

Los Alamos Branch AAUW MARCH/APRIL, 2007

Branch News MARCH BRANCH MEETING:

March 22, 2007
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 2390 North Rd.
6 PM

The evening will start with a potluck dinner at 6 PM. with everyone attending bringing a dish to share and their own place settings. During dinner and until 7:30 PM there will be a jewelry sale as described below by Natalie Markin, our Branch's Educational Foundation Chair. At 7:30 PM Anthropologist Mary Greene will present a program regarding studies of 1.4 million year old skulls found in Africa. Please invite your family and friends to enjoy this very interesting meeting.

Educational Foundation Fundraiser

On March 22, 2007 at our branch meeting, we will be holding our annual fund raising event. Betty Scannapieco, will be selling beautiful **Authentic Indian Jewelry** which she gathers from the New Mexico Pueblos. The sale will be from 6:00 P.M. through about 7:30P.M., when our speaker is scheduled to talk. Seven percent of the profits made on the sales will be generously donated to EF by Betty. I humbly suggest that you think ahead to Mother's Day, Easter, Passover and Graduation. Please bring your check books or cash, as I do not believe that credit cards will be accepted. (Betty Wilson will be selling the jewelry for Ms. Scannapieco, who will be out of town on this date. Mrs. Wilson is familiar with the jewelry and will be able to answer your questions.)

This will also be a pot luck dinner, so if you can not attend the event we are suggesting, that if you can manage it, please donate the cost of whatever it was that you would have brought for the pot luck to AAUW-EF. This has been successful at other branches and has been called a non-event event. AAAUW-NM is striving to raise funds for the Corrine H. Wolfe International Fellowship endowment, much in the same way that the Los Alamos branch raised funds for the Georgia Fritz Endowment. The goal is to raise \$100,000.00 by the year 2023.

Corrine H. Wolfe, 1912-1997, was an advocate for the disadvantaged for more than 25 years in NM. She helped establish schools of social work across the country, including schools at NM State University, College of Santa Fe, and NM Highlands University. She was a regular advocate for social issues during NM legislative sessions. She was the recipient of the Grace Barker Wilson Award for Distinguished Service by AAUW NM. She was an active member of the Santa Fe Branch.

If you would like to support the Corrine H. Wolfe Endowment please make your check payable to AAUW-EF and write Corrine Wolfe in the memo section of the check. If you prefer to support any other particular EF fund, the just make the check out to AAUW-EF and write the name of that fund in the memo portion of the check. If you just want the check to go to AAUW-EF, then make the check out in that matter. Since AAUW-EF is a 501(c) (3) organization, all contributions are tax deductible. If you can not attend this event, then please mail checks to AAUW-Los Alamos Branch; PO Box 272; Los Alamos, NM 87544. As Los Alamos Branch AAUW-EF chair I thank you in advance for your support and I hope to see you at the meeting. Please feel free to call me in the evening at home at 662-9399 if you have any questions.

Gratefully,
Natalie Markin

APRIL BRANCH MEETING
April 17, 2007
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 2390 North Rd.
7:30 PM

Nancy R. Bartlit, President of the Los Alamos Historical Society and Author/Lecturer, will be the guest speaker for the Branch's April meeting. She will speak on her book Silent Voices of World War 11: When Sons of the Land of Enchantment Met Sons of the Land of the Rising Sun. The book was published by Sunstone Press, March, 2005. Bartlit and her co-author, the late Professor Everett M. Rogers, interviewed participants of the Bataan Death March, Navajo Code Talkers, the Santa Fe Internment Camp and the Manhattan Project for the book. Silent Voices is now being used as a text book in the Los Alamos and Santa Fe High schools. Bartlit recently was interviewed on "Report From Santa Fe" (KNME-TV) and spoke to the heroic 8th Air Force Historical Society of Albuquerque. Copies of her book will be for sale after the meeting. She will also autograph the copies.

Los Alamos Branch News:

Coordinating Council: Denise George, Carroll Thomas and Rozelle Wright have graciously agreed to join the Coordinating Council for 2007-2008. Returning members of the Council are: Susan Oldham, Cas Mason, Alahna Weller, Natalie Markin, Beverly Cooper and Helena Whyte. The council wishes to thank Pat Mendius, Nominating Committee Chair, for all of her hard work in putting together next year's Council.

The next Coordinating Council meeting will be April 12, 7:15 PM, at the home of Pat Mendius. The out-going/in-coming Councils will have their joint Council potluck dinner on May 30, 6:30 PM, at the home of Pat Mendius.

The Los Alamos Branch has 66 members as of February 1, 2007.

In Memoriam

The Los Alamos Branch members wish to extend their sympathies to Jean Nereson for the recent loss of her husband, Norris and to Peggy Lazarus for the recent loss of her husband, Roger. Both families had lovely memorial services for their loved ones this past Saturday, March 10, 2007.

Ill member

Our Branch member Brigitta Dobratz has been ill and is temporarily at the Kingston Residence, 2400 Legacy Court, Santa Fe, NM, should you wish to send cards.

Grace Barker Wilson Award

Maryjane Giesler has been nominated by our Branch to receive the Grace Barker Wilson Award for Distinguished Service for 2007. Below is the nomination letter as written by Helena Whyte:

American Association of University Women—New Mexico
Grace Barker Wilson Award for Distinguished Service

The Los Alamos Branch of AAUW nominates Maryjane Giesler for the 2007 Grace Barker Wilson Distinguished Service Award. Maryjane Giesler develops leaders, challenges the status quo, and develops self-confidence and self-esteem in the 90% female population in her classes at the University of New Mexico- Los Alamos campus. Maryjane Giesler has been a member of the University of New Mexico-Los Alamos campus Core Faculty since 1985. She teaches Composition, remedial and Academic Skills, Literature, and Honors English classes. The majority of her students are female, directly out of high school or returning women from Northern New Mexico, and Hispanic. She has been a volunteer advisor for the

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honor society, Phi Theta Kappa, International Honor Society of the Two Year Colleges (Beta Zeta Chi) and the All-State Academic Team for the past eight years.

Many of Ms. Giesler's students are first generation college students. Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) and Ms. Giesler's spirit of volunteerism offer participation for students in scholarship, fellowship, service, and leadership. Many of these students are enrichment deprived and their academic success can be attributed to self-taught survival skills. The students contribute volunteer service on their own schedule and help their fellow students. Maryjane spends hundreds of hours working with bright, lively students who make things happen. Maryjane plans induction ceremonies including completing orientation and selection letters, meeting planning, helping students apply for scholarships, helping with resumes, and mentoring the officers. Her students participate in creative and substantive programs that convey the importance of civic responsibility. Her students develop an understanding of community and learn to be committed to a good cause. Ms. Giesler also develops the curriculum for the honors topic class. The current honors topic is Gold, Gods, and Glory: the Global Dynamics of Power. The students plan fundraisers. Maryjane has seen many shy students become well-spoken, successful college graduates. Some former students are now in graduate degree programs.

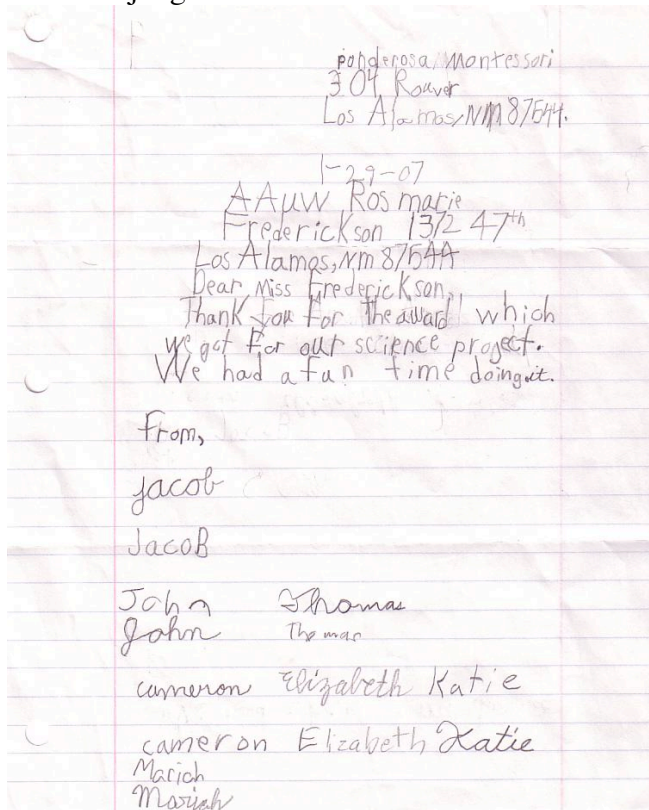
The All-State Academic Team members compete at the state level for recognition and scholarships. Her students swept all of the regional awards for outstanding writing and leadership in 2003. For this achievement, Ms. Giesler's students nominated her for the PTK Paragon Advisor Award, awarded at the International Convention. She also received the Regional Horizon Award for New Phi Theta Kappa Advisors in 2000 and has been nominated by her students for inclusion in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

Volunteerism is the cornerstone of Maryjane's advisement program. Her students have gathered stuffed animals for the Lovelace Children's Hospital toy closet, sponsored an elementary school Halloween Party, sponsored a pool tournament to raise money for a Jamaican Orphanage, read stories to Kindergartens, sold candy to pay for needy students' honor society membership dues and to offset some of Ms. Giesler's expenses to PTK training, and co-sponsored a Golf Tournament for the Lovelace Children's Hospital. Beta Zeta Chi is currently working on Project Graduation to collect books and canned goods to feed bodies and minds.

Maryjane Giesler is a frequent presenter at Two Year College Association Meetings. Her specialty is collaborative learning and working with the under prepared learner.

Science Fair thank you letter:

This is an example of the thank you letters that Rosmarie Frederickson received after AAUW members judged at the science Fair:



AAUW STATE NEWS

The AAUW-NM Spring State Leadership Team meeting and the AAUW-NM State Convention will be hosted by the Las Cruces Branch in Las Cruces, NM, April 27-29, 2007. The Convention theme is "Changing Lives, Changing Times". Refer to the current "Roadrunner" for all the details and the registration form. Call Natalie Markin, 662-9399, if you would like to attend, need a ride or a hotel room mate.

Legislative Day:

Pat Harlow, Denise George, Nina Thayer, Nancy Scheer and Rosmarie Frederickson joined AAUW members from NM to attend Legislative day at the Round House on February 12. We spent the first hour writing letters of support for bills that reflected AAUW priorities, such as the bill to reform the lottery scholarship program, bills promoting pay raises for teachers, and bills reforming payday loans. These were later left at the Senators and Representatives offices. We were honored to have Diane Denish address our group in the spectacular roundhouse cabinet room. She took half an hour out of her busy schedule to listen to our concerns and to tell us of her priorities which include education and health care. We all attended the opening of the Senate presided over by Lt Gov. Denish. We visited Jeanette Wallace and each gave her a brief summary of a bill we wanted her to support. All of us had a fun and educational time and after a lunch at the Mission Café we returned to Los Alamos. Check out the state web site for photos: <http://aauw-nm.org>

AAUW NATIONAL NEWS

The time for the National Convention in Phoenix is approaching. The dates are June 29th-July 2nd. The application deadline to Janet Matwiyoff for travelships is April 20, 2007. Attendees may receive grants of \$100-\$200 to help defray the convention costs. Travelship application forms are available at the state web site: <http://aauw-nm.org> Contact Helena Whyte for further information if you are interested in attending. The convention program is available on the national AAUW website: <http://www.aauw.org/>

March is Women's History Month and March 8th was International Women's Day!

STUDY GROUPS

Study Group Schedules are posted at:

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 and Alahna Weller at acweller@comcast.net

Non-Fiction Book Group: Contact is Denise George: Next date is March 19 at 7:30 PM, at the home of Lynne Jones, 520 Navajo. The book is Daughter of Persia by Sattareh Farman Farmaian and Dona Munker. The reviewer is Lynne Jones.

The May 21 meeting, at 7:30, will be hosted by Rozelle Wright, 213 Barranca. The book title is Mountains Beyond Mountains. The reviewer is Harriet Dodder.

Fiction Book Group: Contacts are Rozelle Wright and Denise George:

Next date is April 9 at 7:30 PM. The book is Emilie's Voice by Susanne Dunlap. Maryjane Giesler is the reviewer and Harriet Dodder, 149 El Gancho, is the hostess.

The Mystery Book Club: www.lamountain.ws/mystery.html

Great Decisions Groups:

DAYTIME:

Carroll Thomas is the coordinator of the day-time *Great Decisions* group. All meetings are at 10 AM, room 1 at Mesa Library. Next dates are: March 26. The topic is Children; April 9. The topic is Mexico; April 23. The topic is War Crimes; and May 14. The topic is South Africa.

EVENING:

Helena Whyte is the coordinator of the evening Great Decisions group. All meetings are at 7:30. The March 20 meeting is at the home of Marilyn Minshall. The topic is Migration. The next dates are: April 16. The topic is South Africa. Natalie Markin, 505 Oppenheimer, # 419, is the hostess; May 1. The topic is War Crimes. May 15, the topic is Central Asia. May 31, the topic is Children.

World Cultures Through Food Group: Marilyn Minshall is the coordinator. The next dinner is at 6 PM, May 12, at the home of ?. The dinner will feature African food.

Bridge Group:

There has not been an official AAUW Bridge Group this year as Brigitta Dobratz has been ill. Jane Sherwood will try to organize the Bridge Group for the year 2007-2008.

Branch Calendar:

March	19	Non-Fiction Book Group, 7:30 PM, at home of Lynn Jones, 520 Navajo. <u>Daughter of Persia</u> , by Sattareh Farman Farmaian and Dona Munker
March	20	Evening Great Decisions, 7:30 PM at home of Marilyn Minshall
March	22	General Meeting at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 6:00 PM. Pot luck dinner and jewelry sales (EF fund raiser) preceding a program by anthropologist Mary Greene presenting "Studies of 1.4 million year old Skulls in Africa".
March	26	Morning Great Decisions, 10 AM-12 PM, Mesa Library, room 1
April	9	Morning Great Decisions, 10 AM-12 PM, Mesa Library, room 1
April	9	Fiction Book Group, 7:30, home of Harriet Dodder, 149 El Gancho
April	12	Coordinating Council meeting, 7:15 PM, home of Pat Mendius
April	17	General Meeting at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 7:00 PM. Historian Nancy Bartlit will speak about her new book <u>Silent Voices</u> .
April	23	Morning Great Decisions, 10 AM-12 PM, Mesa Library, room 1
April	24	Equal Pay Day
April	27-29	Spring State Leadership Team meeting and AAUW State Convention, hosted by the Las Cruces branch
May	1	Evening Great Decisions, 7:30 PM
May	4	Spring Tea at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4 – 6:30 PM. The program will be Sharon Mulrey presenting <u>Ladies Civil War Time Clothing</u>
May	7	Fiction Book Group, 7:30 PM, at the home of Carol Thomas
May	14	Morning Great Decisions, 10 AM-12 PM, Mesa Library, room 1
May	15	Evening Great Decisions, 7:30 PM
May	21	Non-Fiction Book Group, 7:30 PM, home of Lynne Jones, 520 Navajo
May	28	Morning Great Decisions, 10 AM-12 PM, Mesa Library. room 1
May	31	Evening Great Decisions, 7:30 PM
June	29-July2	AAUW National Association convention in Phoenix, AZ.
June	30	Association/State/Branch dues deadline
July	28	Summer AAUW-NM Leadership Team meeting, Albuquerque, UNM campus

Coordinating Council for 2006-2007

Helena Whyte	Facilitator	672-9153
Gloria Cordova	Membership/Diversity	672-3721
Rosmarie Frederickson	Treasurer/Public Policy Chair	662-5915
Bev Cooper	Secretary	672-9696
Pat Mendius	Nominating Chair	672-3222
Alahna Weller	Newsletter Editor	672-9539
Natalie Markin	EF	662-9399
Susan Oldham	Publicity Chair	672-0778
Cas Mason	International Affairs	672-1938
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499
Jane Sherwood	Hospitality	662-3194

The April-May newsletter deadline is April 10th. Please send news to Alahna Weller and Denise George.