

*Advancing Equality for Women and Girls through
Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy, and Research.*

AAUW

San Antonio Branch Newsletter

October
2012



Volume 104
Issue 6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

Greetings!

What a great turnout we had at the September luncheon at the Beacon Hill Presbyterian Church! It was so good to reconnect with friends not seen in awhile as well as meet some new members. The salads and desserts were a wonderful way to cool off on yet another warm afternoon.

October is one of my favorite months of the year. The weather turns cooler, the trees begin changing color, and at our house, we decorate from top to bottom for Hallowe'en. Fall is the time for baking wonderful goodies from fresh apples and pumpkins, and there is always something good either simmering on the stovetop like Cheddar Cheese Soup or Chili. It's the time that sweaters come out (at least for a little while) and many cozy evenings are spent curled up with a book.

Speaking of books, I'm currently reading, "The Pleasure of Finding Things Out," by Richard Feynman. This book has been on my 'To Be Read' pile for a while, and I'm quite glad to be reading it now. With the third week of school finished, it seems appropriate to be reading a book about a Nobel Prize winner and his views on why we do science. Many of our most talented scientists work long hours to very little fanfare seeking that adrenalin rush that comes by discovering something that no one knew before.

I knew that very same feeling when in my own lab, something I'd been working on for two years finally seemed to snap in place. We are never too young or too old to begin discovering something new. My challenge to you this month is to do just that: discover something new that you never knew before. Read a new author, master a gadget, or bring a friend to the October luncheon!

Join us Saturday, October 6 at Earl Abel's where you will be able to pick up your new directory! Also, pick up an envelope from Edna Sharp that will contain raffle tickets for a gift certificate to be won in December. Each ticket is \$10 or three tickets for \$25. Put your name and phone number on each ticket that you want to buy. All money collected from this raffle will go to our local scholarship fund!

Can't wait to see all of you in October!

Debbi Sochia Eyfells, President of this Branch

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OCTOBER 6 • LUNCHEON MEETING

Saturday October 6 • 11:30 am -1:30 pm

EARL ABEL'S • 1201 Austin Highway • 822-7333

(between New Braunfels Ave and Harry Wurzbach)

Cost is \$20 • Lunch selection will be a Salad plate with Chicken Salad, Waldorf Salad, Cottage Cheese and Fruit, Tea and coffee

Selection of the famous Earl Abel's pies for desert

Reservation deadline is **Wednesday, October 3**

EMAIL RESERVATIONS

kvettters@sbcglobal.net

OR

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

A-G ... Kate Vettters

210-696-1804

H-M ... Evelyn Powers

210-680-0138

N-T ... Carol Lahser

210-657-5139

U-Z ... Melissa Bosnic

210-437-1019

2012-2013

BRANCH OFFICERS

President Debbi Sochia Eyfells

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Empathy Nancy Oehler

Luncheon Sites Mary Brennan

Scholarships Karen Reichensperger

NEWSLETTER

Editor Patricia Sommersby

To submit information for the newsletter, contact Barbara Kyse

bckyse@msn.com

210-824-8884

OCTOBER PROGRAM • *Women in Science Then and Now*

In keeping with this year's theme of research and science, our speaker at the October luncheon will be Susan Oppenheimer. Among many other accomplishments, Sue is a retired chemistry teacher and currently is an instructor at the Academy of Learning in Retirement (ALIR). This fall she is offering a class discussing the many new breakthroughs in medicine, biology, physics, astronomy, etc. Her inquisitiveness about things scientific keeps her up to date on activities in these fields.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3 • *S.T.E.M Outreach Program*

Be sure and put November 3 on your calendar. The luncheon will feature a talk by Cynthia Rinehart, the Director of the S.T.E.M. Academy based at Lee High School. S.T.E.M. is an outreach program promoting high school students' interest in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Cynthia will be accompanied by one of these amazing, talented students.

Fight Child Hunger—Bring Canned Food to October Meeting

Fran Vettters, Membership VP

Do you know where your next meal is coming from? Many San Antonio children don't! Not knowing if your food needs will be met from day to day can bring about high levels of stress, anxiety, depression, and lack of concentration and this translates into poor academic and behavioral performance at school. That is why our Branch will be promoting a canned food drive twice a year, helping San Antonio Food Bank to feed hungry families. The first drive will be this month. Just bring a can of food to the October 6 luncheon at Earl Abel's. We'll see that it gets to the Food Bank.

If possible, make it protein. Beans, tuna, canned chicken and beef stew are good sources. According to the American School Food Service Association, the least protein intake in diets correlates with the lowest achievement scores. Let's turn that around! We are an organization that values education and the well-being of children. Our generosity can make a difference in the health and school performance of San Antonio's neediest children.

BREAKING THE GLASS CEILING LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2013 • OAK HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

Our Speaker is **Coleen Grissom**, Trinity University English professor, and their former Vice President of Student Affairs. Dr. Grissom is the Author of *A Novel Approach to Life*, a collection of her speeches. Funds raised from *Breaking the Glass Ceiling* Luncheon and Silent Auction will benefit our Scholarship Fund.

SILENT AUCTION

Per Carol Lahser, the silent auction chair, "We need a nice variety of items for a successful auction. Gift certificates from your favorite restaurants and merchants are always popular, so please ask the management for a certificate. Other popular items include: jewelry, art, ceramics, cookbooks (in good condition), wine, baskets with a variety of food (chocolate, crackers, and cheese); baskets with bath products, and decorative new candles. But don't hesitate to donate something other than the items listed. If we could get even one item from each member we would have sufficient items for a successful auction. **Please donate.**"

Items being donated to the silent auction may be brought to our October – December meetings. Please include information as to the donor along with a brief description of the donated item. Donations to the silent auction are not tax deductible.

INTEREST & STUDY GROUPS

CHAT-N-CHEW

Sunday, October 7 at 2 pm. Hostess: Dora Ann Verde
Contact Malinda Gaul for directions 210-410-8992 or mgaul@satx.rr.com

HISTORIC SOUTHWEST

Saturday, October 13 at Noon • Doubletree Hotel at McCullough and Loop 410
Speaker: Rebecca Norton, Exec Dir Frontier Times Museum in Bandera. Topic: *History of Bandera County*
Contact Edna Sharp 210-492-5206

NIGHT BRIDGE

Mondays, October 8 and 22 at 6:45 pm
LaMadelaine at Park North (Loop 410 & Blanco)
Contact Marilyn Traylor at 210-696-8299

SATURDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

Saturday, October 13 at 10:00 am
at Marilyn Traylor's House
Book: *Shanghai Girls* by Lisa See
Contact Diantha Perelli 210-497-4121 or cyclobabe1946@yahoo.com

WALKING (None in October)

Next Walk is Wednesday, November 14
Diantha Perelli leads at Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
Contact Barbara Kyse 210-824-8884

WORLD AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, October 2 at 10:00 am
Hostess: Kate Veters 210-696-1804
Topic: *State of the Ocean*
Contact Margaret Mayberry 210-496-5333 or mfmayberry@aol.com



AAUW ACTION NETWORK

Source: September 12, 2012 AAUW Action Newsletter

On September 12, the U.S. Census Bureau released new data on the gender wage gap and it's not pretty. Women still earn just 77 cents, on average, for every dollar earned by their male counterparts. That number hasn't budged in the last decade. As AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE, said: "If we keep going at this pace, women will never earn the same amount that men earn for full-time, year-round work." And the numbers are worse for black and Hispanic women, who make an average of 64 cents and an average of 55 cents, respectively, for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men. ***This is simply unacceptable. And Congress needs to know that.*** Tell your Senators and Representative to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act today! To send a message, visit the AAUW Two-Minute Activist (<http://capwiz.com/aauw/home/> or check out the AAUW website AAUW.org/act.

The Paycheck Fairness Act would deter wage discrimination by closing loopholes in the Equal Pay Act and barring retaliation against workers who disclose their own wages to coworkers. Without this bill, employers can penalize and even fire employees for talking about their salaries. This egregious practice leaves workers in the dark, preventing them from ever finding out about pay discrimination in the workplace. We can't make real progress in closing the wage gap until we strengthen enforcement of existing anti-discrimination laws and give women the tools they need to get the pay they deserve. It's time to stop playing games with women's paychecks and start paying women what they've earned. **TAKE ACTION!**

ORRINE WOINOWSK SCHOLARSHIP

It's not too late to contribute to the **Orrine Woinowsk Scholarship**. Next April, along with our usual scholarships, this Branch will present a transitional scholarship in honor of Orrine to a woman who has graduated with an A.S. or A.A. degree from one of the five Alamo community colleges and who has been admitted to a four year college or university in Bexar County. This is a one-time award; the amount of the scholarship will depend on the donations made by March 1, 2013.

EVENTS OF INTEREST AROUND THE COMMUNITY

IRON JAWED ANGELS will be showing **Thursday, September 27** at 6 pm at the Bijou Theatre (Wonderland of the Americas at Fredericksburg and Loop 410). The free admission presentation is being sponsored by the Bexar County Democratic Women. Judge Barbara Nellermoe will introduce the film.

Considering that one current National AAUW initiative is "Getting Out the Women's Vote," this timely screening of the 2004 HBO film depicts the struggle for women's voting rights granted by 19th amendment less than 100 year ago. Actors in the film include: Hilary Swank, Frances O'Connor, Julia Ormond, Angelica Huston and Brooke Smith.

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.

NEWEST MEMBERS BRING DIVERSITY

Fran Vettors, Membership VP

New members who have joined AAUW San Antonio Branch in the last few months add interest to our roster with their achievement and diversity. Their degrees include a PhD in Speech Therapy from Cambridge University in the UK; a PhD in Adult Nursing, University of Texas-Austin; a Master of Public Health from University of Illinois Health Science Center, Chicago, Illinois; and Bachelor's degrees in Accounting, University of Utah; Hotel Management, University of Nevada-Las Vegas; and Health Information Management, University of Cincinnati.

They bring our roster up to 140. Of this number 67 have renewed. We're still waiting to hear from the rest of you. Unfortunately, after November 1, names of non-paying members are dropped from the rolls. If you haven't rejoined, please consider doing so. We'd like to include you in all our exciting 2012-2013 programs having to do with STEM research. You'd enjoy hearing about everything from Academic Achievement and Music to Robotics for Grandparents.

Our new members are Eva Nwokah, Mary Heye, Patricia Sanford, William Waller, Judi Riley, and Yolonda Patterson.

TIMELY REMINDERS

- **Breaking the Glass Ceiling silent auction donations will be collected at the October 6 meeting**
- **Bring canned food for the Food Bank to the October meeting**
- **Raffle tickets for a gift certificate will be available at the October meeting**

2012-2013 Renewal Membership Form

NAME

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

If there are no changes, simply mail your check for:
\$71 for regular membership or **\$22** if you are a Life member.

Send check to:
AAUW San Antonio Branch
Membership chair
PO Box 460825
San Antonio, TX 78246-0825

New, or renewing members who are coming back to AAUW after several years, please go to our website www.AAUWSanAntonio.org