



Las Cruces (NM) Branch

ORGAN MOUNTAIN VIEWS

VOL. XXI, Issue 6

June 2016



AAUW-LC Makes a Difference for Students

Shirley Armstrong and I had the pleasure of attending the **Rio Grande Preparatory Institute graduation** on May 18. It was fitting that the graduates had to overcome one last hurdle in the form of a severe rain and hail storm. It had been a struggle for all of them to achieve their goal of graduating, and the weather was one last test.

I told the graduates that my enthusiasm for the RGPI program and the achievements of all of the students was contagious and that our members supported the awarding of **two \$500 True Grit Awards** instead of the one of previous years. These awards were made to **Kayla McCorkle and Selma Solis**. Kayla will be attending DACC and Selena will enroll at NMSU.

Kathie Davis, Principal and AAUW-LC member, did a wonderful job of organizing a memorable graduation held for the first time in the PanAm Center. The mutual affection that she and her students have was obvious and made the ceremony a very special occasion.

In This Issue

June 7 Branch Potluck

Co-Presidents' Letter

2016-17 Yearbook

Interest Groups

May Meeting Wrap-Up

All Above Board

Plan to Vote!

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

○○○○○
To join our mailing list, click below:

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

[Upcoming General Meetings & Events](#)

Thanks to all of you for supporting this very worthy cause.

- Marsha Ogden, Scholarship Coordinator

[Click here to open a pdf link featuring Kayla in the LC Sun-News](#)



Dinner, Conversation, & Officer Installation... AAUW-LC Annual Potluck on Tuesday, June 7

It's time to conclude another wonderful year of programs, projects and expanding friendships with the AAUW-LC annual branch **Potluck Dinner**, to be held on **Tuesday, June 7, at 6 pm** in the home of **Mary Rita Chapman, 8009 Constitution Rd, in Picacho Hills.**

Members are invited to bring a dish of their choice to share. Board members will bring a variety of beverages. Our hostess will provide dishes and silverware.

The evening's program will be **installation of 2016-17 branch elected officers, presentation of recognition awards from our current co-presidents, and wonderful conversations with our friends.**

Hope to see you there! **Please RSVP to Mary Rita** if you will attend at mrchapman11@gmail.com.

From our Co-Presidents

Mary Rita Chapman & Shirley Armstrong

Greetings all,

We've made it, and what a year it's been! Our final program at our May general meeting (Dr. Bob Wood and his NMSU kinesiology students) was fun and informative, and **we are appreciative of our two co-program VPs, Ann Palormo and Deanise Marta**, for providing us with a year full of great programs and activities. Kudos to both of you for a super job! And, **thanks to all 38 of you** who responded to our urging to come to our only annual 'business meeting' - maybe our largest attendance of the year!

But singling out these two ladies in no way negates efforts of **our entire competent board who has each worked throughout the year doing the various behind the scenes jobs that make our branch run so smoothly.** It has been a pleasure working with ALL of you and **we thank each of you for your hard work.**

Tuesday, June 7
6 pm
Mary Rita Chapman's
residence
End of Year Potluck

Quick Links
AAUW-LC website

AAUW-NM website

AAUW National
website

Looking forward we have **our June 7 potluck** - a social event with the only order of business being the **installation of officers and a few recognitions and awards**. Our choice this year for the recipient of the annual **President's award** was so difficult we decided to honor **two recipients instead of one**. Don't miss this totally fun and social evening and **help us celebrate our new board and our honorees**.

Plans are underway for next year: We have decided to reinstate a tradition from earlier years of **giving each member the opportunity to share with us your thoughts about our local branch** - what you like, suggestions for doing things differently, ideas about programs and meetings, input on interest groups, and whatever else you may have on your mind. Below you will find a link to this **Member Input Survey to print out now**. We will also send a copy to every member via **our trusty Email Communications Chair, Lori LaPlanche**.

[PLEASE fill out the survey and return it to us at the June 7 Potluck. Click HERE to open the survey to print out.](#)

(You can also mail the form or email your input to Shirley Armstrong or Ann Palormo). It is in no way mandatory, but we know **many of you have great ideas and we would very much appreciate your sharing them**.

In closing this last letter for our 2015-2016 year, **we want to thank each and every member of our branch for your belief in and support of the AAUW organization and all it does for the good of women and girls at the local, state and national levels**.

Have a WONDERFUL, RESTFUL summer! We look forward to seeing you at the **June 7 Potluck** and at our **September 10 kickoff of our new year**. **Details will follow in the Sept OMV**.

Your Co-Presidents,
Mary Rita Chapman & Shirley Armstrong

[**May's General Meeting Combined Business and Pleasure**](#)



Renew Your AAUW Membership by July 15 to Guarantee Listing in the 2016-17 Branch Yearbook

If you haven't brought your AAUW-LC membership up to date for the 2016-17 fiscal year, do it now! It's the way to guarantee that you will be included in the listing of our members in the upcoming yearbook. Directions for renewing your membership are found in the Gold Star membership list emailed to you each week.

Unlike online publications, the yearbook is "old school" paper and ink and has a set pagination format and set publication deadline. After our deadline, it's impossible to make those last minute adjustments, even if we would love to do it.

Speaking of adjustments, **if you were listed in last year's book, please check to see if your listing was correct.** If you've moved, changed your phone, added a phone, or changed your email address, please contact bonnie.schranz@gmail.com or call 575-640-8328 to make those changes before July 15.

Also of note: **this is the last issue of the AAUW-LC Organ Mountain Views for the summer.** Expect to receive the next OMV at the end of August for information about the exciting

program year to come!

Thank you from your yearbook editors,
Bonnie Schranz & Erika Graf-Webster

INTEREST GROUPS

INTEREST GROUPS COORDINATOR NEEDED

Interest Groups are the heart and soul of our branch. Many members join to play bridge, share meals in dinner groups or ideas in book groups. As our number of interest groups grows - we have ideas for starting a few new ones next year - we are thinking of adding an appointed position for coordinating these groups. If any of you is interested in exploring this minimally time consuming but important position, please get in touch with Shirley Armstrong, shirmike7@msn.com or 522-4570.

Anything Goes Book Group

Anything Goes Book Group will meet on Monday, **June 13**, at 1:30 at the home of Anne Chase to discuss *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce. This group will also meet on the second Mondays of July and August, and decisions will be made about books and hostesses for those meetings at the June meeting. For further information, please contact Julia Bruner at 522-1685 or julesnewmexico@gmail.com. Guests are welcome to attend!

Anything Goes Fiction Book Group

Anything Goes Fiction will meet on Monday, **June 27** at 1:30 pm at the home of Cheryl Tom-Nelson to discuss *Little Beach Street Bakery* by Jenny Colgan. You can contact Cheryl at 647-1631. **NOTE:** the group will meet on **July 25** to discuss *The Last Aloha* by Gaellen Quinn at the home of Kay Brilliant, not Judy McGuire's home as previously announced. Newcomers to the group are warmly welcomed.

Daytime & Evening Bridge

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

9 June	Ruth Benjamins
14 July	Carol Eggers
11 Aug	Carol Ann Council
8 Sept	Jo Ann Vincent

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

28 June	Ann Kaiser
26 July	Freddie Finkner
23 August	Mary Ann Willson
27 Sept	Carol Ann Council

Contact Carol Ann Council 649-8122 or kk-

Dining Out

Dining Out will be **taking a summer break** until the Fall due to many members' travels.

Going Places

Going Places will meet on **Thursday, June 16** at 9:15 a.m. at the **New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum**. The cost is \$5 if there are ten or fewer; otherwise, the cost is \$4.

A docent will lead us on a two hour tour (or less) of the 47 acre facility that will bring to life the history of farming and ranching in New Mexico. Inside we will see galleries featuring an 1815 Colonial Home and a mercantile, an exhibit on honeybees and an exhibit on weaving - and yes, a gift shop. Outside, we will stroll along corrals filled with livestock, possibly enjoy the greenhouse, and take the trolley around the South 20.

It will be a fun time to connect to our past and see how it has enriched our present lives and is shaping our future. Wear comfortable shoes (even though the paths are paved), and a hat, since we may be out in the sun a little bit. We will have lunch afterwards at Lorenzo's, 1753 University Avenue.

Please contact Sally Story by Thursday, June 14 if you plan to attend: 532-1530 or ssstory13@msn.com.

PS -There will be no excursions in July & August!

International Dinners

The International Dinners group will meet on Saturday, **June 6** at the home of Jo Bloom. The theme will be "80 Years of Cooking."

Opera

Sunday, June 21, the Allen Theater (at the Mesilla Valley Mall) will screen the opera *Il Trovatore* at noon. *Lucia di Lammermoor* is the July 19 filmed opera. For information about meeting other branch members to enjoy the show together, contact **Ann McCullough**.

**Why Stumble and Fall...When You Can Keep On Dancing?
May's Branch Meeting Speakers Showed Us How!**



Dr. Robert Wood and advanced students from the New Mexico State University Kinesiology Department offered AAUW-LC members insight into the dangers of falling and gave important advice about prevention through maintaining balance. Dressed for smooth moves, branch members practiced some tai chi as part of the presentation.



You are welcome to join a Tai Chi class that meets on Tuesday and

Thursday mornings from 8 - 9 am at the Fran O'Brien-Papen Community Center in Mesilla Park. For information, contact bobwood@nmsu.edu

All Above Board

The AAUW-LC Board meets on the first Monday monthly at 9:30 am. The next meeting is Monday, Aug 29 in the board room at Good Samaritan, following a summer hiatus. The Oct 3 and Nov 7 board meetings will be at the same location. 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. A pdf version of the most recently corrected and approved minutes of a previous meeting is available for your review. Click on the blue link below to see a pdf that you can read and print out, if desired.

[AAUW-LC Board Minutes April 2016](#)

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to our newest members who joined the branch in May: **Barbara Weskit, Eileen Pregosin** and **Megan McQueen**. Their information follows.

Barbara Weskot

6542 Jaeger Place, Las Cruces, NM 88012
575-373-1045 bwest@centurylink.net
MS, Art City College New York, NY

Eileen Pregosin

6542 Jaeger Place, Las Cruces, NM 88012
575-373-1045 barwest@aol.com
MA, Math and English, Kean University, Union, NJ

Megan McQueen

932 Windsor Ct., LC 88005
575-644-7136 msmeganmcqueen@gmail.com
MA, Education, New Mexico State University

[Click here for a list of all new branch members Sept 2015-June 2016](#)

###

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP SURVEY - PLEASE RESPOND!

Member Input Survey! It is your opportunity to let us know your good ideas and thoughts for change. Click on this blue link:

[AAUW-LC SURVEY TO PRINT OUT](#)

Print it, fill it out and **bring to the June potluck, OR get it back to us via:**

US Mail: Send to Shirley Armstrong or Ann Palormo (addresses in Yearbook); or

Email: Simply write your answers in an email and send to both of us; or

Scan and Email: Fill out the form, scan and send as an email

attachment.

We really appreciate your effort! We want to listen and incorporate your ideas as best as possible.

###

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL CONFERENCE
and NM State Convention Coming Up in July**

Online registration is now available for the Rocky Mountain Regional Conference (July 15-17) and our State Convention (July 14) by clicking on the Albuquerque Branch website link (<http://albuquerque-nm.aauw.net/>). Event Bee is being used for both convention and conference registration. Registration is also available on the AAUW-NM website. You can register for the entire conference or just for a day.

Both events will be held at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel in Albuquerque (at Louisiana and Menaul). Rooms are \$112 per night (double) including tax. A block of rooms is available under "Rocky Mountain Regional Conference" until June 13. After that it will be at the discretion of the hotel whether to honor this group rate.

A link to the preliminary agenda for both events is posted on the state website (<http://aauw-nm.aauw.net/>). Speakers include Catherine Hill, AAUW's Research VP; Susan Burke, lead counsel for LAF-funded military assault cases; local activist Martha Burk; and Melissa Johnsen, AAUW Board member from Colorado. And there will be a variety of state presentations, as well as a talk on the recent UN Commission on the Status of Women.

###

GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL

International Liaison **Carol Ann Council** shares information about the Graduate Women International organization in several excerpts from the GWI-USA newsletter, the *Flame*. Click on the link below to see a pdf version.

[GWI-USA FLAME, May 2016 issue](#)

Of Note - PLAN TO VOTE!



During this 2016 election cycle is a **good time for a reminder that AAUW is a non-partisan organization.**

As such, **AAUW does not support any candidates, but as part of our Mission Statement we can and do advance equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.**

National AAUW chooses, with member input, the issues for which we advocate, the most known of which is Equal Pay for Equal Work, but all others fall under the **Biennial Action Priorities** supporting our Mission (see pages 31-32 of our 2015-16 Yearbook).

The thing to remember is that while our local branch does not support individual candidates, we encourage all of you as individuals, regardless of political persuasion, to be active voters.

In the fall our branch will have the opportunity to work with the League of Women Voters in registering voters.

Stay tuned...

- Shirley Armstrong

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

Constant Contact 

Try it free today