



ORGAN MOUNTAIN VIEWS

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September 2019



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

This is the first issue of our Newsletter for the year. Remember to "click on" any blue, underlined text for a website or to send email.

HUNGER ACTION MONTH™



September AAUW LC Meeting

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, **September 14** at Peace Lutheran Church, (1701 Missouri Ave.) for the first AAUW Las Cruces General Meeting this year. Socializing starts at 9:30 AM, with the meeting from 10-11:30.

You will get information regarding various AAUW programs for the upcoming year and have the opportunity to sign up for interest groups and outings. The **2019-2020 Yearbooks** will be available for pick-up.

September is ***Hunger Action Month*** so our program will focus on what we can do to help families in our community fight hunger. Lorenzo Alba, Executive Director of Casa de Peregrinos will talk about the work of his organization which is celebrating 40 years of feeding the hungry. We also welcome Michelle Saenz-Adames, PhD, Director of Jardin de los Ninos. She will tell us about their work with homeless and near-homeless children.

We ask that you bring a non-perishable food item to donate to these

From our President: Christa Slaton

Welcome to our 2019-20 year of AAUW-LC meetings and activities. This is also the year that we are celebrating the centennial anniversary of the ratification of the **19th Amendment** granting women the constitutional right to vote. In some ways we have achieved enormous change to improve the opportunities for women. But there remains much to accomplish to truly achieve “gender equity for women and girls.” Thank you for your commitment to this mission.

Co-Program Vice Presidents, **Anne Hubbell** and **Linda Bennett** have planned an exciting and informative series of programs for our General meetings, including a focus on Hunger & Homelessness, Philanthropy, Education, Women’s issues in China, and Health Issues. Our annual event for 6th graders, Girls’ Can, is planned for March 7th.

We are very pleased to announce that two of our members will be honored at the Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest, **Women of Distinction** luncheon on Tuesday, September 17th at the Farm and Ranch. **Julia Brown** and **Kay Brilliant** will receive this award on the basis of exemplifying the Girl Scout mission as women of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. If you are interested in attending the luncheon and being seated with other AAUW members, please send a check for \$40 to **Deanise Marta** and mail it to 6631 Vista Hermosa, LC 88007 by August 31st. For more information you can contact Deanise at 575-496-0192.

Another member **Dr. Martha Mitchell**, who presented at one of our meetings last year, has been named by the Engineering Honor Society, as its **14th McDonald Mentor**. The award celebrates excellence in mentoring and advising among Tau Beta Pi educators and engineers who consistently support the personal and professional development of their students and colleagues. Congratulations, Martha!

Many social activities and projects are being planned for the coming year that will give us opportunities to get to know one another, learn from each other, and broaden our experiences. We are also committed to creating a more engaging environment at our general meetings that allows opportunities to interact and discuss presentations. We look forward to seeing you at our first meeting on Saturday, September 14th at Peace Lutheran Church.

Christa Slaton and Laura Bemis, AAUW-LC Co-Presidents



August 26 is the 99th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution

The 2020 Suffrage Alliance is planning more events statewide to celebrate this milestone for women...stay tuned!

Special Going Places, October



On Thursday, **October 17**, we will gather for a **Lescombes Wine Tour.**" The winery tour will begin at the Las Cruces D.H. Lescombes Winery & Bistro at 1720 Avenida de Mesilla, with a Mimosa greeting. There will be a quick stop in Deming to stretch and wander. While visiting our family-owned vineyard, just east of Lordsburg, enjoy the services of personable, well-informed tour guides that will take you on a journey throughout 200 acres of lush wine grape vines. Enjoy a delightful lunch and wine pairing at the Lescombes' home on the vineyard. You will have an opportunity to taste vintage wines selected from the personal, underground wine cellar of patriarch Hervé Lescombes. Later at the winery in Deming, you'll tour our operational winery and be treated to a V.I.P. "wine tasting, straight out of the barrel".

I have been on many wine tours across this country and a few others countries as well. I can honestly say this is one of the most enjoyable. They kept us hydrated, fed and informed the entire day.

Total space is limited to 20-each member may bring a guest. The cost is \$69 per person. In addition to the tour, transport, stops, wine, and feedings, coupons for a free wine flight, meal discount and case discount is distributed. We meet in Mesilla at 8:30 and return around 5:30.

It will be necessary to pay in advance (check or cash) and once the twenty have signed up, there will be no more space. As I am required to pay in advance as well, there will be no refunds, but you are free to "sell" your spot-just let me know. If you have questions or wish to make your reservation, please contact me at 575-343-2977 or email **Luanna Metzgar** at tilasmom@gmail.com. Reservations will close on September 10 or when the 20-capacity has been reached, whichever comes first.

Interest Groups



Anything Goes Book Group The Anything Goes! Book group will meet on Sept. 9 at the home of **Mimi Roddy** to discuss "Fascism, A Warning" by Madeline Albright. We meet at 1:30 pm. For further info contact **Anne Chase** at achase202@gmail.com or 336-749-6384.

Anything Goes Fiction Book Group Anything Goes Fiction Book group will meet at the home of **Linda Bennett** on Monday, Sept. 16 at 1:30 p.m. to discuss "Paris in the Present Tense" by Mark Helprin. Contact **Kay Williams**: kwilliams48@msn.com or 575-521-9279.

Daytime & Evening Bridge Schedule

Daytime Bridge Meets at members homes the 2nd Thursday each month from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Sept 12 - Paula Bennett

Oct. 10 - Mary Berry

Evening Bridge meets at members homes the 4th Tuesday each month (except December) at 7:15 p.m.

Sept 24 - **Ann Kaiser**

Oct 22 - **Mary Berry**

Contact Carol Ann Council for more information or to join a Bridge group:

kk-ca_council@msn.com or 522-3313

Great Decisions Next meeting is Monday, Sept. 23, at 2:30 p.m. at Branigan Library. We will discuss Cyber Conflict

Contact: **Marsha Ogden** marshaogden@yahoo.com 532-5466.

Laugh and Learn Spanish Learn to understand and speak advanced Spanish in a fun, relaxed, non- threatening atmosphere. All classes meet weekly at Peace Lutheran Church. Spanish III class meets on Wednesdays, 10:30- 11:30 a.m., Spanish IV meets on Wednesdays from 1:00-2:00 p.m., and Spanish II meets on Fridays at 12 noon. (No Spanish I this year)

Contact: Donna Yargosz yargoszdonna@yahoo.com 575-312-2145.

International Dining September Gourmet Dining will take place at the home of **Deanise Marta** on Saturday, September 21, 5:30 p.m. The theme is **Fall Flavors**. This will be an organizational meeting to plan the 2019-2020 events, accompanied by delicious food. Spouses and partners are welcome.

Going Places See full article above for details on the winery tour, October 17.

Reservations due Sept 10 Contact: **Luanna Metzgar** at tilasmom@gmail or 575-343-2977.

Chinese Mahjong Have you always been curious about the ancient game of Mahjong? Have you always wanted to learn to play? Summer is an excellent time to explore this fascinating game. We meet weekly on Wednesday at the home of **Rita Worrell** from 3-5 pm. Instruction is available and all necessary game equipment is supplied. Call or email Rita at 575-571-4363 or ritaworrell@gmail.com for further information.

Want to know more about an Interest Group?

Contact the named "**contact**" for each Interest Group described above. Interest groups offer an opportunity to get to know other AAUW LC members in a more relaxed and informal environment. All are welcome.

All Above Board

Your elected and appointed **Board of Directors** meets monthly on the 1st

Monday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Peace Lutheran Church. All members are welcome to attend. This is a good way to find out how AAUW as an organization operates. Note: The next Board meeting will be Aug 26th (first Monday in September is a holiday)

Future board meeting dates will be published in the **Yearbook** to be distributed at the September meeting.

Welcome our newest AAUW LC member:

Patty Craven

2584 Centennial St

Las Cruces, 88011

559-284-3795

pcraven@gsdsw.org

MBA

University of Phoenix

Volunteer Opportunity

In December of 2018 Las Cruces Branch members donated gift items and time to help **Sierra Middle School** with its **Christmas Market** for the neediest students.



These students came to the “market” room where they selected one donated gift item for each member of their household. Our members wrap and tag the items for pickup at the end of the school day.

This is a very heart-warming event because with our help, we guarantee that there will be gifts under the family tree.

In four days we served about 125 students in need!! That is wonderful, but we did seriously deplete the number of gift items and wrapping supplies. We hope that you can help replenish both items and supplies.

At the September, October, and November general meetings, there will be a table where you can drop off new or gently used inexpensive items or supplies. It's a good opportunity to clean out your closets and do a good deed at the same time. A list of suggested items for women, men, older teen boys and girls, and children will be available at the **September** general meeting. For supplies, we especially need tissue paper, bows, stick-on tags, and Christmas or winter bags. Leftover, partial packages are fine.

In **October** we will ask for volunteers to serve a two-hour shift on the days of the market (TBA, but in mid-December). No experience necessary, and you may volunteer for more than one shift.

Contact: **Donna Yargosz** at 575-312-2145, or email yargoszdonna@yahoo.com.

Have you considered getting involved with AAUW at the State level? The following appointed 1-year positions are open.

AAUW NM Leadership Team (contact Beverly Chambers, flagbab@mac.com or Sylvia Fink, sjsfink@gmail.com) For job descriptions, see AAUW NM Policy Manual Vol II on website:

aauw-nm.aauw.net

AAUW Funds Chair

Nominations Chair

Public Policy Chair

Media Relations Chair

Donate Your 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.



Contact Carol Ann at kk-ca_council@msn.com or 522-3313.

Please keep up this kind work.....this collection has no end (at this time)

\$\$\$Equal Pay for Women\$\$\$

AAUW Applauds House Passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act and needs your help passing the Senate version.

"By passing this important bill, the House of Representatives has demonstrated its commitment to the economic security of American women and their families. We know there is a pay gap for all women, at every age, in every part of the country, and in nearly every industry. The gap has closed by less than a nickel in the 21st century, and it's obvious that something needs to be done to ensure families can thrive."

"The Equal Pay Act of 1963 was a powerful first step, but the law has been weakened over time as the workforce demography has changed. We need new tools to fight discriminatory pay practices, and we need effective incentives and assistance to help employers comply with the law. The Paycheck Fairness Act provides these tools by closing loopholes in the Equal Pay Act and putting new protections in place for the benefit of all American workers. Its passage is long overdue."

"We urge the Senate to follow the House's lead and act now to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. We can't wait any longer for equal pay."

Remember to contact our NM Congressional Senators to

support **S 270**, (Senate version) Paycheck Fairness Act:

Heinrich, Martin - (D - NM)

Class I

303 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington DC, 20510

(202) 224-5521

Contact: www.heinrich.senate.gov

Udall, Tom - (D - NM)

Class II

531 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington DC, 20510

(202) 224-6621

Contact: www.tomudall.senate.gov

Communications

Many of the comments from the 2018 **Roundtable** discussions 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. Be sure to like our page so you will get updates. *(click on link above: "Facebook")*

Of Note.....

Louise Drlik, prominent music educator in Las Vegas, New Mexico who influenced the lives of thousands of students, passed away peacefully at age 96 on July 1, 2019, in her home in Montezuma, New Mexico.

A memorial service will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 715 National Ave., Las Vegas, New Mexico on Saturday, **September 14, 2019 at 2:00 pm.**

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to AAUW Tech Trek New Mexico at **:techtrek-nm.aauw.net**



Thinking of you.....

Please contact **Judy McGuire** by phone (575-932-9905) or email: judymcguire2@gmail.com when you hear of another



AAUW-LC sister 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)

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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 other changes, please also contact **Judy McGuire** at:
judymcguire2@gmail.com

Thank you for reading



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

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