



Desert Doings

The Newsletter of West Mesa Branch, AAUW

January 2009

President's Note



I am very excited to announce that our speaker for the next meeting of the West Mesa Branch of AAUW will be Lynn Rosenthal, the new executive director of the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence. You may have seen the article about her in the December Sage magazine in the *Albuquerque Journal*. Ms Rosenthal formerly worked in Washington, D.C., as the head of the National Network to End Domestic Violence. There she worked with sponsor Joe Biden and helped draft the 2005 expanded Violence Against Women Act. She was the first recipient of the Sheila Wellstone Award, named for the wife of Senator Paul Wellstone, a longtime champion for the cause of ending domestic violence.

Ms Rosenthal has been in New Mexico just since last summer, and has been working hard to learn all about us, especially our many cultures. Her main agenda is securing and protecting funding for the 39 domestic violence agencies in the state. Please come and join your branch in welcoming her.

-- Cheryl

January General Meeting

Noon, Saturday, January 17

The Pasta House, 3201 Southern Blvd. SE in Rio Rancho
Cost is \$11 for buffet lunch with soft drink; \$2 extra for coffee

Speaker: Lynn Rosenthal, Executive Director
New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Please RSVP to Marj Wyckoff at 897-1150 by Thursday, January 15.

WEST MESA NEWS

HELP! LOST BANNER! If you know the whereabouts of an AAUW cloth banner (about 2 x 3 feet or so) that went missing from the recruitment drive over at CNM, please contact Corinne Howard, 897-0148. She needs it for the upcoming Lobby Corps Luncheon and for Legislative Day in Santa Fe, and will really appreciate hearing from you.

PUBLIC POLICY: Please remember to be aware of who your people in Santa Fe are so we don't have to look them up for you. The people in the know are still saying that money that has received the OK on a recurring basis is probably safe but anything that needs new funding each year is in doubt and any new bills that require money probably won't even get a number or be sent to the Governor's office and may not come out of there if it does. Possibly the only new money requests will come from the Governor's office. Some bills that the interim committees liked have already been turned down.

-- Dixie Trebbe

Women On the Edge

New Mexico Women's Chorus invites you to join them for *Women on the Edge*, a collection of songs made popular by women who have been pioneers in civil rights and social justice, music, feminism, and politics in general – in short, women who have made a difference by not behaving in traditional manners. Contact President Cheryl for details.



The banner features a teal background with white and blue text. On the left, it reads "2009 AAUW National Convention" in white, "Breaking through Barriers" in large blue letters, "June 26-28, 2009" in white, and "St. Louis" in white. On the right, there is a stylized city skyline with a large teal arch over it. The arch contains the text "BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS" repeated in a smaller font.

2009 AAUW National Convention will be 'BREAKING through BARRIERS'

The 2009 AAUW National Convention will be in St. Louis June 26-28. This historic convention, themed "BREAKING through BARRIERS," will discuss and vote on issues related to membership requirements, dues payments, public policy issues, and much more. The results will have a momentous impact on who and what AAUW is to be in the coming years. You don't want to miss it! Check out the AAUW website for full details on the issues, the convention, and things to do in St. Louis: www.aauw.org/convention.

DON'T miss out on Best Value Registration fee of \$375 for those who register before January 15.

Calendar

- Jan 1 Half-price dues for new members, now through March 15
- Jan 10 Albuquerque Branch general meeting. 2:00 – 4:00
Asbury United Methodist Church, 10000 Candelaria NE, just east of Eubank. Program: **Adventures In Spain** presented by four AAUW member artists
- Jan 15 Last day to register for National Convention at reduced fee.
- Jan 17 West Mesa Branch general meeting. See p. 1
- Feb 8 Winter State Leadership Team Meeting, Santa Fe
- Feb 9 A Day at the Legislature, Santa Fe
Keep up-to-date on state and other branch activities by visiting the AAUW- New Mexico website: www.aauw-nm.org

January 2009						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Interest Groups

BRIDGE:

BRIDGE TIPS:

January 15 - Jana George
February 5 - Jane Komatz

PARTY BRIDGE: Party Bridge meets the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 1:00 p.m. at the host's home. Please call the host if you would like to play.

January 8 - Merry Sisneros - 890-1406
January 22 - Bob Long - 897-7906

DINE AROUND will be held at Jo & Bud Rose's on Sunday, **January 25** at 6:00 pm. Call Jo at 897-3196 to tell her you're coming and what dish you're bringing.

NOBLE READERS will meet at the Barnes and Nobel coffee shop at 9:30 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Books for the upcoming meetings are:

January 28: Broken for You by Stephanie Kallos
A Free Man of Color by Barbara Hambly

February 25: The Devil's Highway by Luis Alberto Urrea
The Zookeeper's Wife by Diane Ackerman

GREAT DECISIONS (*WORLD of ISSUES*) will meet on **January 21** at 7:00 p.m. at Acantilado Vista. Call Laura at 328-1767 for details.

ROBINSON'S RANDOM RAMBLINGS



Hello Everybody and Happy 2009! My supplier sent me a new set of puns that I thought I should share with you to start the year off with a laugh (no groaning allowed!).

The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference.

He acquired his size from having too much pi.

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.

Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital.

When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, the nurse said, 'No change yet.'

When the cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.

Keep Smiling – Lin



West Mesa Branch