



# The ROADRUNNER

Volume 53 Number 3 Summer 2008  
www.aauw-nm.org

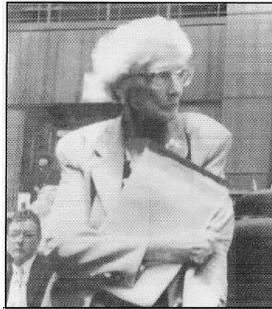
## IN THIS ISSUE

1. -AAUW-NM Recognized for EF Giving  
-Another Successful Year for Membership
2. -Creating Successful Branches  
-Dr. Catherine Hill Addresses Spring Convention
3. -Mona Wecksung Wins Grace Barker Wilson Award  
-Thank You West Mesa  
-Correction to Spring Roadrunner
4. -Major Changes Coming to LAF  
-And the Winner Is...  
-Summer Leadership Team Meeting and Fall Workshop Scheduled  
-New Officers Elected at Spring Convention
5. -AAUW-NM 2008-2009 Public Policy Program
6. -Las Cruces Branch Wins Ingenious Ideas Award  
-AAUW-NM Leads Coalition Action  
-2008-2009 Leadership Team
7. -New Mini-Grant Criteria Approved  
-2008 Legislature Approves Education Changes  
-Association News
8. -Thank You AAUW-NM, to and from Nancy Scheer



The ROADRUNNER is a quarterly publication of AAUW-NM.  
 Deanie Marta, Editor  
 (dxmarta@msn.com)  
 Please submit address changes to your branch membership chair.  
 Members-at-Large: Notify AAUW Records Office, 1111 16th St., Washington, DC 20038.

## AAUW-NM RECOGNIZED FOR EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION GIVING



Corrine Wolfe

A \$10,000 gift by an anonymous donor inspired the fundraising efforts of New Mexico's AAUW branches and AAUW members. This generous giving and creative fundraising earned us high marks with the AAUW Educational Foundation (EF). We were honored with a **Fourth Place** in the Top Ten Fundraising awards for **Total Contribution Growth over Previous Recognition Year**.

AAUW-NM also was awarded **Seventh Place** in the Top Ten Fundraising awards for **Per Capita Giving by State to the Educational Foundation**.

Top ten branch and state fundraising awards are AAUW's highest branch and state honors. I wish to thank all branches and members for their strong efforts and generous giving, especially that directed to honor Corrine Wolfe and the completion of the international endowment in her name. Ms. Wolfe was a social worker, professor, lobbyist, and long time advocate for the women, children, and disadvantaged citizens of New Mexico.

Rosmarie Fredrickson, EF Chair

## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR AAUW-NM MEMBERSHIP

AAUW-NM's membership is holding steady at 532 branch members. Five of our ten branches increased their membership over the past year. A big "thank you" to everyone for your recruitment efforts.

At the Saturday night banquet during the spring convention, the Grant County branch received a plaque for having the highest percentage increase in membership over last year, the second year in a row they have received this honor. Also at the convention, a certificate, along with a lovely AAUW pen and notepad, were presented to Karyl Lyne (Las Vegas); Denise George (Los Alamos); and Will Anne Ricer and Shannon Kinkade (Carlsbad) for being the top recruiters in their respective branches and for AAUW-NM. Congratulations to these four enthusiastic members.



Emily Warner, Grant County President (l.), and Mary Sandford

AAUW will be continuing the *Shape the Future, Member-Get-A-Member* and *Give-A-Grad-A-Gift* campaigns in the coming year. Please keep these programs in mind as you plan your branch activities. Be sure to send Association the names of recruiters, along with the new member information, so these people can be considered for Association awards. Also, membership chairs should keep track of the recruiters' names for possible state recognition at the convention next year!

Please register for, update, and use the AAUW member services database. It is extremely helpful and user-friendly. And let's take the *Member-Get-A-Member* idea literally this coming year. Wouldn't it be great to report 1,064 members at this time next year?

Antje Muir and Mary Sandford, Membership Co-Chairs

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

## CREATING SUCCESSFUL BRANCHES



Nancy Scheer

Do you remember the focus of our Presidents' message in the spring *Roadrunner*? Here's a hint: it was titled *Success Stories: Grant County and Las Vegas*. That's right, we highlighted the successes of two of our smaller branches. In this issue, we wish to discuss why these branches are experiencing membership growth across the age spectrum.

AAUW research suggests the success of these branches is directly related to their enthusiasm for **Mission-Based Programs** (*AAUW advocates equity for women and girls...*). Both branches have reached out to women and girls outside their own group: Grant County to 240 girls with their *Expanding Your Horizons* program; and Las Vegas with a new program called *SOS: Support Our Sisters*. As your branch plans for this coming year, consider programs for women or girls outside the branch. Los Alamos tried *Let's Read Math* to involve members in helping elementary teachers learn strategies for teaching math, while Albuquerque collaborated on an International Women's Day Luncheon. Carlsbad tried a rocket launch for girls. This is mission-based programming and the members love it!

The second half of our mission statement reads, "... through advocacy, education and research." How can you advocate for women and girls? Host a candidate debate before the November election. There will be many local candidates wanting exposure. Quiz them on women's issues. Join the AAUW-NM Lobby Corps or help revitalize the statewide Pay Equity Coalition.

How can your branch include education in its programming? Invite an EF fellow to speak at a meeting. Each year's recipients are listed online. Seeing the enthusiastic faces and witnessing their gratitude injects a new energy into branch EF fundraising. Reach out to local schools or to women in your local community college or university. Offer them student membership and discover the hurdles they face in completing their education.

How about using AAUW's research? Last year, six AAUW-NM branches held a program on gender pay equity using the 2007 report *Behind the Pay Gap*. This year's report, *Where the Girls Are: the Facts About Gender Equity*, shows when girls do better in school, the boys also do better, not worse as some people are claiming. Ask for your district's statistics and compare. Then plan an action project to impact your community.

When AAUW sticks to its mission, the greatest successes are achieved. Research shows the majority of us joined AAUW for the mission, camaraderie, and friendship. Combine these elements in your branch programming this coming year and there will be many more success stories for us to boast about!



Nina Thayer

Nina & Nancy, N<sup>2</sup>

## DR. CATHERINE HILL ADDRESSES SPRING CONVENTION



Dr. Catherine Hill

This year the West Mesa branch hosted the spring convention from April 25 through April 27 in Rio Rancho. The convention theme was *Equity For All*. Saturday morning, our keynote speaker was Dr. Catherine Hill, Director of Research at the AAUW Educational Foundation. Dr. Hill co-authored *Behind the Pay Gap*, a report on pay equity, released in 2006; and *Where the Girls Are: the Facts About Gender Equity*, released in May, 2008. In her keynote address, she highlighted *Behind the Pay Gap*. She provided some historical background, including the fact that the first AAUW report on pay equity was issued in 1913 in what was then called the *Journal of the American Association of University Women*. We now know this publication as the *Outlook*. Her report focused on people under the age of 35 who have a Bachelor's degree. She used statistical tools to illustrate the relationship between early career choices and lifetime earnings.

On Saturday morning, we held a panel discussion on the subject of pay equity. The panel included Camilla Duran, who is a native New Mexican and was a business owner in San Francisco; Dr. Martha Burk, a nationally known leader who is the immediate past president of the National Council of Women's Organizations; and Carolyn Glen Kaye, who started the AAUW-NM Lobby Corps. Together they presented some interesting facts. For example, teenage girls who baby-sit normally earn less money than teenage boys who mow lawns. Native Americans did not have the right to vote until 1950. The first convention on pay equity was held in Seneca Falls, New York in 1878. In 1958 women were paid 59 cents for each dollar that a man earned. For sometime now, women have been earning between 70 to 77 percent of what a man earns. We have made some progress, but there is still a long way to go.

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

Our Saturday luncheon speaker was Christine Getrich, a doctoral candidate in anthropology at the University of New Mexico, and the recipient of an EF fellowship. She presented the research she had done at Via Logan in San Diego, California, a community founded in the 1890's. This is one of the oldest communities of people of Mexican descent in the United States. It is plagued by substandard housing, poor social services, air pollution, and gang and drug activity. In 1996, a college preparatory school, Barrio Logan College Institute, was founded in Via Logan. Ms. Getrich, who will receive her Ph.D. this year, worked with children attending the institute as part of her research, titled *American by Birth, Mexican by Blood*.

Saturday afternoon, Jeanette Chavez, the Rocky Mountain Regional Director, led a discussion of the Leadership Development DVD recently produced by AAUW. She also extended an invitation to the regional conference in Salt Lake City June 20 through 22. At the conference, Deanise Marta, *Roadrunner* editor, will present a workshop on how to produce an electronic newsletter. After her presentation, Ms. Chavez installed our new officers, using golden ribbons held by both the new and outgoing officers to symbolize the links between them.

Following Ms. Chavez, Attorney Roxanne Lara presented a workshop on legal issues for women. These issues cover many areas, such as equal pay, education, consumer law, credit, housing and public accommodations, property, insurance, estate planning, and divorce. Two of the tips she shared were one, that the New Mexico Bar Association offers a free class relating to issues of bankruptcy in Albuquerque on the fourth Wednesday of each month; and two, that New Mexico now allows you to deed your home to your children through a *Transfer on Death Instrument*.

At the town hall meeting on Sunday morning, Catherine Hill shared insights into *Where the Girls Are: The Facts About Gender Equity*. This report builds on *How Schools Shortchange Girls*, a report released in 1991. There has been much recent discussion claiming that the progress girls have made in education has come at the expense of boys. Using statistical data, Dr. Hill illustrated that this is not the case. As girls make progress, so do boys. Socioeconomic factors, not gender, are much more of an influence on academic success.

As program chair I wish to thank the West Mesa Branch and, in particular, Jane Komatz, Mimi Salinger, and their committee for all they did to ensure the convention's success. I also send my very sincere thanks and best wishes to the former Program Co-chair Will Anne Ricer of Carlsbad, who had to resign her position because of illness. She has done an excellent job and I have appreciated her insights and help throughout this year.

Natalie Markin, Program Co-Chair



Jeanette Chavez,  
Rocky Mountain Regional  
Director

### MONA WECKSUNG WINS GRACE BARKER WILSON AWARD



Beverly Stiles (l.) and  
Mona Wecksung

Mona Wecksung, Los Alamos member since 1982, won the 2008 Grace Barker Wilson Award. Mona is presently the EF chair for the Los Alamos branch, and is a major branch fundraiser. She has served on the state board as both EF and LAF chair, and has participated in state conventions and workshops. She is also active in many other community organiza-

tions, such as the Habitat for Humanity; Los Alamos Concert Association; Los Alamos Women in Science; Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA); and is an advocate for Mana del Norte, an organization that provides scholarships for young Hispanic women in New Mexico.

Mona received her Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from the University of Florida. She enjoyed a long career in computer science and retired from Los Alamos National Laboratory in 2004. Please join us in congratulating Mona on this prestigious award.

Beverly Stiles, Outreach Chair

### THANK YOU WEST MESA

Everyone who attended the 2008 Spring Convention in Rio Rancho gives a big hand to the West Mesa Branch and president Jane Komatz! We've heard many compliments on the meeting arrangements and the wonderful program organized by Program Co-chairs Natalie Markin and Will Anne Ricer. A number of attendees enjoyed visits to the Petroglyph National Monument and the Balloon Fiesta Museum. During Saturday evening's banquet, we celebrated AAUW-NM's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday, a momentous occasion!

Thanks to all who worked diligently to make the convention a success and thanks to all who took the time to attend. We had a great weekend.

N<sup>2</sup> (Nancy & Nina)

### CORRECTION TO THE SPRING ROADRUNNER

Adeline Gilstrap's name was omitted from the Happy 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday to AAUW-NM article in the spring 2008 *Roadrunner*. She was the first Rocky Mountain Regional Vice President from New Mexico. Carol Woodworth from Raton was the latest New Mexico Rocky Mountain Regional Vice President. In all, three New Mexico AAUW members have held this position.

Sandra Bradley, Historian

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

## MAJOR CHANGES COMING TO THE LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

AAUW has been involved in a strategic planning process for the last few years. An organizational development consultant, Sherry Schiller (those who attended the national convention in Phoenix in 2007 heard her presentation), worked with the Association and EF boards, as well as AAUW staff. The foremost recommendation from the strategic process was to **focus on the AAUW mission**. One of the topics of discussion was the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF).

Many members have asked LAF to look beyond the campus to other workplaces. Women in all occupations are potential victims of sex discrimination. The work of LAF has empowered women in the academic environment to take their cases to court. Now LAF will branch out by participating as *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) in cases affecting women's rights specifically and civil rights generally. We will be focusing our support strategically, seeking cases that address significant issues of pay equity and workplaces free of sex discrimination.

Few of the cases supported by LAF in the past have been precedent-setting in a national or international context. To target resources to cases that establish significant legal precedents, LAF must be prepared to support a major effort when the significant cases come along. Decisions and opinions coming from the U.S. Supreme Court show an intention to narrow the interpretation of individual rights. Court decisions may chip away at the legacy we've been given by those women who came before us. We need to defend this legacy for ourselves and for those women who come after us.



After this calendar year, LAF will no longer support individual litigants but instead will be participating in cases affecting women's rights. In the past, direct funding support has been limited. In the words of Linda Hallman, AAUW Executive Director, "The lion's share of our budget has always been programmatic, and that will continue to be the case as we move toward more strategic litigation.

### Your continued help and funding support is essential!"

The campus outreach programs will continue, as will funding for plaintiffs to speak at AAUW meetings and for the LAF online resource library.

As AAUW members, we share a vision and a mission. The work of LAF is part of that mission and continues to be desperately needed.

Lina Germann, LAF Chair

## AND THE WINNER IS...

Congratulations to Tasha Martinez of Las Vegas, who won the beautiful Acoma Pot donated by Santa Fe member Sherry Sandlin. The drawing was held on April 26 during the convention luncheon.



The drawing raised \$543 for LAF. Many thanks to all of you who bought tickets, and to the very active members who sold tickets at their branches.

Lina Germann, LAF Chair

## SUMMER LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING, FALL WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

The Summer Leadership Team Meeting will take place on Saturday, July 19, at the First Christian Church, 645 Webber Street, in Santa Fe. You will receive detailed information after July 1.

The Las Vegas Branch is delighted to invite you to Las Vegas for the Fall Workshop and Leadership Team Meeting on Friday, October 10, and Saturday, October 11, at the historic Plaza Hotel. On Friday, we will have a choice of dinner at selected Las Vegas eateries and lots of conversation. On Saturday, we will hold the leadership team meeting; participate in AAUW national leadership training; and listen to a panel discussion of water issues. We anticipate being finished by late Saturday afternoon. We look forward to seeing many of you in October.

## NEW OFFICERS ELECTED AT SPRING CONVENTION

The following people were nominated and elected for the 2008-2010 term of office. Thank you to the new officers for your willingness to serve. Thank you also to those officers continuing in their positions. We ask all members to give these dedicated women your support.

Nina Thayer (Los Alamos)	Co-Presidents
Mary Sandford (Carlsbad)	
Helena White (Los Alamos)	Membership Chair
Karen Nelson (Carlsbad)	Recording Secretary
Jean Bahr (Santa Fe)	Academic Co-Chairs
Ruth Benjamins (Las Cruces)	
Betty Walker-Smith (ABQ)	Media Relations Chair
	EF Chair
Rosmarie Frederickson (Los Alamos)	
Carol Ann Council (Las Cruces)	Nominations Chair

Carol Ann Council, Nominations Chair

**AAUW-NM 2008-2009 PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM**

AAUW-NM supports AAUW's mission: *AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.* AAUW-NM supports the Association Public Policy Program. We support constitutional protection for the rights of all individuals, reproductive rights, separation of church and state, social security that is fair to women, and opposition to the use of public funds for nonpublic elementary and secondary education. AAUW supports the issue of equity in education for women and girls, academic freedom, protection from censorship, and the Association position in favor of diversity. AAUW-NM works with other organizations in support of AAUW objectives.

AAUW-NM continues to support the New Mexico Equal Rights Amendment. Any attempt to revoke or change that constitutional amendment will become priority for action. We believe in politics that promote justice and human rights, and we recognize the need for a clean and healthful environment in an interdependent world.

**2008-2009 PRIORITIES**

1. Support the AAUW program to educate and galvanize women voters.
2. Support a strong, adequately funded program for public education to include:
  - maintaining the integrity of the funding formula
  - supporting equitable funding for all state-supported institutions of higher education (two-year, four-year, and vocational)
  - increasing the number of instructional days for K-12 in New Mexico
  - supporting early childhood development initiatives, i.e., Kindergarten Plus
  - supporting reasonable and fair capital outlay expenditures for public schools
  - supporting adequate federal funding for the No Child Left Behind Act, as long as this law is enforced
3. Support programs to encourage women to achieve economic self-sufficiency at all ages, to include:
  - fairness in compensation
  - programs that provide women with education, training, and support for success in the workforce, especially women transferring from welfare to work
  - access to quality, affordable dependent care
  - legal reforms for the prevention of domestic violence
4. Support for choice in the determination of one's reproductive life
5. Support for quality affordable health care for all New Mexicans
6. Support for clean air and water, and wise sustainable use of natural resources and green technologies
7. Support for campaign finance funding reform with limitations on donations
8. Support of civil liberties and all efforts to preserve the rights guaranteed in our New Mexico constitution
9. Support for creating a statewide Ethics Commission with subpoena powers over statewide elected officials

**Congressional Contact Information**

[Senator.Domenici@domenici.senate.gov](mailto:Senator.Domenici@domenici.senate.gov)  
[tom.udall@mail.house.gov](mailto:tom.udall@mail.house.gov)  
[steve.pearce@mail.house.gov](mailto:steve.pearce@mail.house.gov)

[Senator.Bingaman@bingaman.senate.gov](mailto:Senator.Bingaman@bingaman.senate.gov)  
[heather.wilson@mail.house.gov](mailto:heather.wilson@mail.house.gov)

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

**LAS CRUCES BRANCH WINS  
INGENIOUS IDEAS AWARD**

Based on the great response the Las Cruces branch had with the theater event at the 2007 state convention, the branch again bought out the local community theater, the Black Box, for one evening of the showing of *Always Patsy Cline*. The theater has approximately 92 seats, and the branch set the ticket price five dollars higher than the usual price, announcing that the event was a fundraiser that would support AAUW EF, AAUW LAF, the branch scholarship at NMSU, the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (VGIF), and branch projects such as Girls Can.

The theater does not have assigned seating, making it simpler to take reservations. The branch provided a "ticket" for those who wished, but kept a list of people who had sent in checks with the number of seats they requested. The branch newsletter and an e-mail message notified members after the first of the year that the event would be on Saturday, February 9, 2008, at 7:00 pm, and that they could invite non-members to attend. All of the seats for the performance were sold by the end of January with very little effort. *Always Patsy Cline* also sold out every other performance, and was a fun musical event.



Las Cruces branch special projects chair, David Humphrey, maintained the list of reservations, making sure we did not oversell the house. He also handled the waiting list and last minute cancellations, allowing us to re-sell the seats. Some people donated to the fundraiser without making reservations, and a number of people heard about AAUW for the first time. The result was a highly successful fundraiser with a profit of over \$1,000. This event, open to the entire community, certainly qualifies as an "ingenious" idea.

*Beverly Stiles, Outreach Chair*

**AAUW LEADS COALITION ACTION**

Seth Chase, AAUW Field Director of Public Policy, asked AAUW-NM to lobby Senator Pete Domenici to co-sponsor and vote for the Fair Pay Restoration Act. Nina Thayer asked me to form a small "coalition" to visit Senator Domenici's Albuquerque office. Association provided background information and talking points for use in our presentation. Carolyn Glen Kaye, our pay equity specialist, and I contacted people in the Wade Club, the Soroptimists (represented by Joy Donelson, also an AAUW member), and the Business and Professional Women's organization to arrange a strategy session. I also contacted the League of Women Voters in Albuquerque and asked them to participate, and they agreed. We visited Senator Domenici's field director, Joe Trujillo, for over thirty minutes. The League also circulated an Action Alert and distributed fact sheets at all its discussion meetings, and asked its members to contact Senator Domenici regarding this issue. The coalition worked very well. Unfortunately, Senator Domenici did not listen to us. He voted against hearing the bill.



The new Coalition for Pay Equity is now meeting monthly and has expanded to include New Mexico Voices for Children and the ACLU. We are now focusing on possible action at the state legislature and conversations with Lieutenant Governor Diane Denish to advance this issue.

*Jan Bray, Public Policy Team*

**2008—2009 AAUW-NM LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Nina Thayer (Los Alamos)	Co-president	Kathie Gilbert (Grant County)	Diversity/ Strategic Planning Chair
Mary Sandford (Carlsbad)	Co-president		
Natalie Markin (Los Alamos)	Program Chair	Sandra Bradley (Santa Fe)	Historian
Helena White (Los Alamos)	Membership Chair	Barbara Carey (Carlsbad)	International Interests
Virginia Spruiell (Carlsbad)	Finance Chair	Betty W. Smith (Albuquerque)	Media Chair
Karen Nelson (Carlsbad)	Secretary	Margaret Dike (Albuquerque)	Parliamentarian
Rosmarie Frederickson (Los Alamos)	EF Chair	Beverly Stiles (Las Cruces)	Outreach Chair
Lina Germann (Santa Fe)	LAF Chair	Dolores Halls (Las Cruces)	Public Policy Co-Chair
		Dixie Trebbe (West Mesa)	Public Policy Co-Chair/ Choice Chair
Jean Bahr (Santa Fe)	Academic Co-chair	Denise George (Los Alamos)	Webmaster
Ruth Benjamins (Las Cruces)	Academic Co-chair	Carol Ann Council (Las Cruces)	Nominations/ Mini-Grant Chair
Deanise Marta (Las Cruces)	Roadrunner Editor		
Linda Robinson (West Mesa)	Bylaws Chair	Carolyn Glen Kaye (ABQ)	Pay Equity Chair
Marion Isidoro (Albuquerque)	Public Policy Senior Advisor	Jeanette Chavez	Rocky Mountain Regional Director

### NEW MINI-GRANT CRITERIA APPROVED

AAUW-NM has mini-grants available to assist its branches in mission-based projects. Necessary components for a project are outreach, education, or mentoring. For example, projects may include the community, EF, LAF, or the start of a new branch.

1. A branch may apply for one mini-grant per year, in any amount up to, and including, \$100 (\$25 increments preferred).
2. Granted sum may not equal the requested amount. The final amount depends on state budget limitations, number of applications, and frequency of the same project requests.
3. New projects and new branch applicants will receive first consideration.

Since mini-grants have become so popular, the AAUW-NM found it necessary to formulate some application criteria. Therefore, a mini-grant review team [Carol Ann Council (Las Cruces), Marion Isidoro (Albuquerque), Virginia Spruiell (Carlsbad), and Helena Whyte (Los Alamos)] was appointed. The team developed the criteria and presented it at the spring leadership team meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the criteria, and the motion passed.

#### Mini-Grant Application Criteria:

1. All mini-grant applications must be submitted between July 1 and October 1 to the mini-grant chair for review.  
*Deadline: Oct. 1*
2. All mini-grants for the program year will be awarded at the fall workshop.
3. Applications must include:
  - Branch name, contact person, e-mail, and mailing information
  - Project summary
  - Simplified budget of project costs
  - List of contributors and supporters, if applicable

If you have any questions regarding this criteria, please contact me as soon as possible.

*Carol Ann Council, Mini-Grant chair*

### 2008 LEGISLATURE APPROVES EDUCATION CHANGES

In the 2008 legislative session, an employee compensation package was funded for school employees that includes salary increases for all school employees, including an additional increase for the lowest paid staff. Altogether, a grand total of more than \$2.6 billion was appropriated for FY 2009. This represents an increase of 4.9 percent over FY 2008. Included in the program costs are dollars to fund an increase in the school year of one full instructional day, and an expansion of elementary physical education programs to include approximately 38,600 additional children in grades K-6. This means that approximately half of all K-6 students will have access to physical education.

In addition, money was appropriated for the New Mexico Cyber Academy, K-3 Plus, and Pre-K programs. Additional appropriations to the Public Education department include more funding for breakfast for elementary students, anti-obesity programs, apprenticeship assistance, the New Mexico Outdoor classroom, the Science Fair, and teacher professional development.

One of the programs of special interest to AAUW is the Pre-K program, established by the 2005 legislature. An external evaluation was conducted by the National Institute for Early Education Research, which found that New Mexico Pre-K has made a statistically significant and meaningful impact on children's early language, literacy, and mathematical development. A cost-benefit analysis, which assumes that 70 percent of New Mexico four-year olds will participate in the program once it is fully implemented, uses an estimated cost of \$2,961 per child and an estimated gross benefit of \$14,811. This equals an optional return to New Mexico of five dollars in benefits for every dollar spent. However, it was also estimated the increase in the cost of K-12 and postsecondary education, due to more children remaining in the system, would reduce the actual return to approximately four dollars for each dollar spent.

*Ruth Benjamins, Academic Co-chair*

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

AAUW recently announced that it is changing its logo in a move to "transform and unify our organization." The organization will now use a common logo of the stylized "W" and the acronym "AAUW." Please refer to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) for additional information about the new logo, which can be downloaded in a number of different formats. The website also contains information on the AAUW Value Promise, and the recently released report, *Where the Girls Are: the Facts About Gender Equity*.



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

**THANK YOU, AAUW-NM...**

**...from Nancy Scheer**

The Yellow Brick Road has been leading N<sup>2</sup> around the state of New Mexico for the past two years. We've had a great time visiting AAUW members in all parts of the state as we carried the message of "equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research." Nina will continue down the road to equity, Mary Sandford joining her for the next phase of the journey while Nancy pauses for a rest.

Thanks to all the members of AAUW-NM for your support during my four years as your co-president. The Leadership Team has been a true team, working together to offer new ideas, to present great programs, to solve problems, and to work for equity for women and girls in New Mexico. I'm proud to have been a member of this team.

I was quite astonished to have such a large sum donated by so many of you, in my honor, to the EF Corrine Wolfe International Endowment. Many, many thanks for moving us closer to the \$100,000 needed to fully fund the endowment. And to top everything off, to receive the gift of a beautiful silver necklace! I will remember my many AAUW-NM friends every time I wear it. More thanks to everyone.

It's been a great four years, first with Carol Ann and then with Nina, and we are all still good friends!



*Co-presidents Nina Thayer (Lion) and Nancy Scheer (Dorothy) have been following the "Yellow Brick Road to Equity" for the last two years.*

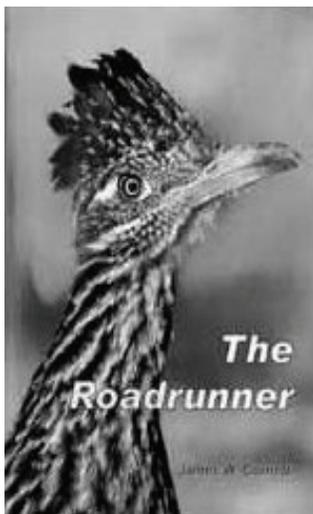


**...to Nancy Scheer**

As Nancy Scheer's four-year tenure as co-president of AAUW-NM draws to a close, it is time to remember her service and to honor her. Twenty-five years ago, it was Nancy as state historian who wrote our first state history. She served on numerous committees, and chaired the first Grace Barker Wilson Award committee in 1990. Consistent with her education in math, she served four years as treasurer and also as bylaws chair. Nancy is detail oriented, so every "T" was crossed and "I" dotted for each of the jobs she held. Nancy joined AAUW the year after her graduation from Phillips University, and her knowledge of our history and dedication to our mission are both awesome and deeply appreciated by her co-presidents, Carol Ann Council and Nina Thayer.

Carol Ann, Nina, and the leadership team combined to honor Nancy during the convention banquet with a gift of an 18-inch string of Navajo silver beads. Members of the current leadership team, as well as former members who worked with her, were asked to contribute to the EF Corrine Wolfe International Endowment in Nancy's honor. More than \$1,400 was raised. Nancy's huge contribution to the leadership of AAUW in New Mexico will continue to grow when this endowment reaches stipend-producing status in a few short years.

If anyone missed the opportunity to honor Nancy, please send a check made out to AAUW-EF, with Corrine Wolfe #4226 in the memo line, and mail it to our EF Chair, Rosmarie Frederickson, 1372 47<sup>th</sup> St, Los Alamos, NM 87544. Contributions in Nancy's honor will be attributed to AAUW-NM.



**New Mexico AAUW  
The ROADRUNNER  
6631 Vista Hermosa  
Las Cruces, NM 88007**

**NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Las Cruces, NM  
Permit No. 2094**