

**2023-2024  
Issue 2  
Winter 2024**

# GRADUATE GAZETTE

**AAUW Tyler/Texas  
P. O. Box 7171, Tyler TX 75711  
www.tyler-tx.aauw.net**

**Scherel Carver, Editor  
www.aauw.org  
www.aauwtexas.org**

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**Mission:** To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

### Diversity:

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

### Vision Statement:

Equity for all



## President's Message Verle Ellis

It's our midwinter/spring Gazette brought to you by Scherel Carver.

I am pleased with our good progress on membership, so now we need to keep up the good work.

Program VP Kristi Roberts has set up some interesting and exciting programs in March and April.

Don't miss them.

Jeanelle Maland and her committee have found a qualified and experienced slate of officers to lead us through the coming year. Have a good

**See page 2 slate of officers to lead us through the coming year.**

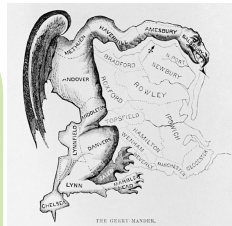
spring!

*Verle Ellis*



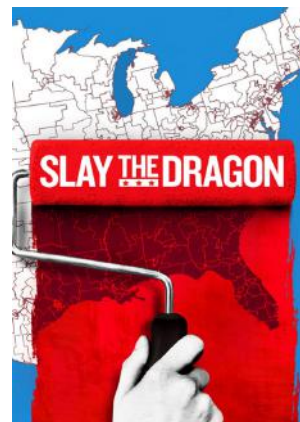
## Slay the Dragon: End Gerrymandering or Democracy Dies Kristi Roberts, Program VP

A partisan gerrymander is a district map—for Congress, or for a state legislature, county commis-



sion, and the like—that is intentionally designed to enhance the power of one political party at the expense of the other, regardless of how the people of the jurisdiction may choose to vote in a given election.

A secretive, high-tech gerrymandering initiative launched 10 years ago threatens to undermine our democracy. *Slay the Dragon* follows everyday people as they fight to make their votes matter.



**Slay the Dragon  
End Gerrymandering or  
Democracy Dies  
Documentary Film**

**March 19**

**6:30 pm Visit**

**7:00 pm Screening**

**Lander Home**

**810 Ashford Court**

RSVP Appreciated:

soonersue@sbcglobal.net

## Nominations for the 2024-2025 Officers—Jeanelle Maland, Chair

Following is the report from the 2024 Nominating Committee. Members will vote on the Executive Board at the Annual Business Meeting April 20. They serve from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

### Executive Board Nominees for 2024-2025:

President:	Jeanne Blythe
President-Elect:	Open
Program Vice President:	Mary Lynn Smith
Membership Vice President:	Marilyn Covey
Secretary:	Jackie Littleton
Treasurer:	Julie Davis



Jeanne Blythe



Mary Lynn Smith



Marilyn Covey



Jackie Littleton



Julie Davis

**Submitted by the 2024 Nominating Committee:** Chair: Jeanelle Maland  
Members: Marilyn Covey, Brenda Gilliam, and Jeanne Henderson.

**The Tyler Fund Board is selected and confirmed by the Board of Directors.**

### Tyler Fund, Inc. Board Nominees for 2024-2025:

President:	Verle Ellis
Treasurer:	Julie Davis
Members:	

Mary Lynn Smith (Term expires 6/2025)  
Jeanne Henderson (Term expires 6/2025)  
Sandra Owens (Term expires 6/2025)  
Merilynn Wick (Term expires 6/2026)  
Scherel Carver (Term expires 6/2026)  
Brenda Gilliam (Term expires 6/2027)  
Jeanelle Maland (Term expires 6/2027)



Verle Ellis, Chair



Julie Davis, Treasurer



Long Range Planning

## Long-Range Plan—Julie Davis, Chair

**What does the future of the AAUW Tyler Branch look like?** The long range planning committee is meeting in March and April. **The first meeting of the committee is**

**March 24, 2024.**

We welcome any comments or ideas you would like to add to the conversation. Please send those to the committee chair, Julie Davis, at [Julied4868@gmail.com](mailto:Julied4868@gmail.com) no later than April 10, 2024.





# *Annual Meeting and Scholarship Presentation*

SATURDAY, APRIL 20th, 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Texas Music City Grill & Smokehouse

5424 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, TX 75703

Join us for lunch on Saturday, April 20th for our Annual Meeting and Scholarship Presentation. Lunch starts at 11:30 a.m. and cost is \$25.00 per person. Advanced registration required.

Deadline to register is April 17th.

\$25.00 per person (\$26.50 if paying online)

Use the below registration form to mail a check to AAUW Tyler

Branch, PO Box 7171, Tyler TX 75711

visit <https://aauw-tyler-branch.square.site/>  
or scan the QR Code to pay online



## *Annual Meeting and Scholarship Presentation*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

# of registrations \_\_\_\_\_ at \$25.00 each

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes, I'd like to  
sponsor a  
scholarship  
recipient or their  
guest**

**# \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25**

# Proposed Budgets for 2024-2025 —Sheila Austin, Chair

	2024-25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
<b>Income</b>	
Scholarship Donations	\$5,000.00
75th Anniversary Fellowship	\$0.00
Games Day	
Mystery Boxes	\$300.00
Donations	\$250.00
Games Day Lunch Only Reg	\$150.00
Games Day Registration	\$3,000.00
Games Day Silent Auction	\$3,000.00
Games Day Underwriting	\$4,000.00
Games Day - Other	\$0.00
<b>Total Games Day</b>	<b>\$10,700.00</b>
Other Types of Income	
Equi-Tea	
Amazon Smile	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$0.00
Revenue from Fund Reserves	\$570.00
<b>Total Other Types of Income</b>	<b>\$570.00</b>
Phantom Ball Income	\$2,500.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$18,770.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Administration	
Insurance -General Liability	\$200.00
Software	\$70.00
Office Supplies & Miscellaneous	\$100.00
Website	\$0.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$370.00</b>
Contributions	
AAUW Funds	
AAUW Funds – Other	\$1,500.00
<b>Total AAUW Funds</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
Scholarships	\$12,000.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$13,500.00</b>
Games Day Fundraiser	
Square Processing Fees	\$155.00
Games Day - Facility Expense	\$2,600.00
Printing & Postage	\$600.00
Games Day Fundraiser - Other	\$0.00
<b>Total Games Day Fundraiser</b>	<b>\$3,355.00</b>
Other Types of Expenses	
Other Costs	
Total Other Types of Expenses	
Phantom Ball Expenses	\$200.00
Programs & Projects	
Equi-tea	
Programs	\$700.00
Scholarship Luncheon	\$300.00
Great Decisions	\$100.00
STEM Projects	\$250.00
<b>Total Programs &amp; Projects</b>	<b>\$1,350.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$18,775.00</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-\$5.00</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
Other Income	
Value of In-Kind Income	
Interest Income	\$5.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>Other Expense</b>	
Total Other Expense	
Net Other Income	\$5.00
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

	2024-25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
<b>Income</b>	
Fundraising/Book Sale	\$600.00
Business Meeting	\$600.00
Dues	\$4,000.00
Fund Raising - Other	\$331.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$5,531.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Administration	
Software	\$70.00
Officer Supplies	\$50.00
Dues - National	\$2,800.00
Dues - State	\$400.00
Dues - Square Fees	\$35.00
Fundraising Expense	\$100.00
Insurance	\$375.00
Post Office Box	\$156.00
Treasurer	\$20.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$4,006.00</b>
Membership	
Dues/Subscriptions	\$175.00
Reassembly	\$150.00
Recruitment/Retention	\$100.00
Yearbook/Directory	\$125.00
Newsletter	\$25.00
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>\$575.00</b>
Programs	
Honorariums	\$125.00
Business Meeting	\$600.00
Salad Supper	\$200.00
Projects	\$75.00
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$5,681.00</b>
Net Ordinary Income	<b>-\$150.00</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
Other Income	
Interest Income - MMA	\$150.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>
Other Expense	
Expense Value of Donated Items	
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
Net Other Income	\$150.00
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Members will Vote on the budget above, proposed by the AAUW Tyler Board of Directors, at the April 20 Annual Meeting. The Fund Budget at left already has been approved by the Fund Board.**



## Great Decisions Foreign Policy Discussions Continue thru April 11—Julie Davis Chair

### March 21— Science Across Borders—Cullin Davis

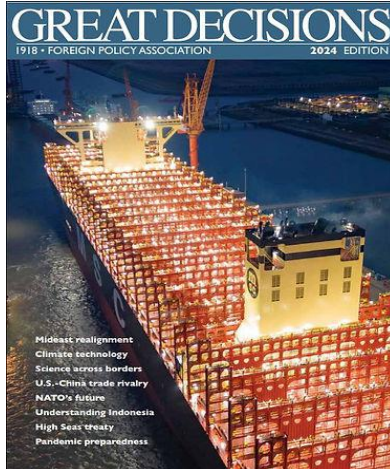
Scientific advances benefit from collaboration between researchers, but what happens when material, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) is controversial and important to a nation's national security? Is there a middle ground between sharing information and denying access? How can we regulate cooperation?

### March 28—NATO's Future—Alyssa White

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has come under increased scrutiny, not because NATO troops are involved in the conflict, but because of its role in relations between Russia and its neighbors. Will expanding membership in NATO protect countries, or will it further provoke Russia?

### Great Decisions Foreign Policy Discussions

are sponsored in Tyler by **AAUW Tyler, League of Women Voters of Tyler**, and the **Tyler Public Library**, in conjunction with the national Foreign Policy Association. Briefing books are available at [fpa.org](http://fpa.org) and click Book Store or 800-477-5836. Price is \$35. Also available @Barnes & Noble Nook app for \$27.



### April 4 High Seas Treaty—Jamie Bitzenhofer

Areas of the seas beyond national jurisdiction comprise the high seas, which are facing a degradation of ecosystems due to climate change and the increase in human activities, such as shipping, overfishing, pollution, and deep-sea mining. The recently negotiated High Seas Treaty, also known as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Treaty, will attempt to address these issues. How difficult will it be to convince nations to participate?

### April 11—Climate Technology & Competition—TBD

Will the United States and China, with other powerful countries following suit, approach current and future climate initiatives with an increased commitment to trade protectionism and nationalism, by various measures including trade restrictions? Or could a growing spirit of international accord develop to confront the "common enemy" of climate change?



### Great Decisions Foreign Policy Discussions

March 2—April 11

5:30 pm

Tyler Public Library

# Foreign Policy Association

## Event Set to Welcome New Members, Susan Garrison, Membership VP

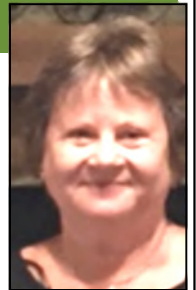
Veteran and new members will greet and meet at a special event Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 pm. Join us for happy hour and meet the wonderful AAUW members who are active making the community a better place.

**No RSVP needed. Watch your email for location.**



It's OK to bring a Plus One or someone you think would enjoy membership in this organization dedicated to the *Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls.*

**Welcome New Members Happy Hour Meet & Greet Wednesday April 17 6:30 pm Place TBA. Watch your email.**



Like us on  
**facebook**



### AAUW FACEBOOK PAGE & INSTAGRAM

We encourage our members who are on

Facebook to like our page. You learn about upcoming events and are able to RSVP directly on Facebook. Groups and organizations are turning to social media to reach out to members and potential members.

The best way to do this is for our members to share our posts and invite friends to our events.

**Find us on Instagram too!**

<https://www.instagram.com/aauwtylerbranch/>



To find our



page, put

**AAUW Tyler Branch**

in the Facebook search bar.

## 2023-2024 AAUW Interest Groups

**I**nterest groups form the heart of AAUW, where lasting friendships are built and nurtured. Choose groups that suit your schedule and match your favorite pasttimes. Non-members are invited to participate in branch interest groups. Those who are eligible for membership may attend twice before joining the branch. Those who are not eligible for membership may attend indefinitely by paying branch dues

Interest Group	Chair	Meeting Time	Contact Info
Board Games	Mary Lynn Smith	4th Tues 6:30 dinner 7pm games	marylynnsmith1959@gmail.com
Community Service	Jeanne Henderson	Times and Dates Vary	Jeanne@jimhenderson.com
Culture Club	Sheila Austin	Varies	sjaustin64@gmail.com
Daytime Book Group	Andie Rathbone/ Suzanne Thomas	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 1:30 pm	Andie.rathbone.66@gmail.com/ Sbthomas001@gmail.com
Evening Book Group	Sue Lander	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:00pm	soonersue@sbcglobal.net
LOTE "Ladies of the Evening"	Andie Rathbone/	2nd Tuesday, 6:00 pm	Andie.rathbone.66@gmail.com
Mah Jongg	Jeanelle Maland	Times and Dates Vary	jeanellemaland@gmail.com

### JOIN A BOOK INTEREST GROUP—DAY OR EVENING

Listed here are titles of the compelling books the two AAUW Book Interest Groups have selected to read during 2023-2024. To receive a list of meeting places, **contact Suzanne Thomas or Sue Lander** at email listed above.

#### DAYTIME BOOK GROUP—4th Wed 1:30 pm

Title Author

March 27 **Demon Copperhead** Barbara Kingsolver

April 24 **Book Selection FY 2025 & Luncheon @ Twelve**

May 22 **Lessons in Chemistry** Bonnie Garmus

#### EVENING BOOK GROUP 3rd Thurs 7 pm

Date	Title	Author
March 21	<b>Lessons in Chemistry</b>	Bonnie Garmus
April 18	<b>The Marriage Portrait</b>	Maggie O'Farrell
May 16	<b>Brain on Fire</b>	Susannah Calahan
June 20	<b>Joan: A Novel of Joan of Arc</b>	Katherine Chen
July 18	<b>The Covenant of Water</b>	Abraham Verghese
August 15	<b>The Magnolia Palace</b>	Fiona Davis

### Board Games Interest Group—Mary Lynn Smith, Chair



Board Game Players meet **March 26** at Boards and Bites. Dinner (optional) at 6:30 and games at 7:00. See calendar of events on last page of this issue. Cost is \$3—\$5, de-

Contact Mary Lynn Smith for more information.

**903-571-2926** or  
[marylynnsmith1959@gmail.com](mailto:marylynnsmith1959@gmail.com)

**Board Games**  
**4th Tuesday**  
**every month**  
**6:30 pm**  
**Boards & Bites**

### Mah Jongg Interest Group—Jeanelle Maland, Chair

The Mah Jongg Interest Group is for anyone who enjoys playing the game and for anyone who would like to learn how to play! We usually meet at

Boards and Bites on the last Sunday of the month from 1:00-4:00 pm. If you are interested in joining this fun interest group, please contact Jeanelle Maland at [jeanelle.maland@gmail.com](mailto:jeanelle.maland@gmail.com)



#### LOTE

**2nd TUESDAY**  
**6:00 pm**  
**See you there!**

### JOIN LOTE FOR FUN DINING WITH FRIENDS

**LOTE**, "Ladies of the Evening," Interest Group is a group of members having a casual evening meal once each

month at a different local restaurant. LOTE meets on the second Tuesday at 6 pm. All AAUW members are welcome to join the fun. If you would like to attend, or to receive notifications or to be added to the contact list.



**Next Meeting Tuesday**  
**April 9 6:00 PM**  
**Vellagio del Vino**  
4803 Old Bullard Road

#### Future Dates

**May 14 Villa Montez**  
3324 Old Henderson Hwy  
**June 11 Montez**  
Creskide, 110 Hwy 110 N  
**July 9 Mario's**  
7916 South Broadway  
**August 13 Roma's Italian**  
3320 Troup Hwy.  
**September 10 Abuelo's**  
8926 South Broadway

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS—SUSAN GARRISON, MEMBERSHIP VP

### Dues Reminder

If you haven't already done so, it's time to pay your annual dues. This year our dues are

**\$100.00** broken down as follows:

AAUW National	\$72.00
State	\$13.00
Local Branch	\$15.00



Make checks payable to AAUW-Tyler and send to Sheila Austin, 2118 Woodhaven, Tyler, TX 75701, or you can pay at the **any of our activities.**

**To pay online, use the link below:**

<https://aauw-tyler-branch.square.site/>



If you have questions or great ideas, contact:

**Susan Garrison**

[sgarrison2017@gmail.com](mailto:sgarrison2017@gmail.com)



## WELCOME RETURNING MEMBER SANDRA OWENS

**Sandra Owens** returns to AAUW Tyler after a brief hiatus and will serve on the Tyler Fund Board through 2025. Owens joined AAUW Tyler in 2012 and served as Secretary that year. She also co-chaired the Expanding Your Horizons® project that year.

She served as Assistant Program VP in 2014 and assumed the Program Vice President post in 2021-2022. Sandra has worked as a judge with the Academic Rodeo Spelling Bee for numerous years and continues her interest in that project.



Owens has a B.S. in Elementary Education from Stephen F. Austin University, a Masters in Educational Leadership from UT Tyler, and a PhD from Texas A&M College Station. She was TISD principal at Andy Woods, Griffin, and Douglas Elementary Schools for a span of 16 years.

The telephone number and email address in the January newsletter issue were incorrect. Please change those in your records

### Sandra Owens

708 Bentley Court, Tyler TX 75703

Phone: 903-530-5298

Email: [drsandraowens13@gmail.com](mailto:drsandraowens13@gmail.com)



## FAREWELL TO BOARD MEMBER ANDIE RATHBONE



**Andie Rathbone** joined AAUW Tyler in 2005 and has served on the board in several posts. She was Secretary in 2022-2023 and was Membership VP for 2021-2022.

She also has chaired the LOTE Interest Group since 2018. She chaired Daytime Books Interest Group from 2012 to the present, except for the years 2014-2017, coordinating the years' schedules and communicating with members. She currently chairs Public Policy, working with the AAUW-Texas Public Policy VP and public policy chairs statewide about issues in the Texas Legislature and the US

Congress.

Andie has judged the Academic Rodeo Spelling Bee for some ten years and has worked with the STEM project for middle school girls. She helps with the annual book sale fundraiser every year.

Her steadfast support for AAUW -Tyler to advance the goals of the organization has been invaluable. We wish her the best in her relocating to St. Louis to be near family.





# 2023-2024 Board of Directors

AAUW Board Meetings are the 3rd Sunday of every month, 2 pm.

Your 2023-2024 Board of Directors already are busy making plans and representing you in the community. Contact information and responsibilities are included in the chart below. Do not hesitate to contact your board if you have a question or want to become involved in a specific project or committee.

	<b>Elected Officers</b>	<b>*Executive Committee</b>	
President*	Verle Ellis	Laverleellis2017@outlook.com	903-520-5430
President-Elect*	Open		
Program VP*	Kristi C. Roberts	Kristi.c.roberts@gmail.com	903-245-1820
Membership VP*	Susan Garrison	sgarrison09@gmail.com	903-245-9011
Finance Officer*	Sheila Austin	sjaustin64@gmail.com	903-574-1569
Secretary/Parliamentarian*	Mary Lynn Smith	marylynsmith1959@gmail.com	903-595-1385
	<b>Standing</b>	<b>Committee Chairs</b>	
Tyler Fund Chair	Diane Kavanaugh	dianekav99@gmail.com	704-526-7274
Scholarships	Diane Kavanaugh	dianekav99@gmail.com	704-526-7274
AAUW Funds Chair	Jeanelle Maland	Jeanelle.maland@gmail.com	903-539-2722
Public Policy	Andie Rathbone	Andie.rathbone.66@gmail.com	903-312-5118
Long Range Plan	Julie Davis	julied4868@gmail.com	214-500-4109
	<b>Appointed</b>	<b>Chairs</b>	
Historian	Mary Lynn Smith	marylynsmith1959@gmail.com	903-595-1385
Newsletter	Scherel Carver	eddiecrvr@aol.com	903-581-1391
Directory	Jeanne Henderson	jeanne@jimhenderson.com	903-520-4311
Publicity	Committee/Event chairs		
Webmaster/Social Media	Diane Kavanaugh	dianekav99@gmail.com	704-526-7274
	<b>Project Chairs</b>	<b>&amp; Fundraising Chairs</b>	
Academic Rodeo	Suzanne Thomas	Sbthomas001@gmail.com	903-570-7329
Great Decisions	Julie Davis	julied4868@gmail.com	214-500-4109
Book Sale	Susan Garrison	sgarrison09@gmail.com	903-245-9011
Games Day	Jeanne Henderson	jeanne@jimhenderson.com	903-534-6563
STEM Like a Girl	Merilynn Wick	meriwick@msn.com	903-530-5337
March Madness	Mary Lynn Smith	marylynsmith1959@gmail.com	903-595-1385



## COMING ATTRACTIONS—Calendar of Events & Projects

### March — Women's History Month

- 14 Great Decisions — 5:30pm
- 19 AAUW Branch Meeting: Slay the Dragon — 6:30 Sue Landers Home 810 Ashford Court
- 21 Evening Books — 7pm
- 23 Phantom Fundraiser Committee-- 11am, 815 E. Grande #S101
- 24 Long Range Planning Committee — 3:30pm, Board & Bites
- 26 Board Games — 630 pm
- 27 Daytime Books — 1:30 pm
- 28 Great Decisions-NATO's Future — 5:30 pm
- 31 Easter Sunday

**April NOTE: The April 16 meeting on Women's Health has been canceled.**  
Phantom Event Fundraiser

- 4 Great Decisions — The High Seas Treaty — 5:30 pm

- 6 AAUW-TX Convention via Zoom, 8:30am-1 pm. **FREE of charge.**
- 9 LOTE-Vellagio del Vino — 6 pm
- 11 Great Decisions — 5:30pm
- 17 New Member Welcome Event — 6:30pm Location TBA
- 18 Evening Books — 7 pm
- 20 Annual Business Meeting & Scholarship Awards — 11:30 am Texas Country Music, 6524 Old Jacksonville Hwy.
- 24 Daytime Book Group-2025 Title Selection — 11:30 am, Twelve
- 28 Mah Jongg — 1pm

### May

- 14 LOTE, 6 pm, Villa Montez
- 16 Evening Books — 7 pm
- 21 Potluck Dinner & Officer Installation — 6:30 pm Hamilton Ridge Clubhouse, 815 E. Grande
- 22 Daytime Book Group — 1:30 pm

- 26 Mah Jongg — 1pm

### June

- 11 LOTE, — 6 pm, Montez Creekside Kitchen, Hwy 110 S, Whitehouse
- 20 Evening Books — 7 pm
- 30 Mah Jongg — 1pm

### July

- 9 LOTE — 6 pm, Mario's
- 18 Evening Books — 7 pm
- 28 Mah Jongg, 1pm

### August

- 13 LOTE, 6 pm — Roma's Italian
- 15 Evening Books — 7 pm
- 24 FY25 Kick-Off Pot Luck? — 1 pm
- 25 Mah Jongg, — 1pm

### September

- 10 LOTE — 6pm, Abuelo's
- 19 Evening Books — 7 pm
- 24 Board Games — 6:30 pm
- 25 Daytime Books — 1:30 pm
- 30 Mah Jongg — 1 pm





**P. O. Box 7171**  
**Tyler Texas 75711-7171**

Wanda Barber  
3319 Greg Lane  
Tyler, TX 75701



**Saturday April 6**

**Join the AAUW-TX State Convention via zoom: Charting a Course Through the Challenge of Change. 8:30am—1:00 pm**