

Los Alamos Branch AAUW October 2010

Candidate Forum
Tuesday, October 5
Fuller Lodge
6:30 p.m. for refreshments
7:00 – 9:00 forum

The candidate forum is co-hosted with the League of Women Voters.

Fall Kickoff Luncheon
Saturday, September 25
11:30 am
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Our annual fall meeting will be held at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church on North St. Our speaker will be our own Cas Mason. She will discuss her book about WWII. Her book recounts experiences of London's urban children who were sent to the countryside to be safer during the bombings. It is based on letters from her older siblings and relatives.

We will have a short business meeting at 11:30AM, followed by study group presentations.

This luncheon is a potluck. Please bring a dish to share. Also it is our tradition to bring our own place settings for lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. Jane Sherwood would like help in setting up; call her to volunteer at 662-3194.

Please consider asking a friend or neighbor to join you to learn about AAUW.

Branch News:

Jean Nereson celebrated a nice birthday on Sept 7 with her son David who came from Boulder to move her back to her home at 1537 41st. She is very happy to be home with her caring, live-in helpers, Rose and her husband. Rose is the niece of Jean's neighbor Berthie Sorenson. Berthie's daughter, Sophie accompanied Jean on a wonderful trip in June to the wedding of Jean's cousin's son in Calamata Greece. Jean and Rose enjoy visits; please

call ahead at 662-3839.

Two members have new e-mail addresses. Please change the entry in your membership directory and your e-mail directory for:

Jill Forman (jowilla.f@gmail.com) and Marilyn Minshall (mjminshall@q.com).

On October 8, the Historical Society will be dedicating a New Mexico Historic Marker at the southeast corner of Ashley Pond from 1:30-2:15 p.m. The dedication will be followed by a reception at Fuller Lodge from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in honor of Marjorie Bell Chambers and Peggy Pond Church. Nina Thayer and Nancy Bartlit are co-chairs of this event. All AAUW members are invited to attend both the dedication and the reception.

We need someone to fill the Public Policy chair. The current position holder had to resign due to personal reasons. The state public policy program and priorities are available from the state web site at http://aauw-nm.org/www.nmaauw_publicpolicy.html. The duties of the position holder are to inform our branch membership of actions they might wish to take on related issues. The primary effort is to coordinate members who wish to attend the legislative day in Santa Fe. Please let Natalie Markin (662-9399) know if you can fill this important position.

Other News:

On October 7 the League of Women Voters is sponsoring a Council Candidates' Forum at Fuller Lodge, 7-9 p.m., 6:30 for refreshments.

Gwen Southgate will be coming to the Santa Fe Branch on November 6, at the Estancia Primera Clubhouse to read from her book, Coin Street Chronicles. The book relates the experiences of the author's poor London family living through both the depression of the 1930's and the subsequent six years of WWII during which Gwen was sent to a long line of different homes outside London for safety. If you would like to hear this author speak, reservations are required; contact Connie Coates, VP of Programming for the Santa Fe branch. Email her at cmayco@cybermesa.com.

Nina Thayer, who is soon to return to Los Alamos from an extended vacation, is somehow connected with this event. Your newsletter editor does not know the connection, but will attempt to clarify in the November issue.

National News:

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund adopted a new case in July, Foltz et al. v. Delaware State University. The class-action suit alleges that DSU failed to provide equal athletic opportunities to female students, as mandated by Title IX. On October 18, the case will go to trial at the U.S. District Court for Delaware .

In August, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. asked the U.S. Supreme Court to review the largest employment discrimination lawsuit in American history, involving more than a million female workers, current and former, at Walmart and Sam's Club stores. In April, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit ruled that the lawsuit could proceed as a class action. If the Supreme Court also allows the suit to proceed as a class action, thousands of individuals—who may not otherwise have been able to afford legal fees—will be able to seek redress. LAF is watching this case and looking for opportunities to support the plaintiff.

Study Groups:

Book Group:

The October book is Field Work by Misha Berlinsky. The October 4th meeting will be held at 7:30p.m. at Harriet Dodder's home, 149 El Gancho. The reviewer is Margo Batha. Marilyn Minshall, 536 Brighton, is hosting the October 5th, 1p.m. meeting. The reviewer is Marilyn Thayer.

Non-Fiction Book Group: The November book is From Berkeley to Beijing by Karin Kendall. We will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Rosmarie Frederickson's, 1372 47th.

World Cultures through Foods: Contact Marilyn Minshall (672-3499) for more information.

Great Decisions:

This group meets after the first of the year. Books are ordered in advance. Contact the coordinator if you wish to participate this year.

The day-time group is coordinated by Carroll Thomas (672-1937).

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

Study Group Schedules are posted at:

http://aauw-nm.org/los_alamos_study_groups.html

Study group chairs are asked to send schedules and any changes to Denise at georgeje@acm.org

Biography of the Month:



Arlene Blum was born in 1945 in Davenport, Iowa and raised from the age of five in Chicago by her mother and grandparents. In the early 1960s, she attended Reed College in Portland, Oregon. Her first climb was in

Washington, where she failed to reach the summit of Mt. Adams. However, she persevered, climbing throughout her college days. Writing her senior thesis on the topic of volcanic gases on Oregon's Mt. Hood enabled her to go climbing as part of her research. Blum graduated from Reed and attended MIT and UC Berkeley, where she earned her Ph.D in biophysical chemistry. After graduate school, Blum embarked on what she called the "endless winter"—spending more than a year climbing peaks all over the world.

Arlene Blum has played a groundbreaking role in women's mountaineering. Best known for leading the first American—and all-women's—ascend of Annapurna I, considered one of the world's most dangerous and difficult mountains, Blum also led the first women's team up Mt. McKinley; was the

first American woman to attempt Mt. Everest; and has played a leading role in more than 20 mountain expeditions worldwide. She made the first traverse of the Great Himalaya Range of Bhutan, Nepal and India and hiked the length of the European Alps with her baby daughter on her back.

Annapurna: A Woman's Place, written by Blum, has inspired tens of thousands of readers over the past 25 years. Fortune magazine selected it as one of "75 books that teach you everything you really need to know about business" and National Geographic Adventure magazine included it in list of the "hundred best adventure books of all time." Her second book, Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life, tells the story of how Blum realized improbable dreams among the world's highest mountains, in the chemistry laboratory, and in public policy.

Arlene Blum's awards include a Gold Medal from the Society of Women Geographers, an honor previously given to only eight other women including Amelia Earhart, Margaret Mead, and Mary Leakey. She is the founder of the annual Berkeley Himalayan Fair and her articles and photographs have appeared in many publications including National Geographic, Smithsonian, and Science magazines. Other awards include a Purpose Prize given to those over 60 who are solving society's greatest problems and National Women's History Project selection as one of '100 Women Taking the Lead to save Our Planet'.

While teaching at U. C. Berkeley in the 1970's, her research was instrumental in banning Tris and Fyrol, two cancer-causing chemical that were used as a flame retardant on children's sleepwear as well as the pesticide DBCP. In 2007 Tris re-emerged as the fire retardant used in upholstered furniture. Blum co-founded the [Green Science Policy Institute](#) with the goal of bringing scientific research results into policy decisions to protect human health and the environment from toxic chemicals.

Sources (Wikipedia, Squidwho)

Branch Calendar

Sept	25	Fall Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Oct	4	Book Group, 7:00 p.m., Harriet Dodder, 149 El Gancho
Oct	5	Book Group, 1:00 p.m., Marilyn Minshall, 536 Brighton
Oct	5	General meeting, candidate forum, Fuller Lodge, 6:30 p.m.
Oct	7	County Council Candidate's Forum, Fuller Lodge, 6:30 p.m.
Nov	4	Council meeting, 7:15 p.m. Pat Mendius, 124 Rover

Coordinating Council for 2009-2010

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
Natalie Markin	Facilitator	662-9399	natalie@lanb.com
open	Public Policy		
Dorothy Donnelly-Shaner	International Affairs	672-2224	fivesigma@comcast.net
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