



AAUW Tarrant County FLASH May 2020

OUR MISSION: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

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Website: <https://tarrantcounty-tx.aauw.net/> National: <https://www.aauw.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aauwtarrantcounty/> (see event photos)

Letter from Our President



Greetings, Dear Members of AAUW TCB,

As I wonder where to start this note to you, we are all navigating changes associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. We are learning new ways to live and new ways to connect. I hope that you are staying safe, that you are healthy, and that you are well.

AAUW TCB has been meeting this new reality with vigor. Zoom has become part of the vocabulary for several interest groups. It is comforting to see the faces of our friends at least on screen. Tina continues to compile resources to help us all in this new world we live in. Cheri launched the newly born Caring Committee which made its first touch with a phone call to every member. I hope you enjoyed that first call as much as the committee did. We count our blessings and give thanks.

The Board held its traditional combined meeting of old and new officers on May 6. Rather than asking IF we will return to an AAUW TCB calendar and program next fall, we are asking HOW and WHEN we will

do so. Board Members are considering a number of different scenarios for how to restructure our calendar, programs, and projects, given the uncertainties facing us. Your officers and chairs will be working through the coming weeks to explore these scenarios. If you would like to participate, know that everyone is welcome to do that. You may share just the gem of wisdom that will make a great difference. Synergy is real. The elected officers welcome your assistance.

How quickly we have had to adapt new actions. How differently we define the word "viral." How vitally important it is that we keep one thing certain-- that we are all part of the AAUW community. We can rely on each other for strength and camaraderie. We're in this together! Let's stay connected—and helpful—to each other. And as we care for each other we will be able to care for others who are in need.

Serving as your president continues to be a great honor. Blue Skies,

Orlew

Elected Officers for 2020 - 2021



Congratulations to the newly elected 2020-2021 AAUW Tarrant County Branch Board! Voting was conducted electronically between April 8 - 14 using a Google Form. We appreciated voting by 38

members who responded in favor of the slate of officers and the proposed budget. **Officers will be installed at our May 20 Zoom meeting, with their term beginning July 1.**

- Programs and Facilities Co-VP's: **Merrissa Kuylen and Berry Bock**
- Membership Co-VP's: **Elizabeth Barron and Ellen Myers**
- AAUW Funds Co-VP's: **Cindy Ford and Joyce Raessler**
- Finance VP: **Deborah Roszek**

Continuing Officers:

- President: **Orlew Lauger**
- Secretary: **Susan Davis**

Join Us on Zoom for the End of Year Celebration and Installation - May 20



Join us May 20 wearing AAUW colors of blue or green. At 6:30 pm we will start with Community time and check-in on Zoom, before the **7 pm meeting: *End of Year Celebration and Installation.*** **The meeting invitation was emailed May 11.** At this meeting Board Members will be interviewed about women who have inspired their work with AAUW. Come for the excitement of a Zoom meeting and to support our Board members who work hard behind the scenes.

Update on Our Tarrant County College Scholarship Recipients



Tarrant County College®
SUCCESS WITHIN REACH.

What an unexpected academic world our TCC scholars entered this spring semester!

Classrooms were closed and Emily Harding, Jazmine Lumbrera and Amber Patrick suddenly entered the world of online classes. AAUW TCB Scholarships are a lifeline for these students to continue their academic goals. With the loss of part time work and the charge of children at home due to COVID-19, their lives have been complicated beyond their wildest expectations. In April 2020, it was reported that all scholarship recipients were still enrolled in their classes. We are so proud of their efforts and stamina to continue their studies in the present environment.

With the current economic upheaval, we are grateful to the **TCC Foundation** for their careful stewardship of our scholarship funds. Our current endowment is \$76,742.00. Our distribution for scholarships is based on a 3-year rolling average which includes the highs from the past 2 years as well as the low of this past quarter. Thankfully, the highs of the stock market will offset the current lows. Also, a note of thanks to past treasurers, **Peggy Hendon** and **Becki Griffith**, for maintaining our cash reserve of \$5,893.00 for emergency shortfalls.

We were genuinely moved by our current board's decision to opt out of the special May **North Texas Giving Day** so that nonprofits directly impacted by this pandemic might reap funds to serve needs of North Texas. With that being said, we will be counting on our members more than ever during the September **North Texas Giving Day**. We will need the support of every member to sponsor our three scholarships, more relevant than ever in these times.

BJ and I are grateful for members' enthusiastic support of the AAUW Tarrant County Branch TCC Scholarships, making it a successful community program.

With wishes for you to stay well and stay safe. -- **Pat Auping** and **BJ Hoskins**, Scholarship Co-Chairs

Dues Renewals Requested by June 30



Members are encouraged to pay their dues for 2020-2021 by June 30. The easiest way is to renew your membership online. You have received emails from memberinfo@aauw.org with the subject "**AAUW Membership Renewal for Fiscal Year 2021**" specific to your member-id. Clicking the link provided in these emails will take you directly to renewing your membership on the national database with a credit card. Regular dues are \$88 and Life Member's dues are \$29.

If you prefer to pay by check, please write it to AAUW-TCB and mail it to our Treasurer, Becki Griffith, 6057 Paddelfish Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76179. After June 30, mail your check to the new Treasurer, Deborah Roszek, 3625 El Campo Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76107.

Reminder: Support AAUW TCB as You Shop!

Message from Becki Griffith:

It's been my privilege to serve as **VP Finance** for the branch from 2017 to present. Here's a parting reminder:

You can contribute PAINLESSLY to our branch in two ways:

1. **Tom Thumb.** Get a shopping card, and designate our branch as your favorite charity. Every time you shop and present your card for special pricing, Tom Thumb will send us a quarterly check. We have some loyal members who have been doing this for years, netting us at least \$200 per year!
2. **Amazon.** Maybe you are a longtime Amazon shopper or recently became one during Stay At Home. It's easy to help AAUW TCB each time you order: just type smile.amazon.com into your browser instead of amazon.com, and choose "Aauw Tarrant County Branch" as your charity. New: you can now select us as your charity when using the Amazon app, too! Our distributions from Amazon haven't been as strong but we can change this!

Branch Opportunities



Planning for the Fall has begun. We welcome new participants on Branch committees, which will meet via Zoom:

- To join the **Membership Committee**, contact [Elizabeth Barron](#). Meeting June 1, 10 - 11 am.
- To join the **Program Committee**, contact [Merrissa Kuylen](#). Meeting June 1, 6 - 7 pm.
- To join the **Fundraising Committee**, contact [Cindy Ford](#). Meeting May 27, 6 - 7 pm.

Branch Communications is looking for **apprentices** to assist with informing our members. **Free training available!**

- You can learn **SWAY Newsletter** preparation,
- **WordPress website** maintenance,
- Preparation of **Eblasts** of activities,
- Or to assist with **Fundraising Publicity**.

Girls, Inc. Shower - Summer 2020 - Community Program



Girls, Inc. of Tarrant County hosts a college shower each year for its graduating seniors. Many of these girls are the first in their family to attend college; the families don't always have the resources to

provide all the "stuff" that college girls take to school. This event gives branch members the opportunity to shower the girls with the necessary supplies and level the playing field for them as they enter college.

Our branch has sponsored a girl for the past two years, and we are planning to do so again this year. The event in 2020 will look a little different, but we still want our branch to be involved. The first step will be a Senior Spotlight on June 2 when we will be able to choose the girl we wish to sponsor.

If you did *not* participate in the 2018 or 2019 event and would like to contribute to the 2020 shower, please let me know. When I have more information about the girl chosen and her wish list, I will get back to you. Email [Marsha Abeson](mailto:Marsha.Abeson) or call 817-731-2720.

AAUW Texas News

The AAUW TEXAS CONVENING became a virtual event joined over Facebook Live and Zoom on April 18, 2020.

A CENTENNIAL OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE was celebrated. See a recap on the [AAUW Texas Website](#).

We are proud of three new State Officers from our Tarrant County Branch :

AAUW Texas President: *Gloria Long*

AAUW Texas Membership VP: *Barbara Cager*

North District Representative: *Emelia Hoefle*

AAUW National News



- **National AAUW has a new website! Check it out at [aauw.org](https://www.aauw.org).** "Equity Now" Together, we can achieve a vision of equal opportunity for all!
- **Vote for AAUW's Board of Directors** --Please take a moment to ensure AAUW has strong leaders to guide us into the future by voting in the [AAUW National Election](#). This year, we're asking members to vote on four candidates to join AAUW's 15-person board of directors. You can read more about them and the election on the National Election page of our newly redesigned website. **Voting Takes Place Wednesday, April 8, through Monday, May 18.** AAUW members play an important role in shaping the future for women and girls by choosing the organization's leaders and policy priorities. [VOTE NOW](#)
- **Congrats to the 2020-21 Fellows and Grantees!** AAUW is excited to announce more than **200 awards and \$3.5 million in funding for fellows and grantees in the 2020–21 award year.** These exceptional recipients, who were notified by email on April 15, will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls.
- [2020 Vision: Marking a Momentous Year](#) - webinar from AAUW CEO Kim Churches, plus a series of webinars for the year 2020

- Exclusive [AAUW Interview With Diane Rehm](#), *how she has managed to remain resilient in the face of challenges and loss*
- Subscribe to [Equity Express](#), a monthly Enewsletter that provides career tips, information and inspiration to those interested in workplace gender equity. There is a series of **weekly webinars** exclusive to the AAUW Equity Network, where you can join in to engage with the issues that matter most and share helpful resources for taking action, including negotiating your salary and advocating for change in your own community. Videos of [past webinars](#) are available to view.

Work Smart & Start Smart: Salary Negotiation



GET EMPOWERED -- Learn to successfully advocate for yourself — and help close the pay gap for women everywhere. Learn how to research your target salary, highlight your accomplishments and find the right words — and the confidence — to negotiate for better benefits and pay. You can sign up for a free in-person workshop or online course, which takes less than two hours to complete and can be done at your own pace.

[TAKE ONLINE COURSE NOW](#)

AAUW Tarrant County Calendar



View our [Branch Calendar](#) on our website. Upcoming events:

- Mon, May 18, 10 am, **Adelante Book Club, *A Room of One's Own* by Virginia Woolf**, via Zoom, discussion leader Susan Davis, interest Group Leader [Tina Caliga](#)
- Wed, May 20, 6:30 pm, **AAUW Branch Meeting: Installation and Celebration**, via Zoom, **7 pm** meeting starts
- Tues, May 26, 4:30 – 6 pm, **Women Writing**, via Zoom, Interest Group Leader [Eileen Frey](#)
- Wed, May 27, 4:30 - 5:30 pm, **Women & Wine**, Happy Hour at home, via Zoom, Interest Group Leader [Margaret Duryee](#)
- Wed, May 27, 6 - 7 pm, **Fundraising Committee Meeting**, via Zoom
- Mon, June 1, 10 - 11 am, **Membership Committee Meeting**, via Zoom
- Mon, June 1, 6 - 7 pm, **Program Committee Meeting**, via Zoom
- Wed, June 3, 6:30, **Combined Board Meeting**, via Zoom
- Wed, June 10, 11:30 am, **Out to Lunch**, via Zoom, Interest Group Leader [Marla Parvey](#)
- Mon, June 15, 10 am, **Adelante Book Club, *The Soul of an Octopus*, Nonfiction/Memoir by Sy Montgomery**, via Zoom, discussion leader Berry Bock, interest Group Leader [Tina Caliga](#)
- Wed, June 24, **Women & Wine**, Happy Hour at home, via Zoom, Interest Group Leader [Margaret Duryee](#)

AAUW Tarrant County Leadership Team



ELECTED OFFICERS

Branch President: Orlew Lauger, 817-715-1192, o.lauger@sbcglobal.net

Program Co-VPs, Programs: Lisa Wan, 817-542-1316, lisarbw@gmail.com

Heather Labansat, 909-702-3410, labansat@tarleton.edu

Facilities: BJ Hoskins, 817-832-5117, b_j_hoskins@att.net

New Program Co-VP: Merrissa Kuylen, 817-773-5825, mkuylen@sbcglobal.net

New Facilities Co-VP: Berry Bock, 682-556-3220, jim_and_berry@hotmail.com

Membership Co-VPs: Cheri Poston, 713-376-6546, cherylaposton@gmail.com

Tina Caliga, 719-761-6228, tcaliga@gmail.com

New Membership Co-VPs: Elizabeth Barron, 817-492-0380, dudasyb@sbcglobal.net

Ellen Myers, 817-738-2606, ellenmyers1@sbcglobal.net

AAUW Funds Co-VPs: Lynn Hayes, 817-308-9381, lynn.hayes@dot.gov

Emelia Hoefle, 817-991-7156, emelia1301@gmail.com

New Fundraising Co-VPs: Cindy Ford, 817-528-8191, cindyrford@gmail.com

Joyce Raessler, 817-832-1793, jrcompanyjoyce@gmail.com

Finance VP, PayPal Admin: Becki Griffith, 281-422-8007, bg636@live.com

New Finance VP, PayPal Admin: Deborah Roszek, 817-737-7520, droszek@gmail.com

Secretary: Susan Davis, 808-724-4434, susanlucilledavis@gmail.com

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Communications, Newsletter, Facebook, Webmaster: Tina Caliga, 719-761-6228, tcaliga@gmail.com

Historian: Open

North TX Day of Giving: Barbara Cager, 817-994-7432, bcager@sbcglobal.net

Parliamentarian: Barbara Cager, 817-994-7432, bcager@sbcglobal.net

Photographer: Barbara Cager, 817-994-7432, bcager@sbcglobal.net

Public Policy/Community Service: Open

Sister-to-Sister Summit: Marsha Abeson, 817-731-2720, alandmarsha@yahoo.com

Sunshine: Mary Bailey, 817-301-3003, mbaileyfw@sbcglobal.net

TCC Scholarship: Pat Auping, 817-480-2348, patriciaauping@aol.com

B J Hoskins, 817-832-5117, b_j_hoskins@att.net

Technology: Susan Davis, 808-724-4434, susanlucilledavis@gmail.com

Yearbook Editor: Peggy Harwood, 817-821-4988, peggyjwh@gmail.com

INTEREST GROUP CHAIRS

Active Outings: Sara Crowley, 817-806-7851, sara.crowley@Lonestar-LLC.com

Adelante Book Club: Tina Caliga, 719-761-6228, tcaliga@gmail.com

Bridge Group: Gloria Long, 817-266-6549, glorialong911@gmail.com

Cultural Outings: Joyce Raessler, 817-832-1793, jrcompanyjoyce@gmail.com

Movie Enthusiasts: Berry Bock, 682-556-3220, jim_and_berry@hotmail.com

New Members: Open

Out to Lunch: Marla Parvey, 817-886-2677, marvey318@aol.com

Women and Wine: Margaret Duryee, 214-587-0082, margaretduryee@gmail.com

Women Writing: Eileen Frey, 443-504-8788, epfrey@gmail.com



Please send your AAUW Calendar information, Interest Group Announcements, Eblast and Newsletter articles to Tina Caliga via [email](mailto:tcaliga@aauplaza.com).

[Fort Worth Library - New Curbside Service](#) - Starting May 19, Curbside Pickup will be available at the Southwest Regional, East Regional, Golden Triangle, Summer Glen and Northwest Libraries, Tues - Fri 10:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. and Sat from noon - 5 p.m. Place your Holds and get notified when you can pick them up.