



EMPOWERING WOMEN
SINCE 1881

San Antonio Branch NewsLetter

MAY 2014 Vol 106 • Issue 4

President's Corner

As I sat pondering my final column, I read the April 15 AAUW announcement of 244 fellowships and grants for their 2014-15 award year. Per the AAUW website, this exceptional group of women and nonprofit organizations will receive more than \$3.7 million to carry on AAUW's legacy of scholarship, research, and action. During the award year, the recipients will pursue graduate studies and community projects to empower women and girls in the United States and around the world.

For more than 125 years, AAUW has been a leading source of funding for graduate women, providing nearly \$100 million in fellowships and grants to more than 12,000 women and nonprofit organizations from around the world. At our April meeting, in addition to a fascinating program on Bexar County's BiblioTech, we awarded three \$2,000 graduate student and four \$500 textbook scholarships to an outstanding group of young women. Each year it is a privilege to meet the young women receiving our branch scholarships.

Over the last year, my stack of clippings for this column kept growing. Now as the year is ending, among topics I was not able to feature were: **Computer Science: the Language of the Future** and **Go Figure, Women not Hired to do Math**. And then there is my all-time favorite, **12 Insightful Things People Can Learn from Birds**; although one now applies, as I spread my wings and fly. ~ Barbara Kyse

MAY Meeting

Saturday, May 3, 2014 • 11:00 am - 1:00 pm • Los Patios
2015 NE Loop 410 • 210-655-6171 • Cost \$20

Lunch Choices Chicken Salad plate (served in a tomato) with fruit salad or Chicken Crepes Gazebo with fruit salad and mixed vegetable • Tea and coffee

•• Menu choice must be made when making your reservation ••

Reservation deadline is **Tuesday night, April 29, 2014**

Contact Kate Vettters at kvettters@sbcglobal.net or 210-696-1804

PROGRAM The Children's Court

SPEAKER Judge Peter Sakai, 225th District Court

MAY Program — Judge Peter Sakai

In November 2006, Judge Peter Sakai was elected to the 225th District Court bench, succeeding Senior Judge John J. Specia.

Judge Sakai was born and raised in the Rio Grande Valley in South Texas. Following his graduation from the University of Texas Law School, he was appointed to be the Chief of the Juvenile Section of the District Attorney's Office. He left the D.A.'s office for private practice. In 1989, he was appointed to be the Juvenile Master/Referee of the 289th District Court (Juvenile Court).

In January 1, 1995, Associate Judge Peter Sakai was then appointed to the Children's Court bench and assigned to hear cases that involve child abuse and neglect cases and the adoption cases that involve foster children. Through Judge Sakai's leadership, adoption of foster children in Bexar County increased nearly 1000% from 1995 to 2005. Bexar County routinely led the State of Texas for the number of foster children with consummated adoptions and permanent homes.

Judge Sakai is widely recognized as a leader who works hard to bring new, innovative ideas and solutions to help resolve issues of child abuse, neglect and family violence; and to constantly challenge all involved in the child welfare system to more effectively serve the families that come into his courtroom and prevent child abuse and neglect and improve children's lives.

It's AAUW Membership Renewal Time Again!

As an AAUW member you will • **Belong to a community of people who value education and equal rights** • **Know what's happening through AAUW's award winning magazine, AAUW Outlook.**

• **Understand issues through AAUW's website and Action Alerts.**

As a San Antonio branch members you will • **Have the opportunity to attend thought-provoking programs related to the AAUW mission—perhaps on local education programs at college and public school levels** • **Support the branch Scholarships offered to outstanding young women attending local colleges and universities** • **Participate in diverse Interest Groups ranging from hiking to books to history and more.**

The 2013-14 membership year ends on **June 30**, so we are now accepting the membership dues for the 2014-15 year. Combined dues are **\$75**, which includes: \$49 for National, \$10 for State and \$16 for the San Antonio Branch. Complete the membership form on Page Six and mail with your check to: **Membership, AAUW San Antonio TX Branch, P.O. Box 460825, San Antonio TX 78246-0825.** (Attached to the newsletter is a flyer on AAUW Student memberships.)

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2013-2014

Branch Officers

President Barbara Kyse
President-Elect Pat Sanford
VP Membership Fran Vettters
VP Programs Sue Ewers
Treasurer Janina Kuzma
Secretary Beverly Baucum
Parliamentarian Sharon Bartling

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AAUW Funds Jeanette Pierce
Public Policy Malinda Gaul
Finance Lisa McDougale
Scholarships Karen Reichensperger

Newsletter

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Email Kate Vettters for Reservations

kvettters@sbcglobal.net
 or call 210-696-1804

MAY Interest & Study Groups



CHAT-N-CHEW

Sunday, May 4, 2014 • 2:00 pm

Contact Malinda Gaul 210-410-8992 or mgaul@satx.rr.com

CULINARY ADVENTURES

Thursday, May 15, 2014 • 12:00 noon

Location: **The Point Park and Eats - Food Trucks** (www.parkatthepoint.com)

24188 Boerne Stage Road (west of IH-10) • 210-251-3380

Contact Fran Vettters to reserve at 210-481-7765 or frankenvettters@sbcglobal.net

HISTORIC SOUTHWEST

Saturday, May 10, 2014 • 12:00 noon

Program: **Captured**, white-Indians-German Americans

Speaker: **Jesse E. Trevino**, Historian, retired History teacher Lanier High School (SAISD)

Location: Doubletree Hotel at McCullough and Loop 410

Contact: Sophie Lim (before Thursday, May 8) 210-445-0654 or limsoph@gmail.com

NIGHT BRIDGE

Monday, May 5 and 19, 2014 • 6:45 pm

Location: La Madeleine at Park North (Loop 410 & Blanco)

Contact Marilyn Traylor 210-696-8299 or mjanetray@yahoo.com

SATURDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

Saturday, May 10, 2014 • 10:00 am

Book: **Select books for 2014-15**

Location: Mary Brennan's House

Contact: Diantha Perelli 210-497-4121 or cyclobabe1946@yahoo.com

WANDERING WONDERS On hiatus until fall and cooler weather

WINE, WISDOM AND WOMEN

Tuesday, May 27, 2014 • 5:00-7:00 pm

Location: **Silo Elevated Cuisine 1604**, 434 N. Loop 1604 West

Between Blanco and Stone Oak on the south access road (210-483-8989)

Contact Malinda Gaul 210-410-8992 or mgaul@satx.rr.com to reserve a place

WORLD AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, May 6, 2014 • 10:00 am

Location: La Taza Coffee House (US-281 and Brookhollow)

Topic: **Turkey's Challenges.**, topic #3 in the 2014 Great Decisions book

Contact: Margaret Mayberry 210-496-5333 or mfmayberry@aol.com

TAKE ACTION—Become a Two-Minute Activist

Join the AAUW Action Network

Since being founded AAUW members and supporters have spoken out about policies important to women and girls. Without their voices, invaluable legislation would have never been passed. In recent years, such legislation included the **Family and Medical Leave Act**, the **Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act**, and the **Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act**. Thanks to technological advances and the **Two-Minute Activist**, individual AAUW members can now easily add their input as an advocate for AAUW's policy efforts to empower women and girls. With the member-endorsed Public Policy Program as the guide, AAUW uses lobbying and grassroots efforts to push forward policies that break through educational and economic barriers for women.

If you are not already a **Two-Minute Activist** and wish to join the AAUW Action Network, sign up through the National AAUW website (www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist). Action Network participants receive messages about current issues, which take a few moments to read and just one more minute to personalize and e-mail a message to your member of Congress. **Current topics on the AAUW Action Network include:**

- **Education:** Tell the Senate: Don't Discriminate with Our Tax Dollars
- **Economic Security:** Members of Congress Can't Agree on Anything, Right?
- **Civil Rights:** Who's Your Boss? Maybe Not Who You Think
- **Title IX:** Go to Bat for Girls in Sports!

AAUW's Title IX Champions!

The Title IX Champions award celebrates the vital contributions of AAUW members and branches across the country to Title IX advocacy. In the 40 years since Title IX passed, we've seen AAUW members do amazing work to promote gender equity in education. AAUW members have investigated Title IX compliance, cheered on women athletes, supported educators who called for fairness, lobbied for equitable school policies, and helped teach students, parents, educators, coaches, and administrators about the law's requirements. We have much more work ahead of us to fulfill Title IX's promise, and AAUW Title IX Champions inspire us to press on! Source: www.aauw.org/resource/title-ix-champions

Two Champions from Austin

Although Priya Ramamoorthy and Kavya Ramamoorthy are future AAUW members, we celebrate their Title IX championship and the contributions of the AAUW Austin (TX) Branch. "After doing a research project on Title IX, where they received a lot of help from AAUW, Priya and Kavya Ramamoorthy (age 16) found that kids their age are not aware of Title IX or the challenges that women face in higher education. They recently set up a booth at the **GenAustin We Are Girls** conference to educate kids about Title IX. The purpose of their presentation was to motivate girls to appreciate and make use of the opportunities they have, to fight for inequalities when they encounter discrimination, and to show them that a federal law is on their side," says AAUW Austin (TX) Branch member Janani Janakiraman (also their mother). More information about these remarkable young women can be found at, www.aauw.org/2014/03/06/girls-fight-for-title-ix/

AAUW Funds & Philanthropy

The AAUW Funds enable the AAUW to fund multiple programs in support of its mission for women and education. Gifts to AAUW Funds (#9110) are unrestricted and used to support programs with the greatest needs. These tax-deductible gift allow AAUW to respond to urgent needs and take advantage of opportunities to break through barriers—and make the biggest impact on women and girls.

For more control over your donation's impact, gifts can be restricted to areas within any specific fund. The most commonly designated funds are: **Legal Advocacy Fund** (#3999), **Educational Opportunities Fund** (#4336), **Eleanor Roosevelt Fund** (#9170), **Leadership Programs Fund** (#4339), and **Public Policy Fund** (#4337). Many Texas branches and members support the **Ann Richards Fund** (#4324). Please see the branch's November 2013 newsletter for more detailed information on this fund.

The AAUW website has an AAUW Funds diagram, in flow chart form, showing how AAUW's major funds are structured and their relationship to each other (www.aauw.org/resource/how-to-support-aauw-programs-funds-diagram). To make a donation, make checks payable to **AAUW Funds**. If you prefer to restrict your gift to a specific fund, please indicate the name or number of the fund in the memo section of your check or any accompanying document and mail to **AAUW, P.O. Box 98045, Washington, DC 20090-8045**. Or you can contribute online using the secure website. If you have any questions about giving to AAUW or would like to receive information about including AAUW in your estate plans, please contact the Washington office at 202.728.3307 or contact them by e-mail.

Random Moments in AAUW History — The Last Six Decades

- 1958** The nonprofit AAUW Educational Foundation is established to administer AAUW fellowship and grant programs.
- 1971** AAUW passed resolutions supporting the legalization of abortion and the Equal Rights Amendment.
- 1975** AAUW Action Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps is formed to monitor congressional hearings and lobby for bills that match AAUW's legislative program.
- 1981** AAUW established the Legal Advocacy Fund to support women sought justice in instances of sex discrimination in higher education.
- 1987** AAUW voted to extend membership to male college graduates.
- 1993** The Family Medical Leave Act passed after seven years of hard work by AAUW staff and the AAUW Action Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps.
- 1995** AAUW launched Voter Education Campaign.
- 2008** AAUW received special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council.
- 2008** President Barack Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.
- 2011** The Legal Advocacy Fund expanded its mission outside of academia.
- 2011** One Member, One Vote replaced the AAUW delegate system.



Membership Form

Please complete the membership form below
make checks payable to AAUW-San Antonio and mail check to:

AAUW San Antonio Branch
P.O. Box 460825
San Antonio Texas 78246-0825

Dues: Branch Member (National \$49*; AAUW Texas \$10; San Antonio Branch \$16)	\$75
Life Member (pays only AAUW Texas \$10 & the San Antonio Branch \$16)	\$26
Honorary Life Member (has completed 50 years continuous membership)	\$ 0

Member # (if applicable) _____

Name: Last _____ First _____ Middle Initial _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: Home _____ Mobile _____ Work _____

Email: _____

OPTIONAL FOR RENEWING MEMBERS

Education: Institution Major(s) Years

Bachelor _____

Master _____

PhD _____

Other _____

*According to the IRS \$46 of AAUW National individual membership dues are tax deductible. AAUW Texas and San Antonio branch dues are not tax deductible.