

## ORGAN MOUNTAIN VIEWS

ISSUE 11 : VOL: XXVIII

October, 2024



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

*NOTE: If reading this in email or online, click on [view entire message](#) when you get to the end, as the OMV may be "clipped."*

*\*\*\*Also, remember that words [underlined in bright blue](#) are links to click on for additional information.\*\*\**

*Karen Dumont, Editor  
Judy McGuire, Photo Editor*

### General Meeting

Our speaker for October is Dr. Dulcinea Lara. She is the Director of the Borderlands and Ethnic Studies Program and Associate Professor in the Criminal Justice Department at New Mexico State University.



Dr. Dulcinea Lara was born and raised in a colonia in Southern New Mexico by parents who both have multiple-generations worth of roots in these lands. She holds a doctorate in Comparative Ethnic Studies from the University of California at Berkeley.

She is the inaugural department head of the Borderlands and Ethnic Studies Department, a department struggled for by community, students, and faculty at NMSU since the late 1960s. Her research and public-facing work is multi-faceted and trans-disciplinary. It includes the co-creation of an Ethnic Studies museum exhibition, Pasos Ajenos; K-12 Ethnic Studies curriculum development in partnership with educators, students, and the New Mexico Public Education Department; a Peoples of New Mexico film series; and most recently a piece co-authored with her colleague, Manal Hamzeh, titled "Struggle on Struggle: Rooting in Ancestral Fugitive Resistance Victories to Build an Ethnic Studies Sumud Movement in New Mexico" a reflection work that builds land-based solidarity between Palestinians and New Mexicans in shared struggle.

Dr. Lara's areas of interest include visual cultural studies, decolonial studies in service to understanding Borderlands colonias, and museum and representation studies at NMSU.

We look forward to meeting Dr. Lara and learning more about her work.

*RoseAnn Hernández & Tricia Brainard, Programs Chairs*

**From our Co-Presidents**  
**Donna Yargosz and Lynette**  
**Schurdevin**



Fall is always such a busy time, what with fine weather, lots of sports and activities, and lots of festivities. This year, of course, we have a huge election on Tuesday, November 5. AAUW-LC remains non-partisan, which means we should be careful not to confuse branch matters and political comments. Our members may have differing political views, and we should be aware of not imposing our own views as if they have come from AAUW at any level. But it is completely non-partisan to urge our members to vote, however you do that: early in-person, mail-in ballot, or voting in person on the day.

There will be plenty of resources, including League of Women Voters materials and forums. Please exercise your right to vote; it is a keystone of our Republic.

*Donna Yargosz and Lynette Schurdevin, Co-Presidents*



**PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE**

AAUW-Las Cruces Co-Sponsored Election Forums and Election Information

The League of Women Voters of Southern New Mexico is hosting two non-partisan candidate forums in October. AAUW-Las Cruces is co-sponsoring these forums, along with the NAACP Doña Ana County. For more information, contact Beth Bardwell, Vice President of the League of Women Voters of SNM, at [betbardwell@gmail.com](mailto:betbardwell@gmail.com).

The first forum is on **Tuesday, Oct. 1** at the Las Cruces City Hall Council Chambers from 5:30-7:30. This forum will be for the candidates for county commissioners (Districts 2, 4, & 5), county clerk, and district attorney.

The second forum will be on **Tuesday, Oct. 8** at Las Cruces City Hall Council Chambers from 5:30-7:30. This forum will be for candidates for State Senator (Districts 36 & 38) and State Representative (Districts 34, 36, & 53).

## **Election Information**

### Important dates

Oct. 8-Nov. 2 Early in-person voting  
Oct. 22 Absentee (mail-in) ballot request deadline  
Nov. 5 Election day  
Nov. 5, 7 pm Absentee ballots must be received by this time

### Government Resources

To find your voter registration information and districts, how to register to vote, voting locations, and sample ballot, go to one of these sites:

New Mexico's voter information portal: [nmvote.org](http://nmvote.org)  
Doña Ana County Clerk Elections Bureau: [donaanacountyelections.com](http://donaanacountyelections.com)

### League of Women Voters of Southern NM Voter Guide

In addition to giving information about voting, the non-partisan Voter Guide prints candidates' responses to questions about relevant issues. Printed copies of the Voter Guide will start to be distributed when early voting begins. You can also access the Voter Guide on [vote411.org](http://vote411.org).

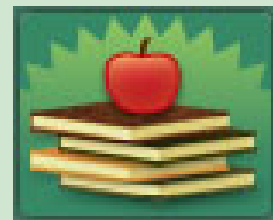
U.S. Senate 1 seat  
U.S. House All 3 NM seats  
State Senate All 42 seats  
State House All 70 seats

*Kate Mangelsdorf*, Public Policy Chair

## **ACADEMIC OUTREACH**

Did you know??

– AAUW-LC supports education and equity for girls and women in our area through several different programs. In addition to Girls Can! & Tech Trek, we administer and fund our own True Grit Awards and NCCWSL Scholarships. We also have an established NMSU AAUW-



LC Endowed Scholarship Fund that is funded by our members and administered through NMSU Foundation and NMSU Scholar Dollar\$ Financial Aid.

– **True Grit Awards** are for high school senior girls who have overcome obstacles to earn a high school diploma and plan to attend college or a technical school/program.

– **NCCWSL** (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) Scholarships are for NMSU female college students to attend the conference.

– **NMSU AAUW-LC Endowed Scholarships** are for undergraduate students at NMSU-LC and DACC who have completed at least one semester of college and maintain a 2.5 GPA with preference given to women pursuing STEM degrees.

– True Grit Award and NCCWSL Scholarship recipients are chosen each Spring by Selection Task Forces through an application process.

– Last year we were able to grant five \$500 True Grit Awards, three NCCWSL Scholarships (conference registration and airfare), and eight \$500 NMSU Endowed Scholarships.

– The amount and number of awards/scholarships that we give each year is determined based on our fundraising efforts. (NMSU Endowed Scholarships are based on the Earnings Fund holdings.)

Thanks to your generosity we are able to continue to help promote the wellbeing of young women in our community! If you are interested in being on a scholarship/award task force, please let me know!

*Londa Seiffert, Academic Chair*



## **DEI OCTOBER DATES**

### Month Long Celebrations

- Breast Cancer Awareness Month - As one of the leading causes of cancer deaths in women, regular breast screenings are the first step toward not only prevention but early treatment of the disease.
- Filipino American History Month
- LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, queer) History Month
- National Disability Employment Awareness Month - advocates for those with disabilities and for inclusion in the workforce.
- Polish American Heritage Month
- Global Diversity Awareness Month – hopes to promote respect for all cultures. By taking time to learn about those around you, there becomes a better sense of understanding and acceptance.

## Daily Celebrations

- October 2-4 — Rosh Hashanah
- October 3-11 — Navratri
- October 9 – Indigenous People’s Day
- October 10 — World Mental Health Day
- October 11 — National Coming Out Day
- October 14 — Indigenous Peoples Day
- October 11-12 — Yom Kippur
- October 15 — Hispanic Heritage Month ends
- October 16 — International Pronouns Day- Being referred to as the wrong pronoun is a common discrimination that transgender or nonconforming people face. We can transform society by not only understanding different gender identity pronouns, but identity terms too.
- October 16-23 — Sukkot

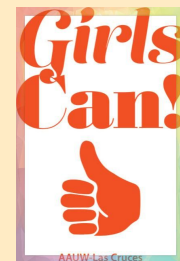
## **General Meetings: Reserved Table Up Front**

It has come to our attention that a number of members had difficulty hearing the speakers at the *General Meeting*. This may have been due to the arrangement of the room, problems with the microphone, and/or speakers not holding the microphone directly up to their mouths.

We would like to correct this situation by (a) having a table reserved up front for those who hear better that way, and (b) working on fixing the branch microphone. If we can’t fix it by October’s meeting, we implore all speakers to put the current microphone right up to your mouth and not drop it down to your neck or chest area. (We know: it’s easy to lower it, but please try to hold it up.)

## **Girls Can!**

We announced the dates of the **2025 Girls Can!** in last month’s *OMV*, but in the event you missed it, **Girls Can!** will be held on Saturday morning **March 1, 2025**, at The Dona Ana Community College (DACC) East Mesa Campus.



*Dona Ana County Sheriff Kim Stewart* along with *Undersheriff Tessa Abeyta* will provide this year’s 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls the opportunity to learn about women in law enforcement. Several other new offerings and many popular workshops from last year will make for an exciting day.

This year’s event occurring three weeks earlier than last, we have to crunch our timetable. We will need volunteers for a variety of tasks beginning this month. For example, T-shirts will need to be ordered soon. Registration material for Gadsden and Hatch needs to be updated and printed, and LCPS will require a re-design as, among other changes, Las Cruces students will register only online, and the district will be covering their tuition.

We also are looking to develop publicity specific to **2025 Girls Can!** that will get program information to households in the community while showing AAUW in a positive light. In short, we need a variety of assistance beginning now.

Of course, on March 1, 2025, we will need as many volunteers as possible. At the October meeting we will have signup sheets, but you also can call or email me directly: ohnsonjatp@gmail.com or 732.740.0463. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

*Pat Johnson, Girls Can! Coordinator*



## **LYNCH CREEK FARMS** **FUNDRAISER**

Hello AAUW-Las Cruces members! Our 'easy as pie' fundraiser is now available to you! Just go to:  
[lynchcreekwreaths.com](http://lynchcreekwreaths.com)

There, you will find a variety of holiday items. Because we have access early this year, you might find items for the Thanksgiving holiday as well as Winter celebrations. So, shop to your heart's content.

AAUW-LC receives 15% of purchases that are marked for fundraising. *Please note: not all items qualify for our fundraising efforts.*

Once on the website and you have made your selections (being mindful of items that qualify for our fundraiser) then go to check-out and enter the following **CAMPAIGN ID #9647911**

This company lets you select your preferred delivery date, has standard shipping costs, and allows you to send these lovely items directly to friends and family.

Order online, pay online, and your purchase ships directly to the address(es) you provide. It could not be easier. We know that with your support, we will meet our goal in no time. The deadline for this online fundraiser is December 15. There are wonderful items that sell out early, so *Ready, Set, Go!!!!*

The staff at Lynch Creek Farms are wonderful and friendly, so if you have questions, please do not hesitate to call them. The number is available on their website.

## **Donating ideas**

### **Trails West Holiday Bazaar Nov. 16**



AAUW-LC will have a table at the Trails West Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 16, from 10 am to 3 pm in the main Club House. Our members will be selling name tag lanyards, memory wire bracelets, DIY bead necklaces, and dichroic pendants and earrings.

This is always a good event to attend: nice items of all sorts at decent prices. Baked goods will be there (until they run out!). All proceeds from our table benefit our Scholarship Fund.

Trails West is at 1450 Avenida de Mesilla. From Valley or I-10, take Ave. de Mesilla toward Mesilla. The Trails West entrance is on the right before you get to Les Combes. From University, take Ave. de Mesilla past Calle del Norte, Andeles, and Motel Blvd. The Trails West entrance is past Les Combes on the left.

Also, Trails West is having a Rummage Sale on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 8 to 1.

## Membership Matters

We are happy to welcome three new members:

- Lissa Gardner
- Maria Florez
- Jennifer Burk

Please greet them and help them feel at home in our Las Cruces branch.

Consider bringing a guest to general meetings and Interest Group meetings (with an OK from the host). Our branch is the largest in NM.

Click here for a pdf of the [2023-2024 Membership Brochure](#) that you can give to prospective members.

*Barbara McGuffey & Michele Rasch*, Membership Co-VPs

## AAUW-LC PROGRAMS

Meetings are held on the second Saturday at the DACC Workforce Center, 2345 Nevada Ave. The program begins at **10:00 am** preceded by a "social time" from 9:30 - 10:00 am.

*RoseAnn Hernández & Tricia Brainard* Program Chair

## Interest Groups

Please use your Yearbook for member addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses.



**Anything Goes Book Group** will meet on October 14 at 1:30 pm to discuss *Lord of The Rings* by JRR Tolkien. Contact **Anne Chase**.

**Anything Goes Fiction Book Group** will meet on October 28 at 1:30 pm at home to discuss *The Golden Doves* by Martha Hall Kelley. Contact: **Judy McGuire**

**Bridge** Our bridge group will meet at 1:15 pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. Contact: **Carol Ann Council**

**Great Decisions** Contact: **Susan Hychka** for a briefing book and further details.

**Going Places** Contact: **Michele Rasch**. This is a renewed fun group that visits interesting local places!

**Chinese Mahjong** Hong Kong Style, or Chinese Mahjong, meets on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm at Rita Worrell's home. Instruction is available for beginners. Contact: **Rita Worrell**

**International Dining** meets periodically at member homes to enjoy a home-cooked meal and good conversation and will resume soon. Contact **Suzie Ostrem** to volunteer your home and cooking talent.

### 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.

### Thinking of you.....

When you learn of a member who has medical issues, personal loss, or a reason for celebration or recognition, please contact

**Judy McGuire** by phone or text at 575-932-9905 or email [judymcguire2@gmail.com](mailto:judymcguire2@gmail.com) so she can show our support with a personalized card. *(click on the email address as a direct link to your email provider)*



## All Above Board



Click here for your copy of the 2024-2026 elected and appointed leadership team.

[2024-2026](#)

Your elected and appointed **Board of Directors** meets monthly on the 1st Monday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.





## Work Smart Online

Increase Your Potential

<http://salary.aauw.org>



Order your personal Name Badge at [AAUW Name Badge](#). Just \$10.00.

(click on the underlined link)

### Other AAUW Membership Benefits

Access to member benefits at [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org) with your membership number assigned by AAUW and located inside the cover of your Yearbook. Benefits include discounts at UPS, Travel companies (Hertz, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Thrifty car insurance, Colette Tours, Cruises Only, TNT Vacations), and Insurance (Geico, Pet insurance, LTC Insurance, Identity Insurance, and others).

The AAUW website is also chock full of helpful information for girls and women including access to numerous scholarships and grants. For details, see [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org). (click the link)

### Communications

In addition to the *Organ Mountain Views* (OMV), we maintain a Website and Facebook page. All Branch emails will be sent by **Donna Yargosz**, President, and/or **Kathy Cooke**, Email Coordinator.

[AAUW-LC Website](#) is maintained by **Sonia Walterbos**. Contact her with comments, additions, or questions.. (click on the link above: "AAUW-LC Website")

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

*NOTE: There are three **green tabs** at the end of this newsletter that will take you directly to our website, AAUW NM website, and/or National AAUW's website.*

***Please, Support our Advertisers***

**Hand made Pottery**



by

**Barbara Williams**

Displayed at *Agave Artists Coop Gallery*, 2250 Calle de San Albino, Mesilla. Open: 11-5, Friday - Monday

(Item to the left is 4" Sugar Bowl with Lid)

**VOTED BEST  
ACUPUNCTURIST  
IN LAS CRUCES**



**BOOK ONLINE: CROSSROADSACUPUNCTURE.COM  
FULLY VACCINATED STAFF**

**Ryan Bemis**

**Acupuncturist**

**Doctor, Oriental Medicine**

[Comments and questions](#)

If you have suggestions or comments about the OMV or wish to advertise here (cost is \$50/year), please contact **Karen Dumont**, the editor.

[dumontkm@gmail.com](mailto:dumontkm@gmail.com)

Thank you for reading



Las Cruces (NM) Branch

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

[Las Cruces Website](#)

[New Mexico Website](#)

[National Website](#)

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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!