

# AAUW - NM Leadership Team Meeting (LTM)

Fall LTM

October 20, 2012

Albuquerque, NM

**Attendance:** Jean Bahr, Santa Fe; Ruth Benjamins, Las Cruces; Mary Tyler Browne, Albuquerque/West Mesa; Carol Ann Council, Las Cruces; Bonnie Eisenberg, Las Cruces; Sylvia Fink, Albuquerque; Louise Geistle, Albuquerque; Elizabeth Gordon, Albuquerque; Cheryl Klenner, West Mesa; Karyl Lyne, Las Vegas; Patricia Maben, West Mesa; Natalie Markin, Los Alamos; Karen Nelson, Carlsbad; Shelley Rossbach, Santa Fe; Bonnie Rutherford, West Mesa; Mary Sandford, Carlsbad; Enid Tidwell, Santa Fe;

**Guests:** Julia T. Brown, Las Cruces; Marilyn Dunn, Albuquerque; Georgia Owens, online

## Call to Order and Announcements at 1:40 p.m.

1. President Shelley Rossbach thanked Ted Cooley and the Albuquerque branch for arranging the lunch and meeting place at the Monte Vista Christian Church.
2. An updated calendar, motions forms, reports, state officers list, branch presidents list and reimbursement forms are on the side table.
3. Send nominations for the Terry Sleight award to Jean Bahr by Dec. 15, 2012. Applications for the Grace Barker Wilson award go to Cas Mason by Feb. 15, 2013.
4. Congratulations to Dixie Trebbe, who has been honored by the Rio Rancho, NM VFW Auxiliary as a lifetime member.
5. Meeting dedications are Jean Nereson, Los Alamos, who died Aug. 26, 2012, and Mary Tiffany, Las Cruces, who died in Aug., 2012.
6. The pass and share box was circulated.
7. The minutes of the July 21, 2012, LTM meeting in Los Alamos were accepted as corrected. The correct name of a guest is Nancy Rogers. Under # 9 on page 6, change "it" to "is."

## Financial Report

Ruth Benjamins presented a spreadsheet report. Current total revenue and cash amounts to \$5,562.57.

## Unfinished Business

1. National AAUW wants to know what branches have been doing to support Get Out the Vote efforts. Carlsbad representatives reported that they have worked on voter registration at the local college, new teacher orientation, reaching high school students who are 18, and had a voter registration table at a community back to school night. In October, Carlsbad worked with NMSU - Carlsbad and the local newspaper to conduct a candidates' forum which over 200 people attended. The Albuquerque branch had information in their newsletter about early voting. Santa Fe branch with the League of Women Voters sponsored two forums which had low turnout, so they will do them earlier next time, before early voting begins. Las Vegas branch registered voters at Wal-Mart for a day and showed the film *Iron-Jawed Angels* at New Mexico Highlands University. Shelley Rossbach and Dixie Trebbe are going to meetings of the Polling Place Participation and Protection Leadership Table. They reported 20,000 new

voters have been registered in New Mexico. Shelley described poll watcher duties and what she learned in her training.

2. Shelley Rossbach moved (seconded by Carol Ann Council) "that AAUW - NM create a 'Service to Women' award that may be presented upon the request of any member to any state legislator who is retiring from the New Mexico State Legislature, and who has demonstrated outstanding advocacy for the women and girls of New Mexico." Shelley circulated a draft copy of such an award. Bonnie Eisenach moved to amend the motion to change the word "member" to "branch." There was no second so the motion to amend died. Bonnie then moved (seconded by Sylvia Fink) to add the word "certificate" after the word "award" and to add the phrase "and with the approval of the Leadership Team" after the word "member." The amendment passed. The amended motion also passed. The final motion reads "that AAUW - NM create a 'Service to Women' award certificate that may be presented upon the request of any member, and with the approval of the Leadership Team, to any state legislator who is retiring from the New Mexico State Legislature, and who has demonstrated outstanding advocacy for the women and girls of New Mexico."
3. Natalie Markin moved (seconded by Ruth Benjamins) to approve corrections in the resolution passed at the April 2012 state convention calling for a NM Senate confirmation hearing for Hanna Skandera: change "Dr" to "Ms" and change "16 months" to "21 months." The motion passed. The updated resolution reads

**WHEREAS** AAUW-New Mexico's public policy supports constitutional protection for the rights of all individuals, and

**WHEREAS** the Constitution of the State of New Mexico requires Senate confirmation of all nominees for cabinet positions, and

**WHEREAS** the nominee for Secretary of Education, Ms. Hanna Skandera, nominated by Governor Martinez in January 2011, has served for more than 21 months without being granted a confirmation hearing,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that AAUW-NM strongly urges the Chair of the Senate Rules Committee to schedule and execute a confirmation hearing for Ms. Skandera no later than the end of the 2013 legislative session.

**RESOLVED** in session this 20th day of October, 2012.

4. We are still in need of appointed officers: Bylaws Chair, College/University Chair, International Interest Chair, Media Relations Chair, and Strategic Planning Chair. We are also in need of a special person to be Public Policy Chair. Dixie will continue to help, but she has reached the term limits stated in our bylaws.

## New Business

1. Our annual convention is April 26-28 in Carlsbad. Karen Nelson asked for suggestions on public policy programming. Natalie Markin suggested information on the recently published AAUW report on the new wage gap research.
2. Karen asked that branches consider hosting the summer 2013 LTM, the fall 2013 LTM or the spring 2014 convention.
3. Karyl Lyne talked about a "consent agenda," where documents are received and reviewed at home to save time at meetings. Revisions to minutes, treasurers reports, and branch reports would be sent in prior to in person meetings. Discussion followed. No action was taken.
4. A discussion was held on the idea of focusing LTMs around specific topics with abbreviated business meetings.
5. There is \$835.33 in a Los Alamos bank that belongs to AAUW Funds. Mary Tyler Browne moved (seconded by Ruth Benjamins) that the funds be donated as follows: 5% to Fund 1503, with the remaining 95% divided equally among the Legal Advocacy Fund, NCCWSL (to send NM girls) and Fund 1503. The motion was passed.

## Committee Reports

1. **Branch Project Grants** were approved by the Leadership Team as recommended by the selection committee (Mary Sandford, chair, Phoebe Pierce and Enid Tidwell):  
  
\$180 to the Santa Fe Branch for the purchase of new and used toys and books for the children of Esperanza Shelter. This will augment a current branch project which provides toys to children whose families are victims of violence.  
  
\$180 to the Las Cruces Branch for scholarships to Girls Can! to assist girls who could not otherwise afford the registration fee. Part if the money may be used to help support the publication of the Voter's Guide published by the Greater Las Cruces League of Women Voters.  
  
\$140 to the Los Alamos Branch for the purchase of the DVD *The Invisible War* and its discussion guide, to educate the community regarding the assault challenges faced by women in the military and AAUW's efforts to support two sexual assault class action suits.
2. **Nominations Committee** (Mary Sandford, chair, m\_sandford47@hotmail.com 575-887-1375; Deanise Marta dxmarta@msn.com; Pam Daves, Bobcat3936@yahoo.com) We need an elected VP Program, Finance Officer, and Public Policy Chair for 2013-2015. Mary Browne has accepted the nomination for a second term as AAUW Funds Chair. Karen Nelson, Ruth Benjamins and Dixie Trebbe have served the eight years

on the Leadership Team as allowed by our by-laws. If you or someone you know would like to serve in one of these positions, or as a co-officer, please contact a member of the committee, preferably by Dec. 15th.

3. **Job Descriptions Committee** (Sylvia Fink, chair, Natalie Markin, Helena Whyte) Sylvia moved that the job description for AAUW New Mexico Parliamentarian be accepted as presented from the committee. The motion passed.
4. **Start Smart.** Shelley Rossbach reported that a workshop is scheduled for October 23 at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas. Los Alamos hopes to have a workshop this winter.

### **News from National**

We were pleased to hear comments from Julia Brown, a new member and AAUW Funds Chair of the Las Cruces Branch, formerly from California. She is currently a Director at Large on the National Board and has submitted her papers to become a candidate for Vice President of the National Board.

1. AAUW investment funds have recovered.
2. In Bull vs. Ball State University, BSU settled the suit brought by a tennis coach.
3. Fisher vs. University of Texas went to the US Supreme Court last week (Justice Kagan recused herself). If it is a tie, the lower court decision stands. AAUW filed an amicus brief on behalf of UT.
4. Membership is up.
5. The number of branches disbanding is down.
6. The number of college and university partnerships is way up.
7. The AAUW National Convention will be in New Orleans June 9-12, 2013.

### **Elected Officers Reports**

1. **Membership Co-VPs** (Natalie Markin, Sylvia Fink)  
As of June 30, 2013, there are 528 branch members in New Mexico and 244 members-at-large, for a total of 772 members. Natalie and Sylvia suggest contacting MALS in your area to try to increase branch membership. Farmington has expressed an interest in re-starting their branch. Natalie and Sylvia will contact them.
2. **AAUW Funds Chair** (Mary Browne)  
Mary's preliminary report for January - September 2012 lists a total of \$5,800 donated to AAUW Funds. Members who give a \$130 or more gift to the Foundation will receive a limited copy of Lilly Ledbetter's book "Grace and Grit: My Fight for Equal Pay and Fairness at Goodyear and Beyond" with a special letter in it from Lilly to AAUW members. LAF helped Lilly sue Goodyear for pay discrimination. She lost in the Supreme Court, but Congress passed The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act. It was President Obama's first official piece of legislation. Mary brought a copy of the book for us to see.

3. **Program Co-VPs** (Karen Nelson, Sheila Portillo)  
Thank you to the Albuquerque Branch for preparations for the fall LTM. The Winter LTM and Legislative Day on January 27-28 will again be hosted by the Santa Fe branch. Lisa Maatz, AAUW's top public policy advisor, will be our guest and keynote speaker at the convention in Carlsbad April 26-28. The theme is "¡Vivan las Soldaderas!" because of AAUW's efforts to break barriers for women and girls. Meetings will be held at the Pecos River Convention Center with lovely river views. Programming will center on Public Policy issues. The Carlsbad Branch has secured a \$91 hotel rate and may have some B&B accommodations. Carol Parr has agreed to host the banquet at her house on the river.
  
4. **Public Policy Chair** (Dixie Trebbe)  
The Lobby Corps Luncheon will be on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013, at 12:00 noon at the Rail Runner Depot in Bernalillo. The catered lunch from Smokehouse BBQ will be \$15, including tax and tip. David Maddox will speak on human trafficking in New Mexico.

### **Appointed Officer Reports**

1. **Newsletter Editor** (Pat Maben)  
Thank you for sending updated membership lists. No newsletters were returned following the mailing of the fall newsletter. Costs were \$61.00 for stamps and \$112.06 to Staples for printing. The deadline for the winter newsletter is Nov. 6.
  
2. **Web Mistress** (Lina Germann)  
To clarify the expense of the website in the last finance report, \$238 was paid on Aug. 1, 2011, to pay ahead for three years of domain name and hosting. That is \$80 per year which cut down the initial expense in half. One year passed, and we still have two more years to go. That is why it shows \$160 in the budget, but it really should be \$80 per year. I am planning over two years to convert the website to the National template, the one I am encouraging all branches to go to. It will bring down the expense to zero or to half what we have paid so far if we want to keep the domain name. The state website has a lot of content in PDF files and pictures and it will take some time to organize it all in a new website. Branches need to have their own websites in order to remove them from relying on the State website for their branch postings. I have two years to accomplish this goal.

### **Branch Reports**

1. **Las Cruces** is showing "The Invisible War" to the community on December 1. A local theater has donated its facility.
  
2. **Santa Fe** is hosting the Winter LTM and Lobby Day January 27-28. They are also arranging a joint meeting on May 18 of five branches in Santa Fe. The speaker will be Mary Carter, Executive Director of the Women's Intercultural Center in Anthony, New Mexico.

3. **Albuquerque** had the "Everything Old is New Again" spring clothing fair at the May meeting and raised \$506. Their new web page is [albuquerque-nm.aauw.net](http://albuquerque-nm.aauw.net). They provided early voting information in the newsletter and had voter registrars at their September meeting. On September 18th, Ted Cooley and Rosemary Mitchell worked an AAUW booth at the Combined Federal Campaign event at the VA hospital with AAUW membership materials provided by Marilyn Dunn.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Klenner, Secretary