



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

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.

Our **November 9th** meeting program will feature a panel of NMSU women engineering students: Kylie Braunhardt (SWE President), Caroline Watson (SWE Vice President), and Summer Armillo-Rotunno (SWE Secretary) are officers with NMSU Society of Women Engineers (SWE).

Neyda Moreno and Daniela Reyes are also members of SWE and Danissa Ortega is the President of NMSU Society for Engineering and Physics. Neyda, Daniela, and Danissa (Dani) received AAUW-LC scholarships to attend NCCWSL, AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders last June in Washington, D.C. Kylie received one of the AAUW-LC NMSU

Endowed Scholarships for the 2024-2025 academic year.

They will all share their trajectory in the engineering field, including what piqued their interest in engineering, their research and internship experiences, and their career aspirations. Neyda, Daniela, and Dani will also share how NCCWSL impacted them, and Kylie will talk about how the endowed scholarship has impacted her.

We look forward to hearing from these amazing young women, our future leaders!

Londa Seiffert, Academic Chair

RoseAnn Hernández & Tricia Brainard, Programs Chairs



L to R Daniela, Neyda, Danissa



L to R Summer, Caroline, Kylie

From our Co-Presidents

Donna Yargosz and Lynette Schurdevin



We're not sure if the temperatures will ever drop, except at night. The early mornings are very nice, thank goodness. On the other hand, there is enough pumpkin spice this and that around that Fall must surely be here.

Several of us have come down with Covid (again!), so please take care of yourselves and get your vaccinations (plural - we are feeling like pincushions).

Please be sure to vote, one way or another.

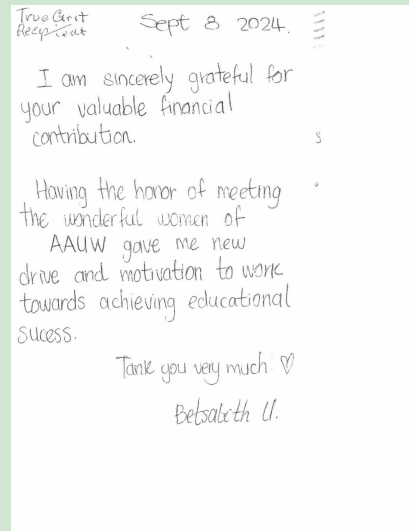
And finally, Fall is a busy season, but please take a moment to read all the articles in the Organ Mountain Views. There is a lot going on!

Donna Yargosz and Lynette Schurdevin, Co-Presidents

2024 Holiday Luncheon Announcement

Our annual Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for December 14th at the DACC Workforce Center at 11:30 am. The deadline for signing up and paying the \$20 is December 9th. We will have a signup sheet at the November meeting. More information will be sent via "e-blast" meeting reminder on the 1st of November.

RoseAnn Hernandez and Tricia Brainard, VP Programs



ACADEMIC OUTREACH

This note of thanks was received (reprinted above) from one of our 2024 True Grit Award recipients. Betsabeth learned English as a second language in high school and is now a Freshman at NMSU pursuing a degree in Computer Science.



Don't miss the November 9th meeting! The program will be presented by members of the NMSU Society of Women Engineering students, some of whom received AAUW-LC scholarships to attend AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) and one who received an AAUW-LC NMSU Endowed Scholarship. They are inspiring young women!

In this month of Thanksgiving, we are GRATEFUL FOR OUR MEMBERS and for your generosity in supporting our scholarships and awards programs!

"What if, today, we were grateful for everything?" - Charlie Brown

Londa Seiffert, Academic Chair

LYNCH CREEK FARMS
FUNDRAISER



Hello AAUW-Las Cruces members! Our 'easy as pie' fundraiser is now available to you! Just go to: 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.

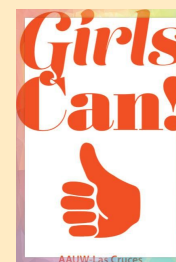
Order online, pay online, and your purchase ships directly to the address(es) you provide. It could not be easier. We know that with your support, we will meet our goal in no time. The deadline for this online fundraiser is December 15. There are wonderful items that sell out early, so *Ready, Set, Go!!!!*

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.

Kay Brilliant, Co-ordinator

Girls Can!

Girls Can! March 1, 2025



From a big picture perspective -- and I might be prejudiced -- I think that *Girls Can!* is not only an important project of AAUW-LC, but the most important program of all those offered by clubs and service organizations in Dona Ana County.

In the short term, girls who participate get to meet other sixth graders from the county, get a firsthand view of the Dona Ana Community College East Mesa Campus, and walk away with a new T-shirt, a backpack, and SWAG. In short, they have a fun time and get things. Big Deal! You might say.

It is the long-term benefit that prompts my thinking. Through participating in hands-on workshops and meeting professional women, 6th-grade girls are given a bold new picture of their future and, consequently, our community's future. With opportunities envisioned from attending *Girls Can!* these girls may see possibilities that they could never even imagine; their world changes and enlarges.

We are deeply grateful to all the AAUW members who have supported in past years. Thank you! To those who can lend a hand for this year's program, please send me a note. See your Yearbook for my email and phone number, Hold the date, March 1, 2025, to volunteer at *Girls Can! 2025*; the sixth graders who attend need us.

Pat Johnson, Girls Can! Coordinator

Membership Matters

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

Guests will be offered the opportunity to join at any official AAUW general meeting or event to receive a one-time 50% discount on NATIONAL Dues through the AAUW National "Shape the Future" (STF) campaign. Since this discounted **\$74 total annual dues payment** must be received at the event/meeting, please suggest that your guests bring a CHECK or CASH with high hopes they will want to join!

Mona Trempe and **Maryellen Kebbel**, guests of **Pat Johnson**, both joined at the October AAUW LC meeting using the Shape the Future discount.

Our regular Annual Dues are \$110: National (\$72)/State (\$18)/ Las Cruces Branch (\$20).

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

If there are any questions, feel free to contact Membership Co-VPs for Membership:

Barbara McGuffey & Michele Rasch , Membership Co-VPs

Communication Notes

The Organ Mountain Views (OMV) may be shared with non-members, thus the Board decided that it will not contain any identifying information other than NAMEs of AAUW LC members.

In order for you to have more information about new members as well as changes to the member directory in the Yearbook, an "E-Blast" will be sent to all members with this information when there are updates.

Please remember that the Yearbook contains confidential information, so please guard your copy.

We use Constant Contact to distribute the OMV and Email to members. It is crucial that any changes to your email address is sent to the Membership VPs (Michele Rasch and Barbara McGuffey) and the Communication Chair (Judy McGuire).

Judy McGuire, Communications Chair

Fundraising

Reminder: **Trails West Bazaar Nov. 16**

This branch will have a table at the Trails West Holiday Bazaar on Nov. 16 from 10 to 3. It's a popular event, and parking can be tight. You may park up and down the streets of the community, but please don't block anyone's driveway. Be sure to stop by our table and say hello.

As mentioned already, we will be selling beaded name tag lanyards, beaded purse pulls, little DIY necklace baggies (as were in the Girls Can! backpacks), pendants and earrings, and special ice dyed t-shirts. No donations are needed.

Oh No! December Already???

Relax! We have a long way to go. However, lots of local organizations will soon start holding special events showcasing items for sale. Regular stores will also start to stock special holiday items. For example, *Grow New Mexico* at the Farm and Ranch Museum will showcase special New Mexico products for sale in late November.

At the December 14 luncheon, we will have our Silent Auction, which is always a popular event. Items up for bid come from our members. If you have cleaned out your house pretty well and have nothing special to donate, please consider a gift basket.

You could buy one ready-made, or put one together yourself. Baskets could contain self-care products, coffee or tea, Italian food, salsas and rubs, wine, chocolate, etc. etc. etc.

Watch for an announcement in late November or early December as to where you can drop off your donation, or we can pick it up from you.

Interest Groups

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

.....☪.....

Anything Goes Book Group will meet on November 11 at 1:30 pm to discuss *Have You Seen Luis Velez?* by Catherine Ryan Hyde. Contact: **Anne Chase**.

Anything Goes Fiction Book Group will meet on November 18 at 1:30 pm to discuss *The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post* by Allison Pataki. 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**

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

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.

Great Decisions is a national civic-education program sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA), a not-for-profit education organization established in 1918.

Each year, the FPA publishes a set of briefing papers that inspire learning about the world. Each topic is introduced by a subject matter expert, and the paper includes suggested discussion questions and links to further information. Here are the topics for 2025 –

- U.S. Changing Leadership of the World Economy
- U.S. - China Relations
- India: Between China, the West, and the Global South
- International Cooperation on Climate Change
- The Future of NATO and European Security
- AI and American National Security
- American Foreign Policy in the Middle East: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead

Group members enjoy sharing their thoughts and reactions, and together we learn more about the complicated world of which we are a part.

We welcome new members. Contact: **Susan Hychka**

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** so she can show our support with a personalized card.



All Above Board



Click here for your copy of the 2024-2026 elected and appointed Board of Directors

[2024-2026 Board of Directors](#)

Your elected and appointed **Board of Directors** meets monthly on the 1st Monday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Once the Board approves meeting minutes, they are made available to you by clicking on the [link](#) in the following month's OMV.

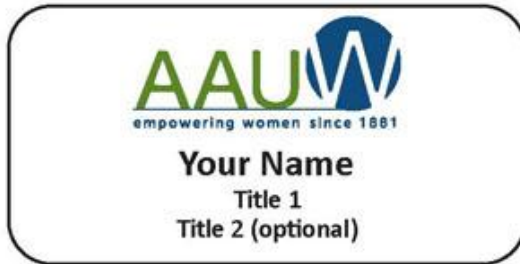
Click here for the latest [Board-approved minutes](#):



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Other AAUW Membership Benefits

Access benefits at [AAUW.org](#). Member benefits include discounts at UPS, Travel Savings Center companies, Avis and Budget rentals, LTC Insurance, Identity Insurance, and other perks, including a one-year free subscription to *Ms Magazine*.

The AAUW website is also chock full of helpful information for girls and women, including access to numerous scholarships and grants. See [AAUW.org](#).

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.*

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[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

Thank you for reading

AAU 
Las Cruces (NM) Branch

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

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