

Los Alamos Branch AAUW January 2006

January Program **Legislative Preview** **Thursday, January 12, 7:00 pm** **Fuller Lodge**

AAUW and the League of Women Voters co-host the annual Legislative Preview. Speakers include our Representative Jeannette Wallace and Senator Richard Martinez, who will give an overview of the coming short legislative session; Los Alamos County Clerk Mary Pat Kraemer on legislative actions proposed by the interim committee on election reform; and Craig O'Hare of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, on the solar tax credit proposal.

The Election Reform Task Force was a legislative interim committee, but unlike most committees whose members are legislators, this committee was set up by the Legislative Council Service and about half of its members are not legislators. The membership included members of the executive branch and the public as well as NM senators and representatives. The committee will propose some legislation for the upcoming short session. Most of what the committee is proposing consists of clean-up language for the huge bill that passed in the last session. That bill left unresolved large issues having to do with recounts and audits and voter ID. The committee anticipates that the task force will continue next year and will ask for the money to continue in this session.

The League has also invited Jeanne Bassett of the New Mexico Public Interest Group, NMPIRG, to speak on predatory lending and the other two NM senators (Cisneros and Griego) who represent parts of Los Alamos County.

Our branch will provide refreshments and pays half the rent on Fuller Lodge. Those of you who have signed up to bring refreshments will be contacted.

Future Branch Programs

On Saturday, February 18, 2pm, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Kurt Whyte (Helena's son) will present a self-defense program. Kurt is the owner of T.A.S.K., Travel and Safety Knowledge, a martial arts and security business.

On Saturday, March 18, 2pm, at El Castillo Retirement Center, 250 E. Alameda, Santa Fe, we will be joining the Santa Fe and Las Vegas branches in Santa Fe for a special Educational Foundation fund raiser. Pat Jonietz will be presenting a dramatic reading, "Lessons I Learned Growing up in the 50s!" The reading will feature her favorite *teachers*: **Shirley Jackson, Jean Collins Kerr, Anne Morrow Lindberg, Phyllis McGinley and Annie Dillard**. The cost will be \$10, and Rosmarie Frederickson will be arranging carpools.

The council is planning an April meeting related to New Mexico history.

Our spring tea will be held on a Friday May 5 at the Unitarian Church.

Branch News

Los Alamos will be hosting the state fall workshop on October 20-22. We expect attendance of about 40 women from all corners of our state. The council is looking for suggestions for speakers, entertainment and activities as well as for planning committee members. Any council member is happy to take your input.

Angela Coop, Natalie Markin and Marilyn Minshall modified our branch by-laws as mandated by national AAUW. The changes reflect the new membership rules that allow holders of associate degrees to become members of AAUW. As these changes were mandated by national, they do not require approval by the branch membership. The relevant section now reads: *Individuals eligible to be admitted to membership are those holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited educational institution, a degree from a foreign institution recognized by the International Federation of University Women (IFUW), or a foreign degree acceptable as a basis for admission by graduate schools at regionally accredited universities of the USA; such membership shall be granted upon payment of Association, state, and branch dues.* The complete new version of the by-laws may be viewed on the branch web site http://aauw-nm.org/revised_branch_bylaws.pdf

Harriet Dodder has a new e-mail address, please change your yearbook entry to: hardod@earthlink.com

AAUW Non-Fiction Book Group:
The next meeting will be at Pat Mendius's, 124 Rover on Monday, January 23 at 7:30 pm. The book is *A Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion. Gloria Cordova is the discussion leader.

The March meeting will be at Harriet Dodder's, 149 El Gancho on the 23rd.

The World Cultures through Foods:
The next meal will be the Lincoln Day Dinner on Feb 12. The contact is Marilyn Minshall. (672-3499).

Book Group:
The book group does not meet in January; the next meeting will be Monday, February 6, 7:30pm at the home of Chris Sierk, 4640 Ridgeway. Marilyn Minshall will be the discussion leader for the book *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini.

Helena Whyte has organized an evening *Great Decisions Group* for AAUW members. Please contact her if you are interested in more information. (672-9153, helanaw@lanl.gov)

The Mystery Book Club will meet next on Tuesday, January 24 at 6:30pm at Film Festival. The book is *In the Bleak Midwinter* by Julia Spencer-Fleming. www.lamountain.ws/mystery.html

Branch Calendar

Jan	12	Branch Meeting, Fuller Lodge, Legislative Preview, 7:00pm
Jan	23	Non-fiction book group, Pat Mendius, 124 Rover, 7:30pm, <i>The Year of Magical Thinking</i> by Joan Didion.
Jan	24	Mystery book club, Film Festival, 6:30pm, <i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i> by Julia Spencer-Fleming
Jan	26	Council Meeting, Pat Mendius, 7:15, 124 Rover
Jan	29	Leadership Team Meeting, Santa Fe
Jan	30	Legislative Day and Choice Rally, Santa Fe
Jan	26	Council Meeting, Pat Mendius's, 124 Rover, 7:15pm
Feb	6	Book Group, Chris Sierk, 4640 Ridgeway, 7:30pm, <i>The Kite Runner</i> by Khalid Hosseini
Feb	12	World Culture Through Foods, Lincoln Day Dinner.

Coordinating Council for 2004-2005

Gloria Cordova	Facilitator	672-3721
Rosmarie Frederickson	Treasurer	662-5915
Bev Cooper	Secretary	672-9696
Angela Coop	Membership	672-1073
Pat Mendius	Nominating chair	672-3222
Denise George	Newsletter	672-9688
Marilyn Minshall	Historian/International Relations	672-3721
Helena Whyte	Publicity	672-9153
Natalie Markin	EF/LAF	662-9399