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**National AAUW Month
Making the World a Better Place
for Women and Girls for 130 Years**

AAUW was founded November 28, 1881 and is celebrating 130 years by designating November as *National AAUW Month*. We have grown to 100,000 Members, 1000 Branches, and 500 College/University/Institution Partners.

As a way to celebrate *National Headquarters* will host a *Cocktails and Convos* (Conversation) and encourages all branches to also host one this month.

Ever since starting the *American Association of University Women* has worked hard on **Breaking Through Barriers for Women and Girls** (our Mission Statement) and has been built on the premise that many women have to struggle to cross barriers for access to a college education.

**Cocktails and Convos at our
Last Wednesday at Curious Kumquat**

Curious Kumquat
111 East College Avenue
5:30 PM Wednesday November 30, 2011

Come help us celebrate 130 years. Chef Rob will prepare his \$10 "Eat What the Chef Eats" Special and four other dishes (\$15 to \$20). Before you go you can consult their webpage to see the day's five selections (Google Curious Kumquat).

They do not serve cocktails but they have an extensive wine and beer list (coffee, tea, and soft drinks are also on the menu).

Dining out at Curious Kumquat is a treat and the good conversation with smart and stimulating women will make your experience even better.

RSVP Eulalia Lewis (emerlew@gilanet.com 388-5880) by 5:00 PM Monday November 28.

November Meeting

Silver City Going Green
Eat Your Heart Out Catering
800 East Market
11:30 AM Wednesday November 9

Nick Sussillo, Director of the Joint Office of Sustainability for Grant County and Silver City, is passionate about respecting and saving our environment and will speak on "Silver City Going Green." The June 2011 issue of the *Desert Exposure* had a good article on Mr. Sussillo and the efforts he and his wife are putting into building an environmentally friendly house.

Quiche Buffet

3 Different Quiches
Salad & Rolls
Cookies
Coffee or Tea

Eat Your Heart Out has a reputation for putting before their customers healthy food that is also tasty (no trade off for eating food that is good for you here!).

RSVP Melinda Shaner (convsdance@aol.com 534-4324) by 5 PM Monday November 7.

"Fiction reveals truths that reality obscures."

Jessamyn West
7/18/1902 to 2/23/1984

"Anyone who says they have only one life to live must not know how to read a book."

Author Unknown

"I love to see a young girl go out and grab the world by the lapels. Life is a bitch. You've got to go out and kick ass."

Maya Angelo

¡Bullying, No Más!

Comments from Adrienne Dare, Co-President Grant County Branch AAUW, Inc.

When I started to think about forming a panel on bullying open to the community, Priscilla, warned me that it would be a lot of work. Well, it was more work than I had planned but I am very happy with the results. The panel was held on October 18th with about 50 community members attending.

Early on I contacted Damie Nelson because I knew that she was interested in the topic and she agreed to be on the panel. Bullying does seem to be a “hot” topic right now. I managed to get eight people on the panel --Dean of the School of Education, Dr. Patricia Manzanares- Gonzales, who planned to talk about bullying in the workplace. However, since we had so many on the panel she offered to be the moderator and the School Of Education agreed to co-sponsor with us. Due to circumstances Dr. Debra Dirksen of the School of Education substituted as moderator and did a fantastic job. I am hoping that the School of Education will be more involved in our EYH conference in 2012. It was a joy to work with the SOE.

I am pleased to report that 15 of our members were involved in some way to make this event successful even though some of these people could not attend: Della, Elaine, me, Gail, Kathie, Frida, Eulalia, Priscilla, Jane M., Damie, Lisa, Melinda, Carmon, Maria, Margarita. Thanks to all of you. There were members out of town who wanted to come also. Welcome to our newest member, Damie Nelson..

The panel members were: Damie Nelson who teaches high school in Cliff, Colleen Boyd Coordinator of Silver Regional Sexual Assault Services along with her intern, Margot Young who addressed the issue of cyber bullying, Jose Carrillo Associate Superintendent of the Cobre School District, Wayne Mendonca La Plata Middle School Principal, Louis Alvarez assistant Principal of Silver High School.

Unfortunately Michael Nennich, who had been bullied while in high school, was scheduled to be on the panel but could not attend due to a heavy workload. Gus Benakis, the Assistant Superintendent of the Silver School District had all intentions of attending and had prepared remarks but at the last minute something came up. He called to profusely apologize the next day for not making it and has offered to present information in the future.

One issue brought up by the panel was the need to train teachers as well as students as to how to deal with the bullying. There were comments from some attendees addressing the bullying of their own children in our local schools. The school representatives informed us of their plans for dealing with bullying. New Mexico has mandated that every local school board shall promulgate a bullying prevention policy by August 2011 and every public school shall implement a bullying prevention program by August 2012.

The Silver School District has taken up *Rachel's Challenge*, a national program named for Rachel Scott, the first victim of the Columbine High School shootings on April 20, 1999. The idea is to start a chain reaction of kindness. At the end of September there was a day long program on *Rachel's Challenge* at La Plata Middle school and several elementary schools had half day presentations. I have heard some positive comments regarding the program at the middle school and the elementary schools. Hopefully our AAUW Branch can be a force in the community to keep the momentum going. Both Damie and I are interested in keeping AAUW involved.

“Bullying is not pleasant but you can survive. You got to speak up and back.”

Elaine Carlson
Editor of this Newsletter

Our Non-Monthly Meeting Activities for November*by Elaine Carlson, AAUW Member & Editor of This Newsletter***Fun Fiction Book Club**

1:00 PM November 16, 2011
3477 Ursa Major Silver City

RSVP by 5 PM Monday November 14
Carol (carolvnewmex@gmail.com 538-3656) or
Gail (gail3469@yahoo.com or 654-0586)

Again Carol Vaughn is welcoming us to her lovely home. To get there assuming a starting point of *GRMC* (you certainly know how to get there!) take 32nd Street west to Ursa Major, turn right, go a short distance and 3477 Ursa Major is the first house on the left.

Earthly Possessions by Ann Tyler (she wrote *Accidental Tourist* and *Breathing Lessons*) is this month's selection.

I Think You Will Like This Book and *Mini Book Exchange* were started by Gail Dunigan as ideas to help our members. I suggest we start a *What Do You Think Of?*

For *I Think You Will Like This Book* prepare a list of books you have enjoyed and tell why. So many books come out (and have already been written) we can only hope to read a small fraction; it is helpful to learn what others think when we are deciding what to read.

We will also continue our *Mini Book Exchange*. Bring books you have finished reading and think others might like. This will give us all a good chance to clear clutter and also pick up something good to read.

For *What Do You Think Of?* prepare a list of the books and authors you have heard about and have not read but would like to get opinions on. We can answer in the discussion or by email or phone (snail mail anyone?). Let others benefit from your experience and learn from others.

Last Wednesday of the Month Dinner

Curious Kumquat
111 East College Avenue
5:30 PM Wednesday November 30, 2011
Silver City NM

RSVP Eulalia Lewis (emerlew@gilanet.com 388-5880) by 5:00 PM Monday November 28.

Another Fine Lunch

Vicki's Eatery
115 North Texas (near Bullard)
Silver City NM
11:30 AM Thursday November 17

We again are going to meet at Vicki's Eatery. Last month Adrienne Dare, Melinda Shaner, Elaine Carlson and Priscilla Mathena enjoyed lunch together here. This cafe has a lot of pluses—good food, reasonable prices, and a nice staff. So come expecting to enjoy yourself (yeah okay the place does not serve *escargot* or alcohol but I do not think those lacks will mean too much to our membership).

Please RSVP Elaine Carlson elaine_sc@comcast.net 519-5762 by 5:00 PM Monday November 14.

Board Meeting

The Officers have been thinking about calling a Board Meeting sometime soon (either this month or in December or January). When they decide details a notice will be sent to members.

A big item on the agenda will be discussion of a good name for our newsletter. So far five have sent me eight to ten suggestions (variations on the same name make it hard to be precise). Don't count yourself out of the fun of taking part in the discussion/debate about a name for our august publication (this month a November publication?)

Work on *Expanding Your Horizons* Going Well – But Needs Your Efforts
by Adrienne Dare, Co-President Grant County Branch AAUW, Inc.

Our 20th *Expanding Your Horizons Conference* for fifth through eighth grade girls will be on February 25, 2012. This is a conference to encourage girls to take math and science classes in school so that they will have more opportunities for success.

Emily Warner has been working on recruiting workshop presenters. We usually arrange for around twenty hands-on workshops for the 250 girls we are expecting. Each girl will have a choice of three workshops. As soon as all the data is gathered about the presenters and their workshops, the brochures and registration forms need to be developed (these need to be completed in early January). Again this year Kathy Whiteman, the director of *GCEC (Gila Conservation Education Center)*, has volunteered to create the brochure.

Priscilla Mathena will be recruiting volunteers to communicate with the schools in the four county region of South West New Mexico and to help deliver and pick up registration forms.

January and February will offer many volunteer opportunities. The brochures need to be done at least in the first week of January. There will be a work session the weekend of January 14 to get packets of registration forms ready to deliver to the schools. The first day of Registration will be January 17 and the last day to pick up those forms will be January 27.

As soon as all the registration forms are in we will want volunteers to enter data. This task goes fairly quickly but we do need to be creative in reading the information on the registration forms. Sometimes this involves calling parents to clarify information. We will send reminder letters to the parents to let them know that their daughter is registered.

On the weekend of February 11 there will be a work session to stuff letters into envelopes and we may be ready to stuff badges into holders. On the weekend of February 18 there will be another session to assemble student packets and organize the T-Shirts.

On the afternoon of Friday February 24 we will want help in setting up for registration and putting signs up around campus. THEN on the BIG day, February 25, I hope that many of you will help. Judy Bailey and Jane Kruse are in charge of the volunteer committee and will be contacting you to give you a choice where you want to be put on the day of the conference.

I do hope you can be involved to see the energy, enthusiasm and potential for these young girls. Hopefully we will be planting a seed which will lead to successful careers and happy lives in their futures.

Not every task that will need to be done is described here but this will give you a flavor what will be happening. Do not hesitate to volunteer to help – it will be a rewarding experience.

Please call or email me with any questions or suggestions (388-2013, dareadrienne@gmail.com)

“I get by with a little help from my friends.”

John Lennon

10/09/1940 to 12/08/1980

“Volunteers are the only humans on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain love for one another.”

Erma Bombeck

2/21/1927 to 4/22/1996

Convos from the Editor
Elaine Carlson, AAUW Member and Big Dreamer

I remember when I was young watching the *Thin Man* movies. Long before I got interested in crosswords I enjoyed watching Nick, Nora and their dog Asta. If my memories are accurate (and it has been a long time since I have seen a *Thin Man* movie) Nick and Nora spent most of their time cavorting about at cocktail parties. It was only when I was much older did I realize William Powell and Myrna Loy and all the other actors were probably only sipping water or soft drinks on a movie set but those movies gave me the idea that cocktail parties were wonderful events. My ambition became to go to them when I grew up.

I wonder if as young girls the women at AAUW headquarter had similar experiences of watching the *Thin Man* and thinking they couldn't wait to become old enough to go to a cocktail party. If so it might explain why they decided to celebrate 130 years with one. AAUW is calling the event *Cocktails and Convos* (do I now hear a chorus of Same Thing?). I do not know why they had to add *Convos* (Conversation) because I always thought talking was an intrinsic part of a cocktail party. I got to admit though that besides seeing the *Thin Man* and reading a few AA pamphlets I am not really that much of an expert on the topic.

Actually the *National AAUW* announced it would host a *Cocktail and Convos* on November 8 and said it thought it would be grand if all branches schedule one on that day. *The Grant County Branch AAUW, Inc.* is not hosting a *Cocktails and Convos* on either November 8 or 28 (the day of the actual anniversary) and we are going to be non-conformists and celebrate 130 years not with a cocktail party but with a dinner.

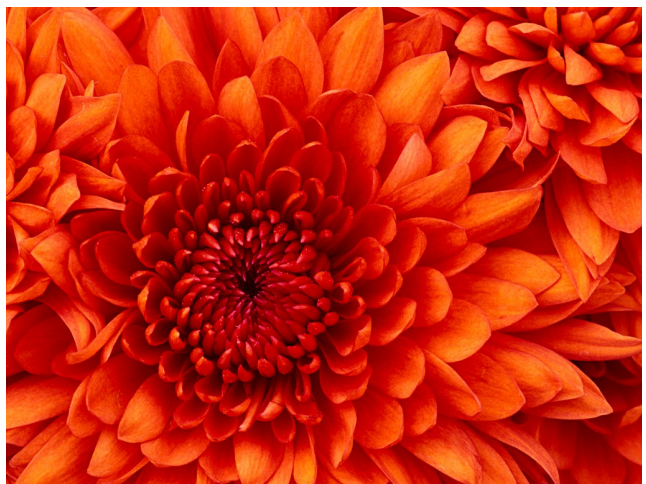
I am willing to wager that our dinner gathering is going to be a grand *Cocktails and Convos*-- and an event that Nick and Nora (and maybe even Lucy and Ethel) would be proud to attend.

I have had a great time putting together this issue of *Grant County Branch AAUW, Inc. Newsletter (Still) With No Name*. I just wish I had gotten it out sooner.

I would like to thank the Co-President Adrienne Dare for the two articles she sent me and for all the help she gave me in preparing this issue. I hope others will decide to donate to upcoming issues. It would be nice if you give me written articles but I also will be grateful for your ideas (maybe I could write them up for you) and suggestions.

I usually do some work on the newsletter at the beginning and during the middle of the month but I really buckle down to work on the 21 and 22 of the month prior to an issue. So I would be grateful for your submissions before them. If you get me your submissions early I will have enough time to put them in the newsletter and then send them back to you for your review. You can tell me if you want me to change anything.

I am looking forward to the next Board Meeting. Although it has not been scheduled yet (see announcement on Page 3) it should be a good one (hell we in the club are all weird enough we can have as good a time at a *Board Meeting* as at a *Cocktails and Convos* – at least we will have a lot of *convos*). I hope to see a good attendance and lot of names advanced for this newsletter (again see Page 3).



A Bit of Dis and A Bit of Dat

Our Members

Two Pictures From Our
¡Bullying, No Más! Program



A Shot of the Audience



Our Distinguished Panel

New this month was the decision to list members of Grant County Branch AAUW, Inc.

Della Acosta
Pat Barsch
Elaine Carlson
Adrienne Dare
Patricia de Naranjo
Dixie Dexter
Gail Dunigan
Christine Fairbanks
Jackie Frank
Kathie Gilbert
Frida Gonzalez
Jane Kruse
Jamalie LaMay
Eulalia Lewis
Linda Lowrance
Priscilla Nathena
Sharyn McDonald
Jane Medin
Damie Nelson
Diane Thomas Peck
Lisa Ross
Melinda Shaner
Marcela Shepard
Kathy Sorells
Carmon Steven
Maria Sundt
Teri Toth
Faye Vowell
Emily Warner
Lucy Wilson
Margarita Wulflange