

# SPWP NEWS



July 2007

## President's Letter:

Dear SPWP Members, Scholarship Recipients and Guests,

Our June meeting was exciting with Louette Arrowsmith from Dale Carnegie who helped us visualize the "Vision in Our Lives". I would like to thank Louette and everyone with Dale Carnegie who have added to our meetings and our lives over the years. This month, Janet Clark with Marathon Oil will be with us to tell us about "Marathon's Strategy for Success in the Oil and Gas Industry and the Challenges".

June was also a time when SPWP had our first social event and many of you were there to experience it! With so much happening this year, it was a ladies night out to relax with dinner and tickets to "Sweet Charity" at TUTS in downtown Houston. A special "Thank You" to Erica Coman for organizing the evening! I understand that there will be another special event happening soon!

The July SPWP monthly meeting is extra special since we take time to honor our scholarship recipients and their parents. This year, nineteen young women will be awarded scholarships to pursue their education. I would like to congratulate these young women on their hard work and achievements in high school and wish each of them success as they begin their next step at college in our wonderful state of Texas. Also, I would like to thank everyone who volunteered and contributed throughout the year in order for SPWP to have a scholarship program. This is a very special and rewarding program that is near and dear to our hearts!

I will not be able to be at the July meeting, but Melissa Marshall has graciously volunteered to fill in for me. I will be out of town for the week, but I know that all of you will have a great time! Have a safe and exciting 4th of July!  
Sincerely,

*Mary*

## July's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held **Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007**, at the Marriott Westchase, located at 2900 Briarpark Drive near Westheimer and Beltway 8, at 7:30 a.m. Regrets should be made with **Denise Kraus** by noon on Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup> using the Evite email. If you do not receive an Evite, please contact Denise at (713) 237-3510 or [dkraus@spwp.org](mailto:dkraus@spwp.org). If you do not plan to attend, you **must** regret. If you do not RSVP, we may not have space to accommodate your attendance. We welcome all guests to the June meeting. Guest reservations must be made with a credit card (MC or Visa).

***Please remember to turn pagers and cell phones off or to silent alarm during meetings.***

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## SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL WOMEN IN PETROLEUM

SUPPORTING CAREER WOMEN IN THE  
PETROLEUM INDUSTRY THROUGH  
TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION.



[www.spwp.org](http://www.spwp.org)

## *Minutes of the June Meeting*

Mary Campana called the meeting to order at the Westchase Marriott on June 14, 2007 and she introduced the SPWP Board for 2007.

Patsy Wells introduced Louette Arrowsmith with Dale Carnegie. Ms. Arrowsmith spoke on "Vision." Three things to keep in mind are (1) your vision should be positive; (2) your vision should be couched in present sense terms; and, (3) your vision should have both a personal and professional side. She encouraged members to choose a goal, pick a date and tell a story of the future as if living it in the present. People can chart their destiny rather than flapping in the wind if they will set positive goals for themselves. Secondly, members were told to discuss how they felt themselves as a result of their achievements because if you feel a certain way about the goal, then you will have the momentum to achieve the goal. Native Americans believe that if you dream something, then it happened. If you achieve your goal there was a direct relationship to whether you believe you will achieve your goal. Members were then asked to locate someone with a similar vision and share with them so that they would be held accountable to someone. Sam Walton, the founder of Wal-Mart, said "Capital is not scarce. Vision is scarce." Project into the future and think of what could be and not what already was.

Patsy Wells presented Louette with a token of SPWP's gratitude for attending the meeting and sharing her experiences and guidance for success.

Nancy Bell Scales introduced the new members of SPWP—Kelsey

Fouts and Lisa Mellen—and presented them with their membership packets. Nancy also requested that any changes to contact information be emailed to her at nbell@kjgc.com.

Evalyn Shea moved to approve the minutes of the May meeting and Melissa Marshall seconded the motion. The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

Lilia Glekel requested that members volunteer to be featured in the "Introducing Members" section of the SPWP Newsletter and to send completed biography forms to her.

Evalyn Shea reported on Federation of Houston Professional Women news. The next quarterly meeting is July 23, 2007 at which the Women of Excellence will be introduced in an informal setting. Mary Campana announced that FHPW is hosting a mixer scheduled for June 19, 2007 from 5:30 – 7:30



p.m. at Arcodoro.

Nancy Bell Scales congratulated Sue Becknell and Patsy Wells on being nominated as Supplier of the Year.

Erica Coman reminded everyone about the upcoming social outing on June 28, 2007 to see the musical "Sweet Charity" and announced that members who wanted to meet prior to the musical could do so at Café Rigoletto. She also circulated information on possibly scheduling a cooking class at Central Market and invited

members to let her know which cooking class they would be interested in attending.

The Women's Global Leadership Conference is in November and information relating to this event is available on the SPWP website.

Clyde wished a Happy Birthday to all the June ladies!

Alicia Torben thanked everyone who helped sell raffle tickets for the Texas Oilman's Invitational Fishing Tournament.

Melissa Marshall gave a report on the first meeting of the Golf Committee. The Golf Tournament is scheduled for November, 5, 2007. Volunteers should see Cathy Williams and/or Susie Coon.

The next meeting is July 12, 2007.

Mary Campana announced that the FHPW Quarterly meeting will be held on July 23, 2007. There will be an update on other FHPW information and events in the SPWP newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.



### *New Member Applications*

SPWP has received a membership application from the following person:

**Name:** Pamela Langowski  
**Title:** Contract Administrator/  
Project Management  
**Company Name:** National Oilwell  
Varco  
**Sponsored By:** Lilia Glekel  
**Interested in the following  
Committees:** Golf Tournament



## FHPW 2007 Dates

Upcoming FHPW meetings will be held on July 23 and October 23, 2007. The FHPW Gala has been scheduled for September 29. Stay tuned for the location.

Since SPWP is affiliated with FHPW (Federation of Houston Professional Women), we encourage all of our members and guests to check the FHPW Web site for the latest topics relevant for women doing business in Houston. FHPW offers an emailed newsletter coming right to your mailbox. To sign up, send a blank email to: [fhpw-news-  
subscribe@egroups.com](mailto:fhpw-news-subscribe@egroups.com).



## Looking Ahead

This year we will start having the SPWP Annual Business Meeting in the month of November. With half the year gone, it may be early, but please think about becoming involved with SPWP and running for a Board position in 2008! This is a great way to become involved and find out more about SPWP. Please contact any current Board member if you have any questions on the different positions.

## Happy Birthday to SPWP Members!

Clyde Perrere.....	July 1
Mary Ann Vandermark .....	July 2
Jody Beck .....	July 3
Jade Drawe .....	July 5
Danielle Newcomer .....	July 7
Vicki Mays.....	July 11
Adriana De La Cruz- Dalton .....	July 13
Kelsey Fouts.....	July 17
Deb Cleverdon .....	July 26



## Other Announcements

The 2007 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Women's Global Leadership Conference will be held on November 27 & 28 at the Westin Galleria. As in the past, the SPWP will again be sponsoring the conference. The conference will kick-off with a networking reception on the evening of the 27<sup>th</sup>. SPWP members attending the conference are eligible for a \$100 registration discount. There has been a Web site setup for early information on the conference: [www.gulfpub.com/WGLC](http://www.gulfpub.com/WGLC).

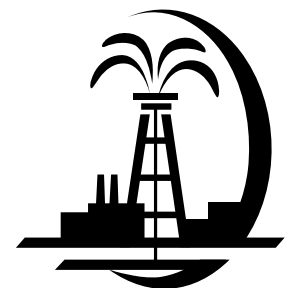
Thank you to all the ladies that participated in the wonderful turnout & fabulous time at "Sweet Charity!" Paige Davis was incredible, the food was delicious, and the Texas summer heat was in full force! For those of you who were not able to make the show, I hope you can come to the next awesome event to meet, and get to know some amazing ladies!



SPWP's next social event is going to the Central Market Kitchen. On Friday September 21 at 6:30 P.M., SPWP has scheduled a private kitchen with an amazing chef to teach us some great new dishes for the fall. There are only 48 spots available and EVERYONE - members, non-members, and friends are welcome to come! The 2.5 hours includes fun, learning, a delicious dinner, making & growing friendships, and only costs \$60.00. Please be on the look-out for the "SPWP Kitchen Saute" Evite. I'm looking forward to eating great food with everyone in the air conditioning!

~Erica Coman

Email: [Erica.coman@vetco.com](mailto:Erica.coman@vetco.com)





## Introducing...

*In this feature, SPWP will focus on introducing two members of our organization. The introductions will serve as a venue for opening discussions between members, and allowing us to get to know each other a little better. We may find we have more in common than just our industry!*



**Patsy Wells**

Any nicknames?  
Member of SPWP since:  
How did you come into SPWP?

*None  
September 2003. I met Evalyn Shea at a WBEA workshop in early 2003. She encouraged me to join several organizations and SPWP happened to be one of them.  
My relationship with Evalyn has been one of mentor/mentee, in my opinion. Evalyn had established her business about five years previous to mine and you might say she has been able to guide me through a possible pitfall more than once.  
I am the CEO of Wells Manufacturing, a position that I have held since 2002. My career began in accounting, however in my early career I had worked for petroleum companies involved in E&P, drilling and products, and in different clerical positions. While my children were very young I went back and*

What is your current career path and how did you get here?

Future career goals?

*completed my formal education, rounding out my resume with strong and pertinent volunteer experience as well as a strong network of professional contacts. With a formal education in tow, I went to work for Pennzoil E&P Company and later transferred to Pennzoil Corporate where I accepted a position first in Internal Audit where I performed domestic financial and operational audits for Pennzoil owned facilities and later Pennzoil International Audit where I assisted Pennzoil international operations in a variety of special functions.*

*My future career goals involve continuing to work with my company as we achieve new milestones, my employees as they evolve to take on more responsibilities and develop expertise and time and attention with my successor, my son James Wells.*

Any special experiences or memorable moments in your career?

*I feel extraordinarily fortunate for a woman of my era to have had the opportunities that I have had. I can honestly say that my early family and education system encouraged marriage and clerical work. Advanced education meant teaching or nursing.  
However, going back to school in the late 80's allowed me to be a member and officer of Beta Alpha Psi (earlier years membership was primarily male), where the board traveled to Washington DC in my year, where we accepted an award for national chapter of the year for our nomination of Kathryn Whitmire, a former member. Secondly, my time at Pennzoil International Audit allowed me to travel, to lead and direct audit staff at international entities and interact as a peer with senior Pennzoil staff in the International, Corporate, Legal and other related Pennzoil Senior Staff. My husband, John of more than thirty years, who spent his entire career in International Sales for Bowen Tools likes to say I've traveled to more International locations than he has. Not quite true but I've had some very interesting experiences such as assuming control of an International subsidiary due to gross mismanagement, to attending the Grand Prix in Australia, to riding in a Pennzoil race car in Australia. Several regrets not taking advantage of every offer and assuming that the opportunities*

Personal life,  
hobbies, family,  
favorite books?  
Favorite  
anecdote?

would be around forever. (I could have stayed over in Peru and traveled to Manchu Pichu for hiking and had a local accompany me if I hadn't been in a hurry to get home.) These days I have little time for anything other than working with Wells Manufacturing to help it achieve the status that I envision. However, I have always enjoyed reading for relaxation. My favorites:

- Agatha Christie (I have a complete collection of her books which have been read over and over);
- Helen MacInnes (I enjoyed the reality of her description of European locations and looked forward to seeing those places for myself). And some of them I actually have visited where I walked down those streets;
- Nicholas Sparks (I have visited that part of North Carolina that he is so fond of writing about while my son Matthew was stationed at New Bern.

I am looking forward to turning the business over to my sons that I can have more leisure time to get back into cooking, reading, studying history, genealogy, leisure learning and John and I are hoping to add a new activity which would be ranching in the not too distant future. And whatever else we can find to get into trouble with.

Some of the things about me that you might find surprising.....**WORLD TRAVELER** -having traveled to five of the continents; **LEADERSHIP** - I've held a leadership role in every organization I have been part of starting in sixth grade when I was President of my 4H organization; **COMPETITIVE** -whether raising Best in Show chickens, to being a long distance runner that outclassed closest competitor 2 to 1, designer and style show scholarship winner, tournament fishing and placing in both king fish and marlin on multiple occasions. (Part of the only couples fishing team in Marlin fishing on the Texas coast) and **AWARD WINNING BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL** - college scholarship, also scholarship to design school, Beta Alpha Psi Honors Society, Student of the Year in 1993, Wells Manufacturing nominee for Supplier of the Year 2007.



## Janet Foltyn McAfee

**Any nicknames?** My Grandpa called me "Tootsie Pop" because that was my favorite candy and he would always take me to the store to get them and then I used this name as my 'handle' back in the old days when we had CB Radios.

**Member of SPWP since:** New - May 2007  
**How did you come into SPWP?** Patsy Wells told me about the group and invited me to speak at a breakfast. Then I started coming to the meetings whenever I was in Houston - it seems like it took years for me to make my "3" meetings in a row for membership. From day one, I thought this was the most fun' group of women I've ever met - definitely not like the stuffy other organizations I belong to.

**What is your current career path and how did you get here?** I have volunteered to co-chair the Casino night with Tammie Westlund. I love my job!!!! I have my own company - [www.foreignoperations.com](http://www.foreignoperations.com). I am an expert witness for forensic accounting and fraud. I find the fraud, corruption, embezzlement, etc. and then help the attorneys build their case and act as an expert witness to prosecute the case. 70% of my work is international and the majority is energy and service companies. Of course, I also have to adapt to the current trends and I've done a lot of Sarbanes Oxley work. I've even expanded out of the energy realm and I help find hidden assets for divorce cases, etc. I even helped look for Sadam Hussein's monies.

**Future career goals?** Future career goals - Because everything is computerized and digital now, I have been training extensively in the area of computer forensics and finding hidden files, etc. It's very interesting.

Any special experiences or memorable moments in your career?

*I was chosen as the first women ExPat for Tenneco back in 1986 – to go to Gabon - but the government refused me because I was 26, white and single. I have lived and worked for 3 years in South Africa and 1-½ years in Cairo, Egypt. Business-wise, people always see me as the 'bad' guy so I've been on two hit-lists to be murdered – one for \$1000 in Columbia, the other for \$500 in Indonesia. I travel often with body guards. International travel-wise, I survived the Tsunami on December 26, 2004. I survived a tourist bomb in Myanmar on the same trip.*

Any areas of expertise? Special knowledge?

*I have an extensive background in the international arena – I've traveled to over 150 countries. I love finding fraud – it's just a very juicy, interesting job. I graduated from university in Dec 1981 and immediately went to work in the oil business... and there definitely was a glass ceiling to break. I had no women mentors. I have really learned to use 'being a woman' to my advantage. I also am a mentor to many women. I also educate executives from the largest oil company in the world – CNPC (China National Petroleum Company). I have had groups here for the last 5 years. My goal is to educate foreign governments in the oil business. I just signed a contract with the Israeli Government. Other organizations that I belong to are: The National Association of Corporate Directors, The Society of Certified Public Accountants, the Institute of Internal Auditors, the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, the Council of Petroleum Accountants Society, the American Society for Industrial Security, the Greater Houston Business Ethics Roundtable, the International Association of Financial Crime Investigators, the High Technology Crime Investigators Association and the Houston Technology Center.*

Personal life, hobbies, family, favorite books? Favorite anecdote?

*I am a native Texan and a true cowgirl – growing up on a farm/ranch in Buckeye, Texas, and started competing in rodeos at age 5; was on the rodeo team at SHSU – my competition was barrel racing and calf roping. I have been married to Ken, an investment banker, for 15 years. My baby is a Chihuahua named Tsunami. She goes everywhere with me. We live in Southampton, have a farm in*

*Ganado and we just got an apartment in San Miguel de Allende. My hobbies are international travel, photographing indigenous tribes and shopping for ethnic art. My husband and I have also established a worldwide mission's project called Touching the World Ministries and we have helped build churches in Lesotho, Africa and Katmandu, Nepal. I love to fly and have done my first solo in a single engine Grumman cheetah 10-14-96. I love to shop – actually just browsing all of the antique stores, the Guild. I love decorating magazines and HGTV and STYLE channels.*

*Want to recommend someone to be featured in "Introducing...?" Want to volunteer for an upcoming newsletter? If so, contact Lilia Glekel for the details!*

## **July Speaker**

**Janet F. Clark** is executive vice president and chief financial officer at Marathon Oil Corporation. Clark joined Marathon on January 5, 2004 with a strong background in financial management and energy industry experience.

She began her career as an investment banker specializing in corporate finance, primarily with The First Boston Corporation, predecessor to Credit Suisse First Boston.

In 1997, Clark joined Santa Fe Energy Resources, Inc. as chief financial officer. Following the merger of Santa Fe Energy and Snyder Oil in 1999, she assumed the role of executive vice president of Corporate Development and Administration, with responsibility for corporate development, internal auditing, human resources, information technology, purchasing, office services, security and environmental, health and safety.

Clark joined Nuevo Energy in 2001 as senior vice president & chief financial officer. While at Nuevo, she was responsible for all finance, accounting, investor relations and information technology functions within the company, serving as the direct point of contact with investment and commercial banks, Wall Street analysts and rating agencies.

Clark was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. In 1977, she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Harvard University and a master of business administration degree in finance in 1982 from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Clark serves on the Board of Directors of Universal Compression Holdings, Inc., which trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol UCO. She serves also on the Board of three non-profit organizations: The Houston Symphony, YES College Preparatory Academy and New Hope Housing.



## Mark Your Calendar

### July:

#### Independence Day

Wednesday, July 4

#### SPWP Meeting

Thursday, July 12

Janet Clark of Marathon Oil will be our featured speaker.

### August:

#### SPWP Meeting

Thursday, August 9

Joint meeting with AADE

### September:

#### Labor Day Holiday

Monday, September 3

#### SPWP Meeting

Thursday, September 13

### October:

#### API Golf Tournament

Monday, October 8 at Kingwood

#### SPWP Meeting

Thursday, October 11

### November:

#### SPWP Golf Tournament

November 5, at Windrose Golf Club

#### SPWP Meeting

Thursday, November 8

The **2007 Women's Global Leadership Conference** is scheduled for November 27-28 at the Westin Galleria.



## Board of Directors

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## SPWP Committees & Chairs

### SPWP Casino Night Committee

Chair – Nancy Bell-Scales

Co-Chair – Janet McAfee &

Tammie Westlund

### SPWP Scholarship Committee

Chair - Barbara Kender

Co-Chair - Margaret Hare

### SPWP Golf Committee

Chair - Cathy Williams

Co-Chairs – Susie Coon &

Lellany Conaway

### SPWP By-Laws Committee

Chair - Melissa Marshal

Co-Chair – Nancy Bell-Scales

### SPWP Education/Social Committee

Chair – Evalyn Shea

Co-Chair - Erica Coman

### SPWP Historian Committee

Chair – Vicki Mays

### SPWP Hospitality Committee

Chair - Alicia Torben

### SPWP Newsletter

Editor – Lilia Glekel

### SPWP Web site/Newsletter

Chair - Melissa Pastrano

### FHPW Delegates

Main - Lindsay Hanisko &

Patsy Wells

Alt. – Evalyn Shea

# 2007 SPWP Scholarship Winners

**Bethlehem Yikalo**  
University of Houston  
Accounting

**Andrea Mai-Tran**  
University of Texas at Austin  
Geography

**Victoria Walker**  
Texas Tech University  
Pre-Medicine

**Morgan Brett Lowdermilk**  
Blinn College  
Biomedical Science

**Lauren Thompson**  
Texas A&M University  
Chemical Engineering

**Alyssa Franklin**  
Texas A&M University  
Geology

**Crystal Reuther**  
Stephen F. Austin University  
Advertising

**Rebecca Caitlin Shelley**  
Texas A&M University  
Engineering

**Jeannette Mojica**  
Sam Houston University  
Journalism

**Stephanie Griffs**  
Texas A&M University  
Business

**Ashley White**  
Blinn College  
Business/Marketing

**Kristen Frederick**  
University of Texas at Austin  
Engineering

**Sarah Lai**  
University of Texas at Austin  
Nursing

**Jessica Bruno**  
Kilgore Junior College  
Communication

**Krista Thomason**  
Texas Tech University  
Pre-Medicine

**Roxanna Ghalamdanchi**  
Texas A&M University  
Biomedical Engineering

**Sara Nejad**  
University of Texas at Austin  
Business

**Edilsa Lopez**  
University of Texas at Austin  
Mechanical Engineering

**Jessica Ann Flores**  
Stephen F. Austin University  
Nursing

*Congratulations, Ladies!*

## Scholarship Essays

Each year we ask those applying for our scholarship to write an essay: "What 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century woman do you most admire and why?" or "Discuss three petroleum based products and their importance in your life." The Scholarship Committee would like to share some of the essays we received.

### The Importance of Petroleum

Petroleum is not just oil coming out of the ground. It is so much more; it is essential today's world. Products made from petroleum are prevalent everywhere. However, some of its products are more important and necessary than others. In my life, there are three major petroleum products that I depend on daily including plastic, gasoline and paraffin wax.

Plastic is found almost everywhere you look. From cups, to pens, to toys, to desks, to cars, to phones, plastic is a component. When I try to imagine not having anything that is made out of some sort of plastic, I simply cannot do it. There would be no containers, no toothbrushes, no computers, and hardly anything at all. Yet, if plastic was taken away as a resource, these products could still be made. However, they would be made using wood or some type of metal. These materials are far more expensive than plastic and not nearly as versatile. Therefore, people would lose money and many products if plastic were not available. Thus, plastic is a very important petroleum product to me. It plays such a big role in my everyday life, merely by allowing me to use its products.

Secondly, gasoline is a predominate petroleum product as well, being that it is also used for many reasons. The main, or at least most direct, way that I use gasoline is for my car. Automobiles require gas to work, and without them, it would be difficult to function. Cars are so essential to everyday tasks such as getting from point A to point B, and transporting goods. Petroleum is what keeps people going, because it keeps their transportation going. The American culture is far too lazy to walk or ride a bike somewhere; people must drive just down the street. As absurd as it

is, that's the way our culture is. Thus, the gasoline that keeps cars running allows people to accomplish what needs to be done. For instance, in my daily routine, gasoline gets me to and from school, to friend's houses, to the doctor, to stores, etc. If I could not use my car to get to these places, I would not go nearly as often because it would take far too long to arrive. Then, my education would be as advanced and I wouldn't have as many friends. Both of these are very important to my life and making me who I am. So, gasoline essentially plays a huge role in my life by allowing me to drive places and achieve tasks as well as fun.

Another prominent petroleum product that I often come across is paraffin wax. Paraffin wax is found in candles, candies, polish, matches, and much more. I enjoy each of these product every much. Candles make a room inviting and relaxing by adding beautiful decoration and a sweet fragrance. Also, when the power goes out they are a very good source of light. Matches make lighting these candles possible. Without them fire would have to be started the old fashioned way and thus candles wouldn't be used often. And, candies are enjoyed by all, using the paraffin wax to create a shine or polished surface.

There are several other petroleum products that are very common and important to everyday life, these are just a few. Regardless of the product, however, most have a common task. They all seem to make life simpler in some way. As time goes by, technology and resources change. Petroleum is one such resource that is used to further the world by making laborious tasks easier.

*Lauren Thompson*

### The Angel of the Battlefield

During my junior year in high school, or Health Occupational Students of America (HOSA) class studied various individuals who had made significant contributions to the field of medicine and health. One particular person who made a favorable impression on me was Clara Barton.

She spent her life helping others, as a teacher, a war-time nurse, founder of the American Red Cross, as well as being involved with other meaningful causes. Her life time of leadership and tireless dedication to her work earned Clara Barton the reputation as a notable woman in American history".

Born in Massachusetts on Christmas Day in 1821, Clarissa Harlowe Barton was the youngest of five children. Like many middle class women then, she began her career as a school teacher, at the young age of 17. When she was 29, she moved to New York and enrolled in an advanced school for female teachers to study writing and French. Upon completion of these studies, she opened another school in New Jersey, which rapidly grew to over 600 students. When the school board bypassed Clara Barton and hired a man to head the new school, she left to soon become the first woman clerk at the U.S. Patent Office.

When the Civil War began Clara Barton resigned her position at the Patent Office to become a volunteer nurse for the wounded soldiers. Again she went where no woman had gone before, She went to the front lines of battle, aiding the soldiers when bandages, medical supplies, food and water. Because of her untiring work during the war, she became known as the "Angel of the Battlefield". In 1864, she officially was named as the superintendent of the Union nurses where she began obtaining hospital and camp supplies, medical assistants, and military trains, and dispensing these to 16 different battlefields.

Following the civil War, Clara Barton traveled to Europe where she became educated about the concept of the Red Cross and realized the needs for the Red Cross in the United States. She returned to America and started the American National Red Cross in 1962. She became its President and remained in that capacity for 22 years until her retirement in 1904, at the age of 83. Under her leadership, the Red Cross

not only assisted in war-time efforts, but in peace time work as well as in hurricanes, floods, famine, earthquakes and health epidemics.

Clara Barton was also highly dedicated to fighting for and furthering the rights of women. She died in 1912 at the age of 91. I was able to locate several of her quotes and they describe her quite well.

"I may be compelled to face danger, but never fear it and while our soldiers can stand and fight, I can stand and feed and nurse them."

My favorite quote is, "I may sometimes be willing to do for nothing, but if paid at all, I shall never do a man's work for less than a man's pay".

It is easy to admire Clara Barton and to appreciate her work and contributions to our society. To comprehend that she organized the American Red Cross in 1882, and successfully headed its operation for 22 years, and to see where it is today, showed remarkable vision.

She was a strong persistent woman who wasn't afraid of work or failure. She didn't take "no" for an answer, she set lofty goals and made sure they were fulfilled. It's quite evident that her life was not about her, but about her service to others.

*Morgan Brett Lowdermilk*

### **Cynthia Ann Parker**

Although she is not extremely well known, the story of Cynthia Ann Parker embodies some of the roughest situations encountered on the American frontier. I find her unshaken strength to carry on through trials, steadfast and loving determination, and her strong beliefs to be most admirable considering her unimaginable circumstances. Her story begins when the Parker family decided to move south from Illinois to wild and unsettled Texas to establish the first Protestant church. Cynthia Ann Parker was born between June 2, 1824, and May 31, 1825. She was

just seven or eight when the Parker family settled in Central Texas, near the Navasota River. A small community quickly developed around the Texas branch of the Primitive Baptist Church, headed by Cynthia's uncle, and eventually Fort Parker was created.

The extended Parker family thrived in their new home, and the recent victories of the Texas army over Mexico uplifted their spirits even more. During a sunny morning on May 19, 1836, almost all of the men had gone out to work in the fields. Suddenly, without warning, approximately five hundred Comanche, Kiowa, and Caddo warriors approached the settlement waving a white flag. Cynthia's uncle Benjamin went out to meet with the Indians. They required some meat and directions to a watering hole. Benjamin returned to the fort to gather some food, failing to close the gate behind him. His family watched frozen with fear as he was instantly surrounded and overcome by the Indians. Sheer pandemonium broke out as the settlers tried to escape the brutal attacks of the Indians. Cynthia's mother managed to get her younger children out of the fort, and take cover in a nearby forest. Two Indians wielding tomahawks confronted them making it clear that they wanted Cynthia and her younger brother John. Cynthia became one of four other captives taken by the attackers. They traveled for days tied behind Comanche on horseback under the scorching sun. Hunger, fear, and painful sunburns slowly drove out the captives' will to fight back.

At the end of the five day journey, the group of Indians has split up, each returning to their own tribe. By the time Cynthia and her captor arrived in the Comanche village, she had become more accepting of her new name, Naudah, meaning "one who has been found". A Comanche couple adopted her and treated her as their own daughter. At the age of thirteen, Naudah had reached a

marriageable age. She married the fierce warrior Peta Nocona. It was common for warriors to take more than one wife, yet Peta showed his strong devotion to Naudah by not marrying again. They had two sons, Quanah and Pecos, and a daughter, Topsannah.

Six years after the attack at Fort Parker, all of the captives except Cynthia had been released from living in various Indian settlements. Several times Indian traders offered to help her return home, and her brother John Parker tried to entice her to return to her white family. Yet she refused, saying that she loved her husband and children too much to leave them.

Several years later, Texas Rangers attacked Peta's hunting camp. He was able to escape with Quanah and Pecos. Yet when the Rangers found Cynthia, they told her that her husband had been killed. She returned to her uncle's town on the condition that if her sons were found that they would be reunited. Cynthia lived for years in mourning, and several times she tried to run away. Later she received word that Pecos had died from smallpox and then a few months later Topsannah died from influenza. Cynthia had reached her deepest depression. She refused to eat or speak. She died of influenza at the age of 43.

The Parker family had no idea that traveling to Texas would break their family apart, that their oldest daughter, Cynthia Ann, would become a full fledged Comanche Indian. She created a tie between the two cultures that was carried further by her eldest son, Quanah Parker, who served as a liaison between the Comanche and the whites, and became the greatest Comanche chief of the reservation era. I greatly admire Cynthia Ann Parker's display of courage and her unrelenting loyalty and strength through her struggles.

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