



Finances: Where have we been, Where are we now, Where are we going?

Thursday, September 17, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.
Huntwick Recreation Facility, 5300 Coral Gables Drive

Patti Ardoin, a financial advisor and broker with Edward Jones, will be our guest speaker and will address this hot topic. Patti has been a broker for 13 years and became a financial advisor in the last few years. With so much concern this year about the stock market and the downward spiral of many of our accounts, it will be interesting to hear some of the information that Patti has to share. Included in her talk will be some of the reasons to be a long-term bull. She will close with *What Every Woman Needs to Know About Social Security*.

Come join us and bring your spouse or bring a friend. The better our information, the better choices we can make in these important areas of our lives.

Klein Forest High School ~ 3rd Annual Sophomore Summit

Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Save the date! Our AAUW branch will again help sponsor the Klein Forest High School Sophomore Summit. This all-day event will have separate programs for the girls and boys in the morning. Then, the 800+ students will come together for a school box lunch followed by a skit and fashion show. A bonus of this all sophomores summit day is that all of the sophomore teachers can be involved.

We have applied to have an astronaut for each group as the keynote speakers. Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics will continue to be stressed. The students also get especially inspired by speakers who are Klein Forest High School graduates. This year's alumnae speakers include:

- Angela Wrigglesworth ~ *Never Give Up* ★ La Quesha Grigsby ~ *21st Century Woman*
- Abeer Mustafa ~ *Academics and Careers* ★ Alissa Peeler ~ *Love 101*
- Matt Malatesta ~ *Personal Relationships* ★ Joseph Chorley, MD – *Men's Health*

Yes! The summit program is making a difference! The girls who attended the first Summit are now seniors and last year's attendees, both girls and boys, are now juniors. Recently, Klein Forest High School was chosen as one of the nation's 1,500 best high schools by *Newsweek* magazine! A staff member at the school said a lot of it was due to their AP test scores and some of the credit was due to the Summit program, which encouraged students to take AP courses for their future college requirements.

Branch members are encouraged to volunteer for this Sophomore Summit event at our September member meeting or by email to Kati Woodward at alstublief@aol.com.

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President	Mary Gubert
Co-VP Membership	Laura Barousse Peggy Majors
VP Ed Foundation	Virginia McGriggs
Treasurer	Judy Van Horn
Secretary	Linda Massie
Past President	Patricia Fraske

Upcoming Events



→ RSVP— See article for contact information ←

- Sep 3, Thr **Daytime Literature:** 9:30 a.m. at the home of Donna Ohlson. See article on page 7 for details.
- Sep 8, Tue **Daytime Bridge:** 9:30 a.m. at the home of Barbara Hine. **Call Barbara or co-host Becky Massie by September 4 to make your reservation to play.** See page 6.
- Sep 10, Thr **Daytime Great Decisions:** 1:30 p.m. at the home of Anne Grace. See page 8.
- Sep 10, Thr **Board Meeting:** 7:00 p.m. at the Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Drive.
- Sep 11, Fri **Gourmet:** 10:30 a.m. at the home of Nancy Kaye. **Call Nancy if you plan to attend.** See page 6.
- Sep 12, Sat **Interbranch:** 10:00 a.m. at Houston Community College — Spring Branch campus. See page 5.
- Sep 15, Tue **Travelmania:** 1:00 p.m. at the home of Shahnaz Kureshy. **Call Shahnaz if you will be attending.** See page 6.
- Sep 17, Thr **Branch Monthly Event: *Finances in these hard economic times and Social Security & Women*** 7:00 p.m. at Huntwick Recreation Facility. See feature article on page 1.
- Sep 18, Fri **Out & About:** 9:00 a.m. in the Kroger parking lot to carpool to The Arbor Gate. See page 7.
- Sep 24, Thr **Membership Social:** 4:00 p.m. at Brix Wine Cellars. See details on page 4.
- Sep 26, Sat **Just the Facts, Ma'am:** 9:30 a.m. at the home of Donna Ohlson. See page 6 for details.
- Sep 28, Mon **Prime Time Literature:** 6:30 p.m. for dinner, 7:00 p.m. for discussion, at Café Express on FM 1960. See article on page 7 for details.
- Oct 7, Wed **Klein Forest High School 3rd Annual Sophomore Summit** (a volunteer opportunity). See details on pages 1 and 5.
- Jan 30, Sat **2010 Interbranch Annual Luncheon:** Our branch is hosting the luncheon and we will need everyone's help so that we all do a bit instead of a few doing a lot. More in the October *Nutshell*.
- April 23-25 **2010 Texas State Convention in Houston:** The September Interbranch meeting is a great way to learn more about this volunteer opportunity. See page 5 for Interbranch meeting information.

KFHS Sophomore Summit

continued from page 1

Volunteers go with the students and teachers to each presentation and assist the speakers as needed. They also help hand out lunches and get to enjoy the afternoon entertainment. Our volunteers have always been impressed with the speeches they have heard and the behavior of the students.

Our North Harris County AAUW donation of \$1,000 will be used to help buy the special theme T-shirts, which are an integral part of this program. Mr. Lakin, the school principal, has decided to hold raffles throughout the rest of the year to encourage even more students to wear these T-shirts on special days to remind them of what they learned at the Summit. Funds for the T-shirts, door prizes, and food will be solicited from various businesses and community organizations. If you would like to make a donation to support this event, contact Kati Woodward at alstublief@aol.com.

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It was my privilege to be able to represent all of you at the 2009 National Convention held in June in St. Louis, Missouri. It was a true learning experience and one that left me with very positive feelings. There is an online Museum of AAUW's History that can be found on aauw.org. This website gives dates and information concerning the progression and growth of this organization which I think helps one gain a perspective of the work that AAUW has done over the years. It also gave me a perspective of obstacles that our organization has encountered and how we have faced them and moved onward. Please take the time to view this information of our growth and accomplishments. We are not an isolated branch.

AAUW has been a leader in promoting equity for women and girls for more than 125 years. It all began with a meeting of 17 like-minded women who had defied society's standards by earning college degrees. What started as The Association of Collegiate Alumnae in 1881 has grown into a powerful network of more than 100,000 women from 1300 branches that have influenced and shaped the debate over equity in education.

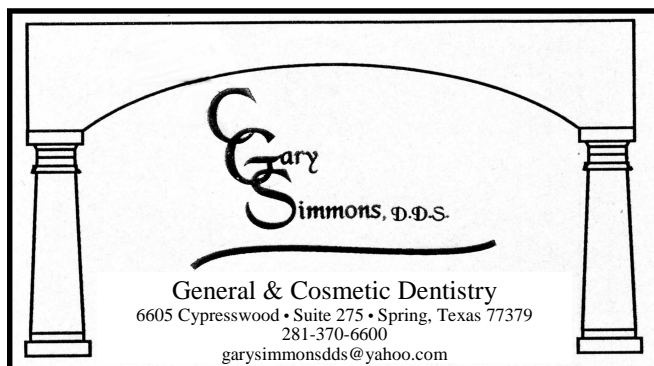
At this 2009 National Convention there were two main points on the agenda. The first was to celebrate President Obama signing the Lilly Ledbetter Act on January 2, 2009 in the East Room of the White House. The second was to finalize two sets of bylaws for the reorganization of AAUW.

AAUW supported the first federal legislative proposal for pay equity in 1955. Women working full time at that time made 65 cents for every dollar that a man doing the same job with the same credentials received. In 1963 President Kennedy passed the Equal Pay Act. Now in 2009, 54 years after the first federal legislation, women are still fighting for equal pay for equal work, but getting only 78 cents for every dollar that a man with equal credentials receives. Lilly Ledbetter, the only female manager at her level in her company in Alabama, found that she had been underpaid her entire career even though she had excellent performance reviews. She filed a lawsuit with the EEOC and won her suit in the lower courts, but when the suit reached the Supreme Court, the justices ruled against her saying that she should have voiced her concern about her unequal pay within the first 180 days of being hired by the Goodyear Company (a company who made it clear to all employees that discussing salaries would get you fired). Thanks to AAUW's support, the case was again brought before the Supreme Court, and this time the ruling was reversed. President Obama signed his first bill into law on Thursday, January 29, 2009, approving the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. The bill amends the Civil Rights Act of 1964 stating that the 180-day statute of limitations for filing an equal-pay lawsuit regarding pay discrimination resets with each new discriminatory paycheck.

In the new reconstructed organization, AAUW will be the primary 501c3 nonprofit organization housing membership, most programs, the Legal Advocacy Fund, the programs of the former Leadership and Training Institute, research, and the fellowships and grants. The new much smaller 501c4 organization will be called the AAUW Action Fund which is not tax deductible. This organization is limited to voter education, lobbying, voter guides, and similar non-charity programs. It will also pay rent to AAUW. Of the \$49 you pay out of your dues to the Association, \$46 is now tax deductible and the \$3 that goes to the AAUW Action Fund is not tax deductible.

The second point on the agenda was to have two sets of bylaws accepted so that the newly reconstructed organizations would be in place for July 1, 2009. Every delegate at the convention was able to make their wishes known concerning the proposals.

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On August 1 the branch kicked off a new AAUW season by continuing a favorite annual tradition of having a membership brunch. Held at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 45 members and our 6 guests enjoyed a delicious potluck while hearing about upcoming branch and interest group events. *Betsy Calabro* outdid herself again this year with her table decorations which were raffled off at the end of the brunch, along with gift certificates donated by the following local businesses.

Campioni Restaurant – Rick Mausser

Champion-Spring Electrolysis ~ Robin Gobel

LA Fitness ~ Lucinda Plumlee

Mardi Gras Grill ~ Rufi Natarajan

Realis Medical Spa ~ Samantha McDonald

Rodeo Mexican Restaurant & Bar ~ The Lopez Family

Thank you to everyone who helped me with the brunch, from set up to clean up and everything in between. I could not have done it without you. And, a special thanks to *Sharon Glasgow*, our new hospitality co-chair.

Two new members joined at the brunch: *Bonner Cutting* and *Melody Douglas*.

Guests are invited to all of our programs and membership socials. If the guest joins at one of these events, the membership dues are discounted to \$57.50. Our next membership social is *Thursday, September 24*, (see below) and our member program and meeting is *Thursday, September 17* (see article on page 1).

Your dues must be paid no later than the September 17 meeting for you to be included in the 2009 - 2010 member directory.

Dues for fiscal year 2009-2010 are \$82. The distribution is: Association \$49, state \$10, branch \$23. Of the \$49 of your dues that is sent to the Association, \$46 is now tax deductible because of a major reorganization and separation of very different functions of AAUW at the national level. Mary Gubert has included a detailed explanation in her president's message, at the bottom of page 3.

Make your check payable to North Harris County AAUW and bring it to the September 17 branch event or mail your check to Membership Co-VP:

Peggy Majors
16700 Kuykendahl #2405
Houston TX 77068

If you are not sure if you have renewed, contact Peggy Majors at 281-587-8802 or PMajors@gmail.com.

Be sure to notify Peggy of even small changes or additions in your directory information, such as:

- Phone number
- Email
- Spouse
- Birthdate (month/day/not year)
- Subdivision

Membership Social

Make plans to invite friends and neighbors to the our membership social on *Thursday, September 24*, 4:00 p.m., at Brix Wine Cellars in the Vintage Park Shopping Center. Join old friends and new for Brix's happy hour, with \$5 wine, \$5 flatbreads, \$2 beer plus soft drinks, tea, cappuccino. It's a great time to introduce friends and neighbors to AAUW, get to know new members, and visit with members you may not have seen in a while. In May and again in July more than a dozen members and guests met there for an enjoyable afternoon.

Brix is located at the southeast corner of Highway 249 and Louetta Road in the center of the Vintage Park Shopping Center on the Piazza Fontana between Mia Bella and Fish City Grill. Travelling on SH249, take the Louetta Road exit, turn east, go past the light at Vintage Park Blvd and turn right into Vintage Park at the next entrance. Go to the end and turn left. Brix is on the right by the fountains. Call Laura Barousse at 281-370-5474 for more information.

Fundraising Madness 2009!

We can do it again! It's always hard to begin a new fundraising after achieving such great success with our Home Tour for 34 years. However, we had wonderful success with our first annual Phantom Home Tour. If you have forgotten, the results are as follows:

Educational Foundation	~ \$2,890.00 (national fellowships & scholarships)
Lone Star College	~ \$2,347.00 (scholarships)
Fellowship Fund	~ \$4,692.00 (public school & community grants)
Total (Gross)	~ \$9,929.00
Total (Net)	~ \$9,429.00 (\$500 expenses)

In 2009, we are following the Phantom Home Tour with a Phantom Adventure Tour! Mary Kimball has again waved her magic wand. Early in October you will receive an invitation to make a contribution to one or more of the above categories. Also, the invitation will include details of the celebration party for our successful fundraiser, which will be held again at the home of Betsy Calabro, early in November ~ it's an event not to be missed!

If you have ideas to fit into our framework, or if you would like to just help out with phase one and/or phase two, email Patricia Fraske at Patricia-aauw@hotmail.com.

Thank you for your support in 2008 and I would appreciate your support for 2009. Your generosity is appreciated.

Patricia Fraske

Interbranch

Val Sandham, Interbranch Representative
281-353-4751, Librn_2000@yahoo.com

The first meeting of Interbranch will be held on *Saturday, September 12*, at 10:00 a.m. The program will be the 2009-2010 AAUW Texas State Convention, which will be held in Houston April 23-25. Anyone interested in helping with the convention is encouraged to attend. A business meeting will follow with reports from the branches.

Val Sandham, our branch representative, will not be able to attend or arrange carpooling to this meeting. If you want to carpool to the meeting contact Mary Gubert at marygubert-aauw@sbcglobal.net.

The Interbranch meeting location has changed. All the meetings this year will be held in the tutoring center at the Spring Branch campus of Houston Community College, 1010 Sam Houston Parkway N., Houston 77043 (I-10 and Beltway 8). Please do not park in the faculty/staff parking areas. The tutoring center is within the library in the main building. Enter the main building on the south or west side. The library is a short distance from the entrance. Library staff can direct you to the tutoring center.

President's Message

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We spent at least 8 hours in three different business meetings giving delegates 12 minutes each to discuss bylaws before they were all finally approved. Even with 973 delegates attending, everyone was patient and anyone that wanted to be heard was able to voice their opinion.

There were three main proposals that were of great concern among members. The main proposal facing contention was the open membership proposal, but it was voted by the delegates to keep the same wording that we have now requiring a full or associate degree from an accredited college or university. The second proposal for one member, one vote passed. And the third proposal was changed to require ten elected directors at large instead of six and to only have three appointed directors at large instead of six.

Now I must shift gears and thank all who made our Membership Brunch such a success. Special thanks go to Laura Barousse, Peggy Majors, Susan Glasgow, Virginia McGriggs, and Betsy Calabro as well as those who helped set up and then who helped clean up. For all of you who couldn't attend, we missed you.

*Mary Gubert,
President*

Do we like to talk and munch and drink coffee? Summer is over so let's just socialize on *Friday, September 11*, at the home of Nancy Kaye, 13603 Foxmoor Lane (Huntwick). Come at 10:30 a.m. and don't eat too much breakfast! All are welcome, but if you plan to attend please contact Nancy at 281-444-1337 or okaye@comcast.net. You don't have a job to do, or a report to make! Just come and enjoy!

Just the Facts, Ma'am

Hello, nonfiction lit lovers. This is a new group. We will concentrate on history, biography, autobiography, travel, science, sociology and any other areas which relate to "Just the facts, Ma'am."

We will be meeting on Saturday mornings and our first meeting will be on *Saturday, September 26*, at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and socializing at the home of Donna Ohlson, 5910 Winged Foot Drive (Champions). The book discussion will begin at 10:00 a.m. and Donna Ohlson will facilitate the first discussion.



Donna Ohlson, Nonfiction Lit Chair
281-537-6051, djointex@yahoo.com

Our first book is *Columbine* by Dave Cullen. This book goes a long way in answering the "why" and "how could" about this infamous high school tragedy. The author is a journalist who was present on the day of the tragedy and who has followed the story all these long ten years. His book was written to dispel some of the myths surrounding the massacre.

The plan is to meet only six Saturdays a year, possibly staying on the 4th Saturday of the month. Bring your calendars and book recommendations to this meeting so we can plan for this year.

Daytime Bridge

Barbara Hine & Shirley Ada, Daytime Bridge Co-Chairs
Barbara: 281-376-3365, BarbHi@sbcglobal.net

On *Tuesday, September 8*, we will meet in the home of Barbara Hine, 9703 Champions Cove Drive (Estates at Windrush). Come enjoy coffee and socializing at 9:30 a.m. Play starts promptly at 10:00 a.m. Reservations are a must. Please call Barbara at 281-376-3365 or co-hostess Becky Massie at 281-251-3177 by *Tuesday, September 4*. Bring a sandwich and dessert. Salad and drinks will be provided. Hope to see you at the tables!

Please call as early as possible if you plan to attend or have to cancel so we can make arrangements for full tables.

Travelmania

Sue Mason & Bobbie Lupa, Co-Chairs
281-376-3699, Sue-Mason@sbcglobal.net
281-893-1601, BobbieL25@comcast.net

Come travel down under to New Zealand on *Tuesday, September 15*, at the home of Shahnaz Kureshy, 5811 Pinewilde Drive, Greenwood Forest sub-division. Sue Mason will be our travel guide. She will relate her recent travels in New Zealand throughout the countryside and large cities.

Your tour begins at 1:00 p.m. with social time and the program starts at 1:30 p.m. Enjoy catching up with fellow Travelmaniacs, meeting new ones, and discussing your summer trips. If you plan to attend, please contact Shahnaz at 281-537-7173 or skureshy@sbcglobal.net by September 10.

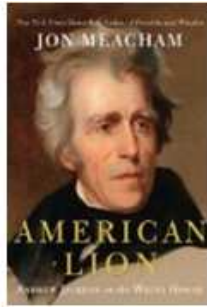
Travelmania has an exciting year ahead. Our travel plans include sharing travels from the Middle East, Turkey, the Czech Republic, Germany, the Easter Islands & Galapagos, and India.

If you have any questions or would like to co-host a meeting, please contact the Travelmania co-chairs, Sue Mason or Bobbie Lupa.

Daytime Literature

Join us on *Thursday, September 3*, for a joint meeting of the new Blue and Purple groups at the home of Donna Ohlson, 5910 Winged Foot Drive in Champions (281-537-6051). Come to socialize at 9:30 a.m. The review will start at 10:00 a.m. Ann Alexander will lead the discussion of *American Lion* by Jon Meacham.

More socializing will follow the meeting during lunch at a restaurant for those who have time to join us.



Mary Quinn, Daytime Literature Chair
281-586-9465, michael.c.quinn@sbcglobal.net

"Finally, a book that explains our nation's most enigmatic hero, a man who was revered and reviled and little understood. Jon Meacham brilliantly takes us inside the family circle that sustained Andrew Jackson's presidency and provided his steadiness of faith. It's a vivid, fascinating human drama, and Meacham shows how the personal was interwoven with the political...." - review by Walter Isaacson, author of *Einstein: His Life and Universe* and *Benjamin Franklin: An American Life*.

www.bookbrowse.com

Out & About

Co-chairs: Erma Ridge, 713-888-0005
Dianne Sharr, 832-724-8079, ngatefrst@aol.com

Join us on *Friday, September 18*, as we meander through the garden displays at The Arbor Gate. The plant selection is quite diverse, with sample beds in bloom year-round. Come discover hard-to-find native plants, herbs that thrive in our Gulf Coast climate, and vegetation that grows in shade. Enjoy browsing two gift shops stocked with everything from art by Texas artisans to fertilizers, soil amendments, lawn products, garden hats, gloves, and gardening books. After lunch at the Whistle Stop Cafe, we'll explore antique and apparel boutiques in Old Downtown Tomball.

Out & About is about having fun and going to interesting places. We become better acquainted and save money by carpooling and sharing the cost of gas. This year's destinations include the Orange Show Center for Visionary Art, Houston Chinatown Shopping Plazas & Centers, *Great Day Houston* at KHOU Channel 11, Little India Houston, Port of Houston Authority Sam Houston Boat Tour, Brookwood Community, and The George Ranch.

We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the Krogers parking lot, 15802 Champion Forest Dr, Spring, TX 77379. The carpool caravan will depart from the parking lot at 9:15 a.m. If you have any questions, call Dianne Sharr at 832-724-8079.

Prime Time Literature

Join us on *Monday, September 28*, at Café Express on FM 1960, next to Barnes & Noble in Champions Village. Come at 6:30 p.m. if you want to join us for dinner. The discussion starts at 7:00 p.m.

We will be discussing *The Brother: The Untold Story of the Rosenberg Case* by Sam Roberts.

"In 1951, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were tried for and convicted of conspiring to steal atomic secrets. In 1953, their execution tore America apart. Fifty years later, the acrimonious debate over the Rosenbergs' guilt and the raw emotions unleashed by a case that fueled McCarthyism and the cold war still reverberate.



Bonnie Flynn, Prime Time Lit Chair
281-444-7791, BFly5@earthlink.net

One man doomed the Rosenbergs: David Greenglass, Ethel Rosenberg's brother, the young army sergeant who spied for the Soviets at Los Alamos during World War II and whose testimony later sealed his sister and brother-in-law's fate. After serving ten years in prison, he was released in 1960 and vanished.

But Sam Roberts, a *New York Times* editor, found David Greenglass and, after fourteen years, finally persuaded him to talk.

The Brother is the mesmerizing inside story of misplaced idealism, love and betrayal behind the atomic-espionage case that J. Edgar Hoover condemned as 'the Crime of the Century'." www.awardannals.com



North Harris County
American Association
of University Women

Return Address:
 NHC AAUW
 P.O. Box 12191
 Spring, TX 77391-2191

www.aauw.org

Mission Statement

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

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.

Newsletter Editor:
 Catherine Robichaux
 Email: catherine-aauw@swbell.net
 Articles due:
 2nd Friday of each month

*Our branch has recognized by AAUW Texas
 for our outstanding accomplishments
 in all categories of the PEARL award
 Protect Educate Advocate Research Lead*

View our newsletters in color through the AAUW Texas website: www.aauwTexas.org
 The North Harris County's home page address is: www.aauwTexas.org/NorthHarrisCounty/index.html

Our deepest sympathy

to the husband and family of Judy Van Horn. She died suddenly on August 13, 2009. Judy was a long-time member of our North Harris County branch, the coordinator of our email communications, our EF treasurer for many years, and recently elected to the office of branch treasurer. We will miss our friend very much.

Daytime Great Decisions 2009

We will meet *Thursday, September 10*, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Anne Grace, 13815 Hambleton Drive (Huntwick), 281-444-8408. Donna Ohlson will lead the discussion of *Egypt in the 21st Century*.

You can still order the *Great Decisions 2009* book from the bookstore on www.fpa.org. If you are interested in this group, contact Mary Quinn at 281-586-9465 michael.c.quinn@sbcglobal.net.