

Not Too Late !!!
to Make Your Reservations by Dec 1
for Saturday, Dec 14 Cocktail Party
and Silent Auction for AAUW Funds

Don't miss our traditionally festive December party, with some new twists to make this year event even more special! A **Holiday Cocktail Party** at the Picacho Hills Country Club will start at 3 pm. The cost is only \$15 per person for a lavish spread of tempting finger foods and non-alcoholic beverages. A cash bar will also be available. Bring a guest - a good time is guaranteed.

Don't forget, another part of our holiday tradition is to bring to the party a non-perishable item for a donation to Casa de Peregrinos Food Pantry.

Please make **checks payable to AAUW-Las Cruces** and **mail your reservation payment to:**
AAUW Treasurer Donna Rea, 1232 Regency Ct., Las Cruces, NM 88007
or mail to AAUW-Las Cruces, PO Box 6572, Las Cruces, NM 88006-6572



REMINDER - DONATIONS NEEDED for the Silent Auction
All Proceeds Will Benefit
AAUW Funds, AAUW-LC NMSU Scholarship and Girls Can!

The Silent Auction committee is in need of donations for this event. Please consider donating new or gently used items that our members might enjoy. They should have a value of at least \$25. The deadline of December 1 is fast approaching. We would like this event to be a great success and are depending on your help to make it so. Some gift item suggestions are artwork, theater tickets, a round of golf, restaurant gift certificates, jewelry and home decorative items. Contact Gale Kaufman or Donna Rea to schedule a drop-off or pick-up of your items.

Thank you for your help!
Gale - 373-1438 (Sonoma Ranch area)
Donna - 312-4559 (Picacho Hills)



AAUW Brings Tech Trek to New Mexico

The following information has been released to all of the branches of AAUW in New Mexico who will help to recruit participants in this summer's Tech Trek Summer Camp.

AAUW Las Cruces was recently honored to win one of three grants given by AAUW to hold a Tech Trek Summer Camp for 8th grade girls during the summer of 2014. The camp will be planned in conjunction with the **Young Women in Computing (YWiC) program at New Mexico State University** and will, therefore, have an emphasis on technology, as well as the other STEM fields. The camp will be open to girls rising into 8th grade from throughout New Mexico. Throughout the week, girls will attend a daily math or science core class, participate in focused workshops, perform hands-on activities, attend a field trip to a STEM work environment and meet female STEM role models.

Tech Trek NM will be held July 13-19 on the NMSU campus. Outreach to New Mexico middle school principals and science/math teachers is underway. The recruitment process requires that students are first nominated by their science or math teacher. The nominations are due by February 14. Seventh grade science and math teachers throughout New Mexico will be sent nomination materials or materials can be requested at techtreklc@gmail.com. Students nominated will then be invited

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

Upcoming General Meetings & Events

to fill out an application, including an essay, which is due by March 7. The Selection Committee will conduct an initial selection process, and designate potential participants who will then be interviewed along with their family. The final selection process will take place in early April, with selected campers being notified by April 11.

Click on the link below to visit the Tech Trek New Mexico website

<http://techtrek-NM.aauw.net>

Contributions to the New Mexico Tech Trek should be made out to AAUW, with Tech Trek LC in the memo line. Send contributions to AAUW @ PO Box 6572, Las Cruces, NM 88006. Individual and corporate contributions are tax deductible, as all money will be handled by AAUW, which is a 501/C (3).

Members and guests enjoyed a tour of the historic Amador Hotel at the November meeting.



Dr. Deb Dennis showed us Las Cruces and the Amador Hotel as life was over 100 years ago when water ran through the city's downtown.

(Below left) Amador Foundation Board member Heather Pollard pointed out highlights of the structure of the landmark hotel currently undergoing restoration.

(Below right) AAUW member Margaret Lindsley who attended the meeting at the Amador was recognized for her outstanding volunteer efforts on behalf of preserving Las Cruces' history by Dr. Deb Dennis.

Saturday, Dec 14 - 3 pm
Picacho Hills Country Club
HOLIDAY COCKTAIL PARTY

Saturday, Jan 11, 2014 - 10 am
Branigan Library Roadrunner Rm
Rosa Burmeister, Opportunities for Women, DACC programs

Saturday, Feb 8 - 10 am
Good Samaritan Auditorium
League of Women Voters:
Chris Little, Vicki Simons & Jane Cart
Research on Las Cruces area
Affordable Housing

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 Cent
Food for Border Communities

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

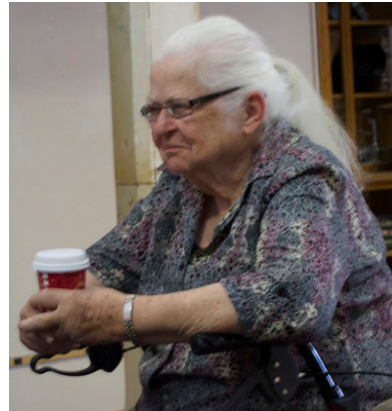
Tuesday, June 3
END OF YEAR PARTY
Location and Time TBD

AAUW'S MISSION

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

**Help Nominate Candidates for
AAUW National Office -
a letter from
our National AAUW President
Patricia Fae Ho:**

The AAUW Bylaws require us to select members of the Nominating Committee by January 1, 2014. The Nominating Committee shall activate



recruit, evaluate, and recommend high qualified candidates for election or appointment to each office and position to the Board of Directors following procedures approved by the board.

Applications for appointment to the committee are now available at this link <http://www.aauw.org/resource/application-for-appointment-aauw-nominating-committee>

The deadline to apply is December 15.

AAUW Scrapbooker Needed

We would very much like to begin keeping a scrapbook for our branch, to contain newspaper articles about our branch members and our events, as well as photos and memorabilia.

If you have scrapbooking experience and would like to help get this project started, please contact Bonnie Eisenberg mizbons@comcast.net.

Check Out National AAUW Newsletter!

If you haven't received the National **AAUW Mission & Action Online Newsletter** through your own email, you can view a pdf version by clicking on the link below. You will find that it is very interesting reading! Be sure to click on the video link and see the short film at AAUW entitled Whose Dream Can You Make Come True...it is guaranteed to touch your heart and affirm our commitment to membership in AAUW and the AAUW Funds we support.

[AAUW Mission & Action](#)

Our New Branch Website

Development continues on the AAUW LC Branch website.

To access it, click on this link:

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

INTEREST GROUPS

Book Groups to Meet Together in December

Both "Anything Goes" book clubs will be meeting together on **Monday, Dec 9**, at 11:30 p.m. at the home of Ruth Benjamins. This is a potluck, so bring anything you wish to share. After lunch, we will divide into our two groups to make book selections. Please let Ruth know whether or not you will attend. Her phone is 527-0204 and email is benjpa@q.com.

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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 game:

Dec 12 - Vicki Simons

Jan 9 - Sharon Wooden

EVENING BRIDGE - Fourth Tuesday, 7:15 pm.

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

Hostess for up & coming game:

Dec - No Meeting

Jan 28 - Mary Berry

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GOING PLACES

Thursday, **December 19**. Meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Savoy de Mesilla restaurant, 1800 Avenida de Mesilla, for our annual planning meeting. Bring your ideas for places to visit next year. New members are especially encouraged to attend. RSVP to Fran Plec, fplec@comcast.net or (575) 202-5459.

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INTERNATIONAL DINNERS

The International Dinners group will not meet in December, but instead will attend the Dec. 14 branch holiday cocktail party.

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DINING OUT

The Dining Out group won't meet in December because the club will be doing the cocktail party as a social event for everyone.

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NFL FANS - DECEMBER SCHEDULE:

The **Steelers** December games are Sunday, Dec. 8, vs. the Dolphins, at 11:00 am; Sunday, Dec. 15, vs. the Bengals, at 6:30 pm; Dec. 22, vs. the Packers, at 2:25 pm; and Sunday, Dec. 29, vs. the Browns at 11:00 am. The Steelers Fan Club in Las Cruces meets at Farley's Bar and Grill, 3499 Foothills. RSVP to Phoebe Pierce, pierce1@zianet.com or 524-8320.

On Sunday, December 15, **Bears** fans will meet at 11a.m. at Maison de Mesilla to watch the Bears play Cleveland. Please RSVP to Fran Plec at e-mail fplec@comcast.net or phone 202-5459.

All fans and guests are welcome to join the group. RSVP by Friday before the game so a place may be held for you to watch.

**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.

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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.*



Margo Bencomo, Soroptimist President, presented a \$500 donation from the group for 2014 Girls Can! to the event's fundraising chair Ann McCullough and event coordinator Bonnie Eisenberg. See the article below for an event update.

DEVELOPMENTS IN PLANNING GIRLS CAN! 2014

For the last two years, attendance at Girls Can! has

been declining. Several concerned members have formed a committee to work on various means to increase publicity for the conference and to generate greater enthusiasm in the Las Cruces schools. Many excellent ideas were generated at our first meeting, so we have our work cut out for us. We are planning to meet with the Superintendent's office and with middle school principals, work with parent-teacher organizations, provide information to schools for their websites, give presentations to students, put registration materials on our website and redesign the conference registration form.

We would also like to explore using social media in addition to newspapers, radio and TV to get information about the conference out to parents and to students. It was the feeling of the group that reaching parents would be our primary goal, along with generating more support among school counselors. **Rita Stopa** has volunteered to be the outreach coordinator. Anyone interested in getting more involved with putting on Girls Can! is encouraged to get in touch with Rita or Bonnie Eisenberg.

The other major development in Girls Can! Conference planning is the beginning of a relationship with the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico. This foundation works with many local non profits to provide fundraising assistance through the use of "special project" status. In November, our board voted to submit an application to the Foundation to have Girls Can! become a special project. The application has been approved and we are moving forward. This will enable us to apply for grant funding from Wells Fargo, Comcast and other businesses and foundations that could not fund us without our having a 501.c.3 status. Personal contributions to Girls Can! made through the Foundation will now be tax deductible.

ALL ABOVE BOARD

This column reflects actions and issues brought up at the most recent AAUW-LC Board session. Information comes from Board members and from the minutes recorded by our secretary, Fran Plec. Members are welcome to attend Board meetings. For a schedule, see your 2013-14 Yearbook. The Board will not meet in December. The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, Jan 6, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome our newest branch member:

Vickie Aldrich.
310 Palmer Rd
LC 88005
575-541-9093
mathstar@zianet.com
MA, Math
UNM/Friends World College

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AAUW-NM STEM Coordinator

The New Mexico State AAUW is asking each branch to appoint a STEM coordinator who will feed Tech Trek information to each branch. **Mary Rita Chapman** has volunteered to act as coordinator for our branch. Our board approved a motion to add a new appointed office of STEM Coordinator.

Terry Slate Award

The New Mexico State AAUW offers a Terry Slate award to recognize community service and advancing women's issues. The recipient must be a member of AAUW. This is the last year of the award, and nominations must be received by Dec 15.

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INTERNATIONAL

Our International Liaison **Carol Ann Council** submitted the following:

**November 25 is International Day
for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**

Thinking of You - Ruby Freeman Lassiter

Beverly Stiles shared this information about the death of a former branch member.

Ruby Freeman Lassiter, 83, passed away peacefully on Friday, October 25, 2013, in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin. Las Cruces friends remember both Ruby and her husband Harvey, who preceded her in death, as active participants in our community. Their name will live on locally, as Lassiter Road is an interchange that intersects with Stern Dr. One of Ruby's Las Cruces neighbors wrote a memorial tribute, "She was a classy lady and a tremendous person. She will be missed! I'm proud to have known her."

An AAUW member in an earlier era, Ruby was one of our branch's first African American members and she was sensitive to that fact. Beverly Stiles' husband Tom recalls an occasion at White Sands Missile Range when Ruby was given an award - just one of many honors she received. She is survived by two sisters, four children, 11 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren

and numerous relatives and friends. A private memorial celebration was held in Wisconsin.

OF NOTE...

Congratulations are in order for Julia Brown who will take over as Dona Ana County Manager on Dec 1. We who know her are not surprised that her outstanding credentials and leadership abilities won her the position. We wish her well! To read the *Las Cruces Bulletin's* recent article about Julia, click on the pdf link below:

[Julia Brown - County Manager. LC Bulletin](#)

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Members Lynn Alford, Nancy Carlson and Bonnie Schranz who sing with the Mesilla Valley Chorale invite you to this joyful holiday concert that will benefit the historic Rio Grande Theater. Hope to see you on Sunday, Dec 8!



Have you read something that you think would be of interest to our members? Send it to bonnie.schranz@gmail.com and note that it is for OF NOTE.

[Forward this email](#)



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