



## ORGAN MOUNTAIN VIEWS

VOL. XXII, Issue 4

April 2017

### WHAT IS "WOMEN'S STUDIES"? FIND OUT AT OUR BRANCH MEETING SATURDAY, APRIL 8 9:30 am - Peace Lutheran Church

Please join us in welcoming **Dr. Patricia Wojahn**, Chair of the Gender and Sexuality Studies (formerly Women's Studies) Program at New Mexico State University, who is our guest speaker at the upcoming branch general meeting on **Saturday, April 8**, starting at **9:30 am for conversation**. The **program will begin at 10 am**. The location is the **Bethlehem Room of Peace Lutheran Church**, 1701, Missouri Ave, Las Cruces.

Dr. Wojhan will discuss the history and evolution of this program within the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Arts & Sciences at NMSU and the importance of these types of programs in today's changing world. The Gender and Sexuality program focuses on the study of women, gender and sexuality in a global context. Classes include multicultural differences, multicultural learning, critical thinking and the integration of theory and practice. Dr. Wojhan holds a Ph.D. in Rhetoric from Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.



**Guests are welcome!** Lunch will follow at International Delights.

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

Dear Members,



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Welcome to what is turning into a beautiful spring in the desert, especially abundant in flowers brought on by some occasional heavy rains.

We have a number of activities to finish our AAUW year and hope you will enjoy participating in some or all of them. If you would like to become more involved in any of our activities for the coming year, please let us know. The interest groups are very welcoming, and our major project leaders of Girls Can! and Tech Trek always appreciate your support.

But first, here is a hearty round of applause for all those who participated before, during and after an outstanding 2017 Girls Can! career conference for 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls, meeting for the first time at the Doña Ana Community College (DACC). Renay Scott, DACC President, was instrumental in providing both space on campus and assistance to the Girls Can! leadership team. Many kudos and much appreciation for Ann McCullough, Girls Can! Coordinator, and her fab leadership team for organizing and staffing this event. There were about 250 girls in attendance this year, and they were excited about the workshops - a good sign of success. See Ann's complete report in this issue.

### **AAUW-LC SPRING CALENDAR**

**Tuesday, March 28, 9 am, Equal Pay Day proclamation at the Doña Ana County Commission meeting**

**Monday, April 3, 1 pm, Equal Pay Day proclamation at the Las Cruces City Council meeting**

**April 4 Equal Pay Day:** This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year.

#### **April 4, Start Smart Workshop for NMSU college students**

Start Smart workshops are specifically designed for women students now in college who will soon enter the job market. This year Sylvia Fink, AAUW NM Co-President, will be the facilitator. Susan DeMar has done a beautiful job of organizing this event.

See our branch home page: <http://lascruces-nm.aauw.net>

June 18 - 24, Tech Trek New Mexico will take place on the campus of the New Mexico Institute of Science and Technology (New Mexico Tech) in Socorro, NM. AAUW-LC members have helped by interviewing applicants and by evaluating essays the girls submitted. More information at <http://lascruces-nm.aauw.net/tech-trek-las-cruces-nm-2014/>

**April 8, AAUW-LC General Meeting at Peace Lutheran Church (Bethlehem Room). Meet and greet at 9:30 am with the program beginning at 10 am. Dr. Patricia Wojahn, Interim Director, NMSU Interdisciplinary Programs, What Exactly is "Women's Studies"?**

The meeting will also include **Announcement of the slate of officers for**

[listing of branch upcoming events in the CoPresidents' Letter.](#)

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

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**New to the OMV?**

**Join Our Mailing List**

**[CLICK HERE!](#)**

**THANK YOU!**

Thanks, Judy McGuire, for the great photo of Girls Can! 2017 shot from the balcony at DACC.

**2017-18.** Thank you to **Julia Bruner** and her nominations committee members, **Carol Ann Council** and **Lynn Mulholland**.

## **April 27 - International Girls in Information & Communication Technologies Day**

### **Dues!**

Dues are payable now online or by check to the treasurer, Mimi Roddy. The payment deadline for inclusion in the yearbook is June 30. See details in a related article in All Above Board below in this newsletter.

**May 9, Annual General Meeting**, Peace Lutheran Church (Fellowship Hall), an **evening meeting from 5 - 8 pm**. An Introduction to Flamenco dance is on the program. **A quorum is required so please attend for the following important branch actions:**

- **Election of officers as announced in April.**
- **The 2017-18 budget and allocation of fund raising monies will be presented for approval.**
- **Approval of the revised (as required by National and State) By-laws for our branch, AAUW Las Cruces.**

**June 6, Potluck dinner and Installation of officers**, 6 - 8 pm, at the home of Donna Rea.

**We are appreciative of all our members who support our organization in a variety of ways. Your membership is critical to our success, so thank you! On a personal note, this is, in our opinion, not only a friendly and active organization, but also a caring one.**

Spring forward!

**- Donna Rea & Shirley Armstrong, Co-presidents**

## **INTEREST GROUPS**

### **International Gourmet**

The **April 30** meeting of the International Gourmet group will be at the home of **Cyrille Kane** at 5 pm. A sign-up sheet for hostessing upcoming meetings will be created at this gathering. The theme in April has a truly international twist, as it is "A Salute to Our Ancestors." Cyrille explains, "Most of our foremothers and forefathers were immigrants who brought their recipes to America with them, and we've been cooking them for years." Group members are asked to identify their recipe, find its name in its original language and in English, and decide its category: appetizer, main course, salad, or dessert. Let Cyrille know what you are bringing (enough for 6 - 8 people) so that she can create a menu, and bring the recipe along with you to the dinner to be copied and distributed to all of the multi-national chefs who attend! Contact Cyrille at 575-496-3512.

### **Anything Goes Book Group**

Anything Goes Book Group will meet at 1:30 on **Monday, April 10** at the home of Fran Plec. We will discuss *Rosemary: the Hidden Kennedy Daughter* by K. Clifford Larson. 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 on Monday, **April 24** at the home of Judy McGuire. The group will discuss *Catfish & Mandala* by Andrew X Pham. Contact Judy for more information after April 6. Call 575-932-9905.

### **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 April	Jo Ann Vincent
11 May	Carol Ann Council

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

28 March	Mary Berry
25 April	Mary Ann Willson
23 May	Freddie Finkner

**Contact Carol Ann Council 649-8122 or [kk-ca\\_council@msn.com](mailto:kk-ca_council@msn.com)**

### **Dining Out**

Dining Out will meet for lunch at Challas Restaurant in Mesilla at 1 pm on **Thursday, April 27**. Members loved this restaurant when we met there last year. This is an informal get-together to relax and get to know other members. Let Cathy Quinones know by April 26 if you plan on attending so that we can let the restaurant know how many will be there. All are welcome! Email [quinonesc@aol.com](mailto:quinonesc@aol.com).

### **Going Places**

A reminder to those of you who signed up in advance for the April Going places event to Holloman Air Force Base, the group will learn about the drone program on **Tuesday, April 18**. **Final information about this outing will be emailed to the group around April 10**. Any questions and/or concerns, contact **Kathi Barit** at [katherinecbarit@gmail.com](mailto:katherinecbarit@gmail.com).

**AAUW-LC Branch Member Julia Brown  
is Candidate for AAUW-National Board Chair**



The following is a statement from Julia Brown, a member of the Las Cruces Branch who is running for Board Chair of our National AAUW organization. Below the statement is a link to a video in which Julia speaks about her candidacy. Simply **CLICK** on the link.

I believe my combination of vision, experience and skills makes me the ideal candidate. I'm a Life Member with leadership experience spanning national, state and branch levels. My background in law, public policy and organizational development enables me to understand strategic planning and implementation of goals and objectives. I've served on nonprofit boards nationally and locally; worked at all levels of government, in Corporate America and served in the military. As a lawyer I applaud and support LAF and understand our need to be involved in establishing legal precedent.

We need to continually gauge the relevance of our programs and approaches. We must refocus on promoting the mission of AAUW. Our bellwether issues of pay equality, campus safety and other Title IX concerns remain critical. With the new Administration, there are threats to such issues as public education, and access to health care, as well as voter suppression.

As Chairman, in concert with other board members and staff, I'll bring bold new ideas for strategic partnerships needed for continued growth and expansion. I want to do what I call the 3 R's of membership - Recruit, Reclaim & Retain. Adoption of a business model that recognizes the need to connect with today's younger, diverse population is one facet of that plan; having Diversity & Inclusion work with Marketing is another.

If you believe I'm the best candidate, please share that with the members you know in other states. Online voting begins April 17 and ends June 15 (at the National Convention in Washington, D.C.). I'll see you at the NM State convention later this month.

**CLICK HERE FOR JULIA'S VIDEO** at [Julia Brown AAUW video 2017](#)

## **TIME TO RENEW YOUR AAUW MEMBERSHIP!**

It is that time of year to renew your AAUW annual membership.

**The 2017-18 dues are \$87.**

National \$49 (\$46 of the national dues are tax deductible)  
State \$18  
LC Branch \$20  
**\$87 total**

**NOTE! Current and new members who wish their names and contact information to be included in the 2017-18 Yearbook must pay their dues no later than June 30, 2017.**

You can renew in two ways:

1) **send a check** to AAUW PO Box 6572, Las Cruces, NM 88006 or give your check directly to Mimi Roddy.

2) **pay online** <http://www.aauw.org/member-tools/>  
Log on with your AAUW ID and password.

## All Above Board

*The AAUW-LC Board will meet next on Monday, April 3 at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference room of Good Samaritan. Board meetings are open to all members.*

## CALL FOR DONATIONS FOR TECH TREK 2017!

The Tech Trek Steering Committee would like to remind you that Tech Trek is right around the corner: June 18-24! Heartfelt thanks to all of you who've already donated! We're hoping to have 60 girls at camp this year. At \$900 per camper, we are not quite there...yet!



If you are able to support this phenomenal program, **Mail a check to:**  
Catherine Greenspan  
Tech Trek Fundraising Coordinator  
AAUW-Las Cruces  
PO Box 6572  
Las Cruces, NM 88006-6572

**Be sure to:**

- Make your check payable to AAUW;
- Include *Tech Trek-New Mexico* in the memo line.

**Another option is to donate online now.**

Follow the link below to donate online - be sure to select Tech Trek New Mexico under "Fund Name."

<https://ww2.aauw.org/program-gift/?treatment=TECHTREK>

**Tech Trek is not possible without the generous support of AAUW-NM members!**

**PUBLIC POLICY - EQUAL PAY DAY TUESDAY, APRIL 4**

A reminder - **Equal Pay Day** will be celebrated on April 4. Locally, there will be proclamations at both the County Commission and City Council meetings.

At the **Doña Ana County Commission** meeting, the proclamation will be read on Tuesday, **March 28**, at 9 am at the County Commission Chambers, 845 N. Motel Blvd, Las Cruces. At the Las Cruces City Council, the proclamation will be read on Monday, **April 3**, at 1 pm, at the City Commission Chambers, 700 N. Main, Las Cruces.

Attend one (or both) of these meetings. Add your voice to AAUW members throughout the country speaking up for Equal Pay for women. Contact our Public Policy Chair **Christina Little** at [cslittle@zianet.com](mailto:cslittle@zianet.com) or at 373-1882 for more information.

### **START SMART AT NMSU on APRIL 4!**

**Our first presentation of the AAUW National Start Smart program for young women ready to graduate from college and negotiate salaries in the current job market will be held at NMSU (appropriately) on Tuesday, April 4.** By learning strategies and practicing effective language, participants gain valuable skills they can use throughout their lives - well beyond their next negotiation.

**AAUW-NM Co-President Sylvia Fink** will guide participants through AAUW's curriculum, which utilizes the latest research and negotiation strategies to help women navigate the complexities of job offers and promotion opportunities.

In every two-hour workshop, women can expect to learn

- About the gender pay gap, including its personal consequences
- How to quantify the market value of their education, skills, and experience
- How to conduct objective market research and determine a fair target salary
- How to create a strategic pitch and respond to salary offers

This is another way AAUW-LC can "pay it forward" - by helping the next generations of female leaders to get a step up as they begin their careers.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

**AAUW-LC has an AMAZING membership!** On this we all agree. Please continue to be a part of this organization that is as great for us as individuals as it is in serving the Las Cruces community.

**Don't forget to renew your 2017-18 membership by paying your dues by June 30.** See the article above to find how to do this.

### **WOMEN GRADUATES-USA**

Fifteen WG-USA members attended the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in NYC in March. What a challenge, especially for those unable to attend due to the U.S. travel ban and other anticipated travel blocks. Ironically, their topic selected a year earlier was "safe access to education for women and girls impacted by war and conflict" both at home and globally. GWI also addressed the 34th session of the



### **GIRLS CAN! 2017 at Doña Ana Community College**

Many of you AAUW members have worked on Girls Can! for years. Some of you reading this newsletter even started it 23 years ago! So you know how much of the work can be done ahead of time, and yet some things just need to be done in the week or two before the event.

What I had no idea would be on my list of things to do the last couple weeks: "Break my back." Technically, it is called a fractured vertebra. It happened two weeks before Girls Can! and I couldn't lift anything heavier than a toothbrush. I spent most of those two weeks going to doctors, etc. You know the drill.

I am pleased to say that **Londa Seiffert** stepped in without complaining and picked up the slack that my injury left in the organization. Londa was technically the volunteer coordinator and instantly became the event coordinator for the last couple weeks and the day of the event.

**I am proud of all of the Team Leaders of Girls Can! who worked throughout the year, right up to the day of the event to make sure everything went smoothly. Deanise Marta and Kathleen Cordova** worked on the outstanding slate of workshop presenters. Deanise and her assistant, **Michael Allen**, bought the food and organized the volunteers for the breakfasts. **Kay Brilliant and Kay Williams** led the capable School Contact Team through a most successful event, working with the school counselors throughout the year. **Donna Yargosz** translated the brochure into Spanish, assisted with the Parents' Workshop in Spanish and coordinated the goody bags. **Donna Rea** organized the Registration Team, including several new members. **Rorie Measure** took the concept of Parents' Workshops in two languages and made the idea a reality, with help from faculty and staff from DACC. **Beverly Chambers** organized a successful community fundraising event to help with expenses of Girls Can! as well as our other branch projects.





That's who helped organize the work. Now for a report on the event itself. On Saturday, March 11, the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Las Cruces branch, held its 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Girls Can! Career Exploration Conference for 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls from all over the county. For the first time, the **Dona Ana Community College (DACC) East Mesa Campus was the main partner and the location for this conference. More than 250 girls and 50 parents attended** the conference. It was exciting for the girls and their parents to be on a "real college campus." For \$5, each girl was given a T-shirt and attended a breakfast with music, a wake-up workout by NMSU female student athletes and a welcome address by **President Renay Scott of DACC**. Then the girls attended 3 workshops presented by professional women in the community. Thanks to these workshop leaders who are members of AAUW: **Bonnie Schranz** (theater), **Joy Goldbaum** (Law), **Rebecca Galves** (Computer Science), **Kathleen Cordova** (Dentistry), **Martha Mitchell** (Chemical Engineering), and **Cally Williams** (Pottery). These workshop leaders are not members of AAUW (not yet): **Jennifer Allred** (Aerospace), **Michele Nichiguchi** (Marine Biology), **Carol Calista** (Veterinary Medicine), and **Tracy Lopez** (Nursing).

At the same time as the student workshops, parents attended the Parents' Workshops which were planned and presented by DACC faculty and staff members under the leadership of Rorie Measure. These workshops included tips on communication, understanding social media, learning beyond high school, and a tour of the DACC campus. The Parents' Workshops were held in both Spanish and English. Rave reviews are still coming in about the Parents' Workshops!

**Girls Can! was powered by volunteers including AAUW members, DACC faculty and staff, Soroptimists, FEW (Federally Employed Women), student athletes and numerous student organizations from NMSU. These student groups from NMSU include the AAUW Student Branch, NSSLHA (National Student Speech Language Hearing Association), the Swim and Dive Team, and the Women's Volleyball Team.** Thanks to **Londa Seiffert**, Girls Can! volunteer coordinator, for recruiting these quality volunteers.

If you are new to AAUW and haven't yet experienced Girls Can! just visit the program in progress next year. Better yet, sign up to volunteer. The girls come to the conference shy and quiet, looking around for someone they know. When they leave at noon, they are smiling, laughing and

excited. They are excited about the things they learned about possible careers, the new friends they have made, and their futures that lie ahead. **We are making a difference.**

- Ann McCullough, Coordinator of Girls Can!

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE SUN-NEWS ARTICLE ABOUT GIRLS CAN! 2017](#)

## Of Note...

### **AAUW-NM 2017 STATE CONVENTION THIS MONTH** Friday, April 21- Sunday, April 23

**Hilltop Views: Advancing Innovation and Gender Equality** will be held in Los Alamos, NM at the Holiday Inn Express. The Convention Planning Task Force has created an exciting program for you, taking advantage of the scientific atmosphere, the ancient peoples of the Pajarito Plateau and the local geology. **All members are welcome!**

#### ***READ THE ROADRUNNER!***

**The AAUW-NM Roadrunner** newsletter is published quarterly. The Spring 2017 Roadrunner includes information about registration for the AAUW-NM State Convention.

Click on the link below to open and read the current issue:

<http://aauw-nm.aauw.net/files/2013/06/SPRING-2017-Roadrunner.pdf>

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An appropriate image taken from *Time* magazine's March 20 issue. The caption reads: Girl Power. A statue of a young girl standing her ground before Wall

Street's iconic Charging Bull was unveiled in NYC on March 7...the temporary installation for International Women's Day to address the lack of gender diversity on corporate boards and the gender pay gap.  
- photo from Getty Images

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