



July | 2008

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# SPWP

## News

*Society of Professional Women in Petroleum*

*Supporting career women in the petroleum industry through technology and information.*

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### July's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held **Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008**, 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 7<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 July 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.**

### President's Letter

Welcome SPWP Members, Scholarship Recipients and Guests!

Well, summer is certainly upon us with rising temperatures as well as rising fuel prices, and what looks to be one of the most contested presidential elections of recent years. There is no doubt that the second half of 2008 is going to be as eventful as the first. I have certainly missed SPWP in the recent months, having been out of the loop since April, but able to spend some quality time with my family celebrating their successes.

Having attended two graduations the last couple of months I am reminded that our July meeting is extra special with our scholarship recipients being honored for their outstanding achievements. I would like to welcome the recipients and their guests, as we offer them our support and wishes for a most successful future. As they enter the next phase of their academic endeavors, I have no doubt they will find continued success as well as new avenues to pursue. I sincerely hope that they will follow their dreams and achieve them.

As we award another year of scholarship funding, I would like to thank all of the members who work year round to generate the funding which continues to promote the education of young women attending Texas Universities. Members participated in such fundraisers as the SPWP Casino Event and the SPWP Golf Tournament. Members also aided the American Petroleum Institute, International Association Drilling Contractors, and the American Association of Drilling Engineers in their golf tournaments, as well as volunteering at the Texas Oilmen's Charity Invitational Fishing Tournament which all generously support the SPWP scholarship program. Thank you to each and every member for all your hard work, time investment, and dedication in promoting education.

Also, I would like to thank our sponsors who support our events, without them our program would not be possible. Of course we must thank the scholarship committee for their commitment to helping these applicants pursue their dreams and secure life's success. Recipients, we hope that you will come back and let us know how you are doing. We would love to hear how you are making your dreams of higher education a reality.

Have a continued safe and happy summer and try to stay cool.

Melissa Marshall, President  
Society of Professional Women in Petroleum

## Minutes of the June Meeting

Nancy Bell Scales called the meeting to order at 7:40 a.m. at the Westchase Marriott on June 12<sup>th</sup>.



Nancy introduced the SPWP Board and guests introduced themselves.

Jerri Babin introduced Geoff Morris.

Geoffrey Morris, M.Ed., MBA is a speaker, trainer, and consultant in Houston, TX. His experience has provided him the opportunity to partner with organizations worldwide to implement proven techniques to thrive during transition periods and communicate more effectively. He empowers individuals and business professionals by helping them reach their goals and develop the necessary leadership skills to successfully take control of their lives.

Geoff's topic was 'Using Change in Your Life'.

What do I want out of my life?

1. What am I willing to do to make things happen?
2. Change is an opportunity (although it might be

scary) to gain knowledge and skills.

Barbara Kender used Vetco's change to GE as an example.

Steps through transition:

1. Change your attitude and approach.
2. Reassess the situation and take a step back.
3. Ask yourself is this something I want.
4. How do we spread enthusiasm to help with change? With support change is easier. Quality and performance is more successful.

Communicate what we want:

1. Learn how to manage difficult situations you are in by being professional and respectful and focus on what your goal is.
2. Work with people whose goals match yours and they will be there and support you.
3. There is no such thing as failure. You learn from every experience. Geoff used the tombstone example (year born – year died). What experiences make up your "dash"?

Have passion (pass-it-on). Be a good role model. Help other people. Others see your actions and want to learn from you.

Alicia Torben gave an example of having 23 different direct

bosses through her career and her ability to manage change. She said she looks at it as "another boss to train"!

Geoff closed by saying; "You can have the life you want if you take control". He thanked us and asked for any questions.

Nancy asked for a motion to approve the amended May meeting minutes. Margaret Hare made a motion and Erica Coman seconded; the meeting minutes were approved.

Nancy welcomed new members Ora Gibson, Priscilla Gagliano and Sabahat Khan and presented them with their new member packets.



Nancy noted that FHPW meeting is July 28th at the Hess Club and Evalyn Shea announced the Women of Excellence Gala on September 28th and urged all who could attend to do so.

Margaret Hare gave the website to Ellen Howell's quintuplet website as [www.howellquints.com](http://www.howellquints.com) for Ellen and the babies' current status.

Nancy announced for anyone interested in participation in the

SPWP golf tournament in November to contact Patsy Wells.

Clyde wished a Happy Birthday to all the June ladies.

The mystery handshake recipient was Lovelyn Jeane.

Barbara Kender announced that our scholarship money in the total of \$55,000 went to 17 young ladies. Our total contributions to date are \$581,000 to 340 women. Barbara announced that the presentation to the ladies would be at the July meeting. Barbara thanked her co-chair Margaret Hare and the rest of the committee for all of their hard work.

Nancy Bell-Scales announced July 10th as our next meeting date.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

## July Speaker - Kimberly K. Denney

Kim is the Air Liquide USA Chief Administrative Officer and President of Air Liquide America L.P., driving the US corporate functions and a portion of the core business of the world's largest industrial gas company.

Air Liquide's products include medical gases for hospitals, gases for welding, and products and services to support the

refining, chemical and steel industries; just to name a few. Her team extends from Alaska to Houston to Hawaii.

Kim earned her BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Missouri – Rolla (now known as Missouri University of Science and Technology) in 1982 and her MBA from Rice University in 2001. She holds one patent and is honored to serve on the Board of the Academy of Chemical Engineers at her alma mater, as well as the Executive Advisory Board of the Houston Strategic Forum. Her career has included: solid operations and project experience, energy procurement, sales, and too many "special projects" to mention. She has learned to value trusting her instincts, seeking out new approaches, and taking risks. She devotes herself to work and her 15-year old daughter, Alex. Her husband Terry Doyle, a former chemical plant superintendent, provides crucial support at home.

## SPWP New Member Applications

SPWP has received a membership application from the following ladies:

**Name:** Sylvia Garcia  
**Title:** Recruiting Lead – Oil & Gas  
**Company Name:** TAC Worldwide  
**Sponsored By:** Alicia Torben

**Interested in the following Committee(s):** Casino Night, Scholarship

**Name:** Miranda K. Spigener  
**Title:** Partner/Vice President, Business Development  
**Company Name:** VerveStar  
**Sponsored By:** Alicia Torben  
**Interested in the following Committee(s):** Scholarship, Golf Tournament

All requests for SPWP new member applications should be forwarded to Nancy Bell-Scales at: [nbell@spwp.org](mailto:nbell@spwp.org).



**FHPW Quarterly Meeting**  
Presented by the FHPW Advisory Council & Introducing the 2008 Women of Excellence, July 28, 2008

*Team FHPW...It's All About Us!*

*Where:* H.E.S.S. Building, 5430 Westheimer (between Chimney Rock and Yorktown)

*Time:* 5:15 p.m.: Social/Networking/FHPW Table

- 6:15 p.m.: Dinner/Business Meeting/Networking

- 7:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.: Program

**FHPW Quarterly Meetings**  
- July 28  
- Oct. 27

## Important Dates

The FHPW Women of Excellence Gala will be held September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Hyatt Regency (downtown). Make your reservations with Erica Coman: [ecoman@spwp.org](mailto:ecoman@spwp.org)

To sign up for the FHPW newsletter, send a blank email to: [fhpw-news-subscribe@egroups.com](mailto:fhpw-news-subscribe@egroups.com).

## Happy Birthday to SPWP Members!



Clyde Perrere.....7/1  
Mary Ann Vandermark....7/2  
Jody Beck.....7/3  
Jade Drawe.....7/5  
Danielle Newcomer.....7/7  
Vicki Mays....7/11  
Adriana de la Cruz-Dalton...7/13  
Kelsey Hulett.....7/17  
Ashleigh Steadman.....7/22  
Deb Cleverdon.....7/26

## Oh BABY!

### Congratulations to our own Ellen Hare Howell!

Proud parents Ellen and husband Stephen Howell happily announced the birth of quintuplets in Phoenix Arizona. Three girls and two boys born on Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> are doing well.

Ellen and Stephen have been in Phoenix, Arizona since the end of March awaiting the birth of their precious babies. The great part is the babies waited until they were 30 weeks and 5 days before deciding they were ready to be born. At present the children are healthy and in NICU:

- Sidney Alun, Girl - 2 lbs, 10 oz
- Ivy Elizabeth, Girl - 2 lbs, 8 oz
- Mitchell Thomas, Boy - 2 lbs, 15 oz
- Luke Harrison, Boy - 2 lbs, 15 oz
- Briellen Jeanette, Girl - 2 lbs, 6 oz



Many of you may have been following this on the Web site but for those of you have not, you may want read Ellen and Stephen blog: <http://howellquints.com>. It provides insight on the strength and fortitude Ellen and Stephen have gone through while awaiting the birth of their five babies. They have been fortunate to have the support of family and friends through this entire experience.

Just a little background: Ellen and Stephen searched for a doctor that is an expert on high order multiple births. Dr. John Elliott in Phoenix average for gestation of quintuplets is four

weeks longer (32 weeks) than the national average (28 weeks) and the babies have a lower morbidity rate. Dr. Elliott clearly knew that Ellen was a high risk but there was no reason that the babies could not be healthy. He had delivered (2) sets of septuplets, (8) sets of quintuplets, (92) sets of quadruplets and (500) sets of triplets.



Beginning April 1st, Ellen went on bed-rest in Phoenix. Family and friends have rotated staying with Ellen during this time. Ellen and Stephen are planning to stay in Phoenix through August and hopefully return to Houston in September.



As everyone can imagine there will be tremendous need with five babies. It seems there is tremendous support from manufacturers for sextuplets but zero for quintuplets. Listed on the Web site [www.howellquints.com](http://www.howellquints.com) is an area wish list and registry links for anyone wishing to send gifts. For anyone interested in contributing towards one "BIG" gift from members of SPWP for these precious new babies, Carla Cooper will be collecting contributions. Depending on the

amount collected either a wish item gift will be purchased or the funds will be sent directly to help out with what we are sure will be a “mountain” of diapers.

Carla will collect donations through July 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Mark Your Calendar



**July**  
SPWP Meeting  
Thursday, July 10

**August**  
SPWP Meeting  
Thursday, August 14

**September**  
SPWP Meeting  
Thursday, September 11

## Board of Directors

**President**  
Melissa Marshall  
Energy Exports  
281.346.0808  
[mmarshall@spwp.org](mailto:mmarshall@spwp.org)

**First Vice President**  
Melissa Pastrano  
Baker Atlas  
713.625.5883  
[mpastrano@spwp.org](mailto:mpastrano@spwp.org)

**Second Vice President**  
Jerri Babin  
National Oilwell Varco

713.369.6338  
[jbabin@spwp.org](mailto:jbabin@spwp.org)

**Treasurer**  
Erica Coman  
Vetco Gray, A GE Oil & Gas  
business  
281.847.4665  
[ecoman@spwp.org](mailto:ecoman@spwp.org)



**Member Representative**  
Denise Kraus  
Wilson Supply Co.  
713.237.3510  
[dkraus@spwp.org](mailto:dkraus@spwp.org)

**Secretary**  
Nancy Bell-Scales  
Kilburn, Jones & Gill, LLP  
713.652.4068  
[nbell@spwp.org](mailto:nbell@spwp.org)

## SPWP Committees & Chairs

**Casino Night Committee**  
Chair – Nancy Bell-Scales  
Co-Chair – Melissa Marshall  
Co-Chair – Janet McAfee

**Scholarship Committee**  
Chair - Barbara Kender  
Co-Chair - Margaret Hare

**Golf Committee**  
Chair - Patsy Wells  
Co-Chairs – Lellany Conaway  
and Terri Guerrero

**By-Laws Committee**  
Chair - Melissa Marshall  
Co-Chair – Nancy Bell-Scales

**Education/Social Committee**  
Chair – Evalyn Shea  
Co-Chair - Erica Coman

**Historian Committee**  
Chair – Vicki Mays

**Hospitality Committee**  
Chair - Joann Prazak

**Web site & Newsletter**  
Chair - Melissa Pastrano

**FHPW Delegates**  
Main - Mary Campana & Denise  
Kozar  
Alternates – Barbara Davis &  
Evalyn Shea

*Please forward newsletter updates,  
comments or questions to the  
editor: [mpastrano@spwp.org](mailto:mpastrano@spwp.org)*

## 2008 Scholarship Recipients

**Kelsey Renee Anderson**  
University of Texas at Austin  
Business/Pre-Med

**Kasey Brinkmeyer**  
Texas A&M University  
Business Administration

**Megan Brittany Campbell**  
Texas A&M University  
Special Education

**Jessika Monique Davidson**  
*Angela Mockler Memorial Scholarship*  
Stephen F. Austin University  
Biology/Computer Engineering

**Haley Donella**  
Texas Tech University  
Biochemistry

**Amanda Christine Fait**  
Baylor University  
Elementary Education

**Araz Garakanian**  
University of Texas at Austin  
Engineering

**Alyssa Kehoe**  
Sam Houston University  
Physical Therapy

**Amanda Leigh Luke**  
Texas A&M University  
Business

**Lyndsay May**  
University of Texas at San Antonio  
Architecture

**Hilary Elaine Moore**  
Trinity University  
Neuroscience/Psychology

**Sydney Pham**  
University of Texas at Austin  
Biology

**Katelyn This**  
Southwestern University  
Business Management/Psychology

**Bridget Leigh Wells**  
University of Texas at Austin  
Mechanical Engineering

**Evin White**  
Trinity University  
Spanish/International Business

**Skylar Kay Yancey**  
Texas A&M University  
Communications



## 2008 Scholarship Essays

*Each year we ask those applying for our scholarship to write an essay: "What 19th or 20th 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:*

### **Petroleum: To Cleanse, Feed and Entertain**

In the past couple of years, the price of a barrel of oil has gone up, as demonstrated by gas prices. I have noticed though, that not only have gas prices gone up, but the price of a good number of other things, too. Some of the price increase is explained by inflation because of too much money in the economy, but I believe that the majority of the cause of prices going up is the increasing price of oil. Petroleum oil is used in creating products to clean, products to feed, and products to entertain.

Petrochemicals are used in the production of soaps and other products, products very important to me because I am a germ-a-phobe – not a germ-a-phobe that never comes in contact with people, but one that is conscience to wash my hands when people are sick, and especially when I am about

to eat. When I babysit or work around children, I probably wash my hands twice as much. Soaps and other products like household cleaners include petrochemicals that keep me protected against colds and other things that could attack my immune system.

Oil-based products are also used in the production of plastics and good freshening chemicals. I cannot imagine of never having frozen vegetables, or bread wrapped in a plastic bag. In fact, I use plastic baggies everyday when I take sandwich and apple for lunch. These products ensure that my lunch will not be contaminated before I am able to eat and that my lunch stays fresh as if my mom had just made it for me.

Not only is petroleum used to keep me clean and keep my food fresh, but it also serves in part of my entertainment: music. I do not own an iPod or MP3 player, so my source of non radio entertainment is CD'S. I have a good sized collection of music to entertain me, but also as a member of my high school choir I use CD's to learn our music for contests. Music plays a big part in my life. I sing at my school, at my church, and just about anytime a melody comes into my head. With the help of petroleum, I am able to pop a CD into my car radio, or into my portable CD player, and away I go.

Petroleum is used in many things in my life, and I hope it will continue to be, not only as a product that I use, but also as a part of my job in the future. I hope to become an accountant for one of the local oil companies in Houston. That is why I am already planning to go to college for five years, so that I can earn my master's degree and extend my chance of being employed by an oil company. I realize that petroleum is in more things than I realize and is a vital part of our society. I hope that my hard work can someday be used in the petroleum field to further advance the uses of petroleum in everyday life.

*- Kasey Brinkmeyer*

### **Surmounting Obstacles**

Whenever describing values or attributes that constitute an admirable person, many thoughts come to mind. In my opinion, an admirable person is an individual who is dedicated, hardworking, has achieved outstanding success throughout one's life, and has determination to surmount whatever obstacles that the individual may encounter. One woman that I admire the most is Babe Didrikson Zaharias. She was considered to be perhaps the greatest all-around female athlete of all time. Babe Didrikson Zaharias achieved success in just about anything she put her mind to including golf, track and field, basketball, baseball, diving, and even foot-

ball. Zaharias was able to redefine the accepted models of female athleticism during her time. She completed and received recognition at several different Olympics, winning multiple medals for track and field. Furthermore, she was the first woman to compete in the Los Angeles Open, which is a men's Professional Golfer's Association (PGA) tournament. This was a feat no other woman would attempt until six decades later. Zaharias was also admired for being the founding member of the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA). She had won every golf title available, both amateur and professional titles. By 1950, she had a total of 82 golf tournament victories.

Just mentioning her accomplishments would make most people admire such a successful person however, for me the admiration is much more personal. As a young child I was a tomboy who loved to play sports that most girls did not play, such as football. Boys would constantly tell me that I was not allowed to play with them or that girls were not as good at playing certain sports. Zaharias certainly proved that women are just as good as men are when it comes to sports. Her strong will and determination allowed her to gain success in whatever task she faced. Against all odds she was able to prevail and gain the acceptance from both men and women

athletes. She aspired to be great in all that she did and exceeded most expectations. For example, as mentioned above, she was the first woman to compete in the PGA. Most women would not even entertain the thought of competing against the greatest men golfers of her time but she proved that with great determination and dedication one can succeed at anything to which one puts their mind.

Another admirable quality is the fact that even though she was diagnosed with colon cancer she continued to do what she did best, golfing. One month after undergoing surgery for colon cancer, she managed to still compete in the U.S. Women's Open championship and took home the title. With this win, she became the second-oldest woman to ever win a major LPGA championship tournament. She is admirable for not letting something such as colon cancer, which would be devastating to others, hold her back or keep her from enjoying life.

She has provided a positive role model to all women and women athletes. She has proved to be such a wonderful role model by proving that no matter what others think or say ultimately success comes from one's mind set, determination, perseverance, hard work, and dedication.

- *Katelyn This*

## **We are ALL Connected!**

I believe that everything in this world is connected. When I read the choices for our essay topic, the second one interested me very much. First of all, I did not know exactly what products were petroleum based. I quickly did my research and, to my surprise, realized how every much our lives today are affected by the petroleum industry. Three listed products are extremely important to my life...as well as my family's life and have played an important role in determining the young woman I am today. These three products are vitamin capsules, running shoes and cameras.

My father became very ill when I was a little girl. I admire him so much. He told me that when he was in high school he was the one at the party that would have a Coke and not alcohol. I know that because he had such a healthy body, he was able to fight his Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy. One might be asking, what does this have to do with petroleum products? My father is very adamant about taking vitamins. It is part of his morning ritual. As a little girl, and now a teenager, and soon to be a young adult, I have seen him do this and will always remember how important vitamins are. Yes, taking vitamin capsules each morning is a ritual in our home!

A second petroleum product

that has influenced my life is running shoes. Let me state that I am not a fast runner at all, but I enjoy doing FUN RUNS with my dad. You can imagine how grateful we are that he can even walk, nonetheless...RUN! We love to do the Blue Bell Run, the SPCA Run, and the Trolley Run. I usually come in near the end, but it is something that we do together and that is all that matters. We really love the treats at the end of the run and being with people who appreciate charitable functions and just being outdoors and taking care of themselves. Yes, running shoes are an important product in my life and I had no idea they were connected to the petroleum industry!

Last, but not least, cameras are a fun part of my "teenage" life...well, pictures are. I love taking pictures of my friends, my family and my life and assembling scrapbooks that document how great a life I have and will have! I am known for taking pictures, making copies for my friends and being "the one" who has the camera! My camera pretty much goes with me wherever I go! Pictures are more than just "fun" to me however. I realize how important pictures are to a family. While looking for good photographs to post on a memorial website for my uncle, we came across his early childhood photos. I have always been told I looked like my uncle, but it was never so clear until I saw

his childhood pictures. It showed me how I am truly "connected" to my family.

I know that our world is getting smaller each day. I know that there are many things that I do not know or realize, but I know that as I get older...I will learn more. I know now that petroleum products are everywhere and they are especially important and connected to my personal and professional life.

- Skyler Kay Yancey

### **Women at the Ballot Box**

In the beginning of the 18th century, do you think that you would ever catch a woman voting at a ballot box? Absolutely not. At that time, voting was only restricted to white landowning males. Minorities, poor people and women had no say in government. This all proved to be true until Susan B. Anthony came along in an attempt to make a difference by gaining more rights for women.

Susan B. Anthony came from a family that was very big on reform. Her parents were very active in the reform movements of the day. They worked for temperance (the prohibition of alcohol), and the anti-slavery movement. Both of Susan B. Anthony's parents and her sister signed the "Declaration of Sentiments" at the Second Women's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls, New York in 1848. So she obviously learned

from them to fight for what she believed was right. She believed that women were just as equal as men and they deserved as much of a right to vote as did men. With this in mind, she dedicated her life to the women's suffrage movement.

After the first American women's rights convention took place, Anthony took the opportunity to attend and support the women's rights convention held in Syracuse, New York, in 1852. It was around this time that Anthony began to gain widespread notoriety as a powerful public advocate of women's rights and as a new and stirring voice for change.

In 1856, Anthony further attempted to unify the African-American and women's rights movements when, recruited by abolitionists, she became agent for William Lloyd Garrison's American Anti-Slavery Society of New York State. Speaking at the Ninth National Women's Rights Convention in 1859, Anthony asked "Where, under our Declaration of Independence, does the Saxon man get his power to deprive all women and Negroes of their inalienable rights?"

Anthony founded the National American Women's Suffrage Association in 1869 with Elizabeth Cady Stanton. This was an American women's rights association, which served to be

the largest and most important suffrage organization in the United States. In order to make a statement, she chose to break the law by voting. She was then arrested, put on trial and fined for voting. She refused to pay a dollar because of the unjust penalty. She published "The History of Woman Suffrage", founded the International Council of women (1888) and the International Woman Suffrage Council (1904), which brought international attention to suffrage. She wrote the Susan B. Anthony Amendment in 1878, which eventually became the 19th amendment, giving women the right to vote.

Susan B. Anthony was a very bold and courageous woman that I definitely look up to. She serves as a role model, not only for women, but for all types of people all over the world. She helped to prove that as long as people stay determined in fighting for what they believe in, they have the power within them to make a difference. She led the only non-violent revolution in our country's history. Without Susan B. Anthony's hard work and will power, women would not have come as far as they have today. Now, women vote all over the country, hold office positions and even run for president. Susan B. Anthony has inspired me to want to be successful and work hard for all that I believe in. Because of her, I feel as though I have the power to make a difference in

the word.

- Araz Garakanian