The story of Presidents’ Day date begins in 1800. Following President George Washington’s death in 1799, his February 22 birthday became a perennial day of remembrance. At the time, Washington was venerated as the most important figure in American history, and events like the 1832 centennial of his birth and the start of construction of the Washington Monument in 1848 were cause for national celebration.

While Washington’s Birthday was an unofficial observance for most of the 1800s, it was not until the late 1870s that it became a federal holiday. The holiday initially only applied to the District of Columbia, but in 1885 it was expanded to the whole country. The shift from Washington’s Birthday to Presidents’ Day began in the late 1960s when Congress proposed a measure known as the Uniform Monday Holiday Act.

The move away from February 22 led many to believe that the new date was intended to honor both Washington and Abraham Lincoln, as it now fell between their two birthdays. By the mid-1980s Washington’s Birthday was known to many Americans as Presidents’ Day.

Washington and Lincoln still remain the two most recognized leaders, but Presidents’ Day is now popularly seen as a day to recognize the lives and achievements of all of America’s chief executives. Some lawmakers have objected to this view, arguing that grouping George Washington and Abraham Lincoln together with less successful presidents minimizes their legacies.

Presidents’ Day never falls on the actual birthday of any American president which is always celebrated on the third Monday of the month.

Source: History.com

So, what does this have to do with us today? I am sure that back in the day, both Washington and Lincoln had many who thought they were radical (not rule like England and the Emancipation Proclamation!) and totally disagreed with them. With the inauguration of President Trump, there are many who totally disagree with him. Our country has flourished since Washington and Lincoln even though we have been through many wars, depressions, recessions and presidents. As a non-partisan organization, we need to continue to work within the system toward the AAUW goals to advance women and girls equality.

Speaking of holding an officer position, it is never too early to start thinking about becoming an officer in our branch. We will be looking for some new officers starting the end of this year to take office in July of 2018. So, start thinking about which position you would consider.
AAUW NETC Branch Membership
By Cheri Butler and Paula Jernigan

It’s a Perfect Time to Grow Our Membership in AAUW

Your membership committee, including Cheri Butler, Jean Dodds, Paula Jernigan, Martha Ragsdale and Jerrilyn Woodard-Entrekin, met recently to explore ways to recruit, engage and retain members in the NETC Branch of AAUW. All of us agree that this is the PERFECT time to take action to grow our membership. Everywhere we go these days, people are talking about women’s issues and how we can work together to make a difference in the lives of girls and women all over the world. With all the talk of marches and issues and agreements and disagreements about women’s issues, there’s one thing all of us can do….Let’s proudly talk about our involvement in AAUW….why we joined and what AAUW does at the national, state and local level. Educate women about AAUW and then invite them to the next meeting.

After much lively conversation and brainstorming about growing our membership, it was agreed that Cheri and Paula will develop a specific action plan for review by branch leadership and all members. Stay tuned for details.

In the meantime: invite your friends who didn’t attend the August membership brunch to come with you to the next meeting; follow-up with your friends who have recently joined to be sure they are fully engaged in branch activities; invite a friend who has missed meetings recently to come to the next meeting/small group; invite your friends in other women’s groups to learn more about AAUW so we can work jointly on important issues; and use your good ideas to attract women to the NETC Branch of AAUW.

The time is right and growing our membership is a group effort. Let’s work together to give women an opportunity to speak truth to power. The time is perfect and we can help!

AAUW NETC Branch Programs
By Marilyn Matthews and Kathy Prado

On Saturday, February 11 at 9:30 a.m., we will meet at Martin Methodist. The program for February will be Red Thong Strong - Women Supporting Women. Brought together by faith fellowship, and a thing for fashion, eight Texas women set sail on a voyage to write the ultimate girlfriend’s handbook. Please join us for refreshments and conversation before the program begins at 10 a.m.

Northeast Tarrant County Branch
http://netarrant-tx.aauw.net/
Meetings in the Wider AAUW Community
By Gloria Long, North District Representative

North Texas Interbranch will meet at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 4, in Dallas at the Meadows Conference Center, 2900 Live Oak St., Dallas, 75204. Many thanks to the Dallas branch for hosting this meeting. The program will be a panel of refugee agency representatives in the DFW area discussing what they do and what we can do to help. After the panel we will have some time to share what is going on in our local branches, review upcoming state activities and celebrate the success of the Sister Marches last weekend. All AAUW members are invited to attend Interbranch meetings.

SAVE THE DATE: AAUW Texas Legislative Day is Tuesday, April 4 in Austin. The topic this year will be passing Equal Pay legislation. AAUW Texas has set apart some funds to assist branches with the cost of gas to send members. Training on what to say to your legislator will be held before we start knocking on doors. Please consider joining us that day.

KEYS High School
By Nelda Rogers

We would like to introduce you to Janet Joseph, the new Principal of KEYS High School in the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Independent School District. She has spent 39 years in education. This is her first year as principal of KEYS High School. She has a B.S. in Science from Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma and her Masters of Education from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma. Her first 20 years in education were spent in Oklahoma. Her last 19 years have been here in HEB ISD where she has been an elementary teacher, secondary teacher, secondary counselor and secondary assistant principal and now a high school principal. Here is what she has to say about her life as an educator: “I have loved what I do for the last 39 years and still love it today.”

The KEYS Committee would like to thank each of you for all your help during the past few months. We still have a few gift cards to take to the school, so if you still have yours we will be glad to take it at the next meeting. Just remember to mark the amount of the card on it. Thanks again for all you do. Mrs. Joseph says, “Thank you so much for all of your support and help.”
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED
by Ginny Phoenix

Finance Officer

One of our Finance Officers, Shawn Hawkins, has resigned her position due to work and family constrictions.

We are looking for a new Co-Finance Officer. Our very experienced Finance Officer, Anita Thetford, who has held the position for almost three years is willing to show you the ropes. As a former Finance Officer of four years, I can tell you that you don't have to be a CPA or accountant. You just need to be able to add and subtract and possibly use EXCEL or WORD. The term extends until June 30, 2018 and I would really hope that you would continue for another two year term after that so that we could continue to have an experienced Finance Officer along with the new one.

Please consider volunteering for this position to help move our AAUW Northeast Tarrant County branch forward. If you are interested in finding out more, contact Ginny Phoenix at ginnyphoenix@hotmail.com or 817-485-1542 at home or 817-637-9549 on cell.
WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES PRESENTS:

becoming cyborg

A BLACK FEMINIST, THE LIVING CAMERA,
PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY, AND THEIR WEAVING

Based on the digitally born ethnographic film project, Public Education Project: Participatory Democracy in Times of Privatization, this multimedia presentation explores cyborg weaving as a renewed possibility for participatory democracy. Huckaby and her camera together become the living camera, the participatory camera, the cine-eye-ear — cyborg. This feminist scholarship born of necessity witnesses, documents, analyzes, and (re)presents the counterstories and activism of marginalized and displaced communities in the struggle to claim education at a time when receiving it is threatened.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 7:00 P.M.

Sid Richardson Lecture Hall 2

For more information email wgst@tcu.edu or call 817.257.8484
Game Night
By Diane Siegel

Let's have an evening of social card games for those who don't play bridge. My husband and I enjoy Hand & Foot Canasta, Spite & Malice (similar to Skipbo), and rummy games. Let's get together and have some fun!

WHEN: Saturday, February 18 at 6 to 9:30 p.m.

WHO: Members, spouses, friends who are willing to learn a new game (we can teach)

WHAT ELSE: Games and hot vegetable soup in the pot

WHERE: 3904 Lochridge Ct., North Richland Hills, TX 76180

BYO: Wine/etc. if desired, other snacks and sharable goodies to go with soup

RSVP Please *** Diane Siegel 817-896-0198 or lazercoach@gmail.com if you are interested so we can have enough tables/chairs

Northeast Tarrant County Branch
http://netarrant-tx.aauw.net/
AAUW NETC Branch
Bridge Group
By Mary Lou Bass and Gloria Long

There are two Bridge Groups: Daytime and Evening. Daytime Bridge usually meets on either the first or second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. in the home of a branch member. The Evening Group usually meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m., also in a member’s home. **Evening Bridge** contact is Mary Lou Bass. **Daytime Bridge** contact is Gloria Long.

**Daytime Bridge** will meet on Thursday, **February 9** at 1 p.m. in the home of Lynn Doyle. Please let Lynn know if you plan to attend. Beachqueen2@att.net or 817-917-4907

**Evening Bridge** will meet on Thursday, **February 23** at 7 p.m. Host is TBA.

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**AAUW NETC Branch Cultural Group**
**By Jean Dodds**

Eugene is the 3rd chair violin in the Fort Worth symphony. Larissa teaches piano at TCU and plays for Unity Church. They are both Russian educated musicians and these concerts are excellent.

We will take names and arrange carpools at our February meeting.

Saturday, **February 25** at 11:55 a.m. at RAVE Cinema, Hurst.

Metropolitan Opera at the Movies - *Rusalka*. 245 minutes. Tickets $25 adult and $23 senior. I will have a limited amount of free tickets.

Please email Jean Dodds at jdodds0630@gmail.com if you would like to go to this event.

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**AAUW NETC Branch Lit Group**
**By Donna Baumgartner**

February 16

*Magician’s Lie: An Immersive Historical Mystery* by Greer Macallister

Hostess: Ginny Phoenix 7 p.m.

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Northeast Tarrant County Branch
http://netarrant-tx.aauw.net/
## February 2017

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<td>3 NRH Library Behind the Book: Author Series 12 p.m.</td>
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<td>8 Women &amp; Gender Studies: Becoming Cyborg 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>22 Evening Bridge 7 p.m. Host TBA</td>
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<td>Jewels of Russian Music 7:30 p.m.</td>
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Please submit all newsletter input to kathleen_ballard@yahoo.com by the 23rd of each month.

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## March 2017

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Title IX is a game changer.

Northeast Tarrant County Branch
http://netarrant-tx.aauw.net/
2017 Women’s March

AAUW NETC Branch members marched in Austin, Denton, Fort Worth, New York City & Beyond!

Northeast Tarrant County Branch
http://netarrant-tx.aauw.net/
AAUW.ORG Tax Information
By Anita Thetford
Anita offers information from the AAUW website to assist you with your personal taxes.

AAUW Dues/Fees Tax Deductibility

AAUW national membership dues are $49: $46 is tax deductible, and $3 is not deductible because it supports the AAUW Action Funds Section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities.

AAUW Student Affiliate fee is $17: $16 is tax deductible, $1 is not deductible.

AAUW National Life Membership is $980: $980 is fully tax deductible.

Note: Branch/state portions of dues are not tax deductible unless your branch/state is classified under the Section 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service. NETC received 501 (c)(3) status in July, 2016.

Our Mission

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research
AAUW is the nation’s leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day – educational, social, economic, and political.

AAUW Northeast Tarrant County Branch serves the suburban northeast area of Tarrant County, Texas.

1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day - educational, social, economic, and political.

AAUW Northeast Tarrant County Branch
http://netarrant-tx.aauw.net/

AAUW Texas http://aauw-tx.aauw.net

AAUW Interbranch http://northtexas-ibc.aauw.net/

AAUW Website http://www.aauw.org/

AAUW Blog http://blog-aauw.org is a lively place to read about and discuss issues of the day.

AAUW on Twitter Log on or sign up for a Twitter account and start following AAUW members from around the nation to hear the latest AAUW and public policy news.

AAUW on Facebook Join AAUW on Facebook. “Like” the AAUW national page or Texas page!