

## Los Alamos Branch AAUW August/September 2007

### Los Alamos Branch AAUW Fall Kickoff Catered Luncheon

Saturday, September 8, 2007

11:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Los Alamos National Bank

Featured speaker

Jill Cook, Senior VP LANB

Our annual fall meeting will be held at Los Alamos National Bank in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room. The bank is located at 1200 Trinity Drive. It is IMPERATIVE that you arrive prior to noon, when the bank closes. After that time you will not be able to enter the building. Take the elevator to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. The meeting room will be to your left as you exit the elevator. If you get locked out please call 662-5171 extension 1708, which is the number for the meeting room.

Our speaker will be Jill Cook, Senior Vice President and Chief Credit Officer for the bank. Her topic will be Leadership Skills. Ms. Cook was named a New Mexico Woman of Influence and recently finished Leadership New Mexico training. Jill has a Bachelor's degree in business as well as Master's of Business Administration degree from the University of Phoenix. She is a young woman who is quite accomplished and extremely active in the community. She will speak at 12:15 P.M..

We will start with a short business meeting at 11:30 A.M., followed by study group presentations.

Helena Whyte, the Los Alamos Branch facilitator will have information from the Phoenix Association Convention and Greg Mortenson's projects (author of *Three Cups of Tea*), and she will discuss the AAUW-NM public policy for this year. Information about Educational foundation/Legal Advocacy Fund and International Affairs will be presented.

A catered lunch will be served at 12:45 P.M. The menu is as follows:

Grilled Lemon Herb Chicken Breast	Cole Slaw
Garden Salad w/dressings	Berry, Berry good cake (similar to a shortcake)
Pasta Salad	Lemonade

Coffee and tea may also be available, compliments of the bank.

The cost will be **\$10.00 per person** and people will be able to have some of each, or choose just what they wish. If you intend to eat, then we must have a reply no later than **August 24, 2007**. Please send checks to me at the address below. They should be made payable to our caterer, Bianca Archuleta. At the very least please e-mail or call me if you intend to participate in the meal.

This meeting should be of interest to young woman climbing the corporate ladder, as well as to those women whom aspire to or who hold leadership roles in community organizations. I hope to see all of you there, and I hope we will have many invited guests.

Natalie Markin  
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## Branch News

The branch is planning an exciting schedule of Upcoming Programs:

**October 25**, 7pm, Mesa Public Library:

joint meeting with the Mesa Public Library Authors Speak program.

Judith Van Gieson is the author of thirteen mystery novels set in NM. Her first series featured Albuquerque lawyer/sleuth Neil Hamel. The protagonist of the second series, Claire Teynier, is an archivist and librarian at UNM. Books in both series have been regional and IMBA (Independent Mystery Booksellers Association) bestsellers. The *Shadow of Venus*, the fifth book in the Reynier series, was given the Zia Award from New Mexico Press Women for the best work of fiction by a New Mexico woman and was nominated for the Barry Award for the best paperback original of 2004. Van Gieson was awarded the Spirit of Magnifico Literary Award in 1996 and the Bravos Excellence in Literary Arts Award in 2002.

After graduation from Northwestern University, Judith worked in publishing in NY then lived in Vermont before deciding to devote herself full time to writing. She first came to NM in 1981 and now lives in Albuquerque's North Valley. She has taught creative writing at UNM and at the Taos Summer Writers Conference. In 2007 she will teach a master class in the crime novel at the Taos Conference.

**November:** Workshop entitled *Let's Read Math*, a program created by the Makefield, PA branch. It is aimed at children in grades K-4 to overcome a child's fear of math. We learned about this program at the National Convention.

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### \*LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

\*Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\*I am reserving \_\_\_\_\_ lunches at \$10.00 a piece

\*Total: \$\_\_\_\_\_. (Check enclosed)

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Our hope is that this program will attract some educators as well as parents and grandparents of young children. At the AAUW –NM leadership team meeting, our branch was awarded a \$100.00 mini grant to purchase the materials needed for the presentation of this workshop. Learn more about the program by visiting the website at:

[www.letsreadmath.com](http://www.letsreadmath.com)

**December:** EF Fund raiser/ Holiday Party at the home of Nina and Gary Thayer: possibly tapas, (Spanish appetizers), and wine along with a guitar player and/or vocalist. The Gourmet study group will be asked to research and prepare the recipes, perhaps with the help of other branch members. The added benefit is that we all get to see Nina and Gary's new home. There will be a charge which will be donated to EF/LAF.

**January 2 or 9, 2008:** Co-sponsor a Legislative Preview Session with the League of Woman Voters. The date will depend on Jeanette Wallace's schedule.

**January or February:** membership event.

**March:** Celebrate International relations with a panel discussion about Iran and perhaps Pakistan arranged by our International Chair, Cas Mason.

**April:** Program on issues related to pay equity.

**May:** Spring Membership Tea.

**Study Group Schedules** are posted at:  
[http://aauw-nm.org/los\\_almos\\_study\\_groups.html](http://aauw-nm.org/los_almos_study_groups.html)  
Study group chairs are asked to send schedules and any changes to Denise at [georgeje@acm.org](mailto:georgeje@acm.org)

*AAUW Non-Fiction Book Group:*  
The next meeting will be at Angela Coop's, 332 Aragon on Monday, September 17 at 7:30 pm. The book is *Island of the Seven Cities* by Paul Chiasson.

*The World Cultures through Foods:* The contact is Marilyn Minshall. (672-3499). The meeting to plan for the year will be held on September 19, 7:30 pm at Marilyn's, 536 Brighton. All interested branch members are welcome. The first dinner of the year will have an African theme.

*Book Group:* The next meeting will be Monday, August 20 7:30, at the home of Rozelle Wright, 213 Barranca Road. Books for October through May will be chosen at this meeting. The September 10, 7:30pm meeting will be held at the home of Pat Mendius, 124 Rover. We will discuss the book *Into the Canyon* by Lucy Moore.

*The Mystery Book Club:* The next meeting is Tuesday August 28, 6:30pm at Film Festival. The book is *Maisie Dobbs* by Jacqueline Winspear [www.lamountain.ws/mystery.html](http://www.lamountain.ws/mystery.html)

Carroll Thomas is the coordinator of the day-time *Great Decisions* group. Helena Whyte is the coordinator of the evening group. Meetings begin after the first of the year.

*Bridge:* Brigitta Dobratz was chair of the bridge group for many years; she is dearly missed. This group routinely brought in about \$300 a year for the AAUW Educational Foundation. The bridge group did not meet last year. However, Jane Sherwood (662-3194) would like to see it resurrected this year (07-08). More partnerships are needed, and if someone would like to step forward and be chair, free advice is available! Many thanks to all who played over the years.

**Rememberance:** Brigitta Dobratz who actively supported the Educational Foundation by organizing our bridge study group passed away in July. She moved to Los Alamos in 1981 and worked as an expert in the literature of weapons materials. Hail and farewell dear Brigitta.

**Convention Notebook by Helena Whyte:**  
It was difficult for me to choose only one session that resonated with me during my attendance at my first AAUW Association Convention. The plenary presenters and the Taste of Success posters were outstanding and inspirational.

Sherry Schiller challenged AAUW members, "No more business as usual." She said a focused vision, positive thinking, and action are the means to accomplish AAUW's goals. "Commit to mission based programming; do not confuse members about AAUW's mission and goals."

Greg Mortenson, AAUW member and author of *Three Cups of Tea*, told how he lives the African Proverb, "If you educate a boy, you educate an individual. If you educate a girl, you educate a community." He promotes peace through education. "When mothers are educated, they prevent their children from adopting extremist ideologies." Greg has facilitated the construction of more than 62 schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Branches are growing members through Student Advisory Councils and providing leadership skill building requested by the student leaders. I was especially intrigued by the California Online Branch. All programs, board meetings, and interest groups are attended online at members' convenience.

AAUW National Girls Collaborative Project advancing the agenda in gender equity launched a new project, *Let's Read Math* targeting positive attitudes about math in grades 1-4 through math activities in children's books such as *A Quarter From the Tooth Fairy*.

**Convention Notebook by Natalie Markin:**

This was my first national convention. It was inspiring, informative, and worth withstanding the 117° heat in Phoenix. Since several of us have been asked to write something, I thought I would take a slightly narrower approach and review the IFUW, (International Federation of University Women), workshop I attended. The main speaker was Sarah Harder, former AAUW Association President. She is very passionate about IFUW but sadly realizes that it is time for AAUW to let go of its membership due to financial constraints.

However, she suggested other options. You may join IFUW as an individual member. Individual membership is only available to countries where there is not yet a national federation or association. Since the AAUW membership will terminate at the end of 2007 this is a possibility for January 1, 2008 – January 1, 2009. The other suggestion that she made is to evaluate a partnership with some other national organization that would support IFUW. If you are interested in pursuing this, leadership is needed to step forward and craft a structure that would work. She suggested that you check the IFUW website. If you google IFUW there will be several references.

**Awards presented at State Convention:**

- (1) Outstanding Performance and Yearly Contribution, AAUW NM Education Foundation
- (2) Outstanding Performance and Per Capita Contribution, AAUW NM Education Foundation
- (3) New Member Recruitment Award: Nina Thayer for recruiting 4 new branch members.
- (4) Los Alamos Branch 2006 EF Honorees (Corinne Wolfe Fund): Rosmarie Frederickson, Pat Mendius, and Frances Mueller (in memoriam)
- (5) AAUW New Mexico Honorary Corrine Wolfe Educational Foundation Angels: Marjorie Bell Chambers and Natalie Markin.
- (6) AAUW New Mexico Marjorie Bell Chambers Ingenious Ideas Award: Thoughts on

Contemporary Russia Panel, Los Alamos.  
(7) AAUW New Mexico Phoenix Convention travelships: Helena Whyte and Natalie Markin.

**Spring Tea:**

For those of you who missed the spring tea, here is Sharon Mulrey in costume.



She says:

My interest in our ancestors' clothing began in college when I had to take a class in the History of Costume as part of my degree in Home Economics. About three years ago I decided that I wanted to make a dress to wear when my United Daughters of the Confederacy chapter met with the Sons of the Confederacy (who were always in the uniform of 1861-1865). From that came a renewed study of the clothing of the Victorian era.

Construction techniques for the clothes that our great-great-grandmothers wore are similar to those used in today's clothing, but also different because of the different styles of the period and the machines used for sewing. Study of historically correct construction methods and fashions led to the idea that I could share my knowledge with others who might be interested in the topic.

For the past two years I have given programs to various ladies groups. I talk about the sewing and styles, displaying and modeling the items I have made along with others bought in antique

shops and authentic items purchased on e-bay. I like to call my program "Great-Granny's Garters - and All the Other Stuff She Wore".

### State News

Five Los Alamos branch members are serving as state officers: Nina Thayer and Nancy Scheer as co-Presidents, Rosmarie Frederickson as state Educational Foundation Chair and Natalie Markin as co-Program Chair. Denise George continues as NM state webmaster.

### Branch Calendar

Aug	20	Book Group, 7:30, Book selection meeting, Rozelle Wright, 213 Barranca, 7:30pm
Aug	23	Council meeting, 7:15, Pat Mendius, 124 Rover
Sept	10	Book Group, 7:30, <u>Into the Canyon</u> , by Lucy Moore, Pat Mendius, 124 Rover
Sept	17	Non-fiction book group, Angela Coop, 332 Aragon, <u>The Island of 7 Cities</u> by Paul Chiasson, 7:30pm
Sept	19	World Culture through Food organizational meeting, Marilyn Minshall, 536 Brighton, 7:30

### Coordinating Council for 2007-2008

Helena Whyte	Facilitator	672-9153
Rozelle Wright	Treasurer	662-5490
Bev Cooper	Secretary	672-9696
Alahna Weller	Membership	672-9539
Carroll Thomas	EF/LAF	672-9137
Denise George	Newsletter	672-9688
Susan Oldham	Communications	672-0778
Mona Wecksung	Diversity	662-7084
Cas Mason	International Affairs	662-1938
Rosmarie Frederickson	Public Policy	662-5915
Natalie Markin	Program	662-9399

## **We will vote on this proposed budget at the fall luncheon:**

Los Alamos AAUW Budget 7/01/2007 through 6/30/2008

### Revenues:

National Dues	2256.00	( based on 65 members, 9 life, 3dual, 5 honorary)
State Dues	720.00	
Branch Dues	600.00	
Donations	125.00	
Interest	10.00	
From Savings	255.00	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>3966.00</b>	

### Expenditures:

#### Dues:

National:	2256.00
State	720.00

#### Officers:

Historian	10.00
Yearbook	10.00
Newsletter	35.00
Facility Rental	180.00
Programs	230.00
EF fundraising expenses	15.00
Membership	30.00
Hospitality	15.00
President's fund	15.00

#### Sponsorships:

History Fair prizes	0.00
Science Fair prizes	75.00
Women in Science (EYH)	50.00
Conventions	200.00

#### Administrative:

Post Office box	40.00
NM Corporation Report	10.00

Miscellaneous 75.00

**Total Expenditures 3966.00**