

**Board of Directors  
Executive Committee**

<b>Brenda Van Derbur</b>	<b>President</b>
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<b>Caroline Howard</b>	<b>VP Programs</b>
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<b>Elizabeth Wilson</b>	<b>VP Fellowship Fund</b>
<b>Maybelline Carpenter</b>	<b>VP Fellowship Fund</b>
<b>Judy Wood</b>	<b>VP Media Communi- cation</b>
<b>Betsy Calabro</b>	<b>Recording Secretary</b>
<b>Sharon Glasgow</b>	<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>
<b>Elizabeth Folk</b>	<b>Branch Treasurer</b>
<b>Martha Lozica</b>	<b>FF Treasurer</b>
<b>Mary Smith</b>	<b>Past President</b>

**Appointed Officers**

<b>Jane Egner</b>	<b>Parliamentarian Public Policy</b>
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**Standing Committee Chairs**

<b>Genie Kline</b>	<b>Fundraising Chair</b>
<b>Pam Morton</b>	<b>Branch Hospitality</b>
<b>Lynn Morris</b>	<b>Branch Hospitality</b>
<b>Ann Moore</b>	<b>Community Outreach</b>
<b>Genie Kline</b>	<b>Publicity</b>
<b>Mary Moore</b>	<b>Directory</b>
<b>Lena Habiby</b>	<b>Historian/Archivist</b>
<b>Margie Poole</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>
<b>Helen Wilson</b>	<b>Special Branch Programs</b>

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## Outstanding Women Awards Luncheon 2020

Our tenth annual Outstanding Women Awards Luncheon was an amazing event and a huge success. The luncheon gave us an opportunity to honor two amazing women in our community, celebrate the grantees who have been awarded NHC AAUW grants for the coming year, and raise money to continue providing the high school summits and award more grants next year. Thank you to Genie Kline, the luncheon chair, for the wonderful job and the hours she spent planning and organizing this special day.

After socializing, shopping the silent auction, and dropping tickets in the bowls for raffle items, Maybelline Carpenter, Co-Vice President of the Fellowship Fund, started the luncheon off by introducing the eight grant awardees for this year from local schools and organizations. Next, we were lucky to have as our guests, both Susana Hernandez, a Ph.D. student from Texas A&M specializing in higher education who was the 2019-2020 recipient of the Virginia R. Lyon American Fellowship and Tamara Hudgins, the project director of Girlstart in Austin. Tamara has a B.A, M.A and Ph.D. in Art History and a professional background in nonprofit management and development. She spoke about Girlstart After School and Girlstart Summer Camp which are STEM programs aimed at high need girls. Girlstart received a \$5,000 Community Action Grant from AAUW for the year 2019-2020. Our branch completed this \$35,000 endowment to National AAUW in 1990. We are excited she is bringing Girlstart to Houston next year.

Darcy Mingoia stepped up to the podium after Tamara had set the stage for donations. Darcy did a fabulous job of exciting her audience and encouraging donations to cover grants, fellowships and even one entire Summit for next year. She continued soliciting as the blue basket ladies collected the green donation envelopes and passed out blinking bracelets.

We were honored to have as our keynote speaker this year Representative Sarah Davis of the Texas House of Representatives, District 134. Representative Davis is serving on the Public Health Committee in Austin and has been very involved in women's health issues. She shared information about some of the legislation that has been presented in Austin and some of the proposed legislation she is interested in seeing passed for women.

The first honoree to be presented was our very own Sue Ann Lurcott as the Outstanding Woman for Community Service. She was introduced by Sue Mason. Dr. Jenny McGown was this year's Outstanding Woman for Education and was introduced by Ann Sullivan. Both honorees were presented a proclamation by Kennedy Purser from the office of Commissioner Jack Cagle.

Since the date was set immediately after the 2019 luncheon, a lot of work by many devoted members has gone into planning for this year's luncheon. Mary Smith worked for months to arrange for the keynote speaker.

Liz Wilson and Maybelline Carpenter started sending out grant applications last May to schools and other nonprofits in this area. With the members of the grant committee, they visited with all the grant writers and then met to decide who would receive our grants. Susan Muirhead and Suzanne Beaty handled the nominations and voting that resulted in our wonderful honorees.

Sharon Jeremenko hosted the Kick-Off Koffee where we signed up volunteers for the many tasks needed to plan such an event. Mary Jane Petrick, Sue Mason, and their teams hosted Parties with a Purpose to get donations for the silent auction. Our members and their guests were very generous with donations. Other members went out and solicited from businesses and restaurants. Many thanks to Pat Bredewater for another outstanding job soliciting area businesses and never giving up.

Mary Smith and Betsy Calabro did a superb job, with a little help from some friends, to take the things that were donated, price and organize the items, and arranging them into the amazing baskets and items displayed on the auction tables. Martha Lozica received the response cards for reservations and Karen Stahl stepped in to help with the table assignments.

We also had groups that met to address invitations, prepare the bid tabs, and set up the room the day before the luncheon. Then more showed up to help at the event by welcoming guests, passing out name tags, monitoring the tables, selling raffle tickets and balloons, collecting donations, and checking out auction and raffle winners.

As you can see, it takes a great amount of work from many people to make an event like the Outstanding Women Awards Luncheon a success. Genie and I would like to thank everyone who participated and donated for making this such an amazing occasion.

Genie Kline and Brenda Van Derbur





Keynote Speaker Sarah Davis,  
Texas House of Representative, District 134



Education Honoree  
Dr. Jenny McGown



Community Honoree  
Sue Ann Lurcott

## FELLOWSHIP FUND NEWS

By Elizabeth Wilson

Maybelline Carpenter and Elizabeth Wilson thank the members of North Harris County Branch American Association of University Women for your continued support of our branch Fellowship Fund at the recent Outstanding Women Awards Luncheon. This year we awarded eight grants totaling \$17,087 and sponsored one Summit for girls attending the Brautigam Center in Cy-Fair ISD. Our eight grant recipients and their projects are the following:

Benignus Elementary School/Klein ISD - Mindful Makerspace  
Grace England Early Childhood and Pre-Kindergarten Center/Klein ISD - Strategic Builders  
McDougle Elementary School/Klein ISD – A Taste of Royalty  
Therapeutic Education Program/Klein ISD - 18+ Transition Program  
Carpenter Center/Cy-Fair ISD – Stand Up for Learning  
CASA Child Advocates of Montgomery County – CASA Anti-Sex Trafficking Training Program  
JoyRide Therapeutic Equestrian Center – JRC Preparatory Program  
Lunch and Learn – Lunch and Learn 2020 STEM Initiative.

Pending further developments in the COVID-19 Pandemic, we will be scheduling site visits to our 2019 grant recipients to see our grant money in action. Let Maybelline or me know if you would like to come with us for any or all these visitations.



Education Honoree Dr. Jenny McGown poses with some of this year's grant recipients.



## BALLOONS, RAFFLE, & AUCTION

By Mary Smith

Many thanks to all of you who made possible the great auction and raffle NHC AAUW had on Saturday, February 29. Think back to November and the first Party with a Purpose at Mary Jane Petrick's home and the lovely items brought by you for us to use in the auction, then fast forward to January and the second Party with a Purpose at Sue Mason's home. Again, members came, visited with each other and brought incredible items for the auction. A special thank you to Mary Jane and Sue and to the hostesses at each of those parties.

Then, we have Pat Bredewater who went door to door and convinced many, many businesses to award us gift certificates to use in the auction – to the tune of over a thousand dollars. Well done, Pat! Mary Smith solicited on-line merchants and businesses to donate gift certificates to us, again over a thousand dollars' worth. And we could not manage without the imagination of Betsy Calabro who weaves her magic on the baskets that adorn the tables of the auction. Additionally, our members gave up time to aid us by putting together the restaurant packages and the bid tabs and on the final day, the auction tables themselves.

This year, we had a new, fun table – the balloon pop! We blew up 100 balloons and put rolled up money or rolled up restaurant coupons inside half of them. The rest of the balloons said, "Thank you very much for supporting AAUW." **All 100 balloons were purchased for \$5 each.**

Nine raffle items generated a total of 628 tickets sold. The two highest grossing were the Mixed Greens basket and the \$100 gift card to Perry's: bringing in \$700 and \$500 respectively. **We made more than \$2500 on the raffle.**

**The auction sold all but one of the 135 items.** The item that did not sell was a party at the Hero Martial Arts Academy. Many items went for great bargains while others went for the Buy It Now price! The jewelry and purses were very popular. We need to remember that when we have the Parties with a Purpose. Kendra Scott gave us two pieces of jewelry. **TOTAL SALES – over \$10,000.**



When Darcy Mingoia tells you to get out your green envelopes, you get out your green envelopes!

**Darcy motivated members and guests to donate more than \$8700!**



Like mother, like sons – the Lurcott family filling out their envelopes.



Catching up and discussing what to buy



## IT'S TIME TO PAY DUES FOR 2020 - 2021!!!

While the fun and success of the Outstanding Women Awards Luncheon are still in our minds, get out your checkbooks and write a check for

\$95.00 made out to "NHC AAUW" for your 2020-2021 dues and mail to  
Sue Mason, VP Membership, PO Box 12191, Spring, TX 77391-2191

**BY SUNDAY, MAY 10th. AN INVOICE AND RETURN ENVELOPE ARE IN THE MAIL!**

Renewals received by May 10th will be in a drawing for three national memberships and various gift certificates at the annual dinner/installation of officers at Campioni's on Thursday, May 21st.

**As a courtesy to the incoming VP Membership, we need your dues by May 10th before members and the board become involved with their summer plans. Thanks in advance for your cooperation!**

## March Gourmet a Success!

Barbara Alcamo organized a lovely Italian lunch at Via Emilia's in The Woodlands which was enjoyed by 14 participants. The afternoon included delicious cuisine and lively conversation.

Millie Jude is coordinating April when the group travels to Nikos off the Beltway and I-10 to enjoy a taste of Greece!

## March Cancellations:

Travelmania, set for March 17th, will not meet as St. Dunstan's has cancelled all meetings. Sue Ann Lurcott's Chihuly program will be moved to the 2020-2021 schedule.

Outing to Brookwood March 19th. Thank you, Caroline for ALL your hard work!

Friday March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Prime Time Lit: March 23<sup>rd</sup> book discussion.

Prime Time Lit: March 30<sup>th</sup> book selection supper.

Daytime Lit: March 31 Book Selection gathering.

Daytime Lit: April 2<sup>nd</sup> book discussion.

AAUW State Convening April 17-18, Austin, TX. See April Nutshell for more information.

Like you, your NHC AAUW Leadership is monitoring news closely. The April issue will contain updated information about meetings or activities that have been cancelled or rescheduled.

**If you are not sure, please contact the group leader for your activity.**



Members and guests, listening to our speakers while contemplating one last bid...