



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Members,

As you know, our President had to have an emergency hip replacement this week. She is doing well post surgery but is undergoing rehab and has a lot of recovery in front of her. Her normal message will be distributed separately.

Wishing you all a very happy Thanksgiving!

Your Newsletter Editor

GOLDEN BOOK

Submitted by: Sandy Salinas

- ❖ In memory of member Muriel England, by Margaret Canfield and Cheryl Conway
- ❖ In memory of member Nancy Cooke, by The Woman's Club of San Antonio
- ❖ In memory of member Nancy Cooke, by Ian Davis
- ❖ In memory of member Nancy Cooke, by Cyndi Munch
- ❖ In memory of member Nancy Cooke, by Books and Letters Round Table

CARE AND CONCERN

- ❖ Linda Nairn had heart surgery on November 12th and is asking for prayers. Notes of concern can be sent to: Linda Nairn, 107 East Elsmere San Antonio, TX 78212
- ❖ Member Lynn Thompson's husband, Col James Thompson, USAF (Ret) passed on October 11th. A Memorial Service was held on Friday, November 8th, and Committal Service with Military Honors followed at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Condolences can be sent to: Lynn Thompson, 611 San Dizier, San Antonio, TX 78232
- ❖ Member Nancy Cooke passed from this life on October 19th. A memorial service and celebration of life was held on October 27th.
- ❖ Our President Sandra Ojeda Medina had hip replacement surgery on November 20th. Cards may be sent to: Notes can be sent to: 124 Cas Hills, San Antonio, TX 78213

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Teresa Frias	Dec 1
Vicki Ferguson Crockett	Dec 2
Rose Alvarez	Dec 4
Amanda Alarcon-Hunter	Dec 5
Virginia Van Cleave	Dec 8
Kaye Bradford	Dec 10
Lea Fagin	Dec 10
Anna Alejandro	Dec 11
Gail Jarratt	Dec 12
Sandra Steinke	Dec 13
Nancy Hein	Dec 15



Connie Beasley	Dec 17
Marie Soules	Dec 17
Debbie Harris	Dec 18
Adelia Rodriguez	Dec 21
Kristin Tips	Dec 22
Margaret Duncan	Dec 23
Karin Fee	Dec 23
Martha George	Dec 28
Dolores Tamez	Dec 30
JoAnn Scrivano	Dec 31

THE AUCTION CORNER

Hello members! We hope this newsletter finds you well. Every month we will be giving out information, asking for requests or reminders of what is needed for the next upcoming auction. This is something new that we are doing. We hope to continue to make each and every auction more unique and grow them with much success!

Thank you to everyone for your support!

Auction Chairs and Committee

Amanda Alarcon-Hunter
 Melissa Rogers
 Racheal Weisensee

SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE EMPOWERMENT CENTER



A few members of the Woman's Club were invited to tour the brand new Empowerment Center at San Antonio College. It is a BEAUTIFUL facility that will be up and running and serving students for the next semester. It has classroom facilities, areas for studying and receiving academic counseling services, and much more

UPCOMING LUNCHEONS AND EVENTS

Tawana Timberlake, Vice-President

RSVP to the Woman's Club office @ 210-732-4811 for credit card payment

Christmas Faire Menu

Tuesday: Apple & Bacon Stuffed Pork Loin, Honey Mustard Potatoes, Roasted Mushrooms, Carrot Cake

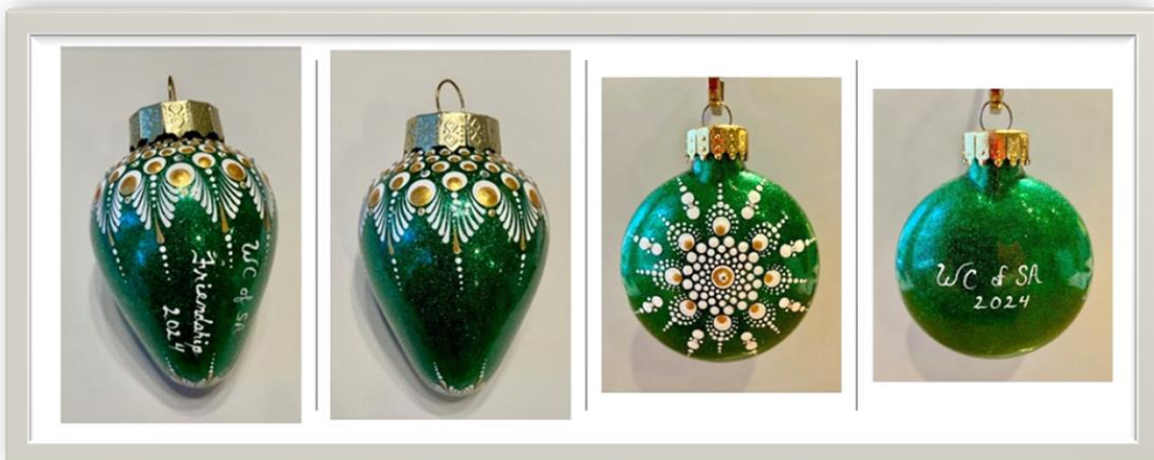
Wednesday: Chicken Marsala Rice Pilaf, Asparagus, Italian Cream Cake

Thursday: Boeuf Bourguignon, Creamy Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans Almondine, Red Velvet Cake

ORNAMENTS

These beautiful, limited edition, hand-painted ornaments will be available for purchase at the November General Meeting. \$30 each with proceeds going to the Ballroom Chair Cleaning Fund

The Woman's Club of San Antonio
Christmas Faire
Joyeux Noel
December 3, 4, 5
10 am-3 pm
The Woodward Mansion
1717 San Pedro
Lunch served daily at 12
Shopping-Lunch-Bake Sale
Gingerbread Houses
Christmas Fun
Access to Shopping is free! Lunch \$45
Lunch RSVP~210.732.4811
www.ticketleap.events/tickets/wcosa/joyeux-noel-christmas-faire-at-the-mansion



Breakfast with Santa

7TH DEC.

at the Woman's Club of San Antonio

1717 SAN PEDRO AVE.
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78212

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**FULL BREAKFAST • FACE PAINTING
PHOTO WITH SANTA
ARTS & CRAFTS • GOODY BAGS**

CALL 210-732-4811 FOR TICKETS

AGES 0-2: FREE • AGES 3-12: \$10 • AGES 13+: \$20

[Tickets for Breakfast with Santa in San Antonio from TicketLeap](#)



As you are driving around town be sure to look out for our banners. This one is on McCullough

[Tickets for December General Meeting in San Antonio from TicketLeap](#)

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF SAN ANTONIO

**December General Meeting
"Beauty from Broken Pieces"
Jeanne Philipus
J. Philipus Gallery
December 11, 2024**

10:30 am Social, 11:00 am Meeting, Speaker & Lunch
Reservations required by noon on Dec. 9th
by TicketLeap or call (210) 732-4811

**Menu: Beef tips with cherries, potatoes au gratin,
green beans & dessert**

2024 CHRISTMAS FAIRE

BAKE SHOPPE

Marsha Metz, Chairman

We are asking all members of the Club who are bakers to help us with the always-popular Bake Shoppe during the Christmas Faire. **Items should be delivered to the Club library by 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 3rd.** We need savory baked goods, in addition to the usual sweets. For the baked goods offerings, we are asking you to provide the following:

1. Cookies, cakes, breads, Danish, donuts, pastries, pies and any other items that are prepared by baking the item in the oven. Other items are canned jam or jelly, or a dried herb or herb mix.
2. Items should be already portioned, wrapped, or bagged.
3. Bake Shoppe will price the items.
4. The items should be labeled with your name, The Woman's Club of San Antonio, 1717 San Pedro, San Antonio, Texas 78212.
5. The label should also state: "This food is made in a home kitchen and is not inspected by the Department of State Health Services or Health Dept.
6. The label must state the name of the product.
7. Your label should also include any ingredients that may be allergens such as egg, nuts, soy, peanuts, wheat, or milk.
8. A way to be in compliance with Cottage Food Law regulations could be to include your recipe on the package along with the rest of the labeling information.

Bake Shoppe Chairman **Marsha Metz** will provide labels that will be ready for you to fill out if you are not able to produce your own labels. Questions? Contact Marsha at (210) 732-5600 or mcmetz@sbcglobal.net.



DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

On November 1st, the members celebrated Dia De Los Muertos in grand style... *While the gathering was small, everyone gave it their all, as you will see from the photos.* We had a first place prize of \$250 gift certificate to LaFonda on Main, and new member Cynthia Rodriguez won for her beautiful purple Catrina ensemble. Second place went to Michele Sheldon's date, a beautiful catrina tabletop sculputure. Third place went to a guest, Yvette Tello, La Prensa Texas publisher (a bottle of wine). Fourth place went to the couple who danced the most, but because they were in Catrin & Catrina attire/makeup, I don't have their names! We dubbed them the couple that danced the most (a bottle of bubbly)! We had the phenomenal band back, Henry Lee & the LaVeers that played at our September Moulin Rouge event, and again they kept us dancing. Did I mention that Henry was a producer for the Platters back in the day? No wonder they are such a great band! Tina made a delicious Mexican buffet, everyone brouht their beverages, and we had a wonderful time.

Cheers, Tawana Timberlake, Vice President





NOVEMBER MEETING

Dear Members:

Our November 6 General Meeting honored our Past Presidents. We are fortunate to have 11 still with us; 9 were in attendance. BJ Duncan- 2016-2018, and Jacquie Rothermel 2004-2006 were absent. We also gave a huge shout out to all of our Life Members and Patrons (the Criteria for Patrons & Life Members is on Page 44 of our Yearbook). Remember, beginning in 1996 prior to serving as President, each Past President had to serve the 2 prior years as Vice President, in charge of the programming, and many served in other elected roles on the board at different times as well.

Each of our Past Presidents joined our Vice President on stage to give a short speech about her term and received the Woman's Club 2024 personalized Christmas ornament. Below is a synopsis on each.



Nell Still - 1994-1996 (Joined 1982) Nell's Involvement began when she participated in the Woman's Club first Fiesta Teen Queen Coronation. Her mom, Hazel Buchanan Nelson Spillman was a member for 54 years until her death in 2017, and was the Club President in 1969. Nell's administration secured the 502c3 tax status and the Club's historical marker, the summer luncheons and Christmas Faire began during her term. The summer luncheons helped to purchase club eating utensils. Before that members actually brought their home silverware to have adequate place settings! The big fall lunch at San Antonio Country Club is when the Fiesta Hat & Style show started. The first Master Plan was performed on where to place the elevator, with it continuing through fruition when Jacquie Rothermel was President (2004-2006)



Betty Lewandowski - 1996-1998 (Joined 1985) Betty indicated what she enjoyed most about the Woman's Club was the wide age span, with the enthusiasm of youth and the wisdom of age - she loves how we all blend together in harmony. She refers to our members as Angels as so many stepped up to help her! Her administration started the campaign for the elevator. At that time they had to carry their chairs from the meeting room on the 2nd floor downstairs to the dining tables! She thought how are we going to raise \$100,000 for an elevator when we only charge \$5 for lunch? But through the decades, it came to be in Jacquie Rothermel's term.

Robin Steinhauser - 2002-2004 (Joined 1986) Robin's mom, Ruth Steinhauser, was President in 1986, which is when she became a member. Robin is an excellent pianist and an accomplished harpist. We are lucky to have her talents to entertain us at

special events! She stepped into the President's shoes in 2002, but most likes to remember the excellent help of Past President Betty Lewandowski and late Past President Patti Villarreal who helped lead the capital campaign for the much needed elevator that came to fruition under Jacquie Rothermel in 2004-2006 term, which ironically she recalls that Jacquie was the first person to get stuck in the elevator! **(HUMOROUS NOTE: during this program for the Past Presidents, where the elevator is much talked about, 3 people got stuck in the elevator on this day!)** Robin noted that it was her term where they started the Vice President elect scenario, i.e., wherein, the Vice President, becomes the President after her VP term!



Helen Jones - 2006—2008 (Joined 1992) Helen most remembers that she had to take over the campaign to bring the elevator to it's finale as Jacquie Rothermel fell and broke her leg which they used much to their advantage to prove exactly why the elevator was needed: the President could not walk up the stairs to the meetings! So they sat her in a wheelchair with a tin cup to ask for money as members came in. While a humorous move... it worked! So, the Elevator Master Plan started under Nell Still in 1996, and came to pass under Jacquie Rothermel's term in 2006 - a ten year project - but so well worth it. Imagine, if we had to negotiate the stairs in the stilletos we wear today? Not to mention, moving all that furniture... **THANK YOU PAST PRESIDENTS, for making it happen!**

Kathy Littlefield - 2010-2012 (Joined 2000) Kathy laughingly told me that a former President let her know that when her name came up as the candidate to step into the Presidential line, that another former President said "maybe not, she's very bossy!" Thus, she was given the name the Little General! While she

may be those things, in my 14 years of membership, I have witnessed her great love of this Club, and her generosity in times of need in keeping it afloat. Kathy served on the Board as House & Grounds Chair, Treasurer, Vice-President and then President. She spoke to the many upkeep projects during her term alone, that included replacing the bannisters, the toilets, the wood floors, the broken sofa, the carpet, dealing with roosting pigeons, installing a fountain out front, only to have someone steal her! A beautiful lady, carrying an urn on her shoulder, that has never been replaced. She encouraged new members to become involved in whatever capacity, as it is very rewarding.



Jean French - 2014-2016 (Joined 1994) Jean celebrates 30 years of membership this year. In her President's message in the yearbook, she writes about all the accomplishments the Woman's Club has that we are proud of and known for, which centers mostly around our Fiesta involvement, being a charter member, and hosting 3 official events. Our Teen Queen is one of the official queens of Fiesta Royalty. And of course, we have our wonderful charitable endeavors, including scholarships to deserving young women. She speaks fondly of the long term friendships she has made. She remembers that the drapes and sheers had to be replaced during her term, and it was quite a feat to make the selection, but they still look lovely today.



Ferne Burney - 2018-2020 (Joined 2008) Ferne is the most “involved in the City” President we have. She has served in many capacities on the Woman's Club board since 2008. BUT she has served on the Board of Directors of the Fiesta Commission in several positions, and now is the President Elect and will become the President of the Commission in 2025! Her most proud accomplishment was leading the campaign to raise \$200,000 to complete much needed repairs on the mansion. One major problem was our 3rd floor balcony - it was held together with bailing wire and duct tape. The other railings and pillars were rotting and at risk. And the beautiful gold room was in jeopardy for the bas-relief. In a meeting as they were trying to figure out where/what to do, she received a note from a Past President known as the General, that she would match anything up to \$50,000.00! By the end of they year, the money was raised! Ferne says the generosity and willingness of our members to go above and beyond to keep our

mansion in shape is truly amazing. Check out the plaque across from the elevator. As 2020 dawned, the club could no longer be open due to Covid, but members took their time, to come clean and keep the house together. Her most memorable day though is when she came in one morning in the dark, no one was there, and as she exited the elevator and walked into the foyer, she heard ladies laughing, and thought, great someone's here, I'm not alone. She headed to the dining room to say hello, and..... NO ONE WAS THERE. Yes, several of our members have had similar experiences! We need to chronicle these happenings and keep them for posterity!



Jane Stone - 2020-2022 (Joined 2009) Jane dubs herself the “Covid President” as she found herself in an empty Mansion, trying to figure out how to keep it going. With no meetings, no events, no income, no staff, what would they do. Her Board stepped up to the plate, each taking turns to be at the mansion and handle the office, and also had shifts of times to clean and keep it somewhat looking alive. The homeless was a major problem, sleeping on the back stairs, the balconies, even breaking into the attic. This necessitated the locked cage you see on the back stairs of the mansion. Jane made friends with the coffee shop owner and asked him to call if he noticed anything, and asked the police to park in our lot on their breaks. Lots of worry that the homeless could burn it down! When meetings could resume, everyone had to sit 10 feet apart, wear masks, etc. Paper goods was used for all services, and everything tossed at the end of the short gatherings. For the coronation, they had the Queen and Princess on the stage, and each individual royal member would come and curtsy with the photographer

getting head shots of each individual. It was truly a trying time to run the Club. She had the phone forwarded from the Club to her cell in the event of an emergency and a call came late one night with a gentleman asking if this was the Woman's Club on French Avenue, and Jane said, yes, and he said "well what time do y'all

open?" Thinking what he might be asking, she said, "well we are a group of little old ladies that bakes cookies for kids and charities, and his reply was "well thank you" and hung up!



Virginia Van Cleve- 2022-2024 (2015) Was a member in the 1980s. Her mother-in-law was a member so she joined, and her children were in the coronations back then. She indicates that as a consummate volunteer, her interests and duties led her to other organizations, including the Fiesta Commission, and she dropped out. She rejoined in 2015 and served as Vice President under Jane Stone from 2020-2022. In her President's message in the yearbook Virginia talks about the fact that the Club was the founding member of the San Antonio Federation of Women's Clubs (SAWF) in 1904, which was founded as the club of clubs, an organization for organizations, a force multiplier for civic betterment. Our Club remains affiliated with the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs through its membership in the San Antonio Women's Federation and they hold their monthly members meeting at the Woodward House the third Thursday of the month, October through May. All WC members are invited to attend their meeting to learn more. Also, during her Presidency, the Woman's Club celebrated 125 years on 10/1/2023 with the

Governor's wife, and Judge Peter Saki in attendance, we had a lovely gala at the San Antonio Country Club. We received official proclamations and had a marvelous evening.

While we have the distinction of being the oldest Woman's Club in the State of Texas, I think we are very lucky to have such amazing women who have been at the helm to keep her going. How wonderful if we could research and get more stories on other past Presidents - and other history of our Club that is unknown. Kathy Tarkington has been telling me some great stories, and I plan to get with her and go through the house and keep her talking about the many different things she remembers. I and she will welcome anyone else who wants to participate and help with this project!

Cheers,
Tawana Timberlake
Vice President





DEC(ORATING) THE HALLS AND STAIRS AND DOORS AND LANDINGS AND...



ROUND TABLE CORNER

Fiesta Round Table remains committed to our local school, Beacon Hill Elementary School. Last year, with the help of club members, we donated underwear, socks, and hoodies to the school for the many indigent children who often own only the clothes on their backs. Your support has enabled them to keep a closet with these items in case a child has an “accident” or just needs to have the item.

Our Thanksgiving meeting will be a true Thanksgiving. We are going to enjoy a modest lunch, grateful for the many opportunities that we have for lavish meals. We are also collecting children’s underwear and socks to present to the school at the start of the holiday season. The children at this school are in the very youngest age groups. We ask that you order or purchase Girls’ and Boys’ sizes XXS to Youth XL and anything in between. Take a second to look over the list of items on Amazon that you can order and have it shipped, some at no charge for shipping! How easy is that? Just click on:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3QGKXS4WMHNT1?ref=cm_sw_em_r_un_un_rXTIQ2U4t15Nw

and your shopping will be in front of you.

If you want to go to the store, please do. A container has been placed in the club basement entrance for your donations. We are grateful for your support.

Bridge Round Table purchased three memorial bricks in memory of Woman’s Club members Kim Rees, Nancy Cooke, and Muriel England. These bricks will be placed in the Woman’s Club garden.



Modernist Round Table’s October meeting featured a program by member Gretchen Hill, Ph.D., on tips for healthy coping as we age. Additionally, Modernist Round Table will be sponsoring Christmas parties for two patient units at the State Hospital.



Fine Arts Round Table Gathering for the month of October saw the members decked out for Halloween. Linda Purcell gave the group a short lecture on the History of Art. Books and art images were provided for the Round Table’s viewing enjoyment.

The Woman’s Club Ingenues held their November meeting that included having a Thanksgiving meal, wrapping toys for the Respite Care children, writing thank you notes to the Round Tables & individuals that contributed to gifts for the Respite Care children, and preparing Christmas decorations for the piano area to decorate for the Christmas Faire. It was a fun, festive, and productive Ingenu meeting!!

Submitted by Ingenu Chair Johanna Christiansen



DECEMBER 2024 HOUSE CALENDAR

SUN Dec 1	MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6	SAT 7
		Christmas Faire				Breakfast With Santa
			4pm Conservation			2pm Vema Q - Rer
8	11am Carousel Ro	10am ILEA - Nina I 11:30am Friendshi 5pm Bear Hugs Ch	11am WCSA Gene	10:30am Noon Tid	13 Freddi Rodriguez - Re 10:30am San Anto	14
15 12pm Rose Corely	16	17 Scholarship Brunch 6:30pm Soiree Rou	18 11:30am Fiesta Rc	19 11am SAWF Gen A 11:30am Books ar	20	21
22 Respite Care Christm	23 11:30am Fine Arts	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27 10am Bridge Roun	28 Marvinette Smith Rer
29	30	31 New Year's Eve	Jan 1 New Year's Day	2 11am SAWF Boarc	3 Christmas Decorations Take Down	4

RUSTLING LEAVES is published monthly by the Woman's Club of San Antonio.

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. **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./.