

Hilltop Views: Advancing Innovation and Gender Equality



2017 AAUW-NM State Convention April 21-23, 2017

We are hosting the 2017 AAUW-New Mexico State Convention in April. We have planned a variety of activities that draw on the science our community is known for, showcase local attractions like our new PEEC planetarium, and feature the work AAUW is doing to promote gender equality. Betsy Comly and Marilyn Doolen are convention co-chairs.

Friday, April 21

- Registration at the lower-level meeting rooms of the Oppenheimer Place Condos from 2 pm. Leadership Team Meeting 2:30 to 4:30. Planetarium show at the Los Alamos Nature Center, 7 pm, followed by tempting desserts from The Pig & Fig Café.

Saturday, April 22

- Registration from 8 am. Convention 9 am in the main meeting room of the Holiday Inn Express. Anne Hedgepeth, Senior Government Relations Manager for AAUW, will talk about AAUW's involvement in international collaborations to promote gender equality and educational opportunities for women, provide insights into AAUW's latest research report, *Higher Ed, Higher Debt*, and share news from national.
- After Ruby K's catered lunch, Fattaneh Behdani, AAUW International Fellowship recipient, will talk about her engineering studies at NMSU and plans to promote STEM studies to women when she returns home to Iran.
- At 1:30 pm, we'll tour the New Mexico Consortium's Biological. Formed by UNM, New Mexico Tech, and NMSU, the consortium collaborates with LANL and industry in research that ranges from improving algae as a feedstock for biofuels to extending the shelf life of cassava roots, benefiting women farmers in sub-Saharan Africa. (Note: you'll need closed-toe shoes and long pants for the tour.)
- Back at the hotel, the AAUW-NM business meeting will run from 3 to 4:30 pm. That evening, we'll dine at Cottonwood on the Greens for our banquet at 6 pm.

Sunday, April 23

- We will return to the Oppenheimer Place Condos for Sunday's meetings, 8:30 am to noon, for discussions of public policy and officer training, a diversity workshop led by Julia Brown, and a Town Hall Meeting.

On Saturday and Sunday, we are offering to lead early morning (7 am) exercise walks on the Canyon Rim Trail.

Please note the **April 7 deadline** for Early Bird registration (\$45) and planetarium show tickets (\$10).

Mona Wecksung (662-7084 wecksung2005@msn.com), is coordinating volunteers.

Nancy Nunnelley (662-4950, nrn1063@msn.com) is coordinating the food.

Please contact Mona or Nancy for details and to volunteer.

- Staff registration tables both Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.
- Assemble convention binders.
- Stuff the goodie bags.
- Help with setup and cleanup on Friday and Sunday.
- Provide food: suggested snacks are fruit, cookies, muffins, bagels and cream cheese, quick breads.
 - Friday afternoon snacks at Oppenheimer Place Condos,
 - Saturday at Holiday Inn, morning breakfast snacks and afternoon cookies and fruit,
 - Sunday morning at Oppenheimer place, snacks.

Branch News

Tech Trek Fundraiser

Our UnTea Party fundraiser was an immense success! Thirty-one of our members mailed in checks for Tech Trek providing \$2,590. Thanks to all contributors for your generous support of the young women in New Mexico.

Book Group

The April book is Hard Country by Michael McGarrity. Linda McLellan will review the book at both meetings.

On Monday April 3, 7:30 pm, readers will meet at Nina Thayer, 1707 Solana. Let Nina know if you are coming (gnthayer@cybermesa.com, 662-6835)

On Tuesday, April 4, 1:00 pm, Linda McLellan, 422 Connie will host. Please let Linda know if you are coming (672-9602, lindamclellan@msn.com).

Nonfiction Book Group

The next meeting will be on May 22, at 7:30 pm. We will discuss The Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterley; Helena Whyte will review. Betsy Comly, 235 Kimberly, will host; let Betsy know if you are coming (672-1574, jack_comly@msn.com).

Great Decisions

The Morning Great Decisions group meets on the second and fourth Mondays at 10 am at Mesa Public Library. Check the branch [website](#) for the latest information

The Evening Great Decisions schedule is also posted on the [website](#).

Public Policy

Nina Thayer & Sonya Berg, AAUW-NM Public Policy Co-Chairs and Colleagues, lobbied in Santa Fe on behalf of AAUW. Here is a brief summary of results of the legislative session:

5 Bills AAUW Supported passed:

- HJR 8 State Ethics Commission, Constitutional Amendment will be on the General Election ballot of November 2018.
- HB 98 Ballot Access for Blind Voters, to the Governor.
- HB 179 Pregnant Worker Accommodation Act, to the Governor.
- HB 211 School Next Generation Science Standards, to the Governor.
- SB 134 Computer Science for School Graduation, Vetoed, Passed w/o signature.

All 4 Bills AAUW opposed failed:

- HB 37 Born Alive Infant Protection
- HB 220 Partial and Late Term Abortion
- HB 221 Parental Notification of Abortion, tabled by HCAC
- SB 192 Transfer of Lottery Funds

Members are requested to read the New Mexico AAUW Public Policy at this link:

<http://aauw-nm.aauw.net/files/2016/04/AAUW-NM-Public-Policy-Priorities-2015-16-4-19-15.pdf>.

Then make suggestions for changing and improving it, which is done each year at the AAUW-NM state convention, to be held April 21-23 in Los Alamos.

Make Your Voice Heard on Capitol Hill!

Our voices need to be heard in Washington.

Sign up to become a Two-Minute Activist (<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>). Or go to AAUW's website (www.aauw.org) and search on Two-Minute Activist. Support AAUW's grassroots political advocacy work. You provide the voice—AAUW provides the megaphone!

Save the Date

AAUW-Los Alamos Spring Membership Tea to be held 4-6 pm, Friday, May 12, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Gathering Room. Our speaker will be Andrea Walters, Education Director of the Santa Fe Opera.



2017 AAUW-NM STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM
April 21-23, 2017

Name: _____ E-mail: _____
 Address: _____ Phone (Home): _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Phone (Work): _____ Phone (Cell): _____
 Branch: _____ Delegates check one: State _____ or Branch _____
 Current Positions:
 Branch _____ State _____
 Association _____
 Special Needs: _____

Registration Fee (includes Saturday lunch):

Early Bird (postmarked by April 7)	\$45.00	\$ _____
Late Registration (postmarked after April 7)	\$55.00	\$ _____
Saturday, April 22 only (postmarked by April 17)	\$40.00	\$ _____

Saturday Night Banquet, Cottonwood on the Greens, 4244 Diamond Dr., Los Alamos, NM
 (Includes hors d'oeuvres, choice of 3 entrees, vegetables, dessert, non-alcoholic beverage, tax and gratuity. A cash bar is also available.)

Please choose your entree(s)

- _____ Salmon
- _____ Prime Rib (Circle one: rare, medium rare, medium, medium well done, well done)
- _____ Vegetarian dish

Spouses or guests are welcome to attend the banquet for the cost of the meal.

\$40.00 x No. People _____ \$ _____

Planetarium Show & Desserts at PEEC on 4/21 \$10.00 x No. of Tickets _____ \$ _____
 (After April 07, tickets will be available only at the door on a first come, first serve basis.)

TOTAL enclosed \$ _____

Send your registration form and check made payable to AAUW-Los Alamos (no credit cards) to:

AAUW-Los Alamos
 Mona Wecksung
 PO Box 272
 Los Alamos, NM 87544-0272

On the memo line please indicate 2017 AAUW-NM Convention
If you have any questions, please contact Mona at 505-662-7084

The official **hotel is Holiday Inn Express**, 60 Entrada, Los Alamos, NM 87544. Please call the desk at 505-661-2646 by **March 21, 2017** to receive the special AAUW convention rate for the rooms, (\$109.99 + tax for 2 queen size beds, with full breakfast included). Reservations for dates earlier than April 21 or remaining later than April 23 will be charged the normal rate of \$123.53 for those days.

Branch Calendar

Apr	3,4	Book Group
Apr	21-23	State Convention

Coordinating Council for 2016-17

Marilyn Doolen	Co-Facilitator/Publicity	672-3571	mtdoolen@aol.com
Betsy Comly	Co-Facilitator/Publicity	672-1574	jack_comly@msn.com
Mona Wecksung	Treasurer	662-7084	wecksung2005@msn.com
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	662-5574	mgiesler@unm.edu
Cas Mason	Secretary	672-1938	casmason01@msn.com
Judy Prono	Program/Public Policy	662-2691	djprono@msn.com
Denise George	Newsletter/Webmaster	672-9688	denisegeorge@icloud.com
Mary Ann Lindahl	Membership	663-0995	moonbeamx@comcast.net
Roz Newmyer	At-large	672-1994	for1994@msn.com
Appointed positions			
Helena Whyte	STEM	672-9153	mozden08@aol.com
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	mjminshall@q.com
Nancy Nunnelley	Hospitality	662-4950	nrn1063@msn.com
Harriet Dodder	Nominating Chair	662-7473	harrietdodder@comcast.net