



San Antonio Inc. (TX) Branch
 Advocating for Women and Girls since 1908

Newsletter

April 2016 Volume 107, Issue 7

Our Mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

President's Message

Greetings, AAUW SA Members!

We began our year with the theme Step into Action – Your Way! With this dynamic focus, we've done just that. Throughout the year, we have had many opportunities to take action, make contributions, and provide service and support in working to achieve the national AAUW mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

And we're not done yet! A culmination of a number of our efforts can be seen at our Annual Scholarship Luncheon on Saturday, April 2nd. Because of your generosity, we will award three graduate scholarships of \$2,000 and 7 undergraduate textbook scholarships of \$500. The graduate winners will share their stories at the luncheon. They will tell about the challenges they have overcome and the successes they have achieved and are reaching for.

Then on April 29, 30, and May 1, AAUW SA is hosting the 47th AAUW Texas State Biennial Convention. This is an excellent opportunity for AAUW members from across the state to learn, develop new skills and insights, and to network with peers. And since the Convention is right here, we don't have travel or lodging expenses. Remember to register by March 30th to benefit from the Early Bird Discount.

See additional Convention information throughout this issue. As always, thank you for all you do to keep AAUW SA a vital organization! I hope to see you often and soon!!



Pat Sanford



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April Meeting

Where: Los Patios
 2015 NE Loop 410, SAT 78217

Time: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Cost: \$20; Cash or check payable
 to AAUW-SA

Please RSVP to Pat Sanford on or before
 Monday, March 28th, at pacmsan@me.com
 or 210-392-0728

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Stepping into Action with Scholarships

This is our annual our Scholarship Luncheon.

Scholarship winners will be introduced.

*Graduate scholarship winners speak
 about their challenges and successes.*



Menu Choices:

Chicken Salad Plate

Chicken salad served in tomato with
 fruit and poppy seed dressing, and
 beverage.

OR

Crepes Gazebo

A house specialty. Chicken with
 mushrooms served with fruit salad,
 mixed veggies, and beverage.

San Antonio Branch Officers

<i>President</i>	Pat Sanford
<i>Co-Presidents Elect</i>	Dr. Karen Reichensperger Gayna Dupont
<i>VP Membership</i>	Malinda Gaul, Esq.
<i>VP Programs</i>	Fran Vettors
<i>Treasurer</i>	Ann Marie Rehner
<i>Co-Secretaries</i>	Karen Cool Jeanette Gittinger



Did You Know?

Hope Andrade, successful San Antonio businesswoman and former Texas Secretary of State--the first Latina to hold this office--will introduce the Keynoter at the Sunday, May 1, AAUW State Convention session. The speaker will be her daughter-in-law Leti Andrade, Director, Human Resources Integration, CST Brands, Inc. (Corner Stores)

Public Policy

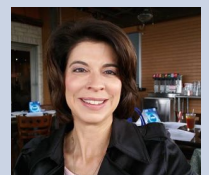
The sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from March 14 – 24, 2016.

Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world will attend the session. A panel consisting of experts in education, law, and human rights will discuss the challenges and successes in eliminating violence against women and girls and promoting empowerment through education and lifelong learning. AAUW was invited to participate on March 16, 2016, in the annual Commission on the Status of Women because we are an ECOSOC – accredited nongovernmental organization.

The Priority theme for this year’s conference will center on: Women’s empowerment and its link to sustainable development. The theme from the previous conference will review the topic of:

The elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls.

For more information and to read AAUW’s statement to the Commission on the Status of Women, visit the website at <http://www.aauw.org/event/2016/03/aauw-csw/>.



Monica Ruiz-Mills

Moviegoers

March

When: Saturday, March 26 Matinee time
Where: To be announced via email on
Friday, March 25
What: Film choice depends on availability.

April

When: Saturday, April 23 Matinee time
Where: To be announced via email on
Friday, April 22
What: Film choice depends on availability.

Contact: Fran Vettters to add your name to the
email list.

frankenvettters@sbcglobal.net
francesvettters@yahoo.com
210-481-7765



Historic Southwest

April 9

Speaker: Linda Fischer – A 2015 newly
retired teacher from North East School
District. One of our own members of
Historic Southwest,
Taught history.
Program: Jane Long – “The Mother of Texas”
– A woman pioneer 1798 – 1880.



Night Bridge

When: First and Third Mondays @ 6:45 pm

Location: La Madeline at Park North

Loop 410 and Blanco

Contact: Marilyn Traylor @ 210-696-8299

Wandering Wonders

Friday, March 18 at 10 a.m. Friedrich
Wilderness Park. 21395 Milsa Dr, across I-10
from the Dominion. We will split into two
groups. 1. Moderate hike on mostly dirt wooded
paths, with some low but rocky ascents/descents.
2. Walk on level paved wooded trails. Lunch
afterwards at nearby restaurant. For more
information and to sign up, contact Nancy
Anderson at

anderson@loyno.edu or (210) 833-1291.

Book Discussion

When: Saturday, March 19, 2016, 10:00am

Where: Home of Gayna Dupont
2203 Postoak Court, 78248

Book: Impossible Odds by Jessica
Buchanan, Erik Landemalm,
Anthony Flacco

RSVP: Gayna Dupont, 210-493-2865
gaynadupont@yahoo.com

When: Saturday, April 19 10:00 am

Where: Home of Janet Black
115 Tophill Road, SAT 78209

Book: Canada by Robert Ford

RSVP: Janet Black, 210-822-6520
janet7766@att.net
OR

Fran Vettters, 210-481-7765
francesvettters@yahoo.com



Culinary Adventures

When: Thursday, March 17, 11:30am

Where: Azuca Sabor Latina
713 S. Alamo St., 78205

South of Cesar Chavez Blvd.

When: Thursday, April 21, 11:30 am

Where: Edera Osteria-Enoteca (Italian)
1903 San Pedro, SAT 78212

Contact: Please RSVP to Fran Vettters
francesvettters@yahoo.com



Wine, Women, and Wisdom

March 24, 2016 5:00 p.m.

Tribeca

4331 McCullough Avenue

RSVP to mgaul@satx.rr.com

April 28, 2016 5:00 p.m.

Alchemy

1123 N. Flores Street

RSVP to mgaul@satx.rr.com



Co-President/Co-President-Elect Karen Reichensperger

Karen Reichensperger is a dual member of the San Antonio (TX) Branch and the Ely (MN) Branch, near the Boundary Waters Wilderness canoe area, splitting time between the two depending upon the season. During the last 50 years, she has contributed to AAUW in many ways, currently, she is Co-President-Elect and Chair of the Scholarship Committee in San Antonio. She has been chair of the Branch Scholarship Committee for several years and recently served as Co-Secretary of the Branch. For her, being a part of the Scholarship Committee has been a true privilege to learn about and potentially assist promising young women. While wintering along the Texan border, she belonged to the Laredo (TX) Branch and assisted with STEM workshops. Karen was a member of the Duluth (MN) Branch where she served as Branch President, co-chair of at least two STEM workshops (the program was so successful that it was subsequently and continues to be offered by a Duluth college) and was MN State Historian. Karen is also on the National AAUW Branch Program Resources Committee. She has a BSN and MS in nursing, MA in education and Ph.D. in Educational Psychology. She did staff nursing and taught nursing, culminating as dean of a baccalaureate nursing program. During that time, she was an accreditation visitor for the National League for Nursing which accredits nursing programs nation-wide. She also did staff nursing in Germany, presented continuing education courses for nursing faculty for the City of Nurnberg, and consulted with the Bavarian Ministries of Education and Health. She taught psychology and counseling at the University of Minnesota. She considers herself semi-retired since she currently does disaster recovery work with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), working in all parts of our country except the southwest.

Co-President/Co-President-Elect Gayna Aude Dupont

Gayna Aude Dupont is a financial professional with over thirty years' experience in various industries, including oil and gas, banking, insurance, and retail. She has specialized expertise in federal and state income, franchise, sales and use, and insurance premiums tax. She is currently employed as a financial consultant with Aventine Hill Partners, Inc. Gayna is a certified public accountant (CPA) and earned a Master of Accountancy from the University of Texas at San Antonio in December 2015. She also holds the designation in the life insurance industry of Fellow, Life Management Institute. Family and friendships are very important in Gayna's life. She has been married for 24 years to her husband, Ed. She has two sons, Joey, 21 and Timmy, 19. Gayna loves traveling and recently enjoyed a holiday trip to Paris and London. Her favorite US cities are New York, Charleston, and Santa Fe. Gayna joined AAUW because of her admiration of several of the organization's members she met through the Saturday Book Club. She is a firm believer in equality and advocacy for women and girls.



Membership Vice President Suzanne Sobel Benson

I have been a member of AAUW since 2014. I received a BA in Special Education from UT Austin and a M A in Educational Supervision with a certificate in Middle Management from UTSA in 1988. I taught special education for 33 years both in Corpus Christi and San Antonio. I continue to tutor students in my home to keep my hand in education. I was ordained as an interfaith minister from the New Seminary in New York City in 1996. I use my ordination to officiate weddings, funerals and other ceremonies and it is part of my Reiki practice. I live with my husband, Sean, and dog Madison in Hollywood Park and enjoy reading and volunteering with several organizations.

Program Vice President Alicia Hyk

Alicia Hyk joined the San Antonio branch of AAUW in September 2015, and immediately began participating in interest groups and activities. She is originally from Oakdale, New York, but now lives with her husband in Helotes, Texas.

Secretary Kathy Dicke

I was born in Columbus, Ohio. I met my husband at Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio. We will be married 50 years in June. We have two daughters and six grandchildren. I received a BS in German from Nebraska Wesleyan University and an M.Ed in Educational Administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. I taught first and second grade in Lincoln, Nebraska and Shreveport, Louisiana. I was a school administrator for 26 years at an Episcopal school in St. Louis, Missouri. I retired in 2012 and we moved to San Antonio last year.

Member Spotlight

Helga Anderson

If you turn to page 42 of the latest issue of Edible, a local "foodie" publication, you will find an interesting article written by Helga Anderson about her trip to Japan in 2015, and the culinary experiences she enjoyed there. The story is illustrated with her own photography as well.

Helga, a native of Germany, brings a European sensitivity to the art of dining. She delights in thoughtfully prepared, innovative meals. As a gourmet who knows many of San Antonio's prominent chefs, Helga is always willing to recommend a high end restaurant or two. However, she is not above going to some of Culinary Adventures' more out-of-the-way cafe choices.

But Helga's interests are not limited to gustatory experiences. She is an avid gardener who volunteers to do regular weeding in the flowerbeds of the Center for the Intrepid at Ft. Sam Houston. And on most Saturdays you will find her logging a few miles along the reaches of the Riverwalk. She also enjoys reading and appreciates classical music.

Travel is an abiding passion for Helga, and she has visited many European, Middle Eastern, and Asian countries. Because she likes "to try different things," you can be sure that she will not turn down any taste challenges wherever she goes. We hope future destinations will inspire many more articles detailing her epicurean excursions.

April is Scholarship Month



It's that time of year again! A time for one of our favorite programs. It's Scholarship time!

The Graduate and Textbook Scholarships given by AAUW San Antonio each year to area women attending local colleges and universities will be awarded at the April meeting.

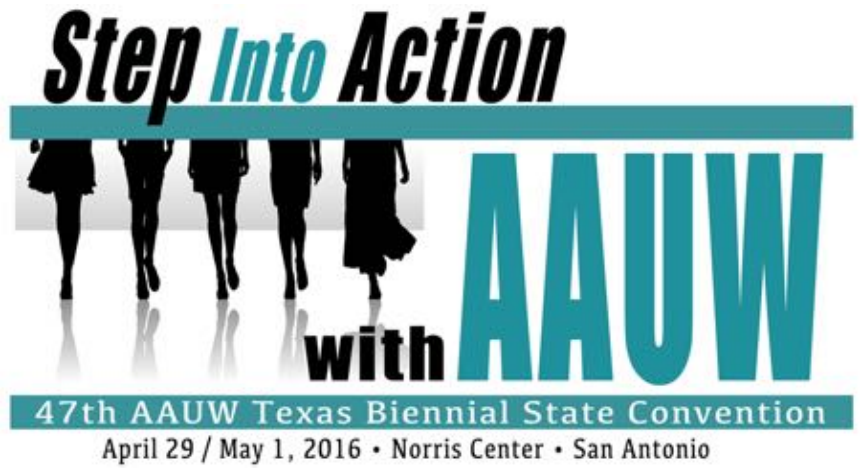
Karen Reichensperger, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee notes the the quality of winning applicants is always high, and they have sucessfully gone through a rigorous process to merit their awards.

Graduate Scholarship (\$2,000) winners must meet grade point requirements of at least 3.0 on a 4 point system, be enrolled at an accredited university in Bexar County and registered for at least 6 semester hours in a program leading to a graduate degree, submit an official transcript of their work, submit a letter of recommendation from their department, and write an essay detailing their academic accomplishments, service in the community, plans for the future as well as demonstrating financial need. Applicants must also have been residents in Bexar or 7 other nearby counties for a minimum of 2 years. They should have received no more than 1 previous AAUW Graduate Scholarship for their current degree program. PhD candidates must be enrolled at an accredited university in Texas for a minimum of 6 semester hours or be registered for dissertation hours.

Textbook Scholarship (\$500) recipients may be undergrad or graduate students. Each applicant must submit a letter of acceptance to a college or university in Bexar County, submit a transcript showing a 3.0 grade point average, and write a short essay of 250 words noting what her goals are and how a Textbook Scholarship would help achieve those goals.

Dr. Riechensperger has designed a ranking system that makes comparison of these requirements fair and efficient, enabling readers on the committee to evaluate each applicant easily. Once each reader has completed her rankings, they all meet to discuss and further evaluate each student.

Congratulations to Karen and her Readers for a job well done! We look forward to meeting the Scholarship winners and hearing their remarks on April 2.



AAUW SA Hosting State Convention

AAUW SA is stepping into action in a big way this spring when we host the 47th Biennial State Convention here in the Mission City on Friday and Saturday, April 29 and 30, and Sunday, May 1.

If you have never attended a state convention, do not miss this opportunity. Join Mayor Ivy Taylor in welcoming the attendees to San Antonio on Saturday morning. The theme of the convention: Step Into Action With AAUW runs through all the workshops and presentations. The opening session addresses the question: Why So Few Women In Politics? with a panel of women politicians. Workshops include how to take action on the issues of equal pay, human trafficking, immigration, diversity, and social media. The convention closes on Sunday with two generations of Andrades. Former Texas Secretary of State Hope Andrade will introduce her daughter-in-law Leticia Andrade the rising star executive from CST Brands (CornerStore). This year's convention promises to have plenty of interesting ideas by and for women.

The convention also offers lots of fun – starting with a reception on Friday night at the Hyatt Place and meals on Saturday, which are included in the registration price. Early Bird Registration of \$199 is available through March 30th.

The new Norris Conference Center, where the convention will take place, is located in the Park North shopping area. It is beautiful, and their food prepared on site is delicious! Parking is free at the Norris Center. The convention hotel is the Hyatt Place on Hwy 281 near The Quarry. A free hotel shuttle will take guests to the Norris Center and to the Quarry.

In addition to attending, we are looking for volunteers from the San Antonio Branch to help with activities. Let us know if you would like to volunteer!

Step Into Action With AAUW – attend the state convention!



AAUW TEXAS 47TH BIENNIAL STATE CONVENTION

Norris Conference Center
618 NW Loop 410, Suite 207 San Antonio, TX 78216
April 29, 30 and May 1, 2016

Registration Form

Name: _____

State Office: _____

Badge Name: _____

AAUW Office: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Branch: _____

E-mail address: _____

Branch Position: _____

Honorary 50 Year Member ___ Student ___ 1st Time Attendee ___ Guest ___ College/Univ. Partner _____

Institution Name _____ AAUW Fellowship or Grant Recipient (Type/Year) _____

Full Registration

Includes Friday evening reception, all Saturday meals, Saturday and Sunday workshop materials, and convention packet.

Saturday Registration

Includes all Saturday meals, workshop materials and convention packet for Saturday.

Guest(s) meal ticket(s): Saturday Lunch \$25.00 _____ Saturday Dinner \$50.00 _____ (Indicate # needed)

Guest(s) name(s) _____

Saturday Lunch (Indicate the number of meals needed for you and any guest(s))

_____ Chicken _____ Vegetarian _____ Vegan _____ Gluten Free

Entrée for Saturday Evening (Indicate the number of meals you need for you and any guest(s))

_____ Beef _____ Chicken _____ Vegetarian _____ Vegan _____ Gluten Free

Meal availability cannot be guaranteed with late registration

Make your own hotel reservations by March 30th – Hyatt Place San Antonio Airport/Quarry Market
7615 Jones Maltsberger S.A. Tx. 78216 210-930-2333 Mention AAUW \$109/single/double

Link at http://sanantonioairport.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?corp_id=G-AAUW

Early Bird (postmarked by March 30)	\$199	_____
Regular Registration (by April 15)	\$225	_____
Late Registration (after April 15)	\$250	_____
Student Registration	\$100	_____
Saturday Only	\$150	_____

TOTAL REMITTANCE \$ _____

Payment Type: PayPal Confirmation # _____

_____ Check made out to AAUW SA Texas Convention

Payment by PayPal link at <http://aausersa@gmail.com>

Mail or Email All completed forms with check or payment information to: Sue Ewers, 8526

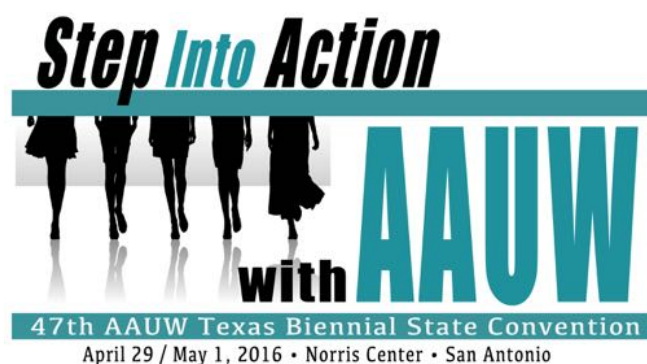
Rochelle Road San Antonio, Texas 78240 (210-699-3065) Electronic forms may be completed on-line, saved to your computer and e-mailed to s_ewers@sabx.rr.com (**S underscore ewers@sabx.rr.com**) along with the PayPal confirmation number and your meal request(s).

Excitement is building as state and local committees continue preparing for the 47th AAUW Texas Biennial State Convention. With the convention less than two months away, our 15 local committees meet monthly, work daily, and think Convention thoughts minute-by-minute to ensure that the convention is a great success. We want to thank all committee members for their commitment to Convention excellence. Here are the committees, committee members, and brief descriptions of their contributions to the Convention.

Heading the Local Arrangements Committee, the all-inclusive name for the 15 local committees, are Branch President, Pat Sanford, and Vice President of Programs, Fran Vettters. Both women are liaisons with the state convention committee, which requires daily communication, creating resources, working with local facilities, and more. Fran has worked tirelessly to recruit speakers, then obtain biographical information and pictures for the state newsletter and for the program booklet. Pat has most recently been working with branch presidents to secure advertising for the program booklet and getting bids for the printing of the booklet. Both Fran and Pat are working on the convention program booklet while coordinating efforts of the 15 local committees.

Registrars for the event are Sue Ewers and Leslie Goddard. In addition to creating the registration form, they will process all registrations ensuring that official delegates from each branch participate in regulation meetings and voting at the convention. The amount of organization this requires is enormous. Gayna Dupont, current Co-President Elect, is Treasurer for the Convention. Gayna's business background and academic degrees plus the fact that she is a CPA, make her ideal for this position. She has set up the PayPal option that some attendees prefer for registration.

Malinda Gaul, Vice President of Membership locally, a member of the AAUW State Board, and a member of the AAUW National Board of Directors, has secured speakers for keynote addresses, workshops, and panels. She is a fount of wisdom, sharing useful information from state meetings and convention committee conference calls. Malinda is also in charge of sponsorships for the convention. She is working on obtaining national and local sponsorship and has gotten a donation from HEB for the Friday night reception and donations from various Hill Country vineyards wine thus far. Malinda is also in charge of Transportation for the convention. The hotel has a shuttle to take participants to and from the Norris Center, the location of the convention and to local points of interest within a 5-mile radius of the hotel. But convention planners know that additional transportation will be needed. We will have volunteer drivers available to transport participants to and from the Norris Center. Because she is committed to AAUW and its mission, Malinda takes on all of this in addition to her full-time law career.



Susanne Benson and Jeanette Gittinger, current Co-Secretary of AAUW SA, are Vendor Co-Chairs. They have secured 17 vendors so far, and may obtain more. This is a position that requires knowledge of local talents and entrepreneurship as well as interpersonal skills. Shopping is always fun at a convention, and the quality of the vendors reflects on the convention organizers. Suzanne and Jeanette have vendors in place that will make us all look good.

Mynda McGuire, AAUW Funds Committee Chair, and Ann Marie Rehner, our current Branch Treasurer, are Decorations Co-Chairs. Mynda has extensive convention experience that is proving invaluable. Table centerpieces for lunch and dinner on Saturday support the Convention theme, "Step into Action with AAUW." The two, with help from Fran Vettters and Gayna Dupont, have been putting their heads together and their convention decorations are fun and classy. Mynda is also working on the Convention Program Booklet and has created a convention flyer that is being used throughout the state to promote the convention. In addition, she has produced an ad that highlights the diversity and depth of activities our branch offers. The ad will be featured in the convention program booklet.

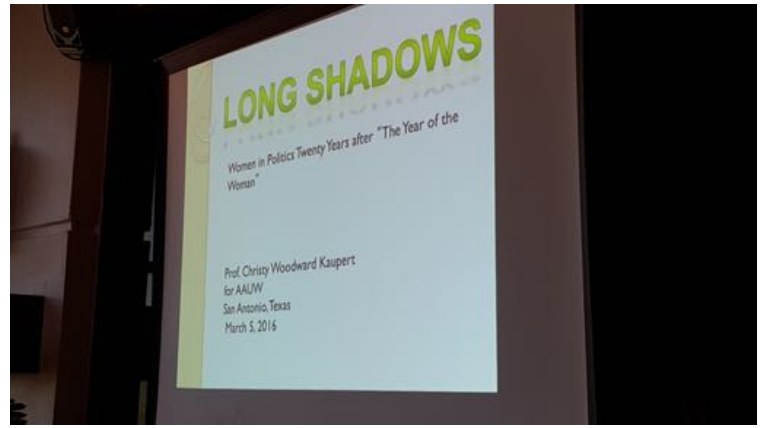
Karen Reichensperger, current Co-President Elect of AAUW SA, is the Evaluation Chair. Karen works for FEMA and just completed chairing the Scholarship Selection Committees for the Branch. Karen will design an evaluation form that gathers pertinent data, analyze the data, and present an evaluation report to be used in planning for the 2018 Convention.

Monica Ruiz-Mills writes the public policy column for our branch newsletter. Monica also works full-time as an administrator in a local school district. Monica has a sister who has worked herself up in the ranks at CST (Corner Stores) and is securing tote bags for all the convention participants. Donations keep Convention costs down. Leti Andrade, Director of Human Resources Integration at CST, will deliver the closing address at the Convention on Sunday. She will be introduced by her mother-in-law Hope Andrade, a prominent San Antonio businesswoman, former Texas Secretary of State (2008-2012), and a Commissioner on the Texas Workforce Commission (2013-2015).

Karen Cool, current Co-Secretary of our Branch, is the Volunteer Chair for the Convention. Karen is recruiting volunteers now for a variety of time slots and to cover a variety of responsibilities. In addition to providing introductions of speakers, staffing registration tables, and much more, volunteers are ambassadors of San Antonio and AAUW SA. You can contact Karen at karencool@gmail.com or 210-326-1354.


Ginny Taylor, our branch Newsletter Editor, is designing the Convention Program Booklet. Mynda McGuire, Pat Sanford, and Fran Vettters are working closely with Ginny to assist her as needed. Ginny has an undergraduate degree in Graphic Design. She completed her Masters degree in Social Work at the end of December and has moved to El Paso. Ginny will be working on the booklet long-distance as she continues to do with our excellent branch newsletter.

We are honored that San Antonio has been selected to host the upcoming Convention. The city has great appeal and we hope there will be a large number of participants. This is an excellent opportunity for us to join together to learn, develop new skills, and gain insights from AAUW peers from around the state and all without the costs of travel or lodging. Please register for the Convention and join us as we Step into Action with AAUW – our way!



Please check out our website for more information including our history and how to join:

 <http://sanantonio-tx.aauw.net/>


 Please take a moment to like us on Facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/aauw.sanantonio>

You can also Tweet to us, with us and retweet for us:

Please follow us @AAUW_San Antonio or
 https://twitter.com/AAUW_SanAntonio

If you need to drop us a line via email, you can reach us at:

 AAUW.SanAntonio@gmail.com

 You can add us to your Google+ circles at:
[https://plus.google.com/u/0/b/104302918292245957288/
104302918292245957288/about](https://plus.google.com/u/0/b/104302918292245957288/104302918292245957288/about)

We would love to be added to your network.

You can connect with us at:

 <http://www.linkedin.com/in/aauwsanantonio/>