



Los Alamos Branch AAUW March 2011

Deanise Marta Women's Suffrage

Thursday, March 24

7:30 p.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

In honor of Women's History Month, Deanise Marta will present a program about the key players in the Women's suffrage movement. Be prepared to learn how much you do not know about the various women who were influential in the women's suffrage movement. The public is invited hear to Deanise speak.

Deanise Marta holds degrees in Art History and Humanities from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities Campus. She has been a member of AAUW since 2002, when she joined the Las Cruces branch. She has held the positions of branch secretary, Girls Can coordinator, and is presently serving her second term as branch president. In 2003 she was elected to the AAUW-NM Leadership Team as secretary. She held that position until 2004, when she took over as Roadrunner editor. She is now "term-limited" and abut to pass the editor job on.

As liberal arts degrees can qualify one for nothing or anything, Deanise began her working life as a clerk in a hospital. The knowledge she acquired led her to become a medical claims adjuster for an insurance company. When the company introduced a computerized claims payment system, she applied for the job of documenting the system and writing the training materials. This led to a thirty-year career as a technical, marketing, and grant writer, from which she is now retired.

Deanise is a member of the advisory board of the Honors College at NMSU. She has been active as a volunteer in the animal welfare field for the past 15 years, has served as a basic literacy and ESL tutor, and has worked as a crisis counselor in a women's resource center.

Future Programs:

April 12: Learn to play Mah Jong at our AAUW Funds benefit.

May 6: Spring Tea featuring our state poet laureate Joan Logghe.

National News

This year all members will be able to vote in the AAUW national election. In April we will receive ballots and instructions. Both on-line and paper ballot options will be available. The back section of the Winter 2011 *Outlook* is a useful guide to the proposed public policy, by-laws changes and candidates.

Last month the Legal Advocacy committed to assisting the plaintiffs in the *Dukes v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.* lawsuit, potentially the largest workplace discrimination class-action lawsuit in U.S. history.

The theme of the 55th [United Nations Commission on the Status of Women](#) (CSW) is participation of women and girls in science and technology, including women's equal access to full employment and decent work. Each of the approximately 30 participating organizations was asked to submit a background paper that would help to guide the group's discussion. AAUW's submission focused on our key research, programs, and advocacy related to increasing women's and girls' participation in STEM. AAUW also included an executive summary of our recent research report, *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*, which was used extensively by the group in drafting their U.N. recommendations. This research will also provide the basis for AAUW's panel discussion of critical STEM issues for women and girls at next month's CSW meeting. Read more at AAUW's STEM newsletter: <http://www.aauw.org/learn/publications/ngcp/winter2011.cfm>

Legislative News from the Roundhouse

From Nina Thayer our branch Public Policy Chair:

HB604, an ethics bill titled Election Contributions and Express Advocacy is a long-needed ban on all political and campaign contributions by lobbyists and businesses holding or bidding on state contracts. It includes disclosure of all business, unions and non-profits engaged in advocacy. Both Rep. Wallace and Sen. Cisneros said they would support this bill during our Legislation Preview meeting in January. We need to hold their feet to

the fire.

SB2 is the Smaller Schools initiative that would provide incentives for districts to build new elementary and middle schools no larger than 400 students and high schools no larger than 900 students. Research indicates that smaller schools have higher graduation rates, less violence and higher student, parent, principal and teacher satisfaction. Smaller schools are also fiscally efficient. While very small schools have higher per student costs, so also do large schools. Larger schools spend more per student on administration, security and transportation than mid-sized schools. SB2 passed the Senate Education Committee on a 9-0 vote and is gaining momentum.

Nina is asking each of us to write e-mail messages or letters to our State Senators in support of these bills and in support of the NM Commission on the Status of Women.

The budget proposed by the new Governor included NO funding for the Commission; however the Committee (with no opposition) restored \$550K. Next the budget goes to the Senate Finance Committee. Therefore we need to send our Senators messages of support. The last hurdle may be the line item veto of the Governor who we know is not a supporter. AAUW-NM organized a letter signed by officers and delivered to her office.

Reasons for supporting the Commission include:

1. Over the past five years more than a thousand New Mexico high school age girls have been inspired to continue their high school education and consider attending college through the two day Believe in New Mexico Girls conference held annually by the Commission on the UNM campus.
2. This year the Commission is adding a conference entitled, OMG: Only for Middle School Girls this spring at the Valencia campus of UNM.
3. The Commission has a multitude of different programs that provide resume writing, financial and interviewing skills for homemakers returning to the work place. The Commission also educates women on health issues and resources.
4. Last April AAUW-New Mexico partnered with The Commission to put on a first-ever, "Women Across Borders" Conference to exchange

information and break down barriers between the women of Chihuahua and New Mexico. Please join AAUW's active support of this valuable asset to the women and girls of New Mexico.

Los Alamos Senators:

District 5 Richard Martinez
rcmartinez@email.com

District 6 Carlos Cisneros
carlos.cisneros@nmlegis.gov

District 39 Phil Griego
senatorgriego@yahoo.com

Los Alamos Representative:

Jeannette Wallace: wallace@losalamos.com

Branch News:

Dues:

Full dues of \$71 paid March 1, 2011 or after are good from then until June 30, 2012. This offer provides 16 months of member benefits for the cost of a single year membership. Our branch membership chair, Alahna Weller, asks all members to invite a friend to one of our meetings and to then encourage her join our organization.

Science Fair Thank You Notes:

Ruby, "Thank you for giving me an award. I enjoyed testing SunChip bags. I look forward to science fair next year."

Nocolo, "...I can't thank you more for the award on my project 'It's cold and my Violin is out of tune'. Thank you for the motivation and encouragement by supporting our county science fair.

Jordan, "...I really appreciate your support to the science fair and to me."

Gabriella, "... I got encouraged because of you and I am going to do even better at the science fair next year. Thank you"

Study Groups:

World Cultures through Foods: The March 12th Greek dinner will be held at Marilyn Minshall, 536 Brighton at 6 p.m. Contact Marilyn Minshall (672-3499) for more information.

Book Group: The March book is Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford. The March 7th meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Karin Roberts' home, 415 Cheryl. The reviewer is Marilyn Minshall.

Nina Thayer, 1707 Solano, is hosting the March 8th, 1 p.m. meeting. The reviewer is Marilyn Minshall. **Please let the hostess know if you intend to come to either meeting.** Karin may be reached at 672-9625 rjkarin@qwest.net. Nina may be reached at 662-6835 gnthayer@cybermesa.com

Non-Fiction Book Group: The March book is Inferno by Tom Ribe. We will meet on Monday, March 21, at 7:30 p.m. at Harriet Dodder's, 149 El Gancho. The reviewer is Harriet.

Please let the hostess know if you intend to come to the meeting. Harriet may be reached at 662-7473, hardod@earthlink.net

Great Decisions:

The morning group meets at 10:00 a.m. at Mesa Public Library. Carroll Thomas is the organizer.

Mar 14	#2 Amer. Nat'l Sec.	Evelyn Petschek Pat Mendius
Mar 28	#7 Caucasus	Marilyn Doolen
Apr 11	#5 Germany	Karin Roberts Angela Coop
Apr 25	#8 Multilateralism	Nancy Bearss
May 9	#3 Horn of Africa	Marilyn Petschek Thelma Hahn

The evening group is coordinated by Helena Whyte (672-9153). The proposed schedule is:

March 3

March 17

April 7 at Marilyn Thayer: #2 Sanctions and Nonproliferation

April 28 at Nina Thayer: #7 The Caucasus

May 12

June 9

TBA Natalie will host and discuss #4 Banks, Governments and Debt Crisis

TBA Mona will discuss #5 Germany Ascending

International Women's Day Bazaar on

Saturday, March 12, 2011 from noon to 3:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 301 S. Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo. A \$10.00 fee includes a spaghetti lunch. There will be vendors, raffles, and lots of fun! All proceeds will benefit women and children locally and internationally. If interested contact Natalie at natalie@lanb.com or 662-9399.

Those attending the recent Valentine Day coffeehouse were treated to music composed by **Nadia Boulanger**



and by her sister **Lili**. In Nadia's words, "I've been a woman for a little over 50 years and have gotten over my initial astonishment. As for conducting an orchestra, that's a job where I don't think sex plays much part." Nadia

Boulanger was born in Paris on September 16, 1887, into a musical family. Her father, Ernest Boulanger, like his father before him, taught singing at the Paris Conservatoire. Her mother Raissa, a Russian-born princess, was a pupil of her father. She was Nadia's first teacher.

At 5 years old, Boulanger could read music. She enrolled at the conservatory at 10. In 1904, not yet 17 years of age, Boulanger took first prize in organ, piano accompaniment, fugue, and composition. A few days before the awards ceremony she had earned her first money as a professional musician, playing the organ for the primary class presentation at the Trocadero Palace with the president of the French Republic in the audience.

Boulanger returned to competition in 1908 and caused a controversy that nearly eliminated her from the finals. She composed a fugue for string quartet rather than for singers as was required; it was titled *La Sirene*. There is little doubt that this controversy combined with her gender held her back from winning the first prize once again. Instead, she was had to accept a second prize.

Boulanger experienced both triumph and disappointment as a teacher of music. Her prize pupil was her sister, Lili who was a more talented composer than her older sister. Many critics considered her to have been a genius. She began studying at the Conservatory in 1912 and, the following year, became the first woman to capture first prize for composition in the Prix de Rome competition. She was nineteen years old and had been studying composition for only three years. Lili's death, five years later, had a profound effect on Nadia. Besides her teaching and performing, Boulanger would devote the rest of her life to promoting Lili's memory and work. "She was so superior morally and spiritually, so pure She became an example for me,"

Subsequently Boulanger cemented her international reputation as a teacher--her students became known as the "Boulangerie." They included Virgil Thomson, Walter Piston, Roy Harris, and Elliot Carter. It was Boulanger who advised Astor Piazzola, later the Argentinean tango king, to give up symphonic music and concentrate on the tango. And it was Boulanger who, in 1928, rejected as a student one of America's most important composers, George Gershwin. "What could I give you that you haven't already got?" she asked him. Boulanger taught in the U.S. and in England, working with music academies including the Juilliard School, the Yehudi Menuhin School, the Royal College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music, but her principal base for most of her life was her family's flat in Paris, where she taught for most of the seven decades from the start of her career until her death at the age of 92.

As a conductor Boulanger was the first woman to direct many major orchestras in America and Europe, including the BBC Symphony, Boston Symphony, Hallé, New York Philharmonic and Philadelphia orchestras. She conducted several world premieres including works by Copland and Stravinsk.

The Recipe Corner, by Dorothy Shaner

I spend a portion of my life reading cookbooks and cooking magazines. My husband and I make many of the recipes I find. It occurred to me that I might, from time to time, forward to others some of the really simple and delicious items I have identified and tried. Here is the first one. In this case, it is a solution for what to do with all those leftover hard chunks of cheese that collect in your refrigerator. I copied it years ago from a posting at the cheese station at Whole Foods.

Fromage Fort (strong cheese)

*1 pound left over cheese; at least 3 different kinds, 6-7 kinds better.

*Trim off mold and very dry parts, as well as the rind. Cut into pieces (cubes).

*Toss 3-4 peeled garlic cloves into your Cuisinart and pulse several times until coarsely chopped.

*Add cheese chunks and 1 1/2 cup dry white wine (can use dry vermouth) and at least 1 tsp. freshly ground pepper.

*Process until soft and creamy, about 30 seconds. Add more wine if necessary.

*Turn into bowl or crock. Cover tightly and keep until you need it for crackers or bread. *Bring to room temperature first.

My most recent batch had two different cheddars, blue cheese, gruyere, some goat cheese (not flavored), Romano, and 1 or 2 other bits. I just weigh these and adjust the garlic and wine accordingly.

Branch Calendar

Mar	3	Evening great decisions
Mar	7	Book Group, Karin Roberts, 415 Cheryl, 7:30 p.m.
Mar	8	Book Group, Nina Thayer, 1707 Solano, 1:00 p.m.
Mar	12	Greek Dinner, Marilyn Minshall, 536 Brighton, 6 p.m.
Mar	14	Morning great decisions
Mar	14	Council meeting, Pat Mendius's, 124 Rover, 7:15 p.m.
Mar	17	Evening Great Decisions
Mar	21	Non-fiction book group, Harriet Dodder's, 149 El Gancho, 7:30 p.m.
Mar	24	General meeting, Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Mar	28	Morning great decisions

Coordinating Council for 2010-2011

Rozelle Wright	Treasurer	662-5490	rozelle@losalamos.com
Mary Ann Lindahl	Publicity	663-0995	moonbeamx@comcast.net
Alahna Weller	Membership	672-9539	acweller@comcast.net
Helena Whyte	AAUF Funds	672-9153	mozden08@aol.com
Bev Cooper	Secretary	672-9696	mcooper@cybermesa.com
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Nina Thayer	Public Policy	662-6835	gnthayer@cybermesa.com
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Non-council positions			
Jane Sherwood	Hospitality	662-3194	jane.sherwood@att.net
Denise George	Newsletter	672-9688	mozden08@aol.com
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	fsminc@losalamos-nm.com