



## AAUW Hilltopics March 2012

It's Fun, It's History, It's New Mexico  
Chautauqua Presented by  
Mary Diecker  
of the New Mexico Humanities Council  
March 15, 7:30 p.m.  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

It's fun--Laugh a little and learn a lot about our beautiful state It's history--It's good guys, bad guys, ladies and those "not so" ladies It's New Mexico--It's the state stuff (state cookie, fossil, song, butterfly, bird) and so much more. It's the people, places and things of the Land of Enchantment!!

Mary Mortensen Diecker is the principal of RM Technical Services, Inc., providing consulting services in a variety of areas. She is the author of "Roadrunner Tales," a book in calendar form containing 366 stories about New Mexico. She teaches classes in New Mexico History at Albuquerque TVI's Emeritus Academy and the University of New Mexico's Elderhostel.

### Branch News

We have a new member, Virginia (Ginny) White, who joined our branch on Jan. 2. Please add her contact information to your membership directory: 1001 Oppenheimer Drive #304, 904-556-8443, [ginny@atomicski.org](mailto:ginny@atomicski.org).

Donations in memory of Betty Aiello to the Legal Advocacy Fund totaled over \$1500. The personal notes accompanying AAUW donations were scanned and forwarded to her son and daughter.

Rosmarie Frederickson led the group of judges at this year's Science Fair. Judges this year were AAUW members Mary Ann Lindahl, Marilyn Doolen, and Rosmarie plus Master Gardeners Dena Brent and Nancy Nunnelley. There were more than 200 entries, making judging a challenge. Entries were identified only by their number and title (no participant names). Three class projects were given \$15 AAUW awards: How Far Can it Go (#270), Laser i3 Motion and Design: Proving Sir Isaac Newton's Second Law of Motion (#264), and Wood vs. Plastic (#267). Eleven projects received \$5

AAUW awards: Earthquake (131), Anatomy of an Eye, Cow vs. Sheep (163), Music Helps the Mind (160), Which Substance is Best for Cleaning Teeth (151), Crystals (125), The Bigger You are the More You Crush (239), Temperatures on Batteries (244), Follow the Bouncing Ball (243), M&M Mania (224), In What Liquid do Sugar Crystals Grow Best (253), and Dog Scents-Sense (179).

Our April 17<sup>th</sup> general meeting program will feature Bernadette Lauritzen speaking about the class she teaches in the middle school for anti-bullying, anti-sexual harassment called "Change of Heart".

The Spring Membership Tea will be on 05/18/11 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Hearth Room in the Unitarian Church, 1738 N. Sage St. The speaker, Sharon Snyder, is the author of a new book about the life of Peggy Pond Church entitled At Home on the Slopes of Mountains.

### Health Study Opportunity

Brigham and Women's Hospital, part of the Harvard Medical School, is conducting a trial on the health

effects of vitamin D and marine omega-3 fatty acid (fish oil) supplements. Carroll Thomas was invited to take part in this study, and has been doing so since last year. There are currently 20,000 participants in the study, but more are wanted. If anyone is interested in learning more about this study, he or she can write to the following address, or go to the website for the study:

**VITamin D and Omega-3-trial (VITAL)**

900 Commonwealth Avenue East

Boston, Massachusetts 02215

Telephone: 1-800-388-3963

E-mail: [vitalstudy@rics.bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:vitalstudy@rics.bwh.harvard.edu)

Website: [www.vitalstudy.org](http://www.vitalstudy.org)

**Out'n About**

On Wednesday March 28, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. we will travel to the New Mexico Historical Museum in Santa Fe to view the exhibit *Illuminating the Word: The Saint John's Bible*

Considered the Sistine Chapel of the modern era and overseen by the Benedictine monks at Saint John's Abbey in Minnesota, *Illuminating the Word: The Saint John's Bible* features forty-four pages of the first modern-day Bible entirely handwritten and illuminated in 500 years. A double page is two feet high and three feet wide with calligraphic script fashioned by a feathered quill and illuminations shimmering with gold.

We will car pool from the United Church parking lot at 9 am. Wednesday morning is free at the Museum for all New Mexico Seniors (60+). Following the museum tour, we will eat at Blue Corn Cafe, 133 W. Water, a three-block walk from the museum. Designated leader is Nancy Scheer. Call her (473-9897) or email her ([nscheer1226@msn.com](mailto:nscheer1226@msn.com)) if you plan to attend.

**May 23**, Allan Houser Sculpture Garden, designated leader, Denise George. This is a Wednesday and entry fee is \$18, meet 9 am at United Church parking lot and 9:15 at the Y.

**August 12**, Santa Clara Feast Day, no designated leader.

**September**, Bandelier Night Walk, (no date set),

designated leader, Marilyn Thayer.

**October**, Jemez Springs and Jemez State Monument, (no date set), leader Jill Forman.

**Book group:**

The March book is *Baking Cakes in Kigali* by Gaile Parkin. Jean Moses is reviewing at and hosting both the March 6th, 1 p.m. and the March 5th 7:30 p.m. meetings. The address is 734 46<sup>th</sup>. Please let Jean know if you plan on attending and let her know which meeting, 662-2968, [jermoses@earthlink.net](mailto:jermoses@earthlink.net)

**Non-fiction Book Group:**

The group will meet on March 19 at 7:30 p.m. at Harriet Dodder's, 149 El Gancho. The book is *Nothing to Envy* by Lynne Olson, and the reviewer is Nina Thayer. Let Harriet know if you are coming, 662-7473, [hardod@earthlink.net](mailto:hardod@earthlink.net)

**Great Decisions**

The topics for great decisions are:

- 1 Middle East Realignment
- 2 Promoting Democracy
- 3 Mexico
- 4 Cybersecurity
- 5 Exit from Iraq & Afghanistan
- 6 State of the Oceans
- 7 Indonesia
- 8 Energy geopolitics

The schedule for the morning meetings is:

Date	Topic	Presenter	Location
Mar 12	3	Karin Roberts	library
Mar 26	2	Marilyn Doolen	library
Apr 9	1	Angela Coop	library
Apr 23	7	Ginnie Tan	library
May 14	6	Thelma Hahn	Marilyn Doolen's 713 Meadow

Carroll Thomas is organizing the morning Great Decisions group. Carroll's contact information is 672-1937, [ctgb@earthlink.net](mailto:ctgb@earthlink.net). All meetings are at 10:00 a.m.

Helena Whyte is organizing the evening great decisions group. Helena's contact information is 672-9153, [mozden08@aol.com](mailto:mozden08@aol.com).

All discussions begin at 7:30 p.m. and end at 9 p.m.

Date	Topic	Hostess	Leader
Thurs. March 8	3	Marilyn Thayer 505 Oppenheimer #810, LA	Marilyn Thayer
Thurs. Mar 22			
Thurs. Apr 12			
Wed. Apr 25			
Thurs. May10	4	Natalie Markin 505 Oppenheimer #419 Los Alamos	Natalie
Thurs. May 24	5	Mona's Barranca Mesa	Mona

## State News

The Las Cruces branch is hosting the **AAUW-NM Spring Convention** and LTM on April 27-29; the theme is "100 Years of New Mexico Women." Natalie plans to attend and is willing to carpool; contact her if you're interested in going.

Mary Grathwol passed away. She could light up a room with her smile and she continued to smile through her last few days of palliative care. All who visited or drove her to treatments were struck with her equanimity, humor and familiar smile. She died on January 22, 2012 of cancer.

We in AAUW will dearly miss her generosity and patience. She will be remembered for her kindness and her willingness to keep going even when others quit. We admired her low-key but effective energy and her passion for education, outreach and community. We'll miss her passing us while on her bike running errands, going to work. She was a woman of many loyalties: libraries, local volunteering, AAUW, music, community events, arts and museums, Peace Corps and most importantly, a friend to many. She served the Santa Fe AAUW Branch in many capacities; Secretary 1997-99; President 2004-2005, Outreach Chair 2005-06, and Historian 2006-2011. She is known for her work with Careers and Curiosity, a program developed by Edi Klingner and Denise George of AAU-Los Alamos Branch. C & C invited women with careers in math and science into the elementary schools with demonstrations and exhibits designed to stimulate student interest in learning and career possibilities. The C & C program was successfully transferred from Los Alamos Branch to Santa Fe Branch where it continued under the leadership and direction of Mary. C & C has been received with enthusiasm and interest in Santa Fe. AAUW Santa Fe has plans to continue as elementary schools call to ask to be scheduled and evaluations continue to be positive.

Among her honors are: Santa Fe Branch EF Grant Honoree in 1999 and the Grace Barker Wilson Award in 2010.

## Branch Calendar

Mar	6	Book group
Mar	7	Book Group
Mar	8	Great Decisions - evening
Mar	12	Great Decisions
Mar	15	General meeting, Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Mar	22	Great Decisions - evening
Mar	26	Great Decisions
Mar	20	Council meeting 7:15, Pat Mendius's home

## Coordinating Council for 2011-2012

Rozelle Wright	Treasurer/Membership	662-5490	<a href="mailto:rozelle@losalamos.com">rozelle@losalamos.com</a>
Mary Ann Lindahl	Publicity	663-0995	<a href="mailto:moonbeamx@comcast.net">moonbeamx@comcast.net</a>
Judy Prono	AAUF Funds	662-2691	<a href="mailto:djprono@msn.com">djprono@msn.com</a>
Bev Cooper	Secretary	672-9696	<a href="mailto:mcooper@cybermesa.com">mcooper@cybermesa.com</a>
Natalie Markin	Facilitator	662-9399	<a href="mailto:natalie@lanb.com">natalie@lanb.com</a>
Nina Thayer	Public Policy	662-6835	<a href="mailto:gnthayer@cybermesa.com">gnthayer@cybermesa.com</a>
Dorothy Donnelly-Shaner	International Affairs	672-2224	<a href="mailto:fivesigma@comcast.net">fivesigma@comcast.net</a>
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	662-5574	<a href="mailto:mgiesler@unm.edu">mgiesler@unm.edu</a>
<b>Non-council positions</b>			
Jane Sherwood	Hospitality	662-3194	<a href="mailto:jane.sherwood@att.net">jane.sherwood@att.net</a>
Denise George	Newsletter	672-9688	<a href="mailto:mozden08@aol.com">mozden08@aol.com</a>
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	<a href="mailto:fsminc@losalamos-nm.com">fsminc@losalamos-nm.com</a>
Helena Whyte	Nominating Chair	672-9153	<a href="mailto:mozden08@aol.com">mozden08@aol.com</a>