

**It's AAUW-LC Membership Renewal Month!
Pay Dues by June 30 to Confirm Listing in 2017-18 Yearbook!**



Las Cruces (NM) Branch

ORGAN MOUNTAIN VIEWS

VOL. XXII, Issue 6

June 2017

**JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL BRANCH POTLUCK
TUESDAY, JUNE 6 - 6 PM AT DONNA REA'S HOME**

Please join your AAUW friends on Tuesday evening, June 6, from 6 - 8 pm for a potluck supper to celebrate the beginning of summer and the end of a successful 2016-2017 AAUW term. The potluck supper will be held at Donna Rea's home, 1232 Regency Ct., in Picacho Hills. Directions will be provided in an upcoming reminder email.

Bring a favorite dish of any kind to share and have fun getting together with old and new members. Non-alcoholic beverages and wine, dishes, utensils and napkins will be provided. We hope to see many of you there!

The evening's program will be installation of 2017-18 branch elected officers:
Co-President: **Beverly Chambers** - 2-year term
Secretary: **Fran Plec** - 2-year term
Co-Program Chair: **Julia Bruner** - 2-year term
Co-Membership Chairs: **Marsha Hokkanen** for the 2-year term and **Kay Williams** for the 1-year term.

There will also be a presentation of recognition awards from our current co-presidents, and wonderful conversations with our friends. Hope to see you there! **Please RSVP** by email to Donna at dkr1967@mac.com. If you don't use email, call 647-9214.



In This Issue

Divas to Perform for AAUW Fundraiser!

From Our Co-Presidents

Interest Groups

AAUW National election - VOTE!

All Above Board

Carol Ann Council - A Life in AAUW

AAUW Affiliate Interview on KRWG

May Branch Meeting Photos

Branch Members Awarded by

BREAKING NEWS! DIVAS PERFORMANCE

Saturday, Aug 26 - AAUW & NMSU Theater!

Branch Fundraising Chair and NMSU Theater Faculty **Megan McQueen** has told us that plans have been given a go-ahead by the Theater Department for a **fundraising concert featuring the popular Divas at the end of August in the NMSU Performing Arts Center. The event will benefit both AAUW and the NMSU Theater program.**

The singing group, in which Megan is a performer, has developed quite a following in Las Cruces - their talent definitely lives up to their title!

DON'T MISS THIS SHOW!

**Mark Aug 26 on your calendar! Tell your friends!
More details to follow about getting tickets and how you can help.**

**From our Co-Presidents
Shirley Armstrong & Donna Rea**

Greetings all...

All's Well That Ends Well! Shakespeare's early 1600s play title came to mind a few days ago when thinking about the end of our AAUW-LC 2016-2017 year. It's been a roller-coaster year, but we made it **AND we ended well!**

We've had some really good times and some really hard ones which, realistically speaking, mimics life. We dealt with the loss of three members, **Ann Palormo, Mary Rita Chapman and LaDonna Gammell.** We wished well five members who have moved away this year.

On the activity side, our branch started **new successful interest groups** (with hopes of adding even more next year - ideas welcome), facilitated the establishment of an **AAUW NMSU Student Affiliate** group, sponsored the very successful **'One for the Girls' fundraising production** at the Rio Grande Theatre, had a bigger and better than ever **Girls Can!**, actively supported **Tech Trek** and held our first **Start Smart workshop** at NMSU. Whew!

As we stressed in last month's letter, none of this would have happened without the support and hard work from many of you, and for that we express our sincere thanks yet one more time. You are all wonderful! That said, we are on a roll and our incoming Board will be setting branch goals with your input as the 2017-2018 year progresses. Please remember that listening to our members is a high priority for our board.

For now, we extend wishes for a wonderful, relaxing and fun summer break. **We hope to see you at our fun June 6 potluck (see details above) and encourage you to pay your dues by June 30 to be listed in the 2017-2018 yearbook. Thank you ALL and Happy Summer!!**

AAUW-NM

Of Note

Quick Links

AAUW-LC
website

AAUW-NM
website

AAUW
National
website

**JUNE OMV
IS LAST OF
2016-17
SEASON**

Just a reminder that this is the final issue for 2016 -17. Your next issue of the OMV will arrive at the end of August to begin 2017-18.

However, you will receive some email updates from the branch over the summer!

∞∞∞∞

To send the
Organ
Mountain
Views to a

- Donna Rea and Shirley Armstrong, Co-Presidents 2016-17

P.S. Since this is the last month of the two years I have been co-president, I would like you to know how honored and grateful I am to have served in that capacity. I have learned incredible amounts about our AAUW organization and been blessed to have thoroughly competent women on both Boards. But the best part by far was the opportunity of getting to know many of you either for the first time or much better thanks to working with you in various capacities. I look forward to continuing involvement with AAUW and all of you and encourage ALL of you to consider greater involvement. A sincere thank you to each of you for your support! I am most appreciative! - **Shirley**



"Parting is such sweet sorrow" is another reference from Shakespeare that could be applied, as Co-President Shirley Armstrong (left) and Programs Vice President Deanise Marta both leave the AAUW-LC Board this month. Shirley has completed her term as an amazing Co-President. Deanise was given special recognition at the May general meeting, not for just her most recent AAUW assignment but for 14 years of outstanding service to AAUW, at both the Branch and State levels. She is a Past President of AAUW-LC (2008-12). Deanise has also served as secretary, program chair, Girls Can! coordinator, local yearbook editor, AAUW-NM Roadrunner editor, and as both local and state website manager. Fortunately for us, both will remain active members of the branch!

friend,
click on
the Forward
this Email
link at the
bottom of
this
newsletter

∞∞∞∞

Upcoming General Meetings & Events

Tues., June 6
6 - 8 pm
ANNUAL
POTLUCK
Donna Rea's
house
SEE YOU
THERE!

Sat., Aug 26
Divas Concert
AAUW-NMSU
Fundraiser

New to the
OMV?

Join Our
Mailing
List

[CLICK
HERE!](#)

INTEREST GROUPS

***A note from Interest Group Coordinator Marsha Ogden:**

"Our two new groups this year have been very well received. I look forward to hearing what other groups you would like to add. New members are always welcome to join existing groups!" Contact Marsha at marshaogden@yahoo.com.

Anything Goes Book Group

Anything Goes Book Group will meet at 1:30 on **Monday, June 12** at the home of Anne Chase to discuss *My Beloved World* by Sonja Sotomeyor. For more information please contact Julia Bruner at julesnewmexico@gmail.com or at 522-1685.

Anything Goes Fiction Book Group

Anything Goes Fiction Book Group will meet at 1:30 pm on **Monday, June 26** at Kay Williams' home to discuss *Lone Ranger & Tonto: A Fist Fight in Heaven* by Sherman Alexis. The discussion will be led by Bonnie Eisenberg (in Colorado!) via Skype. Call Kay for information at 521-9279. The group will not meet in July.

[Click Here to see a list of titles and hostesses for the remainder of 2017 for Anything Goes Fiction](#)

Daytime & Evening Bridge Summer Schedule

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

8 June	Rita Worrell
13 July	Lavita Costley
10 August	Shirley Armstrong
14 Sept.	TBA

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

27 June	Carol Eggers
25 July	Lavita Costley
22 August	Rita Worrell

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

Great Decisions and Laugh & Learn Spanish to resume in September

May was the last month of meetings for both of these successful new groups until they resume in September. **Great Decisions** will conclude the 2017 topics in September, October and November. When the 2018 curriculum is announced, a new discussion group will form that can include both old and new members. The **Laugh & Learn Spanish group is expanding**. A new Spanish 1 group will be created and current members can move on to a Spanish 2 group. Dates and times to be announced.

Dining Out

The Dining Out group won't be meeting in June - **see you all instead at the Annual Potluck on June 6!**

Going Places

Going Places events will resume in September. In the meantime, if you have any comments or suggestions, contact Kathi Barit. See you in the fall!

International Gourmet

The dinner group will meet this summer to discuss possible new directions for our gatherings. One of several suggestions is the formation of a second, smaller group. Details will be in the September OMV. For more details, contact Jo Bloom jotbloom@comcast.net or Deanise Marta dxmarta@msn.com.



**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE FOR AAUW NATIONAL OFFICERS
ONLINE VOTING CLOSSES JUNE 15, 7pm MT
HELP SHAPE OUR FUTURE!**

Voting in the AAUW National election is quick and easy. You should have received an email link with your personal member ballot to vote. If you have questions, you can call 800-326-2289 on weekdays from 8 am - 3 pm MT or email connect@aauw.org.

Of special interest for us this year, AAUW-LC branch member JULIA BROWN is a candidate for the NATIONAL BOARD CHAIR. Her candidacy statement can be found online at aauw.org as well as in the printed Outlook magazine you should have received earlier this spring. Or you can watch her video right now.

CLICK BELOW FOR JULIA'S CANDIDACY STATEMENT VIDEO.
[Julia Brown AAUW video 2017](#)

In addition to election of AAUW National officers, issues on the ballot for you to consider and vote upon include gun violence and AAUW's membership requirement, as well as amendments to the AAUW Bylaws, proposed resolutions and proposed changes to the AAUW Public Policy program. For more information about casting your vote, [click here for the national website aauw.org](http://aauw.org).

Remember, this is YOUR ORGANIZATION and YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

All Above Board

The AAUW-LC Board will not meet over the summer, unless plans for an August fundraiser come to the forefront. They will meet next at the end of August rather than during the week of Labor Day in September. Board meetings are open to all members. Minutes come to us compliments of Secretary Fran Plec.



Co-President Donna Rea, Treasurer Mimi Roddy and Co-President Elect Beverly Chambers shared reports with our membership at the Annual Meeting in May.

MEMBERSHIP

We are happy to welcome our newest member, PJ (Ponjola) Coney, who joined the branch at the May meeting.

**[Renew Your AAUW Membership by June 30
to Guarantee Listing in the 2017-18 Branch Yearbook](#)**

If you haven't brought your AAUW-LC membership up to date for the 2017-18 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.

2017 TRUE GRIT AWARD

Our branch awarded **Abigail Cordova** the True Grit Award of \$500 on May 20 at the graduation for the **Rio Grande Preparatory Institute** during ceremonies at the Pan-American Center. The award is given to a female student who has overcome adversity demonstrating perseverance in completing her secondary education in the face of life's setbacks. Abigail plans on entering the Culinary Arts program at DACC.

GIRLS CAN! Report from Ann McCullough

The team leaders and I had a good evaluation/planning session recently and have a head-start on next year's Girls Can! I appreciate the input from members, such as "not enough workshops this year." Kay Brilliant facilitated the meeting, and Kay Williams took notes.

At the planning meeting, Rorie mentioned that **Dr. Ewing, Superintendent of Schools in Las Cruces**, was speaking to the Children's Reading Alliance. While there, I gave him a Girls Can! brochure and my 30-second elevator speech on his way out of the room. He said, "Will you come see me? I want to help." He has fantastic ideas for the District, some of which have already been implemented, like putting some administrators into the classrooms as teachers. Wow.

Also, I recently taped a **TV interview for KRWG for Las Fronteras with Edmundo Resendez on the topic of Girls Can!** It will air in early July. We're already working to make Girls Can! even better next year.

WOMEN GRADUATES-USA

Upcoming International dates of Note:

June 4 - International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

June 12 - World Day Against Child Labor

June 20 - World Refugee Day

July 30 - World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

Sept 8 - International Literacy Day

Oct. 13 - 15 - WG-USA Annual General Meeting in Milwaukee, WI

Carol Ann Council - A Life in AAUW

What brought **Carol Ann Council** to join the Las Cruces branch of AAUW, and why has she continued her membership for more than 34 years?

"The people," she insisted with a smile when we recently met for lunch to talk about our mutual admiration for our organization.

Carol Ann describes herself as "a doer," and what a list of impressive things she's done since the early 1970s when she and her husband Konrad moved to Las Cruces!



Supportive parents and good schools encouraged her talent and guided her to a career as a mathematician, not generally a common choice for a woman 50 years ago. The lone woman in a workplace full of men, she found her way to AAUW the first time at the invitation of the wife of a co-worker.

What the young Carol Ann saw was a branch full of older women. She didn't join them then, but they didn't give up. An AAUW social event (do you remember "teas"?) was their second attempt. No go. In 1983 when she had left her job at White Sands and had a 2 year-old son and a young daughter in elementary school, she met **Rorie Measure**. Rorie also had a young son and offered a "play group" for the kids... and another invitation to join AAUW. "Carol Ann, you need to do this," said the wise Rorie. And she was right.

In 1984 Carol Ann's AAUW work began, starting with becoming branch treasurer. Then a succession of hats, including calling committee chair, yearbook editor, and two years (1994-96) as branch president (at the same time continuing as yearbook editor!). Before she had even finished that string of branch responsibilities, she took on AAUW-NM appointed and elected state offices starting with nominations chair, then acting secretary, finance chair, and she served as state president for two years and co-president for the next two. Additionally, she has chaired state conventions and regional conferences, written grants and served as both

state and branch parliamentarian. Most recently, she has been our branch's international liaison and state programs co-chair.

"Serving as president of a branch or the state is a full time job. People count on you," Carol Ann says. But that's not all that AAUW membership has offered her. She was here for the beginning of Girls Can!! (she insists it has always been with the urgency of two exclamation marks!! Let's bring back that emphasis!!). There have been decades of enjoyment with branch interest groups and programs, especially Bridge and Going Places. And she credits the wonderful women who mentored her through the years, starting with **Audrey Winkler, Rorie Measure, Beverly Stiles, LaJune Smith** and others. From them she leaned many things, but primarily to "be flexible."

Yes, it's always been, and it remains, the *people* that make AAUW so exceptional. Carol Ann points to the many different individual back stories, and the connection of smart women sharing interests, experiences and a common sense of purpose. "Spending time one on one with other members. Mentoring new and continuing members. Inviting all our members to help guide the direction the organization is going now and in the future. These are continuing goals for the branch," she says.

Carol Ann ended our talk with a challenging question for us all: **what do you think this organization will be - can be - 25 years from now?**

This article is part of a series of interviews with some of the longtime AAUW-LC branch members, with a focus on their lives in AAUW and a tribute to all they have contributed to our community, our branch and the AAUW organization at all levels. - Bonnie Schranz, OMV editor



AAUW NMSU Affiliate Recognized with Interview by Emily Guerra on Public Media's KRWG

In the May 12 edition of *Puentes, Bridges to the Community* on KRWG radio, host **Emily Guerra** met with AAUW New Mexico State University Affiliate club advisor, **Susan DeMar** and **Affiliate President Jessica**

Greenmyer to talk about the new organization on campus, as well as gender pay equity and education for women and girls.

You can listen to their 11-minute interview **NOW** by simply clicking on this link:

<http://krwg.org/post/american-association-university-women-nmsu>

We Joined the Dance at May Branch Meeting!

After successfully adopting the AAUW-LC budget for 2017-18, accepting updates to by-laws and procedures, and approving a slate of new officers, members and guests enjoyed a performance of flamenco and classical dance by **Paso Antonio** and three of his gifted students...then we experimented with some of the elegant moves ourselves!





AAUW-NM Presents Awards for Las Cruces Branch Members' Efforts at State Convention

Kudos to AAUW-LC **Co-President Elect Beverly Chambers**, who as 2016-17 Fundraiser Chair received on behalf of our Branch the **2016-17 Ingenious Ideas Award** at the AAUW-NM annual convention in April. The reward was given for Beverly's creative approach to fundraising through the *One For the Girls* program of music and dance held at the Rio Grande Theatre in January.



AAUW-LC Branch **STEM Chair Becca Galves** was also a reward recipient as **President of the New Mexico Network for Women in Science and Engineering, which won AAUW-NM's first Mission in Action Award**. The award honors individuals or organizations that support and further the mission of AAUW in the state of New Mexico. The Network sponsors many statewide activities for which they received this award, including judging at both regional and state Science Fairs and the Super Computing Challenge, holding workshops around the state, and giving monetary prizes to female high school students. Through the years, the Network has awarded more than \$20,000 in prizes to deserving young women in our state.

Of Note...

A Reminder from Rorie Measure - It's not too late to support the **Children's Reading Alliance's Summer Book Buddies** program to put books into the hands of local children this summer. A contribution of \$20

will give books to five children. And it makes such a difference!

To donate NOW, just click on this website

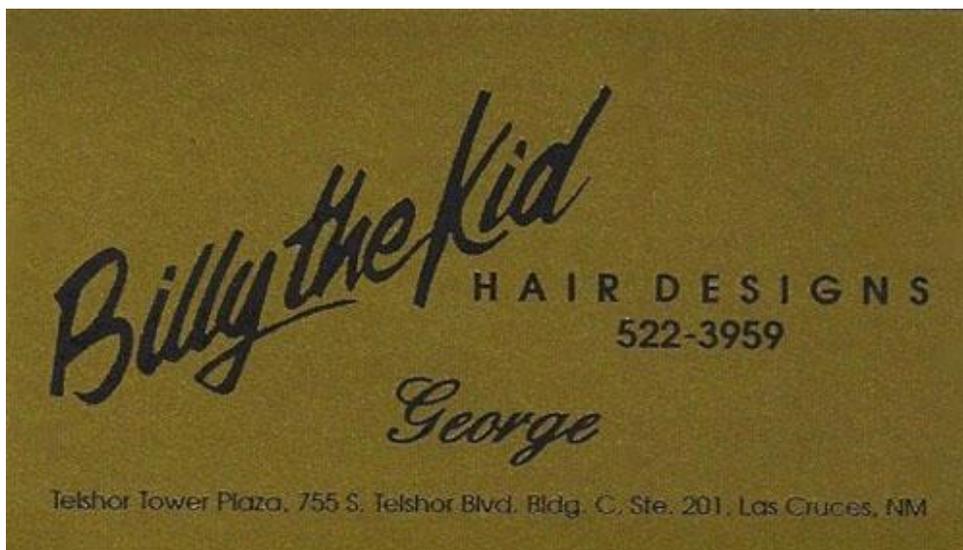
www.childrensreadingalliance.org

.....

LaJune Smith shared this interesting and wonderful news about a former member of our branch whose new job in Rio Rancho led her to move north a couple of years ago. **Lynette Schurdevin** is the newly elected president of the Albuquerque branch of AAUW!

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!





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