

FINANCIAL FIT FOR LIFE WORKSHOP

An AAUW Program presented in partnership with Prudential Financial Services— for more information go to the website www.AAUW.org— programs

AAUW is proud to partner with Prudential Financial, Corporate sponsor for Financial Fit for Life. Prudential Financial companies serve individual and institutional customers worldwide with products and services that include mutual funds, annuities, real estate brokerage franchises and relocation services.

Texas has been selected as a pilot. An introduction to this program was presented at the Leadership Conference. This dynamic panel of women taught us how to plan for our financial future.

Panel:

Left to right-

Kelli Blanco— Wachovia Securities

Denise Crawford— Texas Securities Commissioner

Leslie Crawford (center)- Probate Attorney

Fran Rothstein-AAUW Consultant and Moderator

Gina Jimenez— Prudential Financial Services





BIENNIAL STATE CONVENTION

APRIL 25- 27, 2008

Hilton Dallas Lincoln Centre

Dallas TX

Join US-Women Are Making History!

Calendar of Events and Deadlines

October 1-	TX Officer Nominations due
Oct 1-31-	Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Nov 2-4-	State Board meeting-Dallas
Nov 1-30	Am. Indian Heritage Month
Nov 11-17	Am. Education Week
Dec 1-	Deadline Women of Distinction
Dec 10,	Jane Addams Day
Dec. 31.	Deadline EF LAF contribution reports due

News Flash!

Colleen Barrett. President of Southwest Airlines has accepted the invitation of AAUW Texas to keynote the upcoming state convention in Dallas. She will be speaking at the opening session on Friday night, April 25, 2007. Don't miss the chance to hear from one of the most influential and business-savvy women in our state!

Margaret Bentley met with the Board of Mental Health America Texas in August. She heard that about 50% of women college students attempt or consider attempting suicide! This statistic was confirmed at Leadership Conference in a conversation with a Director in the Division of Student Affairs at Texas Tech. A representative of the Texas Suicide Prevention Council also attended the meeting and expressed interest in establishing a collaborative relationship with AAUW.

It is possible that we will have a presentation on this subject at State Convention in 2008.

AAAUW- a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and educating through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas



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