



AAUW ALBUQUERQUE BRANCH

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Newsletter

February General Meeting
Saturday February 4
1:00-3:00 pm
Monte Vista Christian Church
3501 Campus Blvd NE
1:00 - 3:00 pm

**AAUW-NM Tech Trek Camp:
Perspectives from Core Teachers and
Workshop Leaders**

What does New Mexico Tech Trek Camp look like from the teacher's side? First, a brief video of Tech Trek 2016. Then, Core teachers Cheryl Leung, Cheryl Kerby, and Denette Martinez and workshop leader Kim Linder will share their experiences in the classroom with last summer's amazing campers. More about this program is on page 3. More about Tech Trek is on page 11 of the winter *AAUW-NM Roadrunner*.

Refreshments will be provided by the Evening Literature Group, Sheila Richmond.

Guests and former and prospective members are invited.

Monte Vista Christian Church Directions:
From Carlisle at Lomas, go south, or, from Carlisle at Central, go north, then west on Campus and north on Berkeley. The church parking lot is on your left.

March General Meeting
Saturday March 4
1:00-3:00 p.m.
La Mesa Presbyterian Church
7401 Copper Avenue NE

**Speaker: Laurie Waters, Ph.D.,
Nuclear physicist
"The Fascinating World of
Threads and Lace"**

Hear how current scientific techniques and approaches are combined with the fields of art, anthropology and sociology to understand and date antique laces. Different types of lace samples will be available to see up close, and attendees are welcome to bring in antique lace items they would like to share or learn more about.

For more about Laurie Waters, her career, and the program, see page 4.

Refreshments will be provided by the Current Literature Group, Ann Carden.

Guests and former and prospective members are invited.

**La Mesa Presbyterian Church
Directions:** From Lomas, south on Wyoming, west on Copper at signal, or, from Central, north on Louisiana, right on Copper. When La Mesa Elementary School is on the SE corner, the church is on the NW corner.

Calendar

GENERAL MEETINGS

February 4, 1:00-3:00

Monte Vista Christian Church

March 4, 1:00-3:00

La Mesa Presbyterian Church

BOARD MEETING

Mondays at 11:00 am

February 27, March 20

Nusenda Credit Union

4100 Pan American Freeway NE
(east of I-25, north of Comanche)

APRIL MAY NEWSLETTER

Deadline: March 15

Pat Freeman, Editor, 254-1304

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Legislative lobby corps. If you can participate on February 6, contact Nina Thayer
gnthayer@cybermesa.com 1-505-662-6835

February 5 Winter Leadership Team Meeting
February 6 Legislative Day, Roundhouse
February 7 Election for APS and CNM Boards
March Women's History Month
March 8 International Women's Day
March 10 Women's History Day,
Roundhouse, Tabling at 12-1 p.m.
April 4 Equal Pay Day
April 21-23 AAUW NM Convention, Los Alamos
August 26 Women's Equality Day 2017

Linda McDowell, Public Policy

Welcome, New Members!

Helen Julia Fuller (17) 294-4206
6528 Glen Oak NE 87111-6507
hfuller43@comcast.net
BS Baylor Univ

Amy Atkins (17) 453-2612
1610 Los Alamos SW 87104-1122
aatkins@fastmail.com
PhD Univ of New Mexico

Jan Miller 808-218-5829
715 Lamp Post Circle SE 87123-4114
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BA, MA Univ of Hawaii

President's Comments

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and a great start to 2017.

The Branch ended 2016 and began 2017 with happy and informative programs. The Holiday Luncheon was just great, especially for me. Thanks to all for the wonderful thank you gifts—the Past President's pin will be worn with pride, the amaryllis nurtured and enjoyed, the journal read for encouragement about travel, and the champagne which went right away! Thank you, thank you.

Many thanks to Sonya Berg and Nina Thayer for a very informative legislative update/lobby corps training at the January General Meeting. Our members had many insightful questions and comments producing an energetic give-and-take with Senator Sander Rue (R). Many members signed up for lobby corps, support that I know is much appreciated by Sonya, Nina and AAUW-NM. This legislative session is important for all us with the budget looming large on top of all the other important issues. Choice Rally and Legislative Day at the Roundhouse, and Winter Leadership Team Meeting are coming up the first weekend in February. All are invited to attend, so please "stay tuned" for dates and places from AAUW-NM. It is a very busy weekend and all this follows our February general program. Also, thank you to Jan Bray and the International Relations Interest Group for bringing the refreshments.

Tech Trek 2017 needs essay readers because each essay is read and graded three times during March. If you can help, please contact Sylvia Fink. Training will be provided. Also, financial support is very much needed as two previous sponsors have been lost. Please see your winter *AAUW-NM Roadrunner* for details about giving and requesting from potential supporters/ sponsors.

All Branch Members, please VOTE in the APS and CNM Board elections.

Elizabeth Gordon

APS School Board Election Districts 3, 5, 6 & 7 and

CNM Governing Board Election

Districts 1, 3, 5 & 7 (4-year terms) and 4 (unfinished term)

February 7, 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Early Voting January 18 to February 4, 2017

7:00 AM — 5:00 PM Tues-Fri 8:00 AM — 2:00 PM Saturday

Eligible voters may cast a ballot early at any of the 12 Early Voting Convenience Centers. <http://www.berncogov/clerk> or call (505)243-8683

Legislative Day

AAUW Legislative Day is Monday, February 6, at the Roundhouse in Santa Fe. Join with members from around the state to lobby our legislators on the issues that are important to AAUW-NM. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. in room 326; visit senators and representatives in the morning; then pick up lunch at the sandwich shop and compare notes back in the same room. Various committee hearings and floor sessions will be available in the afternoon. Volunteers are needed to staff an AAUW table in the lobby.

Please consider joining our ever-popular Lobby Corps and attending Legislative Day. For more than 50 years (really!) AAUW has had a strong voice in our NM Legislature and this year with declining state income, the stakes are high. Our Lobby Corps consists of a dozen or so members who become knowledgeable on one or more specific AAUW-NM priorities, read bills, attend committee meetings and lobby their NM legislators.

Lobby Corps training teaches what issues and bills are expected in the next session and (of lasting importance) how to talk effectively with your legislator.



Interest Group News



INTEREST GROUP CHAIR Marilyn Dunn 299-5487

Do you have a great idea for an Interest Group? Call Marilyn Dunn, 299-5487, and she will present it to the Board of Directors for discussion and approval. We are always looking for ways to make our membership in AAUW interesting and worthwhile. You may have the best idea!

MORNING

ART--DRAWING, PAINTING, AND FABRIC ARTS: Meets most Fridays, 10:00 to 12:30 p.m., or any hours in between, at Monte Vista Christian Church, 3501 Campus Blvd NE, to do individual art projects and enjoy fellowship of others interested in art. **Chair: Chris Hill, 828-3926.**

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: 2nd Fridays, 10:00 a.m. Hosted by Jan and Olin Bray at Nueva Vista, corner of Juan Tabo and Lagrima de Oro NE, 291-5867. Topics from *Great Decisions*, 2017. Books, \$25.50. **February 10** "Trade, Jobs and Politics" led by Jan Bray; **March 10** "Arabia in Transition" led by Carolyn Glen. **Chairs: Jan Bray, 291-5867 or Olin Bray, 850-2402.**

MORNING CUISINE: 3rd Tuesdays, 9:30 (may vary). **February 21** at the home of Betty Benson, 7909 Hendrix, NE. Group members will be called or contact Betty Benson at 294-1658. **March 21** we will eat at a local restaurant. Group members will be called with details. **Chair: Suzanne Weissman, 294-5626 or sweissmans@msn.com.**

AFTERNOON

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES: 1st Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. **February 7** we meet at the home of Bonnie Paine, 5416 Candlewood Ct. NE, 821-7512. The program will be Botanical Motifs. Bring items. **March 7** meet with Marilyn Dunn, 8620 Northeastern NE, Apt. 9, Bldg. C. 299-5487. Topic: Treasures from Grandmother's Pantry. **Chair: Claudia Poglitsch, 797-4381.**

CURRENT LITERATURE: 2nd Tuesdays, 1:00 pm. **February 14** at the home of Sheila Richmond, 152 Juniper Hill Rd. NE, 856-0245. Sheila will review *Avenue of Mysteries* by John Irving. **March 14** at the home of Meg Wente, 10501 Lagrima de Oro NE, #324, 291-3324. JoAnn Mercer will review *Prayers the Devil Answers* by Sharyn McCrumb. **Chair: Ann Carden, 884-8211.**

MYSTERY: 1st Thursdays, 1:30 pm. **February 2** at the home of Marilyn Dunn, 8620 Northeastern NE, Apt. 9, Building C, 299-5487. Read *A Great Reckoning*, Louise Penny's latest release, or any of her recent Chief Inspector Gamache books. **March 2** at the home of Diane Coleman, 10700 Freeland Dr. NW, 433-2443. Diane has given us directions which will be available at the February meeting or sent to you. Read *Dry Bones* by Craig Johnson. **Chair: Diane Vadnais, 323-1924.**

TRAVEL: 4th Mondays at 1:30. No meetings are scheduled.

EVENING

EVENING CUISINE: 2nd Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. **February 9** we meet at the home of Khit Harding 411 Dartmouth Dr. SE **March 9** at the home of Enid Sorensen, 1412 Somerville St. NE, 294-7217. **Chair: Marianne Helgesen, 286-8956.**

EVENING LITERATURE: 3rd Mondays, 7:30 pm. **February 20** read *The Last Chinese Chef* by Nicole Mones. Contact chair for location. **March 20** at the home of Jo Margaret Farris, 9309 Topanga Court NE, 797-2279. Read *Washington's Secret Six, the Spy Ring That Saved the American Revolution*, by Brian Kilmeade and Don Yaeger. **Chair: Sheila Richmond, 856-0245.**

Tech Trek Revisited!

On February 4, teaching experiences of last summer's Tech Trek!

To set the stage, first a brief video from Tech Trek 2016. Core teachers Cheryl Leung, Cheryl Kerby, and Denette Martinez and workshop leader Kim Linder will share with us their experiences in the classroom with the amazing campers who attended Tech Trek last summer. These women developed courses, taught STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) concepts and created the opportunity for the girls to build motorized toys, develop smart phone applications, design and build robots and learn about electricity and magnetism. If you have any questions for them about their camp experiences, please bring them along.

Before and after the program, all will be able to investigate solitaire games we shared with the students who attended the ABQ Big Brothers/Big Sisters Discovery Festival in the fall, where the ABQ branch manned a booth graciously provided for us by Honeywell. Several hundred K-12 Albuquerque area students came to our booth and enjoyed the games. You may find an interesting gift idea for your family or other inquiring minds in your life!

Claudia Poglitsch

*General Meeting Saturday
March 4, 1:00 - 3:00 pm*

**Speaker: Nuclear physicist
Laurie Waters, Ph.D.**

"The Fascinating World of Threads and Lace"

Current scientific techniques and approaches are combined with the fields of art, anthropology and sociology to understand and date antique laces. At our meeting, different types of lace samples will be available to see up close and members are welcome to bring in antique lace items they would like to share or learn more about.

The field of textile research is a fascinating combination of art, anthropology, sociology, and physical sciences. Existing collections in museums are increasingly benefitting from techniques familiar to the physicist, chemist, and biologist to characterize fragile items. Many of these samples are so small that nondestructive assay is essential, and cutting off a square centimeter for carbon dating or chemical analysis is often not an option. This problem is especially acute in the study of the earliest known pieces of lace dating from the mid-16th century, and a number of museums are increasingly questioning the assigned dates of these pieces. In her talk, Laurie Waters will review some of the current analysis techniques now used in the field, concentrating especially on dating methodologies.

She will also discuss the role genetic analysis can play in one of the biggest mysteries of the lace community - the virtual disappearance of the superfine linen thread used in the 17th and early 18th centuries.

Laurie Waters has a longtime interest in textiles as a collector and maker of handmade lace. In 1980, she was the only American ever to be accepted to study at the Atelier National du Point d'Alençon. She studied with some of the finest needlelace makers in France. In 2012, she gave her first invited paper at the Textile Society of America biennial symposium in Washington D.C. She recently presented a talk on "Lace in the Information Age" at the 7th Winter Lace Conference.

Laurie Waters earned a Ph.D. in Physics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook and worked as a nuclear physicist at Los Alamos National Laboratory for over 21 years. She retired from the lab in 2012 and now does consulting work with a firm called TechSource, Inc., for clients including the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Laurie has also participated at AAUW NM Tech Trek 2015 and 2016 with her workshop, "Light, Color and Sparkles" which introduces campers to the fundamental properties of light.

She dreamt of becoming a scientist from a very early age, before there were any computers. She read as much as she could about science, and had friends with similar interests. She says, "My biggest influence was Mr. Johnson, my 10th grade algebra teacher, who encouraged me to take harder math courses. Not many people back then thought that women could be scientists, but he was an exception. I love what I do, especially the challenge of research and making discoveries. I made my personal dream come true."

*January General Meeting
New Mexico Legislative Session*

Our program on this year's NM legislative session and training on how to participate in the AAUW-NM Lobby Corps was well attended and very informative. Speakers included our AAUW-NM Public Policy Co-Chairs, Sonya Berg and Nina Thayer from Las Vegas and Los Alamos, respectively, and Senator Sander Rue (District 23) who has served in the state legislature since 2009 and is a member of the state finance committee.

Senator Rue spoke about some of the major issues on the table this session including the state budget deficit, education funding and potential marijuana legalization. He also answered questions. Sonya and Nina described different ways of participating in our AAUW Lobby Corps and shared the six different public policy priorities for AAUW-NM in their support for the women of NM that were determined at the last AAUW-NM State Meeting. Lobby Corps participation can range from attending the AAUW-NM Legislative Day at the Capitol in Santa Fe to reading bill summaries in a public policy area and making recommendations, to contacting your legislators about specific AAUW priorities.

For more information, see the *AAUW- NM Roadrunner* and the AAUW-NM website aauw-nm.aauw.net under "public policy." Join the Lobby Corps and/or attend the AAUW-NM State Legislative Day Briefing on Sunday Feb 5. To find out more, contact Nina Thayer at gnthayer@cybermesa.com or Sonya Berg at berg.sonya42@gmail.com.

AAUW in the Statehouse

provides updates, resources, and insider information on state policy from across the country. Sign up to begin receiving this members-only newsletter every month!
Below is quoted from the latest *AAUW in the Statehouse*.

Happy New Year and welcome to the 2017 legislative session! As of today, legislatures are meeting in 43 states, with the rest convening over the coming months. We're looking forward to working together to pass legislation that will positively impact women and families across the country.

In most states, the hot topic will be the budget. Many states are facing lower than projected revenues, combined with increasing expenditure commitments. Key AAUW issues are often embedded in budget battles, so make sure to keep an eye on the discussion because the devil is in the details.

Many other policy matters are also at stake this year. From passing strong equal pay legislation, to stopping human trafficking, to supporting survivors of campus sexual assault and preventing it in the future, we know that AAUW members can make a difference in their states and we're here to help. We are in the process of updating our Quick Facts resources to provide you with the most up-to-date overview of key AAUW issues. We also recently released a policy toolkit addressing three facets of combating human trafficking. And don't forget about our useful state-by-state resources on closing the gender pay gap.

Over the course of the year we'll publish more resources, write blogs about pertinent topics, and work with you so you can be the best possible advocates in your state. Let's spend 2017 rabble-rousing and making change.

Albuquerque Branch of AAUW | PO Box 92643, Albuquerque, NM 87199-2643

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