



## THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello Ladies,

Happy Spring 2025 and yes, it has finally arrived. For Texans, one indication of Spring are our wild flowers. We haven't had much rain so I don't know how abundant they will be this year but hopefully, we'll see our beloved bluebonnets, our State Flower. Before leaving March, I hope everyone has taken some time to think of our State History, while there are several Texas Honor Days, these are the most recognized and celebrated:

March 6, 1836 – Battle of the Alamo

April 21, 1836 – Battle of San Jacinto (won our independence from Mexico, purpose for our San Antonio Fiesta Celebration)

As we move from now through April, please support our Woman's Club activities and events:

- ❖ Saturday, March 29 – SA Women's Volunteer Luncheon – Honoring Heather Hays
- ❖ Sunday, March 30 – The Woman's Club Royalty Coronation & Reception - Queen Bella Walski is third generation Woman's Club
- ❖ Thursday, April 10 – Golden Girls Luncheon (you have to attend to see who made the list)
- ❖ Friday and Saturday, April 25 & 26 – Fiesta Flower Show (signup sheet at the mansion, get involved, it's fun!
- ❖ Monday, April 28 – Pilgrimage to the Alamo – (We gather in front of the Tobin Auditorium at 3:00 as a WC group, wearing all white with a white hat, we carry a banner with our club name, and walk quietly to the Alamo honoring the patriots who died there. Make plans to be a part of Fiesta history.)
- ❖ Wednesday, April 30 – Official Fiesta Hat Contest and Luncheon (ticket sales are now on line). Our Hat Contest is a premier event, something to remember. Talk it up...Come one, come all!

Several of us attended Myra Keiser's Memorial Service and it was a beautiful service as it complimented who she was, an outstanding woman and WC Member. Her family was given a living plant by the Woman's Club with a sympathy card.

I want to wish each one of you a wonderful Passover, April 12 – 20 or Easter, April 20. Enjoy your family traditions during these important celebrations, such as, attending your synagogue or your church services, decorating eggs, having egg hunts, filling Easter baskets, and of course wearing that Easter bonnet. Remember...Bing Crosby

In your Easter bonnet

With all the frills upon it

You'll be the grandest lady

In the Easter parade

Best to you and yours,

Sandra

## Reminders

- ❖ When making a general meeting luncheon reservation, please make payment online with your reservation or you will not have a reservation.
- ❖ Our wait staff is hired to help with our dining, please do not ask them to help you with carrying items or anything else. We have a cart, sometimes 2 in the basement.
- ❖ We have our Suggestion Box out and ready to receive suggestions.
- ❖ Please notice the sign in the elevator that alerts you to our camera that also picks up sound, your voice.
- ❖ Our Fiesta Medals are available for purchase, \$12.00 each. Our 2025 Hat Contest theme is Fiesta Derby, so our designers, Paulina and Jeannette Rodriguez, daughters of Irma Iris Duran de Rodriguez, drew up a decorated horseshoe, different and pretty. Thank you to these talented sisters, who are also Ingenues. We only had 250 made, so get one or more soon. Also, since we're having a derby, get going and buy your ticket for our event.
- ❖ If you can't make our Fiesta Parades in person, watch the parades on television, we will be participating in all three parades.



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Cindy Rodriguez      | Apr 1  |
| Johanna Christiansen | Apr 2  |
| Eileen Marin         | Apr 3  |
| Ryan Scrimshire      | Apr 3  |
| Madi Spengler        | Apr 4  |
| Jeanine Coombs-Todd  | Apr 8  |
| Jaquie Rothermel     | Apr 8  |
| Gabbi Geppert        | Apr 13 |
| Patricia Geppert     | Apr 13 |
| Patricia Connors     | Apr 14 |



|                            |        |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Ashley Garza               | Apr 15 |
| Cheryl Conway              | Apr 16 |
| Tammy Cantu                | Apr 21 |
| Lili Villaneuva            | Apr 23 |
| Jean French                | Apr 24 |
| Deborah Riffenburg-Delgado | Apr 24 |
| Hilary Pattan              | Apr 26 |
| Celeste Brown              | Apr 30 |
| Heather Hays               | Apr 30 |

## CARE AND CONCERN

*Submitted by: Verna Quaranto, Corresponding Secretary*

- ❖ Member Angela F. Sanchez had surgery in early March to remove a kidney. She is recovering. Thoughts and prayers are appreciated. Cards may be sent to: Angela F. Sanchez, 6222 Pow Wow, San Antonio, Texas 78238.

## PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS

**Angelica Willborn**-Angelica is a proud Latina owner of Vantina Paloma by Angelica. She works with many artisans from Mexico and Guatemala. Angelica brings a lot of high energy and advocacy to the Woman's Club. Angelica has been married for 25 years and proud mother of three.

**Tara Ferguson**- Tara has been involved with the WC since 2018 when she attended her first Fiesta Hat luncheon. She has a passion for arts, decor and fashion. She currently works at Rackspace specializing in global server hosting.

# GOLDEN BOOK

*Submitted by: Sandra Salinas, Golden Book Chair*

- ❖ In memory of member Myra Kaiser by Modernist Round Table
- ❖ In honor of the 20<sup>th</sup> birthday of Harold Christiansen by Brian, Johanna, Sophia & Tessa Christiansen
- ❖ In memory of George Eppinger by Brian, Johanna, Sophia, Harold & Tessa Christiansen

## UPCOMING GENERAL MEETING AND EVENTS

TAWANA TIMBERLAKE, VICE-PRESIDENT

**RSVP TO THE WOMAN'S CLUB OFFICE @ 210-732-4811 FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT**



THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF SAN ANTONIO

### APRIL GENERAL MEETING FIESTA PROGRAM

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

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10:30 am social  
11:00 am meeting and program  
12:00 pm lunch

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Menu: salad, cheese enchilada casserole, Mexican rice,  
borracho beans, sopapilla cheesecake

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\$30 by TicketLeap or  
call (210) 732-4811 by noon on March 31st

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Wear Fiesta attire if you like!

The 2025 fiesta medals are now available at the Woodward Mansion for purchase! The medals are \$12 and can be purchased during at the house or the official WCSA Fiesta Events.


The medals were designed by Paulina Rodriguez, ingenue ('27). Paulina is the daughter of House Chair Irma Duran de Rodriguez, [grandmother: Mari Duran] and an artistic sophomore at Providence Catholic School. She incorporated the elements of the WCSA brand and logo into the Kentucky Derby theme of the WCSA Fiesta Hat Luncheon. The medal has a dangling derby hat decorated in fiesta flowers, with a gold horseshoe that duplicates the Kentucky derby logo. The look is completed with white glitter roses to tie the elegance of the WCSA with Fiesta fun.

Purchase yours today!



<https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/wcosa/april-general-meeting-831907580>





PLEASE JOIN US FOR LUNCH AS WE  
HONOR THE WISDOM AND GRACE OF  
OUR CHERISHED

# Golden Girls

Thursday, April 10, 2025

10:30 am - 1:00 pm

The Woodward Mansion

Please RSVP by April 4th

[erin.trevino@icloud.com](mailto:erin.trevino@icloud.com)

832-928-4423

Golden Girls: Complimentary

Guests: \$30

Transportation available upon request

## Time is Running Out: Get Your Golden Girls Ticket Today!

The annual Golden Girls luncheon is one of our most cherished traditions where we honor our members who have reached the "Golden Age" of 80 years or more. Join us on April 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:30-1:00 as we celebrate these amazing women and learn more about their incredible life stories.

**Golden Girls** - Free of charge (please RSVP to Erin Trevino [832-928-4423](tel:832-928-4423) by April 4<sup>th</sup>). Transportation is available upon request.

**Non-Golden Girls** - Tickets are available for \$30 using this link; please purchase by April 4<sup>th</sup>: <https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/wcosa/golden-girls-luncheon-745967436>

*Calling all new Golden Girls! Please contact Erin Trevino at [832-928-4423](tel:832-928-4423) or [erin.trevino@icloud.com](mailto:erin.trevino@icloud.com) so that we may honor you at this year's luncheon.*

## AUCTION CORNER

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Fiesta Hat Luncheon is here! We still need volunteers to assist in packaging up the donations and raffles. **Please turn in all donations by 4/20 to the office and label AUCTION.**

We have an updated auction letter if you need it to give to some of your business contacts who are willing to donate to the WCSA auction. A copy is provided at the back of this newsletter. Remember all donations are a tax write off.

## Fiesta Flower Show, April 25 and 26

We need refreshments donated (cookies, bar cookies) and helpers to greet visitors and show them around the house. Contact Karen Ward (text or call) at 210.218.4029

AND BE SURE TO SIGN UP TO SHOW YOUR FLOWER CREATIVITY!!!!



The Woman's Club of San Antonio  
**OFFICIAL**  
**HAT CONTEST & LUNCHEON**

Will you WIN, PLACE or SHOW at the FIESTA DERBY themed Official Fiesta Hat Contest? Come RUN FOR THE ROSES or actually WALK THE RUNWAY for a beautiful trophy & bragging rights at this highly anticipated & attended event!

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

The Westin San Antonio North  
 9821 Colonnade Boulevard

Tickets \$100

VIP Tickets \$150 seating by runway & swag bag

VIP Table \$1500

Purchase tickets by TicketLeap or call (210) 732-4811

Ingenues attend the Fiesta Lutheran Coronation event that was held on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Pictured in the photo are Jeannette Rodriguez (Page for the Lutheran Coronation), Sarah Cardenas (Teen Princess for the Woman's Club) and Tessa Christiansen.



<https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/wcosa/2025-fiesta-hat-luncheon>



A number of our members had a great time grooving out at the Queen of Soul's Motown Fiesta event.



Dearest Members...

As I write this, March is almost over.... and boy did it come in like a lion as they say... wind, wind, wind and last night (23rd) a huge hailstorm and blessed rain!

But that doesn't deter us at the Woman's Club. We kicked the month off on March 5th at our general meeting with a local television celebrity who retired last July from KSAT after 28 years! Many of us were avid watchers and it hasn't been the same without seeing the lovely Ursula Pari, evening anchor, illuminating our televisions every evening and giving us the scoop on San Antonio.

She did comment that at first it was difficult to not have to get up and be somewhere, but that she soon realized, retirement is the best kept secret and she is enjoying spending more time with her horses and of course, her role as the President of the San Antonio Polo Association, occupies most of her time. Always a rodeo queen and rider, she accepted a position in the state of Maine, and because of the frigid weather, riding was not much of an option. She soon found a solution when she was introduced to a heated arena where polo was played, and she hung up her rodeo saddle for a polo saddle and that has been her obsession ever since. When offered a position in San Antonio in mid 1990s, she was excited because she knew San Antonio was considered to be the birthplace of polo in the United States. And now, she is the President of this club and spends her time devoted to it's operation.

A pertinent fact: Polo is the **ONLY** professional sport where men and women participate, playing side by side! It is a non-profit 5013(c) and has an official Fiesta Event... the King's Polo Cup which happens on April 26th this year - it has a HAT CONTEST, great food, and lots of fun... I've been twice, and I want to organize a Woman's Club table to attend! Reach out to me if you are interested.

You can search the net for the entire illustrious history, but one blurb I found interesting that involves another well-known local businessman, a bootmaker being involved in it's history...

#### *Polo in Brackenridge Park*

*In 1920, the newly formed San Antonio Polo Club was allowed by the City to prepare a grass polo field at no cost. Competition between civilian and military teams filled the Brackenridge Park bleachers. A continuing national polo tradition began in San Antonio in 1930 when **Cosimo Lucchese**, local bootmaker who sold a line of polo boots, presented the Lucchese Cup to the winner of an annual tournament held in the park. The photo below archives this tradition for the winner of the 1950 tournament.*

And of course, our founding member, Eleanor Brackenridge was the sister of George Washington Brackenridge who donated the land to form Brackenridge Park!

MARCH 30TH - A very important event... the Coronation of our Queen by King Antonio, along with Rey Feo crowning our Princess, and the President of the Fiesta Commission crowning our Grand Duchess. Join us at the Culver Community Center at 3pm, and the reception afterwards at the mansion!

ARE WE READY TO **F I E S T A**? Our next general meeting is April 2, and we will have a FIESTA THEMED PROGRAM, and of course, we have the Fiesta Flower Show April 25-26 - see Karen Ward, chair to participate; Monday April 28th, the Pilgrimage to the Alamo, a walking procession from the Tobin to the Alamo to place a wreath - more info to come (the River Parade is that evening); then our largest FUNdraiser is April 30 THE HAT CONTEST & LUNCHEON. FIESTA DERBY is the theme (I have beautiful trophies planned for the winners!)

CAN'T WAIT TO SEE OUR MEMBERS WALK THE RUNWAY IN THEIR DERBY INSPIRED ATTIRE!

VIVA FIESTA!

Tawana Timberlake

Vice President







## FRIENDSHIP TEA

The Woman’s Club Friendship Tea and Birthday Celebration for Ms. Mary Eleanor Brackenridge, one of the Woman’s Club founders, was held on Tuesday, March 18th, 2025 at the Woodward Mansion, San Antonio, Texas. The event was hosted by the Friendship Round Table Committee and supported by the Woman’s Club Round Table volunteers. The festivities included friendship tea, sandwiches, dessert, and music. There were over 140 ladies in attendance with many participants gushing that this was the best Friendship Tea to date. Many thanks go out to all the volunteers who made this event such a huge success through their donations of time, tea, food, and money.



Again, thank you everyone  
 Friendship Round Table Chair  
 Rosiebella Gastelum

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Editor: Carolynn Snyder

Assistant Editor: Vacant

Members are invited to submit relevant photos of people or events for possible use in the newsletter and/or Facebook to [womansclubnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:womansclubnewsletter@gmail.com). **Advertising in Rustling Leaves is available** at the following rates: full page - \$100; half page - \$50; and, quarter page - \$25. Your ad may include business cards, recognition/celebrations, and announcements of upcoming events. The deadline for submission and payment for advertising is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the publication month.









## Round Table Corner

You are invited to attend the Friendship Round Table on May 13th at the Woman's Club at 11:30 a.m. Our



speaker will be artist Donna Russell who painted the picture of the 13 children who were killed in their school with 2 of their teachers in Uvalde, Texas on May 24, 2022. She could not sleep for 3 days after the shooting and was inspired to paint the picture. She will bring the original painting to show us as well as a book she has written about this painting and others. If you would like to attend please RSVP by Friday, May 9th, so our hostesses can prepare your home cooked meal. Price is \$15 and can be paid by check, credit card or cash. Please RSVP via TEXT to Friendship Round Table member Tara Ferguson at 210 584 1875.





This month's **American Home and Garden's Round Table** meeting included a wine tasting led by Crystal Patel. We sampled four of her Meierstone Vineyard wines and learned a bit about the art of wine making.

**Soiree Round Table** went with a St. Patrick's Day theme for their March Meeting. They met at The Cottage Irish Pub, played St. Paddy Bingo, enjoyed great food, and each other's company.





Dear Donor,

**The Woman's Club of San Antonio is celebrating their 126th Year!**

Organized on October 1, 1898, The Club was built upon the rock of detailed research and planning. The foundation was laid by two women with a vision and the ambition to blueprint what they felt was needed in the club life of San Antonio women. The two women who founded the Club were Marion Fenwick, Woman's Page editor of the *Daily Express* and M. Eleanor Brackenridge, clubwoman and philanthropist. Over the years, many accomplishments are credited to the Club's dedication of purpose, including, but not limited to: helped to organize the San Antonio Women's Federation, the first club to endorse women's suffrage in Texas; organized the Mother's Club in schools, later became known as the Parent Teacher Association; and we hold the distinction of being a Charter member of the Fiesta San Antonio Commission, hosting 3 official Fiesta events: Fiesta Teen Queen Coronation (our Queen is 1 of 7 official Fiesta Queens), Fiesta Hat Contest and Luncheon, and the Fiesta Flower Show

The Club has tirelessly raised money over many years for Respite Care of San Antonio, Volunteer Services Council of the San Antonio State Hospital Texas, WINGS, and we grant yearly scholarships to aid deserving students to further their education within the Empowerment Center at San Antonio College.

The Woman's Club of San Antonio is seeking donations for the silent auction at our annual Fiesta Hat Contest and Luncheon for 2025. This special fundraiser event will take place on April 30th from

10:30-2:30 at the Westin Hotel North. This is an annual fundraising event. We hope that you will consider a monetary or auction item contribution.

**Silent Auction or In-Kind Contribution**

Please use separate form for each donated item:

Donor Name/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fair Market Value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donor: AcFiesta Flower Show  **known**  **ledge** \_\_\_\_\_  **Anonymous** \_\_\_\_\_

Description (include any expirations) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name + Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Texas \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your support to The Woman's Club of San Antonio A 501C3 Non-Profit

\*Please email your logo if you would like us to promote you at the event.

Amanda Alarcon-Hunter  
Silent Auction Co-Chair  
[MinxandOnyx@gmail.com](mailto:MinxandOnyx@gmail.com)  
512-909-8103

Melissa Rogers  
Silent Auction Chair  
[melissarogers85@yahoo.com](mailto:melissarogers85@yahoo.com)  
210-860-9291



# April 2025 House Calendar

| SUN                 | MON                     | TUE                                      | WED                      | THU                      | FRI                      | SAT                      |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 30<br>Coronation    | 31                      | Apr 1                                    | 2<br>11am WCSA Genr      | 3<br>11am SAWF Boarc     | 4<br>10:30am San Ant     | 5                        |
| 6                   | 7                       | 8<br>11:30am Friendsh                    | 9<br>11:30am America     | 10<br>10:30am Noon Til   | 11<br>10:30am San Ant    | 12                       |
| 13                  | 14<br>11am Carousel Rc  | 15<br>Tax Day                            | 16<br>11:30am Fiesta Rk  | 17<br>11am SAWF Gen /    | 18                       | 19                       |
| 20<br>Easter Sunday | 21<br>Easter Monday     | 22<br>10am San Antoni<br>11:30am Moderni | 23                       | 24                       | 25<br>Fiesta Flower Show | 26                       |
| 27                  | 28<br>11:30am Fine Arts | 29                                       | 30<br>Fiesta Hat Luncheo | May 1<br>11am SAWF Boarc | 2                        | 3<br>Wolff Wedding - Pei |