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AAUW Hilltopics November 2012

The winner of the NM legislative district 43 election (Jim Hall or Stephanie Garcia Richard) will speak to us about his/her plans for the upcoming legislative session.

November 15, 7:30 p.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 2390 North Road

Out'n About:

Arts and Culture Museum

Navajo Saddle Blankets and Woven Identities (Baskets). Our leader will be Nancy Scheer, 473-9897.

Book group:

The November book is The Fault in Our Stars by John Green. Christina Sierk, 4640 Ridgeway Dr. will host Monday, November 5 at 7:30. Let her know if you plan on attending (acsierk@hotmail.com, 662-3894). Ginny White will host the meeting on Tuesday, November 6 in the Oppenheimer Complex meeting room at 1:00 p.m. Let her know if you plan on attending (ginny@atomicski.org, 500-8009). Christine Cloyd will review at the Monday meeting and Ginny White will review on Tuesday.

Non-fiction Book Group:

The November 19th meeting will be held at Nina Thayer's home, 1707 Solana at 7:30 p.m. The book is Atlantic by Simon Winchester; discussion leader is Angela Coop. Please let Nina know if you plan to attend (gnthayer@cybermesa.com, 662-6835)

The January 14th book is The Greater Journey by David McCullough. Rosmarie Frederickson will host and Margo Batha will review.

Great Decisions

Carroll Thomas is organizing the morning Great Decisions group. Carroll's contact information is 672-1937, 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. Sign-up now as the organizers are ordering books. The 2012-13 topics are

Future of the Euro

Egypt

Nato

Myanmar and Southeast Asia

Humanitarian intervention

Iran

China in Africa

Threat assessment

Title IX Supporting Girls Sports

Helena Whyte is organizing this group and has arranged for the following outing: Saturday, November 17, at 11 a.m., UNM in Albuquerque to watch the Lady Lobo Volleyball team at Johnson Gym on Central. Tickets are \$5. We will have to pay for parking in the Parking Garage on Central across from Frontier Restaurant. Contact Helena if you wish to attend (672-9153, mozden08@aol.com).

Branch News

The December 1st general meeting will be a luncheon at Rancho de Chimayo. Mark your calendar now.

The branch contributed \$250 to the League of Women Voters to help fund this year's election guide; \$150 was a mini grant from AAUW-NM; the remaining \$100 came from branch funds. It provided very useful information for voters.

Biography of the Month

We've all heard about Adolph Bandelier, but I knew little about his second wife Fanny until I came across this article by Richard Flint and Shirley Cushing Flint, summarized below – read the entire article from the office of the New Mexico State Historian: <http://www.newmexicohistory.org/filedetails.php?fileID=21266>.

Fanny Ritter Bandelier was born in Zurich, Switzerland in 1869. Little is known about her early childhood in Switzerland before her parents and two sisters moved to Peru in 1884 when Fanny was fifteen. Sometime after the Ritter's arrival in Lima her father died, leaving the family in difficult financial straits. In 1892 Fanny's life took a dramatic turn. The renowned anthropologist Adolph Bandelier arrived in Lima with his wife, Josephine (called Joe), and Charles Lummis, a newspaperman, to conduct field investigations of pre-historic South American Indians. Here, they met the Ritter women. As both families were Swiss (Joe was a Swiss-American), they reminisced about the mother country and mutual acquaintances. In December Joe became violently ill and placed herself under the care of the Ritters. Despite all their efforts, Josephine Bandelier died on December 14th.

Bandelier proposed to the Ritter daughter, Fanny, only eleven days after Josephine's death. Adolph described his decision as, "The girl is a lovely prize, worthy in every respect. Joe loved her, and shy, then, did she join our hands on her deathbed." Apparently, he believed that his own wife wanted him to marry Fanny. On December 30, 1893 the couple was married in the Ritter home in Lima. Adolph was fifty-three and Fanny twenty-four.

Immediately, the newlyweds went to the north coast of Peru to continue Bandelier's work. Thus, began ten years of joint fieldwork in northern Peru and Bolivia. The Bandeliers remained in the field for long periods of time during these ten years in South America, working at various sites, gathering artifacts to ship to the United States, as well as drawing plans of ancient ruins. Their archaeological and anthropological investigations focused on Lake Titicaca and the island of Koati between Peru and Bolivia. By the fall of 1895 they were back in Lima and together were writing the seminal report *The Islands of Titicaca and Kooti*, with Fanny doing much of the final work needed to prepare it for publication. After long delays, this volume was ultimately published in 1910. Fanny later wrote of her experiences in Bolivia and northern Peru in her autobiographical "*My Introduction into Archaeological Research*." During this period of research the couple was in the field for years at a time. Unfortunately, finding sources of money to fund their projects became increasingly difficult. The Bandeliers' ten years of funding from Henry Villard of New York and the American Museum of Natural History expired. So, in 1903 they left Peru for New York City in order to either seek additional financial backers, or to find other employment.

It was at this time that Fanny Bandelier emerged from the long shadow of her husband. Using all her considerable skills as a linguist and translator, she began work on a translation of Cabeza de Vaca's harrowing account of the 1528 Pánfilo de Narváez expedition's disastrous shipwreck and his and his three companions' eight-year survival trek. In 1905 Barnes and Company of New York published the first English translation of *The Journey of Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca*. Even today her work is considered a classic.

The Carnegie Institution financed two years of research in the Archivo General de Nación in Mexico City between 1911 and 1913. Their objective was to collect and transcribe documents relating to the viceroyalty of New Spain. After the two years they returned briefly to the United States and by October of 1913 they were off to Spain to work in the Archivo General de Indias in Sevilla.

In March of 1914, a brief five months after arriving, Adolph developed bronchitis and died in Sevilla. The Carnegie Institution extended its grant to Fanny, enabling her to stay until late 1915 to complete her work. At the expiration of the Carnegie money, Fanny was unable to extend her research to include the archives in Madrid and Simancas. In December 1915 she was in New York attending conferences and making connections in the hope of obtaining employment. With help from various New Mexico friends, Ina Cassidy (the wife of painter Gerald Cassidy), journalist Charles Lummis and archaeologist Frederick W. Hodge, she obtained some translation work from the Smithsonian and taught Spanish. At this time she successfully struck a deal with the publishers of Bandelier's novel, *The Delight Makers*, and it was reissued 1916. During World War I she volunteered for the Red Cross and was selling Bandelier's extensive library in order to survive.

Her financial situation, shaky and often dire, may have been a contributing factor in her marriage to the artist Charles Wilson. She had known him while in Bolivia and he had remained a devoted friend. Again, tragedy struck Fanny when Wilson died only a year after their marriage. She was now fifty-one years old. At this point she put her hand to writing short stories, and continued copying manuscripts.

In 1925 she obtained a position with the Museo Nacional de Arqueología, Historia y Etnografía in Mexico City to teach a course on South American archaeology, which she continued for a couple of years. By 1928 she was once again without means of support and back in the United States. At this point she obtained status as an American citizen through the good offices of the American consul in Mexico City, Mr. Weddell, and Frank Kellogg, Secretary of State in the Coolidge administration.

The final stop in her much-traveled life was Nashville, Tennessee. In 1929 she was assistant to Dr. Paul Radin in the Anthropology Department at Fisk University, taught French there, and delivered occasional lectures on archaeology at Vanderbilt University. Fanny made another important contribution to Latin American scholarship with her translation of the first volume of fray Bernardino de Sahagun's, *A History of Ancient Mexico*, published by Fisk University in 1932.

At the age of sixty-five she resigned from Fisk, and continued efforts to publish Bandelier's journals. She also donated many of his books, personal documents, and photographs to the Museum of New Mexico, where they are now located in the History Library. On November 10, 1936 she died in Nashville at the age of sixty-seven.

Like many couples working as a scholarly team in the same field, Fanny often took a backseat to Adolph. However, it is quite clear that she herself made major contributions to our knowledge of Colonial Mexico in general and New Mexico in particular. She has been described as "an estimable and charming woman, who, by reason of her linguistic training, her appreciation of the problems to the elucidation of which her husband was devoting the remainder of his life, and the breadth of her intellect, was a helpmate in every sense to the day of his death." It has also been said that: "Her flair for language, her ability to work long and hard hours, and her strong sense of historical methodology might well have made her an independent scholar of considerable stature."

Nina Thayer is sharing **Miss O'Keeffe's** Lemon Chicken from the recipe book, [A Painter's Kitchen](#), purchased from Margaret Wood at our September meeting at which Ms. Wood spoke.

- 1 3-4 lb. chicken
- 2 fresh lemons
- 1 teaspoon Kosher salt
- 2 garlic cloves

Preheat the oven to 400 deg. Wash the chicken and cut off the excess fat. Pat the chicken dry inside and out, then place in a glass or metal baking pan or a covered casserole dish. Cut the two lemons in half, then squeeze the halves from one lemon to distribute juice inside the cavity; squeeze the remaining halves on the skin. Rub ½ teaspoon salt inside the chicken cavity and the other ½ teaspoon over the chicken skin. Peel the garlic cloves and cut them in half. Put 2 halves inside the chicken and the other 2 in the pan.

Seal the pan with a cover of aluminum foil and place the chicken in the oven. After 45 minutes remove the foil and bake for another 15 minutes. This should brown the skin nicely. If additional browning is necessary, turn the oven setting to “broil” for 1-2 minutes.

Carve the chicken into slices, keeping the drumsticks and wings whole. Serve from a platter or prepare individual plates. Serves 3-4.

Branch Calendar

Nov	1	Council Meeting, 7:15 p.m., Natalie Markin's home, Ridge Park Condos, 505 Oppenheimer Dr. #419
Nov	5,6	Book group
Nov	6	Election Day
Nov	15	General Meeting
Nov	17	Title Nine Study Group
Nov	19	Non-fiction Book Group

Coordinating Council for 2012-13

Mona Wecksung	Co-Treasurer/Membership	662-7084	wecksung2005@msn.com
Judy Prono	Co-facilitator/ AAUW Funds	662-2691	djprono@msn.com
Natalie Markin	Co-facilitator/ Co-treasurer	662-9399	natalie@lanb.com natgmark@aol.com
Nina Thayer	Program/Public Policy	662-6835	gnthayer@cybermesa.com
Dorothy Donnelly-Shaner	International Affairs/ Publicity	672-2224	fivesigma@comcast.net
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	662-5574	mgiesler@unm.edu
The duties of Secretary will be shared.			
Non-council positions			
Jane Sherwood	Hospitality	662-3194	jane.sherwood@att.net
Denise George	Newsletter	672-9688	georgeje@acm.org
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	mjminshall@q.com
Helena Whyte	Nominating Chair	672-9153	mozden08@aol.com