



Las Cruces (NM) Branch

ORGAN MOUNTAIN VIEWS

VOL. XXI, Issue 4

April 2016



AAUW and Soroptimists working together at Girls Can! Career Conference

Las Cruces Womens Groups...Women With a Mission April 9 Meeting to feature Panel of AAUW, Soroptimists, GFWC Progress Club and League of Women Voters

It's no secret that strong communities are those supported by strong women's organizations. Ours is no exception. A panel representing four local clubs that consistently serve the Las Cruces area will be the program at the branch's **April 9 meeting set for 10:15 am in the Roadrunner Room of the Branigan Library.** The meeting is open to the public.

Among those who will engage in a panel to discuss the missions and activities, commonalities and differences of their organizations will be **AAUW-LC Co-President Mary Rita Chapman, GFWC Progress Club President Valerie Redington, League of Women Voters President Gwen Hanson and Soroptimist International President Joan Darmody.** We will have an opportunity to share ideas and discover new volunteer

In This Issue

April meeting -
Powerhouse LC
Women's Groups

Girls Can! 2016
Wrap-Up

from the Co-
Presidents

Interest Groups

All Above Board

Of Note

AAUW in a Nutshell

Renew Your AAUW
Membership

Quick Links

[AAUW-LC website](#)

[AAUW-NM website](#)

[AAUW National
website](#)

Upcoming General Meetings & Events

[Saturday, April 9
10:15 am Branigan
Roadrunner Room
program:
LC Women's Groups
panel discussion](#)

[Tuesday, April 12](#)

possibilities.

Lunch will follow for all who would like to attend at Bite of Belgium. **You must sign up for lunch at the meeting** so that an accurate count can be given to the restaurant before our arrival. The restaurant has limited seating, and we want to accommodate everyone who wishes to attend.

GIRLS CAN! 2016 - ANOTHER BIG SUCCESS FOR OUR SIGNATURE EVENT



MANY THANKS to Girls Can! "Founding Mothers" l.- r. LaJune Smith, Lynn Mulholland , Deanise Marta, Ruth Benjamins, Beverly Stiles, Carol Ann Council, Ann Palermo, Kathleen Cordova and current Girls Can! Coordinator Ann McCullough. Rorie Measure is missing from the photo.



Many hands make work lighter...and many hands of AAUW-LC members and numerous friends of our organization brought Girls Can! 2016 to a conclusion full of smiles from over 200 6th grade girls and all of the adult organizers, presenters, and support staff.

EQUAL PAY DAY

**May Annual Meeting
Date & Location TBA
Approve Budget,
Elect 2016-17 Officers
program:
Keeping Active at a
"Certain" Age**

∞∞∞∞
To send the Organ
Mountain Views to
a friend,
click on
the Forward this
Email
link at the bottom
of this newsletter

∞∞∞∞

"AAUW- LC IN A NUTSHELL"

**Co-President
Shirley Armstrong
has written a
handy guide
chock full of
information about
our branch.**

**Originally
prepared for our
newest members,
it is equally useful
to AAUW
members who
have been part of
our branch for
years or potential
new members!**

**If you missed
printing this out
last month, click
below and print
out now!**

[CLICK HERE](#)



Thanks to Kevin Thronkulpitak for the photo of AAUW member Susan DeMar (surrounded by JAWS!), who facilitated for the marine biology workshop at Girls Can!

Renew AAUW Membership 2016-17 Dues

Event Coordinator Ann McCullough recaps...

I couldn't be happier about Girls Can! I want to thank all of the members who participated this year as presenters, volunteers and donors. My heart is very grateful. Once again, we held the Girls Can! Career Exploration Conference at Lynn Middle School, here in Las Cruces.



It's time to renew your AAUW membership. As an AAUW member whose branch participates in the Membership Payment Program (MPP), you will be paying all of your dues - branch, state, and national - at once. There are two ways to renew your membership.

The breakfast seemed more fun than usual with music provided by Megan McQueen and the "Earth Angels." Thanks to all four musicians! And I've never heard so many sixth-grade girls be as quiet and attentive as when Dr. Renay Scott, President of Dona Ana Community College, spoke to them. Her story about the first woman to pilot the International Space Station was the perfect start to Girls Can!

Annual AAUW- Las Cruces dues are \$87 including:

National	\$49
State	\$18
Branch	\$20



1) **To renew online:** Go to www.aauw.org Once logged in, scroll to the bottom of any page and click **MEMBER TOOLS**, then click **MEMBER SERVICES DATABASE**. Select **RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP** and pay with your credit card!

2) **To renew by**

The committee chairs this year stepped up and did an amazing job. **Kay Brilliant** and **Kay Williams** chaired the School Contact Team. The team is developing ongoing relationships with the school counselors, teachers and principals in the whole county. This team is having success with local schools in Las Cruces that we haven't had before, while maintaining our good relationships with schools in the outlying districts. Awesome work!

Londa Seiffert is another new committee chair who did a great job of recruiting and organizing volunteers, both AAUW members and women from other organizations. She helped maintain the good relationships we have with the Soroptimists and the FEW (Federal Employed Women) and brought in new volunteers from groups within NMSU. One of our volunteers was **Faith Annelies Cortez** who is competing for Miss Las Cruces on April 9 and again for Miss New Mexico later in the year. She believes in Girls Can! so much that she is going to help us promote the program, both on stage at competitions and with 6th graders in the schools next year.



check: Note: **payable to AAUW** (not AAUW Las Cruces. Mail checks to: Donna Rea, Treasurer, AAUW Las Cruces Box 6572 Las Cruces, NM 88006.

AAUW National Individual Membership dues are \$49; **\$46 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution** and \$3 is not (because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c) (4) Lobby Corps and get -out-the-vote activities).

Please renew your membership no later than July 15 so that you will be listed in the 2016-17 branch yearbook

Another new committee this year was the Presenter Recruitment Committee consisting of **Kathleen Cordova** and **Deanise Marta**. They helped tremendously by identifying high-quality presenters and also helping to recruit them. We had 21 fabulous workshops this year, so the presenters were able to give the girls more personal attention than ever.

from Co-Presidents

Shirley Armstrong and Mary Rita Chapman

Spring greetings, AAUW...

April conjures many thoughts - Paris, spring showers, spring flowers, baby animals and nesting birds, and here in our desert southwest, beautiful days, colorful trees and blooming cacti, not to mention the occasional windy, dusty day (and income taxes). All is good in nature and AAUW - and we hope with all of you!

Our AAUW year 2015-2016 is rapidly coming to a close, and what a year it's been. We are still **basking in the success of Girls**

Can! # 22 and want to extend a **BIG thank you to our capable event chair, Ann McCullough!** Along with about 40 of our members and numerous volunteers from outside groups (a big shout-out to NSMU students, Soroptimist International and the Federal Women Employees groups), the event ran like clockwork. **What a joy it was to experience happy girls, parents and school counselors leaving voicing gratitude and requests to be invited back next year.**

What a vote of confidence from our audience! And, we are starting **something new** - an attempt to follow up on our results by working with the participating schools after the fact, hopefully even with girls who have attended in previous years, to get their feedback. **Kudos to Bonnie Schranz and Ruth Benjamins who are heading up this effort.**

April, May and June - three months to go with lots to look forward to! It will be great to see many of you at **our April 9 meeting** where we will learn about three other active women's groups in Las Cruces and be able to compare them with our own AAUW. Also on the agenda for April is the announcement of the slate of officers for the 2016-2017 year and **a Heads-Up that at our May meeting**, in addition to our program on women's health and exercise, we have **our only (brief) business meeting of the year to elect our new officers and approve the budget for the next fiscal year.** Please put (Tuesday, May 10 /or/ Saturday, May 14) on your calendars NOW. **We need a quorum of members in attendance.**

More important Shouts-Out to Marsha Ogden who chaired the nominations committee and, along with members **Julia Bruner and Carol Ann Council**, came up with our new slate of officers in record time. Thank you three ladies! Also to **Donna Rea** who is completing her fourth year as treasurer and currently busy working on both our next year's budget and scholarship contribution recommendations from all the funds we have raised this year. **To ALL OF YOU for supporting our wonderful organization - we appreciate you and all your many contributions beyond belief!**

Two more items: Our membership chairs, **LaJune Smith and Juliet Williams**, are planning another **New Member Gathering** sometime next fall - please look for details to come! And, **DUES.** Yes, it's time to sign up for our 2016-2017 year **and let's all pitch in to recruit new members to ensure the continued vitality of our branch.**

We look forward to seeing you on April 9, and we wish you all a wonderful spring!

Mary Rita Chapman & Shirley Armstrong

INTEREST GROUPS

Anything Goes Book Group

Anything Goes Book Group will meet at 1:30 on **Monday, April 11** at the home of Fran Plec. We will discuss *My Brilliant Friend* by Elana Ferrante. For more information please contact Julia Bruner at julesnewmexico@gmail.com or at 522-1685.

Anything Goes Fiction Book Group

The Anything Goes Fiction Book Group will discuss *Mr. Penumbra's 24 Hour Bookstore* by Robin Sloan on Monday, April 18 at 1:30 pm at the home of Mary Rita Chapman. New members are welcome to attend. Contact Mary Rita Chapman at 647-8217 or mrchapman11@gmail.com.

Daytime & Evening Bridge

The AAUW day-time bridge group meets on the **2nd Thursday of each month** at 1 pm to approximately 4 pm.

14 April Mary Berry
12 May Jo Ann Vincent

The AAUW evening bridge group meets on **the 4th Tuesday of each month** (except December) **at 7:15pm.**

26 April Shirley Armstrong

Contact Carol Ann Council 649-8122 or kk-ca_council@msn.com

Dining Out

Dining Out will meet for supper on **Tuesday, April 19** at the Las Cruces Red Lobster Restaurant at 5:30 p.m. Our group hasn't been there in awhile and it was very popular when we last met. Bring a guest if you wish. This is a great way to get to know other members in a relaxed atmosphere. Email Cathy Quinones at quinonesc@aol.com by the night before so that we can give them a head count for setting up a table.

Going Places

Join us for a **walking tour of Old Mesilla** on **Thursday, April 21**. Preciliana Sandoval, a fifth-generation native historian, will be our guide to the romance and the centuries-old grace of Mesilla. Meet at the Double Eagle at 10:45 for the 11am tour. Tickets are \$8. Lunch will follow at Peppers (inside the Double Eagle). Guests are always welcome, and new members are especially encouraged to attend. RSVP by April 19 to Fran Plec, 575-202-5459 or fplec@comcast.net.

International Dinners

The International Dinner group is meeting on **Saturday, April 16** at the home of Shirley and Michael Armstrong. We will be preparing French food following an 'April in Paris' theme. For more information, please contact Shirley at 522-4570.

Opera

The next opera showing at the Allen Theater's Cineport 10

(Mesilla Valley Mall) is La Damnation de Faust on Sunday, April 19. Wait for an announcement of meeting for those interested in attending the Santa Fe Opera during the summer. For information, call Ann McCullough 524-2601.

update from Mary Rita Chapman

TECH TREK NM 2016 - LOOKING GREAT!

There is a lot going on with Tech Trek!

We have **four branch members conducting interviews** for 15 girls from Las Cruces, T or C, Holloman, Mescalero and Ruidoso. We have **14 of our members grading essays** written by 15 applicants from other parts of the state. This information will all be input to the **selection of 60 girls** (of 122 total applicants) to attend **Tech Trek NM at New Mexico Tech in Socorro in June.**

And on another wonderful note - **Las Cruces branch members have met the challenge of donating over \$1000 to Tech Trek to qualify for matching funds of \$1000 from "A Still Small Voice," a charity fund created by member Kathy Cooke and her husband Ron.** This contribution has helped us reach our goal of having 60 girls at Tech Trek this year (in 2015, we had 48 girls).

I am so glad that our members are so involved this year and hope to propose some other opportunities at our April meeting.

All Above Board

The AAUW-LC Board meets on the first Monday monthly at 9:30 am in the meeting room at the Picacho Hills Country Club. The next meeting is **Monday, April 4**. Meetings are open to all branch members. Highlights and reports of the most recent board session appear in this column or elsewhere in this issue of the OMV.

Minutes come to us compliments of Secretary Fran Plec.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcome our newest member, **Susan Bagby**. Her contact information follows:

Susan Bagby

2940 Huntington Dr.

Las Cruces 88011

575-522-6368 (h) 575-644-9201 (cell)

sbagby@zianet.com

MA Spanish and MA Technical Communication, NMSU

Join New Branch STEM Committee

Co-President Mary Rita Chapman seeks members interested in

supporting STEM activities in the Las Cruces area, similar to a large group that already exists in Albuquerque. What would a STEM committee do?

- Read/score essays from Tech Trek applications
- Interview applicants
- Organize Tech Trek reunions
- Volunteer at Tech Trek
- Support local science fairs, STEM courses or other STEM events seeking volunteers

Qualifications: Interest in expanding STEM opportunities to girls in the area, no STEM experience needed

Interested? Contact Mary Rita
mrchapman11@gmail.com

Graduate Women - USA

International Liaison Carol Ann Council shares this update for Graduate Women International:

The Nominations committee has received nominations for the Board and the office has received nominations for the various committees within the constitutional deadlines. However, there are not enough nominations for all offices. The deadline for nominations has been extended to **March 31**.

All the documentation can be found at:

<http://www.graduatwomen.org/nominations/>. for more information about the organization, contact Carol Ann.

Attend the AAUW 8-State Rocky Mountain Regional Conference

Plans are well underway for a wonderful opportunity for AAUW members from eight western states to meet in

Albuquerque, July 15 - 17

for exciting interactions on the event's program

WOMEN COUNT!

For more details, click on the link below

[AAUW Rocky Mountain Regional Conference](#)

Of Note...

Ruth Benjamins shares the the following information from a recent article in the *New York Times*:

"Women's median annual earnings stubbornly remain about 20 percent below men's. Why is progress stalling?"

It may come down to this troubling reality, new research suggests: Work done by women simply isn't valued as highly... Once women start doing a job, 'It just doesn't look like it's as important to the bottom line or requires as much skill,' said Paula England, a sociology professor at New York University. 'Gender bias sneaks into those decisions.' She is a co-author of one of the most comprehensive studies of the phenomenon, using United States census data from 1950 to 2000, when the share of women increased in many jobs. The study, which she conducted with Asaf Levanon, of the University of Haifa in Israel, and Paul Allison of the University of Pennsylvania, found that when women moved into occupations in large numbers, those jobs began paying less even after controlling for education, work experience, skills, race and geography."



Laurie Garrett

Deanise Marta shares this information about an upcoming program at NMSU:

Tuesday, April 5, 7:30 pm
NMSU Associated Students Center
for the Arts - Medoff Theater

Laurie Garrett is one of America's most trusted speakers on global public health, infectious disease, and, recently, the Ebola crisis. The only person to win the three P's of journalism—the Pulitzer, the Polk, and the Peabody—she

explains the science behind new threats, and navigates the politics that help, and hinder, how we prepare and how we respond to them. Ms. Garrett is the best-selling author of *The Coming Plague: Newly Emerging Diseases in a World Out of Balance* (Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 1994); *Betrayal of Trust: The Collapse of Global Public Health* (Hyperion Press, 2000); *I Heard the Sirens Scream: How American Responded to 9/11 and Anthrax Attacks* (Amazon Books, 2011); and the e-book *EBOLA: Story of an Outbreak* (Hachette, 2014). This event is free and open to the public.

SUPPORT OUR MEMBER ADVERTISER!



AAUW-LC, PO Box 6572, Las Cruces, NM 88006

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by bonnie.schranz@gmail.com in collaboration with



Try it free today