

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2013 Vol 105 • Issue 5

AAUW

EMPOWERING WOMEN
SINCE 1881

san antonio Branch

President's Corner

While the days of summer have seemed endless; autumn is quickly approaching, so surely the 100 degree days will soon end. The San Antonio branch's 2013-2014 year will begin **September 7** with our general meeting at 11:00 am at Los Patios.

Over the last three years we have focused on the individual elements of the AAUW mission: Education in 2010-11, Advocacy in 2011-12, and Research through STEM in 2012-13. For 2013-14 the focus will be on the entire AAUW mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. However, the concentration will be to connect our mission to the future generations.

The lineup of 2013-14 presentations starts with the **Slow Food school program** and closes with Judge Peter Sakai on the Children's Court. In between, our scheduled programs range from the Children's Museum, Expanding your

Horizons, YOSA's Westside program, the San Antonio Area Foundation's Women and Girls Development Fund, the Growing up Wild nature program, to Libraries Today.

The branch general meetings will continue on Saturdays. However, **the meeting will start at 11:00 am** with the goal of finishing around 1:00, except for brunch meetings which will begin earlier. Generally, the 2013-14 meeting agendas will begin with the program at 11:15, followed by the branch business meeting, and end with lunch being served shortly after noon.

Throughout the year, we are planning to schedule a few early evening events where members/nonmembers can meet in a casual setting and discuss AAUW policy issues and programs. We are looking forward to seeing fellow members this year, and welcome guests and friends to participate in this year's programs. ~Barbara Kyse

September Meeting

Saturday, September 7, 2013 • 11:00 am -1:00 pm • Los Patios • 2015 NE Loop 410 • 210-655-6171
Cost is \$20 • Email menu choices with your reservation to Kate Vettters at kvettters@sbcglobal.net. Or call Kate at 210-696-1804. **Reservation deadline is Wednesday night, September 4.**

LUNCH CHOICES Chicken Salad plate (served in tomato) with fruit salad **OR**
Grilled Chicken Pico (topped with pico de gallo and queso) with mixed vegetables. Tea and coffee.

PROGRAM The Slow Food Program in San Antonio Schools

Susan Rigg has a "green thumb from my English mum" and is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. She has lived and worked in Texas since the mid 1980's and is a founding member of Slow Food South Texas which began in 2011. She is passionate about teaching kids about Slow Food and has some hands-on projects at Lamar and Bonham Elementary schools. She will share some of her programs and experiences with us. She will take us on a food tour of a single food item to illustrate where food really does come from. You may be surprised. Don't miss her presentation **September 7 at 11 am at Los Patios.**

RAFFLE FOR THE AAUW SCHOLARSHIPS

The San Antonio branch will not hold a *Breaking the Glass Ceiling* event next winter to raise funds for our scholarship awards. However, we will have two separate raffles for a \$500 VISA gift card: one in the autumn and another in the spring. Proceeds from the sales of the raffle tickets will aid in funding the textbook scholarships. The San Antonio branch offers scholarships to assist women attending a college or university in Bexar County to purchase required academic text books.

The raffle tickets for the VISA gift card will be \$10 each (or 3 for \$25) and will be available for purchase at our general meetings beginning **September 7** at Los Patios. The drawing will be held at our **December 7** meeting at Paloma Blanca, just in time for holiday shopping. One does not have to be a member to purchase the raffle tickets which assist in funding our scholarship program. If you have suggestions or ideas for potential fundraising projects for our scholarship program, please contact Barbara Kyse at bckyse@msn.com.

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2012-2013

BRANCH OFFICERS

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

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

NEWSLETTER

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 210-824-8884

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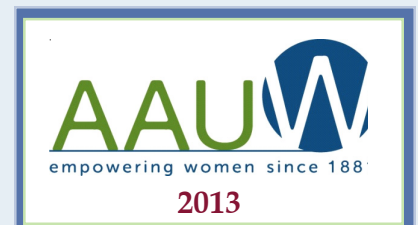
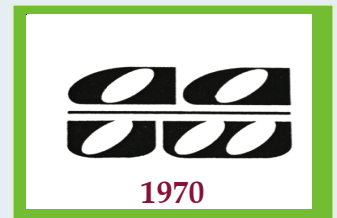
FOR RESERVATIONS
kveters@sbcglobal.net
 or CALL 210-696-1804

AAUW LOGO and HISTORY

February 20, 2013, the AAUW unveiled a brand new website and revised the logo that existed for over 20 years. To the side you will see past AAUW logos dating from 1970 to now.

Per the National AAUW website "Our most recent logo introduced in 1990 was starting to show its age, especially in an increasingly digital world. The logo working group wanted a modern, more readable typeface for the logo and a tagline that would instantly convey who we are and what we do. The new logo emphasizes the "W" as the central element of our name and work and has a more global look."

Over the next seven issues, the newsletter will include brief snapshots of the AAUW history over the years to how it has evolved over time to its current mission.



MEET OUR INCOMING AAUW BRANCH OFFICERS



New AAUW Branch Officers: (l to r) Pat Sanford, President-Elect; Barbara Kyse, President; Janina Kuzma, Treasurer; Susan Ewers, Program Vice-President; and Fran Vettors, Membership Vice-President.

AAUW AND RECENT SUPREME COURT DECISION

VANCE V. BALL STATE UNIVERSITY Workplace Harassment

Summary

The court sided with Ball State by making it easier for employers to escape liability for discrimination and harassment in the workplace by a coworker. It limited the automatic employer liability to actions taken by a “supervisor” — defined as someone whom “the employer has empowered” to “take tangible employment actions against the victim, i.e., to effect a ‘significant change in employment status, such as hiring, firing, failing to promote, reassignment with significantly different responsibilities, or a decision causing a significant change in benefits.’”

Whom it affects

Workers will have a much harder time proving workplace harassment and discrimination under Title VII. In order for the employer to be held liable, the worker must prove an employer-defined

“supervisor” acted in a discriminatory manner. As Justice Ginsberg pointed out in the dissent, this decision significantly under-protects employees from harassment because some supervisors may lack the unilateral power to hire or fire but still exert considerable power over the day-to-day lives of their employees. She said an “employee who confronts her harassing supervisor risks, for example, receiving an undesirable or unsafe work assignment or an unwanted transfer... Facing such dangers, she may be reluctant to blow the whistle on her superior.” Ginsberg said the standard for liability should have remained that “an employer is negligent ... only if it knew or should have known the conduct but failed to take appropriate corrective action.”

AAUW’s Position: AAUW opposes limits on workers’ ability to seek remedy for harassment and discrimination. **Next steps:** Members of Congress have expressed interest in correcting this ruling through legislation.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BRANCH BYLAWS

The board of directors is presenting the following bylaw amendments for a vote at the upcoming September 7 general meeting. The first proposal is to reduce the size of the nominating committee from seven to five and move its formation of the nominating committee from September to November. There is proposal to change either the presentation of the slate or the timing of the vote. The second proposed amendment is to reduce the number of mandatory board of director meetings from five to four.

ARTICLE IX. NOMINATIONS

Current bylaw

Section 1. There shall be a Nominating Committee of seven members, three of whom shall be elected by the Board of Directors at the first Board Meeting of the fiscal year, and four of whom shall be elected at the first General Membership Meeting of the fiscal year.

Immediately after that first General Membership Meeting, the seven members of the Nominating Committee shall meet and select one of their number to serve as Chair. This committee shall submit its proposed slate of new officers to the Branch at the March General Membership Meeting and the membership shall vote at the Annual Meeting in April.

Proposed revision

Section 1. A nominating committee of five (5) members shall be elected by the board of directors at least four months prior to the April Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee shall select one of their members to serve as Chair. This committee shall submit its proposed slate of new officers to the Branch at the March General Membership Meeting and the membership shall vote at the Annual Meeting in April. Nominations may be made from the floor at the time of the election, provided written consent by the nominee has been obtained.

ARTICLE XI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Current bylaw

Section 3. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least five times per year. Special meetings may be called by the President.

Proposed revision

Section 3. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least four times per year. Special meetings may be called by the President.



INTEREST & STUDY GROUPS

CULINARY ADVENTURES

Thursday, September 19, 2013 • 11:30 am
 Location: **Il Song Garden**, a Korean restaurant
 6905 Blanco (SW corner Blanco & Lp 410)
 210-366-4508. Contact Fran Veters 210-481-4508
 or frankenveters@sbcglobal.net

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT

Wednesday, September 25, 2013 • 6:00 pm
 Location: **Tribeca di Olmos** (www.tribecadiolmos.com)
 4331 McCullough (Olmos pk near Circle) • 210-320-0698
 Contact Malinda Gaul to reserve place 210-410-8992
 or mgaul@satx.rr.com

NIGHT BRIDGE

Monday, September 16, 2013 • 6:45 PM
 Location: **La Madeleine** at Park North (Lp 410 & Blanco)
 Contact Marilyn Traylor 210-696-8299
 or mjanetray@yahoo.com

SATURDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

Saturday, September 14, 2013 • 10:00 AM
 Book: **The Orphan Master's Son** by Adam Johnson
 Location: Margaret Mayberry's house
 Contact Diantha Perelli 210-497-4121
 or cyclobabe1946@yahoo.com

WORLD AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, September 3, 2013 • 10:00 am
 Topic: **Humanitarian Intervention** (topic #5 in Great Decision 2013)
 Location: La Taza Coffee House, Brookhollow & Hwy 281.
 Contact Margaret Mayberry at 210-496-5333
 or mfmayberry@aol.com

Chat-n-Chew, Historic Southwest and Walking groups will resume in October.

NEW INTEREST GROUP

Culinary Adventures

Moroccan! Puerto Rican! Indian! Belgian! Culinary schools! Food trucks? These are just a few dining choices San Antonio has to offer. In our latest interest group, **Culinary Adventures**, we'll try taste thrills— new and different. Pair your palate with your sense of daring. Join us for lunch the 3rd Thursday of each month —except for December—as we embark on Culinary Adventures! It's an interest group where the only skill required is eating. Contact Fran Veters, 210-481-4508 or frankenveters@sbcglobal.net

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES

Our 2013-2014 Membership Directories will be distributed to members at the **September 7** meeting at **Los Patios**. Directories not picked up at either the September or October meetings will be mailed to members (along with an envelope with raffle tickets for our fall textbook scholarship fundraiser).

AAUW FUNDS

Local branch members can support the National AAUW programs through **tax-deductible** gifts to the AAUW Funds through either unrestricted gifts which provide general support where most needed or by restricting their gifts to specific funds or programs. Following is a list of individual funds which are supported by unrestricted gifts to AAUW Funds: Legal Advocacy Fund, Educational Opportunities Fund, Public Policy Fund, Eleanor Roosevelt Fund and Leadership Programs Fund.

Throughout 2013-14 the newsletters will include brief information articles on individual funds, fellowships and awards under the AAUW Funds umbrella. And in 2014, we will host a fundraising event for the AAUW Funds.

Recent AAUW Research

Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success (2013)

More than ever before, women are relying on community colleges for higher education and workforce preparation. This report recommends policies and practices to help women succeed in community colleges. In particular, they found that child care is a critical issue for student mothers. With increased attention and improved outreach to women students, the nation's community colleges can build on their legacy of providing educational opportunity to all.

Copies of this research bulletin will be available for branch members at the September meeting.

Renew Membership for a Fabulous Year

"Oh, the places you'll go. There is fun to be done!"
"...Out there things can happen and frequently do,
To people as brainy and footsy as you..." *

We agree with Dr. Seuss. There are lots of wonderful things in store for members of AAUW-San Antonio. Fun? Engaging speakers presenting information on a wide variety of subjects. New interest groups. Places to go? Some tasty meals—a few in restaurants new to us. These are good reasons to renew your 2013-2014 membership now. An up-to-date directory is one more. But to brainy members like you, advancing equity for women and girls through your interest and support is the most important reason of all!

If you have not renewed yet, please mail your \$71 check for regular membership (or \$22 if you are a Life member) to **AAUW San Antonio Branch, Membership Chair, PO Box 460825, San Antonio, TX 78246-0825**. Please include any changes to your telephone, home or email addresses with your dues renewal.

New members pay only \$46.50 at the September meeting. Bring a friend!

"You're off to Great Places! Today is your day!"
SA Branch "...is waiting. So get on your Way!"

***Oh, the Places You'll Go!** by Dr. Suess

2013-2014 Renewal Membership Form

NAME _____

List below any changes to your telephone, home or email addresses or any corrections to your information:
