

AAUW

San Antonio Branch Newsletter



Volume 104  
Issue 2

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

*Spring is here!*

As you enjoy San Antonio's beautiful redbuds, mountain laurels, and bluebonnets, be reviewing feminist quotations and deciding which you want to share at the **March 3 luncheon** at Auden's Kitchen.

We had almost 100% participation last March, and members have told me that they enjoyed participating. March is **Women's History Month**, and a chance to visit some programs being offered on various college and university campuses.

I want to thank all of you who made our **Breaking the Glass Ceiling** a big success. The items in the Silent Auction were varied in price and an interesting assortment. Thank you for donating; thank you for attending; and thank you for buying. After paying our bill at Oak Hills Country Club, we cleared \$3,040, at the latest count.

Please make your reservations early for the March 3 luncheon. Call Beverly McDonald 967-1145 or e-mail [Bevjmddonald@aol.com](mailto:Bevjmddonald@aol.com).

*Sharon Bartling*, Branch President

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## MARCH 3, 2012 LUNCHEON AT AUDEN'S KITCHEN

Auden's Kitchen is the creation of Bruce Auden, owner of Biga, the downtown restaurant. He has described Auden's Kitchen as "a casually spirited dining destination" in the Stone Oak community. (See article, page 3)

### M E N U

Lemon pepper marinated buttermilk fried chicken with skin-on mashers, green beans, and black pepper gravy,

**OR** Vegetable wrap, pesto cream cheese, grilled veggies, romaine with quinoa salad

**AND** Chocolate Addictions: Rich and dense cake bites topped with dark chocolate ganache

**OR** Baklava Cheesecake with honey pecan sauce and Chantilly cream

**COST** \$20 [Beverages not included.] • **TIME** 11 AM • Come at 11 and begin eating at 11:30.

**LOCATION** 700 East Sonterra Blvd., Suite 1117—Private Room with entrance from porch

**RESERVATIONS** Call Beverly McDonald at 210-967-1145 or [bevjmcdonald@aol.com](mailto:bevjmcdonald@aol.com)

**PROGRAM** Members' favorite feminist quotations

**DIRECTIONS** Blanco Rd north to Huebner Rd. Right on Huebner Rd. Continue on Huebner to Stone Oak Parkway. Right on Stone Oak Pkwy. Left on Sonterra Blvd (2nd traffic light). Continue on Sonterra to Sigma (2nd traffic light). Right on Sigma. Right at first driveway. Auden's Kitchen is in the first building on the right, but it does not face Sonterra.

## MEET THE NOMINEES FOR 2012-2013 BRANCH POSITIONS

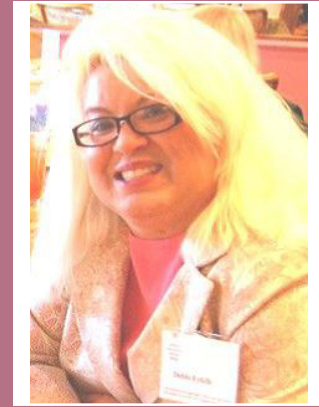
### Deborah Sochia-Eyfels, President

I owe my excitement for education to both of my wonderful parents, Beatrice and Maurice Sochia. My mother is a retired first grade teacher, and my father started his career in education teaching American History at high school level. Later he became a professor of American History and finally a guidance counselor at St. Philip's College. While at St. Philip's, my dad was responsible for initiating many wonderful programs, including the GED+ program.

I am a native of San Antonio. After attending first Churchill High School and then MacArthur High School, I followed in my parents' footsteps and enrolled in Southwest Texas State University. I received a B.A. in English, with a Biology minor and certifications to teach in both fields. I began teaching at the South San Antonio Independent School District in 1991. Eight years ago I moved to the Northside Independent School District, earning a position at Clark High School where I currently teach Anatomy/Physiology Honors and Medical Microbiology/Pathophysiology.

At Clark, I am sponsor of the National Honor Society as well as the Science Fair. I have taken students to compete at the regional level, Alamo Regional Association of Science and Engineering, of which I am a member of the Scientific Review Committee. My students have gone even further to the Exxon Mobil Texas Science and Engineering Fair. I have also had the privilege of taking students to the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF). My heart truly beats with pride when I think of one of my students, Catherine Fan, who was a two-time ISEF winner with her research on silver nanoparticles in dental implants. She is currently a student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As a science teacher, I am pleased to see that there is no longer a stigma attached to girls' interest in STEM studies, and that they are encouraged to enter these fields. I am especially gratified that AAUW is in the forefront on this matter. In 2006, I completed an M.S. in Microbiology with a concentration in virology at the University of Texas Health Science Center. My thesis, *Vaccinia Virus A6L [gene] Encodes a Virion Core Protein Required for Formation of Mature Virion* was published in the *Journal of Virology*, something seldom done with a mere master's candidate's article.

I met my wonderful husband a little over ten years ago in Iceland, and he moved here after a brilliant courtship. Fortunately for all of us, he and my parents form a mutual admiration society. In addition to being a voracious reader, I love online roleplaying, which gives me the opportunity to indulge in creative writing. Recently, I've picked up a new hobby in digital photography. It certainly has come a long way since the days of rolling undeveloped film off a spool in a dark room! I also love travel. My favorite destinations are Iceland (no surprise) and Boston. Thanks to my dad, a native of Massachusetts, I am a diehard Red Sox fan and a member of Red Sox Nation. But teaching remains foremost among my interests! Even though I will have completed twenty years of teaching this year, I have not lost my enthusiasm as an educator. I still get excited when the "back to school" sales begin!



Deborah Sochia-Eyfels

NOMINEES *continued on page four*

## INTEREST & STUDY GROUPS

### BOOK REVIEW

Monday, March 26 • 1 PM  
Beacon Hill Presbyterian Church  
Topic TBA  
Contact Mynda McGuire 497-4638

### CHAT AND CHEW

Sunday, March 4 • 2 PM  
Meet at home of Esther Cantu  
Call Malinda Gaul for directions  
Cell phone 410-8992

### HISTORIC SOUTHWEST

Saturday, March 10 • 12 noon  
Doubletree Hotel  
Speaker: Rudi R. Rodriguez  
Topic: *The Role of Tejanos and Tejanas at the Alamo*  
Contact Eugenia Robinson 673-7766

### MUSEUM GROUP

Docent led tours of the San Antonio Museum of Art  
Tuesdays, 7 pm starting February 21  
Contact Susanne O'Brien 481-3443 or [susanne.obrien@earthlink.net](mailto:susanne.obrien@earthlink.net)

### NIGHT BRIDGE

Mondays, March 5 & 19 • 6:45 PM  
LaMadelaine 410 & Blanco  
Contact Marilyn Traylor 696-8299

### SATURDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

Saturday, March 10 • 10 AM  
*Black Green Swan* by Davis Mitchell  
Contact Diantha Perelli 497-4121

### THEATER GROUP

TBA • Contact Norma Rios 599-7868

### UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S GARDEN CLUB

Wednesday, March 28 • 12:30 PM  
Special Program at the Alamo  
Contact Edna Sharp 492-5206

### WALKING GROUP

Location TBA  
Contact Sharon Bartling 493-3144

### WORLD AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday March 6 • Hostess Fran Veters  
Contact Margaret Mayberry

## REMINDERS

- Be sure to vote! You will find useful the League of Women Voters' Guide in branch libraries. It has brief summaries of the proposed amendments.
- Save your toiletries for our gift to battered women on Mother's Day. Bring your contributions to the May 5, 2012 luncheon.

## AUDEN'S KITCHEN *by Fran Veters*

Named one of the "Ten Best New Chefs in America" in *Food and Wine* magazine and a six time James Beard nominee for Best Chef Southwest, Bruce Auden is the owner of famed downtown restaurant, **Biga on the Banks**, which has been inducted into *Nation's Restaurant News* "Fine Dining Hall of Fame." Auden has created another venue for a wonderful dining experience—Auden's Kitchen.

Because "the kitchen is always considered the heart of the home," and is the place where "the best parties always end up," the renowned chef decided to open a more informal restaurant with comfort foods inspired by meals prepared by his family and friends. Some dishes harken back to his roots in North London; others take basic American recipes and give them a twist of subtle new flavors.

Located at 700 Sonterra Boulevard on the corner of Sonterra Blvd. and Sigma, Auden's Kitchen can be reached without having to take any highways. There is plenty of free parking, and Auden's Kitchen is handicapped accessible.

## LOCAL CONTACTS

- **President**  
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## 2012-13 NOMINEES *continued*

### **Barbara C. Kyse, President-Elect**

I am almost a native Texan, but not quite. When I was four my family moved from New Jersey to Texas and settled in San Antonio less than a mile from my current residence. After high school, I attended Austin College, majoring in chemistry. Realizing that numbers (not science) was my avocation, I transferred to the University of Texas at Austin and earned a BBA in Accounting. Subsequently, I have taken graduate business classes and numerous continuing study courses through Rice University.

My first job after college was with Conoco in Ponca City, Oklahoma. Four years later I returned to Austin, working first for Todd Publication (small Central Texas newspapers) and then Custer Oil. While in Austin, I was a Zachary Scott Theatre Center (now the ZACH) volunteer, board member and representative to the Austin Arts Commission. Five years later, I moved to Houston where the remainder of my professional career was with independent oil and gas exploration and production companies. In 2000 I retired from Mariner Energy after 14 years as the Corporate Controller responsible for accounting, tax, and treasury functions. In 1997, I joined the West Harris County AAUW branch and later served as secretary for both the branch and their annual "Expanding Your Horizons" conference.

After retiring I moved home to San Antonio to be near my mother, Helen Kyse. Recent community involvements include San Antonio Art League (Treasurer), League of Women Voters (Treasurer), San Antonio Audubon Society (President 2 years, board member 6 years), and Brackenridge Park Conservancy (board member). Current commitments are Impact San Antonio (Treasurer), Friends of the Parks (board member), and the San Antonio Botanical Society (incoming board member). One truly rewarding experience has been as a member of the Park Segment subcommittee for planning the San Antonio River Improvement project within Brackenridge Park.

In Houston I was an avid gardener, but since returning home my primary hobby switched to birding. Combining my love of birds, nature, and education, I am an active docent and supporter for the Mitchell Lake Audubon Center. My accounting aptitude traces to my parents who were both successful accountants. My mother remains my inspiration through her remarkable intelligence, continual quest for knowledge, and goal of helping others.

**NOMINEES** *continued on page five*

## **A TIMELY REMINDER TO MEMBERS**

AAUW's Membership Drive begins March 16. The more renewals made now, before the deadline of June 30, the better shape this branch will be in when the new Branch Board takes over July 1.

Regular membership renewal is \$71 and Life members pay only \$22. Write your checks now, and you just may win a free membership later this Spring.

~Mynda Holman McGuire, Membership VP

## 2012-13 NOMINEES *continued*

### **Beverly McDonald, Vice President Programs**

I was born and raised in Canada, completing elementary and high school in my small hometown of Cambridge, Ontario, then moving on to the University of Western Ontario for my BA in Psychology degree. My career post-college was in social work in Canada and across the border in Detroit, Michigan.

After marrying Alan, a friend from my teen years, I began a life of travel and adventure thanks to his work with the U.S. Department of Defense. My social work career fell by the wayside as we moved from state to state and country to country, but it was replaced by a wide variety of jobs depending on our location: a representative for a university's overseas graduate program in Germany, the Red Cross in California, an educational paraprofessional with the DOD school system, an ESL teacher in a Japanese school, and on and on, ending in Visitors' Services with a museum in Washington, DC.

Then as Alan neared retirement, we transferred to San Antonio to be near our two daughters and four grandsons, and here I am! Socializing with family and friends, volunteering at the San Antonio Symphony and the McNay Museum of Art, classes at ALIR, and—lucky me—accidentally falling into an association with an event planning company that keeps me travelling quite often throughout the year and the world (and being paid to do so) makes for a full and busy life. Learning about and joining AAUW two years ago has added another interest in my life. I appreciate the goals and work of the organization. And what a perfect place to meet and mingle with so many interesting women with such diverse backgrounds!

### **Fran Vettors, Vice President Membership**

Born and raised in San Antonio, I have also lived in Houston; St. Louis; Warren, New Jersey; and Chapel Hill, North Carolina. In these locations I have taught preschool, middle school, and high school special education pupils and middle school gifted and talented students. It was while we were in St. Louis the first time (1969-1978) that I completed a dual BS degree in Elementary Education and Special Education from University of Missouri-St. Louis. During our second sojourn there (1983-1998) I earned an MA in Special Education from Webster University.

Little did I know that these degrees would provide me with passes to new experiences and entrees to new friendships through membership in AAUW. The activities associated with various interest groups are both fascinating and fun, and the women in this organization are extraordinary. Visiting museums and art galleries with the Museum Tours group, meeting over a good novel with the Saturday Book Discussion Club, rambling in local parks with the Walking Group, and entering into lively discussions concerning international interactions as a member of the World Affairs group have provided a great deal of pleasure. It is being in the company of women who passionately promote the causes of women and girls that I have found particularly inspiring. It has been a privilege serving on your AAUW Branch Board as Recording Secretary these past two years.



**Fran Vettors**

**NOMINEES** *continued on page six*

## 2012-13 NOMINEES *continued*

### Beverly Baucum, Recording Secretary

My earliest memory takes place in Houston, Texas. I sit before the oven waiting for the gingerbread boy my mother made to run out of the oven and become my baby brother! This memory solidifies the grip that literature—even children’s tales—has always had on me as a guiding principle of my life.

My father died shortly after his return from World War II, so my mother and I moved to Oklahoma to live with his parents. Since there were just the two of us, my mother and I had a real bond, and it was cemented by a love of books. She married again and really did deliver that baby brother!

In high school, I moved again to Corpus Christi. I saw the ocean for the first time, and I wanted to see the rest of the world. Travel became a second guiding principle. It really took hold when at Baylor University I took a 75-day trip to Europe. I was never the same. I was also never the same after I took a history course. The love of history became the third guiding principle.

Of course, I became a teacher of English and history. I traveled with my husband in his military career. And after a divorce, I took my two daughters to live in Berlin where I worked for a college contracted with the Army.

Living in the focal city of the Cold War within that infamous Wall for nearly four years was the perfect experience for a world history teacher, my 23-year career at Clark High School after returning from Germany. My girls became teachers also and have produced five wonderful grandchildren. Now retired, I spend as much time as possible with those grandkids.



Beverly Baucum



## REAP the Benefits of AAUW

### ACROSTIC FOR “ADVOCACY”

American University Women,  
 Drawn together by shared  
 Values of Equality,  
 Opportunity and Learning.  
 Challenging one another to  
 Accomplish goals, answering the  
 Call of Education,  
 You are the present and the future.

Margaret Mayberry  
 August, 2011



## DOUBLE FEATURE !!!



Photo by Phillip Williamson

**Kick-Off Women's History Month**  
**Monday, March 5, 2012**  
**Port San Antonio**  
**907 Billy Mitchell Blvd**  
**San Antonio, TX 78226**

### An Evening with **Lila Cockrell**

*"The stories of women's achievements are integral to the fabric of our history. Learning about women's tenacity, courage and creativity throughout the centuries is a tremendous source of strength." National Women's History Project*

Join us as we celebrate our unique San Antonio history with Former Mayor Lila Cockrell, San Antonio first and only woman mayor who will share her story and her wisdom. Her accomplishments include:

- o Serving as the first woman mayor of a major American city
- o Serving as a WAVE in WWII
- o Serving as San Antonio City Councilwoman for 7 years
- o Serving as mayor from 1975-1981 and from 1989 to 1991
- o Serving local, state, and national boards
- o Winning many awards
- o Serving as current President of the San Antonio Parks Foundation
- o Serving as an art patron and collector for almost 30 years

#### Event Schedule

**5:30 pm** Reception and Art Viewing of Mayor Lila Cockrell's African American Art Collection

**6:30 pm** Conversation with San Antonio Renaissance Woman Lila Cockrell

**Admission Free** • Light Refreshments • SPACE LIMITED

**Reservations Required** • **RSVP** [can\\_we\\_talk\\_sa@yahoo.com](mailto:can_we_talk_sa@yahoo.com)

**Save the Date for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Event of the Month**  
**Can We Talk About Entrepreneurs?**  
**Thursday, March 29, 2012 at the Bright Shawl**



## Scholarship Readers Are at Work

Both the textbook and graduate scholarship committees have begun reviewing applications for AAUW scholarships, according to Karen Reichensperger, Chair of the Scholarship Committee. Carol Duganne, Dee Goforth, and Janina Kuzma are reading the applications for the textbook awards. Heather McDonald, Debbi Sochia, and Mary Martinez are reading applications for the graduate scholarships.

They will review and score the completed applications and then rank them. Their recommendations will be sent to the Board; the Board will determine how many \$500 textbook scholarships and \$2,000 graduate scholarships to award, based on the amount of money available.

The scholarship recipients will be introduced at the **April 7 luncheon at Pompeii Grill**. Members are urged to attend this April meeting to meet and encourage the recipients. Reichensperger notes that the recipients are “our heritage.”

### ADVOCACY AT WORK

*by Malinda Gaul*

No matter what side you are on, the recent issue between the Susan G. Komen Foundation and Planned Parenthood is the perfect example of grassroots advocacy at work. When the Susan G. Komen Foundation announced it was not going to give funds to Planned Parenthood grassroots advocacy went into full speed.

Groups in support of Planned Parenthood rallied, including AAUW. Disappointed with the Susan G. Komen Foundation's decision to strip funding for cancer screenings from Planned Parenthood, AAUW decided not to offer the Susan G. Komen Global Race for the Cure as an optional pre-conference community service opportunity at the upcoming National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). NCCWSL is an annual leadership event, now in its 27th year, attended by hundreds of college women from across the nation. Planned Parenthood also received millions of dollars in donations from its supporters. The grassroots advocacy in support of Planned Parenthood resulted in the Susan G. Komen Foundation changing its decision.

On the other hand, the Susan G. Komen Foundation also received grassroots advocacy support and millions of dollars in donations for its decision to cease association with Planned Parenthood.

With the internet, smart phones, Facebook, Twitter, etc., millions of people can respond to an issue immediately. Don't be discouraged if your phone isn't smart and you aren't on Facebook, a good old fashion telephone call still does the trick! I guarantee the Susan G. Komen Foundation and Planned Parenthood telephones didn't stop ringing. The San Antonio Branch of AAUW is promoting advocacy this year – part of the mission of AAUW. So, next time you hear an issue that bothers you, pick up the telephone and call (or send a Tweet!)

*The American Association of University Women is the largest, oldest, U.S. organization working for the advancement of women and girls, life-long education and positive societal change.*