

Los Alamos Branch AAUW March 2008

Women in Iran Tuesday, March 4, 7:30pm Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Two Iranian women: both of whom were born and raised in Iran, will give us an introduction to Iran, with emphasis on the challenges faced by women in contemporary Iran, including family, education, and religion. Iran is a large country with cultural regional variations. Our two speakers come from different regions of Iran and have different experiences although both received their university education outside Iran. The women's biographies appeared in last month's newsletter.

Future Branch Events:

April 2, Wednesday, Expanding Your Horizons Conference. Marilyn Minshall has been our liaison with Los Alamos Women in Science for this event. She is looking for help. Contact Marilyn at 672-3499.

April 24, Thursday, 7:30pm, Bethlehem Lutheran Church: Program on pay equity.

May 9, Friday Bethlehem Lutheran Church : Spring Membership Tea.

Branch News:

Study Group Schedules are posted at: http://aauw-nm.org/los_alamos_study_groups.html
Study group chairs are asked to send schedules and any changes to Denise at georgeje@acm.org

Book Group: The next meeting will be Monday, March 3, 7:30pm at the home of Carroll Thomas 115 La Senda. The book is *Three Cups of Tea* by Mortensen and Relin.

Non-Fiction Book Group:
The next meeting will be at the home Peggy Lazarus, 2539 35th, March 17 at 7:30 pm. The book is *Nickle and Dimed*, by Barbara Ehrenreich.

The World Cultures through Foods: The March 1 dinner has a Chinese theme. Contact Marilyn Minshall (672-3499).

Carroll Thomas is the coordinator of the day-time *Great Decisions* group. All meetings of this group are held at Mesa Public Library at 10 a.m. in room 1. The dates are as follows: March 10 (U.S.-China) and 24 (Europe), April 14 (Latin America) and 28 (Russia), May 12 (Blacklisting the enemy).

The evening *Great Decisions Group* contact is Helena Whyte (672-9153). Meetings are Mar. 11 (Russia) Mar. 24 (Latin America) Apr. 10 (China) May 1 (Philanthropy) May 15 (U.S. Defense).

State News:

2008 International Women's Day Luncheon and Silent Auction, Saturday, March 8 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, University of New Mexico Student Union Ballroom. Three international women's organizations will sponsor the 2008 International Women's Day Luncheon and Silent Auction to commemorate the international celebration and raise funds for local charitable programs benefiting New Mexico women and girls. Tickets are \$30. There will be a large silent auction, entertainment, informational exhibits, and opportunities to network. Albuquerque storyteller, Ramona King, will be the featured guest speaker.

“This year’s theme is ‘Weaving a Web of Women’. All women’s organizations are connected and should work collaboratively. Together, as clubs, organizations or groups and as women in the community and the world, we can create change through even the smallest of action. But the greatest effect happens when each of our small actions are combined.”

Sponsored by Soroptimist International of the Duke City, American Association of University Women-Albuquerque Chapter and the Albuquerque Business and Professional Women. The event is also co-sponsored by the University of New Mexico’s Women’s Resource Center and the NM Commission on the Status of Women.

Nina Thayer has offered to drive a carload to the event. Nancy Scheer and Nina are trying to have one table between SF & LA which is 10 women and SF already have 5 women committed to going. It looks possible to have our own table!

Contact her at 662-6835 or

gnthayer@cybermesa.com

National News:

Since 1981, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund is the nation’s largest legal fund focused solely on sex discrimination in higher education. The fund records an important victory in the ongoing battle to prevent sexual harassment and assault on university campuses with the settlement agreement between Lisa Simpson and the University of Colorado at Boulder (CU).

The settlement agreement provides \$2.5 million to Simpson and requires that the university create a new position in the Office of Victim Assistance and hire an independent adviser to monitor the school’s compliance with federal sex discrimination laws. Simpson requested a lower settlement amount in exchange for the new personnel.

A former student at CU, Simpson sued the university under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 for failing to remedy the

sexually hostile environment on campus that led to her sexual assault and harassment by university football recruits and players. Although the university charged the students involved with code of conduct violations, it declined to pursue sexual assault charges against them. In addition, none of the football players lost his eligibility to play in any subsequent football games.

Simpson took legal action against the school to ensure the protection of women students.

Throughout the suit, Simpson advocated nationwide reforms to college and university policies to improve the treatment and safety of women on campuses. CU itself overhauled its football recruiting program, and several top officials, including the chancellor and the football coach, resigned in the aftermath. (from the AAUW website).

Science Fair Thank You Notes:

Dear American Association of University,
Thank you for the \$5 and certificate. I also want to thank you for sponsoring our science fair. – Mathew Lukner, 5th grade.

Dear AAUW,

Thank you for the prize you gave me. I’m glad you liked my project. Thanks again. – Jenna Erickson

Dear American Association of University,
Thank you for supporting our county science fair. I want to thank you for the award I received and let you know how encouraged and motivated I feel. I plan on continuing to work on projects for future science fairs. – Alexandr Wang

Dear AAU,

Thank you for the science fair prize. We learned that static electricity is made by rubbing some things together. Science is fun! We will keep learning about science. -- 1st grade scientists Mis. Souza’s class Mountain Elementary School.

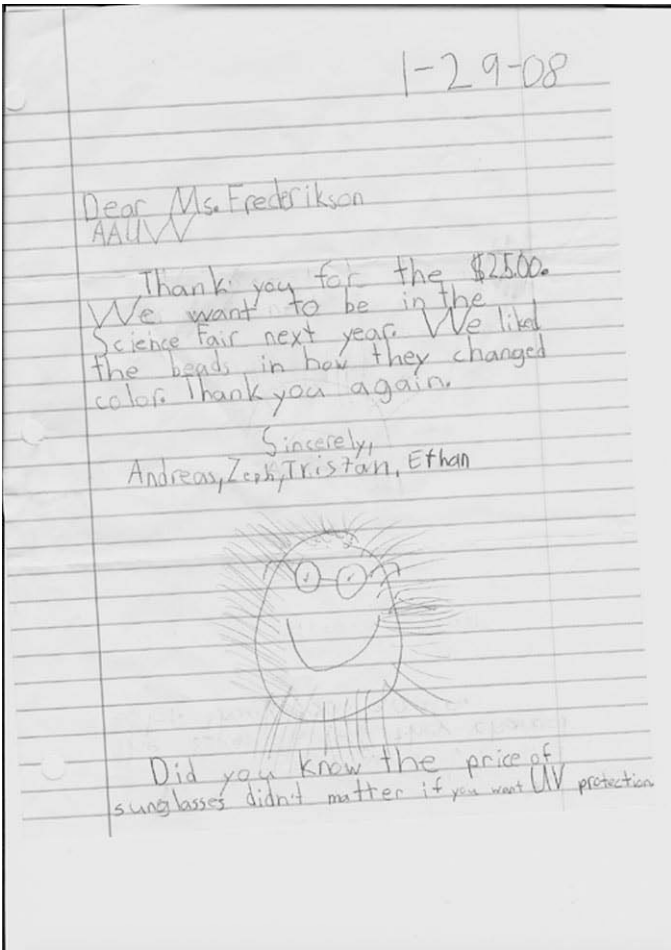
Dear American Association of University,
Thank you for sending the \$20 I liked the certificate you sent a lot and am going to get it framed. I can’t wait for next year’s science fair. – Alex M. Csandi (Does anyone know what happened to the ‘Women’ in our title?)

Branch Calendar

Mar	1	World Culture through Foods, Chinese dinner.
Mar	3	Book Group, <i>Three Cups of Tea</i> ,
Mar	4	General meeting, Iran Panel, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 7:30pm
Mar	10	Great Decisions, Mesa Public Library, room 1, 10am, China
Mar	11	Evening Great Decisions, Russia, Natalie Markin, 505 Oppenheimer Drive # 419, 7:30pm
Mar	17	Non-fiction book group, 7:30pm, <u>Nickle and Dimed</u> by Barbara Ehrenreich, at home of Peggy Lazarus, 2539 35th
Mar	24	Great Decisions, Mesa Public Library, room 1, 10am, European Integration
Mar	24	Evening Great Decisions, 7:30pm, Latin America: Shift to the Left?

Coordinating Council for 2007-2008

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children in Ms Souza's class