



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

Newsletter

April 2015 Volume 106, Issue 6

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

President's Corner

Greetings, AAUW-SA Members!

Our theme this year is Empowerment. All of our programs have been shining examples of empowerment. We began with Connections and Empowerment focusing on our connections to state and national AAUW and highlighting our local interest groups. We've had powerful presentations on empowering wounded warriors; empowerment through politics by starting early from a sophomore student at ISA who was eloquently articulate; empowerment through business success from a dynamic young local businesswoman whose ideas are changing lives and industry; to our speaker in March on empowering teenage girls. This speaker is an assistant principal at Lee High School, but could be on the national speaking circuit. She focused on positive energy, self-esteem, and reaching forward to empower young women. These speakers have held us spell-bound, on the edge of our seats as they spoke of being empowered and empowering others.

There are so many people in the world eager to make a contribution, many who just need a bit of support, guidance, or mentoring to achieve their potential. April is our annual scholarship luncheon. We can be very proud that our branch is awarding five graduate scholarships and five of textbook scholarships this year to help empower young women. Thank you very much for your role in making our branch a success. Together we make a positive difference in people's lives!



Pat Sanford



2015-16 SLATE.....	2-3
Featured Speaker.....	4
Interest Groups.....	5-6
Save the Date.....	7
Public Policy.....	8
Member's Corner.....	8
In Compassion.....	9
March Meeting.....	9
Social Media.....	10

April's Meeting

Where: Los Patios, 2015 NE Loop 410,
SAT 78217

Time: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Cost: \$20

Program: Empowering Through
AAUW Grants and Scholarships

Presenter: Laura Van Prooyen, Award-
winning Poet and former AAUW grant
recipient will speak and read selections
from her poetry.

Saturday, April 4, 2015

*This is our annual our Scholarship Luncheon.
Scholarship winners will be introduced.*



*Please RSVP to Pat by
Wednesday, April 1st*

pacmsan@me.com or 210-392-0728

Menu Choices:

Chicken Salad Plate
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.

2015-2016 Slate

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates for office for the 2015-2016 administrative year:

President, Pat Sanford

I am dedicated to AAUW's mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. This year it has been my pleasure to highlight our mission and focus on empowerment. With your support, I would like to serve in the position of president for a second year to continue these efforts.

Before retiring in August 2014, I was the Director of Leadership Development and Safe and Drug Free Schools in the North East Independent School District. I provided extensive leadership training for administrators in the district. I also supervised the Safe and Drug Free Schools program which includes PALS (Peer Assistance Leadership and Service).

Before coming to North East ISD, I was an Education Specialist at ESC-20; the Program Coordinator for the American Lung Association Alamo Region; and co-founded Camp Broncho, a camp for children with moderate to severe asthma. I began my career as a high school English and journalism teacher. I have a BS degree in English and education from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and a Master's of Public Health degree from the University of Illinois in Chicago. I'm married and have one son who is an attorney.

Co-Presidents, Karen Reichensperger and Gayna Dupont

I have always looked at ways to contribute to AAUW. Co-President-Elect fits perfectly with my winter stay in San Antonio. I have been chair of the Branch scholarship committee for several years and recently served as Co-Secretary. I am a dual member in Ely Minnesota; near the Boundary Waters Wilderness canoe area. While wintering along the Texan border, I belonged to the Laredo TX branch and assisted with STEM workshops. I was a member of the Duluth (MN) Branch where I served as Branch President, co-chair of at least 2 STEM workshops and was MN State Historian.

I have a BSN and MS in nursing, MA in education and Ph.D. in Educational Psychology. I held many nursing roles including education and administration and taught psychology/counseling at the University of Minnesota. I currently do disaster work with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Vice President Membership, Malinda Gaul

I am running for re-election as Membership Vice President, because wonderful things are happening with the San Antonio branch. We increased our membership this year with many new members and I want to help continue that trend. I have been a member of AAUW for more than 25 years and have served this branch in many positions, including President. AAUW is my passion, which is why I currently serve at the branch, state, and national level. In addition to the work I do for AAUW, I am a practicing attorney representing employees in employment law matters.

Vice President Programs, Fran Vettters

Born and raised in San Antonio, I have also called Houston, St. Louis, New Jersey, and North Carolina home. I taught special education pupils in preschool, middle school, and high school as well as middle school gifted and talented students while living in St. Louis, Missouri, and Warren, New Jersey. It was while we were in St. Louis, the first time (1969-1978), that I completed a dual degree in Elementary Education and Special Education from University of Missouri-St. Louis. During our second residence there (1983-1998), I earned an MAT 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. I feel that being a member of AAUW-SA Branch and having served as Secretary, VP Membership, and VP Programs is a rare privilege!

Treasurer, Ann Marie Rehner

After receiving a BS in Education from Miami University, I returned to my hometown of Cleveland, Ohio and taught for three years. I applied for a position with the Department of Defense and was assigned to teach third grade at Yokota Air Base, Japan. My teaching career continued in South Carolina and again in Ohio. After earning a Masters degree from Kent State University and several more years in the classroom, I became an elementary school principal.

I retired in 1996 and worked part time as a supervisor for the Educational Service Center until 2002. In 2005, I moved to San Antonio to be near my daughter and grandchildren.

In San Antonio, I have been on the board of Newcomers and secretary of the League of Women Voters. I look forward to joining the AAUW board.

Co-Secretaries, Karen Cool and Jeanette Gittinger

Jeanette Gittinger "Deep in the Heart of Texas" keeps popping in my mind as I think of writing this bio. I was born and raised in SA by parents who came from the Texas Hill Country. After attending parochial school for 12 years, I earned a double major in speech and hearing therapy and elementary education at Southwest Texas State University. I returned to UTSA 17 years later to earn a Masters degree in Reading Education and was certified as a Texas Reading Specialist.

I spent 30 years in education with SAISD, NISD, JISD, and St. Philip's College having held positions as a Speech Therapist, classroom teacher of grades of K, 3 and 5, and Reading Recovery/remedial reading instructor. In retirement I have taught a semester at UIW as adjunct professor, worked part time for Pearson textbook division, and am currently working part time as a travel agent.

My many interests include bridge, reading, swimming, gardening, nature and animals. But the most dear to me is being a mother to two sons and granny to five grandchildren.

"One hundred years from now it will not matter what kind of house I lived in, how much money I had, nor what my clothes were but the world may be a little better Because I was important in the life of a child."

San Antonio Branch Officers

President Pat Sanford

President-Elect Pat Sanford

VP Membership Malinda Gaul, Esq.

VP Programs Fran Vettors

Treasurer Janina Kuzma

Co-Secretaries Diantha Perelli

Dr. Karen Reichensperger



1957 Branch Officers



Laura Van Prooyen, a Winner!

"Our House Was On Fire"

That's the title of Laura Van Prooyen's newly published book of poetry. It is her second publication. Her first, "Inkblot and Altar," was published in 2006.

A member of the San Antonio AAUW Branch since 2013, her association began with our organization at the national level when AAUW awarded her a grant enabling her to complete an MFA in poetry. Laura has also been the recipient of a grant from the Barbara Deming Memorial Fund and winner of the Dorothy Sargent Prize for her creative work. However, having her second collection of poems nominated for the McGovern Prize from Ashland Poetry Press by the late Phillip Levine, Poet Laureate of the United States for 2011-2012--and being awarded that prize--was a distinct honor.

We are lucky to have this young woman as our speaker for April. We will learn a bit about the AAUW grant process and earning an advanced degree at non-traditional Warren Wilson College, known for its Creative Writing program.

But above all, we will have the good fortune to hear Laura read her moving and memorable, prize-winning poetry.

By Fran Vettters

Interest Groups!



Chat - N - Chew

No April Meeting due to the holiday.



Historic Southwest

When: Saturday, April 11, 2015
@ 12:00 pm

Where: Doubletree Hotel on the corner
of McCullough and IH 410 East

Cost: Lunch & Meeting is \$21

Speaker: Nick Fohn,
(Uvalde Historical Society)

Program: Uvalde County and Fort Inge

Contact: Please RSVP to Sophie Lim @
(210) 445-0654, no later than Wednesday
prior to the meeting.

Night Bridge

When: First and Third Mondays @ 5:45 pm (eat
and visit) 6:45 until 9:45 pm (play)

Location: La Madeline at Park North, 722 NW
Loop 410, SAT 78216

Contact: Marilyn Traylor @ 210-696-8299

We are working toward three tables and we do
welcome newcomers!

Moviegoers

When: Saturday, March 28, 2015 mid-
afternoon matinee time.

Where: TBA via email on
Friday, March 27, 2015

Contact: Fran Vettters to add your name to the
list @ 210-347-8962 or
frankenvettters@sbcglobal.net

There will be Oscar nominees to choose from!

When: Saturday, April 25, 2015

Where: TBA via email on Friday, April 24, 2015
as weekly bookings are determined on
Thursday evenings.

Contact: Fran Vettters to add your name to the
list @ 210-347-8962 or
frankenvettters@sbcglobal.net

World Affairs Discussion Group

No March Meeting



Culinary Adventures

When: Thursday, March 19, 2015
@ 11:30 am

Where: Mr. and Mrs. G's
2222 WW White Road, SAT 78205
"Greatest Soul Food on earth!"
says one reviewer.

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

When: Thursday, April 16, 2015
@ 11:00 am

Where: Kimura (Japanese Cuisine)
152 East Pecan @ St. Mary's, Ste. 10 C,
SAT 78222

Note time change. They don't take
reservations.

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



Book Discussion

When: Saturday, April 11, 2015 @ 10:00 am
Where: The home of Karen Cool, 7503
Louisa Allen Ct., SAT, 78240,
(210-326-1354)

What: The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt
Contact: Please RSVP to Diantha Perelli
@ 210-497-4121 or
cyclobabe1946@yahoo.com



Wandering Wonders

When: Friday, April 10, 2015 @ 10:00 am
(Replacement date for earlier
rain-day cancellation)

Where: Friedrich Wilderness Park
21395 Milsa Drive, SAT, 78256

What: This walk/hike of about 3 miles will
include some gradual uphill walking on dirt
trails. We will arrange carpools to the park. After
the walk, we will have lunch at a nearby
restaurant. For more information, directions, and
to sign up for the outing, contact
Nancy Anderson @ anderson@loyno.edu or
(210) 833-1291.

When: Friday, April 24, 2015 @ 10:00 am
Where: Cathedral Rock Nature Park
8002 Grissom Road, SAT 78251

What: This walk will be about 3 miles. We will
arrange carpools to the park. After the walk, we
will have lunch at a nearby restaurant. For more
information and to sign up for the outing, contact
Fran Vettters @ frankenvettters@sbcglobal.net or
210-347-8962.



Wine, Women, and Wisdom/ Cocktails and Convo's

When: Thursday, March 26, 2015 @ 5:00 pm
Where: DoubleTree by Hilton San Antonio
Downtown

502 W. Cesar E. Chavez Blvd., SAT 78207
What: Can We Talk? Mollie Lam from the
AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund will be one of the
speakers on Title IX and its impact
on young women.

Contact: Malinda Gaul @ 210-490-7315,
210-410-8992 or mgaul@satx.rr.com

AAUW Pay EQUITY Unhappy Hour

When: Thursday, April 23, 2015 @ 5:00 pm
Where: Silo's, 434 N Loop 1604 West, SAT 78232
Contact: Malinda Gaul @ 210-490-7315, 210-410-
8992 or mgaul@satx.rr.com



March 21, 2015 Texas Business Women – San Antonio will be doing a vendor fair to support women owned businesses and improve Pay Equity.

AAUW Texas is participating in AAUW Texas Lobby Day at the state capitol on **April 14, 2015**, Equal Pay Day. We will be presenting our signed petition Stand Up 4 Texas Women & families to Gov. Abbot and Lt. Gov. Patrick. Please remember to have your branch members sign this petition and then send it by April 1st to Melodia Gutierrez gutierrezm@aauw.org.

We really need your support! We'd like as many AAUW Texas members as possible to join us in Austin on April 14th.

There is a group of AAUW-SA members attending. Please email aecastro07@yahoo.com for more info. –Editor



Though we read about the Gender Pay Gap earlier this fall, AAUW's The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap discusses these issues examining the research past the reported 78 percent statistic. The report covers the pay gap in the United States with state-by-state rankings; how the pay gap affects women of all ages, races, and education levels; and what we need to do to close the disparity. To access the information, you may visit the AAUW website at <http://www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/>.



Monica Ruiz-Mills

Member's Corner

New Members!

It has been a great year for the San Antonio Branch with the addition of the following new members:

Suzanne Benson
Janet Black
Lauren Browning
Karen Dlugosz
Ashley Eklof
Jeanette Gittinger
Suzanne Hernandez
Pat Jasso
Cheryl Kelsey
Norma Khoshbin
Margaret Leeds
Sharon Munke
Arlis Olson
Alexandra van de Kamp
Stephani Walsh



Our sympathy is extended to Loyce Collenback on the loss of her husband, Bill. He and Loyce were married for 57 years and have been very active in supporting educational causes.

His obituary can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.missionparks.com/obituary/William-Bill-Collenback/San-Antonio-TX/1485106>

➤ *March Meeting & Interest Groups*



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/>