

# Nutshell

January 2025

Volume 51, Issue 5

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Board of Directors/ Executive Committee

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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

## Appointed Officers

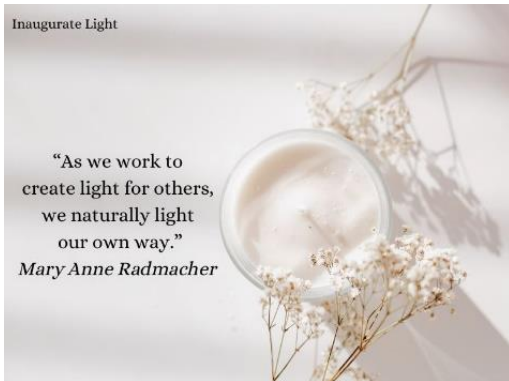
Sue Ann Lurcott	Parliamentarian
Peggy Hamric/Cindy Mazza	Public Policy
Kathryn Casey	Publicity
Brenda Van Derbur	Bylaws

## 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



Christmas Social



### Lines from Liz

As I write this edition of Lines from Liz, we are just days away from the start of 2025. As a group we have much to do to finalize plans for our February Outstanding Women Luncheon where we will recognize Nancy Agafitei as the 2025 Outstanding Woman in our Community and Teresa Hull (Cy-Fair ISD) as the Outstanding Educator. You will be receiving your luncheon invitations soon; please be prompt in returning your RSVPs and payment. Shirley Acres has been reserved for an event the night before our luncheon which means we will not be able to complete set-up until early morning on the day of the event. Please remember that your help in setting up would be greatly appreciated.

Maybelline Carpenter and her nominating committee soon will be reaching out to our membership to fill open positions for the 2025-2026 membership year. We do have a number of positions which will be coming open this year. If you are asked to fill an executive board position, please seriously consider saying yes. The executive board meets second Thursday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30, August through June (no meetings in July or December).

Do you remember at last year's OWL event, Marge Mitchell and Sylvia deHek put together and ran a Birthday Cupcake Grab Bag activity? I drew a container filled with cue cards – Questions to Help You Survive and Thrive. Periodically I shuffle through the cards and think to myself that perhaps these could be motivators for us as NHCAAUW members. So, today as I sat here at my computer, I shuffled through those cards and found what I think, with a little bit of modification, may be the perfect question for all of us to consider at the start the new year – “If you could do one thing for North Harris County AAUW, what would it be? Think about it, write about it and then share it.

Wishing you all a Happy 2025. Liz

**SAVE THE DATE  
OWL LUNCHEON  
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2025  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER**



**UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE YVONNE HO**

**Yvonne was sworn in as Judge in March 2022. She is the first Asian American ever appointed to the federal bench in Houston, Texas. She counts herself as a native Houstonian after moving here with her family in fifth grade and graduating from Klein High School in 1989.**

**Long before pursuing a legal career, Judge Ho was a classical pianist, obtaining a Bachelor of Music degree from Rice University and a Master of Music degree from the University of Southern California. After switching careers, she obtained her juris doctorate from the University of Houston Law Center, where she graduated as valedictorian of her class. During her studies Judge Ho received a P.E.O. Scholars award from AAUW national.**

**Judge Ho has been married for 27 years to Allen Rice. They have a son Nicholas who is 24. She has a personal connection to NHC AAUW: her mother-in-law is the late Marjorie Rice, a longtime and devoted member of the organization.**

## **OUTSTANDING WOMAN COMMUNITY SERVICE**



**Nancy Agafitei**

**Nancy received a Ph.D. in Entomology from the University of Illinois and a master's in library science from Dominican University. She worked 25 years for Harris County Public Library, retiring as Librarian of Barbara Bush branch. In retirement she served on community boards such as Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts, the Barbara Bush Library Friends, and the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center. Currently, she serves as the President of Spring Interfaith Council, where volunteers work together to promote understanding among diverse faith communities.**

## OUTSTANDING WOMAN EDUCATION



**Teresa Hull**

**Teresa began her career as a middle school social studies teacher before being promoted to assistant principal and director of instruction. In 2005, she entered district leadership, serving as a director, assistant, and associate superintendent, and eventually named CFISD's chief of staff in 2012. Her achievements include organizing planning committees for two successful bond referendums, as well as developing multi-layered safety and security plan. She and her husband Bob have three grown sons.**

## 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](mailto:kcaseytx@hotmail.com)), include your name, phone number, email address, and the name of your subdivision. Let's get started.



## GOURMET NEWS



Many thanks to Sylvia de Hek and Carla Moore for arranging a beautiful Christmas lunch at Mezzanotte's Restaurant. Please join us on Friday January 10<sup>th</sup> to welcome the Chinese New Year at Oriental Garden Restaurant 16744 Champion Forest Drive. Contact Marge Mitchell ([mitchellfamilytx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mitchellfamilytx@sbcglobal.net)) for more information.

## BRANCH NEWS

**THURSDAY JANUARY 16**

**10:00 AM**

**HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

**18334 Stuebner Airline Rd.**

Please join us for our monthly branch meeting. Jennifer Reitmeyer from Child Advocates of Montgomery will speak about her grant she received from us. She used the grant money to work with young women enrolled in the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program to understand and identify human trafficking.

## TRAVELMANIA NEWS

TUESDAY JANUARY 21

1:00

ST. DUNSTAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

14301 Stuebner Airline Rd.

Greeter: Marge Mitchell

Hostesses: Claudia Gallagher and Brenda Van Derbur



Back by popular demand is Jo Nan Carr who will be speaking about her adventures in Scotland. She was in Scotland for two weeks. Because this was her first visit to the country, she began week one with an overview of the top tourist check-off sites. It was the second week that was spectacular. She is eager to tell us about this fabulous, elegant estate where creativity and nature blended.







## *AAUW North Harris County*

*October 20, 2024*

Dear Friend of the Community,

Please join us as we proudly celebrate the 51<sup>st</sup> 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

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

#### FEBRUARY 22, 2025 DONOR FORM

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

250 ANTICIPATED GUESTS

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](mailto: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.)

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

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

Name of Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY SOCIAL  
WEDNESDAY, January 8  
(4:30-6:30)  
Campioni's Restaurant Bar  
13850 Cutten Rd.**

### **BUSY HANDS**

Busy Hands meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday (1/17) 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

January 27

the 4<sup>th</sup> MONDAY OF THE MONTH via ZOOM.

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](mailto:mmcveigh@kleinisd.net) or [mom4grandmom8@yahoo.com](mailto:mom4grandmom8@yahoo.com)

## Daytime Lit

Thursday January 9

The Indigo Girl

By Natasha Boyd

For more details contact Mary Quinn ([marygquinn@yahoo.com](mailto:marygquinn@yahoo.com))

## The Walking Group



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

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

Lit Light will meet again  
January 24  
at 10 am Panera Bread, 8203 Louetta  
Rd.

Contact Mary Quinn  
([marygquinn@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:djointex@yahoo.com)



### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

<b>Judy Stacy</b>	<b>1/1</b>
<b>Jeanne Henderson</b>	<b>1/2</b>
<b>Carol Hug</b>	<b>1/2</b>
<b>Anne Grace</b>	<b>1/10</b>
<b>Ida Spearman</b>	<b>1/11</b>
<b>Jacqueline Webster</b>	<b>1/19</b>
<b>Lena Habiby</b>	<b>1/24</b>
<b>Cris Fleck</b>	<b>1/26</b>
<b>Mary McVeigh</b>	<b>1/31</b>



## January 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 Walking Group	3	4
5	6	7	8 WP MAH JONG	9 Walking Group Daytime Literature Board Meeting	10 Gourmet	11
12	13	14 DAYTIME BRIDGE	15 NATIONAL MAH JONGG WPPMAH JONGG	16 BRANCH MEETING	17 Busy Hands	18
19	20	21 Travelmania	22 WPPMAH JONGG	23 Walking Group BUNCO	24 Lit Light	25
26	27 PRIME TIME LIT	28 SCREEN SAVORS	29 WP MAH JONG	30 Walking Group	31	