

The President's Letter

Hello Ladies,

Yea, we are now past the "Dog Days of Summer". Here comes our cooler weather with the heralding of Fall, my favorite season. We have much planned for our Fall months. But, first, let me back up to August with our happenings. On August 7, we had our New Member Luncheon. It was quite successful and what a pleasure to mingle with these excited new members. Along with this purpose, we invited the STEM Scholarship donors. Lea Fagin, chair of this committee, presented the donors with certificates of appreciation. Many of our WC Board of Directors attended and also provided the salads, sandwiches and desserts, thank you. Our new members had the opportunity to take their head shots, by a professional photographer for our yearbook. Thank you, Amanda Alarcon-Hunter and Racheal Weisensee, Membership Chairs, and your committee for the lovely decorations and program.

August Summer Luncheon had a surprise...a beautiful Cavalier Spaniel named Charm. Our human speaker, Teri Wilson, was entertaining; she talked about her new series of books having to include a dog hero. It was so intuitive to see Charm at the podium with Teri, she seemed to know when Teri was talking about her. Charm was a guest for lunch as well. She properly sat at the table with Teri, ate a bit of lunch and sat some more. I say, Charm can come back anytime and join us for lunch. In conclusion, we've had some good Summer 2024 Programs and the decorations have been over the top. I'm sorry that many of you regular luncheon attendees did not join us. Mark your calendar for September 25, 2024, it's our Fall Luncheon at the San Antonio Country Club. It's going to be fabulous! Reservations are being taken at this time via internet or Tina.

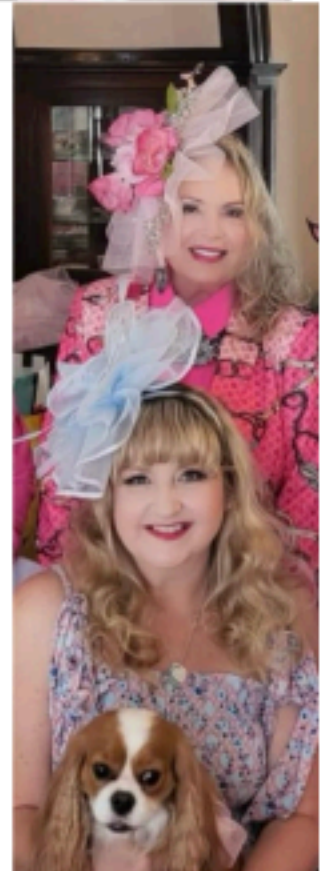
Your WC Board of Directors had a meeting today, 8/28, and it was filled with much discussion from various committee reports, from the inside to the outside of our mansion. Take a look in our WC Yearbook and get yourself on a committee.

"Unity Is Our Strength"

"Elegance is the only beauty that never fades." Audrey

Hepburn With best regards, Sandra







Hello! I am Isabella “Bella” Walski, and I am the Fiesta Teen Queen 2025. I

attend Antonian College Preparatory High School as a senior. At Antonian, I have been on the High Honor Roll every semester and am taking the maximum number of AP, Dual-Credit, and Honor courses. I am also a member of the National Honors Society. Outside of academics, I’m an avid lacrosse player.

My love for lacrosse inspired me to start the Antonian girls’ program during my sophomore year. I am proud to say my coaches and teammates named me a captain every season. As a sophomore, I was named to the All-District team (the highest award at the time) and awarded my team’s Offensive MVP. This past season, I was named to the All-State team. Last fall, I played for the Ireland National Women’s team in the Lacrosse North American Invitational, the largest international box lacrosse tournament in the world. I was 16 and the youngest player in the tournament.

All the players called me “Texas” due to my state pride. This year, I was selected to play box lacrosse for Team USA (Under 21). My first tournament will be this fall. Off

the field, I volunteer with programs to support my community. For the Woman’s Club, I am an active member of the Ingenue Roundtable, volunteering with Respite Care, the Pasta Lunch fundraiser, and representing the Club as the 2024 Fiesta Teen Princess. I am a local Ambassador for Morgan’s Message, a non-profit focusing on mental health in high school and college athletes. In 2024, I organized two successful fundraisers for Morgan’s Message in San Antonio. I volunteer at the San Antonian Food Bank, Morgan’s Wonderland, and the Kabuki Camp. I am also a member of the Children of the Republic of Texas (CRT).

Fiesta and the Woman’s Club are part of who I am. I began participating in the Teen Queen Coronation in third grade and have been in 10 coronations. My family has been

in the Women’s Club for generations. It started with my great-grandmother, Hazel Buchanan-Nelson-Spillman, and my great-great-aunt, Hortence Buchanan. Both of them are former Women’s Club Presidents. My Great-Aunt Nelle Still is also a former Women’s Club President. My grandmother, Barbara Walski is a Life Member of the Woman’s Club. Four of my cousins were the Fiesta Teen Queen and two others were the Princess. As the 2024 Fiesta Teen Princess, I attended events that gave me a new view on how deep the people of San Antonio care for our city. The Walk to the Alamo was my favorite because



all the clubs and organizations attended in remembrance of the men who gave their lives for this great state. This walk is what Fiesta is all about. I am a little biased toward it as I am a part of the CRT and also a military kid.

My father, Paul Walski, is a retired Air Force 23 years. Over his career, he deployed multiple times

and flew A-10s over Iraq and Afghanistan. I am forever grateful to him



Colonel and served over

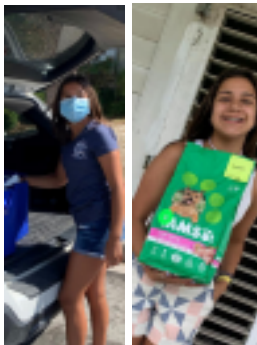
and all the other men and women who have or are serving to protect my freedom. My mother, Zulema Walski, is my biggest supporter. She grew up in Texas, and made sure our family ended up in San Antonio. She has been a member of the Woman’s Club for 10+ years,

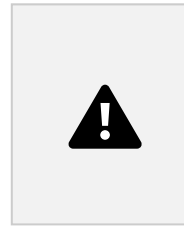


and is the current Carousel Roundtable Chair.

I look forward to Fiesta and representing the Woman's Club in 2025.

VIVA FIESTA! - Bella Walski





Greetings! My name is **Olivia Riedl**, and I am running for The Woman's Club of San Antonio (WCSA) 2025 Fiesta Teen Princess. I humbly and respectfully ask for YOUR VOTE. I would like to thank the WCSA for the opportunity to run for FIESTA TEEN

PRINCESS. It is an honor and privilege to be considered for this position and represent the WCSA. It is amazing to be part of this Club that is over 125 years old, and hosts events in a beautiful mansion that has received recognition by the National Registry of Historical Places.

My sponsors are my mother, Carla Riedl (WCSA member), and my grandmother, Cora Martinez (WCSA member). I have enjoyed participating in the WCSA Coronations serving as a Duchess on the Royal Court and working with the members of the Court and WCSA members to make the Coronations successful. I cherish meeting members of the WCSA and learning from every member that I have had the pleasure to meet. I was born and raised in San Antonio, and Fiesta has always been a part of my life (attending numerous events and volunteering at events). At a young age I can recall watching big floats go by in the parades and wanting to be dressed up like a Princess with a big crown and a beautiful dress. Now, with YOUR VOTE, I can have the



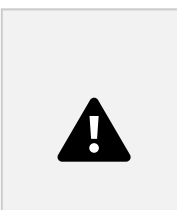
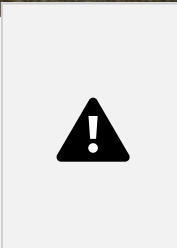
opportunity to represent the WCSA as your next FIESTA TEEN PRINCESS. It is an honor to be an Ingenue and learn from the WCSA on how to serve the community in charitable/educational undertakings that pertain to the good of humanity. I truly enjoyed wrapping gifts, setting up, and playing games with the Respite Care children, and witnessing their joy

at the WCSA. It was a pleasure to help prepare and serve lunch to the WCSA members at the WCSA Mansion. It has been an honor to represent the WCSA in Fiesta events as an Ingenue over the years.

At a young age I was taught the importance of education and giving back to the community. I strive to be a good role model and leader. I am a Senior at O'Connor High School in the Agriculture Science & Technology Academy. I am in Varsity Cross Country and Varsity Track and Pole Vault. I made First Team Academic in Cross Country and Track, was Co-Captain of the Cross Country Team last year, and was voted to be Captain of the team this year.

I am a member of the FFA, raise pigs at school for show, and received the Swine Proficiency Award. I maintain an "A" average while taking a variety of courses including AP and Pre-AP courses. I am a member of the Kitty Hawk Air Society and was elected as Treasurer last year. Also, I am a member of the National Honor Society and was elected to serve as Treasurer for the Science Honor Society. I was selected to attend Girls State this summer, and I have been a member of Girl Scouts since Kindergarten and received the Silver Award.

I am proud to live in Military City USA! My family throughout the years has served this amazing country in the Military, and I want to serve our country in the Military! I truly have enjoyed being in JROTC for 3 years and was selected to serve as Mission Support Squadron Commander last year and Deputy Commander of JROTC this year. I have been promoted in the ranks, received awards, selected to serve as Commander of the PT team



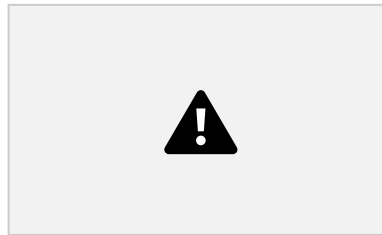
this year, participated in the Color Guard, and was Commander of the Panther Crew last year. I was previously nominated and voted in as a Duchess at the Military Ball. Over the years, I have volunteered at various locations in the community (ranging from sorting/packing food to helping build a playground), and it has truly been a pleasure to teach kindergarten and first graders as a Sunday School Teacher at my church. Thank you for taking the time to read and learn more about me. With YOUR VOTE, it would be an honor and privilege to be selected as the WCSA 2025 Fiesta Teen Princess.



Please vote for **OLIVIA RIEDL!**



6



FIESTA TEEN ROYALTY BALLOT 2025

Your Signature: _____

My choice for Fiesta Princess is: (Check one)

Sarah Cardenas, sponsored by Monica



Bridges (Mother).

Olivia Riedl, sponsored by (Mother) and Cora



Carla Riedl

Martinez

(Grandmother).

The candidate with the most votes will be Teen Princess and then the other candidate will be Grand Dutchess.

Instructions for voting

You may begin voting when you receive this ballot. We will **NOT** vote in the October general meeting.

Print a copy of the ballot and make your selection. **Sign your name on the ballot.** Return the ballot by e-mail, (womansclubofsa@aol.com), or by mail (1717 San Pedro Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 78212), or in person, (to Tina Zimmerman, club office) no later than **September 26, 2024**. Results will be announced at the

October general meeting on October 2, 2024.



**Huge Thank You to our volunteers for showing up & participating in
Workday to help keep the mansion clean!**



September Board Member Spotlight

Sandra Ojeda Medina

A proud 7th generation Texan and San Antonio native, I graduated from Our Lady of the Lake University and hold a BA in Education and Psychology and a MEd in Public School Administration and School Counseling. Retiring after 42 years of public school service, I went on to get involved in community service joining various Republican organizations, from national to State to local. I am currently a member of Alamo City Republican Women with Frieda Wright. At age 17, I learned the difference between our large political parties, Republican and Democrat, and chose to support the Republican Party because of my values, they are more aligned with my Latino heritage. At that time, I got involved in Nixon's campaign and have been supporting our Republican candidates since, be it with financial contributions and/or service. At present, I am part of Governor Abbott's outreach team, receiving emails about the work he's been doing in Texas. As he puts it, "Texas is and always will be my home", ditto to that sentiment. Growing up in a Democrat household, I eventually got both my parents to split their voting. Married a Democrat, but again have been able to totally get him to understand the Republican Party Platform, and he votes Republican. When it was time for my children to go to college, I told them both, you can go to any college in Texas and they did, SMU. Because we are a conservative family and believe in the Republican Party Platform, they too are Republican voters. In 2004, I stepped into a large political arena and became a candidate for State Representative, District 1, in San Antonio. Though a strong Democrat district, I stepped out to let the constituents know of our conservative values. After my defeat, I stayed involved:

- ❖ 2001 – attended the inauguration of Governor Perry
- ❖ 2015 – attended the inauguration of Governor Abbott
- ❖ 2008 – Republican National Convention Delegate (Mc Cain)
- ❖ 2012 – Republican National Convention Delegate (Romney)

Currently, I belong to various social and civic organizations but my favorite is the Alamo Couriers Chapter – Daughters of the Republic of Texas, from 2021 – 2023, I was President of this DRT Chapter. Our purpose is to promote Texas history and the celebration of Texas Honor Days. We are encouraged to fly the Texas flag on each of these Honor Days, which I do faithfully. I love Texas, no other State compares to us, "so wonderful, so great". A member of the Samuel May Williams Squadron, a Texas Navy Association affiliated squadron in San Antonio, TX, I'd like to apply for Admiral.

Sandra Ojeda Medina

Vita

Born: August 11, 1952 (San Antonio, TX)

Education:

Elementary and Middle Schools (SAISD and NEISD)
Robert E. Lee High School (NEISD)
Our Lady of the Lake College – Bachelor of Arts
Our Lady of the Lake University – Master of Education
Elementary Self-Contained (Grades 1- 8) 03/25/1978 – Life
Elementary Psychology (Grades 1- 8) 03/25/1978 – Life
Kindergarten (Grades PK – KG) 03/25/1978 – Life
Bilingual/ESL (Grades PK – 8) 08/01/1979 – Life
Counselor (Grades PK – 12) 11/26/1981 – Life
Principal (Grades EC – 12) 09/24/2008 – 08/31/2014

Professional Life:

Bexar County Mental Health Mental Retardation – Home Trainer
OLLU College Recruiter
SAISD Elementary School Teacher
SAISD Elementary and Middle School Counselor
NEISD Community Education – Community Specialist
NEISD School Counselor

Family Status:

Married Noe Reynaldo Medina (Nov. 28, 1975)
Children – Marisa Noel Medina (Jan. 15, 1977)
Omar Ojeda Medina (Jan. 31, 1978)
Four Grandchildren

Memberships/Volunteer Activities:

Laurel Heights UMC Member – 1980 - Present
Fiesta San Antonio Elected Commissioner
Fiesta San Antonio Commission Life Member

Fiesta Participating Member Organization (DRT Alamo Couriers)
Fiesta Participating Member Organization (Woman's Club of SA)
DRT Alamo Couriers Chapter – Member 2016
ACChapter 2 nd Vice President – 2019 – 2021
ACChapter President – 2021 – 2023
ACChapter Chaplain – 2023 - 2025
Woman's Club of San Antonio – Member 2016
Fiesta Teen Queen Coronation Co-Chair – 2016 – 2018

11

Fine Arts Round Table Member – 2016 – 2018 (ongoing)
Fine Arts Round Table Chair – 2018 – 2020
Books and Letters Round Table Member – 2018 - 2020
Charity Designation Chair – 2018 – 2020
Fiesta Teen Queen Coronation Chair – 2018 – 2020
Restoration Comm. Member 2018 – 2020
Executive Committee Board Member – 2020 – 2022
Charity Designation Chair – 2020 - 2022

Executive Committee Board Member – 2020 - 2022
WCSA Vice President – 2022 – 2024
Executive Committee Board Member – 2022 – 2024
House Committee Member – 2022 – 2024
Program Committee Chair – 2022 – 2024
Advisory Comm. for House Supervisor – 2022 – 2024
Annual Event Committee Chair – 2022 – 2024
Fiesta Hat Contest Luncheon Chair – 2022 - 2024
WCSA President Elect – 2024 - 2026

Alamo City Republican Women Club Member – 2016 – Present
The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary President – 2018 – 2020
San Antonio Women's Federation Member
San Antonio Council of Presidents Member
San Antonio Area Retired Teachers Member
Pan American League Member

Samuel May Williams Squadron of the Texas Navy Member
Please note that if I am not an organization chairman or officer, I
always give time to service.

Hobbies:

- ❖ Spend Sundays with Church and Immediate Family
 - ❖ Read Texas history books
 - ❖ Visit historical Texas landmarks
 - ❖ Watch various television programs
 - ❖ Make floral wreaths

Narrative:

I am a proud seventh generation Texan and San Antonio native! My love and service to our great state and our great country is an important part of my life. Retiring after 42 years of public school service, I went on to get involved in community service, joining various women organizations that support education with scholarships and Texas information. Like Governor Abbott, I share his sentiment that “Texas is and always will be my home”. Several years ago, I stepped into a large political arena and became a candidate for State Representative, District 1, in San Antonio. Though a strong Democrat district, I wanted to let the constituents know they had a choice, the conservative ticket.

I was born into a humble Christian home, my parents and extended family was very loving. Both my parents worked hard to give us good Christian values, stable emotional thinking, schooling beyond high school and a patriotic duty to our country and state. Growing up, we’d take rides into the country and my father would stop at Texas Historical Markers and read them to us, not knowing we were Patriots; that action drove us to be proud of our heritage. My siblings and I have continued to give volunteer service in many different ways to our community and beyond through our conviction of giving back and being proud.

My paternal grandmother, Ramona Arias Ojeda, was a founding member of El Divino Salvador Methodist Church. I was baptized and grew up in that Spanish speaking church until I married and moved my church membership to Laurel Heights United Methodist Church in

1980. I raised my children and now my daughter is raising her

children at Laurel Heights. As they grew up, I was very active in the children's programs, from development to teaching and coordinating programs, such as vacation bible school. My daughter has picked up the torch and beyond being a wife, mother, full-time employee, she too finds time to give back to God. I consider myself a good example for her.

What's important about Sandra Ojeda Medina: I've always given back to, my family, my church, my career, my community, my political party, and my organizations through time/volunteerism.

13

Prospective Members

We have received applications for membership in the Woman's Club of San Antonio for:

* Debbie Serna- Debbie brings inspiring ideas and lots of experience to the WCSA!. Debbie's husband was Rey Feo in 2010 and she has been involved in philanthropy for many years. She loves fashion and currently owns the pop boutique Damamiga that provides luxurious and custom kaftans. Debbie and her business partner Lorette Medina, participated in our kick off summer series "Kaftans and Cocktails". Debbie has been a long time supporter of the WCSA.

Their application will be presented for a vote to the Board of Directors. If anyone has any questions, please contact Membership Chair Amanda Alarcon-Hunter.

***** Please Note: if any members need replacement name tags to order with Amanda 210-367-7080 or Tina in the office, The fee is \$12.00 to be paid to Tina**

Golden Book

Submitted by: Sandy Salinas, Golden Book Chairman

- ❖ In memory of Betty Child, Mother of member Linda Nairn. Thank you to our donor Marie Sowles
- ❖ In memory of Kim Rees.
- ❖ In honor of Anita Oberle's 90th birthday. Thank you to our donor Patsy Pelton

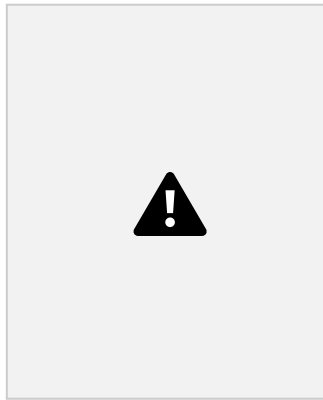
Care and Concern

**For all care & concern submissions please send to
rollercade@aol.com** Submitted by: Verna Quaranto , Corresponding Secretary

❖ Lynn Thompson's Husband, Colonel Jim Thompson has suffered a stroke

14

September Birthdays



Linda Nairn	Sept 1
Socora 'Coco' Martinez	Sept 4
Micaela Tovar	Sept 5
Sandy Massey	Sept 6
Anna Gonzalez	Sept 6
Cynthia Bowley	Sept 7
Roxana Vargas	Sept 8
Yvonne Nino	Sept 9
Heide Tarrillion	Sept 9
Sue "Zulema" Walski	Sept 11
Stefany Sausceda	Sept 12

Erminia Uyiedo	Sept 12
Sandra Lee Harmon	Sept 16
Diane Lewallen	Sept 17
Samantha Loveless	Sept 17
Mariah Ramirez	Sept 17
Ashley Walsh	Sept 23
Helen Henderson	Sept 24
Anita Oberle	Sept 24
Vickie Kinder	Sept 26
Frances "Bett" Schlattner	Sept 26
Dorothy Akers	Sept 26
Karen Rogers	Sept 26
Andrea Frankland	Sept 26
Billie Arrendondo	Sept 27
Ann lee	Sept 27
Lee Perry	Sept 28
Joann Ahmadi	Sept 29





See you in quaint, small- town Llano, October 4-6, for a Fun-Filled weekend with just us girls. Stay in the historic and award-winning Sandstone Street Bed and Breakfast just blocks from the town square. Learn to cook a new recipe with Chef Kate Shelton of Das Peach Haus, Friday evening. Saturday, have

fun while learning new hat decorating skills with our very own Award-Winning Hat Decorator, RosieBella, owner of Red Stitches.

Reservations due by September 30. Call: 325-423-2581 www.sandstonestreetbnb.com

Virginia Walker

Virginiarosewalker@yahoo.com

(325)423-2581

President of
Sandstone Street Bed and Breakfast

[Website](#)

[Blog](#)

[Facebook](#)

[TripAdvisor](#)

[Booking.com](#)

Upcoming Luncheons and Events

Upcoming Fall Luncheon
Watch your email for additional details!

- ❖ We are still collecting items for our SILENT AUCTION, new & gently used items are needed along with gift cards & gift certificates. All profits go into our budget. You may deliver them to Tina in our office. Thank you!
- ❖ Dias De Los Muertos/ Day of the dead celebration- October 26th
- ❖ Christmas Fair In the Mansion- December 3-5th
- ❖ Breakfast With Santa- December 7th

Upcoming meetings

General Membership Meeting- First Wednesday October- June

**Next General Meeting
October 2nd**

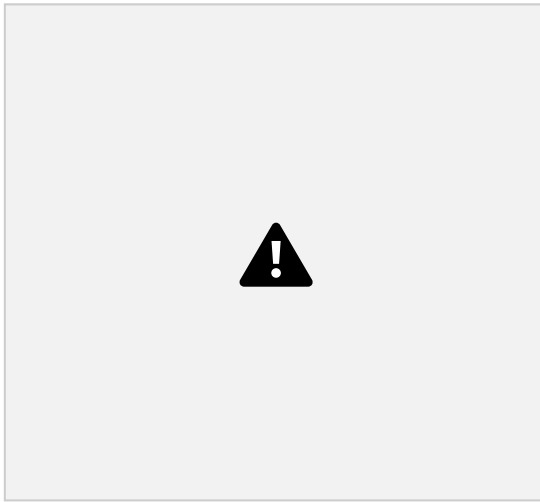
**Board of Directors Meetings
4th Wednesday of each month June- May
(Except when there are 5 Wednesdays in the month)**

If there is something you'd like to see in the newsletter, I am always open to suggestions & accommodating your requests. Feel free to reach out via email at womansclubnewsletter@gmail.com or to 210-240-6528.

RUSTLING LEAVES is published monthly by the Woman's Club of San Antonio. Editor: Sarah Komet Assistant Editor: Caroyln Snyder Members are invited to submit relevant photos of people or events for possible use in the newsletter and/or Facebook to 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 **15th of the month prior to the publication month.**

September 2024 House Calendar





<https://wesa.ticketleap.com/>