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Co- President's Letter

Our AAUW New Mexico Members are amazing! Amid all the preprimary screaming among candidates our members rolled up their sleeves and opened their pocketbooks to get things done for women and girls in New Mexico! Thank you for all you do for AAUW.

Our members donated more than \$18K to Tech Trek NM and we have invited 60 7th grade girls from all over the state to participate at New Mexico Tech in Socorro June 19-25, 2016. Cheri Burch (Albuquerque and Online) is camp director supported by Karyl, Helena, Claudia Poglitsch and Jan Bandrofchak (Albuquerque), and Mary Rita Chapman and Bonnie Schranz (Las Cruces). Thank you to the Branch volunteers who called all the middle schools in the state to confirm science teacher names and e-mail addresses (a record number of schools submitted nominations), the branch volunteers who interviewed 122 girls who applied for camp, and the 23 essay readers who read and scored the application essays. We invite AAUW members to apply to be dorm Mothers for the week or to volunteer to work for a day or two at camp.

We regret to inform you that Florence Ruth Brown who has hosted the Winter LTM and Lobby Corps meeting during the state legislative session at her RV Park in Santa Fe, NM for many years passed away April 4, 2016. See the article later in this issue.

And our beloved Co-Public Policy Chair Dixie Trebbe is leaving fair New Mexico to live near family in Iowa. Dixie was mentioned in the Congressional Record April 14, 2016 in the House Extension Remarks by Hon. Ben Ray Lujan. See the remarks later in this issue. Dixie as a champion of issues that face our community, and new volunteers know her as a role model." Nina Thayer (Los Alamos) has agreed to complete Dixie's term, but we need two members to understudy Sonya Berg and Nina during the 2017 legislative session and step into the role of Co-Public Policy Chairs in 2017-2019.

Ruth Benjamins and the nominating committee were able to create an excellent slate of officers. Being on a nominating committee takes patience and fortitude. Thank you for your work on this important process. Thank you also to the members that agreed to serve on the leadership team.

Seriously consider stepping up to fill one of our vacant leadership positions. We need an Awards Chair (we aren't giving any award this year because the position is vacant though we know we have members who deserve the recognition), Roadrunner Editor, and Historian.

AAUW launched a new research report *Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership* March 31, 2016. The launch panel led by Cokie Roberts was taped and is available to view at www.aauw.org It is worth watching.

We hope you'll put the Women Count, New Mexico Convention and the Rocky Mountain Regional Conference, July 14 – 17, in Albuquerque on your calendars, and plan to attend both. Carol Ann Council (Las Cruces) and Judy Prono (Los Alamos) and the Albuquerque Branch planning committee chaired by Sylvia Fink have put together a fantastic program. Read more about registration and program in this Roadrunner.

Finally, we challenge each of you to vote in the primary elections. Our country needs informed, sane voters to cast their ballots this year. Voter registration for the primary closes May 10, 2016. This is the first year 17 year olds (who will be 18 by general election in November) can register to vote in the primary election. Help a young voter register to vote. Here is the link for online voter registration: <https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/OVR/WebPages/InstructionsStep1.aspx>

Karyl Lyne Co-President

Helena Whyte, Co-President

Nominations Committee Report

Co-President 2016-2018



Sylvia Fink joined AAUW in 1975 in Plano, TX and in 1981 became a life member. She held Branch positions in Plano, TX, Anchorage, AK and Albuquerque, NM. She was also held state positions in AK and NM. Most recently, she was branch President in Albuquerque, participated in or chaired several state committees [ie: Job descriptions, NM FPWA, Start Smart], and is completing a term of Co-Membership VP. During her paid working career, she was involved in some of the same issue areas as she has been in AAUW including serving on the Anchorage School District's Gender Equity Committee, and presenting Gender Equity and Advocacy workshops in Alaska for both AAUW and the Alaska Library Association [AkLA]. She chaired or served on several AAUW or AkLA Conference committees and chaired Alaska's preconference for White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services. As Co-President, she is interested in continuing the relationship with Southwest Women's Law Center working on publicizing NM FPWA, extending Start Smart and Work Smart presentations, and, hopefully, mentoring some new members into officer positions. Her personal life revolves around husband, Tom, two children, and their spouses and children.

Co-President 2016-2018



Helena Whyte has a B.S. in chemistry from New Mexico Tech and M. A. in science education from the University of New Mexico. She retired as a staff member at LANL in 2008 after 29 years as a mentor, team leader, chemical safety officer, producer of award winning training videos, and author/co-author of numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters. She taught Advanced Placement Biology at Los Alamos High School from 2010-2012. Ms. Whyte has completed two years as co-president of AAUW-NM. She was a

dorm mom for Tech Trek NM 2015. She has served as AAUW-NM membership chair and media relations chair in the past. She is a dual member of the Los Alamos and New Mexico Online branches and is web master for the Online branch and administrator for the AAUW NM Online branch facebook pages. She is the proud mother of 2 children and grandmother of 3.

Membership Vice .President 2016-18



Claudia Poglitsch is currently the Membership VP for AAUW-Albuquerque Branch, serves on the AAUW-Albuquerque Branch STEM Committee and is a member of the steering committee for AAUW NM Tech Trek 2016 in Socorro, NM. Claudia is a retired biophysical chemistry research scientist who is currently reaching out to young people interested in STEM education and careers.

Secretary 2016-18



Catherine Greenspan joined AAUW in a small town in Oregon in 2009. She discovered in AAUW members an esprit de corps that comes from a shared passion for the most logical equality of them all: gender equality. She feels a great responsibility to inform and educate girls and young women that the contest for parity is attainable with constant, continual work and dedication. Catherine is the daughter of a retired judge who was appointed for six consecutive terms by the Michigan Supreme Court to the position of Chief Judge. Catherine is a writer, editor, teacher and knowledge sponge. Catherine co-founded Two Sisters Writing and Publishing LLC with her sister, also a writer. She has taught and tutored college-level English, creative writing and advanced-level English as a Second Language. Catherine also worked in the financial services industry in roles ranging from personal banker to financial advisor. Catherine also works as a Marketing and Publications Consultant for Chico Community Publishing, helping nonprofits, government and local agencies and schools, to name a few, to tell their complex stories and generate community outreach, donations and volunteers.

Academic Chair 2016-18



Maryjane Giesler is running for Academic Chair. She is a Core Faculty Member at the University of New Mexico-Los Alamos. She has taught English/Writing at this campus for 29 years and in that time she was the Advisor for Phi Theta Kappa, the National Honor Society for Two Year Colleges, for 14 years. She won the Paragon Advisor Award in 2003. She is currently editing the Teacher's Handbook, and sit on the Curriculum Committee for Developmental Education. She teaches Beginning and Advanced Composition, Honors Studies, and Speech. She taught for 5 years at the High School level in Chicago, Michigan, and Los Alamos. She has a B.A. in both American Literature and The Teaching of English and an M.A. in British Literature and extra hours in Computing. Her interests are reading good literature, knitting, gourmet cooking, and traveling internationally with her husband of 48 years, Gregg. They have a daughter, Susan, and triplets, Jana, Jon, and Jeff. Her family includes nine grandchildren, and she enjoys spending time with them when Gregg is not working at Los Alamos Labs. She is currently the University Liaison for the Los Alamos Chapter and has been a member for 15 years. She looks forward to the challenge of being Academic Chair.

AAUW Funds Chair 2016-17



Cheryl Klenner has been a member of AAUW for many years in Delaware, Wisconsin and New Mexico. She edited the newsletter for the West Mesa Branch and served as president of the Branch for many years. She is currently a member of the Albuquerque Branch. For the past two years she served as secretary for AAUW-NM leadership team.

Immediate Past President and Branch Projects Chair 2016-18



Co-President: Karyl Lyne is our current co-president and she has graciously agreed to serve a second term. Karyl has been doing double duty as our College/University Chair and has coordinated our NYCCWSL scholarship winners for the past several years. She is a member of the Las Vegas branch and has served as the Las Vegas branch president.

Electronic Vote

Thank you to the AAUW members who agreed to run for the vacant AAUW New Mexico Leadership positions. We are trying a one-member one-vote electronic vote this year. Every AAUW NM member will receive an email with a link to a Survey Monkey Ballot May 15, 2016. We would like to see all 500 state members cast a ballot by May 30, 2016. Request a paper ballot from Helena Whyte, 100 El Morro St., Los Alamos, N. M. 87544 or leave a message at 505-672-9153.

AAUW-NM Awards Two 2016 NCCWSL Scholarships

AAUW-NM has awarded two scholarships to the National Conference for Collegiate Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) held at the University of Maryland College Park Campus June 2–4, 2016. The scholarship recipients are Xiaowei Wu (pronounced Chaway Woo) and Sheneika Rochester, graduate students from New Mexico Highlands University. I am delighted to introduce you to these outstanding young women leaders.



Xiaowei is pursuing a master's degree in Guidance and Counseling and serves as a student senator representing the School of Education, vice president of the NMHU International Club, graduate student representative to the NMHU Diversity Council and vice president of the LIFT (Living in Faith Together) Club. She was selected to participate in the New Mexico Governor's Internship Program in summer 2015 and worked at the New Mexico Human Services Department Income Support Division in Santa Fe. Now she is a middle school counselor intern and a graduate assistant in the Counseling Training Center (Clinic). Xiaowei hopes to use what she gains at NCCWSL "to empower women college students.



Sheneika Rochester will complete her master's degree in political science with a concentration in public relations in May 2016. Her leadership roles include student senator, vice president and technical director of NMHU Dance Entourage, organizer of a talent showcase for "Gathering of the Nation," an NMHU International Club event in 2013. Sheneika's work experience includes resident assistant, resident director, conference coordinator and event coordinator for the NMHU Department of Housing and Student Conduct. Sheneika wishes to take the skills and knowledge she has gained at NMHU back to her native Jamaica "to one day become the Prime Minister of Jamaica."

Dixie Trebbe Honored by Ben Ray Luján



Below is a tribute to Dixie Trebbe by Rep. Ben Ray Luján in the House of Representatives. Rep. Luján's statement reflects the respect that legislators have for Dixie's knowledge and actions as public policy chair and later co-chair for AAUW-NM and the Albuquerque Branch. Dixie will be missed by her many friends in AAUW-NM.

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN
OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 14, 2016

* Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ms. Dixie Trebbe, a tireless volunteer, a fierce leader, and a passionate advocate. She has always been involved in the political process and encouraged others to participate and exercise their fundamental right to vote. Dixie is also on the American Association of University Women's National Public Policy Committee, the New Mexico NOW State Board, and the New Mexico Capital City Task Force for the AARP, and she is active with the American Legion Auxiliary and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

- New Mexico's legislators know Dixie as a passionate champion of issues that face our community, and new volunteers know her as a role model. As an octogenarian, Dixie sets an example for all generations, showing us what real service is and what commitment to justice can accomplish.
- Dixie will be leaving New Mexico to live with her children in Iowa, and while we are sorry to see her go, New Mexico's loss will surely be Iowa's gain. Dixie, thank you for your service.

FlorenceRuth Jones (Flossie)



AAUW-NM and the state of New Mexico lost one of its most interesting and successful women. FlorenceRuth Jones (Flossie) died on April 4, 2016. Flossie was born in Chicago. Her family homesteaded near Santa Fe in 1935. She graduated from the Loretto Academy in 1947 and the UNM Law School in 1953. In law school she ran unsuccessfully for Albuquerque City Commissioner against Clyde Tingley at the urging of the Toastmasters. The goal was to the public accustomed to the idea of women candidates. She lost the campaign. She married

Herb Brown in October 1954. Together they owned and operated Brown Wrecking and Salvage in the 60's. She became the Chief Attorney for the Child Support Enforcement program in 1976. In 1978 she transferred to Health and Environment and became the General Counsel. Her husband Herb passed away in 1984 and in 1989 she married Richard Folmar. She retired from the New Mexico Health Department in 1991 and was the first recipient (1996) of the State Bar's Public Lawyer Award for Distinguished Service. At the LTM in Santa Fe in January she proudly talked about being the longest living licensed attorney in New Mexico (62 years).

On March 12, 2016 the Southwest Women's Law Center honored Florenceruth (Flossie) Jones Brown, J.D. for her life long contributions in the legal field in New Mexico at a banquet "Celebrating Women's Stories".

Flossie was a strong supporter of AAUW-NM. That support will continue after her death. She reminded us each year recently that she had left directions to her family in her will to allow the Winter LTM to be held at the family's business, Santa Fe Skies RV Park.

AFGAN WOMEN'S WRITING PROJECT (AWWP)

The AWWP was founded in 2009 to give Afghan women their human right to voice their story. The empowerment of Afghanistan's women creates possibilities for economic independence and instills leadership abilities as it reinforces freedom of speech. The goal of the organization is to nurture, educate, and carry the voices of Afghanistan's women to the world, while giving readers unique insights into Afghan culture. Below is one Afghan writer's poem.

To My Teacher
by Nelab

You are the star in my sky. Alone in the blue sky
You gave me courage to fly. When the Taliban broke my wings And broke my heart
You were there to guide me. You told me *Try! If you try, you can fly!*
When they left me along the highways
You took my hand And changed my life.
You showed me The meaning of being a brave lady.
You taught me How to work for liberty,
How to be human and support other humans.
Like a candle, you have freed me from darkness.



Cassie Marrs became an AAUW member in 2014. As the youngest member of her local branch, Marrs was appointed communications chair and created the branch's first Facebook page in addition to maintaining their website. In July 2015, she became the C/U chair for New Mexico. Since then, Marrs has contacted many colleges around the state and helped Western New Mexico University start its AAUW student organization. New Mexico is excited to send two outstanding young women to NCCWSL this summer. Marrs says that AAUW keeps her busy, and she loves all the amazing women she has met because of it



Karyl Lyne, Helena Whytel and Nina Thayer at the Los Alamos Tech Trek NM fundraiser, with Einstein after performance at Los Alamos Little Theater.

Women Count



Women Count

2016 AAUW-NM State Convention – 14 July 2016
Rocky Mountain Regional Conference – 15-17 July 2016 – “Women Count!”

AAUW-New Mexico invites all state members to our annual State Convention – 14 July 2016, Thursday, at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel in Albuquerque, NM. Following – in the very same place – will be the biennial Rocky Mountain Regional Conference – 15-17 July 2016.

Those states in our region are: AZ, CO, NV, NM, UT, WY and invitations have also been extended to Idaho & Montana. Please consider attending both events for a weekend of fun, learning, socializing, and making new friends!

Our AAUW-NM State Convention opens with lunch, Thursday noon (14 July) at the Sheraton Uptown followed by a presentation by Melissa Johnsen, our AAUW regional representative. Our annual business meeting is next, ending with awards & officer installation.

A tour of Old Town Albuquerque will be offered in the late afternoon and dinner may be enjoyed at one of the many local restaurants. A movie night has been arranged back at the hotel (8pm) featuring *The Invisible War*.

The RMRConference runs from Friday morning (15 July) to Sunday noon (17 July). Both Friday and Saturday mornings, we will offer “healthy starts” (water aerobics) before the day’s activities, which include speakers, workshops, State presentations, meals, & friendship!

Speakers & Presenters

Catherine Hill – AAUW VP Research, co-author of *Solving the Equation* and *Barriers & Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership*, on latest AAUW research, understanding implicit biases, and how members can promote AAUW research

Melissa Johnsen - AAUW Board member from CO, on latest updates from national

Susan Burke – lead attorney in AAUW-LAF’s various cases related to sexual assault in the military and Saturday night banquet speaker

Julia Brown – former AAUW VP, member of Las Cruces Branch, on promoting diversity

Amy Blackwell – from CO, on UN Commission on the Status of Women

Jackie Littleton – from TX, on Legacy Circle

Martha Burk - local ABQ author/activist, on fair pay for women initiatives in Albuquerque.

State Presentations

Arizona – Successful programs & fundraising

Colorado - Strategic Planning

Nevada – Running a Satellite Branch

New Mexico – Running Tech Trek and promoting NM's Fair Pay for Women Act

All States - Time for sharing their highlights and challenges over the last 2 years

Please put this exciting Convention & Conference on your calendar NOW!!

Come enjoy the fun! Experience new ideas, expand your thoughts, share experiences & concerns, renew old friendships-make new.

- May 30** **Deadline for entering new state & branch officers to national**
- June 2-4** **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)**
- June 19 – 25** **AAUW-NM Tech Trek at New Mexico Tech in Socorro, NM**
- June 30** **Deadline for membership dues for 2016-2017 year**
- May/June TBA** **Annual Reports due from State Officers & Branch Presidents to Albuquerque Branch????**
- July 14** **AAUW-NM Convention and Leadership Team Meeting in Albuquerque**
(Files & handbooks updated by officers for successors)
- July 15-17** **Rocky Mountain Regional AAUW Conference in Albuquerque**
- September 7** **Deadline for Fall Roadrunner**

AAUW Mission Statement: “AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.”

AAUW Unifying Focus Statement: “Breaking through Barriers”

AAUW Value Statement: “As a member of AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.”

AAUW-NM focus statement: “Empowering women to take charge of their lives.



**New Mexico AAUW
The ROADRUNNER
513 Peaceful Meadows Dr NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144**

