



THE BRANCH LINE

AAUW Denton Branch

Breaking Through Barriers

Volume 1, Issue 3

December, 2009

Dallas Women's Foundation to be subject of December branch meeting

We are pleased to have Becky Sykes, Executive Director of the Dallas Women's Foundation, address our branch on December 2.

The Dallas Women's Foundation is a public foundation that promotes women's philanthropy and raises money to support community programs that help women and girls realize their full potential. Their tag line is "Lifting Communities by Investing In Women." The goal is for all women and girls to possess the dignity, skills and resources to be

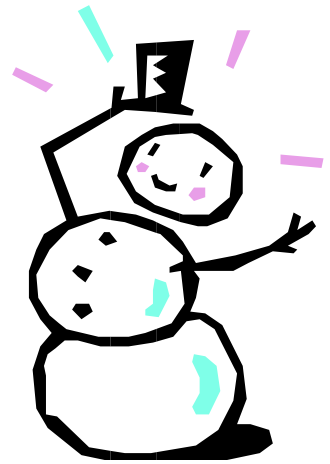
strong, independent, self-sufficient and contributing members of the community.

Ms. Sykes graduated from Austin College in Sherman, Texas, with degrees in French and Government. Most of her work has involved public policy, non-profit management, strategic planning and fundraising. She has served on a number of boards, including Dallas City Planning Commission, The Dallas Summit, and the League of Women Voters.

December Menu

- Cream of Asparagus Soup
- Sliced Ham and Sliced Turkey
- Confetti Orzo
- Glazed Carrots
- Sliced European-style breads
- Crème Brulle
- Coffee, Tea

Plan to come hear Becky Sykes and learn about a sister organization seeking to empower women and girls.



Happy Holidays

Important Dates

- January 16:
Interbranch Council
- February 20:
Expanding Your Horizons
- April 23-25:
AAUW Texas State Convention Houston

President's Corner

Winter Wonderland

This is the sparkling season, with light reflected from water, trees, and friends. As each of us reflect on the traditions of the past and create new ones for the present, recall the

snowflake. Each crystal is different and unique, a six-sided shape falling thousands of feet to the earth. Usually they fall individually, but if the temperature is above freezing, they often cling together as they fall. May we

aim for grace as we gently proceed to the new year.

Stephany

Tufty, Barbara. (1963). Splendor of Winter. *Science News-Letter*, 84(24), 378-379.

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AAUW Texas Convention in Houston, April 23-25

Plans are being finalized for the 2010 state convention in Houston. The convention theme is **Opening Opportunities for Women and Girls**.

Among the speakers will be **Carolyn Garfein, President of AAUW**, who will speak about the Power of Strategic Publicity and Marketing, and **Suzanne Berman**, the Field Coordinator of **C.A.R.E.** for the central region of the U.S.

Among the festivities will be a reception in the hotel's Rose Garden on Friday evening, where branches are invited to display posters of their "string of pearls" projects, and members can meet

the candidates for state offices.

Saturday evening's EF dinner will honor the life and achievements of former Governor Ann Richards, whom AAUW Texas is memorializing with The Ann Richards American Fellowship.

Annie Houle, National Director, Campus & Community Initiatives: The WAGE Project, will conduct a pre-convention workshop April 23 on **Start Smart**, a program which trains women to negotiate salaries to avoid the gender wage gap. Participants will be equipped to facilitate this training on their home campuses. Cost is \$50 per person for this workshop.



State Board members tour the Houston Marriott—Westchase, where the convention will be held April 23-25.

Watch for additional information and registration forms in the January *University Woman Texas*, which will be mailed to each member and may be read online at aauwtexas.org.

Branch News

Welcome to these new members:

Pat Cheek

1220 Tuland Dr.
Denton, TX 76201
940.382.3575
patmheek@aol.com



Kimberly Johnson

1316 Anna Street
Denton, TX 76201
940.390.1188, 940.898.3743
Kjohnson27@twu.edu

Sian Brannon and Dr. Shawne Miksa, our speakers at the November branch meeting, were featured in a *Denton Record Chronicle* article about tattooed librarians. To read the article and see Sian's picture, click on this link:

http://www.dentonrc.com/sharedcontent/dws/drc/localnews/stories/DRC_tattoos_1011.20537f7c8.html

Many thanks to Ms. Brannon and Dr. Miksa, for a delightful presentation.

EYH News: Major General Mary Saunders, USAF Retired, Executive Director of the **Leadership Institute**, announced a contribution of \$3000 to the **Expanding Your Horizons Career Conference** to be held February 20 on the TWU campus. Thanks you, Gen. Saunders and the Leadership Institute.

Yearbook Corrections
Dr. Jane Mott's telephone number should be **940 383-3205**.



Going Nuts!

For the third year in a row, the Denton Branch of AAUW will go NUTS! Members take orders from their friends, family, and colleagues for a variety of nuts and nut products. The nuts are supplied by the Texas Pecan Company and are guaranteed fresh each year. Order forms are available online and at the branch meetings. Orders will be delivered within a day or two after the order is received. (We'll call to arrange delivery.)

2009 Nuts Available

- Whole Cashews, Roasted and Salted, \$7.50 lb
- Spanish, Raw Peanuts, \$3.00 lb
- Pecan Halves, \$7.50 lb
- Pistachios, Natural, Roasted and Salted in Shell, \$6.00 lb
- Walnut Halves, \$6.50 lb
- Cashew-N-Stixs, \$6.50 lb
- Cajun Mix, \$4.00 lb
- Hawaiian Mix, \$6.50 lb
- Melrose Mix, \$6.00 lb
- Roasted Berry Mix, \$6.50 lb
- Texas Deluxe, \$7.50 lb
- Almonds, Whole, \$5.50 lb

Proceeds from the Nut Sale fund our four scholarships: 2 + 2 + 2=two undergraduates, two graduate students from UNT and TWU

Nut Sale Committee Members: [Renee Sims\(Chair\)](#), Mark Coomes, and Demi Prentiss. To place an order, go to <http://www.aauwdenton.org/content/nut-sale>.

Interbranch Council

Interbranch Council met in Tyler Saturday, November 21, to learn about the **Open World** program, established by the U. S. Congress to bring emerging leaders from foreign countries to communities in America.

Dee Brock, past president of the Tyler/ Smith County League of Women Voters, addressed the group, explaining that the goals of the program include building cross-cultural understanding, and demonstrating how individuals can play important roles in shap-

ing their communities.

The Tyler Branch partnered with the Tyler / Smith County League of Women Voters to host visitors from Russia and, more recently, Kazakhstan.

The theme of the Kazakhstan visit was "Strengthening Local Government." The group observed court



Dee Brock

systems and jury selection, and visited Commissioners Court, the police department, and other civic institutions.

The next meeting of Interbranch Council is **January 16 at New World United Methodist Church in North Arlington**. The speaker will be **Diana Vela**, from the **National Cowgirl Museum**. **The meeting will begin at 9:30.**

AAUW Denton Branch

430 Remington Drive
Highland Village, TX 75077

BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

UT Arlington Chosen for 2010 Campaign College Training Site

[AAUW](#), the [American University Women & Politics Institute](#), and [Running Start](#) recently announced that UT Arlington has been chosen through a competitive process as a [Campaign College](#) site for the 2010 academic year, one of 10 in the nation.

Campaign College trains college women to run for student government, in response to “the disparity between the high percentages of women in colleges and universities and the low representation of women in student government.”

Pilot programs last year at Iowa State University and the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, demonstrated the efficacy of the program.

According to the press release, participants

- Gain concrete leadership skills to help them run for and win student government positions
- Learn about specific strategies to help shape a campaign
- Hear from experts in their communities who discuss various aspects of women’s political leadership
- Learn best practices for campaigning on their campus
- Have the opportunity to connect with other women who share similar interests and can provide mentoring and support

The training will be held in February, March, and April.



Anthony