



There is no general meeting for October. Enjoy the season and some Robert Frost instead.

October

O hushed October morning mild,
Thy leaves have ripened to the fall;
Tomorrow's wind, if it be wild,
Should waste them all.
The crows above the forest call;
Tomorrow they may form and go.
O hushed October morning mild,
Begin the hours of this day slow.
Make the day seem to us less brief.
Hearts not averse to being beguiled,
Beguile us in the way you know.
Release one leaf at break of day;
At noon release another leaf;
One from our trees, one far away.
Retard the sun with gentle mist;
Enchant the land with amethyst.
Slow, slow!
For the grapes' sake, if they were all,
Whose leaves already are burnt with frost,
Whose clustered fruit must else be lost—
For the grapes' sake along the wall.

Book Group

The October book is The Legacy of Lucy Harte by Emma Heatherington. Karin Robert's will review at both meetings. Let the host know if you plan on attending.

- On Monday, October 2, at 7:00 pm, we will meet at Karin Robert's, 415 Cheryl (672-9625, karinroberts875@icloud.com). (Note: earlier time!)
- On Tuesday, October 3, at 1:00 pm, the meeting will be at Marilyn Doolen's, 713 Meadow (672-3517, mtdoolen@aol.com).

Guests are welcome at all book group meetings.

The Schedule for 2017-2018 is posted on our web site and can be found under the study group tab.

The direct link is:

http://losalamos-nm.aauw.net/files/2017/09/2017-2018Schedule.pages_.pdf

Nonfiction Book Group

The next meeting will be on November 20, at 7:30 pm. We will discuss The Scalpel and the Silver Bear by Lori Arviso Alvord. Carol Neal, 3451 Urban, will host. Margaret Gibson will lead the discussion. Let Carol know if you are coming (662-7256, the_neals@prodigy.net).

Out 'n About

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Meet at **10:30 am** at the Folk Art Museum, 706 Camino Lejo (on Museum Hill).

We will have time to look around the gift shop.

Our docent tour starts at 11 am. We will see and learn about the featured Chinese Quilts and, afterwards, woodcuts. The tour will finish at noon and we will have lunch at the Museum Cafe at 12:15. Please RSVP to Beverly Cooper at 672-9696 or email bcooper@cybermesa.com by Friday, September 29th.

Let Bev know your name, phone number, email and whether or not you want to have lunch at the Museum Cafe. Bev will help arrange car pools. Bev can drive and carry three others. Santa Fe members wishing to attend can simply meet us at the museum at 10:30 AM.

Branch News

Our branch has lost a longtime, active member. Harriet Dodder passed away on August 27. There is to be a celebration of life at Cottonwood on the Green at the Golf Club, on October 7, 2-5pm.

November Newsletter

Your November newsletter will be late as your editor will be out of the country. Please use the web site to check on book group meetings.

Unpaid Dues?

If you are not certain that you paid your AAUW dues this year, contact Mona Wecksung, branch treasurer at wecksung2005@msn.com. You can pay on-line by credit card at <http://www.aauw.org>, or mail your check (\$77) to AAUW, P.O. Box 272, Los Alamos.

President's Letter

Title IX at 45 Women and STEM: Preparing for a Technology Driven Economy

from National Coalition and Girls in Education (NCWGE) 2017 Report

Women and girls have gained ground in biological, psychological, environmental, and chemical/material sciences. Opening opportunity has benefitted men as well, as some fields traditionally occupied by women, notably in healthcare, have become more broadly accessible. Women received more STEM degrees than men in 2013 (63%), but 83% of these degrees were in healthcare.

Women earned 58% of life science degrees while men received 80% of engineering degrees and 77% of computer science degrees. The STEM gender gap on community college campuses is worse. In 2014, 22% of associate's degrees in STEM were earned by women.

Gender bias from subtle differences in encouragement to outright discrimination contribute to an ongoing gender gap in key areas such as engineering and computer science, preventing women from entering fields where workforce need is high—and where innovation will be crucial for both economic expansion and national security. Education opportunity clearly makes a difference. A European Commission study that looked only at highly educated men and women in Europe found no gender difference in STEM careers across 28 countries. In Lithuania, 65.5% of tertiary educated women worked in science and technology, compared with 46% of men; in Malta the figures were 66.7% for men and 54.5% for women.

Stereotypes about girls' math and science ability can affect their achievement through an effect called "stereotype threat"—the feeling of being judged by a negative stereotype, or fear of reinforcing that stereotype. In one study, girls who were primed to feel inadequate did significantly worse than their male peers on a challenging math test, whereas girls in the control group, who did not face a stereotype threat condition, scored similarly to the boys.

As learning environments have become more open since the passage of Title IX, girls' achievement has soared. For example, the proportion of girls who score in the top 0.01% of seventh and eighth graders on the math SAT rose from 1 in 13 in 1980 to 1 in 3 recently proving that gender difference in math ability is not innate.

In high school, girls have caught up with boys in number of credits earned in math and science. But Gaps in specific areas of study persist with girls more likely than boys to take biology, chemistry, and precalculus and less likely to take physics, computer science, pre-engineering, and robotics. Girls are taking more advanced placement (AP) classes overall, but fewer go on to take AP tests in STEM fields. In 2016 61% of students who took the AP test in biology were girls, compared with just 23% who took the test in computer science.

Retaining women in STEM courses of study is a priority. Women who start off in a STEM major are more likely to switch to a non-STEM major. Studies show that harassment or a lack of female graduate students can affect women's persistence in STEM. Women are less likely than men to be promoted to full professorship, tenure status, and the highest ranks of academia, such as deans and department chairs.

NCWGE Recommendations:

- Teachers should foster all students' interest in STEM by incorporating female as well as male role models in their teaching and encouraging students to take advanced classes and exams in STEM fields.
- Colleges and universities should examine their admissions and scholarship awarding practices to ensure that they do not foster discrimination. They should establish standardized guidelines for tenure-track eligibility and offer a stop-the-clock option for women and men with small children.
- All federal science agencies should conduct Title IX and STEM reviews and track grant award data to ensure that their grantee institutions are providing equal opportunities for women and girls in STEM, including education for students and promotions and tenure for faculty.
- Federal, state, and local agencies should establish outreach and retention programs at the elementary, secondary, and postsecondary levels to engage girls and women in STEM activities, courses and career development. (NMPED support of AAUW Tech Trek NM camp meets this goal.)

In November, I will review what is working in Career & Technical Education (CTE) and recommendations for improvement from the report.

Helena Whyte

Branch Calendar

Oct	2,3	Book Group
Oct	23	Council Meeting

Coordinating Council for 2017-18

Marilyn Doolen	Co-Facilitator	672-3571	mtdoolen@aol.com
Carol Neal	Co-Facilitator	662-7256	the_neals@prodigy.net
Betsy Comly	Secretary	672-1574	jack_comly@msn.com
Mona Wecksung	Membership/Co-Treasurer	662-7084	wecksung2005@msn.com
Bev Cooper	Publicity	672-9696	bcooper@cybermesa.com
Cas Mason	Univ. Rep./International Affairs	672-1938	casmason01@msn.com
Margaret Gibson	Membership/Co-Treasurer	672-3609	mfgibson1943@yahoo.com
Denise George	Newsletter/Webmaster	672-9688	denisegeorge@icloud.com
Mary Ann Lindahl	Program/Public Policy	660-2259	moonbeamx@comcast.net
Appointed positions			
Helena Whyte	STEM	672-9153	mozden08@aol.com
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	mjbmminshall237@q.com
???	Hospitality		
???	Nominating Chair		

