

# Nutshell

**November 2024**

**Volume 51, Issue 3**

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Katherine Crocker	VP Programs
Gayla Baker	VP Membership
Diane Webb	VP Membership
Darcy Mingoia	VP Fellowship Fund
Mary Smith	VP Fellowship Fund
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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**

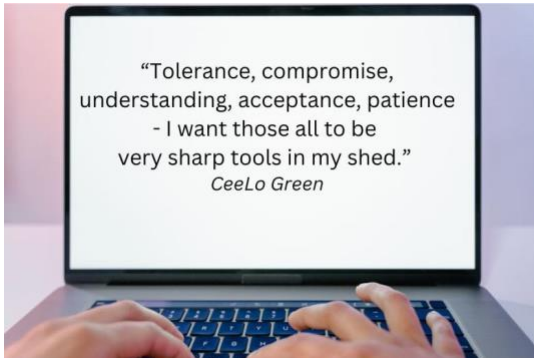
Sue Ann Lurcott	Parliamentarian
Peggy Hamric/Cindy Mazza	Public Policy
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Brenda Van Derbur	By Laws

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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 November 2024



I don't know how you all are feeling in this wind down to the 2024 hurricane season, the 2024 election cycle - really, 2024 in general. As for me I am feeling that the tools in our various sheds - national, state, local community, home and self just might need a little sharpening. From me, personally, I apologize if I have brought anger, anxiety, frustraion, unhappiness to any of you. NHC AAUW has always been my "safe place" and that is what I wish for it to be for all of you. That being said, I will confess that I have already violated both AAUW national and state directives which ask that I lead each newsletter with news and suggestions first from National AAUW and then from Texas AAUW. So, that being confessed .....

Did you know that national AAUW awards and administers over \$6M in fellowships and grants each year to hundreds of women in the US and internationally? Our 2025 OWL Luncheon Keynote Speaker, Yvonne Ho, is a recipient of one of those grants. We will be telling you more about Yvonne as the OWL luncheon approaches.

AAUW Texas is encouraging each branch in Texas to work on receiving the 5-Star rating - North Harris County is well on its way to receiving this 5-Star status this memberhsip year. One way you can help us earn this recognition is to become a member of AAUW's *Legacy Circle*. AAUW's Legacy Circle acknowledges donors who have included AAUW National in their estate planning with a planned gift. PLEASE note that the Legacy Circle does not recognize planned gifts to AAUW state or local branches. There is no minimum amount you are required to donate to qualify as a Legacy Circle member. You are not required to disclose your donation amount. All Legacy Cirlcle members receive a special Legacy Circle pin designed by Swarovski exclusively for AAUW as a tangible symbol of their generosity and commitment. Planned gifts include: Bequests, Retirement Plan assets, Life Insurance beneficiary designations, and/or charitable gift annuities. More information is available at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/support-aauw/leave-a-legacy/>

As many of you are aware, long-time member and friend Mary Gubert has been hospitalized following complications after a delicate cardiac surgery. She currently is a patient at HCA Cypress Hospital, located at Highway 290 and Cypress. She is in room 2102. If you are interested in being a regular weekend or evening visitor, please let me know. We are trying to provide companionship at times her daughter and her husband might not be able to be in attendance.

In closing, please remember that your auction donations, help, and support are needed to make our 2025 Outstanding Women Luncheon a success.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Liz

## WHAT DOES AAUW NATIONAL DO?

AAUW operates at both the national and local branch levels, each with distinct roles and responsibilities.

### AAUW National

- **Policy Advocacy:** Focuses on national issues affecting women and girls, such as education equity, pay equity, and reproductive rights.
  - We coordinate our Public Policy Committees, participate in coalition work and partner with other prominent National organizations to raise awareness about our policy priorities (such as the YWCA for our Gen Z Town Hall in Philadelphia).
  - AAUW National provides monthly opportunities for cross-state collaboration and information sharing between our public policy chairs. We've been sharing training resources on voter engagement this summer & fall, and will be providing peer-to-peer capacity-building trainings for members who want to get more engaged in legislative advocacy (after the election!).
  - In addition to supporting the work branches and states are doing in-state, the national policy team will also be sharing state-by-state data on the pay gap and providing targeted actions that our members can take to support federal solutions.
  
- **Subject Matter Expertise:** We have historically produced in-depth studies on topics like the gender pay gap and women in leadership roles.
  - While we haven't produced reports recently due to limited funding - we have done high level analysis of pay gap data recently released. We are frequently asked to comment on topics related to pay equity, student loan debt and other issues related to gender equity. You can see our recently updated page on Latinas and the pay gap for example here: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/latinas-and-the-pay-gap/>
  - We have tens of thousands of social media followers across all platforms and have well over 1million website viewers - ensuring that our brand remains prominent and relevant. Gloria has been invited to White House events on at least three occasions recently.

On a Global level – CEO Gloria Blackwell is AAUW's representative to the UN - and our work in this capacity provides great reputational value related to global gender equity work.

**Salary Negotiation and Financial Literacy Training:** Offers training and resources for women to develop skills to be financially empowered.

- In particular our Work Smart, Start Smart and Money Smart trainings provide valuable resources and tools for women to become economically empowered. Nationally we work with organizations such as the HBCU Career Center, Tri Delta, Coca Cola Foundation, Finra Foundation, SAGE and others to bring these trainings to thousands of women across the country. These trainings were developed and are updated and managed by the National office. They have been independently evaluated by two separate entities and continually receive very high ratings from participants.

**Fellowships & Grants:** We award and administer over \$6M in fellowships and grants each year to hundreds of women in the US and Internationally.

- We also connect our members and branches to these awardees and alumnae and have an Alumnae Relations team charged with growing and maintaining relationships with our thousands of distinguished Alumnae.

**Membership Services:** Provides support and resources for local branches and members, including access to national networks and events

- We host all [aauw.net](http://aauw.net) websites, process dues, support 990 filings, and maintain our history and globally recognized brand. Without AAUW National - AAUW branches would instead be independently organized entities who would not be networked with one another or have the ability to utilize the AAUW name.

In essence, while AAUW National sets the strategic direction and focuses on broader issues, local branches implement programs and initiatives that directly benefit their local communities. Together, our aim is to work towards the common goal of advancing gender equity.

Katrina Sun Breese, AAUW Senior Director of Institutional Advancement  
October 15, 2024

## ELECTION NEWS

[ballotpedia.org](https://ballotpedia.org)

ballotpedia.org is a great tool. All you have to do is put in your address in the “sample ballot” form and you will receive a complete ballot of candidates with information about them.

Cindy Mazza  
Public Policy Chair

## BECOME A TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST

IT ONLY TAKES TWO MINUTES!

Join AAUW in urging Congress to improve and expand legislation protecting our access to education, economic security and civil rights. Click below to sign up and make a difference today!

<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

If you wish to become an activist locally, please fill in the information below, and send it to Cindy Mazza ([cfmazza@yahoo.com](mailto:cfmazza@yahoo.com)). You will be placed on a mailing list to receive local action letters that can easily be sent to our legislators, expressing actions on local bills. Nothing will be sent to your legislators without your approval.

First Name  
Last Name  
Street Address  
Postal Code  
City  
Email



Please join us at the home of

Mary Jane Petrick

8611 Sterling Gate Circle

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Time: 5:00—7:00 PM

Save the Date!  
NHC AAUW's  
Outstanding Women Luncheon  
February 22, 2025



Our Hostesses:  
Mary Jane Petrick  
Bonnie Flynn  
Megan Franks  
Mary Gubert  
Mary Smith  
Liz Wilson  
Judy Woods

It's time to go shopping, hunt  
for those special items that  
folks will want to bid on at the

**2025 OWL**

(Outstanding Women Luncheon)  
This year we would really prefer  
"stand alone" items.

RSVP: Mary Smith 281-639-7701 by November 4th



*AAUW North Harris County*  
**OUTSTANDING WOMEN AWARDS LUNCHEON**



**FEBRUARY 22, 2025**      **DONOR FORM**  
250 ANTICIPATED GUESTS

\*Deadline to be included i

**DONOR INFORMATION**

Name of business or Individual:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Phone: Email Address:

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

Yes

No

**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 Quinn  
5215 Westminister Court  
Houston, TX 77069-3335  
281-5869465

**Our mission**

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

[marygquinn@yahoo.com](mailto:marygquinn@yahoo.com)

## TRAVELMANIA NEWS

Shirl and Gordon Stowe presented a fascinating program in October about their trip to Brazil in search of bromeliads. Many thanks to Anais Watsky and Sue Kikis for this fabulous Halloween themed program. Just a reminder Travelmania will not meet in November or December but we look forward to seeing everyone again in January to hear Jo Nan Carr talk about her adventures in Scotland.



Shirl, Gordon, Anais, and Sue



Bromeliads for all attendees



Sharon

## Gourmet News



Thank you to Noemi and Lin for a fun September trip to Galveston! Twenty-four members enjoyed The Bryan Museum and lunch at Wille G's. Gayla Baker is planning a November outing of lunch And shopping. First stop India Restaurant on Richmond then shopping at the Harwin outlet!

Invitations go out on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Email Marge Mitchell for more information.

[mitchellfamilytx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mitchellfamilytx@sbcglobal.net)



## BRANCH NEWS

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21

### GIVING THANKS

We will meet at the Emergency Services District 16 (Klein Fire Department) Administration Complex at 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd., just south of Spring Cypress.

**10 am: Social Time**

**10:30 am: Monthly Meeting and Program**

**“The miracle of gratitude is that it shifts your perception to such an extent that it changes the world you see.”- Dr. Robert Holden**

As in the past few years, we are devoting our 2024 November program to gratitude and have invited two grant winners to speak. Learning about the difference we are making in our community is a favorite topic among our members.

**Vanessa Coronado:** Vanessa will be speaking about her program designed to allow 10–14-year-olds to have hands on experience in STEM technologies and to increase their awareness of opportunities and classes that await them in high school.

**Dr. Kirsten Allman:** Kirsten is Executive Director of Special Programs for Klein ISD. She will be speaking about her program, Empowering Students to Flourish: The Bridge Center Bistro

### Members in the News



Blaire Calabro received a “Hand from Heaven” in Mah Jongg. She was dealt a winning hand without needing to pick any additional tiles. Way to go Blaire!!

**JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY SOCIAL  
WEDNESDAY, November 6**

**(5:00-7:00)**

**Party with a Purpose**

**Mary Jane Petrick**

**8611 Sterling Gate Circle**

**Donations needed for our silent auction for  
the OWL luncheon.**

**RSVP Mary Smith 281-639-7701**

**BUSY HANDS**

Busy Hands meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday (11/15)  
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

the 4<sup>th</sup> MONDAY (11/25) OF THE MONTH via ZOOM.

This month's book is Wandering Stars by Tommy Orange 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**  
**Thursday November 7**  
**Mrs. Winchester's**  
**Biographer by Deanna Lynn**  
**Stettin**

For more details, check with either Mary Gubert or Mary Quinn  
at [marygubert.mg@gmail.com](mailto:marygubert.mg@gmail.com) or [marygquinn@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:geniekline@aol.com).

Lit Light will meet  
Friday, November 22  
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)



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Jo Ann Shaw	11/5
Donna McDaniel	11/7
Lola Kramer	11/8
Jenny Wike	11/14
Lynn Hagen	11/22
Peggy Field	11/23
Cindy Mazza	11/24
Mary Smith	11/26

## November 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6 WP MAH JONGG  PARTY WITH A PURPOSE	7 Walking Group  Daytime Literature	8 Gourmet	9
10	11	12 DAYTIME BRIDGE	13 WPMAH JONGG  NATIONAL MAH JONGG	14 World Today Walking Group	15 Busy Hands	16
17	18	19	20 WPMAH JONGG	21 Branch Meeting	22	23
24	25 Prime Time Lit	26 Screen Savors	27 WPMAH JONGG	28	29	30