

### *Inside this Issue:*

Meet the Fellows	p 2-3
Summer Social	p 3
Save the Date	p 3
Program Ideas	p 3
Request	p 3
President's	p 4
Message	p 4
April Meeting	p 5
Recap	p 5
Policy Update	p 6-7
Named Gift	p 8
Honorees	p 8
Honorary Life	p 8
Members	p 8
Farewell Soon	p 9
Schedule of State	p 9
Meetings	p 9
Branch Fundraising	p 10
Kendra Scott	p 10
Fundraiser	p 10
Newsletter	p 11
Changes	p 11
Membership	p 11
Renewals	p 11
Yearbook	p 12
Deadlines	p 12
New Member Bio	p 13
Interest Groups	p 14-16
Renewal Form	p 17

### Items for the Summer Newsletter

**DUE Wednesday,**  
**July 23, 2025**

**Cathy Werner**

[cathv.werner3586@gmail.com](mailto:cathv.werner3586@gmail.com)

## May Program Meeting

### *Meet the Fellows*

When: Saturday, May 10, 10:00 a.m.  
Where: Balcones Country Club, [8600 Balcones Club Dr.](#)  
Cost: \$35.00  
Contact: Joyce Pulich, [joycepulich@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joycepulich@sbcglobal.net)

Please join us to meet the 2025-26 fellowship recipients. Our May meeting, when we are introduced to the fellows, is always an exciting and enlightening event for our branch. Hearing from these brilliant young women as they discuss their research validates the importance of our mission and inspires us to keep up the good work.

Nine doctoral candidates submitted applications, personal statements, and reference letters for the 2025-2026 academic year. The fellowship team of **Nancy Andren, Carole Holahan, Elizabeth Newell, Joyce Pulich, Ruth Rubio, Mary Ellen Scribner, and Janet Widoff** reviewed the documents and met on April 9 to share their evaluations. The team decided to award three fellowships for \$4,200 each. Half will be made available for the Fall 2025 semester after enrollment verification. The other half will be available in the Spring 2026 semester. All three recipients have agreed to talk about their research at our May branch meeting – two in person and one via Zoom.

The May meeting is also when we induct the new officers for the 2025-26 program year. The new officers include **Shirlene Justice** and **Terry Whaley**, Co-Presidents; **Nancy Ennis** and **Lynn Gambrill**, Co-Membership Vice Presidents; and **Kathy Stewart**, Co-Programs Vice President.

Lunch will be meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, and salad, or an all-vegetable plate. Dessert will be assorted mini desserts. Beverages only (\$10) can be selected in lieu of lunch. Please RSVP no later than Friday, May 2nd. Be sure to include your lunch preference in your reply. We submit our lunch orders to Balcones Country Club before the event. Cancellations after May 2nd may be charged the lunch fee. Payment for lunch can be made by cash or check upon arrival.

# Meet the AAUW Austin Branch Fellows for 2025-2026

## Vicki Deng

Vicki Deng is a Ph.D. candidate in Molecular Bioscience. Her dissertation is titled “Bioinspired Materials and Cellular Innovation: Lessons from a Giant Single-Celled Algae.” She explores the unique biology of the single-cell algae, *Caulerpa*. Upon injury, *Caulerpa* secretes a gelatinous substance that hardens into a protective plug. Vicki discovered a novel enzyme that forms this wound plug, laying the groundwork for developing algal-derived adhesives as sustainable medical biomaterials. As a first-generation college and Ph.D. student from an immigrant family, she has experienced firsthand the barriers underrepresented individuals face in STEM. Mentorship has been key to her success, and she is committed to paying it forward. She plans to apply her interdisciplinary expertise to develop bioinspired solutions for climate change and food scarcity. She aims to translate fundamental scientific discoveries into real-world applications by working at a national lab or company. Her three most outstanding achievements are:



- (1) breaking barriers to be the first in her family to attend college and graduate school while serving as primary caregiver for her immigrant family;
- (2) leadership in collaborative scientific discovery illustrated by uncovering the process behind *Caulerpa*’s wound healing;
- (3) commitment to mentoring the next generation and making science accessible by designing and teaching science courses for middle schoolers, and winning the Planet Forward Award for her journalism on scientific research.

## Paula Lezama

Paula Lezama is a candidate in the Latin American Studies department working on her dissertation titled “Conocencia: Women’s Demonic Lifeways and Autonomous Social Reproduction in the Colombian Black Pacific.” She first encountered *Conocencia* when attempting to visit their territory as a volunteer in 2015. She uses qualitative and quantitative methods to understand rural Afro-descendant women’s experiences. She wants to pursue a dual career path as a faculty member in a research university while continuing her advocacy work with Rios Unidos and similar grassroots initiatives, contributing to the global fight for racial justice and gender equity. She considers her three most significant achievements to be:



- (1) achieving social mobility through education and providing her children with better opportunities;
- (2) her journey of healing trauma and facilitating the healing of family;
- (3) building meaningful connections with grassroots organizations grounded in empathy, mutual care, and commitment to social justice.

## Carolyn Watkins

Carolyn Watkins is a doctoral candidate in the Chemical Engineering department. "Engineering Sequence-defined Peptomers for Targeted Chemotherapeutic Codelivery" is the title of her dissertation. Her project aims to improve current drug delivery mechanisms for small molecule chemotherapeutics to limit off-target toxicity and associated side effects. Most cancer patients undergo combination therapy, where multiple types of drugs are administered on different dosing schedules. Her new technology enables more targeted delivery to improve drug bioavailability, reduce side effects, and allow for coadministration, decreasing patient burden and promoting adherence.



Carolyn plans to pursue a career in the biotechnology or pharmaceutical industry, hopefully in cancer research. Outside of research, she hopes to use her position in the industry to advocate for improving general treatment accessibility.

Her three most outstanding achievements thus far are:

- (1) receiving a National Science Foundation cancer research grant;
- (2) mentoring four undergraduate students who are going on to achieve great things;
- (3) finding balance in graduate school to pursue non-academic passions such as playing ice hockey in an adult league and volunteering as a run club pacer.



## Summer Social SAVE the DATE

Mark your calendars. The tentative date for the Summer Social will be Sunday, August 3, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Balcones Country Club.

## Request from the Program Committee

The Program Committee will meet later this month to begin planning the program for our 2025-2026 Austin Branch meetings. If you have suggestions for topics or speakers, please contact Sarah Averill at [sjaverill63@gmail.com](mailto:sjaverill63@gmail.com) by May 30th. The dates and tentative topics will be published in the 2025-2026 yearbook for members to review and use for their own planning purposes. We look forward to another year of thought-provoking and interesting programs.



## Message from the President

In Texas, May is the end of spring and the beginning of summer – we all know that the heat is just around the corner. May is also the end of one year and the beginning of another year for the leadership of the AAUW Austin Branch. This will be my last newsletter as President. I know that our new Co-Presidents, **Shirlene Justice** and **Terry Whaley**, will bring a fresh take on the leadership of the branch, and I look forward to what they have in store for us. Please welcome them and help them when you can.



For me, it has been a wonderful year of camaraderie, learning, engagement, and bringing back meaning to my life. I cherished the opportunity to work with a great group of women and looked forward to every meeting. It always amazes me the amount of passion given to the branch's work.

I want to leave with a note of tremendous gratitude for the members of the 2024-25 Board of Directors, both elected and appointed, of the AAUW Austin Branch. This group of women worked very hard and put their souls into their jobs as they planned and carried out the monthly programs, planned and managed fund raising activities, kept track of the membership, made sure the treasury was balanced, organized and managed the interest groups, kept us abreast of news and activities through monthly newsletters, ensured that we followed our bylaws and policies, kept us updated on state and national issues and organized events to affect policy change, maintained official records of our meetings, and other duties as needed. I can't thank these women enough for the blood, sweat, and tears they've shed in supporting our branch. This is what it takes to have a vibrant branch like ours. I hope that more members will get involved in strengthening this support to keep our branch active and alive.

I also want to thank the members who attend the monthly branch meetings. Thank you so much for attending the monthly programs and the accompanying meetings. This is at the heart of what we do: learning new things, getting together with other members, making new friends, and maintaining a meaningful branch.

I am so sorry I cannot attend the May meeting to hand over the torch to Shirlene and Terry. My practice grandson (actually my nephew, who was born at a time when I was ready for a grandchild, but didn't have any yet) is graduating from the University of Oklahoma with his bachelor's degree in computer engineering, and I will be in Norman, Oklahoma, to celebrate his graduation. So this is my last official communication to the membership. But I may still see you at a meeting here and there. Although I've moved out of the Austin area, I will still try to make a few meetings to see my friends, who will forever be in my heart.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your president during the past year. It has been an honor and a privilege for me. I wish for all of you the best life has to offer. And my last wish is that the AAUW Austin Branch Centennial Scholarship will reach the \$15,000 goal for endowment by the May meeting. Sorry, but that's my swan song! Thank you again. Love you all!



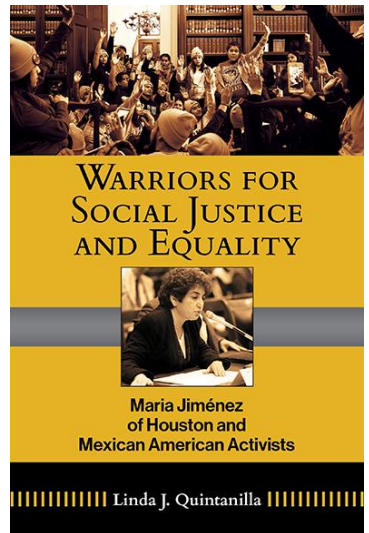
## April Meeting Recap

Submitted by Joyce Pulich

At the April program meeting, branch member Dr. Linda Quintanilla talked about her book, *Warriors for Social Justice and Equality*, and the long process to get it published. The book is based partly on interviews with Mexican American activist Maria Jimenez, where Linda learned how Maria came to work for social justice. Originally, Linda had titled her book "Soldiers for Social Justice," but Maria suggested changing "Soldiers" to "Warriors," and Linda agreed because the word soldier has a military connotation.

Linda's thesis is that the fight for social justice promoted equality. She explained the history of discrimination against Mexican Americans since the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Rodriguez case in 1897 gave Mexican American immigrants the right to be naturalized even if they lacked education. Linda talked about the lynching of Mexican Americans – including children – by white vigilantes in the early part of the twentieth century. In a 1954 case, *Hernandez v. Texas*, the Supreme Court extended 14th Amendment protections to Latinos.

Maria Jimenez was born in Mexico but moved to Texas as a child. She became an activist to help immigrants become citizens. She was very concerned about the militarization of the border. She worked to get justice for the family of 14-year-old Esequiel Hernandez, a shepherd and U.S. citizen who was killed by Marines in 1997.



Linda used Critical Race Theory (CRT) and conflict theory to prepare her dissertation for a doctorate in educational leadership and cultural studies. In 2006, she began working with the North Texas Press to publish her dissertation. She sent the publisher a draft in 2017 but did not hear back for two years. Other delays followed, which were associated with copy editing. In late 2024, she was given two weeks to create an index and make corrections. The book was published in February 2025. Copies of the books can be ordered at [www.tamupress.com](http://www.tamupress.com), by calling 1-800-826-8911, or by scanning the QR code. There is a 30% discount using **code 3B** at checkout. Linda leads The Central Book Group, and they will discuss her book at the June meeting.



Larger than average crowd attended the meeting featuring branch member Dr. Linda Quintanilla



## Policy Update from the Public Policy Committee

Submitted by Public Policy Chair Anita Knight

Across the country, people are organizing, speaking out, and standing up for freedom.

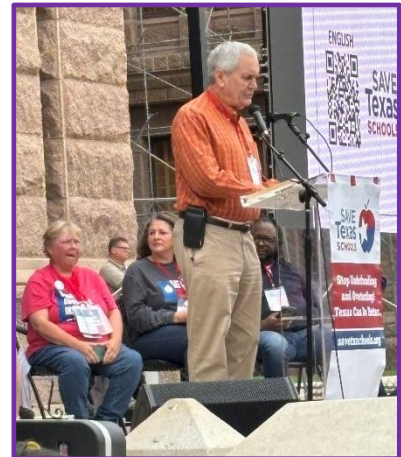
At the April 12 branch meeting, I asked who had attended the April 5<sup>th</sup> public school and/or the HANDS OFF rally at the Texas Capitol, one of an estimated 1300 rallies nationwide. At least half a dozen of our members were there, along with approximately 3000, as counted for the public school rally! I met several women I know in the morning, when the crowd was smaller and audio was better, but it was all great!



Above: Activists from across the state let their voices be heard.

Left: Dobie Middle School mariachi band

Right: Congressman Lloyd Doggett addresses the crowd.



Bottom Left: Congressman Greg Casar



Bottom Right: Texas Representatives Erin Zwiener, Donna Howard, and Sarah Eckhart waiting and trying to stay warm.





## Now What? To which organizations do you belong, donate to, or follow?

**AAUW Mission & Action** - defending and promoting the value of higher education, diversity, equity, and inclusion principles, and upholding our mission to advance equity for women and girls.

**[ACLU \(American Civil Liberties Union\)](#)** – fighting tirelessly to defend our rights and civil liberties, and busier having filed over 30 lawsuits (and counting) against President Trump's attacks on immigrants, transgender people, free speech, and more.

**[BJC \(Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty\)](#)** – fighting Christian Nationalism

**[CCL \(Citizens Climate Lobby\)](#)**

**[CITIZEN.ORG \(Public Citizen\)](#)** – filing nine active lawsuits (so far) against the regime since Trump returned to power.

**[EMILY'S LIST](#)** - Recruiting, training, and supporting Democratic pro-choice women running for office up and down the ballot. Because when women win, we all win.

**[ERA COALITION](#)** – unacceptable that even with the 19th Amendment, women's right to vote is still being undermined by the SAVE Act. This is a stark reminder of how urgently we need the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) recognized and implemented.

**[EVERY TEXAN](#)** - researches, analyzes, and advocates for public policies to expand equitable access to quality health care, and food

**[GIFFORDS PAC](#)** – courage to fight gun violence

**[LWV \(League of Women Voters\)](#)** - working tirelessly to advocate for all Texans this legislative session and beyond

**[PFAW \(People for the American Way\)](#)** - working to protect communities from the harm caused by the MAGA agenda – from slashed services to attacks on immigrants, LGBTQ+ people, and working families.

**[PLANNED PARENTHOOD and PPTV](#)** – ensuring that Planned Parenthood patients in Texas can access quality, affordable reproductive health care and education they need, free from political attacks, legislative barriers, and with the support of state and local governments

**[SIERRA CLUB LONESTAR CHAPTER](#)** - fighting for renewable energy, cleaner air and water, and a sustainable future for all Texans

**[TEXAS IMPACT NETWORK](#)** - putting faith into action with Texas' original interfaith policy network

**[TEXAS FREEDOM NETWORK](#)** – fighting for issues important to Texans, such as the [Texas Freedom to Read Project](#).

**[WOMEN'S MARCH](#)** - mobilizing to stop the MAGA assault on our country and Constitution, across the nation, taking to the streets to defend our freedoms, our rights, and our future.

**[50501](#)** - a new grassroots political action organization aiming to protest against the policies of the Trump administration

## Action Required!

From Red, Wine, and Blue: Use this [CALLING TOOL](#) to call both your Senators today. Tell them that we will not stand for Congress passing this bill, which restricts access to voting more than any law has done before! The Federal **SAVE** Act would require a passport or a birth certificate that matches your current name, in person, to register to vote or to update your voter registration for any reason. It would also end online and mail-in voter registration and voter registration drives. It would keep tens of millions of us from voting in future elections.

**Per AAUW-TX**, there are also Texas versions of the **SAVE** Act. HB 5337 was heard and left pending in the Texas House Elections Committee on April 24th. It is the same as SB 16, the Senate version that already passed out of the Senate. Call your legislator today and tell them that SB 16 & HB 5337 hurt married women. Over 12 million Texans don't have the necessary documents readily available—staff in the Chair Representative. Shaheen's office cited work with the Secretary of State to assure this will not be a problem.

## 2025 Named Gift Honorees

Being designated as a Named Gift Honoree is a special honor in AAUW. In appreciation of their service, the award is reserved for members who have made extraordinary gifts of time and hard work to the Branch and AAUW. The recipients and some of their contributions are listed below. The selection committee, consisting of chair **Linda Welsh** and members **Resa Dunn, Berta Lloyd, and Mary Ellen Scribner**, is delighted to present this year's Named Gift Honorees.

### Soon Flynn

Without a Co-President, Soon cheerfully took on the role of Austin Branch President. On top of that, she served as the yearbook editor. She coordinated with ACC to create the Centennial Scholarship endowment. With incredible generosity, Soon has contributed to our branch in countless other ways, with both her time and money. Soon brightened our meetings with roses, fabulous hats, and her positive nature.

### Jackie Hardee

As a Voter Registrar Extraordinaire for several counties, Jackie has encouraged our members to become registrars. She has presented League of Women Voters civic lessons to area high school students, been very active in public policy, served as Program Co-Chair for a highly successful program year, coordinated with Balcones Country Club to ensure we are well served, helped with leading meetings, and done numerous behind-the-scenes activities to help our branch be effective. Jackie also filled the role of Branch President several times this year when Soon had other obligations.

### Joyce Pulich

As a long-time member of AAUW, Joyce has consistently given her time and treasure while being active in interest groups. Joyce has successfully led the Funds Group with her co-chair, Brenda Hahne, and consistently fronts the candy sales money each year to purchase the product. In these turbulent times in higher education, she has served as the chair of the UT Fellowships Committee, which has been very demanding, including meetings with UT lawyers due to changes in DEI policies and a new application process. Despite Joyce's many volunteer activities for AAUW and other community groups, she takes the time to acknowledge members' contributions to AAUW with a handwritten letter.

## Congratulations Nancy Andren and Naomi Baker Honorary Life Members

We were recently notified that Nancy Andren and Naomi Baker, two of our branch members, have been awarded the status of Honorary Life members of AAUW. These two women have committed to our mission and goals for fifty years. This is quite an accomplishment and indicates the importance of our work. Congratulations, Nancy and Naomi!



## Farewell and Thank You to Soon Merz



Our dear friend and leader has moved to League City, Texas, to be closer to her family and will no longer serve as President. Under Soon's leadership, we have celebrated our 100th anniversary, navigated through some difficult political times, grown to 160 members, our interest groups are thriving, and our organization is stronger and more connected than ever. One initiative that Soon spearheaded is the ACC Centennial Endowment Fund.

One way to honor and thank Soon for her service is to contribute to the fund. We are very close to reaching our goal of \$15,000, which would be a fitting tribute to someone who has given so much to our branch. To date, we have raised 11,840.44. This includes the generous one-to-one match provided by an anonymous donor. We are there if we raise an additional \$1,579.78 and add that to the matching funds.

### How to Donate

Go to the ACC Foundation website by clicking [Make a Donation](#) to contribute. You may choose an amount or enter a different amount. Then, enter your credit card information. Last and most important, you will *Choose your Designation* from the dropdown menu. **IMPORTANT:** Select *AAUW Austin Centennial Endowment*, then *Give Now*.

If you want to write a check, you may download, print, and complete the [DONATION CARD](#) and mail it with your check to:

**Austin Community College Foundation**  
6101 Highland Campus Dr.  
Building 3000, Suite 4270  
Austin, TX 78752

## Schedule of State Meetings

You are invited to attend the AAUW Texas meetings. They are all held via Zoom. Here is the schedule for May. If you plan to attend, please email the contact for each meeting so they can plan for your participation, and the Zoom link will be sent to you.

**Contact the state leader for the Zoom link.**

**All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.**

Thursday, May 8 – Public Policy

Georgia Kimmel, [gwkimmel@juno.com](mailto:gwkimmel@juno.com)

Tuesday, May 13 – Programs/Funds

Cheri Butler, [cbutler0923@gmail.com](mailto:cbutler0923@gmail.com)

Monday, May 19 – Finance/Membership

Vickie Natale [vnat01@gmail.com](mailto:vnat01@gmail.com)

Diane ClaiborneCarr [dcarr23.woman@gmail.com](mailto:dcarr23.woman@gmail.com)

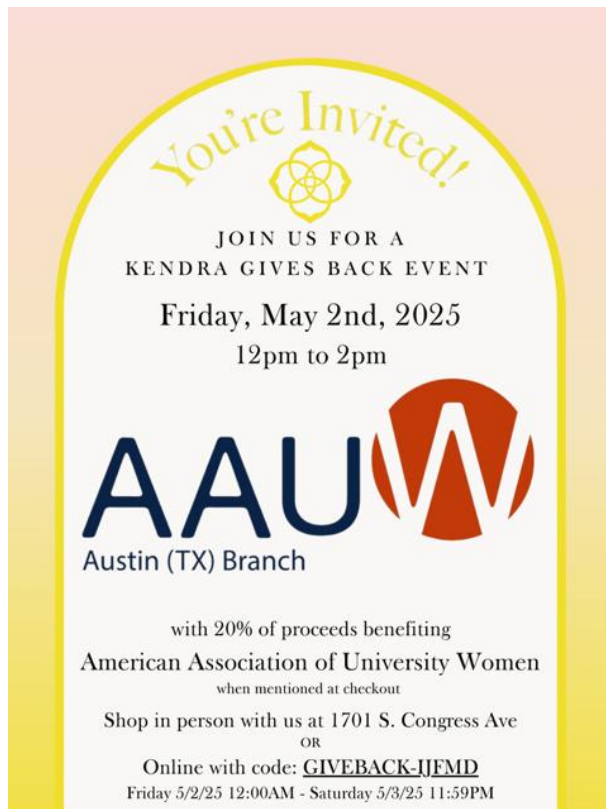
## Branch Fundrai\$ing News 2024-25

Submitted by Joyce Pulich

The funds team will continue to sell handmade greeting cards at branch meetings. Be sure to collect your spare change and bring your jar or bag of change to the meetings. The change proceeds stay with the branch.

Save May 2 on your calendar for a Kendra Scott event at the South Congress store. The store will donate 20% of its profits to our organization. The revenue will go to the AAUW Austin Centennial Scholarship. You can buy Mother's Day gifts while supporting the branch.

If you have ideas about how we can raise money for the AAUW mission, please contact Joyce ([joycepulich@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joycepulich@sbcglobal.net)) or Brenda ([bwhahne@gmail.com](mailto:bwhahne@gmail.com)). Let us know if you want to join the fun fundraising team.



## Mother's Day Gifts Sold Here

A Fundraising Event with  
Kendra Scott  
1701 South Congress

Friday, May 2, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Can't make it to the store?

Shop online at [kendrascott.com](https://kendrascott.com)

May 2, 12:00 a.m. – May 3, 11:59 a.m.

Use Give Back Code: **GIVEBACK-IJFMD**  
AAUW receives 20% of your purchase

# Newsletter Changes

Submitted by Shirlene Justice

This is my last newsletter. It has been a fun and rewarding journey, sometimes challenging and frustrating, but always satisfying. I have learned so much about our mission, our branch, and all the remarkable members who dedicate so much of themselves to solving problems. I volunteered to do the newsletter, thinking I would spend a few hours a month typing without much thought to what I would put on paper. It has been so much more than words. I have shared in the joy and sorrow of so many amazing women. What seems like a simple volunteer job has truly been transformative for me.

I sincerely thank everyone who helped get the newsletter from my computer to yours every month. **Mary Ellen Scribner** and **Anita Knight** are copy editors extraordinaire. I learned many grammar lessons from them that I should have learned in elementary school. Is that what they mean by lifelong learning? Thanks to **Cindy Darilek**, who put the sometimes massive PDF into Constant Contact and ensured everything was appropriately linked. And of course, with her ever-ready phone camera, **Marsha Endahl-Kramer** who is always there to capture our important moments. I also want to thank **Pam Watson** for inspiring me to volunteer for this role. She taught me how to do a newsletter.

Your summer newsletter will come out the last week of July. **Cathy Werner** will be the new editor. It will have a new look, as Cathy will add her own spin to the delivery of the news you receive each month.

## Membership Renewals Are Underway

It's that time of year again — renewal time. You should have already received your personal renewal notification from AAUW National, so check your inbox. You should be receiving an email from [memberinfo@aauw.org](mailto:memberinfo@aauw.org). The subject line will be AAUW Membership Renewal, followed by your membership number.



This email includes a personalized invoice and a link to renew online. Grab your credit or debit card, click the link, and you will be done in minutes.

For those wanting to send a check, mailing instructions are included at the bottom of the email you received from [memberinfo@aauw.org](mailto:memberinfo@aauw.org). Print out the form, write a check to AAUW Austin, and mail it with the renewal form and any updates to **Lynn Gambrill, 1102 Quaker Ridge Dr, Austin, TX 78746**. You can also use the form at the end of this newsletter or click below.

**Honorary Life Members** in recognition of fifty years of membership do not owe any dues. If you have any questions, please email [aauw-atxmembership@aauw.net](mailto:aauw-atxmembership@aauw.net).

Lynn Gambrill, 2025-2026 Co-Membership VP  
Nancy Ennis, 2025-2026 Co-Membership VP

**Download Renewal Form**

[HERE](#)

## Yearbook Deadlines

We have a new yearbook editor. Jackie Hardee and her team are already planning the 2025-26 yearbook. Here is the list of submission deadlines. Please note when information is due and submit it to Jackie on time. This is one way we can all help to make the job easier for the dedicated yearbook team.

Depending on your area of responsibility, please submit the following lists and information to Jackie Hardee ([jshtxtx@yahoo.com](mailto:jshtxtx@yahoo.com)) no later than **July 1**.

Incoming Executive Board • Committee and Off-board Members • AAUW TX Board • AAUW National Board • Committees and Chairs • Local Scholarship Recipients • Fellowship Recipients • Named Gift Recipients • Legacy Circle Members

In addition, the following information is also due on **July 1**.

Funds Overview • Individual Interest Group Description and Schedule • Interest Group Calendar and Rules • Membership Criteria and Dues • In Memoriam • Past President Update

Branch goals are due **July 15**.

The schedule of 2025-26 events and programs is due **August 1**.

## Interest Group Deadlines

It is time to start thinking about gathering information for the 2025-26 Branch Yearbook and Newsletter. The following information is due to **Berta Lloyd** on or before Tuesday, **July 1**.

- Name of Group
- When/Dates
- Time
- Topic/Book/Theme/Description
- Place/Location
- Hosts/Contacts/Facilitators
- Contacts/RSVP information



**PLEASE FOLLOW THE FORMAT IN THIS YEAR'S 2024-25 YEARBOOK.**

Berta will be sending email reminders to you in May and June. If you have any questions, contact Berta, [berta.lloyd@yahoo.com](mailto:berta.lloyd@yahoo.com), (206) 660-1812

Thank you for your hard work!



## New Member Profile

Submitted by Ruth Subramanian

### Linda Parker

Linda Parker grew up in Malakoff and Waxahachie, Texas, and Pueblo, Colorado. Since then, she has lived in Fort Lauderdale, Dallas, and now Austin. She graduated from high school in Pueblo in 1959 with a four-year scholarship but, regrettably, got married instead. It wasn't until 1973 that she had support for continuing her education at UT Dallas and SMU.

She belonged to the Dallas Toastmasters Club, where she served as treasurer and earned the Competent Toastmaster honor in the communications and leadership program. She also has her certified cash manager designation from the Association for Financial Professionals and served at ClubCorp in Dallas, Robert Dedman's business, owning and managing multiple country clubs and fine dining city clubs. She was responsible for investing the idle funds in the clubs' bank accounts.

Now, she is semi-retired. She makes assemblage art and sells it along with antiques and other unique finds at Uncommon Objects, an aptly named shop on Fair View St.

She has been married to Ralph (Ken) Davis, retired Air Force Lt. Col., for only nine years; during that time, they have traveled as much as possible. Linda has a daughter living in New York City who is an artist, and two daughters-in-law and their husbands with three children between the two families. They have a beautiful tuxedo cat named Bella.

Linda had been looking for a new social and service outlet. She has attended two club meetings and the mahjong and book club interest groups. She is delighted to be a part of AAUW.

Interesting fact: Linda has taxidermied two mice that Bella gifted to her.



# May and June Interest Groups

## **Art Tours**

When: Wednesday, May 7, 10:00 a.m.  
Planning Meeting and Salad Potluck  
Where: Home of Susie Angel, 220 Silver Charm Drive, Austin  
Host: Susie Angel  
Contacts: Pat Beal, [patrbeal@gmail.com](mailto:patrbeal@gmail.com),  
Terry Whaley, [whaleyterry@gmail.com](mailto:whaleyterry@gmail.com)

## **Bridge Group**

When: Second and Fourth Thursdays, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Where: Lamar Senior Activity Center, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave  
Contact: Elaine Penn, [epenn9915@gmail.com](mailto:epenn9915@gmail.com)

## **Central Book Club**

When: Monday, May 12, 10:30 a.m.  
Where: La Madeleine, 5493 Brodie Lane  
Book: *Warriors for Social Justice* by Linda Quintanilla  
Facilitator: Linda Quintanilla

When: Monday, June 9, 10:30 a.m.  
Where: La Madeleine, 5493 Brodie Lane  
Book: *The Six* by Loren Grush  
Facilitator: Anita Knight  
Contact: Linda Quintanilla, [quintalin@gmail.com](mailto:quintalin@gmail.com)

## **Contemporary Literature**

When: Monday, May 5, 7:00 p.m.  
Where: Zoom  
Book: *The Constant Rabbit* by Jasper Fforde  
Leader: Ann Berasley  
Contact: Mary Ellen Scribner, [maryescribner@gmail.com](mailto:maryescribner@gmail.com)

## **Creative Stitchery**

When: Wednesday, May 21, 11:00 a.m.  
Where: TBD  
Project: No Host Lunch  
Contact: Beverly Locklin, [bklocklin@outlook.com](mailto:bklocklin@outlook.com)

## **Culture and Cuisine**

When: Thursday, May 8, 6:30 p.m.  
Theme: Planning and Potluck  
Where: Home of Ann Gibbs, 5200 Rambling Range  
Contact: Shirlene Justice, [shirlenejustice@gmail.com](mailto:shirlenejustice@gmail.com)



April art tour host, Cis Dixon, and featured artist, Kathleen Stafford, at The Hive Community Art Center in Lakeway  
Kathleen's art is displayed at the dining room of Chez Zee. On display are watercolors, collagraphs and prints.

### **Hiking Group**

Planning, followed by a Hike

Hike: Faerie Trail at Zilker Botanical Gardens

Tickets must be purchased in advance; seniors are \$5, and members are free. <https://shorturl.at/6QHGd>

When: Saturday, May 17, 10:00 a.m.

Where: Home Kate DiPronio, 1701 Spyglass Drive, Unit 8

Contacts: Cathy Werner, [cathy.werner3586@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.werner3586@gmail.com), Kate DiPronio, [ktee523@gmail.com](mailto:ktee523@gmail.com)

### **Friday Morning Book Review**

When: Friday, May 2, 10:00 a.m.

Where: Hyde Park Church of Christ, 310 West Avenue B

Book: *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar

Reviewer and Hostess: Ann Blumoff

Contact: Judy Reinhart, [jareinhart@att.net](mailto:jareinhart@att.net)

### **Mahjong**

When: Thursday, May 15, 1:00 -3:30 p.m.

Where: Lamar Senior Activity Center, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave

Contact: Connie Muñoz, [comunoz1@yahoo.com](mailto:comunoz1@yahoo.com)

### **Mystery Book Group**

When: Tuesday, May 27, 11:00 a.m.

Where: BJ Brewhouse, The Shops at Arbor Walk, 10515 MoPac

Topic: Author New to You

Contact: Pam Wolfe, [piwolfe@yahoo.com](mailto:piwolfe@yahoo.com)

### **Out-to-Lunch**

When: Tuesday, May 20, 11:15 a.m.

Where: Chinatown Westlake, 2712 Bee Caves Rd #124

Planner: Judy Bergman and Sue Ellen Myers

Contact: Elaine Penn, [epenn9915@gmail.com](mailto:epenn9915@gmail.com)

### **PEARS**

When: Saturday, May 17, 5:30 p.m.

Where: The Grove at Northwest Hills, 3517 N Hills Drive

Contact: Milli Stecker: [mstecker@austin.rr.com](mailto:mstecker@austin.rr.com)

### **Wine Tasters**

When: Sunday, May 18, 4:00 p.m.

What: Pool Wines

Where: Home of Ann Gibbs, 5200 Rambling Range

Hosts: Ann Gibbs and Elaine Penn

Contact: Elaine Penn, [epenn9915@gmail.com](mailto:epenn9915@gmail.com)

### **Hiking Group at St Edwards Park**



Susan Morrison, Suki Steinhauser,  
Nancy Andren, Jackie Hardee, Cathy  
Werner, Margene Beckham, Gayle  
Kanies, Ruth Subramanian, Martita



## Southwest Book Group

### Calendar Planning Meeting

When: Monday, May 12, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Where: Home of Janice Goodsell, 4200 Hofman Drive

Facilitator: Debbie Starr

Host: Janice Goodsell

Contact: Brenda Hahne, [bwhahne@gmail.com](mailto:bwhahne@gmail.com)

### June Meeting

When: Monday, June 9, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Where: TBA

Book: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

Facilitator: Cece Schubert

Host: TBA

Contact: Brenda Hahne, [bwhahne@gmail.com](mailto:bwhahne@gmail.com)



SW Book Group: Susie Angel, Mary Braunagel-Brown, Linda Gassert, Cece Schubert, Marsha Endahl-Kramer, Sylvia Garcia, Ginny Tannebring, Brenda Hahne, Sharon Babot, Susan James

## **A Lovely French Dinner Hosted by Marsha Endahl-Kramer and Anita Knight** **Les belles femmes de Culture and Cuisine**



Top: Joyce Pulich, Marsha Endahl-Kramer,  
Ann Blumoff,  
Middle: Terry Whaley, Phyllis Folarin  
Bottom: Brenda Hahne and Brenda Lloyd,  
Anita Knight

Before

After







American Association of University Women  
AAUW – Austin (TX) Branch  
**NEW** Membership Information 2025-2026  
**REQUIRED INFORMATION**

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.

Please make check payable to AAUW–Austin and mail with completed form to:  
**Lynn Gambrill, 1102 Quaker Ridge Drive, Austin, TX 78746**

(Please mark status/\$ amount)

**Dues:** (All but \$3.00 of National dues may be tax deductible.)

**Branch Member** (\$103.00 total – National - \$74; State - \$13; Branch - \$16) .....

(Honorary Life Members – \$0 Total /Paid Life Members – \$29 Total)

**Shape the Future special event rate – Date of Event: Sunday, August 3** .....

(\$65.00 total – National - \$36.00; State - \$13; Branch - \$16)

(Must **not** have been a dues-paying AAUW member for at least the last two years)

**Student of Non-AAUW C/U Member School**

(Non-voting membership / \$26.81 Total -- National - \$18.81; State - \$1; Branch - \$7) .....

**Student of AAUW C/U Member School\***

(Non-voting membership / \$8.00 Total - National - \$0; State - \$1; Branch - \$7)

**Degree-Seeking Graduate Student**

(Full voting membership / \$26.81 Total -- National - \$18.81; State - \$1; Branch - \$7) .....

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **First** \_\_\_\_\_ **Middle** (or initial) \_\_\_\_\_

**Title** \_\_\_\_\_ **Preferred name if different** \_\_\_\_\_ **Member #** (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Apt.** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** (Asterisk Preferred) **Home** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **Work** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birthday m.** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ **d.** \_\_\_\_

**Education:** Institution and City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree Earned/Major(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated \_\_\_\_\_

(BA Psychology, BS Business, MBA, etc.)

Bachelor \_\_\_\_\_

Master \_\_\_\_\_

PhD \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**AAUW Membership:** NEW\_\_\_ TRANSFER \_\_\_ DUAL \_\_\_ (with which branch?) \_\_\_\_\_

**AAUW Austin Groups of interest:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AAUW member since** (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**Permission to Publish personal contact info in newsletter and yearbook** \_\_\_\_\_(Y)\_\_\_\_\_(N)  
**You may also circle any specific item you wish to keep private and not publish in the AAUW Austin Yearbook.**

**Additional Information for Yearbook and Membership Database:**

**Work / Field/ Specialty:** \_\_\_\_\_

(If retired – last position held) \_\_\_\_\_

(If currently working – employer & position \_\_\_\_\_

**Previous/Current AAUW involvement** (local, state, national, other branches, honors received, board positions held): \_\_\_\_\_

**Published materials** (books, articles, videos, DVD's, other): \_\_\_\_\_

**Honors** (work, volunteer, community): \_\_\_\_\_

**Family:** Spouse/Significant Other (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Children (# and ages, if home) \_\_\_\_\_

**Family members in AAUW** \_\_\_\_\_

**Interests** (hobbies, causes, charities, other organizations): \_\_\_\_\_

**Current volunteer commitments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*Austin Community College, University of Texas, St. Edwards University are University/College partners