



ORGAN MOUNTAIN VIEWS

ISSUE: 7 xxx VOL: XXIII

March 2019

Founded in 1923, the Mission of AAUW is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.



NOTE, there is no general meeting for AAUW Las Cruces members as most of us will be at Girl's Can, March 9

AAUW New Mexico State Convention Las Cruces April 26-28



Where can I.....

Meet AAUW's National Chairwoman, and
Learn how to fight for pay equity, and
Celebrate the XIX Amendment, and
Mix and Mingle with wonderful Women, and
Attend a banquet at the *Double Eagle*, and
Enjoy an evening by the Rio Grande River, and
Ask *women of the past* a question or two, and
Enjoy great food, and
Be myself, and
Have fun, and
Be respected.....?

**AAUW NM's State Convention
April 26 -28 in Las Cruces**

The Las Cruces Branch is hosting and we would love to have all of you join us. WE WANT YOU! WE NEED YOU! WE ARE STRONGER WITH YOU! The registration form, with detailed information about the convention, is [linked](#) below. Print, complete, and mail. Please bring a lap top if you have one. You will have

fun!

[NM AAUW Convention registration](#)

Can you offer a "Bed and Breakfast"?

Some of our out-of-town members would prefer a homey abode. Others may find the cost of a hotel prohibitive....Most just want your company. Our Branch would like to offer accommodations in our local members' homes. If you are willing and able to open your home and spare room to a visiting State AAUW member, please contact **Carol Ann Council** at 522-3313 or kk-ca_council@msn.com

From our President: Christa Slaton

The 2019 Winter Leadership Team Meeting

(LTM) was held February 10th in Santa Fe, followed the next day with Lobby Day at the State Legislature. We heard a presentation from Terrelene Massey, Executive Director of the Southwest Women's Law Center, on state legislative bills on Pregnant Workers Accommodations Act and Paid Family and Medical Leave Act. The Executive Director of Think New Mexico, Fred Nathan, shared some of the priorities of the nonpartisan advocacy organization, including HB77 which would require new dollars designated for funding in K-12 to go into the classroom rather than administration.



Sonya Berg, who heads the AAUW NM state **Lobby Corps** team, conducted a work session to educate us about the bills before the state legislature that are being supported by our organization. For AAUW-NM's policy and priorities click here: [AAUW NM Public Policy](#): Also, the document can be found on the state's website under **AAUW NM LINKS**, AAUW NM Public Policy Policies and Priorities. (editor: a link to the website is at the end of this newsletter) After the legislative update, **Carol Ann Council, Kathie Davis, Laura Bemis, Julia Bruner, Beverly Chambers**, and I went to our legislators' offices to inform them of AAUW's legislative priorities. The House of Representatives recognized AAUW members in their chamber when they presented a resolution declaring **February 11, 2019 as AAUW-NM Day**.

The AAUW-LC Board approved the 2019 Nominating Committee. **Rita Stopa** is chairing the committee, which also includes **LaJune Smith** and **Deanise Marta**. They are seeking nominations for a Co-President, two Programs Co-VPs, a Membership Co-VP, and a Secretary. Please share with them any nominations or interests you have for these positions.

Marsha Ogden has served very effectively in a wide number of leadership roles through the years, including serving as Co-Program VP this year and the Organizer/Convener of Great Decisions. She served as Nominating Chair last year and was diligent in recruiting new members to the Board. At our most recent Board meeting, Marsha tendered her resignation as Program Co-VP effective June 30, 2019. She expressed appreciation for having the opportunity to serve AAUW-LC and thanked **Julia Bruner** "for being the best Co-VP anyone could

wish for." I want all to know how much I have valued Marsha's dedication, reliability, candor, and counsel. She has never sought the limelight, but she truly shines in her accomplishments and contributions to our organization and its mission.

March is Women's History Month and March 8th is **International Women's Day**. It is also the month that AAUW hosts Girls Can! workshops for 6th graders to be held March 9th. Then on March 10th we spring forward to more daylight in the evening.

Special Request: I would really appreciate it if some of our members would be willing to take a few photos at our meetings and events for our OMV newsletter, Facebook page, and press releases. If you are willing to help out, please contact me by email at slatocd@nmsu.edu

Thank you, each of you, for your support of our organization and mission. It is truly valued.

A Member's view: 2019 AAUW Legislative Day

On February 11 six of our branch members (**Christa Slaton, Kathie Davis, Carol Ann Council, Beverly Chambers, Laura Bemis, and Julia Bruner**) were in Santa Fe, contacting legislators, being recognized on the House floor, and generally seeing our state government at work.



We met in the Roundhouse with other AAUW members from around the state and were given a list of bills that were top and secondary priorities for AAUW. The Public Education Changes (**House Bill 5** and **Senate Bill 1**) bill was perhaps the most important one discussed, particularly due to the lawsuit (Yazzie v. State of New Mexico) which charges that New Mexico is failing to provide sufficient education for all students. Another priority for some was **House Bill 51**, which seeks to decriminalize abortion in New Mexico.

For some of us, this was a first visit to the Roundhouse and we were impressed by the beauty of the building and its decor from around the state. We also learned that our legislators are available to us and want to hear from us. It was exciting when we ran into **Merrie Lee Soules** coming out of an elevator, as we had just listened to and been inspired by her on the previous Saturday at our general meeting.

I think we all thought the trip was worthwhile, and would encourage others to visit the Roundhouse whenever they are able. These are our representatives and they work for us!



Girls Can! is almost here!

Have you heard? There's going to be a great event on Saturday, March 9th at the Dona Ana Community College, East Mesa Campus!

Did you know that YOU are invited? Just join us at 7:30 AM to meet and greet the 6th grade girls from Dona Ana County. Meet and greet the presenters bringing their expertise and hands-on skills to their sessions. Meet and greet the parents who will be attending the parent's workshop. Meet and greet the many volunteers from around the Las Cruces area. AND meet and greet our many AAUW friends.

If you have not signed up to attend/volunteer, please do so ASAP. Just call or email **Londa Seiffert**, 522-3905 or londarenae@gmail.com, and let her know that you are coming! We would love to see you and find something for you to do to support this community project!

Can't make it? You will be missed! You can still help! Just put a check into the mail to AAUW Las Cruces Branch PO Box 1081, Las Cruces, 88004-1081. Join us with whatever support you can.

We are proud to be presenting the **25th GIRLS CAN!** community project this year. Come and help us celebrate our future leaders! We know that they are special and worth our efforts to impact their lives. And we know that GIRLS CAN!

Top photo is from a Medical workshop, facilitated by AAUW members **PJ Coney** and **Julia Bruner**, as the girls learn about blood pressure measurements. The photo to the right is from a Dental workshop where the girls learn oral hygiene. Come be a part of this fun day!



Interest Groups



If you wish to join an Interest Group, contact the Coordinator for the specific group. Some groups are "full" but you can get on a waiting list!

Anything Goes Book Group

Anything Goes book group will meet at 1:30 pm on Monday, March 11 to discuss **JELL-O Girls, A Family History** by Alli Rowbottom. We will meet at the home of **Jacque Schur**. For more information, please contact **Julia Bruner** at 522-1685 or julesnewmexico@gmail.com

Anything Goes Fiction Book Group

Anything Goes Fiction Book Group will discuss **Hillbilly Elegy** by J.D. Vance at the home of **Kay Williams** at 1:30 pm, on Monday, March 25th. Anyone who's not a part of the group but would like to join us, may contact Kay at 521-9279 or kwilliams48@msn.com.

Daytime & Evening Bridge Schedule

Our branch hosts two Bridge groups. Newcomers are always welcome! To join one or both, contact Carol Ann Council at 522-3313 or kk-ca_council@msn.com

The AAUW day-time bridge group meets on the **2nd Thursday of each month** at 1:00 pm to approximately 4:00 pm.

Mar 14 Lavita Costley

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

Feb 26 Shirley Armstrong

Mar 26 Lavita Costley

Great Decisions

Great Decisions will meet on March 25 at 2:30 pm in the Roadrunner Room at Branigan Library. **Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future?** will be the discussion topic.

Laugh and Learn Spanish

Spanish I, II, III is being taught by Donna Yargosz, however the classes are full. If you are interested in attending in the future, contact Donna at 312-2145 or yargoszdonna@yahoo.com

Dining Out

Dining Out on March 28 will be at *Le Rendez-Vous Cafe* featuring French food at 1:00 pm at 2701 W. Picacho Ave. Bring a friend if you wish and let **Cathy Quinones** know by the night before if you plan on attending at 526-2454 or quinonesc@aol.com.

International Dining

The next AAUW International Dinner will take place on Saturday, March 2 at the home of **Deanise Marta**. The theme is *Mardi Gras*, and the menu is Creole/Cajun. The number of participants has already reached the seating capacity of the hostess's home. If you would like to place your name on the waiting list, or would like copies of the evening's recipes, please contact Deanise at dxmarta@msn.com. Please refer to the next OMV for information on upcoming dinners.

Going Places

The April Going Places trip to Deming has been moved to Thursday, May 16, to avoid possible conflicts with Easter travel and the state convention the following week. Details to follow in the April and May OMVs.

Chinese Mahjong

Meets every Wednesday from 3:00 to 5:00 pm at the home of **Rita Worrell**. Newcomers are welcome. It is not a difficult game to learn!!! Contact **Rita** at ritaworrell@gmail.com or 571-4363.

Remember you can contact an Interest Group host or coordinator by clicking on their email (in [blue](#)) or by calling the phone number listed. Please do not "show up" at an event, as hosts need a "head count" and some groups have written material.



Your elected and appointed Board of Directors meets monthly on the 1st Monday from 9:30-11:30 am at Peace Lutheran Church. **All** members are welcome to attend. This is a good way to find out more about our Board of Directors operations if you are considering a Board seat. Remember what Merrie Lee said at our January meeting, "Get involved if you want change and contribute!" We want and need YOU!! If you are interested in one of the upcoming Board seats, contact **Rita Stopa** at 522-4550 or rstopa@comcast.net

Membership



Our current members have been busy recruiting....we have **14** new members so far and the membership year extends to June 30, 2019. New during January and February:

Judy Long joined 1/12/2019

Ph.D., Social Psychology, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Kimberly D. York joined 2/9/2019

M.A., Social Admin./M.A., Nonprofit Organizations
Case Western Reserve Univ., Cleveland, OH

We now have **119** members thanks to your recruiting!

Membership Dues Clarification--

The **Shape the Future** membership campaign is an AAUW recruitment tool for current members to offer a discounted rate to prospective members. With this campaign, new members pay just 50 % of the national dues rate, a reduction of \$29.50, when they join AAUW at an AAUW event between September and March 15th. Branches also earn one free national membership to give away for every two newly recruited members, with a maximum of three free memberships annually. This year we have earned our three free memberships. 10 new "Shape the Future" members took advantage of this dues reduction. Congratulations members! Beginning on March 16th and thereafter **new members** can join for the remainder of this year and for all of next year through June, 2020 for \$97.

Existing Members will renew by June 30th for the coming year, July 2019 through June 2020, for \$97.

Communications

Many of the comments from the **Roundtable** discussions last Spring focused on Communication with membership. In addition to the Organ Mountain Views, OMV, we maintain a Website and Facebook page. Also, from time to time you will receive an email from either **Christa Slaton**, our President or **Kathy Cooke**,

our Email coordinator.

[AAUW Website](#) is maintained by **Becca Galves**. Contact her for comments or questions or additions. *(click on link above: "AAUW Website")*

A [Facebook](#) Page for AAUW LC is maintained by **Lydia Hammond**. Be sure to like our page so you will get updates. *(click on link above: "Facebook")*



[DONATE](#)

Donate to Tech Trek online!

AAUW Tech Trek NM, our summer STEM camp, is funded almost entirely with donations and grants. A [recent update](#) to the Tech Trek website, techtrek-nm.aauw.net now allows donations to be made online. Tech Trek is a 501(c) 3 organization; your donation is tax deductible. Please put Las Cruces Branch in the "notes" section. Click on the link to the left: DONATE

Donate Plastic Bottle Caps

Carol Ann Council is collecting **plastic bottle caps** (any kind) for cancer. One of Carol Ann's employees takes them to St. Genevieve's Church where an individual from Mexico comes once a month to collect them. He takes them back to Mexico where the funds from the caps are used for **cancer projects** – dialysis, prostheses, treatments, etc. This is an on-going project. Carol Ann is willing to collect the caps from members at any AAUW function. You may contact Carol Ann at kk-ca_council@msn.com or 522-3313.



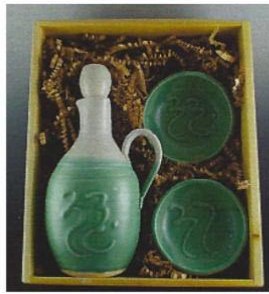
Carol Ann expresses her gratitude to all those who brought her plastic bottle caps during the past several months, especially **Martha Mitchell** & her student group who collected two huge garbage bags full. They did a campaign around the NMSU campus & students happily contributed. Way to go!! Please keep up the kind work.....this collection has no end (at this time).

Happy Spring!!

Thinking of you.....



Please contact **Judy McGuire** by phone (575-932-9905) or email: judymcguire2@gmail.com when you hear of another AAUW-LC member who would appreciate a card from AAUW-LC to cheer her up, provide condolences, offer congratulations or "get well" *(click **on the** email address as a direct link to your email provider)*



*Cally Williams Pottery
331 Capri Arc, Las Cruces, NM
575-526-5250 callwill@hotmail.com*

Comments and questions

If you wish to advertise in our newsletter, please contact **Judy McGuire** by email. The cost is \$50/year. If you have suggestions for our newsletter or would like to see changes, please also contact **Judy McGuire** at: judymcguire2@gmail.com

Thank you for reading



AAUW-LC, PO Box 1081, Las Cruces, NM 88004

Las Cruces Website

New Mexico Website

National Website