

Nutshell

December 2024

Volume 51, Issue 4

Table of Contents

Board of Directors/ Executive Committee

<u>President's Message</u>	2
<u>Social</u>	3
<u>Publicity & Branch</u>	4-5
<u>News</u>	
<u>Auction</u>	6
<u>Donor Forms</u>	
<u>Interest Groups</u>	7-9
<u>Birthdays/Calendar</u>	10-11

Elizabeth Wilson	President
Mary Quinn	President -Elect
Lin Fish	VP Programs
Katherine Crocker	VP Programs
Gayla Baker	VP Membership
Diane Webb	VP Membership
Darcy Mingoia	VP Fellowship Fund
Mary Smith	VP Fellowship Fund
Barbara Alcamo	VP Media Communication
Betsy Calabro	Recording Secretary
Linda Astala	Corresponding Secretary
Sue Kikis	Branch Treasurer
Elizabeth Folk	Fellowship Fund Treasurer
Maybelline Carpenter	Past President/Chair Nominating committee

Merry Christmas

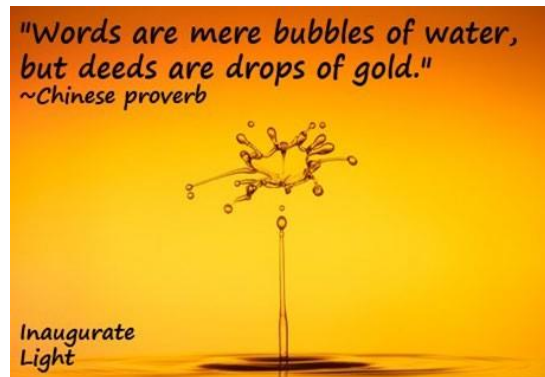


Appointed Officers

Sue Ann Lurcott	Parliamentarian
Peggy Hamric/Cindy Mazza	Public Policy
Kathryn Casey	Publicity
Brenda Van Derbur	By Laws

Standing Committee Chairs

Mary Quinn	OWL Luncheon Chair
Caroline Howard	Branch Hospitality
Marge Mitchell	Branch Hospitality
Open	DEI
Noemi Sirisaengtaksin	Directory
Open	Historian/Archivist
Genie Kline	Newsletter
Wanda Bamberg	Special Branch Programs
Tammy Edmonds	Student Affiliate Advisor



Lines from Liz

As I sit here at my computer on this fine November day writing my Lines from Liz message for the December Nutshell, I am filled with gratitude for a number of blessings-foremost having all my children, grandchildren, and one great grandchild spending Thanksgiving with their families here in Texas. My house is filled with pandemonium, teenage feet running up and down the stairs, baby giggles, constant conversation, and the need for MORE FOOD!

I, too, am thankful for all of you who attended our November Giving Thanks branch meeting at which several of our 2023/2024 grant recipients shared with us outcomes of the grants they were awarded. It is easy to forget as we play bridge or mah jongg, read and discuss a wide range of literary works in our various reading groups, go out to lunch with our fellow member friends that the real purpose of our AAUW membership is not our social lives, although important to our mental health and well-being, but rather the support of women and girls to reach their full potential.

As a reminder, there is no Branch meeting in December. We will return to active status in January and will press full-steam ahead on our February Outstanding Women Leaders Luncheon. WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP.

May your December celebrations be merry and bright (do I dare say snowy?). And we will gather in January full of energy and enthusiasm to make the 2025 OWL luncheon the best ever.

Liz

DECEMBER SOCIAL WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 4

Time for all Branch members to get in the Christmas Spirit! Join us at our “Christmas Social” from 4:30 to 6:30 at Campioni’s Restaurant, 13850 Cutten Rd.

We will be celebrating the season with our annual “Christmas Festive Attire” contest! Prizes will be awarded for the Most Outrageous, Simply Prettiest, Most Creative, and of course the “Ugliest”- and more! So, get those Christmas outfits out of mothballs and join us for the fun!



AAUW Social

Wednesday December 4th

At

Campioni's

4:30—6:30 PM

Dress Festive or Fun

Please bring a \$3 or more “Scratch off”
for the Auction!



PUBLICITY HELP NEEDED

Hey y'all, we need your help!

We're pulling together a network of members (one in each subdivision in our area) to spread the word about NHC AAUW, to tout upcoming events and lure new members with enticing invitations to come do good work and have fun with us!

What this network will do:

- *Nearly all the subdivisions have dedicated Facebook pages, and many have high traffic. Our member volunteers will occasionally post pre-written notices spreading NHC AAUW's great message to our area communities.

- *Our purpose: We want to tell all Northwest Harris County that we exist, who we are and that we welcome new members.

- *What we need: a volunteer/member in each subdivision to post messages on her neighborhood's Facebook page.

- *We'll supply the posts. Our Facebook volunteers will only need to log on and post a prewritten message on their subdivision's page and then respond to questions from anyone interested.

- *What will we post? To start: a short introduction to NHC AAUW and an invitation to reach out to our membership person for information.

- *Follow-up posts will tout upcoming events (i.e., one of our socials, travelmania, or gourmet). Each post will include information on how to join.

Our efforts will ramp up early next year after the holiday chaos dies down. To make this happen, we need volunteers willing to help! To volunteer, please email Kathy Casey (kcaseytx@hotmail.com), include your name, phone number, email address, and the name of your subdivision. Let's get started.

BRANCH NEWS



Kathy Crocker, Vanessa Coronado, Dr. Kirsten Allman

Many thanks to Lin Fish and Kathy Crocker for a wonderful presentation from two of our current grant winners (Vanessa Coronado from Tomball Memorial High School and Dr. Kirsten Allman from Klein ISD Special Programs). They both gave excellent presentations describing their grants. Vanessa presented research regarding losing girls interest in STEM careers in the middle school years. She used her grant to reach middle school girls while paired with high school students on Saturday workshops using engineering skills with a 3 D printer and laser saw to make items with the hopes of increasing the interest in pursuing engineering in high school. Dr. Allman presented their finished Bistro in Klein ISD with the current 18–22-year-old special needs students training to make coffee and pastries at an active Bistro in Klein. It is so great to see our grants being put to good use. **REMINDER: NO BRANCH MEETING IN DECEMBER**

GOURMET NEWS

Sylvia De Hek and Carla Moore are coordinating our Christmas luncheon which will be held on Friday December 13th at Mezzanotte Ristorante 13215 Grant Rd. Cypress 11:30 with a special holiday menu. Please contact Marge Mitchell for more information (mitchellfamilytx@sbcglobal.net).



AAUW North Harris County

October 20, 2024

Dear Friend of the Community,

Please join us as we proudly celebrate the 51st birthday of the North Harris County Branch of the American Association of University Women (NHC AAUW) at our annual Outstanding Women Awards Luncheon on February 22, 2025. In past years we have honored local distinguished women Darcy Mingoia, Pam Wells, Grace England, Georgan Reitmeier, Clara Maynard, Kati Woodward, Debbie Johnson, Sue Ann Lurcott, Jenny McGown, Mary Smith, Cheryl Whitfield, Peggy Winters, Sheryl Johnson, Gloria Aldridge, Julie Hinaman, Susan Schaeper, and Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora for their contributions to Community Service and to Education in North Harris County. We will soon announce this year's winners for **Outstanding Contribution to Education and Outstanding Contribution to the Community in North Harris County**.

In addition to honoring two outstanding women, the goal of the luncheon is to raise funds for the NHC Fellowship Fund which supports educational and community projects. NHC AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. There will be a silent auction and a raffle to that end. With your support of the NHC AAUW Fellowship Fund, we are creating a legacy for women and girls and a foundation for lasting positive change. Since 1990, we have contributed over \$474,591 to more than 113 local schools and community non-profit organizations for 231 educational projects for students from pre-school through college age, including the high school Summits. The Summits encourage young ladies to stay in school, to have healthy relationships, and to take advanced courses in school, etc. We also give scholarships locally and nationally to advance equity for women and girls. All proceeds from the event will enable the NHC AAUW Fellowship Fund to continue funding worthwhile community action projects, grants, and fellowships that further our mission.

Our success depends on the community's help, whether through monetary donations or through silent auction items. If you donate silent auction items, please consider donating item(s) which could generate excitement and great publicity for your business.

The NHC AAUW Fellowship Fund is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, (EIN #23-7379265), and your generous donation is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Every dollar and every item donated will be put to good use and could literally change lives, especially for our kids!

President NHC AAUW

Elizabeth Wilson

Outstanding Women Award Luncheon

713-480-3231



AAUW North Harris County
OUTSTANDING WOMEN AWARDS LUNCHEON
FEBRUARY 22, 2025 **DONOR FORM**
 250 ANTICIPATED GUESTS

*Deadline to be included in program is January 31, 2025. *Items may be packaged with additional donations from various donors

DONOR INFORMATION

Name of business or Individual: _____

Is this how you want to be listed in our materials?

Address: _____

Yes No

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

DONATIONS: ITEM OR PACKAGE DESCRIPTION:

 NHC AAUW TAX ID: (EIN #23-7379265) NHC AAUW IS A 501 (C) 3 non-profit organization

Total value of Contents: \$ _____ If priceless, estimated value: _____

Restrictions: _____

Valid until: _____

Delivery options: (Please check one.)

_____ DONOR WILL DELIVER _____ ARRANGE FOR PICKUP

CERTIFICATE: (Please check one.) _____ NONE _____ DONOR WILL MAIL _____ INCLUDED _____ AAUW will create _____

Please EMAIL, TEXT, OR MAIL forms to:
 NHC AAUW Attn: Mary Smith
 11627 Vailrun Dr.
 Houston, TX 77070
 281-639-7701
 mmsmith11627@att.net

Our mission

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



AAUW North Harris County
OUTSTANDING WOMEN AWARDS LUNCHEON
FEBRUARY 22, 2025 DONOR FORM

250 ANTICIPATED GUESTS

NHC AAUW Tax ID: (EIN #23-7379265) AAUW is a 501© 3 non-profit organization.

Please GIVE US THIS FORM WITH YOUR ITEM. IF YOU FORGET IT, EMAIL, TEXT, OR MAIL forms to:

Mary Smith, 11627 Vailrun Dr., Houston, TX 77070,

NHC AAUW Attn: mmsmith11627@att.net

or

Brenda Van Derbur, 9306 Taidswood Dr., Spring, TX 77379

281-635-4747, brendavan@comcast.net

DONATIONS

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

If a gift card, make sure it does not expire until after May 1, 2025.

If tickets to a show or nights at a hotel or vacation home, are there restrictions on the use of the reservation? (Number of people, weekend only, no kids, no dogs, etc.)

Please describe the item. (Who made it? What is it used for? Provide any information about its origin, age, or place if it is not obvious. If you can, look it up on the internet and attach information about it (again, if it is not obvious.)

Total value of Contents: \$ _____ If unknown, estimated value: _____

DONOR INFORMATION: YOU CAN USE 1 FORM FOR SEVERAL GIFT CARDS BUT USE 1 FORM FOR EACH OTHER TYPE ITEM. (Please price each item.)

Name of Individual: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

**JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY SOCIAL
WEDNESDAY, December 4
(4:30-6:30)
Campioni's Restaurant Bar
13850 Cutten Rd.**

BUSY HANDS

Busy Hands meets the 3rd Friday (12/20) of the month at 10 a.m. at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 14301 Stuebner Airline, room 309.

This is a great chance to work on needlecraft projects and enjoy the company of others. Contact Martha Lozica (m-lozica@sbcglobal.net)

Prime Time Lit Meeting

Prime Time Lit Meets

Next in January

the 4th MONDAY (1/27) OF THE MONTH via ZOOM.

January's book will be The Overstory by Richard Powers FOR

MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MARY MCVEIGH

Zoom 7:00 pm

Contact Mary McVeigh: Text to 713-504-6434

Email to mmcveigh@kleinisd.net or mom4grandmom8@yahoo.com

Daytime Lit THURSDAY

Thursday December 12
West With Giraffes
By Lynda Ruthledge

For more details contact Mary Quinn (marygquinn@yahoo.com)

The Walking Group



We are walking every Thursday morning at Kickerillow Park. So please join us for “walk and talk” therapy.

For more information, contact Genie Kline (901-218-1544) or geniekline@aol.com.

Lit Light will meet again
In January
at 10 am Panera Bread, 8203 Louetta
Rd.
Contact Mary Quinn
(marygquinn@yahoo.com)

Bunco

The Bunco group would love to have new members. Please let Claudia Gallagher know if you would like to join the group. We meet on the fourth Thursday at 3 pm at Claudia Gallagher's home in Memorial Northwest. We meet every month except in November and December. We always have a wonderful time playing games and socializing with each other. Please let Claudia know if you are interested: claudiagallagher@yahoo.com or 832-368-0550.

Wright Patterson Mahjong

The group plays every Wednesday at Crust Pizza, 11550 Louetta Rd, beginning at 11:00 am, pausing for lunch, and then playing until about 3:00. Crust Pizza is located at 11550 Louetta Rd. Contact Martha Lozica at [_m-lozica@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m-lozica@sbcglobal.net)

DAYTIME BRIDGE

**Experienced Players Enjoy
Playing Party Bridge
Four-Table Limit
Pause for Lunch**

**WHEN: Second Tuesday of the month TIME: 9:45 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
WHERE: Giuseppe's Restaurant, 8320 Louetta Rd. Spring**

**The first sixteen players to reply to the monthly hostess's
email invitation are guaranteed a seat.
Later replies are on a waiting list for that month.**

To participate, contact Donna Ohlson: 713-906-7863 or djointex@yahoo.com



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Vivian Young	12/2
Donna Ohlson	12/3
Georgan Rietmeier	12/8
Joan Sparks	12/13
Sue Ann Lurcott	12/16
Anais Watsky	12/16
Katherine Crocker	12/21
Paige Harr	12/23
Kimberly Brown	12/25
Mauri Ulivi	12/29

December 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 WP MAH JONG Social	5 Walking Group	6	7
8	9	10 DAYTIME BRIDGE	11 WP MAH JONG	12 Walking Group Daytime Literature	13 Gourmet	14
15	16	17	18 WPMAH JONGG	19 Walking Group	20 Busy Hands	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				