



San Antonio Branch Newsletter



Vol 105 • Issue 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

Greetings AAUW Members!

The year seems to be flying by! March is right around the corner, and at the Sochia/Eyfell's home it means a plethora of activity. We are cleaning out closets, prepping our gardens and aerating our lawn. For me, aerating the lawn has become a fun, if not amusing yearly activity since most of the neighbors aren't really sure why I am walking rather slowly for an hour or so on the grass. They don't notice the aerator sandals strapped to my trainers unless they look rather closely. The things I do in order to welcome in the month of March!

March is also a very special month because it is the time that Women's History is celebrated, not only here in the

United States but also in the United Kingdom and Australia. I think this month's theme is rather appropriate, "Women Inspiring Innovation through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math." Throughout history, there are many women who have made their mark in STEM. Some of the more obvious names are women such as Marie Curie, Dr. Sally Ride and Rosalind Franklin. But what about the women that are not as well known?

Have you heard of Amalie "Emmy" Noether? Dr. Noether was a renowned mathematician who focused her work on abstract algebra and theoretical physics. She calculated a mathematical principle, Noether's theorem, which

Message continued Page Two

MARCH • 2013 • MEETING

Saturday, March 2, 2013 • 11:30 AM -1:30 PM

EARL ABEL'S • 822-7333 • Cost is \$20

1201 Austin Highway (between New Braunfels Ave and Harry Wurzbach)

MENU Southern Fried Chicken Filets • Mixed Green Salad • Green Beans and rolls

Slice of one of Earl Abel's famous pies • Tea and coffee

Reservation deadline is **Wednesday February 27**

Email your reservation to Kate Vettters at kvettters@sbcglobal.net or call Kate at 696-1804

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM

Our March meeting will kick off Women's History Month. Adele Dendy will lead the program, and asks attendees to come prepared to share inspirational quotations from women in the sciences, art world, literature, politics and a multitude of other fields. Perhaps some of our artistic members will take on the persona and dress of the woman they are presenting! Remember audience participation makes this program so very entertaining and successful.

See you all March 2!! *Beverly McDonald, Vice President Programs*

President's Message - cont ...

Inside this Issue

President's Message...	1
Branch Officers	2
Newsletter Info	2
Study/Interest Groups ..	3
Philanthropy.....	3
New Members	3
2013-2014 Branch	
Nominees	4-6
SA Scholarships	4
National Fellowships & Grants	4

EMAIL KATE VETTERS

FOR RESERVATIONS

kvvetters@sbcglobal.net
or CALL 210-696-1804

2012-2013

BRANCH OFFICERS

President Debbi Sochia Eyfels

President Elect Barbara Kyse

VP Membership Fran Veters

VP Programs Beverly McDonald

Treasurer Lisa McDougle

Secretary Beverly Baucum

Parliamentarian Linda Tisdale

CHAIRS

AAUW Funds Melissa Bosnic

Public Policy Malinda Gaul

Budget Loyce Colenback

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

became a foundation stone of quantum physics. It was her mathematical calculations that helped Einstein formulate his general theory of relativity. Einstein actually admitted that it was through Dr. Noether that he became competent in the subject of theoretical physics!

How about Dr. Jocelyn Bell Burnell? I had the privilege of listening to Dr. Bell Burnell speak on a panel of Nobel Laureates a few years ago. She built a 4-acre radio telescope that allowed her to become the first astronomer to detect pulsars, which are rapidly spinning, very dense neutron stars. She spent two years constructing the radio telescope as well as reviewing 96 feet of paper data per night. It was decided that she was "too inexperienced" to receive the Nobel Prize, which instead went to her Post-doc advisor, Dr. Anthony Hewish.

Or finally, Dr. Mildred S. Dresselhaus. Dr. Dresselhaus has made her mark as a professor of physics at MIT. Before her fourth child hit kindergarten, she had deciphered the electronic structure of graphite, a low energy form of the element carbon. In addition, her studies contributed to the discovery of buckyballs and carbon nano-tubes.

I know I'm preaching to the choir when I say we need to encourage more girls to make their mark in STEM. An eye opening statistic, according to a 2011 report from the U.S. Department of Commerce, is only one out of every seven engineers is a female. In addition, there has been no employment growth for women in the STEM fields since 2000.

As a scientist and a secondary educator, this statistic inspires me to work hard to influence the students taking my classes to pursue careers in STEM. I keep a quote on my desk that reads, "If a cure for cancer was in the mind of a girl, we might never discover it." This quote is taken from Myra Sadke, the author of the book *Sexism in School and Society*. I want to remind myself daily that I am a role model for girls.

My challenge to you this month is to answer the following questions, either to yourself or among friends. (1) How will people remember you fifty years from now? (2) How did you make your mark during your lifetime? And finally, (3) How many young women have you positively influenced?

Heading out to walk on the lawn,
Debbi Sochia Eyfels, President of this Branch





INTEREST & STUDY GROUPS

CHAT-N-CHEW

Sunday, March 3, 2013 • 2:00 pm
Contact Malinda Gaul for directions 210-410-8992 or mgaul@satx.rr.com

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT

We will not be dining out in March.

HISTORIC SOUTHWEST

Saturday, March 9, 2013 • 12 Noon
Speaker: Pricilla Montgomery
Topic: Stephen F. Austin's "Old Three Hundred" – the seed colony of Texas.
Location: Doubletree Hotel at McCullough & Lp 410
Contact Edna Sharp 210-492-5206

NIGHT BRIDGE

Mondays, March 4 and 18, 2013 • 6:45 PM
Location: LaMadeleine at Park North (Lp 410 & Blanco)
Contact Marilyn Traylor 210-696-8299

SATURDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

Saturday, March 9, 2013 • 10:00 AM
Book: **Great Expectations** by Charles Dickens
Location: Kate Veters' and Sarah Gilliland's house
Contact Fran Veters 210-481-7765 or frankenveters@sbcglobal.net

WALKING

On Spring Break.

WORLD AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, March 5, 2013 • 10:00 am
Topic: **Future of the Euro**
Location: Meeting room at Patriot Heights Assisted Living
Contact Margaret Mayberry at 210-496-5333 or mfmayberry@aol.com

PHILANTHROPY CORNER – FOOD & BOOKS

March Food Bank Drive

It's March—time for our second Food Drive of the year! Did you know that the San Antonio Food Bank helps 58,000 people every week? It's no wonder they can use our help in providing food for children and families. Some households have to make choices between buying groceries or paying the rent, and they rely on the San Antonio Food Bank to help put groceries on their tables, so that they can keep a roof over their heads.

One in four area children are at risk of going without meals. That's too many! We want to protect every child from hunger. Knowing that well-nourished children are able to learn better, our AAUW membership generously donated 90 pounds of food in October. Please bring canned goods, dried pasta or beans, peanut butter or other nonperishable foods of your choice to the **March luncheon at Earl Abel's.**

Fran Veters, Vice President Membership

Books for Literacy

Remember to bring new or slightly used books suitable for Kindergarten through Third Grade to the March meeting where Malinda Gaul will be collecting for children in The San Antonio Youth Literacy mentoring program. HEB carries a series of suitable books for the various stages of childhood reading to promote literacy in the community.

BREAKING THE GLASS CEILING BRINGS IN NEW MEMBERS

Our Breaking the Glass Ceiling luncheon and silent auction provided more than a witty speaker, an elegant meal, and auction bargains. In addition to bringing in a tidy sum for scholarships, it garnered 10 new members! You'll be reading more about these women in next month's Newsletter.

Fran Veters, Vice President Membership

2013-2014 NOMINEES SAN ANTONIO BRANCH

Barbara Kyse, President

My family moved to San Antonio from New Jersey when I was four, so I am almost a Texan. Following high school I initially attended Austin College and then transferred to the University of Texas at Austin and earned a BBA in Accounting. After college, my professional career first took me to Ponca City, Oklahoma and then back to Austin. Subsequently I lived in Houston 25 years while working for independent oil and gas companies. I retired from Mariner Energy in 2000 after 14 years as their Corporate Controller.

In 2001, I returned home to San Antonio. Currently, I am the Treasurer for Impact San Antonio and a San Antonio Botanical Society board member. Previous community involvements include the San Antonio Art League, League of Women Voters, San Antonio Audubon Society, and Brackenridge Park Conservancy boards. Additionally I served on the planning committee for the San Antonio River Improvement project within Brackenridge Park. I am enrolled in the Master Leadership Program sponsored by the United Way which offers the opportunity to learn firsthand the issues and needs in Bexar County with the goal of encouraging us to utilize our skills and knowledge for the betterment of our community.

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 a garden guide at the Botanical Garden and a docent at the Mitchell Lake Audubon Center. My accounting aptitude probably traces to my parents who were both successful accountants. However my mother has been my inspiration due to her intelligence, continual quest for knowledge, and goal of helping others for the greater good.

Patricia Sanford, President-Elect

I'm the daughter of a strong, intelligent independent woman who was a single mother before it was commonplace. Mother was an educator and seemed to be in school—night school, summer school, Saturday school—advancing her education my entire childhood. She graduated from a two-year teachers' college before World War II and spent several years teaching in one-room school houses. When the war broke out, she went to work in a munitions factory in Kansas, then joined the army and was

Nominees *continued page five*

SAN ANTONIO 2013 SCHOLARSHIPS

The scholarship applications were coming in throughout January and early February, so we are entering an exciting time for the committee members. It has always been a privilege to read about the activities of such talented women; I expect no less this year. The textbook scholarship committee composed of Carol Duganne, Janina Kuzma and Fran Veters will meet on February 21 to make recommendations to the Board regarding the \$500 textbook awards.

The graduate committee comprised of Melissa Bosnic, Heather MacDonald, and Mary Martinez will meet on February 26 to make recommendations for the \$2,000 graduate scholarships, the Castater scholarship and the one-time Transition scholarship in honor of Orrine Woinowski. We are all hoping we had a good response to the "Breaking the Glass Ceiling" to support many scholarship awards. Be sure to attend the April branch meeting at the Pompeii Grill to meet our 2013 scholarship recipients.

~ Karen Reichensperger, Scholarship Comm. Chair

AAUW NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

The AAUW has a long and distinguished history of advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and around the globe. One of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women, AAUW is providing more than \$4.3 million in funding for more than 278 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations in the 2012-13 academic year. Due to the longstanding, generous contributions of AAUW members, a broader community of women continues to gain access to educational and economic opportunities — breaking through barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Fellowship and grant recipients perform research in a wide range of disciplines and work to improve their schools and communities. Their intellect, dedication, imagination, and effort promise to forge new paths in scholarship, improve the quality of life for all, and tackle the educational and social barriers facing women in the United States and around the globe. (Source: the National AAUW website: <http://www.aauw.org>)

2013-2014 NOMINEES SAN ANTONIO BRANCH (CONT)

Patricia Sanford, President-Elect (cont)

stationed in Africa where she worked on planes. On returning to the States a married woman whose marriage didn't last long, her goal was to continue her education, so she could provide for my younger sister and me. She was a teacher and then a principal for many years and was selected to open a new elementary school. I was so proud of her! A woman of honor, passion, and creativity, she inspired me to work hard, do my best, and give my all to any task I set my mind to.

I graduated from the University of Wisconsin with degrees in English and Education. Ten years later after marrying, teaching English and Journalism, and having my son Danny, I earned my Master's in Public Health from the School of Public Health at the Medical Center, University of Illinois-Chicago. We moved to San Antonio just before Danny turned four. He's a 32-year old attorney working in New York now. At Danny's pre-school I taught all the children in my class as if they were gifted and talented, just as my mother taught her students, my sister and me. They, of course, met my expectations!

Other career highlights include being the Program Director at the American Lung Association where Dr. Paul Rather and I co-founded Camp Broncho for children with asthma aged 8-12; being an Education Specialist at Education Service Center, Region 20; and serving in my present position as Director of Leadership Development and Safe and Drug Free Schools in the North East Independent School District for the past 14 years. I supervise PAL, STAN, and The Leader in Me all programs that build capacity so that people grow, develop, and contribute their best efforts daily. I also conduct extensive training for administrators. In North East, we use the Covey model of leadership greatness, The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, and other Covey leadership programs. Among them is, The Leader in Me, which uses the 7 habits to empower students and create a culture of student leadership.

I mentioned programs that build capacity. Helping build capacity in others is an important goal of mine. Dr. Covey describes leadership as, "Communicating other people's worth and potential so clearly that they are inspired to see it in themselves." I received that support from my mother, continue to receive it from my husband daily, and feel fortunate to have a career that has enabled me to empower adult and student leaders and create systems that sustain empowerment.

Fran Veters, Vice President Membership

Born and raised in San Antonio, I have also lived in Houston, St. Louis, New Jersey, and North Carolina. In these locations I have taught special education pupils in preschool, middle school, and high school as well as 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 a Master's in Special Education from Webster University, Webster Groves, Missouri.

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. I admire their strong advocacy for women and girls. Serving on your Branch Board as Recording Secretary for two years and as Vice President Membership in 2012-2013 has been a rare privilege.

Susan Ewers, Vice President Programs

I was born in the home my father built in rural Pennsylvania and grew up on a nearby farm. Life on a farm is interesting and hard work. My father raised no girls; even though there were five girls and one boy, we all worked the farm. My father insisted we get good grades in school "because we WERE going to college" and needed scholarships to get there. His plan worked. I went to nursing school in Sellersville, PA, and graduated with my RN Diploma in 1969. I worked in Pennsylvania for a few years before relocating to Texas in 1971 with my military husband.

I went to work for the Bexar County Hospital District. While working, I attended the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at the UTHSC School of Nursing, earning my FNP Certificate in 1975. Shortly after graduation, I moved to California and settled in Santa Clara for a few years. I worked as a FNP later as Director of Nursing. Then I moved to Chicago and worked for Grant Hospital as Director of Ambulatory Services while completing the renovation of a 3-story brownstone. I came back to Texas in 1979. Since returning, I have worked in nursing in various capacities, everything from Surgical Nursing Supervisor, Nursing Director, Health Systems Nursing Consultant, to Marketing Director and Clinical Liaison.

In 1987, I bought a bankrupt retail floral business. I spent 13 years making it a successful business. Along

2013-2014 NOMINEES SAN ANTONIO BRANCH (CONT)

Susan Ewers, Vice President Programs (cont)

the way, I became a Texas Certified Master Florist and took care of my late husband after a stroke and cancer until his passing in 1998 while managing home and business. I sold the business in 2000 and went back to school while working in nursing once again. I took a job as a Wesley nurse. I completed my BSN at the University of the Incarnate Word in 2002 and my MSN from the University of Phoenix in 2005.

Now, I volunteer for the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance, doing a program called Survivors Teaching Students: Saving Women's Lives, at the UTHSC Medical School. I serve on several boards, two of them relating to healthcare and two others that are part of women's groups in San Antonio. I am a member of Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society and the American College of Healthcare Executives. I did not know about the AAUW until Marilyn Traylor and Orrine Woinowsk introduced me to this wonderful group of women a few years ago. It has been a pleasure getting to know some of you, and I hope to meet many more of you as I take on the responsibilities of this position.

Janina Kuzma, Treasurer

My life has followed two courses, one here and one in Europe. The country of my birth is Poland. My idyllic youth was spent there. At least it seemed idyllic. There was a great deal of camaraderie among Poles. We were united in our understanding that the communist regime was false and hypocritical. For example, we knew that the history we were taught in school was incorrect — always praising Soviet accomplishments. Our parents, having lived through this history, conveyed their disbelief to us.

Reading and education were highly valued in my family. The books that bring back my most vivid memories are Polish classics and Polish poetry. A classic author, although Danish, was Hans Christian Andersen, a favorite of mine. My brother and I read his stories to each other. My mother told us, "Forget your chores if you need to read a book." And that is exactly what Jan and I did.

My first Master's degree, in philology, was earned in Poland at the University of Warsaw. When I came to the United States, I needed to obtain a degree in something more useful than Polish philology, so I attended CUNY's Queens College in New York and received a Master's in

Library and Information Science. I used this degree in New York on Long Island in a public library. My job gave me pleasure because I really learned so much about America while dealing with patrons, researching reference questions, and attending cultural programs offered by the library. Now this kind of librarian is almost extinct, and Google has taken her place.

I continued to learn about this country when I married my husband Joe. Soon another move (and culture shock) followed, this time to Texas. I had never seen a cowboy. The first one I saw was at the airport, and I looked around for the movie cameras, thinking a film was in the making. Barbecue was another surprise for me. Now, I have seen plenty of cowboys, and I love barbecue. Ah, such sauce! And, I feel equally comfortable in both America and my native land. I do return to Poland frequently in order to keep my ties there. But, I am not an outsider in either culture.

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 my 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.