



Ice Cream Social and
“Shape the Future” Membership Event
Saturday, March 14, 2-4 pm
Patio Room of the Oppenheimer Place Condos

State co-Presidents Karyl Lyne and Helena Whyte will talk about the benefits of AAUW membership and we'll have short presentations about our branch interest groups. The Oppenheimer Place Condos are behind the Senior Center.

New members and students who join AAUW at this event will get 50% off the national dues rate, and those dues will cover 15 months (through June 2016). And for every two new members who join, the branch earns one free membership.

This is a "sweet" opportunity for you to introduce friends to AAUW and our branch and to enjoy ice cream sundaes of your own making. Mark your calendar and bring a guest!

Matching-Funds Campaign for Tech Trek-NM

Our branch AAUW fundraiser this year is to support the Tech Trek camp that will be held at NM Highlands University July 12-18. So far we have received \$470 in donations.

We will match up to \$1000 in donations from branch members, and our goal is to support the camp with \$2000 in donations. The matching funds are from LANL contributions to our branch for members' volunteer work and from pledges by Council members.

We have set a **deadline of March 1** for donations, because AAUW-NM needs to know the camp's financial status before accepting girls in early April. Please support this AAUW outreach program that promotes educational and career opportunities in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Make your check payable to **AAUW**, and write Tech Trek-NM on the memo line. Then send your tax-deductible donation to:

AAUW
P.O. Box 272
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Note: All checks will be sent to national (AAUW), which will then send the proceeds to AAUW-NM for Tech Trek. Checks made payable to AAUW-Los Alamos are not tax deductible.

Great Decisions

Carroll Thomas is leading the morning 2015 Great Decisions group. Her contact information is ctgb@earthlink.net, 672-1937. All meetings are at 10:00 am at Mesa Public Library upstairs conference room.

Date	Topic	Presenter
Feb 23	U.S. and Africa	Group
Mar 9	Human Trafficking	Mona
Mar 23	India	Thelma
Apr 13	Russia	Karin
Apr 27	Syria	Marilyn
May 11	Brazil	Carroll

Helena Whyte, mozden08@aol.com, 672-9153, is organizing the evening group. All discussions begin at 7:30 pm and end at 9 pm:

March 26, Bev Cooper's, 521 Ridgcrest Ave., 672-9696, *Sectarianism in the Middle East*

April 2, Marilyn Thayer's, 505 Oppenheimer Dr. #810, 662-9785, *Russia and the Near Abroad*

April 23, Helena Whyte, 100 El Morro, 672-9153, *Syria's Refugee Crisis*

May 7, Marilyn Minshall, 536 Brighton, 672-3499, *Brazil in Metamorphosis*.

Out 'n About

The informative exhibit at Mesa Public Library, "Dust, Drought and Dreams Gone Dry" closes on February 20. Out 'n About will provide one last opportunity to see this exhibit about the biggest of all American ecological disasters, the Great American Dust Bowl.

Out 'n About will meet at the library **Thursday, February 19 at 10:15 am**. We will have an introduction, visit the display and hear the voices of several survivors. After visiting the dust bowl exhibit, we will take a short walk to the historical museum to enjoy Frank Harlow's paintings. Following this we will have lunch at the Manhattan Project ~11:45 am. We have invited AAUW Santa Fe members to join us. Please rsvp to Nina Thayer via phone or email by Feb. 18 to insure we have enough seats at the restaurant. (662-6835, gnthayer@cybermesa.com)

If you have missed the AAUW sponsored community book discussion of *The Worst Hard Time*, join this Out 'n About excursion. This exhibit is just too good to miss!

Book Group

The March book, *The Daughters of Mars* by Richard Keneally, will be reviewed by Marilyn Minshall on Monday, March 2nd, 7:30 pm at Linda McLellan's, 422 Connie. Let Linda know if you are coming (lindamclellan@msn.com, 672-9602). The Tuesday, March 3rd, 1:00 pm meeting will be at Nina Thayer's, 1707 Solano. Let Nina know if you are coming (662-6835, gnthayer@cybermesa.com)

Non-fiction Book Group

On March 23, 7:30 pm the group will meet to discuss *The Space between Us* by Reyna Grande at Betsy Comly's, 235 Kimberly. Helena Whyte will lead the discussion. Please let Betsy know if you plan on attending, (672-1574, jack_comly@msn.com).

Save the date for our Spring Tea:

May 15, 4-6 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

AAUW-NM Leaders Meeting

The highlight of the Feb. 8 Leadership Team Meeting was having AAUW's Executive Director, Linda Hallman, talk to us about what's going on at national. She is a dynamic spokesperson for AAUW values and programs and was very interested in our NM initiatives. She announced that AAUW's next research report, "Solving the Equation: Women in Engineering and Computing," will be released March 26 at a media event held at Samsung's headquarters in Menlo Park, CA. This report is the follow-on to "Why So Few?" National is working hard to build corporate sponsorships like its new one with Samsung to support its varied STEM projects. It is also working hard to expand its academic ties: AAUW now has about 900 university and college partners.

AAUW Day at the Roundhouse

On Monday, Feb. 9, about 20 AAUW members gathered at the Roundhouse to lobby for legislation being followed by AAUW-NM. Linda Hallman and Sonya Berg, our state Public Policy chair, were recognized in the House when it passed a Memorial proclaiming Feb. 9, 2015 as "American Association of University Women New Mexico Day." At noon, AAUW-NM held a press conference in the Rotunda

of the Roundhouse to support House Bill 37, the Pregnancy Accommodation Act. This bill would require all employers to give pregnant women up to 3 months unpaid leave before, during, or after pregnancy. As Linda argued, "pregnant employees should not be forced to choose between the wages they need and the health of their pregnancies." In addition to AAUW members, the press conference attracted members of the League of Women Voters, NOW, and others supporting women's issues.



**AAUW-New Mexico
Annual State Convention in Santa Fe
"Artists, Authors, & Advocates"
April 17-19, 2015
Santa Fe Drury Plaza Hotel**



Speakers include:

National AAUW President, Patricia Fae Ho
NM Supreme Court Justice Honorable, Petra Jimenez Maes
Author and former CIA officer, Valerie Plame

Bring a friend to attend the convention. All are welcome. They do not have to be AAUW members to attend.

If you need hotel accommodations, make your reservations by March 16 for the \$137 including tax/night rate for a room with two queen beds, hot breakfast, happy hour snacks, and three drink coupons included. Please call the hotel at 1-800-325-0720 to make your reservation. To receive the special rate for AAUW, use group code 2223502.

Hotel parking is by valet only. Santa Fe AAUW will make arrangements for other parking in the vicinity of the hotel for those attendees not staying at the Drury Hotel.

Santa Fe Drury Plaza Hotel
Address: 228 East Palace Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501

The conference registration form is available from the AAUW Santa Fe web site at this link:
<http://santafe-nm.aauw.net/activities/2015-aauw-nm-state-convention-in-santa-fe/>

Los Alamos County Science Fair Judging The AAUW Tradition Continues

In the early 1980s, AAUW branch members Chris Sierk and Nina Thayer saw an opportunity for AAUW to give awards to elementary students, because at that time very few prizes were awarded to the younger youth who were submitting science fair projects. Rosemarie Frederickson has since overseen this branch activity for more than 25 years.

This year the AAUW members on the judging team were Marilyn Doolen (lead judge) Rosemarie Frederickson, Nina Thayer, Mona Wecksung, and Alahna Weller.

Sheri Lopez and Ben Katko, the UNM-LA student members of the team, were excellent additions because of their enthusiasm, their careful observations, and constructive critiques. They participated because Helena Whyte had contacted the advisor of Phi Theta Kappa (the honor society at UNM-LA) with an invitation to interested STEM students (science, technology, engineering, mathematics majors). Their involvement strengthened our AAUW Affiliation with UNM-LA.

The team judges each diligently looked at the elementary level exhibits and then collectively chose 20 individual projects, which received \$5.00 and a personal note, and 5 class projects which received \$15.00 and a personal note.

The following students received individual awards: 4th graders: Isabella Matiegue, Lily New, Eva Alexander, and Maria Fanelli; 5th graders: Kim Yunseo, Keira Henson, Charlie Young, Travis Anderson, William Szinger, Anna Balista, Wayne Williams, Sam Wolfsberg, Stephanie Peters, Anana Garcia, Jason Pieck, Westley Parker, Isaac Lynn and Nathan Gidden, Jeanine Fassbender, and Sara Franco.

During the judging hours, Tinka Gammel gave the team \$50.00 in cash to use for any class project that the team deemed worthy of recognition. She and the team agreed that the class awards are very valuable because they allow more students to participate, and thereby learn teamwork. It also gives credit to the teacher.

As I departed, a young junior level participant told me that she was so pleased to receive our award given her in a previous year. She and her mother had looked up AAUW to see what the organization represents and they were very impressed.

The following thank-you notes have been received to date: From Westley Parker, "Thank you for helping with the LA County Science Fair. I was very excited to receive an award and I am looking forward to doing more science projects. Thank you for the generous award."

From Lily New, "Thank you very much for my science fair award." From Mrs. Shipley, teacher at Barranca Mesa, "Thank you for supporting our county science fair, the kind words and the award money. We plan to buy a set of plastic 30 geometric figures to further our understanding of mathematical models." From Mrs. Schembri's kindergarten class, "Thanks for your help and support with our district science fair and activities in our community... Thank you for your award... we will use this money to buy more science toys and movies to help us further explore the scientific process. Thanks for supporting our learning and making our community a special place to live." From kindergarteners Mia and Izzabel, "I liked putting the bird seed in the habitat...I liked putting bird food in the feeders." From Eva Alexander, "Thank you for the award...I appreciated the personalized letter." From Sheri Lopez (the UNM-LA student), "It was my pleasure to work with you ladies...I appreciated the opportunity. I will definitely keep in touch with you."

Submitted by Marilyn Doolen, team leader
January 24, 2015

Branch Calendar

Mar	2,3	Book Group
Mar	9	Great Decisions
Mar	14	Ice Cream Social
Mar	23	Great Decisions
Mar	23	Non-fiction Book Group
Mar	26	Evening Great Decisions

Coordinating Council for 2014-15

Marilyn Doolen	Co-Facilitator/Publicity	672-3571	mtdoolen@aol.com
Judy Prono	Co-Facilitator/Public Policy	662-2691	djprono@msn.com
Natalie Markin	Membership/Backup-Treasurer	662-9399	natalie@lanb.com
Mona Wecksung	Treasurer	662-7084	wecksung2005@msn.com
Jill Forman	International Affairs	662-2407	jowilla.f@gmail.com
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	662-5574	mgiesler@unm.edu
Ginny White	Secretary	500-8009, 695-2072	ginny@atomicski.org
Margo Batha	At large	661-8746	atomicbathas@me.com
Nina Thayer	AAUW Funds	662-6835	gnthayer@cybermesa.com
Non-council positions			
Jane Sherwood	Hospitality	662-3194	jane.sherwood@att.net
Denise George	Newsletter	672-9688	denisegeorge@icloud.com
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	mjminshall@q.com
Rosmarie Frederickson	Nominating Chair	662-5915	frederrh@yahoo.com