

AAUW in a COVID-19 Year

Plans for the 2020-2021 general meetings and study groups will depend on New Mexico State guidance and on the confidence of our membership in the safety of in-person meetings. In the interim, business must be conducted electronically.

The first item of business is to elect the 2020-2021 council. All current members of the council have agreed to remain on the council for the coming year. In addition, we are delighted that Judy Prono has agreed to join the council as our Public Policy chair.

Terry Marzili, Bev Cooper, Margaret Gibson, Carol Neal will be returning for their second year of their two-year term.

The slate of members running for a new two-year term consists of:

Mary Jane Giesler, Denise George, Alahna Weller, Judy Prono.

Please vote by copying the ballot below and returning it to me (denisegeorge@icloud.com). I'm not sure what the rules are about quorum involving e-mail ballots; please reply so we will have a paper trail. If this is too complicated, just send me an e-mail listing the candidates you vote for or against.

Election for council for the two-year term July 2020- July 2022 of AAUW Los Alamos Branch

Vote for up to 5

- Mary Jane Giesler
- Denise George
- Alahna Weller
- Judy Prono
- Write-in candidate _____

The second item is renewal of your membership. Your council thanks all who have renewed their membership for 2020-2021. If you are one the few who has not yet renewed, the easiest way is to write a check for \$97 (or \$38 for life members) made out to AAUW-Los Alamos Branch and mail it to:

Margaret Gibson
120 Rover Blvd
White Rock, NM 87547

AAUW National Individual Membership dues are \$59:

\$56 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution, and \$3 is not (because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities).

State dues are \$18

Branch are \$20

If you are a life member you will owe \$38.

Otherwise the Total is \$97

Tech Trek NM 2020 Update

As many of you have heard, AAUW Tech Trek NM 2020 has been postponed until the summer of 2021, when we plan to hold one week of camp for Tech Trek NM 2020 and another for Tech Trek NM 2021.

In lieu of camp this summer, “Tech-Trek-in-a-Box” will be mailed the week of June 8 to all sixty campers. The effort is being led by Cheri Burch, Curriculum Coordinator. The boxes will be packed by the Albuquerque Branch STEM Task Force. It will include:

- String backpack with our Tech Trek NM logo imprinted,
- TI-84 Graphing Calculator
- Workshop instructions and supplies for five workshops (one per camp day),
- Ongoing NASA Cloud Observation Citizen Science activity, with the required tools included (Helena will collate the data),
- Suggested STEM activities for different museums, parks, and forests around NM,
- Online STEM activity ideas,
- Kindle with videos from the PBS series “Ask a Scientist” of women who are scientists in NM and the book “Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World” by Rachel Ignotofsky, and
- Graph of where the 2020 Trekkers are attending school this year, to encourage bonding and excitement between them.

Thanks to Honeywell and Facebook for allowing us to use their donations for camp this year to fund this extra project, as well as those of you who made uncommitted donations so we can fund these boxes.

AAUW Tech Trek NM 2020 Steering Committee, Helena Whyte, Board President

As you know there was no Un-Tea for Tech Trek this year. Tech Trek funds for next year may be missing some of the corporate sponsors because of the business conditions caused by the pandemic shutdowns. There will be a need for contributions to fund the two camps planned for next summer. Expect an Un-Tea in early 2021.

The Rocky Mountain Regional Conference originally scheduled for June 19-21, 2020 has been modified in scope due to COVID-19.

On June 20 from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm, a short Regional Conference will be held via Zoom. AAUW CEO Kim Churches will be speaking on “Pivots for AAUW’s Mission and Future.” She will be joined by AAUW Board Chair Julia Brown who will be speaking on the impacts of the coronavirus on AAUW.

You must register to participate in the Conference. Click on:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AJI0-XWLQwiL6fT_SiXSyw

Los Alamos AAUW Scholarship

The branch collected over \$1000 last year to fully fund our scholarship. We are asking for contributions to fund the scholarship for this academic year. Dawn Law Duran, our 2019-2020 scholarship recipient, spoke to us at our holiday lunch. She emphasized that the scholarship was crucial to her reaching her educational goals. Please consider making a contribution.

Make out your check to,

University of New Mexico Foundation

and write in the memo line,

for UNM-Los Alamos AAUW Scholarship

mail it to,

Margaret Gibson

120 Rover Blvd

White Rock, NM 87547

What is it?

An annual one-year scholarship for a nontraditional female student at UNM-LA.

The student must be enrolled in a minimum of 8 credit hours.

The amount of the award will be \$1000.00.

How does it work?

UNM-LA will provide our branch committee with a maximum of three candidates, the committee will make the final decision.

The committee members are Maryjane Giesler, Mona Wecksung and Marilyn Doolen.

Student services will inform the student body of this scholarship.

Finances will be managed by the UNM Foundation; all contributions are tax deductible and all contributions go directly to the student (the Foundation does not charge a management fee).

Why should we do this?

UNM-LA serves the local community.

The university administration reports that there is a great need for a non-restrictive scholarship (no requirement as to major, marital status, nationality or NM residency).

Establishing a connection with UNM-LA and AAUW-LA will benefit both organizations.

Book Group

The book group members will be asked if they wish to hold the book choosing meeting by ZOOM or by e-mail. Please reply to Karin when asked.

Great Decisions

The evening group is led by Helena Whyte (672-9153 or mozden08@aol.com). In-person meetings will resume once conditions allow.

The daytime group meets via ZOOM at 1:30.

Denise George is the ZOOM host

(denisegeorge@icloud.com, 672-9688).

The remaining 2020 schedule for this group is:

6/11	Human Trafficking	Group
6/25	Red Sea	Nancy

Nonfiction Book Group

The next ZOOM meeting is June 29, 7:00pm. The book is Eager, The Surprising Secret Life of Beavers by Ben Goldfarb. Doris Lodwig will lead the discussion.

The July book is Born a Crime by Trevor Noah.

Angela Coop will lead the discussion.

The meetings are open to all members. Let Denise know if you would like to join.

Calendar

June 11	Great Decisions – Human Trafficking
June 20	Regional Conference
June 24	Great Decisions – Red Sea
June 29	Nonfiction Book Group

Coordinating Council 2019-2020

Alahna Weller	Facilitator	672-9539	acweller@comcast.net
Carol Neal	Secretary	662-7256	the_neals@prodigy.net
Bev Cooper	Publicity	672-9696	bcooper@cybermesa.com
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	662-5574	mgiesler@unm.edu
Margaret Gibson	Membership/Treasurer	672-3609	mfgibson1943@yahoo.com
Denise George	Newsletter/Webmaster	672-9688	denisegeorge@icloud.com
Terry Marzili	Co-Treasurer	661-4214	tmarzili@aol.com
Appointed positions			
Helena Whyte	STEM	672-9153	mozden08@aol.com
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	mjbminshall237@q.com
Mary Ann Lindahl	Hospitality	662-0995	moonbeamx@comcast.net
???	Public Policy		
????	Nominating Chair		