



empowering women since 1881

Southwest Dallas County AAUW

(AAUW = American Association of University Women)

Newsletter

Volume 45, Number 7

March 2017

Programs for Next Meetings

Our meeting on **Saturday March 25** will feature a working session on developing an effective resume. It will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Museum of International Cultures, 411 Hwy 67, Duncanville (south of Danieldale Rd, on the south direction service road.)

Redesign without recreating the wheel. How does your resume look? Does it get the information across that you are exactly what the employer is looking for? How do you communicate your skills? Join us for a workshop that helps you redesign the most important job seeking tool you have. Bring your current resume, your laptop computer (or just paper & pencil) and your motivation to create a winning resume.

The session leader will be Yvette Branch, an independent consultant with many years experience promoting her skills and obtaining projects to assist companies improve their operations. For more information, contact Ms. Branch at 404-964-4480 or yvettebranch@yahoo.com.



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For April 22 we are considering the topic of advocacy and how to organize for various approaches, such as letters, phone calls, or participating in demonstrations. We would have information about the contacts for relevant officials. Meanwhile, see page 3 for Equal Pay Day info from AAUW or <http://www.aauw.org/resource/advocacy-how-tos-guides/>

Officers for Next Year

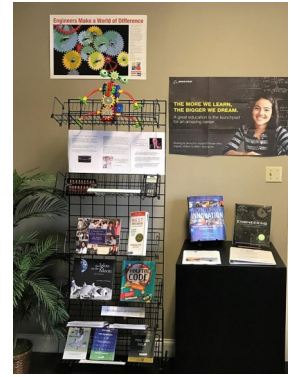
Our annual election for branch officers is held at our April meeting. Our revised bylaws of 2015 simplified our officer structure so that we have only 2 elected positions. The president and treasurer are each 2-year terms, and are elected in alternate years.

This year we will elect a president to serve for July 2017 through June 2019. Yvette Branch, who has been helping current president Penny Ball with planning and program presentations, is our candidate for our next branch president. She has an MBA and works as a self-employed consultant; she also has a daughter in 6th grade. Thus Yvette is an ideal role model for the career women or mothers we need to attract as new members.

Penny Ball will continue as treasurer. Members are requested to pay their annual AAUW dues by June 30. AAUW Texas has increased its dues, so the total will be \$72 (\$49 for national, \$13 for Texas, and \$10 for our branch). Reminders will be given in May.

Engineers Week Events at the Museum

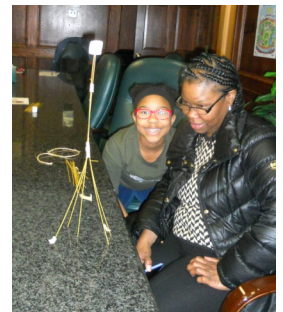
Our AAUW display of books and information about engineering is in the front lobby. Books on the rack are suitable for middle school students, and the information on the black pedestal is designed for older students or adults. The display will remain for the month of March, so you can still stop by and look over the material. You can also enjoy the Museum's new display of quilts.



On Saturday February 25 we sponsored a talk on Sustainability and Engineering for the Future by Joyce Stubblefield, who has a masters degree in Sustainable Development from SMU and is currently working on a PhD in the topic via a program in the Netherlands. She presented several relevant online videos. For example, at <http://switchenergyproject.com/topics/energysitevisits> you can learn about projects such as geothermal heating in Iceland or nuclear projects in south Texas. A 2009 submission to Vision Dallas competition describes a project called Entangled Bank (a community with all services contained in a one-block structure). See this at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7YQxdMIEYo>



We had a self-directed challenge project in the conference room, to build a tower of spaghetti that would support a marshmallow. AAUW member Yvette Branch and her daughter Sierra had fun with this activity.



STEM Adventures for 2017

We will continue to offer a small program of hands-on STEM theme workshops for middle school girls to be held at the Museum of International Cultures. Our 2 current workshop offerings are 'Electronics Magic' and 'Designs for Flight'. We have general information about the program on the STEM PROJECTS sub-page of ACTIVITIES on our new website at SWDallas-TX.AAUW.net. We invite groups to contact us for a date, and if the presenters are available, we will then schedule an event for that group.

Museum of International Cultures -

The Museum of International Cultures is the site for many interesting programs and we encourage our members and friends to participate. The Museum is located at 411 Hwy 67, Duncanville, 75137 (just south of Daniieldale Rd, on the southbound service road.)

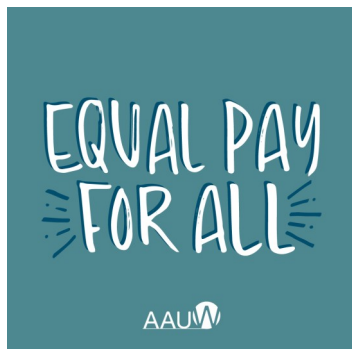
Information about the Museum is at www.internationalmuseumofcultures.org (Note : The Museum is in the process of rebranding and moving the word international to describe cultures; however the web site still uses the old form of the name.)

Free 4th Saturday event

Sat. March 25. Movie at 7pm. "The Chorus" (French) The new teacher at a severely administered boys' boarding school works to positively affect the students' lives through music. Nominated for two Academy Awards. *Delightful and engaging. A great story.*

SPECIAL EVENT

Saturday April 1: 37th Anniversary Banquet. Silent Auction at 6 p.m. Banquet & entertainment at 7 p.m. Quilt exhibit; one will be auctioned. Event tickets are \$50 per person; contact 972 572 0462 for information.



Would you like to work at least 15 months for the same paycheck your male coworker received in just 12 months? Well, if you're a woman, odds are [you already do](#).

Source:

<http://www.aauw.org/article/gear-up-for-equal-pay-day-with-weekly-action-ideas/>

Equal Pay Day — which takes place Tuesday, April 4, this year — is the symbolic day when women's pay finally "catches up" to the wages that men took home the previous year. The date represents the fact that women working full time, year-round in the United States typically [are paid just 80 percent of what men are paid](#), or a gap of 20 percent. (AAUW also observes the equal pay days in March for [Asian American women](#), in August for [African American women](#), in September for [Native American women](#), and in October for [Latina women](#).)

Missing 20 percent or more of a paycheck is a hard hit. Think about how that loss of wages adds up over a lifetime, and we're talking about losing a substantial chunk of change — change that could have greatly aided women and their families. The pay gap is closing but at a glacial pace. At the current rate, [women won't achieve equal pay until 2152](#). Women and families can't afford to wait that long, nor can we risk rolling back the progress [that has been made](#) on equal pay.

Luckily, Equal Pay Day is the perfect opportunity to organize action to close the gender pay gap. If you're looking for ways to take action and speed up progress, check out the ADVOCACY topic under ISSUES at AAUW.org . Each week until April 4 it will share a new action for observing Equal Pay Day and provide more tips and tools for how you can help ensure that women are paid fairly.

Source: <http://www.aauw.org/2017/01/24/2017-womens-march/>



Still fired up? **Keep the fight for equality going 365 days a year!** Become a [Two-Minute Activist](#) to take action on women's issues at the local, state, and federal levels. Plus, get an insider's view on the legislative process by signing up for the weekly e-bulletin [Washington Update](#). If you're an AAUW member, take a moment to sign up for [AAUW in the Statehouse](#) to get updates on state policy from across the country and resources to make you a more effective advocate in your own community. [Join AAUW now](#) and [find a branch](#) in your area to see how you can get involved in the fight for gender equality. You provide the voice, we'll provide the megaphone!

Branch Officers for July 2016—June 2017:

President / Treasurer - Penny Ball
(penny@acm.org)

Committee Chairs:

Newsletter, website - Penny Ball
STEM programs - Penny Ball
Membership, Policy - Yvette Branch
(yvettebranch@yahoo.com)

Branch info, newsletters, and future meeting plans are at our new website

<http://SWDallas-TX.AAUW.net>

If you would like to receive the newsletters by email, just let me know; I have a distribution list for non-members who want to receive the newsletters but no other branch mailings.

Penny Ball (penny@acm.org)