



**Girls
Can!**



Career Exploration Conference
for 6th Grade Girls
Saturday, March 14, 2015
Lynn Middle School
950 S. Walnut Ave.
Las Cruces, NM

Sponsored by the American Association
of University Women - Las Cruces
lascruces-nmaauw.net

Join Us For Girls Can! 2015 Saturday, March 14

Here we are just a couple weeks away from Girls Can! The event is **Saturday, March 14, at Lynn Middle School in Las Cruces, 8 am - noon.**

We are celebrating 21 years of Girls Can!, and that is something to celebrate!

If you don't have a specific volunteer job or are not a presenter this year, please come by anyway. If you have put in your

time for years and years and wonder what Girls Can! is like today, come see for yourself. And please join us for lunch afterwards. We'll talk about what it was like when Girls Can! first started. You can fill in the newer members like me!

If you are fairly new to the branch, please come to the breakfast and enjoy the welcome address by our own Julia Brown, Doña Ana County Manager and AAUW National Vice President, and also drop in on the workshops led by competent professional women, some of whom are our members!

I hope to see you there! Remember, Girls Can! changes lives. That's what we do and have always done! I hope to see you

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Upcoming General Meetings & Events

Saturday, March 14
8 am - noon
Lynn Middle School
GIRLS CAN!
Career Conference
AAUW and Community
Professional Women

Sunday, March 15
1 pm - location TBA
Farewell Luncheon
for Bonnie Eisenberg

Saturday, April 11 - 10 am
Location: Peace Lutheran Church
Restoration of the Rio Grande

there.

Best,

Ann McCullough

Coordinator for Girls Can!

From Co-President Bonnie Eisenberg

Dear Friends,

It looks like March will be my last month in Las Cruces. We have sold our house and have set March 31 as our moving date. I know what I will miss most about Las Cruces is all of the good friends I have made here, especially all of you in AAUW.

I joined AAUW Las Cruces when I moved here eleven years ago, because I knew it would be a great way to make friends and get involved in the community. AAUW has enriched my life in countless ways and I have many memories I will always cherish.

I am thrilled that Ann McCullough has taken over Girls Can!, as I know she will do a great job and continue this important event for the girls of Dona Ana County. I am comfortable that I am leaving the branch in very capable hands, and I know you will do great things, have fun, and continue to be a positive force in this community.



My new contact information is in the yearbook, and I am on Facebook, so you can keep in touch if you so desire. John and I are looking forward to starting a new chapter in our lives, but we will not forget our wonderful friends in Las Cruces.

Best Regards,

Bonnie

From Co-President Mary Rita Chapman

Dear Friends,

Ecosystem
Beth Bardwell, Audubon Society

Tuesday, April 14
Equal Pay Day

Tuesday, May 5 - 6 pm
Mountain View Regional
Medical Center cafeteria
Harvey Girls: Opportunity Bound
documentary film

JUNE - END OF YEAR PARTY

You're Invited!
Upcoming Event Hosted
by El Paso AAUW

Saturday, April 11
SCHOLARSHIP
FASHION SHOW

April 11 is slated for the El Paso Branch's semi-annual Scholarship Fashion show. The event is from 10 am - 2 pm, with fashion shows at 11 and 1. Also included are vendors-door prizes and a silent auction. All proceeds go to branch scholarship funds. This year the branch would like to give three \$1,000 checks to any deserving juniors or seniors enrolled in an accredited college or university.

Events take place at St. Paul's Methodist Church, 7000 Edgemere, El Paso.

For more information or reservations,
contact Alesia Griswold
915-691-9168 or
alesiagriswold@yahoo.com.

Do you have an article,

The next two months will be super-busy for many of our members.

Ann McCullough has everything organized for **Girls Can!** - be sure to read her article above.

As most of you know, **Bonnie Eisenberg** will be leaving us at the end of March. **A goodbye luncheon is planned on March 15 (Sunday) at 1 pm. Please save the date - more details will be sent out in an email.**

Our other active committee is preparing for **two forums scheduled for Friday, May 1.** We are trying to "get out the word" about the **New Mexico Fair Pay For Women Act.** The forums will be at the Dona Ana County Building. The 8 am session is for lawyers and employers, and a noon session is planned for working women and others interested. We are working out final details for the event but will **need your help.**

Signed into law by the governor in 2013, this legislation provides more protection to women than the current federal laws regarding pay equity. It prohibits wage discrimination based on an employee's sex and provides a state-based remedy for women who discover they are being paid less than men performing the same work.

Major points of the Act are:

- * Applies to employers with four or more employees*
- * Disallows reducing the wages of an employee to comply with the Act*
- * Allows a claim to be filed as much as two years from the last date of employment.*
- * Allows claim to be filed in court or with Human Rights Bureau.*
- * No fees for filing claim*
- * Prohibits retaliation against an employee for filing a claim or against anyone assisting an employee in filing a claim.*

INTEREST GROUPS

ANYTHING GOES BOOK GROUP

Anything Goes will meet at 1:30 on Monday, **March 9**, at the home of Shirley Armstrong. We will discuss Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson. For more information, please contact Julia Bruner at julesnewmexico@gmail.com or at 522-1685.

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ANYTHING GOES 2 - FICTION

Anything Goes 2 - Fiction will meet next on Monday, **March**

photograph or other information you would like to share with AAUW members in the OMV?

Please send it by email by the middle of each month to bonnie.schranz@gmail.com or call 575-640-8328

23, at the home of Denyse Johnson to discuss *Hard Country* by Michael McGarrity, light historical fiction set in Tularosa, NM. The group's coordinator, Shari Glassman, will be traveling during the next several months. Consequently, you can contact the hostess of the month, Denyse Johnson sourcefinearts@earthlink.net or 522-4618.

* Click on the link below to see and print out the group's reading selections for Jan- June, 2015.

[Anything Goes 2 - Fiction Reading List Jan - June 2015](#)

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DAYTIME BRIDGE - Second Thursday of each month
1 pm to approximately 4 pm.

Hostesses for up & coming games:

March 12 - Jo Bloom

April 9 -Mary Berry

EVENING BRIDGE

- Fourth Tuesday monthly, 7:15 pm.

March 24 - Shirley Armstrong

April 28 - Mary Berry

Contact: Carol Ann Council, 522-3313

email: kk-ca_council@msn.com.

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GOING PLACES

The next Going Places is a trip to the new BLM national monument, the **Prehistoric Trackways National Monument**. *This is a change from the originally planned trip*. Meet on **Thursday, March 19**, at 9:30 a.m. at the south end of the Rendezvous Café parking lot at Motel and Picacho. The hike will be led by geologist David Rea (Donna's husband). It will be approximately 1 - 1 1/2 miles up a rocky wash to the outcrops where the footprints are in evidence, so please wear the appropriate shoes. You can read about this location on the BLM web page: www.blm.gov/nm/trackways. Click on this URL and you will go directly to the webpage. Lunch will be at the Rendezvous Café, or if too crowded there at another nearby venue.

RSVP to Candis Stern candisjstern@gmail.com or 734-417-9428 by Monday, March 16.

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New Coordinator for Going Places is Still Needed!

A new coordinator for Going Places is still needed. If you are interested in taking over the position, contact Fran Plec at fplec@comcast.net or 202-5459.

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DINING OUT

Dining Out will be going back to Si Bistro on Idaho Avenue on Tuesday, March 17 at 5:30 p.m., even though it's not an Irish venue. Bring a guest and join the fun. Let Catherine Quinones know at quinonesc@aol.com if you plan on attending, at least

by the evening before the event so they will know how many servers to plan for.

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INTERNATIONAL DINNERS

The International Dinners group's next event will be held on **Saturday, March 21** at the home of Susie Ostrem. Mardi Gras is this month's theme.

STEM OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN - informative and inspiring!



Co-Programs VP Marsha Hokannen (left) joined February's speaker Becca Galves and Co-President Mary Rita Chapman prior to the meeting. Becca offered surprising facts about the status of women in STEM careers, both nationally and in the state. She made all of us believers in the power and the worth of our efforts to effect positive changes for women in the work force in the future.

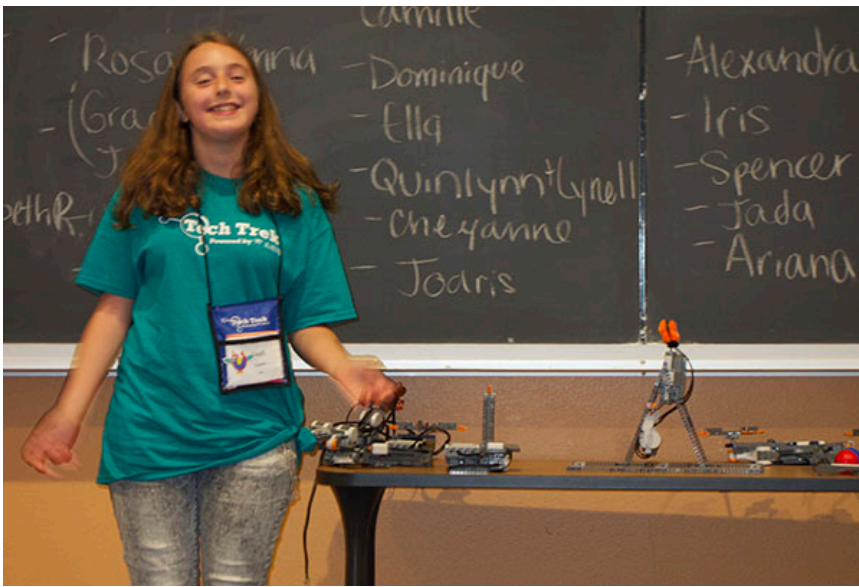


Carol Ann Council and Girls Can! Coordinator Ann McCullough discuss plans for this year's event coming up on Saturday, March 14.



Monthly general meetings are a great time to network with friends., including (l-r) Donna Rea, Mary Rita Chapman, Shari Gassman and Ieva Rasmussen.

UPDATE - TECH TREK 2015!



A smile of confidence and **accomplishment** from a participant of Tech Trek 2014.

New Mexico teachers were invited to nominate outstanding seventh grade girls by Feb 13, and **we received over 200 nominations for Tech Trek 2015. Twenty-two girls from the Las Cruces area have been nominated.**

Over the next three weeks, these girls will fill in applications and write an essay on "How you would use science or math to make the world a better place." In March, we will have many AAUW members interview the girls and their parents. Results of both of these steps will be input to the selection committee to choose the girls who will attend the camp.

So - how many girls will be chosen? That depends. Our fundraising has been very successful so far. We have received **\$5,000 grants from both Verizon and Sandia Labs/Lockheed Martin. Our Las Cruces branch has put up \$1,500 to match any contributions from our members, and we are very close to fulfilling this challenge.** Our budget for camp for 32 girls is \$31,000, and we have attained this.

But we would really like to have 48 girls be able to participate in this fabulous week of computer science and engineering, so our **ultimate goal is \$45,000.** We have grant requests in to several large companies, and we are very optimistic that with the generosity of our AAUW members and companies who support STEM, we will succeed in attaining this target.

Are you ready to contribute to make Tech Trek possible for 48 girls this year?

Send your check, made out to "AAUW", with "Tech Trek-NM" in the memo line - mail it to:

AAUW
P.O. Box 6572
Las Cruces, NM 88006

The Tech Trek Committee thanks you so much for your support!

***Mary Rita Chapman,
Tech Trek Fundraising Chair***

ALL ABOVE BOARD

The AAUW-Las Cruces Board meets on the first Monday monthly at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Co-President Bonnie Eisenberg. A new meeting site will be established after Bonnie moves to Colorado in April. **Meetings are open to all members.** Highlights of reports and actions of the meetings can be found in this column, based on Secretary Fran Plec's board minutes. The Board will meet next on **Monday, March 2.**

A new feature of the OMV will be to provide minutes from board meetings for members to read. The process is this: minutes are taken at each meeting. They are then sent to board members for input concerning additions/corrections. The minutes are then approved at the following month's board meeting. They will be added to the next OMV in a pdf link (see below), so what is provided here in the March OMV are the approved minutes from the January 2015 board session. To read them, simply click on the blue pdf link below.

[Minutes of the AAUW-LC Board meeting of Jan 5, 2015](#)

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

**Our membership continues to grow - we're up to 106!
To Membership Co-VPs Lynn Alford and LaJune Smith, "Well Done!"**

If you would like to print off a list of our new members (and their information) who joined after the 2014-15 Yearbook was published, simply click on the blue pdf link below:

[AAUW-LC New Members Sept 2014 - Feb 2015](#)

OF NOTE:

**AAUW-New Mexico
Annual State Convention in Santa Fe**

"Artists, Authors, & Advocates"
April 17-19, 2015
Santa Fe Drury Plaza Hotel

Speakers include:

National AAUW President Patricia Fae Ho
NM Supreme Justice Honorable Petra Jimenez Maes
Author and former CIA officer Valerie Plame

Bring a friend to attend the convention. All are welcome. They do not have to be AAUW members to attend. Make your hotel reservations by March 16 for the \$137/night rate for a room with two queen beds, hot breakfast included and happy hour snacks.

Santa Fe Drury Plaza Hotel
228 East Palace Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501
Phone: (505) 424-2175

MOVING SALE!

Bonnie Eisenberg will be moving at the end of March. She can't take everything with her. She will hold sales of furniture and other household items on **Saturday, March 7** and **Saturday, March 21** from 8 am - 1 pm. Call her if you need more information. 575-640-4361

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