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

IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1
Slay the Dragon: End Gerrymandering, March 19	1
Slate of Officers FY25	2
Long Range Plan Committee	2
Annual Meeting April 20	3
Proposed FY25 Budget Info	4
Great Decisions 2024	5
New Member Welcome Event	5
Facebook & Instagram	5
Interest Group Contacts	6
Interest Group Schedules	6
Membership News	7
New Members & Farewells	7
2023-2024 Board	8
Calendar of Events	8

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

AAUW Tyler (TX) Branch

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.

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

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 spring!

Verle Ellis

AAUW Tyler (TX) Branch

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 commission, 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
[redacted]

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 [redacted] no later than April 10, 2024.

AAUW
Tyler (TX) Branch

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	
Income	
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
Total Games Day	$10,700.00
Other Types of Income	
Equi-Tea	
Amazon Smile	$0.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	$0.00
Revenue from Fund Reserves	$570.00
Total Other Types of Income	$570.00
Phantom Ball Income	$2,500.00
Total Income	$18,770.00
Expense	
Administration	
Insurance -General Liability	$200.00
Software	$70.00
Office Supplies & Miscellaneous	$100.00
Website	$0.00
Total Administration	$370.00
Contributions	
AAUW Funds	
AAUW Funds – Other	$1,500.00
Total AAUW Funds	$1,500.00
Scholarships	$12,000.00
Total Contributions	$13,500.00
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
Total Games Day Fundraiser	$3,355.00
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
Total Programs & Projects	$1,350.00
Total Expense	$18,775.00
Net Ordinary Income	-$5.00
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Value of In-Kind Income	
Interest Income	$5.00
Total Other Income	$5.00
Other Expense	
Total Other Expense	
Net Other Income	$5.00
Net Income	$0.00

	2024-25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Fundraising/Book Sale	$600.00
Business Meeting	$600.00
Dues	$4,000.00
Fund Raising - Other	$331.00
Total Income	$5,531.00
Expense	
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
Total Administration	$4,006.00
Membership	
Dues/Subscriptions	$175.00
Reassembly	$150.00
Recruitment/Retention	$100.00
Yearbook/Directory	$125.00
Newsletter	$25.00
Total Membership	$575.00
Programs	
Honorariums	$125.00
Business Meeting	$600.00
Salad Supper	$200.00
Projects	$75.00
Total Programs	$1,000.00
Total Expense	$5,681.00
Net Ordinary Income	-$150.00
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Income - MMA	$150.00
Total Other Income	$150.00
Other Expense	
Expense Value of Donated Items	
Total Other Expense	$0.00
Net Other Income	$150.00
Net Income	$0.00

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?

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

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 and click Book Store or 800-477-5836. Price is $35. Also available @Barnes & Noble Nook app for $27.

Foreign Policy Association

FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION 1918

Great Decisions Foreign Policy Discussions

March 2—April 111

5:30 pm

Tyler Public Library

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.

AAUW Facebook page & Instagram

Like us on facebook

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!

Instagram

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

To find our page, put **AAUW Tyler Branch** in the Facebook search bar.

2023-2024 AAUW Interest Groups

Interest 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	[redacted]
Community Service	Jeanne Henderson	Times and Dates Vary	
Culture Club	Sheila Austin	Varies	
Daytime Book Group	Andie Rathbone/ Suzanne Thomas	4th Wednesday, 1:30 pm	
Evening Book Group	Sue Lander	3rd Thursday, 7:00pm	
LOTE "Ladies of the Evening"	Andie Rathbone/	2nd Tuesday, 6:00 pm	
Mah Jongg	Jeanelle Maland	Times and Dates Vary	

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

Date	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	**Lessons in Chemistry**	**Bonnie Garmus**
April 18	**The Marriage Portrait**	**Maggie O'Farrell**
May 16	**Brain on Fire**	**Susannah Calahan**
June 20	**Joan: A Novel of Joan of Arc**	**Katherine Chen**
July 18	**The Covenant of Water**	**Abraham Verghese**
August 15	**The Magnolia Palace**	**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.
[redacted]

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

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. please contact **Andie Rathbone** at [redacted] or call at **(903) 312-5118**

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 Creekside, 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
[redacted]

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
[redacted]

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.

	Elected Officers	***Executive Committee**
President*	Verle Ellis	[redacted]
President-Elect*	Open	
Program VP*	Kristi C. Roberts	
Membership VP*	Susan Garrison	
Finance Officer*	Sheila Austin	
Secretary/Parliamentarian*	Mary Lynn Smith	
	Standing	**Committee Chairs**
Tyler Fund Chair	Diane Kavanaugh	[redacted]
Scholarships	Diane Kavanaugh	
AAUW Funds Chair	Jeanelle Maland	
Public Policy	Andie Rathbone	
Long Range Plan	Julie Davis	
	Appointed	**Chairs**
Historian	Mary Lynn Smith	[redacted]
Newsletter	Scherel Carver	
Directory	Jeanne Henderson	
Publicity	Committee/Event chairs	
Webmaster/Social Media	Diane Kavanaugh	
	Project Chairs	**& Fundraising Chairs**
Academic Rodeo	Suzanne Thomas	[redacted]
Great Decisions	Julie Davis	
Book Sale	Susan Garrison	
Games Day	Jeanne Henderson	
STEM Like a Girl	Merilynn Wick	
March Madness	Mary Lynn Smith	

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

AAUW
Tyler (TX) Branch

P. O. Box 7171
Tyler Texas 75711-7171

Wanda Barber

3319 Greg Lane

Tyler, TX 75701

FREE **Saturday April 6**

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