

THE BRANCH LINE

American Association of University Women-Denton Branch

September 2014

Mark Your Calendars for the September 3rd Meeting

The next Denton Branch meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 3**, at **6:00 p.m.** at Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant (821 N. Locust, Denton, TX). Dinner is \$17 per person. Please RSVP to Shirley Lacroix at 940-728-0084 or complete the online form at <http://dentontx.aauw.net/meetings/>.

The speaker for the evening is Dr. Mandy Stewart, Assistant Professor of Bilingual and English as a Second Language Education at TWU. Dr. Stewart began her career working with elementary and middle school English learners in the Fort Worth ISD. She later taught adult English as a Second Language and Spanish classes. Just prior to joining the TWU faculty, she taught teacher education courses at the University of North Texas, where she won the university's Most Outstanding Teaching Fellow award in 2010. In 2013, she was named a PDK Emerging Leader for her research in this field.

Dr. Stewart's research interests include leveraging the out-of-school literacies of adolescent English learners to promote academic success. She is also interested in multilingual and multicultural literature that honors students' cultural and language backgrounds. The title of her presentation is *Disseminating Our Research and Knowledge to Impact Policy, Practice and Public Opinion*.



Dr. Mandy Stewart



Menu for the September Meeting

- ◇ Melanzane (Eggplant) Parmigiana
- ◇ Lasagna
- ◇ Fettuccini Alfredo
- ◇ Pollo con Carciofi
- ◇ Tilapia alla Fiorentina

Tax and Gratuity are included.

2014/2015 Scholarship Recipients

The AAUW Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the following recipients for the 2014/2015 undergraduate and graduate scholarships at Texas Woman's University and at the University of North Texas. Each award carries a \$1,000 stipend.

Texas Woman's University

Undergraduate Award: Tamiel Turley
Graduate Award: Jennifer Roland

University of North Texas

Undergraduate Award: Thao Huynh
Graduate Award: Oluwadamilola (Lola) Obamehinti

Tamiel Turley is a Senior at the Texas Woman's University. She is majoring in Biology and expects to graduate in December 2015. She began college at Austin Community College and finished there with a 4.0 grade point average and has maintain this same level of achievement since transferring to TWU in 2012. She joined Dr. Sarah McIntire's research team that does laboratory studies on plasmid DNA of the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* and will continue on this research work until graduation. She has recently received the Chancellor's Student Research Scholar Award. She volunteered last spring with Denton AAUW's Expanding Your Horizons conference at TWU. She is a member of the Phi Kappa Pi Honor Society, member of the National Collegiate Scholars, the Beta Beta Beta Honor Society, the Alpha Lambda Honor Society, and the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Jennifer Roland is a Doctoral Student in Women's Studies at Texas Woman's University and expects to graduate in May 2015. She holds a Master's degree in Social Work from Indiana University. 2014/2015 will be Jennifer's Dissertation Research Year. She is exploring creative ways to deal with the many gaps in social work practice by bringing feminist/womanist methods to social work. She wants to create a holistic framework to be used to engage women in social work practice. Her goal is to work in the academy training new social work professionals as well as in the community working with vulnerable women. She works at TWU as a Graduate Teaching Assistant, teaching undergraduate students. Jennifer has presented a paper at the National Women's Studies Association.

Thao Huynh is a Senior at the University of North Texas. She has a double major in Violin Performance and Biology and expects to graduate in May 2015. While the two majors seem unusual, Ms. Huynh strongly believes that "interdisciplinary studies are important for creativity and innovations in all aspects of life." Her life goals are to continue studying music and to become a marine biologist. At UNT she has earned numerous awards and recognitions, including the North Texas Achievement Scholarship, Euline and Horace Brock Merit Scholarship, Shaun Burns Memorial Scholarship, Symphony Orchestra Scholarship and she is a Dean's List, President's List, and Honor Student in the Strings Department of the College of Music.

Lola Obamehinti is a Doctoral Student in Information Science at the University of North Texas and expects to graduate in May 2017. She holds the Bachelor Arts degree in Journalism from Southern Methodist University and the Master of Journalism degree in Strategic Communications from University of North Texas. Her ultimate goal is to utilize communications research to impact business processes, focusing on how technological advances affect productivity in the workplace. She would like to work as a consultant or analyst within the information technology field and then transition into a university professorship. At both SMU and UNT she has received many awards, including at SMU participation in the Hilltop Scholars Program and Emerging Leaders Program and at UNT the UNT Mayborn Conference Award, Margaret Vines Benson Graduate Scholarship, and the Alpha Chi National College Honor Society.

Important Dates

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| 9/3/2014 | Next Denton Branch Meeting |
| 9/31/2014 | Deadline for paying 2014/2015 membership dues. Please forward the renewal form to Ruth Johnson. |
| 10/4/2014 | AAUW North Texas Interbranch Meeting-Bedford |
| 6/2015 | AAUW National Convention-San Diego |

Congratulations to the Scholarship Recipients and many thanks to the AAUW Scholarship Selection Committee—Elizabeth Snapp, Ruth Johnson and Kay Goodman.



Interbranch Meeting on October 4

The Northeast Tarrant County Branch invites all members of the North Texas District of AAUW Texas to join them for the Interbranch meeting on **Saturday, October 4, 2014** at the Martin Methodist Church, 2621 Bedford Road, Bedford, TX at 9:30 a.m.

Vic Suhm, Executive Director of the Tarrant Regional Transportation Coalition, will speak on the amendment concerning the funding of transportation in Texas that will be on the November ballot. This will ensure that we will all be informed on this topic when we go to the polls in November.

Transportation Funding Amendment



Quick stats

Type:	Constitutional amendment
Cons tu on:	Texas Constitution
Referred by:	Texas State Legislature
Topic:	Transportation
Status:	<i>On the ballot</i>



At the April AAUW Texas Convention, the Denton Branch was one of 13 chapters selected to receive the R.E.A.P Recognition Award for commitment to Research, Education, Advocacy, and Philanthropy. The Denton Branch also received certificates for Top Ten in Donations by Branch (10th of 37 branches), and Top Ten \$ Donations by Members (9th of 37 branches).

President's Corner

As the new academic year begins, all of us can remember times that were especially important or significant to us. Some of those memories involve challenges, friends, and responsibilities. As I am thinking about plans for the 2014-2015 year of Denton Branch AAUW, I find my thoughts following those same paths. I recall the challenges accepted by the officers and committee members a year ago to work effectively in fulfilling the responsibilities they assumed and the responses of members and guests at each meeting with enthusiasm, interest, and expressions of pleasure.

Today I know that those are memories and this is the time for those of us continuing as officers and committee members to complete the planning for this second year of our official terms. As the officers and committees commit themselves to these tasks, each member is challenged to continue their individual efforts to extend the cooperative spirit demonstrated during 2013-2014. These include, but are not limited to, the support for continued efforts to increase membership, the responses to the varied scope of program presentations, and the personal enjoyment of associations with professional colleagues and personal friends.

My hopes are that each of you is planning to continue your active participation in the Denton Branch of AAUW and that you will join the Executive Committee by accepting the challenges of beginning a new year. Please try to arrange your schedule to attend the first meeting of the year on September 3, 2014 at Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant, 821 N. Locust Street at 6:30 PM.

The Era of Women

- Melodía Gutiérrez, AAUW Regional Field Representative
Texas, Louisiana & Oklahoma

The era of women is dawning. Almost 94 years ago, women gained the right to vote with the passage of the 19th Amendment to our U.S. Constitution. This right was granted after 70 years of advocacy by women like you and me: housewives, students, educators, leaders and supporters. Back then, we banded together for to ensure our daughters and sisters would have a political voice equal to men.

Now, we must work together again.

Despite our many advances over the years, women today stand at a crossroads. Constantly under attack, women's rights continue to erode. Worse, women are still not granted full equality under the law. The U.S. Constitution expressly protects women from gender discrimination when voting and that is where our protections end. The 14th Amendment, ratified in 1868, only applies protections to: race, religion and national origin. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia is on record stating that in its current state the U.S. Constitution does not provide equal protection based on gender.

On August 26, in celebration of the 19th Amendment and the voting rights it bestowed to women, we ask you to join to continue the work of our foremothers and allies by working for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). Contact your U.S. Representative and Senator and ask them to support equality for women by endorsing the removal of the ERA deadline. Together, we can herald a new era of woman.

Join AAUW to celebrate Women's Equality Day August 26, 2014

- ◇ *Twitter / Facebook posts in support of ERA or history of Suffrage Movement*
<https://www.facebook.com/aauw.tx>
- ◇ *Add an AAUW Video to your Branch Website*
- ◇ *Equality Day Cocktails 'n Convos*
- ◇ *Special Branch Viewing of Iron Jaws*
- ◇ *Discussion of 'Feminism in the 21st Century' or Ratification of ERA*
- ◇ *Tabling Events on College/Univ. Campuses*
- ◇ *Registering Voters*
- ◇ *Post: I Commit to Vote Nov. 4th or ERA Now "Selfies" on AAUW TX Facebook*
- ◇ *Request Proclamation from Mayor Declaring Aug. 26, 2014 Women's Equality Day*
- ◇ *Submit a 'Letter to the Editor' of your local newspaper in support of ERA Ratification*
- ◇ *Submit your Aug. 26th Event & photos to AAUW Texas Website & UWT*
AAUWTX.members@gmail.com



League of Women Voters and National Voter Registration Day 2014



The National Voter Registration Day is coming, and the League of Women's Voters (LWV) urges everyone to make this year's Registration Day the biggest ever. More than 1,000 nonprofits, government officials, businesses and other groups have already signed up to participate. Nancy Pelosi, Glenn Beck, Usher, Pearl Jam, the President, and thousands of other public figures have actively supported the goals of National Voter Registration Day; and the bipartisan National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS), representing chief state elections officials from every state, issued a 5-year resolution declaring the last Tuesday of September as National Voter Registration Day.

Make plans to celebrate by encouraging your social networks, email contacts, friends, and family to register to vote or update their registration if they've moved, changed their name or changed their political affiliation since the last election.

Register to Vote

To vote in Texas, you must be registered. Simply pick up a voter registration application, fill it out, and mail it at least 30 days before the election date. Online registration is available at <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/reqvr.shtml>.

You are eligible to register to vote if:

- You are a United States citizen;
- You are a resident of the county where you submit the application;
- You are at least 18 years old on Election Day;
- You are not a convicted felon (you may be eligible to vote if you have completed your sentence, probation, and parole); and
- You have not been declared by a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be either totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote.

Are you already registered?

To confirm your voter registration status, you may select one of three methods to perform a search on the registration website:

- Your Texas driver's license number, if you provided it when you applied for voter registration;
- Your Voter Unique Identifier (VUID), which appears on your voter registration certificate;
- Your first and last name.



**American Association of University Women
Denton Branch
Notice of Annual Dues**

DATE: _____

Dues \$70.00	\$ _____
(National=\$49, Student =\$18, State=\$10, Local =\$11)	
Donation Educational Foundation (\$25 Suggested)	\$ _____
Donation Legal Advocacy Fund (\$5 Suggested)	\$ _____
Donation Local Scholarship	\$ _____
 Total Enclosed	 \$ _____

Please make your check out to AAUW-Denton Branch. Bring your completed form and dues to an upcoming meeting or mail to the address below.

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email Address _____

College/University _____ State _____

Degree Earned _____ Year Graduated _____



FAO: Ruth A. Johnson, Treasurer
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