

AAUW Los Alamos Branch May 2005 Newsletter

May General Meeting

Spring Tea

Friday, May 6, 2005, 3:30 – 5:30 pm
Unitarian Church
1738 N Sage, Los Alamos

We will be raising money for the Legal Advocacy Fund by holding a used book sale – bring books to sell and take home an armful for summer reading!

If you know a former member who would enjoy reconnecting with old friends or a friend or co-worker who might enjoy our activities please bring her along. The council hopes to see all of you at the tea!

National News

** The U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision in favor of AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund supported plaintiff Roderick Jackson in the case of *Jackson v. Birmingham Board of Education*. This decision strengthens the enforcement of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the landmark law that requires equity of opportunity for boys and girls enrolled at educational institutions receiving federal funds.

As a Birmingham, Alabama high school teacher and girls' basketball coach, Jackson filed a discrimination lawsuit based on Title IX. Jackson claimed he was dismissed from his coaching job in retaliation for complaints about the unequal treatment of his team.

** According to a 2004 study, women who work full time earn about 76 cents for every dollar men earn. This discrepancy is even worse for women of color. Wage discrimination persists despite women's increased educational attainment, greater level of experience in workforce, and decreased amount of time spent out of the workforce raising children. AAUW continues to believe that pay equity is a simple matter of justice. To that end, AAUW supports the **Paycheck Fairness Act** and the **Fair Pay Act**

These bills to promote pay equity would strengthen and improve the Equal Pay Act by:

- * Allowing people who sue for fair wages to receive punitive and compensatory damages—beyond back pay alone;
- * Reinstating the Bureau of Labor Statistics collection of data on women workers in the Current Employment Survey (CES).
- * Prohibiting employers from reducing any employee's wages in order to comply with pay equity requirements.

Take action now and urge your members of Congress to support and co-sponsor both the Paycheck Fairness Act and the Fair Pay Act!

Sen. Pete Domenici

Senator_Domenici@domenici.senate.gov

Sen. Jeff Bingaman

Senator_Bingaman@bingaman.senate.gov

Rep. Tom Udall

tom.udall@mail.house.gov

State News

At the AAUW-EF Gala Fund raiser we raised \$95.00 for the state wide raffle to support both IFUW and The Virginia Gildersleeve Funds. Thank you all for your generosity.

Raffle tickets are still available from Natalie Markin, 662-9399. Please leave a message, if Natalie is not at home. The cost of the raffle tickets is 6 for \$10.00 or \$2.00 each. First prize is a beautiful oil painting by Frank Harlow. See photos of all four prizes at aauw-nm.org. The winning ticket will be drawn on April 30 at the State Convention in Las Vegas. You do not have to be present to win.

Branch News

AAUW Women Support Diversity

You too can help! Look for a letter in the mail on how you can assist and encourage NM women of color pursue their educational dreams.

An unprejudiced(?) critique of Sonnets, Sonatas, and Tortes! From our own caterer par excellence Jane Sherwood:

“What a wonderful event occurred at Fuller Lodge on Saturday, April 16! I wish you all could have been there! So many people told me that they enjoyed the program immensely. When I think of all the trouble Alahna had getting the program set up, I am amazed. It really came together in a beautiful way. Gloria was her usual excellent, gracious, and poised self in presenting the performers. The excellent publicity arranged by Natalie helped generate a full house. The desserts were delicious and I want to thank the following for their mouth-watering contributions (one man said it was the best food he had eaten in Los Alamos in the two years he has been here): Jean Nereson, Chris Sierk, Gloria Cordova, Susan Oldham, Natalie Markin, Nina Thayer, Nancy Scheer, Patricia Harlow, Helena Whyte, Carroll Thomas, Marilyn Minshall, Karin Roberts, Pat Mendius, Denise George, and me! (I hope I didn't leave anyone out!) Thanks also to all the people who came early to help set up and to Gloria for donating the beautiful flowers. The whole afternoon was a heart-warming experience.”

The event was a financial success as well. We raised \$1565 from ticket sales and donations. After paying for the newspaper ad and for the

Fuller Lodge rental fee, our contribution to the Education Foundation will be about \$1300!

This summer AAUW has a new event, **A Night at the Opera with Friends**. The Branch has purchased 8 tickets to the **Barber of Seville** by Rossini on **Wednesday, July 13**, at the Santa Fe Opera. They are \$48 tickets in section 5 on the main floor. The branch is offering these tickets at a price of \$75 each. This price includes the ticket, transportation and an optional pot-luck dinner on the back deck of Nina's home. Use of the proceeds (profits) of this event will be decided by the Branch Coordinating Council and suggestions are welcome. Please get your ticket(s) immediately; when they are gone, they are gone! Tickets are reserved when a check for \$75 (made out to Los Alamos Branch of AAUW) is received by either our treasurer Rosmarie Frederickson or Nina Thayer. If this event is a success the Council may consider offering a choice of two operas for the summer of 2006. Reserve your ticket(s) today! call Nina, 662-6835.

Study Group Meetings:

Non-fiction book group:

May 16, *When Corporations Rule the World* by David C. Korten.

Call Nina (662-6835) or Rosmarie (662-5915) for more information.

Book Group:

The May 2 meeting will be hosted by Chris Sierk, 4640 Ridgeway, 7:30pm. The book is *Caramelo*. Call Melissa Lamoreaux for more information (661-1235)

World Culture through Foods:

The next dinner is on May 7, Lebanese Dinner, at Melissa Lamoreaux, 5153 Quemazon, 6:30pm. For more information call Marilyn (672-3499)

Mystery Book Club

May 17 at 6:30pm at Film Festival. *Death of an Expert Witness* by P.D. James.

(<http://www.lamountain.ws/mystery.html>)

\$\$\$\$Reminder \$\$\$\$

Dues are \$65 (\$43 to national, \$12 to state and \$10 to Los Alamos Branch)

Pay your dues at the spring tea or fill out this form and mail to:

Rosmarie Frederickson

1372 47th Street.

Name _____

Any address or phone or e-mail changes _____

Suggestions for new interest groups or general meeting program topics _____

2004-2005 Membership Challenge:

AAUW-New Mexico is challenging every current member to ask another eligible person to become an AAUW member and there is a reward for your effort. The New Mexico AAUW Board has created a new AAUW-NM membership pin and is giving every new member one FREE and also one to every member who recruits a new member. Four Los Alamos Branch members are now wearing the new pin. Wouldn't you like one? Please ask Angela Coop for new member brochures.

Biography of the Month:

Julia Morgan was born in San Francisco on January 20, 1872. The second of five children born to Charles and Eliza Morgan, Julia was raised in Oakland, California. She pursued an undergraduate degree in civil engineering at the University of California and was the only woman to complete the program in 1894.

Upon the advice of one of her instructors, architect Bernard Maybeck, Morgan traveled to Paris to study at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. Though she arrived in Paris to begin her studies in 1896, Morgan was refused admission for two years because the administration had never conceived of allowing women to study there. So she entered every prestigious architecture competition in Europe, and won most of them, forcing the hand of the administration. Morgan was eventually admitted in the field of architecture.

Upon her return to San Francisco, Morgan secured a position in the offices of architect John Galen Howard. Howard had opened an office in Berkeley after he had won the Phoebe Apperson Hearst Architectural Competition to design a master building plan for the University of California. Morgan drew the elevations and designed the decorative details for the Mining Building and also designed the Hearst Greek Theater.

Julia Morgan opened her own office in San Francisco in 1904. As Morgan's solo career developed, she began to secure a number of

residential commissions in the Piedmont, Claremont and Berkeley neighborhoods. For many of these commissions Morgan favored a California vernacular style of architecture with distinct Arts and Crafts attributes, including exposed support beams, horizontal lines that blended into the landscape and extensive use of shingles, California redwood and earth tones. After the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906, Morgan's office became extremely busy and one of her commissions was rebuilding Nob Hill's Fairmont Hotel. As the San Francisco population fled the earthquake-struck city, she also gained public commissions in the East Bay and her first was St. John's Presbyterian Church (which was later to become the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts!)

(<http://www.juliamorgan.org/story.shtml>)

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Julia Morgan designed this building in 1908 as the St. John's Presbyterian Church. Her designs included the church and adjacent Sunday School classroom space. Working with a budget of two dollars per square foot, Morgan used natural redwood paneling, once affordable and abundant, for the interior and exterior of the building. On the inside she left exposed wooden beams, supports, nuts and bolts as part of the design. The result was an inexpensive, functional but very beautiful building. The building is now the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts in Berkeley, California.



Branch Calendar

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| May | 2 | Book Group, 7:30, Chris Sierk, 4640 Ridgeway, <i>Caramelo</i> |
| May | 6 | Spring Tea, 3:30pm, Unitarian Church |
| May | 7 | WCTF, Lebanon Dinner, Melissa Lamoreaux 5153 Quemazon, 6:30pm |
| May | 12 | Council cross over pot luck at Pat Mendius, 124 Rover, 6:30 |
| May | 16 | Non-fiction book group, <i>When Corporations Rule the World</i> |

Coordinating Council for 2004-2005

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|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Marilyn Minshall | Facilitator | 672-3499 |
| Rosmarie Frederickson | Treasurer | 662-5915 |
| Bev Cooper | Secretary | 672-9696 |
| Angela Coop | Membership | 672-1073 |
| Pat Mendius | Historian | 672-3222 |
| Denise George | Newsletter | 672-9688 |
| Gloria Cordova | Program | 672-3721 |
| Alahna Weller | EF | 672-9539 |
| Natalie Markin | Publicity/Pub. Policy | 662-9399 |