



SAN ANTONIO BRANCH

Advocating for Women and Girls Since 1908

NEWSLETTER

January 2018

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2017-2018 THEME

Equity: Putting Advocacy into Action

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From the President

Happy New Year!

We look forward with all kinds of plans, all kinds of wishes, maybe even some resolutions. We hope for many things. We continue our journey.

I am looking forward to many gatherings with friends, so many of them in AAUW. I eagerly anticipate the programs our branch will have. Those in the past have blazed the way of excellence. Thank you, Alicia and Fran. I look forward to receiving our scholarship recipients. Members have been so generous with the raffle and will continue to do so with champagne and chocolate. Thank you, Pat and Malinda. Oh, the interest groups! Thank you, members. I look forward to walking with you, eating varied foods with you, learning more about the history of my adopted state.

I am looking forward to the plan for approaching colleges and universities to become AAUW members so that their students and staff can avail themselves of the many benefits of AAUW membership. Thank you, Cheryl, Mary, Mynda and Shenee. I look forward to being with you as our members approach these colleges and universities. I recently attended the Holiday Luncheon of AAUW-Sacramento and several younger women from Sacramento State University were present. The University is a C/U member and they have established a branch within the university. These young women are our hope for continued progress to increase access to education, enhance economic security, and promote more women in leadership roles. We can lay the groundwork.

Does this new year bring new beginnings? Maybe. This new year does find us continuing, refining, expanding our course towards equity and empowerment. Such anticipation. Let us not let our enthusiasm wane as the New Year progresses. With thankfulness to so many and anticipation for so much, and many good wishes to you during this coming new year!

Karen Reichensperger

NO JANUARY MEETING

Join Us for Wine, Women, & Wisdom

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 5:00pm

Tribeca 212
4331 McCullough Ave, 78212
Please see map on P4

\$15 cash or check payable to AAUW-SA
Covers wine and pizza

RSVP to Malinda Gaul by Monday, January 22
mgaul@satx.rr.com 210.410.8992

Happy 136 Years, AAUW!

On November 28, 1881, Marion Talbot, then a recent graduate of Boston University, and Ellen Swallow Richards, the first woman graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, invited 15 alumnae from eight colleges to a meeting in Boston. Among the first generation of women college graduates, these pioneering women struggled with a lack of career opportunity. In founding AAUW, they discussed how they would join together to help other women break through educational barriers to attend and graduate college as well as assist those who had already graduated.

Today, AAUW boasts 170,000 members and supporters, more than 100 student orgs, 800 college and university members, and more than \$100 million awarded to women scholars and projects.

Founded on November 28, 1881, AAUW is older than:

- The Eiffel Tower (1889)
- The Lincoln Memorial (1922)
- The Hollywood Sign (1923)
- The Empire State Building (1931)

AAUW is also older than these inventions and discoveries:

- Hole punches (1886)
- Automobiles (1886)
- Coca-Cola (1886)
- Ballpoint pens (1888)
- Zippers (1893)
- Electric toasters (1893)
- Ferris wheels (first built 1893)
- Radios (invented 1895)

- Paper clips (1899)
- Air-conditioning (1902)
- Airplanes (1903)
- $E = mc^2$ (1905)
- Television (1927)
- Sliced bread (1928)

AAUW is also older than the first...

- Movie theater in the United States (1905)
- Dropping of the New Year's ball in Times Square (1907)
- Mass-production assembly line (1913)
- Reader's Digest (1922)
- The Winter Olympic Games (1924)
- Talking-picture movies (1927)
- Appearance of Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse on film (1928)

AAUW is also older than these institutions:

- The Rhodes Trust (1902)
- The Rotary Club (1905)
- The Boy Scouts of America (1910)
- The Girl Scouts of America (1912)
- The US Coast Guard (1915)
- The National Park Service (1916)
- The National Organization for Women (1966)

Public Policy

AAUW members and supporters speak out about policies important to women and girls, enabling invaluable legislation, including the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.

AAUW's policy work connects and rallies advocates at the local, state, national, and global levels to advance our work to empower women and girls. With the member-endorsed Public Policy Priorities as our guide, AAUW members across the country give their time, energy and voices, lobbying and supporting grassroots efforts to push forward policies that break through educational and economic barriers facing women.

AAUW advocates for equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society in addressing civil rights issues. AAUW supports a strong system of public education to promote general fairness, equity and diversity. AAUW works for economic security so that all women achieve economic self-sufficiency. And AAUW focuses on enforcement of Title IX and other civil rights laws pertaining to education.

Let us all renew our commitment to these critical objectives, and continue to connect and rally advocates as we head into a brand new year. The best for all in 2018!

AAUW Looking Forward

Clarity is needed at AAUW. “We’ve done amazing work over our rich history, but a lot of people in our AAUW community are disheartened [that] we’re not better known for what we do, and part of that is that we’re kind of a ‘Jill of all trades,’” says [Kimberly] Churches. “We need to figure out, together, where we should focus to make real progress in real time. For example, we recently produced a video reacting to the news that the gender pay gap hasn’t changed much from last year. I don’t want to be doing the same video next year,” says Churches. “We all want results, and we should be moving the needle on our priority issues. You can’t do that without ultimate focus.”

AAUW is aiming high in the strategic planning process on which it has just embarked, undertaking an ambitious, rigorous course of action that will sharpen our focus, relevance, and impact. It will buttress our core issues—pay equity, education, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), leadership, and Title IX—to solidify AAUW’s position as a leader within the equity space during the 21st century.

Of course, we won’t know what our exact priorities and goals will be until the strategic plan takes shape, but, says Churches, “None of us can imagine not working on our core issues.” These issues can be preliminarily visualized as follows:

The process has begun, the Strategic Planning Task Force has been approved, and the schedule established—the target date for board approval of the final plan set for June 2018. The process involves asking these questions: Where are we now? Where do we want to be? How will we get there? And it involves integrating our mission, programs, and business model. “We’re going to need rigorous focus and meaningful relevance in order to achieve lasting impact with respect to our mission,” says Churches. “We’re about advancing equity, but what are we doing to ensure that we are demonstrating measurable impact? This is a new planning process, but it’s more than a plan. It’s about the outcomes we will achieve and how we implement them.”

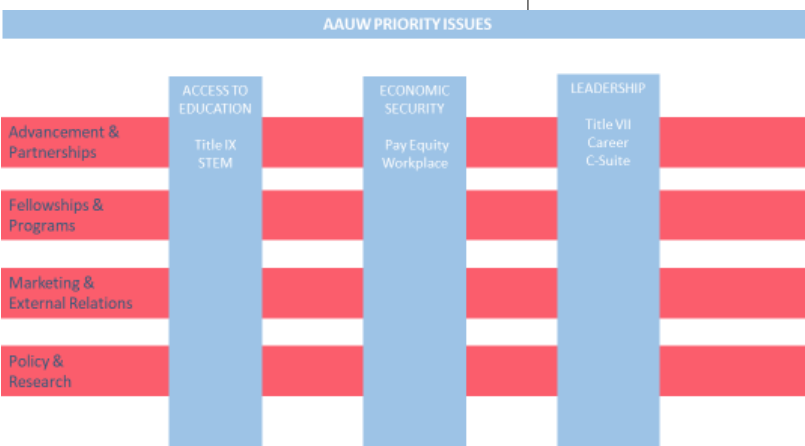
How will we measure our success in terms of our mission? We want to advance equity, but what are we doing to ensure that we are achieving measurable impact? These are questions that must be answered, because the process is ongoing and inclusive. Importantly, along with the strategic plan’s priorities, specific benchmarks will be developed to measure real progress toward our goals. Perhaps that means a certain number of women trained to negotiate their salaries. Perhaps that means Title IX compliance checks in every school district. Perhaps that means achieving a certain percentage of change in women’s representation in STEM. Perhaps that means

closing the leadership gap for women of color by a certain percentage in a certain field.

Members can become involved by answering the call of surveys and focus groups and comment periods that will be forthcoming. We need all the womanpower and manpower in this organization’s membership, leadership, and staff to harness strategies for the future and focus on the solutions we can offer to problems. AAUW can and must accomplish the things that will change lives in a tangible way.

AAUW has a long history of landmark achievements, from incisive research to changing the law of the land to providing thousands of women funds for graduate degrees. From an engaged, educated, and talented membership to a nonpartisan and solutions-oriented approach. A mission broad and ambitious enough to be relevant for generations. So much has changed in women’s lives in the past few decades, but there’s still much to do. AAUW can be positioned to do more—to do better—for more women and girls if we have a clear view of where we’re going and how we get there together.

From *Outlook*, November 2017



INTEREST GROUPS

Bridge 1st & 3rd Mon

La Madeleine at Park North
722 NW Loop 410 at Blanco, 78216
5:00pm
Contact Pearl Eng
pquaneng@hotmail.com
210.240.8118

Historic Southwest Sat, Jan 13

Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery
Speaker Elfrieda Robinson
DoubleTree Hotel
37 NE Loop 410 at McCullough, 78216
12:00pm
RSVP to Lola Hill
lnhill25@gmail.com
210.334.5897

Culinary Adventures Thu, Jan 18

Sawasdee Thai Cuisine
6407 Blanco Rd, 78216
11:30am
RSVP to Fran Vettters
francesvettters@yahoo.com
210.481.7765

Book Discussion Sat, Jan 20

We Were the Lucky Ones
by Georgia Hunter
Host Cheryl Fuller
18611 Double Fork Rd, 78258
10:00am
RSVP to Cheryl Fuller
cfuller5@satx.rr.com
210.267.1633

Wine, Women, & Wisdom Wed, Jan 24

*In place of regular monthly branch meeting.
Only fun. No business!*
Tribeca 212
4331 McCullough Ave, 78212
5:00pm
\$15 covers wine and pizza
RSVP to Malinda Gaul
mgaul@satx.rr.com
210.410.8992

Moviegoers Sat, Jan 27

Movie, time, and place selected by the group
and announced the day before
RSVP to Fran Vettters
francesvettters@yahoo.com
210.481.7765

Save the Date
48th Biennial
State Convention
April 20-22, 2018
Houston

Textbook Scholarship Fundraiser

Dorothy Warras won a \$500 Visa gift card in the AAUW SA annual scholarship textbook fundraiser. Chief Justice Sandee Bryan Marion drew the winning ticket at the AAUW SA meeting on December 2nd, held at Paesano's Lincoln Heights. Dorothy has been a member of AAUW since 1993. She is active in Historic Southwest.

This year, \$1,765 was raised through ticket purchases and donations. After deducting \$500 for the cost of the gift card, proceeds of \$1,265 will be used to provide textbook scholarships to selected students this year. President Karen Reichensperger will chair the scholarship selection committees that meet in the spring. Textbook and graduate scholarships will be awarded at the April meeting.

If You Can Get There, We Can Get You Home

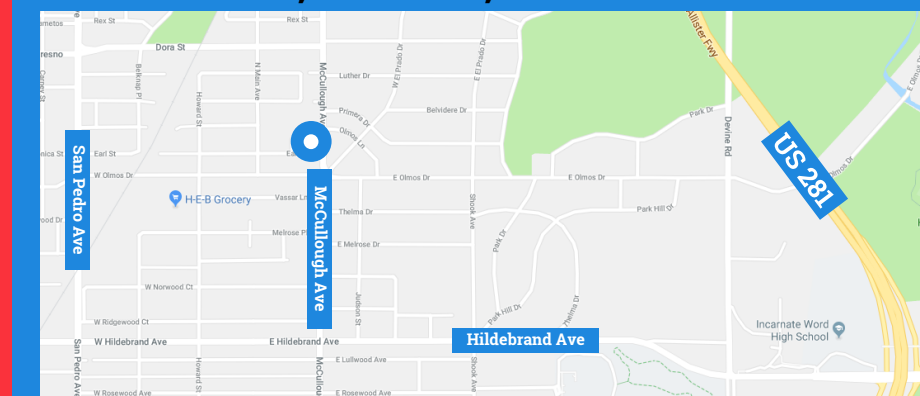
We want to see our AAUW friends more often, and we want you to hear the great presentations at our monthly meetings. To help make this possible, the Board will guarantee that if you are able to come to the meetings, we will assure you of a ride home.

Perhaps you can get a lift from a friend or a family member on Saturday morning. If they can drop you off, we can take you home.

Another option is to meet an AAUW friend at a designated location, such as a shopping center, and ride together to the meeting.

Finding the restaurant has been a problem for some of us, so from now on, the newsletter will include brief directions and a map.

WINE, WOMEN, & WISDOM MAP



Mynda and Malinda's Convention Adventures

DAY FOUR

The final day of convention included workshops and a closing plenary session with Laura L. Dunn, J.D. (Last month we mistakenly told you she spoke on Day Three) Ms. Dunn is the executive director of SurvJustice, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, DC that “increases the prospect of justice for all survivors of sexual violence through effective legal assistance, policy advocacy, and institutional training.” SurvJustice enforces victim rights and holds both perpetrators and enablers of sexual violence accountable on college campuses and in criminal and civil systems. Founded in 2014 by Ms. Dunn, it remains the only national organization that provides legal assistance to survivors in campus hearings across the United States. SurvJustice also provides policy advocacy and institutional training services to communities that seek to better prevent and address campus sexual violence. By working on these fronts, SurvJustice decreases the prevalence of campus sexual violence throughout the United States.

It was announced that the next convention will not be in 2019. Instead, there will be a celebratory convening in 2020 to honor the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. We will keep you advised on the plans.



Members enjoyed a variety of cookies at the December meeting. The following is a recipe for one of their favorites.

COCOA KISSES Made by Fran Veters From the Joy of Cooking

Makes about 40 1-inch meringues

Preheat oven to 250°

Sift 1 cup Sugar
Whip until stiff but not dry:

3 Egg Whites
1/8 tsp Salt

Gradually add half the sugar
Combine:

2 tsp Water
1 tsp Vanilla

Add the liquid, a few drops at a time, alternately with the remaining sugar, whipping constantly.

Fold in:

3 Tbsp Cocoa
3/4 cup Chopped Pecans

Drop the batter from a spoon onto a lightly greased cookie sheet (can use waxed paper or parchment paper to line pan) and shape into cones. Bake until the kisses are firm to the touch but soft inside.

Recipe says to remove from the pan while hot. But if you use waxed paper or parchment paper, you can let them remain on the pan until you want to remove them.

Kate Veters says if you leave a small part of the cocoa powder only partially folded in and streaky, these cookies are called Wasp Nests.



DECEMBER
MEETING



HAPPY BIRTHDAY,
AAUW!



WANDERING
WONDERS