



Girls Can! Career Exploration Conference Celebrates 20 Years Saturday, March 8

2014 marks the 20th year the Las Cruces Branch has offered sixth grade girls in our region the opportunity to learn about and have some "hands on" experience with an interesting variety of careers open to them in the future.

Many of our members can recall a time in the not too distant past when education and employment opportunities in many vocations, most notably STEM careers, were male dominated. But we all know better - **GIRLS CAN!** Efforts like Girls Can! have opened many new doors to today's young women. The career



exploration conference is presented annually by our Branch and professional women from our community. This year's event promises to be wonderful, and your help is needed to guarantee success. The conference also provides a hot breakfast to attendees, compliments of Roberto's Mexican Food, and a workshop for parents interested in improving their communication skills, supporting their children academically and getting a jump on planning for college. If you would like to

volunteer on **Saturday, March 8 from 8 am - noon at Lynn Middle School**, contact Bonnie Eisenberg. Lunch for presenters, support staff and other interested members will follow at De La Vegas.

Ann McCullough (left) and Charlene Blair (below) were among the group of Branch members who made posters announcing 2014 Girls

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Upcoming General Meetings & Events

Saturday, March 8

8 am - noon

Lynn Middle School

GIRLS CAN!

Career Conference

AAUW and Community

Professional Women

Tuesday, April 8 - 6 pm

Branigan Library Roadrunner Rm

Krysten Aguilar, La Semilla Food

Center



Can! These were posted at regional elementary and middle schools to invite sixth grade girls to participate in this year's event.



from our President Bonnie Eisenberg -

March is National Women's History Month, an inspirational celebration near and dear to my heart. The theme this year is "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage, and Commitment," which could apply to a lot of women in AAUW today, so let's use this month to manifest those qualities in our own lives and in our community. For more info on National Women's History Month, visit the National Women's History Project's website at:

www.NWHP.org

Speaking of commitment, **our branch board has made a commitment to match, dollar for dollar contributions to Tech Trek-Las Cruces made by branch members through April 1, up to \$1500.**

The combined \$3,000 total of our Branch personal and matched funds will enable the Tech Trek summer camp to host a total of 50 eighth grade girls for the week-long STEM intensive camp at NMSU. I am happy to say we are well on

Food for Border Communities

Tuesday, May 13 - 6 pm
Branigan Library Roadrunner Rm
Lyla Jordan - A Tour of the
Seychelles Islands

Tuesday, June 3
END OF YEAR PARTY
Location and Time TBD

Can You Host Our Year-End Party?

Our branch loves to party, and, although it is still a few months away, we are looking for someone to host the year-end potluck, which is scheduled for **June 3.**

We usually have 30-40 members attending. If you have a large patio area or great room, please consider opening your home for this event. Members always help with cleanup.

Contact Marsha Hokkanen or Carol Eggers if you can host.

AAUW'S MISSION

The mission of AAUW is to advance equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Check Out Our Branch Website

There's a lot to see on our branch website. If you've never seen it - take a look!

Mary Rita Chapman is our new Webmistress.

Our website now also includes pdf versions of the OMV to download if you've lost your email version.

To access it, click on this link:

our way to making that goal. If you can make a contribution, please do so by sending your check, made out to AAUW, with "Tech Trek-LC" in the memo line, to our branch PO Box 6572, LC 88006. **All Tech Trek contributions are tax-deductible.**

<http://lascruces-nm.aauw.net/>

I am happy to report that we have received close to 250 nominations from teachers throughout New Mexico for the summer camp. Applications have gone out to the students to complete and we will be setting up teams to review them and do interviews, either in person, via Skype or on the phone. If you are interested in helping with this process, or in helping out during the camp itself (July 12-19) please contact Ann Palormo, our Tech Trek volunteer coordinator.

**You can invite a friend
to read the OMV
to learn more about us
and what we do.**

Forward this issue to a friend by clicking on the **Forward this email** link at the bottom of the newsletter.

March is also time for **Girls Can! Career Exploration Conference**, which will be held on **Saturday, March 8**. Many branch members have signed up to help by facilitating workshops and you should have all heard from me by now regarding your specific duties. I am happy to report that we have raised enough money from community sponsors to cover all the conference expenses and that we have a number of volunteers from Soroptimists and Federally Employed Women helping with the conference again this year. Registrations are being picked up as I write, so I don't yet have a total count, but it does not look like our efforts to increase participation in Las Cruces have been very successful.

For your friend to become a regular OMV recipient, advise her to click on the **Join our Mailing List** link at the top of this green column. New recipients must sign up themselves if they are not AAUW members.

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*Do you have an article, photograph
or other information you would like to
share with
AAUW members?*

*Send it by email to
bonnie.schranz@gmail.com.*

A few volunteers will be needed to help with initial set up on Friday afternoon, March 7, at 4 pm at Lynn Middle school. If you can help at that time, please email me. Presenters, volunteers and all branch members are invited to attend a post conference luncheon at De La Vegas at noon. If you are not helping on the day of the conference, but would like to join us for lunch, please let Rita Stopa know. A sign-up sheet will be on site for those volunteers who plan to come to lunch. Again, this is going to be my last year as coordinator for Girls Can!, so I am very much hoping someone else from the branch will be willing to take it over. We have every aspect of the conference planning well documented, so it will be a piece of cake!

**Use In this Issue (top right column, green print)
to go to articles quicker than by scrolling.**

Simply **click on the title** of the article you want to view,
and you'll go there immediately!

And remember, you can **click any blue URL or pdf title** in the
issue to go directly to that website or document.

Ruth Benjamins Receives

Terry Sleight Award from AAUW-NM



Ruth Benjamins (right), a member of both AAUW and the Las Cruces League of Women Voters was the recipient of an award from the New Mexico AAUW when the AAUW and the League met in a joint session on Feb. 8. The presentation was made by **Mary Rita Chapman**, AAUW-NM Finance Chair and member of our branch. In memory of Terry Sleight, a long-time women's advocate, AAUW-NM board member, and lobbyist, the New Mexico State AAUW established the **Terry Sleight Memorial Award** in 2005. This award is given to an individual AAUW-NM member or group of members in recognition of their efforts in advancing women's issues. **Dolores Halls** was a previous winner of the award for 2006-2007.

INTEREST GROUPS

ANYTHING GOES BOOK GROUP

Anything Goes Book Group will meet on **Monday, March 10 at 1:30 p.m.** at the home of Marsha Ogden to discuss *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett. For more information, please contact Julia Bruner at 522-1685 or julesnewmexico@gmail.com.

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ANYTHING GOES 2 FICTION BOOK GROUP

Fourth Monday, 1:30 pm
Next meeting: **March 24** at the home of Nancy Carlson to discuss *The Cutting Season* by Attica Locke. Contact Nancy at 522-9794, or bnnm09@q.com. The group warmly invites

additional members to join us for lively discussions of our favorite fiction selections.

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ART RAMBLE

Interested art and culture fanatics will be treated to a special exhibit at the Branigan Cultural Center on **Friday, March 7**, with the opening of a special exhibit, "The Building of Hoover Dam." Plan to meet in the front entry at 5 p.m. with Denyse Johnson. See photography of this epic undertaking by Winthrop Davis. This will be an interesting follow-up to those who have viewed a recent television program on the building of Coulee Dam in Washington State, a similar event which affected the lives of Native American tribes living along the Columbia. Later, those interested can revisit the outstanding work of Gustave Bauman, on exhibit through March 29 at the Museum of Art. To contact Denyse Johnson, call 522-4618, email sourcefinearts@earthlink.net.

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DAYTIME BRIDGE - Second Thursday, 1 - 4 pm.

Contact: Carol Ann Council at 522-3313, email kkca_council@msn.com.

Hostess for up & coming games:

March 13 Carol Ann Council

April 10 Jo Ann Vincent

EVENING BRIDGE - Fourth Tuesday, 7:15 pm.

Contact: Carol Ann Council, 522-3313, email kkca_council@msn.com.

Hostess for up & coming games:

March 25 TBA

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GOING PLACES

Join us on **Thursday, March 20**. Tour the Zuhl Museum on the NMSU campus, with its thousands of beautiful specimens of petrified wood, fossils and minerals. Meet at the museum at 9:50 for the 10 a.m. tour. The Zuhl Museum is in the NMSU Alumni and Visitors Center, 775 College Drive, near the northwest campus entrance (look for the Windmills!). There is plenty of parking at the museum, so no NMSU parking pass is necessary.

Lunch will follow at the Third Floor Bistro overlooking the NMSU football field. RSVP by Tuesday, March 18 to Fran Plec, fplec@comcast.net or (575) 202-5459

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INTERNATIONAL DINNERS

The International Dinner group will meet on

Saturday, **March 15** at the home of Ruth Benjamins. The theme is "Italian." Contact Ruth if you will be attending 520-6737 or benjpa@q.com.

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DINING OUT

We'll be Dining Out at De La Vegas on **Tuesday, March 18**, at 5:30 p.m. It is located at the corner of Telshor and Lohman.

Let Cathy Quinones at quinonesc@aol.com or 526-2454 know

by Monday evening, March 17 if you are planning on joining us. Everyone is welcome, including friends and spouses.

TECH TREK CAN USE YOUR HELP

We have now received some 280 nominations from teachers across the state for girls to be considered for our **Tech Trek camp in July**. The girls have been sent application forms to complete and return.

After that we will review these applications and select the girls to interview. This will go on through the month of March. (We are planning a camp for 35-50 girls, depending on the outcome of the interviews.)

We are still working on the details for the next round of screening, but if you would like to help, please send an e-mail to Ann Palormo, apalormo@nmsu.edu. The committee will get in touch with you about the next steps.

Also, if you would like to help during the week of camp (July 12-19), we would like to add your name to a list. Again, please e-mail Ann Palormo.

All Above Board

This column reports actions and ideas from the most recent AAUW-LC Board meeting, as submitted by Board members and in the minutes of the meeting taken by Secretary Fran Plec. The Board will meet next on Monday, March 3 at 9:30 am at the home of Bonnie Eisenberg. Board meetings are open to all members.

Membership

Welcome to our new member **Sharon Shoemaker** who was previously an AAUW member of a branch in California. Add this information about her to your yearbook:

Sharon Shoemaker
201 W. Lucero, Las Cruces 88005
650-303-8961 shoemaker714@gmail.com
M.S. Psychology and Community Mental Health
Northern Illinois Univeristy, DeKalb, IL

New members who sign up before March 15 will pay the regular half-year rates.

Contact **Lynn Alford** or **LaJune Smith** if you have a friend who would like to join us now at this special rate.

Branch Officers Nominating Committee

This year we are electing a president (or co-presidents),

treasurer and two program committee vice presidents. Anyone interested in serving on the Nomination committee is asked to notify Committee Chair **Deanise Marta**.

AAUW NM State Meeting

Mary Rita Chapman, State Finance Chair, reported the following actions at the state meeting held on Jan 26:

- There is a link on the AAUW-NM web page with a new service from National AAUW where they track state legislation focusing on education.
- There is a student at the University of New Mexico who is willing to put on the Elect Her! program at any time.
- NCCWSL applications are due March 15.
- **The NM state AAUW convention will be in Las Vegas April 25-27; the regional meeting will be in Reno, NV on June 6** (the regional will be in New Mexico in 2016).
- There was discussion on current state awards and whether to change them. Comments are welcome on the Ingenious Ideas award and the Grace Barker Wilson award.

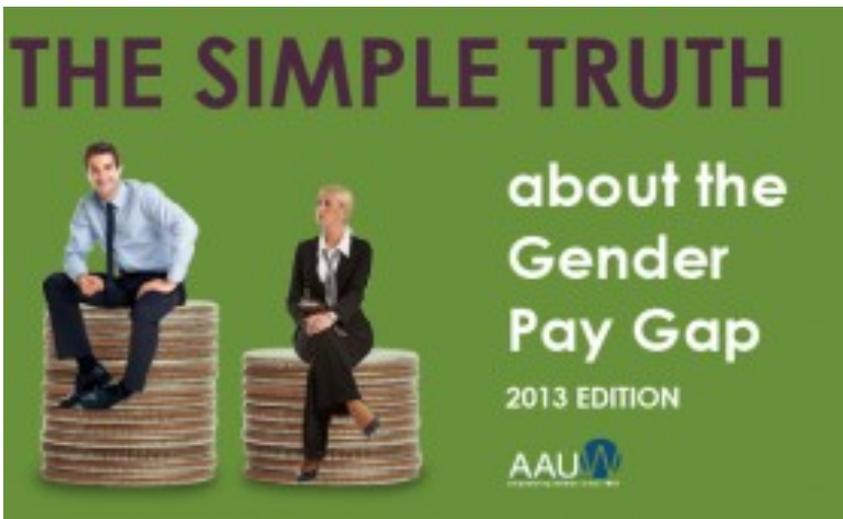
International

Carol-Ann Council shared the following from *The Flame*, the newsletter of Women Graduates USA:

UN Commission on the Status Of Women to be held in New York City March 10 - 21

The Commission on the Status of Women is a functional commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). It is the principal global policy-making body dedicated exclusively to gender equality and advancement of women. Representatives of Member States gather at UN Headquarters in New York to evaluate progress on gender equality, identify challenges, set global standards, and formulate concrete policies to promote gender equality and women's empowerment worldwide. This year, the priority theme will be: Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls.

OF NOTE... from the AAUW Action Network



Today, American women are still typically paid only 77 cents for every dollar paid to men, nine out of 10 American workers don't have paid family leave, and nearly 40 million don't have a single paid sick day - not to mention the critical need for affordable, quality child care.

We can change that.

April 8 is Equal Pay Day.

**AAUW Rocky Mountain West
Regional Convention June 6 - 8**

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I am excited to announce that AAUW members, supporters, friends, and neighbors from around the Rocky Mountain West will be gathering in June for a regional conference in Reno, NV. This event will feature speakers and authors addressing the theme, "The Western Woman." Workshops and presentations facilitated by AAUW staff and members are also planned.

Come and find out more about the exciting work going on around the region. We will cap off the weekend with a very special keynote address from AAUW President Patricia Fae Ho.

We do hope you will join us.

**Joyce Destefanis
AAUW of Nevada State President**

READ THE AAUW-NM ROADRUNNER

The Roadrunner, the newsletter of the New Mexico State AAUW, is available for you to read and download in pdf format on the AAUW-NM website. For the most recent issue, click on the following link:

<http://aauw-nm.aauw.net/files/2013/12/Winter2014Roadrunner.pdf>

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