



Las Cruces (NM) Branch

## ORGAN MOUNTAIN VIEWS

VOL. XXI, Issue 8

October 2016



### AAUW-LC General Meeting Saturday, Oct 8 Find Out How Parents Learn to be "First Teachers"

The relationship of learning to read and success in school and beyond has long been known. It's also evident that children who are read to from a very young age have a much higher incidence of both learning and loving to read. The Las Cruces **Children's Reading Alliance** has proof of their mission: Together We Raise Readers! At our next branch general meeting on **Saturday, Oct 8** beginning at 10 am at the **Branigan Library's Roadrunner room**, Terry Miller and Rorie Measure will tell us about the "First Teacher" program initiated by the Alliance.

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Read the AAUW-NM Roadrunner

#### Quick Links

[AAUW-LC website](#)

[AAUW-NM website](#)

[AAUW National website](#)

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To send the Organ Mountain Views to a friend,

Rorie, who is a member and past president of our branch, explains that when families read, talk and play with their children every day, their children learn what they need to know for success in school and in life. The First Teacher Parent Curriculum was created by Rorie, Terry and Ann Rohovec expressly to meet the needs of parents in Doña Ana County. First Teacher classes are taught in Spanish and English to provide families and caregivers of children between the ages of 3-5 years old with books, information, materials and confidence to prepare their children for Kindergarten. Don't miss the opportunity to learn more about this exciting program that works! Bring a friend!

Lunch will follow at Bite of Belgium. Be prepared to sign up to go to lunch at the meeting so that the restaurant can have a count prior to our group's arrival.

[Click here for more information about the Children's Reading Alliance](#)

## From our Co-Presidents Shirley Armstrong & Ann Palormo

### Greetings AAUW-LC members,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our September meeting. We "kicked off" the year with wonderful energy and even had a new member join that morning. **Welcome, Cheryl Wilson.**

**The sign-up for our various interest groups (on-going and newly-forming) is an indication of a busy year ahead.** Thanks to Marsha Ogden for volunteering to oversee all these groups and get the new ones up and going.

**A special thank-you to one of our newer members, Miriam Chaiken, who, as Dean of the Honors College, invited us to hold our first meeting in the Conroy Honors Center on the NMSU campus.** For many of us it was the first opportunity to see the inside of this building which was so lovingly restored and now offers a wonderful environment for students to study and socialize.

We lived up to our reputation of having a grand assortment of food for our morning brunch. We sent our student presenters home with snacks for the weekend and also left some behind for Honors College students the next week.

What a diverse group of dedicated students our presenters were. Two, **Anastasia Hale** and **Jessica Croom**, had participated in summer research projects that were funded in part with a gift we made last year to support the college's summer research travel endowment.

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

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### Upcoming General Meetings & Events

Saturday, Oct 8, 10 AM,  
Branigan Library  
Roadrunner Room  
"First Teacher," a program  
of the Children's Reading  
Alliance

**TUESDAY, NOV 8  
ELECTION DAY  
VOTE!!!**

Tuesday, Nov 12, 10 am  
location TBA  
Solar Cooking's Effect on  
Third World Societies  
Ann Patterson and  
Dr. Paul Funk

Saturday, Dec 10, 11 am  
**HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**  
Picacho Hills Country Club

## THE CLICK CHALLENGE

Last month I proposed a challenge to all of you to expand your reading of each issue of the *Organ Mountain Views*.

*I'm happy to announce that some of you took the challenge and brought our percentage of readers who clicked on a*



**Anastasia Hale**



**Jessica Croom**

Anastasia, who had never traveled outside of New Mexico, connected through the internet with an agency running a Syrian refugee camp in Greece and spent her summer working with children in the camp. She taught them English and they worked to teach her Arabic. She is ready for more adventures after graduation.

Jessica Croom is studying geography. Her research topic was looking at the impact that gentrification had on impacted areas of three Canadian cities. She appreciated the opportunity to get out and meet with residents and government officials in each of her selected cities.



**Rachel Burke**



**Fattaneh Naderi Behdani**

NMSU has two graduate students who are pursuing their degrees thanks to national AAUW fellowships. PhD candidate **Fattaneh Naderi Behdani** is studying chemical engineering with an emphasis on desalination issues. When she lost her first funding source for her studies, AAUW member and chemical engineering

*link to 11%,  
up from  
an abysmal 1%.  
Good job!*

**Can I entice  
more of you to  
give the "Click"  
a try?**

**Here is your  
click challenge:  
Look for CLICK  
HERE in this  
issue...  
and CLICK!!!**

*OMV editor,  
Bonnie  
Schranz*

**Read the  
AAUW-NM  
ROADRUNNER!**

Created by AAUW-LC member Catherine Greenspan, the Roadrunner newsletter is full of timely and important information about your organization. To access the new issue,

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

**MANY THANKS** to Carol Ann Council who provided great photographs from the September meeting, the Women of Distinction event and the Perfect Past Presidents luncheon! The photo of Ann Palermo at the Girls Scout event was by Gabriele Teich.

professor **Dr. Martha Mitchell** encouraged Behdani, who is an Iranian citizen, to apply for one of AAUW's international fellowships. She has received \$20,000 to support the completion of her degree.

**Rachel Burke** received a career development grant from AAUW to support her work toward a master's degree in wildlife science and GIS. This grant is aimed at supporting an individual who is changing the focus of her career plans.

Each of these young women demonstrated that the funds they have received to support their education have been very well invested.

**As we move into the autumn months, I hope each of us will follow Mary Berry's lead and talk to individuals we know in the business community about becoming sponsors of our January special event.** We want to raise about \$2,000 to offset costs of this event. That way the money from ticket sales can go directly to supporting our many local, state and national AAUW programs that support initiatives to improve the lives of women and girls.

**Thanks for being such active members of our branch.**

**Ann and Shirley**

**Branch Fundraiser coming soon!**

**ONE FOR THE GIRLS! Sunday, Jan 29, 2017**



**"Remember Then" whose specialty is singing "oldies but goldies" is one of three performing groups who will make our branch fundraiser, ONE FOR THE GIRLS at the Rio Grande Theater at 2 pm on Sunday, January 29, 2017 an AMAZING EVENT!**

Thanks also to all of you who regularly provide information for the monthly OMV. We have an effective newsletter because many members participate in its creation. I

If you have information you'll like shared in the newsletter, please submit it to me by the 15th of the month prior to the month of the issue.

PLEASE let me know if you are having any difficulty receiving or opening the OMV. Let me know if any other AAUW-LC member has told you of having similar problems - I can fix this!

Write to me:  
bonnie.schranz@gmail.com  
or call 575-640-8328

The "Las Cruces Chamber Ballet" and "Showstoppers" of Michele's Dance Academy will complete the program.

We all need to work together to MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Don't delay! Step up to volunteer your time, sell an ad, and/or make a financial donation, and think about everyone you know who will buy a \$20 ticket for a good time for a great cause -

our programs and scholarships for young women.

TICKETS ON SALE STARTING OCT 1.

[CLICK HERE for the link to riograndetheatre.com](#)

Contact Beverly Chambers to find out what you can do to help.  
flagbab@mac.com 575-405-0052

## INTEREST GROUPS

### WANT TO BECOME MORE INTERESTING?

**New interest groups** are forming in addition to our existing ones listed in your Yearbook. Contact Marsha Ogden at 575-532-5466 or marshaogden@yahoo.com for more information about:

*The Lunch Bunch*

*Out and About*

*Let's Speak Spanish*

*Great Decisions*

*Outdoor Adventures*

*Gardening Joys*

### **Anything Goes Book Group**

Anything Goes will meet on Monday, **October 10**, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Marsha Hokkanen to discuss *The King and Queen of Comezon* by Denise Chavez. For more information, please contact Julia Bruner at julesnewmexico@gmail.com or at 522-1685. **New members are welcome!**

### **Anything Goes Fiction Book Group**

The Anything Goes Fiction group will discuss *The Traitor's Wife* by Allison Pataki on **Monday, Oct. 24** at 1:30 pm at the home of Joan Iverson at the Golden Mesa residences, 151 N. Roadrunner. Contact Joan at 575-522-4219. She does not use email.

**New members welcome!**

### **Daytime & Evening Bridge**

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

13 October            Mary Berry

10 November        Lavita Costley

The AAUW evening bridge group meets on the 4th Tuesday of

**each month** (except December) **at 7:15pm.**

25 October Mary Berry

15 November Carol Eggers

**Contact Carol Ann Council 649-8122**

**or [kk-ca\\_council@msn.com](mailto:kk-ca_council@msn.com)**

### **Dining Out**

Members and their guests are invited to **Luna Rosa Winery and Pizzeria**, 1321 Avenida de Mesilla, on **Tuesday, October 18** at 5:30 p.m. for our monthly Dining Out. This has been a popular restaurant for our group in the past. We want to give them a head count so they can set up tables for us. Let Cathy Quinones know at [quinonesc@aol.com](mailto:quinonesc@aol.com) by the night before if you plan on attending. It is a great way to get to know our members in a relaxed setting.

### **Going Places**

A Going Places event is being planned for Thursday, Oct 20.

Specific information about it will be sent out in a email soon.

### **International Dinners**

Beverly Chambers is hosting a **potluck** on **Saturday, Oct. 15** at 5:30 pm.

### **NFL Fans**

The Pittsburgh Steelers first October game is **Sunday, Oct. 2**, vs. the Chiefs, at 6:30 pm. Other Oct. games are **Sunday, Oct. 9**, vs. the Jets, at 11 am, **Sunday, Oct. 16**, vs. the Dolphins at 11 am, and **Sunday, Oct. 23** vs. the Patriots, at 2:25 pm. **The last Sunday in October is a bye week.** The Steelers Fan Club in Las Cruces meet at **K Bobs Steakhouse**, 1660 S Valley Dr. Please contact Phoebe Pierce 575-524-8320 or [pierce1@zianet.com](mailto:pierce1@zianet.com) if you have any questions.

## **AAUW-LC Members Honored as Women of Distinction**

The Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest organization honored two AAUW-LC members at their annual recognition luncheon held in September.

**LaJune Smith** and **Ann Palermo**, past president and current co-president of our branch, were celebrated as **Women of Distinction**.



**LaJune Smith  
Ann Palormo**



## All Above Board

The AAUW-LC Board meets on the first Monday monthly at 9:30 am in the conference room (downstairs) at Good Samaritan on Buena Vida. The next meeting is Monday, Oct 3. 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. To read and print out the most recently approved Board minutes, [click on the pdf link below](#).*

[May 2016 AAUW-LC Board minutes](#)



How fortunate our branch is to have the Perfect Past Presidents group to contribute and advise AAUW-LC and its current co-presidents, who are included in this photo.

The group meets monthly and around the table are (l. - r.), LaJune Smith, Carol Ann Council, Shirley Armstrong, Deanise Marta, Rorie Measure, Freddie Finkner, Mary Rita chapman, Ruth Benjamins, Phoebe Pierce, Beverly Stiles and Ann Palormo.

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## **Membership**

Welcome to our newest member, **Cheryl Wilson**, who joined us at the September meeting. Not new to AAUW, Cheryl was a member of our organization in Montana. Be sure to add her contact information to your yearbook:

Cheryl Wilson  
2377 Flintstone Loop, LC 88012  
575-418-7747 clwilson59@gmail.com  
Ed. D., University of Montana, Missoula

**An Apology to Catherine Quinones!** Although her **new phone number** was correctly listed in the Interest Group section of the yearbook, in the membership list it was not. Please make this correction: **575-993-9528**.

## **Fundraising Co-Chair Needed for January 2017 Event!**

Because Catherine Greenspan's own job responsibilities are making it impossible for her to continue as chair of the fundraising for our special event planned for January 29, 2017, **we need another branch member to step up to share responsibilities of organizing the event with Beverly Chambers.**

**Mary Berry, who already received a contribution from her dentist, is volunteering to make calls to area businesses.**

**Beverly** will appreciate everyone's help to insure the success of this project. **The more sponsors we have to offset our projected expenses, the more money we will realize to support our many important programs serving the young women of our community.** When you receive fundraising donations, please send the donors' business cards to Beverly so that their logos can be added to event flyers. If the donor is not a business, please send Beverly the name, address and phone number. **Please email or call Beverly if you can take an active role in this important process. Thanks for supporting our AAUW mission and programs!**

## **News from WG-USA**

Twenty-five members of Women Graduates-USA recently returned from the 32nd Graduate Women International (GWI) General Assembly and Triennial Conference in Cape Town, South Africa. The WG-USA resolution on the "Harassment of Women and Girls as a Violation of Their Human and Civil Rights in Public Places" was approved at the event. WG-USA's Annual General Meeting (AGM), will be a virtual event this year on **Oct. 15**.

## **Susan DeMar Wins NMSU Staff Award**

AAUW-LC branch member and our Board's NMSU Liaison **Susan DeMar** has recently been selected to receive the 2015 Stephen W. and Robert E. Roberts Memorial Staff Award for outstanding service and dedication to Geography, the department in which she is employed at New Mexico State University. The award is given annually to an employee who demonstrates commitment and service to the University and serves as a positive citizen within our community.

Susan will receive a plaque and a monetary award from members of the Roberts family on Wednesday, Oct 19 at a ceremony to be held at 3 pm at the Corbett Center. In addition to her participation in AAUW, Susan is also president of the NMSU Women's Club. We congratulate her for this achievement!

## **GIRLS CAN! GOES TO COLLEGE IN 2017**

**At age 23, Girls Can! will start school at the East Mesa Center of Doña Ana Community College (DACC) on Saturday, March 11, 2017.**

We're excited about our new partner and thank them for not charging us to rent the facility! Also, I'm pleased to announce that our Welcome speaker at breakfast will be **Dr. Renay Scott, President of DACC.**

Even though the event is not until next March, our teams are already working to make 2017 the best Girls Can! ever. **Kay Brilliant**, co-chair of the School Contact Team, has already met with the school counselors of Gadsden Independent School District and will soon meet with their counterparts in the Hatch and Las Cruces school districts.

**Laini Burstein** is currently putting the information gained from evaluations by the girls and the facilitators into a spreadsheet so the Presenter Committee (**Kathleen Cordova, Deanise Marta** and I) can make informed decisions about which presenters to invite back and which new workshops we should add. Since we will be at DACC, we will be limited to 20 workshops for the girls because they hold classes there on Saturdays, and the 20 classrooms have already been reserved. It's not like being at Lynn Middle School, where we could add more workshops if we wanted to. If you have suggestions for workshops, please let Kathleen, Deanise or me know soon.

**Londa Seiffert** has agreed to coordinate volunteers again this year and build on the success of her efforts last year involving college students and community organizations, as well as AAUW member volunteers.

**Ann Palormo** has once again agreed to put together the very successful Parents' Workshop which has been gaining in popularity year after year.

**Donna Rea** and her registration team are already working on their

behind-the-scenes magic to get the participants into workshops they want so that Saturday, March 11 will go as smoothly as possible.

**Donna Yargosz** will again be in charge of the goody-bag and T-shirt detail with volunteers stuffing and delivering to the event.

We need every member to participate this year in some way. We will need facilitators to help out the workshop presenters and then evaluate the job they did. We will need extra volunteers to help the girls find their classrooms in the right buildings. And we will need help with all of the teams mentioned above. Please think about your involvement and what you would like to help with for Girls Can! 2017.

**I would also like to encourage our members to support our sister organization, Soroptimist International of Las Cruces, in their fundraising event, the Turkey Trott. It is a walk/run held the Saturday before Thanksgiving and is the major fundraising event of the Soroptimists who have been extremely generous to Girls Can! over the years.** They have provided volunteers for the last several years and have already donated \$500 for Girls Can! 2017. If you don't want to walk (with me) or run (as some of our members do), you can always donate the entry fee so someone else can participate. See the poster below with registration information.

**Girls Can! changes the lives of the 6th grade girls and their parents. Thanks for everything you have done to make Girls Can! a success year after year!**

Ann McCullough, coordinator of Girls Can!

**Of Note...**

# SAVE THE DATE



Soroptimist of Las Cruces present our  
**5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TURKEY TROT**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2016**

Prizes for best Individual and Group costumes

**8:30am Start 10K/5K**

**8:00am Start 1 mi.**

Race begins & ends  
on the Plaza in  
historic Mesilla, NM

Best post-race buffet  
and Hot Chocolate Bar

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT  
WOMAN & GIRLS  
IN OUR COMMUNITY**

**10K & 5K Run or Walk w/gift bag \$20**

**10K & 5K Run or Walk bag + shirt\* \$35**

**Tot Trot (10 and under) \$10**

\* t-shirt available for early registrants only, register by November 5, 2016

**Registration opens in October**

Register at: [raceadventuresunlimited.com](http://raceadventuresunlimited.com)

More information at: [silcnm.org](http://silcnm.org)

## CELEBRATE OUR RIGHT TO VOTE...BY VOTING!



This recent photo of AAUW members from Missouri in the garb of women from 1916 reminds us of the hard-won fight for the right of American women to vote. Celebrate enfranchisement for all American citizens, regardless of gender or ethnicity. Be sure to VOTE, and encourage everyone you know to participate in the process of electing our nation's leaders on Nov. 8, 2016. (photo from the AAUW National website)

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org)

## Thinking of You



**Shirley Armstrong - we're all wishing you a SPEEDY recovery from back surgery!**

SUPPORT OUR MEMBER ADVERTISER!



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

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