

AAUW-NM Convention: Women in Charge April 25-27

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March Women's History Month
March 1 Postmark deadline for 21st Century
Recognition Program
Apr 25-27 AAUW-NM Convention
and Leadership Team meetings,
Santa Fe
May 10 Summer Roadrunner deadline
Je 20-23 AAUW Convention,
Providence, Rhode Island

AAUW-NM WEBSITE
<http://aauw-nm.org>

The Santa Fe Branch of AAUW invites all members and guests to attend the 2003 AAUW-NM Convention at the Hotel Santa Fe close by historical downtown Santa Fe. The members of the Santa Fe Branch, including the President, have been planning for months to make this convention a stimulating and educational experience. The theme is "Women in Charge" with an emphasis on leadership. We will look at why there are not more women leaders, and listen to women leaders from different backgrounds. On **Friday evening** at dinner we will meet our Leader-on-Loan, Mary Ann Ahrens. Then continuing our interest in international matters from last year, our guest speaker will be Reema Zeineldin, a UNM graduate student and member of AAUW. As a Palestinian and a Muslim woman, she will speak about women in Islam, particularly in Palestine, Kuwait, and Iraq. This should be a wonderful extension of our learning from our Virginia Gildersleeve speaker, our IFUW speaker and last fall's speaker about women in Afghanistan.

Saturday morning will include an address and program with our Leader-on-Loan, Mary Ann Ahrens is from Iowa and is on the Association nominating committee. She will assist us

in learning leadership skills to be "in charge" of our lives and have some impact on those of the next generation. These might include Change Management, Time Management, Financial Management, and/or Negotiating Skills.

Saturday at lunch we will hear a New Mexico leader in the field of politics. She will discuss how women can attain leadership positions, and why there are not more women in these positions.

The afternoon will feature a Women's Leadership Forum organized by Mona Wecksung. Three women leaders from different fields--business, politics, and academia, will discuss what can be done to support women as emerging leaders. There will be interaction with the group, and hopefully AAUW-NM will be able to form an Action Plan.

Dinner on Saturday evening will feature a treat and a leader of a different nature. We are fortunate to

have a talented member of the Santa Fe Branch, Patricia Jonietz, who will give her dramatic reading of the “endings” that come in a woman’s life and how they are described in literature.

On Sunday morning, we will meet once again with our Leader-on-Loan to discuss and ask questions about any matters relating to AAUW; local, national, or international. Come help us celebrate our 70th convention--and the Santa Fe Branch 70th birthday. Our program will be interesting and fun.

Shila Marek, program coordinator

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The best to you for 2003! The New Year brings new energy and projects...!

We had marvelous gatherings this past January in Santa Fe: our Winter Leadership Team Meeting and Legislative Day. The Santa Fe Branch exceeded its hospitality of previous years hosting a pot-luck dinner and B&B's.

Thank you all so much, especially Donna Walker, Branch President, for coordinating the event, Nancy Scheer for arranging for the facility, and Jean Bahr for engaging our speaker, New Mexico Senator Cynthia Nava, Senator Nava, who agrees with most of the AAUW education positions, spoke enthusiastically and clarified many points. A special thanks to Corrine Howard for organizing an entertaining “radio” presentation on our AAUW issues and assembled complete packets for our Day at the Legislature. On Monday we attended a Senate session, a Campaign Finance Reform Rally, and a reception for female legislators (sponsored by the Women's Agenda), and visited our own Senators and Representatives. It's enlightening to view our government at work!

It's time for update on our AAUW-NM goals for this

year: Membership, Communication, Technology, and Educating Ourselves on International Matters. Membership is still high priority. We are in our half-year-dues period until April 1st when we can recruit for the next year (15 months for the price of 12). In getting women to join AAUW and stay with us lifelong, reaching out to them personally is soooo important! Our branch partnering program is under way and AAUW-NM mini-grants are available for branch projects. Our **Communication** system and our use of **Technology** continues growing with our quarterly *Roadrunner*, regular mailings from your AAUW-NM President, an e-mail network and our website (thus far, we have five branches linked). As to **Educating Ourselves on International Matters**, AAUW-NM has passed a resolution to *support global equity for women*. One way to help is to initiate a local project to furnish contributions to the Virginia Gildersleeve Fund. Barbara Carey, the fund President and Carlsbad Branch member, has been making presentations around New Mexico, informing members about the fund's work.

A few reminders:

- ☞ **21st Century Recognition Program** deadline for postmark March 1, 2003 _____
- ☞ **Branches, enter the contest for the Diversity Awards** for the best jingles, to be presented at the April convention--see Fall or Winter *Roadrunner*, contact Kathleen Gilmore 505-771-3947 kgilmore2002@earthlink.net
- ☞ **Ideas from you** on how we may assist our New Mexico women faculty members--see issues of *Roadrunner*, contact Mona Wecksung, 505-662-7084 monaw@lanl.gov
- ☞ **Branch opinions** on the amendments to be presented at the AAUW convention in June--and we will discuss the amendments at our convention in April.
- ☞ **Our AAUW-NM Convention and Spring Leadership Team Meeting**, April 25-27, hosted by Santa Fe Branch. Do come and help us celebrate our 70th Convention Anniversary!

Carol Ann Council, AAUW-NM PRESIDENT

BYLAWS AMENDMENTS FOR THE 2003 AAUW CONVENTION

Passage of the proposed amendments requires a two-thirds vote. If a bylaws' amendment originates from the convention floor, a unanimous vote is required for passage. The gist of the proposed amendments follow.

- **Open membership to all who support AAUW's mission.**
- **Open membership to holders of associate degrees**
- **Establish business/organization membership category.**
- **Create position of Legal Advocacy Fund finance vice-president.**
- **Establish election of Association directors-at-large by plurality vote.**
- **Clarify composition of Association Board of Directors.**(On the restructured Association Board of

Directors only two representatives of the regional directors serve.)

- **Add a Director-at-large to Executive Committee.**
- **Establish a standing committee on International Affairs**
- **Change length of inactivity relative to forfeiture of branch status.** (This would change 12 consecutive months to 24 consecutive months.)
- **Provide regional directors with voting status at convention.**

Marion Isidoro

In the Association Convention election in June, our own Marion Isidoro is the only candidate from the Rocky Mountain Region, except for one candidate for regional director. Marion is a candidate for one of the eight positions as Educational Foundation Director.

Marion, a member of AAUW for more than 40 years, has been co-president of AAUW-NM, AAUW-NM EF chair (five years), AAUW-NM membership chair, Albuquerque branch president, vice-president and EF chair, and has attended all Association and Rocky Mountain Region conventions since 1983. She taught at mid-school, high school and university levels. For 34 years she has been a docent at the Albuquerque Museum. Marion's AAUW honors have included four named-gifts and in 1998 the Grace Barker Wilson Award.


As an EF director, Marion hopes to increase the fund-raising capability, to help members and the public become more knowledgeable about the foundation, and to bring back Career Development grants and Community Action grants.

New AAUW-NM Leadership Team Members

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY RELATIONS: *Nancy Childs* Las Vegas
DIVERSITY: *Kathleen Gilmore* Rio Rancho

Intelligence from other states

Utah's Disability Project

AAUW-Utah was awarded a grant from funds NOD  gives annually to AAUW. The Association solicits the grant proposals. Carol Sawaya spearheaded the work of the Wasatch Branch in producing "Shrinking the Gap," a video on disabilities, and the accompanying video packet which includes "information about the NOD grant, and highlights of AAUW-Utah's accomplishments and partnerships with organizations for people with disabilities." AAUW-Utah had partnered with the Utah Advocacy Network and the Utah Independent Living Center.

AAUW-Utah's disability project has received much media recognition for its excellence. The video is available for a modest cost--call Carol Stinner 1-435-752-2658.

In November an hour-long workshop, entitled "I Can Do That," was held at Senator Orrin Hatch's 18th Annual Women's Conference. The hall where the forum was held was filled to capacity. Speakers were a paraplegic who had been an Olympic silver-medal skier, a woman who has cerebral palsy, and a woman from West Jordan who has Down Syndrome. Each woman had a remarkable success story. Salt Lake and Brigham City held disability education forums in November. The disability project committee hopes all other branches will have forums. *Carol Stinner*, AAUW-UTAH DISABILITY PROJECT CHAIR and *The Sego Lily*, AAUW-Utah, Winter 2002.

"Making Connections at Mount Vernon" [Virginia]

"...Because our branch is small, our 'special attraction' is for potential new members. When the

membership Vice Presidents solicited new contacts from every member, nine joined. Information packets went to the remaining prospects and they were personally invited to other branch activities. The membership VPs keep a membership file containing details on everyone's various interests. From these files, common interest groups were determined. If either the Mt. Vernon or Alexandria Branch had activities pertinent to the interest groups, the interested people were guided to those activities. Both branches will be organizing new activities to accommodate other interest groups, and both branches are encouraging their members to participate in the other's activities as a way of strengthening our cross-branch 'connection.'

This year we sponsored a new-member 'happy-hour' orientation where people 'connected' on their way home from work. We plan to feature a new member's photo and personal sketch in the newsletter each month. At functions this helps the long-standing members "connect" with the new members more quickly...."

MT. VERNON BRANCH CO-PRESIDENTS: *Patsy Quick* and *Carolyn Gallagher*;

CO-VPS FOR MEMBERSHIP: *Lyn Kagey* and *Dejuana Jones* in *Virginia Vision*, AAUW-Virginia, Winter 2002/03 p. 6

“Fairfax City [Virginia] Forges Link with Africa”

“When the Fairfax City Branch struggled through the process of writing its strategic plan, a few key phrases were included about incorporating an international outreach..Then in August of 2001, President Myrna Brown attended the International Federation of University Women's (IFUW) conference in Ottawa. While at the conference she met two women from Burkina Faso, who had been sponsored to attend by UNICEF. One of the women, Rasmata Barry, of the Fulani tribe, came from the small village of Kongoussi where Myrna had lived and worked over 30 years ago. Since that time, Rasmata has begun a yearlong program at the University of Quebec in Montreal to complete postgraduate work in rural development and resource management....

Importantly, Rasmata belongs to a group of very strong women, the Ougadougou, Burkina Faso Branch of IFUW. Those women are accustomed to facing the challenges dealt them through poverty, poor access to education, and the strong threads in a culture that deny women their basic rights. Among other projects, they are mounting a campaign to further decrease female circumcision through sensitizing others, working to get information into the curriculum and working with government agencies to get the current laws enforced....

The events of September 11, 2001, only reinforced the branch's desire to see broader changes for women around the world....the Fairfax City Branch saw this opportunity as the opening it wanted to work directly with another branch. Never before has the status of women around the world been so important or so relevant as it is today.”

Myrna Brown, FAIRFAX CITY BRANCH PRESIDENT in *Virginia Vision*, AAUW-Virginia, Winter 2002/03 p. 7-8

North Carolina's Online Satellite

AAUW in Winston-Salem has established the North Carolina Online Satellite, which welcomes “all who wish to participate in an AAUW group that meets online rather than in person.” The branch points out that this “can provide the local touch” that is lacking for members-at-large, and that this is also a way for members of other branches to expand involvement in AAUW, especially by reaching members who find it difficult to get to branch meetings.

Online Satellite members are sent the Winston-Salem newsletter and yearbook and can participate in the e-mail list discussions. To join, members of other branches pay Winston-Salem dues, while members-at-large pay both AAUW-NC and Winston-Salem dues.

Winston-Salem Branch has found the response very encouraging--like entering “a new era with

AAUW.”

Tar Heel News AAUW-NC Winter 2002 p.1

PAY INEQUITY

Two Pay Equity bills are in the state legislature: HB 325 “The Equal Pay Task Force”, carried by Rep. Rhonda King (similar to the bill carried last year by Rep. Mimi Stewart, which passed but was vetoed by the Governor), and HB 41, carried by Rep. Al Parks “Prohibiting Wage Discrimination Based on Gender”. The latter bill would provide enforcement and civil remedies up to three times the lost wages.

Numerous studies, for example, Census Bureau data and industrial studies, have verified the existence of pay inequities for women. Below are some of the facts.

- _ Currently, women working full-time and year round receive 73 cents on the dollar compared to men. African American women receive 65% and Hispanic women only 52%.
- _ With reference to age, experience, education, motivation, choice of profession, etc., the wage gap persists, with variables accounting for only about 1/4 to 1/2 the wage gap.
- _ Women holding the same jobs as men, with the same age, experience, merit,, etc, STILL make less than men.
- _ A 2001 study showed that 65% of teenage girls still earn minimum wage, while only 36% of the boys do.
- _ For retirees, the income gap for women is 56% of that for men.
- _ The typical 25-year-old woman with a college degree will made \$500,000 less than men in wages over her lifetime. This will affect her retirement income.
- _ For one in four retired women, Social Security is the only source of income.

AAUW, BPW, and AFLCIO surveys show that 90% or more of women rank pay equity a top personal and political priority.

AAUW was instrumental in forming the New Mexico Pay Equity Coalition. Other coalition members include Business and Professional Women, MANA, Hadassah, AFLCIO. NOW, New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women, UNM Women’s Resource Center.

The Bare Bones Budget Coalition has recently completed its survey of the actual minimal subsistence living costs in cities throughout New Mexico. After economists have compiled the data, the report will be released. The data will substantiate that actual cost of living in poverty here is more than the “Federal Poverty Level.”

Carolyn Kaye, PAY EQUITY, and Jan Bray

LAF Project: Assisting Women Faculty Members in New Mexico

The LAF team, Mona Wecksung and Jan Bray, have been traveling around the state meeting with New Mexico college and university faculty women and AAUW branch women. In Las Cruces our team, AAUW-NM president Carol Ann Council, and Las Cruces Branch president Ruth Benjamin met with three NMSU professors, Laura Huenneke, Lisa Frehill, and Tara Gray, who have been very active in addressing women’s issues on campus.

The NMSU professors asked for AAUW assistance in three areas:

1. To build a communication network connecting faculty women of all New Mexico universities and colleges, to serve as a statewide forum through which faculty women can discuss issues, seek support, and send out information
2. To locate women with strong leadership positions in New Mexico who will address women faculty and graduate students on assuming leadership roles in our society

3. To locate professionals on assertiveness training to present workshops on campus

We have been working on all three of these requests. Our biggest problem is finding someone to present assertive workshops. Any leads? We would be most appreciative.

In Roswell I met with ENMU faculty member Marian Matthews. Marian has been a panel member on women's issues at two of our AAUW-NM meetings and is in desperate need of support. The main ENMU campus is in Portales. To help Marian and others at ENMU it is very important that we develop strong support for them in Eastern New Mexico. The Carlsbad Branch has volunteered to help, and one of its members, Shila Marek, joined us at this meeting. Two issues where AAUW could help emerged from this meeting:

1. Childcare has always been a major concern. A number of these women work at night when no child care facilities are open.
2. Hispanic women of Eastern New Mexico lack power, and need help in assertiveness and organizational skills.

Jan Bray went as LAF representative to Silver City

About donations, according to the LAF national office, New Mexico's contributions to LAF for 2002 are down 30% from 2001. . Albuquerque, Grant County, Las Cruces, Raton, and Santa Fe gave less in '02 than in '01. AAUW-NM (\$590.00 in '01, \$740.00 in '02), Carlsbad, Las Vegas, Los Alamos, San Juan County, and West Mesa gave more in '02 than '01. Portales gave the same amount both years. The complete totals: \$3,766.00 in '01 and \$2,622.00 in '02. Let's work on this!

Carol Mandell, Professor of Veterinary Medicine, in speaking at our AAUW-NM Convention last year, told us about her being denied tenure in favor of a much-less qualified male, and its aftermath. She sued the University of California-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine for sex, age, and national origin discrimination. The court has made a tentative ruling on her motion for summary judgment supporting her on gender and age discrimination, but dismissing her claim of national-origin discrimination. The trial will begin in March. LAF has contributed funds to her case.

Mona Wecksung, LAF LIAISON FOR NM monaw@lanl.gov 505-662-7084

□ □ LOBBYING THE LEGISLATURE □ □

Much is going on the in the New Mexico Legislature. As of January 31, there were more than 200 bills on education alone.

The redo of last year's Education Reform Act (carried by Rep. Stewart, D-Bernalillo and Sen. Nava, D-Dona Ana) has been introduced into both houses. It includes the three-tier licensing system for teachers, and raises the minimum pay to \$30,000. The bill will phase in the three-tier system, expecting in five or so years to cover the most highly qualified teachers with the most experience at a \$50,000 salary. The bills also meet the requirements of the Federal "No Child Left Behind" Act, and the reforms recommended by the LESC and the LESC Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Education Reform. It contains criterion-based tests (versus norm-based) in the schools. It includes the mentoring program for new teachers. It appropriates approximately \$11,700,000 million for these reforms.

The enrollment growth issue is covered by HB 109 (Rep. Swisstack, D-Rio Rancho) and SB 231 (Sen. Nava, D-Dona Ana). We have supported this issue--the bills will phase in the effort because there is not enough money to do all of the enrollment growth changes in this fiscal year. In 2001 I was on the AT Risk

Factors and Enrollment Growth Task Force which considered this issue.

On the Charter School issue, Rep. Gonzales (D-Taos) has introduced HB-375 which contains the recommendation of the LESC Subcommittee on Charter Schools. Sen. Romero (D-Bernalillo) has introduced a bill to allow charter schools to exist for 15 years (versus the current five years) without reapplying.

A bill to fund the mentoring program for new teachers was introduced by Sen. Papen (D-Dona Ana). There are bills to complete the funding of full-day kindergartens.

Bills concerning capital outlay, based on the recommendations of the Capital Outlay Task Force, will be high cost and are intended to satisfy the “adequacy” requirement of the judge’s ruling in the Zuni suit. As of January 20, there were at least five, and the bill on funding educational technology was not yet written.

AAUW-NM’s retired teachers who are in the ERA, consider this! The LESC has requested a study (to be completed by November, 2003)--HJM 2, carried by Rep. Heaton (D-Carlsbad) on combining the PERA and ERA retirement systems.

Resolutions, if approved by both houses, will go to the voters in November, 2003. Those proposed include several to allow the Governor to appoint a Cabinet Secretary for Education, with provision for either abolishing the State Board of Education or changing its composition and responsibility to make it only advisory. AAUW HAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE RETENTION OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN ITS PRESENT CONFIGURATION. WE ARE VERY CONCERNED WITH A “FLIP-FLOP” of educational philosophy every time the New Mexico state administration changes. To this end, the League of Women Voters of New Mexico and AAUW-NM sent a letter to every legislator explaining our position on retention of the State Board in its current responsibilities. Each branch president also received a copy of the letter. **Another important set of resolutions covers the use of interest from the Permanent Fund**, to provide more money for education. At present there are resolutions to raise this from 4.7% (the figure in the Enabling Act of 1910) to 5%, 5.5% and higher. AAUW-NM has been supporting a change to 6%.

The Partners in Education, of which AAUW-NM is a member, published their 2003 consensus document, detailing the philosophy and areas of Partners support. I testified for the Partners and for AAUW on education issues before the House Education Committee on January 31. Partners held a press conference in the Rotunda on February 3. Copies of the consensus document have been provided to every branch president..

I could go on forever.....but there isn’t space in the *Roadrunner*. Watch the newspapers and other media to keep up!

Terry Sleight, LOBBYIST

☐☐ CHOICE ☐☐

The Choice rally was held at the Roundhouse at noon on January 22--the 30th anniversary of the Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision. Rep Tom Udall (D- 3rd Congressional District) addressed the rally-goers, The rally was followed by a press conference. Senators Cisco McSorley and Dede Feldman addressed the group, as did members of the Coalition for Choice. In the evening about 200 people attended a fund-raising dinner for Choice.

Anti-Choice bills in this legislative session include ”Parental Notification,” introduced as follows: HB 344 (Rep. Regensberg, D-Dist. 68); HB 328 (Rep. Larranga, R-Dist. 27); SB 309, (Sen. Griego, D-Dist. 39). All require parental notification before a minor could get an abortion. Judicial bypass is included.

Defining life and death and when life begins are the topics of two more worrisome Joint Resolutions. SJR

7 (Sen. Komandina, R-Dist. 9), is entitled “Define ‘Life’ and ‘Death,’” and SJR 8 (Sen. Sharer, R-Dist. 1), is entitled “Define When Life Begins.” Both of these, if passed, would go to the voters in November. Both would make **the concept of Choice--a woman’s right to decide within her own ethical framework--**moot because of the definition of when life begins.

Two bills that would provide for rape victims have been introduced. Rep Gail Beam (D-Dist. 18) introduced HB 315, “The Emergency Contraception Act,” which would require hospital emergency rooms to provide emergency contraception (the “morning after pill”) to rape victims. Quite a few of the emergency rooms around the state already provide this, but many others do not. Rep. Stewart (D-Dist. 18) introduced HB 119, the “Sexual Assault Survivor’s Emergency Care.”

Several other bills supporting Choice have also been introduced. Since bills can still be introduced, there may be more on Choice and anti-Choice.

Watch the newspapers.

Information on bills is also provided on
<http://legis.state.nm.us>.

COOR

REQUEST FOR ITEMS FOR SILENT AUCTION

We are looking for some fabulous things for our Silent Auction to be held at the AAUW-NM Convention in April. This is our time to raise funds for the EF/LAF programs we sponsor in AAUW. We would love to have any items you can part with, such as collectibles or other items you would like to donate (not garage sale items).

If you are an artist, please donate a work; if you know an artist, please ask him/her to donate a work.

Here are some other ideas:

Jewelry, Glassware

Photos, Dishes

Paintings, Gift Baskets

Sculptures, Decorator pillows

pottery , Wooden Things

Stained Glass, Nick-knacks

Candles , Bric-a-brac.

Other items might be of your own handiwork, or what you were given but don’t want, or what you bought and don’t need or use!

Your donated items will be displayed with your name listed. If you give us some of your business cards, at the auction we will place them with the item you donated.

Do you know anyone who would donate such items as

Tickets to a Show? Opera Tickets?

Restaurant Dinners? Gift Certificates?

This kind of donation always sells, and usually for a very good price!

All donations to EF and LAF are tax-deductible. After a donation has been received, the donor will be sent a letter verifying the donation. Please be sure to advise us of the real value of each item.

Please also tell us whether we need to contact anyone personally.

We greatly appreciate your help with this and your donation! Call one of these members if your donation wants a ride, or if you need info:

Bonnie Berget 505-474-6714 (H) Santa Fe

Rosario Trujillo 505-454-8928 (H) Las Vegas

Mona Wecksung 505-662-7084 Los Alamos

Pat Freeman 505-254-1304 Albuquerque

Carol Woodworth 505-445-3591 Raton

LaJune Smith 505-522-6026 Las Cruces

We'll see the items and place our bids at the convention. The Silent Auction "winners" will be announced at the Saturday evening dinner.

CAMPAIGN REFORM

New Mexicans for Campaign Reform (NMCR, AAUW is a member) is working hard to get the New Mexico legislature to pass a **pilot bill for voluntary public funding for the Public Regulation Commission (PRC) which is the most powerful commission in our state.** By law PRC regulates almost everything from utilities to insurance, to transportation, etc., affecting us all.

There will also be a bill for voluntary public funding of the other elective state offices that has not yet been introduced. NMCR does not have much hope for it this time around since the Governor opposes public funding for campaigns.

Three members of the PRC, two Democrats and one Republican spoke in favor of voluntary public funding at the press conference on our Legislative Day in Santa Fe on Jan. 27th.

Bills important to campaign reform introduced at this time are:

- ◆ **SB 222** (PRC bill) sponsored by Senators. Dede Feldman and Manny Aragon with committee assignments to Rules (it passed Rules on Feb. 12), then Finance.
- **SB 22** (electronic filing) sponsored by Senator Dede Feldman.
- ◆ **HB 420** (PRC bill) sponsored by House Speaker Ben Lujan with committee assignments to Voters and Elections (passed Feb. 11), the Judiciary, then Appropriations and Finance.

AAUW members need to write, phone or e-mail their Senators and Representatives in support of these bills. Since the bills do not affect their offices there is a good chance legislators will support them. When one of these bills reaches the Governor's desk we will all need to contact him and ask him to please sign it into law.

Voluntary public funding of campaigns is important to our democracy to help restore citizens' confidence in their elected officials, and to level the playing field for candidates and allow them to concentrate on the issues.

Marion Isidoro AAUW REPRESENTATIVE TO NMCR

MINI-GRANTS

Three branches have been granted \$100 each in support of their annual community projects: **Las Vegas**, public interest forums; **Las Cruces**, Girls Can!; and **Santa Fe**, Careers and Curiosity in Math and Science.

If your branch has planned a community project, we urge you to submit your request for funding to the AAUW-NM board. Please contact Mini-Grant Chair *Marilyn Dunn* at mdunn45191@aol.com, or 505-299-5487 to discuss these grants.

NOMINATIONS

Officers to be elected at the AAUW-NM Convention are: Program Coordinator (First Vice President), Finance Chair, Outreach Coordinator, Public Policy Coordinator, Newsletter Editor, and Legal Advocacy Fund Chair. Thus far, the Nominations Committee has nominated Virginia Spruiell as Finance Chair and Pat Freeman as Newsletter Editor. About nominations for the other offices, please contact *Carol Woodworth*, Nominations Chair, at 505-445-3591, or h-cwoody@raton.com.



Location: HOTEL SANTA FE. 1501 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe. **From I 25**, exit St. Francis, go north, right on Cerrillos, left on Guadalupe, right on Paseo de Peralta. The hotel is on your left. **Park** in the hotel lot. Survey the hotel's facilities on www.hotelsantafe.com.

For your reservation , call 1-800-825-9876. Say you are with AAUW. Your registration helps "pay" for the meeting rooms. **Room rate:** \$99.00 per night, plus tax, single or double. The number of doubles is limited. **March 9, 2003, is the reservation deadline for this price.**

EVENTS

EF, LAF, AND BRANCH EXHIBITS APRIL 25 AND 26

FRIDAY APRIL 25

12:00-6:00 Registration
 1:30-4:30 Leadership Team Meeting
 4:30-5:15 Business Session #1
 5:30-7:30 Dinner time
 7:30-8:00 Travel to Santa Fe home
 8:00-10:00 Desserts at Santa Fe home
 Speaker: Reema Zeineldin
 on "Women in Islam"

SATURDAY APRIL 26

8:00-1:30 Registration
 Breakfast on your own
 8:30-9:00 Address by Leader-on-
 Loan,
 Mary Ann Ahrens
 9:00-10:00 Business Session #2
 10:15-11:45 Program: Mary Ann
 Ahrens
 12:00-1:30 Luncheon,
 Speaker: New Mexico woman
 leader

REGISTRATION

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE to:

AAUW Santa Fe Branch. Mail your form with your check to Nancy Scheer.
 1894 Esplendor, Santa Fe, NM 87505

QUESTIONS? Contact Nancy Scheer
 505-473-9897, nscheer@juno.com , or
 Donna Walker: donnajnewalker@cs.com

MEALS: Prices include 20% gratuity and tax. For walk-in registrations availability of meals cannot be guaranteed.

REFUND requests must be in writing and received by April 17.

Saturday April 26 continued

1:45-3:30 Women's Leadership Forum
 presented by
 Linda Hansen,
 President of the College of Santa Fe;

Barbara Stine, Los Alamos National
 Laboratory Deputy Associate
 Director; and New Mexico woman
 leader

3:45-4:45 Business Session #3,
 Discussion of Association
 Amendments

6:00-6:30 Social time

6:30-9:00 Dinner

Dramatic Reading by
 Patricia Jonietz Awards
 Installation of Officers
 Anniversaries:

70th AAUW-NM Convention, and
 70th Santa Fe Branch
 Silent Auction.
 Wear Southwestern attire if you
 wish!

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Breakfast on your own

9:15-10:15 Town Hall Meeting with
 Leader-on-Loan, Mary Ann Ahrens
 10:30-12:00 Leadership Team Meeting

REGISTRATION

Name _____ Branch _____

Address _____

Home phone _____

City _____

E-mail/FAX _____

Fees:	Member	Spouse/ Guest
Convention Early Bird (postmark by April 4)	\$ 29 _____	
Convention (postmark after April 4)	\$ 39 _____	
Friday Dinner Check your choice of restaurant	Dutch treat	Dutch treat
Pranzos (Italian/Continental) _____ Zia Diner _____		
Cowgirl (Barbeque) _____ Andiamo (Italian) _____		
Friday Evening "New Mexican Desserts" at Santa Fe home	no charge	no charge
Please check if you will attend	Yes _____	Yes _____
Saturday Lunch (Deli buffet)	\$ 22 _____	\$22 _____
Saturday Dinner (Southwest menu)	\$ 38 _____	\$38 _____
Vegetarian (72 hours notice) _____		
Total	\$ _____	\$ _____ Total enclosed \$ _____

LEGISLATIVE VOTER ALERT

HB 310 (Rep. Stewart, D-Bernalillo) was introduced to set a date for a Special Election to bring the constitutional amendments, resulting from Resolutions in this Legislative session, to the voters. The bill was amended by the HAFC to provide a date of November 4, 2003, for this election. As amended, HB 310 received a Do Pass from the committee.

The amendments will include several education issues of interest to AAUW-NM. One would increase the amount of interest received from the Permanent Fund to provide more money for education. Other resolutions cover the issue of a cabinet-level position for education and the role/function of the State Board of Education. AAUW is supporting no change in the Board's responsibilities.

With November 4th set for the election, we are asking all AAUW branches to consider the constitutional amendments at their October meetings. We will provide a list of the amendments and information at the AAUW-NM Convention.

Terry Sleight, LOBBYIST Jean Bahr, ACADEMIC COORDINATOR

CRISIS LOOMS IN EDUCATION

AAUW-NM **supports** the present governance policy for education in New Mexico, and **opposes** any changes in this policy. The structure as it exists now consists of a fifteen member State Board of Education (SBE), ten of whom are elected by New Mexico districts with an additional five members appointed by the governor. The SBE has the authority, along with the legislature, to control educational policies and funding. The SBE currently hires the State Superintendent of Schools.

Critics may tell you that the governor is responsible now for policies he does not control. We beg to differ on this position for the following reasons:

AAUW-NM feels that any change in the present structure gives additional focus to special interests, and on partisan politics. A change takes control away from the public which now has oversight by a direct control of the electorate. A change in structure could remove education policy-making even further away from the best practices of the educational community, a movement that began some 30 years ago with, some would say, the disastrous results seen in today's schools.

Any change in governance would require a constitutional amendment and a "yes" vote from New Mexico citizens. The governor has said an election could be held in November. Please communicate to legislators, as well as members of the public, that AAUW-NM does not favor any plan to decrease, or eliminate, the 15 member State Board of Education.

Jean Bahr, ACADEMIC COORDINATOR

Change of address? Branch members: Notify your local membership chair;
Members-at-Large: Notify AAUW Records Office, 1111 Sixteenth St., NW, Washington, DC 20038.
Both: Later, verify with the Helpline (1-800-326-AAUW).
Please also send your change to Roadrunner.

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.
AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.
AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.
AAUW is open to all graduates who hold the baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
 In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.
 There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.