



# The ROADRUNNER

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Members-at-large: Notify AAUW Records Office, 1111 16th St., Washington, DC 20038.

## DIXIE TREBBE WINS TERRY SLEIGHT AWARD



Dixie Trebbe  
(photo by Virginia Lee Lierz)

Terry Sleight was a long-time member of AAUW-NM who worked tirelessly for the rights of women and girls, particularly at the legislative level. The Terry Sleight Memorial Award honors the AAUW-NM member whose work exemplifies Terry's passion and diligence in advancing the AAUW mission.

This year's honoree is Dixie Trebbe of the Albuquerque and West Mesa branches. Dixie belongs to four generations of college-educated women, many of whom were AAUW members. She began college after her children were grown and earned a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice. She joined AAUW-NM in 2005 and has served as public policy chair in both of her branches. She had discovered that she enjoyed lobbying and political work while living in Iowa and later while working as an adult probation officer in Texas.

Dixie worked tirelessly for the Paycheck Fairness Act and also for many actions involving a woman's right to choose. She is a frequent speaker at the annual Choice Rally at the New Mexico state capitol building. She has been a part of the AAUW-NM Lobby Corps since its inception and as state public policy chair she plans the annual Legislative Day program, held in late January or early February.

Dixie is also a strong advocate for women's rights regarding education. She begins her frequent commutes to Santa Fe in the summer to work with legislators on upcoming bills. She attends many interim meetings to present AAUW-related viewpoints. Dixie helped in getting the first pre-K education legislation passed, and has continued her support for this important act as it has been threatened in this year's legislative session in the push to trim the state budget.

Dixie has a personal motto: *Failure to plan is planning to fail*. Her meticulous planning for her legislative work guarantees that failure is not an option. Please join us in congratulating Dixie as the sixth recipient of the Terry Sleight award.

Jean Bahr, Santa Fe branch

## NOMINATIONS DUE FOR INGENIOUS IDEAS AWARD

Nominations for the Marjorie Bell Chambers Ingenious Ideas Awards, to be presented at the Spring Convention in Silver City on April 16, should be submitted by April 2, 2011. I encourage all branches to "think outside the box" and plan to be recognized with one of these awards. Please email your nominations to [pgdaves@yahoo.com](mailto:pgdaves@yahoo.com).



Pamela G. Daves, Outreach Coordinator

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

## A (CO-) PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

*Only one man in a thousand becomes a leader of men. The other 999 follow women.*

Groucho Marx

Back in December I took part in an e-mail dialog with about twenty other state presidents. The original e-mail came from the co-administrators of AAUW-North Carolina. They were in the process of re-organizing their state structure and were concerned about the difficulty they had been having over the past few years finding members to take leadership positions. North Carolina has twenty branches with 900 members—roughly twice the size of AAUW-NM. Like many state organizations these days, they were facing an aging membership and many members felt that the torch needed to be passed—they had done their part. At the same time, the younger members were busy with jobs and families and could not take on another responsibility. Other concerns, such as geographic factors, were frequently mentioned. What to do? Any ideas from other states?

The ensuing conversation was interesting and enlightening. So much so that three hours have been set aside for a pre-convention state presidents' meeting in Washington, DC in June! As I read responses from all over the country and wrote my own, I was proud of what we have established in AAUW-NM. We are one of the very few states that still has four meetings a year, and finds branches willing to host them. We have strong legislative ties. Our branches do mission-based projects in their communities and have solid leadership. Also, we pay our officers' mileage to attend state meetings. I discovered that many states don't. We have established a precedent of "co-officers" and usually manage to fill all of our elected and appointed positions each year. However, in order to remain a vibrant organization in New Mexico, we must continue to find people willing to take the reins of leadership at the branch and state levels.

This spring, Shelley and I will be looking for the following AAUW-NM appointees: College/University Relations Chair; Newsletter Editor; Awards Chair (previously Outreach); Diversity Chair; Parliamentarian; and Web Page Contact. If you know of people in your branches who might be able and willing to fulfill these jobs, or if you wish to do so, please contact Shelley or me.

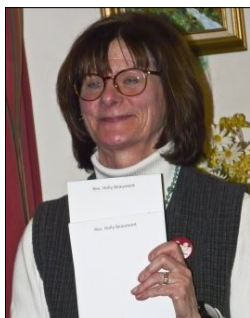
Harry Truman once said: *What makes leadership is the ability to get people to do what they don't want to do and like it!* Please, step forward and take a place of leadership in AAUW-NM. I know that you will like it!

Mary Sandford, Co-president



Mary Sandford (l.) and Shelley Rossbach  
(photo by Carol Ann Council)

## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL LEGISLATIVE WEEKEND



Holly Beaumont  
(photo by Virginia Lee Lierz)

The weatherman definitely cooperated to provide the leadership team and everyone who attended the winter leadership team meeting and legislative day a perfect Valentine weekend! We appreciated the location, food, and accommodations provided by the Santa Fe branch. A special thanks goes to Co-presidents Sandra Bradley and Judy Kares, along with their team of excellent cooks. We are indebted to Flossie Brown, who each year allows us to use the Santa Fe Skies RV Park as our winter venue. Her generosity is greatly appreciated. We learned a lot from our excellent and informative speaker, Reverend Holly Beaumont, Director of New Mexico's branch of Interfaith Worker Justice. The speaker and the legislative day activities were arranged by AAUW-NM's public policy chair, Dixie Trebbe. Dixie spends many hours at the Round House gathering information and keeping us aware of developments

and important legislation. This year, many of us listened to U.S. Senator Tom Udall address a joint meeting of the legislature. A lovely lunch at *Le Bistro* was organized by Jean Bahr. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to a successful meeting!



AAUW Banner hanging  
in the State Capitol  
(photo by Carol Ann Council)

Mary Sandford and Shelley Rossbach, Co-presidents

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# AAUW-NM SPRING CONVENTION

## WHY SO FEW?

### SILVER CITY, NM, APRIL 15 - 17, 2011

The Grant County branch of AAUW cordially invites you to join us for the 2011 AAUW-NM Spring Convention. The theme, **Why So Few?**, is based on research funded by the National Science Foundation. This AAUW study focused on the underrepresentation of women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields. Two national AAUW members will be participating in our Annual Convention to be held in Silver City, NM. They are:



#### DR. ANDRESSE ST. ROSE

Dr. St. Rose is a senior researcher at AAUW and is co-author of *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*. Her work focuses on gender equity in education and in the workplace. She has been a key contributor of AAUW publications and of articles that have been featured in the New York Times, Washington Post, and Wall Street Journal. Prior to coming to AAUW, she worked as an academic counselor at Northeastern University in Boston, MA, and taught high school math and biology. Andresse has a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Hamilton College, a Master of Arts degree from Boston College, and earned her Ed. D. in education policy from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. She will give the keynote address on Saturday, which will be open to the public. She also will lead an afternoon workshop: *Why So Few? And What We Can Do About It*.



#### CONNIE M. HILDEBRAND

AAUW- North Dakota (ND) President 2002-2004  
 AAUW-ND Public Policy Chair and Lobbyist 1986-88, 2004-2011  
 AAUW National Public Policy Committee 2003-2007  
 AAUW National Public Policy Chair 2007-2009  
 AAUW Board of Directors 2009-2011

Mrs. Hildebrand has been employed in the social work fields of medical, psychiatric, and vocational rehabilitation; child welfare; group therapy; administration; and management in both public and private settings. She is the author of professional articles as well as a poet. As an administrator, clinical social worker, lobbyist, trainer-educator, group facilitator, and writer, Connie has lived, worked, and provided leadership throughout North Dakota during her professional career. Community activism through client advocacy has been a concentration of her efforts. She has served on multiple community boards in her resident communities. As a recipient of awards from her colleagues as both a young scholar and an experienced lobbyist, her efforts speak to a continuum of growth from student advocacy to one of public policy influence. She is married and has one son. Connie will also lead a workshop: *Women in Society – Israel* based on her travel with an AAUW delegation to Israel.

#### ADDITIONAL STATE CONVENTION SPEAKERS

**Roxanne R. Lara** was born and raised in Carlsbad, New Mexico, and grew up learning that hard work and determination would help her achieve her goals. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from New Mexico State University, Roxanne attended Texas Tech University School of Law and completed her Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. Roxanne returned to her hometown where she founded Lara Law Firm in 2005. Lara Law Firm represents the abused and neglected children of Eddy County, NM. She also represents private citizens and businesses through a varied practice. Roxanne involves herself in the community and strives to be a role model for young women seeking to achieve their own goals and dreams. Her Saturday morning presentation on *Vision 2020* will be open to the public. *Vision 2020* is a national project focused on advancing gender equity by energizing the dialogue about women and leadership.



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**Dr. Cynthia Bettison** has been a professional archaeologist for the past 30 years, and the director and archaeologist of Western New Mexico University Museum for more than 20 years. Cynthia has conducted research in the American Southwest, Southern California, Peru, and Nevada. Her research interest for the past ten years has focused on the development of prehistoric ethnic group identity formation and interaction in west central and southwest New Mexico and east-central Arizona. She has special love of Mimbres Mogollon archaeology and pottery, and prehistoric pottery of the Southwest. Cynthia's Saturday night talk is titled *Reflections on Cultivating and Sustaining Women in STEM Fields*.

**Allyson Siwik** is the director of the Gila Resources Information Project, a non-profit environmental organization that promotes community health by protecting the environment and natural resources in southwestern New Mexico. Allyson graduated with a BA in biology from Colby College in Waterville, Maine and a Master of Environmental Management in Resource Economics and Policy from Duke University School of the Environment. She has 20 years of experience in environmental protection, including 12 years with the US Environmental Protection Agency in the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards and the Region 6 El Paso Border Office. She has worked extensively with communities locally, regionally, and in the U.S.-Mexico border region to identify and resolve environmental problems. Allyson has worked with Silver City/Grant County on pollution issues associated with mining activities, water quality, and water supply concerns; and community-wide initiatives on climate change and sustainability. As a board member of the Southwest New Mexico Green Chamber of Commerce, she works with the local and regional green business community on green jobs training and other initiatives. She served for two years on the Good Neighbor Environmental Board that advises the President and Congress on U.S.-Mexico Border environmental and infrastructure issues. Allyson will present a workshop titled *New Mexico Water Issues: Challenges for the Future*.

**Patty Reed** is a retired Marriage and Family Therapist who practiced in Silver City for twenty years. She is currently the President of Western Institute for Lifelong Learning (WILL) in Silver City and is facilitating a WILL class titled "Memoirs". This is the second time Patty has offered this course at WILL. Participants in the first class wrote together for two years. Patty will lead a workshop entitled *Write Your Memoir*. Participants in this workshop will learn about different kinds of Memoirs with examples of each. We will also write, from a writing prompt, a brief memoir of our own.

**Melinda Shaner** has over 30 years of experience in dance education including teaching and performing Ballet, Pointe, Tap, and Jazz. She holds a degree in Dance from the University of California, Riverside and a Community College Teaching Credential from California. Melinda is the Artistic Director of the Conservatory of Dance and founded the Conservatory Dance Ensemble, which provides entertainment performances for the community. She also has enjoyed being the choreographer for Theatre Group New Mexico's performances of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," "Fiddler on the Roof," "Aladdin, Jr.," and "Oklahoma." Melinda will lead a workshop titled *The 3 "R's" of Movement*. Come - relax, refresh and rejuvenate with this unique floor exercise inspired by ballet movements that gently help you to de-stress, and give you the tools to stretch and strengthen your entire body. In this session, you will move gracefully, allowing your mind to relax, refresh your mood, and improve circulation, rejuvenating you for the afternoon.

## CONVENTION MEETING SITE

Meetings will be held in the Besse-Forward Global Resource Center (GRC) on the Western New Mexico University campus. This beautiful building has a special significance for AAUW. Lennie Merle Besse was one of the founding members and also vice president of the Grant County branch in 1938, and AAUW-NM president from 1943 to 1945. The Besse-Forward Global Resource Center is named in honor of Captain J.R. "Cap" Besse and Lennie Merle Besse Forward. Registration will be held in the GRC lobby. All meetings will be held in the meeting rooms A, B, and C, and the two presentations open to the public will be held in the GRC auditorium.



Global Resource Center

## ACCOMMODATIONS

**Hotel reservations:** Make reservations at the Holiday Inn Express, 1103 Superior Street Silver City, NM 88061. Ph: 575-538-2525. A block of rooms has been set aside until April 1. After April 1, any unclaimed rooms will be released. You MUST mention "AAUW Meeting Block" to get the group rate of \$89.95 per night. A continental breakfast is included in the room rate. There is a hot tub and a fitness room on the premises. Check in after 3:00pm; check out is 12:00 noon. <http://www.hiexpress.com/hotels/us/en/silver-city/svcnm/hoteldetail>.

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**Banquet:** The Saturday banquet will be held at the Bear Mountain Lodge, a bed and breakfast lodge. Rooms have not been pre-reserved. The rates range from \$140 to \$170. Mention the AAUW Convention when making reservations to receive a 20% discount. Contact information: 1-877-620-2327 or 1-575-538-2538. Email: [info@bearmountainlodge.com](mailto:info@bearmountainlodge.com). Website: <http://www.bearmountainlodge.com>.



Bear Mountain Lodge Portal

## DIRECTIONS

**To Silver City:** From the south: take US Hwy 180 north from Deming. From the north: go south on I-25, take the Silver City exit 63 onto NM-152 through the Black Range then west on US Hwy 180. For those who want to avoid the mountain drive through the Black Range, from I-25 take the Hatch exit 41 onto NM-26 to US Hwy 180 and then north to Silver City.

**To the Holiday Inn Express:** Entering Silver City from the east on US Hwy 180 the Holiday Inn is on south side of the road. It is a distance from the road. The landmark to look for is Wendy's. If you get to Wal-Mart on the north side of US Hwy 180 you have gone too far.

**To the WNMU campus, Besse-Forward Global Resource Center from Holiday Inn Express:** Travel west on US Hwy 180 for about 2.5 miles. Continue straight onto Pope St and then right on 12<sup>th</sup> St. The GRC is near the intersection of 12<sup>th</sup> St. and Florida St. The distance is 2.4 miles.

**To the Bear Mountain Lodge from the Holiday Inn Express:** Travel west on US Hwy 180 for about 2.5 miles, turn right on Hwy 180 for 0.5 miles, turn right on Alabama (the road name changes to Cottage San Rd). In 2.8 miles you will see the Bear Mountain Lodge sign on your left. Turn left on the dirt road and follow it to the lodge. The total distance is 5.7 miles.

## CONFERENCE DETAILS

**Optional Activities:** Friday afternoon after the leadership team meeting. Choose one. \$3.00 each.

1. The Silver City Museum is offering a guided walking tour of downtown Silver City historic sites. The tour is limited to 12. Join other AAUW members for a walking tour of Silver City with Mrs. Elizabeth Warren (1854-1945). A skilled re-enactor from the museum will walk with us on the WPA sidewalks Mrs. Warren's workers constructed during the Depression; show us houses and business' built by this remarkable women; and discuss the leadership shown by Mrs. Warren in bringing the Normal training school and the University here. Mrs. Warren and a very determined group of women were also responsible for raising funds and lobbying Santa Fe for the first hospital and the next two hospitals in Silver City, as well as the first supported elementary school in Silver City. The daughter of a German officer who fled to America in 1848, Mrs. Warren worked to build a livable community in the desert southwest.
2. A self-guided tour of the Silver City Museum that will be open until 5:30pm for viewing exhibits on two floors and retreating to the third floor cupola which was often used by inhabitants for sewing, needlework, and reflection. From the cupola, on a clear day, you can almost see forever. Our bookstore carries titles covering the vastness of Southwest history including the earliest inhabitants of the southwest, geology, arts, culture, mining, and the list goes on. Gift selection is available for all ages.



## Silent Auction

Each branch has been asked to provide at least one item for a silent auction to be held at the Spring Convention. Please bring these items to the GRC on Saturday Morning to be displayed in the ABC meeting rooms. Please mark down a starting price for your items. The results of the auction will benefit AAUW funds. Winners of the items will be announced at the end of the sessions on campus before the Saturday Banquet. Please pick up your items on Saturday.



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### Saturday Banquet

The banquet will be held at The Bear Mountain Lodge on the outskirts of Silver City. The lodge is described as “a tranquil oasis on the edge of the New Mexico wilderness; the ideal choice for a quiet relaxation or unforgettable adventure.” There are gentle hiking trails on the property. Our event will begin with a social gathering before dinner. For the meal, you have a choice of one of three entrees. See the registration form on page 11. Dr. Cynthia Bettison, the WNMU Museum director, will give a short talk: *Reflections on Cultivating and Sustaining Women in STEM Fields*.

The installation of officers and presentation of awards will occur after dinner.



Bear Mountain Lodge Banquet Room

### CONVENTION SCHEDULE

(Check your registration packet for any schedule changes)

#### Friday, April 15

- 12:00 – 4:00 Register at WNMU Campus (GRC lobby)
- 12:30 – 4:00 Leadership Team Meeting, GRC rooms A, B, and C. Lunch will not be provided. Snacks available.
- 4:00 – 5:30 Option of historic Downtown Walking Tour or a visit to the Silver City Museum (Select your option on the registration form; \$3 fee)
- 6:00 – 8:00 Dinner on your own (Groups can choose from a provided list of restaurants)

#### Saturday, April 16

**\*Each branch should bring their silent auction items to the ABC meeting rooms in the GRC.**

- 8:15 – noon Registration on WNMU campus, GRC lobby; coffee and pastries in the meeting rooms
- 8:45 – 9:00 Welcome Presentation by AAUW-NM president and local Silver City/Grant Co. representative
- 9:15 – 10:30 Keynote Speaker Dr. Andresse St. Rose, **Why So Few?**, Auditorium. Open to the public.
- 10:30 – 10:45 Refreshment Break
- 10:45 – noon Pre-Lunch Speaker, Roxanne Lara, **Vision 2020**, Auditorium. Open to the public.
- Noon – 1:15 Networking Lunch catered by Cobre High School Culinary Class, ABC meeting rooms  
Conservancy of Dance students will perform briefly during our networking lunch.
- 1:20 – 2:20 Special topics session A (Concurrent workshops, choose one).  
Workshop 1: **Why So Few? And What We Can Do About It**, Dr. Andresse St. Rose  
Workshop 2: **Write Your Memoir**, Patty Reed
- 2:30 – 3:30 Special topics session B (Concurrent workshops, choose one).  
Workshop 1: **Women in Society – Israel**, Connie Hildebrand  
Workshop 2: **New Mexico Water Issues: Challenges for the Future**, Allyson Siwik  
Workshop 3: **The 3 “R’s” of Movement**, Melinda Shaner
- 3:30 – 3:45 Convention Business: Election of Officers, ABC meeting rooms
- 3:45 – 4:45 AAUW National update. Mission 2011, Connie Hildebrand
- 4:45 – 5:00 Silent auction results
- 6:00 – 6:30 Evening Social at the Bear Mountain Lodge
- 6:30 – 9:00 Banquet at the Bear Mountain Lodge: Dinner, Awards, installation of officers  
Dr. Cynthia Bettison—*Reflections on Cultivating and Sustaining Women in STEM Fields*

#### Sunday July 17

- 7:30 – 8:00 Branch Presidents Council, GRC, ABC meeting rooms; coffee and pastries provided
- 8:00 – 10:30 Convention Business meeting
- 10:30 – 10:45 Break
- 10:45 – 11:45 AAUW Towne Hall, Connie Hildebrand
- 11:45 Conference adjourns

**THE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM APPEARS ON PAGE 11**

### KEY EDUCATION ACTIVITY IN 2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

As I write message, more than four weeks remain in the current legislative session; more and more resistance is surfacing between the Democratic legislature and the Republican governor on education-related issues; and it is impossible to predict how many of the disputes over educational issues being heatedly debated now will be resolved by the end of the legislative session in mid-March. Many of these issues need action by AAUW members to voice our position clearly to our state legislators. Several of the matters under debate include:

- For the past five sessions, a Creationism bill has been introduced which, if passed, would legislate a radical change in how science is taught in New Mexico schools, mandating that Creationism be taught along side of proven scientific theories about evolution. On Feb. 18, HB302 was tabled in committee. This is a bill that is strongly supported by Education Secretary-designate Hanna Skandera and, by extension, her boss, Governor Martinez. This issue is not dead among the certain right wing and fundamentalist religious groups in New Mexico. It is expected to resurface in the 2013 60-day session, as well.
- Over the past year, the issue of bullying among school children has drawn national attention. AAUW's *Hostile Hallways* research from the early 1990s led the way to uncovering this social problem affecting large numbers of American children, and is still a very timely resource. Dust off your copy and compare its findings with that of the Fall 2010 CNN poll on bullying. The problem certainly hasn't gone away. Today, 37 percent of American children ages 12 to 17 say they have been the victims of bullying. MTV and the Jed Foundation (a non-profit focusing on preventing teen suicide) have created [www.LoveIsLouder.com](http://www.LoveIsLouder.com), a site where teens may make their own video (up to 30 seconds long) explaining why they think love is louder than various forms of harassment. This site also has a Facebook and a Twitter connection: #loveislouder. Senator Mary Jane Garcia (D-Dona Ana County) has introduced Senate Bill 78 to address the issue of bullying in our state's public schools. Look it over to see how this bill, if passed, might impact New Mexico's public education systems.
- Governor Martinez and Education Secretary-designate Skandera are also lobbying in favor of Senate Bill 427, introduced by Vernon Asbill (R-Carlsbad), himself a former superintendent of schools in Cloudcroft. This is legislation to assign a letter grade of A through F to each New Mexico public school. Its long-term goal is to let parents, teachers, and students know where each individual school stands in academic performance by measuring students' achievement in the critical areas of reading and math. Governor Martinez's hope is to put this plan into effect by August 2011.

Standards for grading schools include: student proficiency; student progress in reading and math; and the academic growth of the lowest 25% of students in each school in reading and math. Parents unhappy with a school's letter grade could transfer their child(ren) to another school within the state. Governor Martinez says that "Using an easy-to-understand grading system means that teachers and administrators can evaluate what's working..." This is only one of several bills that Martinez and Skandera have introduced in this, the Governor's first legislative session, to initiate educational reform across the state.

You can track the above-mentioned, and other educational, bills by visiting <http://www.nmlegis.gov>, then clicking on the "Bill Finder" button.

Mary Berry, Ph.D., Academic Coordinator

### COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN SURVIVES ELIMINATION EFFORT

The bill to dissolve this 37-year old commission (HB0528) was tabled by the house labor committee on February 24. The bill would have distributed the functions of the commission to various other state agencies. The appropriations bill passed earlier in the 2011 legislative session includes \$550,000 of funding for the commission, which should be granted unless Governor Martinez refuses to sign the appropriations bill. The governor was in favor of eliminating the commission. AAUW members contacted labor committee members urging continuation of the commission, and hopefully had some influence on the final decision.

My heartfelt thanks to all who were involved in selecting me to receive the Terry Sleight Award.

Dixie Trebbe, Public Policy chair



AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

### NOTES FROM YOUR AAUW FUNDS CO-CHAIRS

As many of you know, the structure of our funds completely changed in 2010. No longer is there the Educational Foundation (EF) and its many individual funds, or the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF), as all have been incorporated into the AAUW Funds

I have been totally impressed by the generosity and the commitment to education that is demonstrated by AAUW-NM members in their continued support of many of the individual funds under the AAUW Funds umbrella. Here is an accounting of the donations since we completed our \$100,000 pledge to the Corrine Wolfe International Endowment.

- The Public Policy Fund (#4337), which supports government relations, civic engagement and field organizing, received \$380.
- AAUW Funds Unrestricted (#9110), and which support programs with the greatest needs, received \$5,405.00.
- The Educational Opportunities Fund (#4336), which includes the Fellowships and Grants Fund, received \$1820.50.
- The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund (#9170), which supports the AAUW Research Reports such as *Shortchanging Girls*, received \$685.00.
- The Leadership Programs Fund (#4339), which supports NCCWSL, Campus Action Projects and Campaign College, received \$1,000.



Besides giving to the AAUW Funds, each of the branches has raised money for their own scholarship funds, as many branches support a young woman making her way towards a bachelor's degree. I want to salute all of you and say thank you for your generosity. You have made my job as AAUW Funds chair enjoyable and rewarding.

Rosmarie Fredrickson

The total donations for LAF in 2010 for LAF were \$3,481.50, with 10 branches and AAUW-NM receiving credit. Many thanks to everyone who believes in the mission of LAF, which works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

The 2011 AAUW-NM formula for dividing unrestricted donation to AAUW Funds is as follows:

- Ninety-five percent of the total revenue raised to be divided evenly between AAUW Funds Unrestricted (#9110); LAF (#3999); and NCCWSL Scholarship Fund (#2504)
- Five percent to go to other named funds at the discretion of the AAUW Funds Chair(s)



As a fundraiser for the AAUW Funds, we will be holding a silent auction at the Spring Convention in Silver City on April 16. Please bring your contributions to the convention, or for those of you in the Santa Fe area, contact me for pickup before April 15. We are looking for artwork, jewelry, gift baskets of regional products, or other unique items. We are hoping for at least one item per branch. Be sure to include an opening bid amount for each of your items.

On the national front, the AAUW Board of Directors (in January 2011) approved LAF case support for our first case outside of academia. AAUW will sign at least one amicus brief in support of the plaintiffs in the [Dukes v. Wal-Mart Stores Inc.](#) lawsuit. AAUW also will invite local AAUW members and staff to show support for the plaintiffs during the oral argument at the U.S. Supreme Court on March 29, 2011. The court will review lower court decisions that allowed female Wal-Mart employees to pursue employment discrimination claims as a class. If approved, the case will become the largest civil rights class action in U.S. history, including as many as 1.5 million women who will seek billions of dollars in back pay. Refer to the AAUW website at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) for a copy of the press release regarding this case.

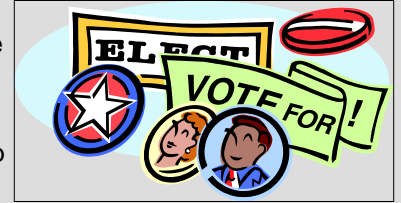
Lina Germann



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## 2011 SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR AAUW-NM OFFICES

The Nominations Committee has been hard at work and is pleased to present the following slate of candidates for a two-year term of office. Elections will be held at the Spring Convention in Silver City, Saturday April 16.



- **Program Co-chairs:** Karen Nelson, Carlsbad, and Sheila Portillo, soon-to-be Albuquerque. Karen has served five years as secretary for the Leadership Team and is anxious to switch hats. She is also finishing a term as co-president of the Carlsbad branch and is looking forward to working with a long-time friend, Sheila Portillo. Sheila was active in the Carlsbad branch in the 1980s, then moved with her husband, who was employed by the National Park Service. Sheila currently lives in Nevada and will be moving to Albuquerque in July. This will be a great team!
- **Finance chair:** Ruth Benjamins, Las Cruces. Ruth is completing her first term as state finance chair and has offered to continue. She is a past president of the Las Cruces branch and also served as state academic co-chair. Ruth has been an accurate, thorough and conscientious finance chair.
- **Public Policy chair:** Dixie Trebbe, West Mesa and Albuquerque. Dixie has been our Public Policy chair for two terms and has spent countless days in Santa Fe representing AAUW at the Legislature. She is a knowledgeable lobbyist and has greatly increased our visibility in Santa Fe.
- Remaining term of **Secretary:** Joy Poole, Santa Fe. Joy has graciously agreed to fill the second year of Karen Nelson's term as Secretary. Joy is a long-time member who moved from Farmington to Santa Fe several years ago.
- **AAUW Funds chair:** Vacant

Please contact the Nominations Committee if you or some member you know is the right person for the rewarding and mission-based office of AAUW Funds chair.

*Nominations Committee  
Nina Thayer, Chair; Mimi Salinger; Shila Marek*

## GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO JOIN AAUW



It's a great time for colleges and universities to join AAUW because the price is right! In celebration of AAUW's 130 years, a special membership fee of \$130 has been created to encourage institutions regardless of their size to join AAUW. Ordinarily, membership fees range from \$125 for institutions of less than 1,000 students to \$350 for institutions of 30,000 or more students. Also, institutions that have been members in the past, but have not been members for two years, can rejoin for this low fee. So now is the time to talk with presidents, vice presidents, deans, faculty or staff at the college or university near you. Memberships are by campus, not by parent institution.

Why should they join? Member institutions have access to AAUW's website, including our member-only online resources such as research, publications, advocacy and public policy initiatives; scholarship, grant and fellowship notices; conference and workshop notifications; and product discounts. Further, member institutions get free e-student affiliation with AAUW for undergraduate students. This means students receive AAUW announcements regarding scholarship, grants, and fellowship opportunities; Washington updates; conference and workshop announcements; two-minute activist alerts; and much more. Plus, student affiliates receive a free year of membership in AAUW upon graduation!

To learn more, go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org), click on Member Benefits at the top of the page, then click on College University partners on the left side of the page. Look at the "Benefits for Your Institution" and check out the institutions that belong to AAUW in the online directory. Getting colleges and universities in New Mexico to join AAUW and give their students electronic student affiliation is a great way to recruit future AAUW members. Let me know how I can help you in this effort by contacting me at 505-454-9707 or [lyne@desertgate.com](mailto:lyne@desertgate.com).

*Karyl Lyne, College/University representative*

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

### SPRING MINI-GRANTS AVAILABLE

Mini-grants are available to assist branches in mission-based programming. To be funded, a project or activity must address outreach, education, or mentoring. Activities may benefit the community, AAUW Funds, or the start of a new branch. Two hundred and fifty dollars remains after the fall awards. The following are the criteria for awarding mini-grants:

- Applications must be submitted by email to Nina Thayer before April 1
- Grants for this or the next program year will be awarded during the spring convention after review by the Mini-Grants Award Committee
- A branch may apply for amounts up to and including \$150
- The amount granted may or may not equal what was requested, as the final amount depends on state budget limitations, number of applications and frequency of requests for the same project. New projects will receive first consideration.

Applications must include:

- Branch name, contact person, and contact information (email address, postal address and phone)
- Title of project and project summary
- Dollar amount requested
- Simple budget of project costs with list of supports or contributors, if applicable

Submit applications no later than April 1 to:

**Nina Thayer**  
**gnthayer@cybermesa.com**

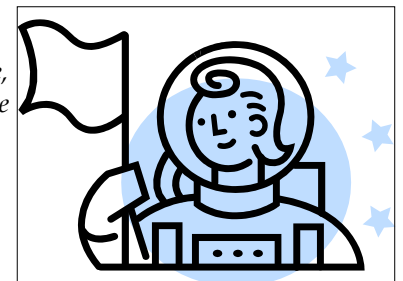
### ALBUQUERQUE BRANCH FORMS WHY SO FEW INTEREST GROUP



Why do so few women pursue careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)? This question was the impetus for the current AAUW research report, *Why So Few?* It is also the theme of our annual convention in April. In response to this question, the Albuquerque branch has formed a *Why So Few* interest group. Cheri Burch is the chair of this group. In addition to her AAUW membership, Cheri is also a member of the New Mexico Network of Women in Science and Engineering (WISE). She has been connecting with other groups in the Albuquerque area, such as the Girl Scouts and the YWCA, who already have programs designed to involve girls in STEM. Cheri is also working with the National Girls Collaborative (NGC) Project, ([www.ngcproject.org](http://www.ngcproject.org)), and has been authorized by the Albuquerque branch and AAUW-NM as their representative to assist in planning an NGC Project regional meeting to be held in Albuquerque.

Cheri hopes to form a Why So Few committee with representatives from all of the New Mexico branches. The committee members would share information about local programs focused on encouraging K-12 girls to explore STEM fields, particularly those in which women are underrepresented, with the goal of disseminating that information to girls around the state. With many branches already holding STEM-centered programs, such as Girls Can, Girls Using Real-Life Science (GURLS), Expanding Your Horizons, Let's Read Math, and others, we have much information to share. If you are interested in being a representative for your branch, please let your branch president know and also contact Cheri at 505-286-9674, or [ctburch@nmsu.edu](mailto:ctburch@nmsu.edu). Although regular meetings are not currently planned, Cheri hopes to meet anyone interested in this committee at the annual convention.

*Betty Walker Smith, Sylvia Fink, and Cheri Burch, all of Albuquerque, contributed information for this article*



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### CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (work): \_\_\_\_\_ phone (cell): \_\_\_\_\_

Current Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Fees and Choices:

Early Bird (postmarked on or before April 5) \$27.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Late Registration (postmarked after April 5) \$37.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday only \$17.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Activity: Choose one

\_\_\_\_ 1. Silver City Walk (limited to 12)

\_\_\_\_ 2. Tour of Silver City Museum \$3.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Lunch: Choose one:

\_\_\_\_ Chicken salad

\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian option

\_\_\_\_ Number of People x \$7.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Night Banquet, Bear Mountain Lodge

\_\_\_\_ Number of People x \$35.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Includes tax and gratuity)

Meal includes appetizers and dessert. All entrees are served with lemon chive potatoes and carrot jicama slaw.

Please choose your entrée:

\_\_\_\_ 36-Hour Bear Mountain Lodge Brisket with Orange Chipotle Sauce

\_\_\_\_ Roasted Veggie Torte: carrots, red onion, and butternut squash layered with eggs and Swiss cheese

\_\_\_\_ Baked NM Chicken with cornmeal crust of red and green chili and parmesan cheese

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the workshop that you plan to attend:

#### A. Session

\_\_\_\_ 1. Why So Few? And What We Can Do About It, Dr. Andresse St. Rose

\_\_\_\_ 2. Write Your Memoir, Patty Reed

#### B. Session

\_\_\_\_ 1. Women in Society - Israel, Connie Hildebrand

\_\_\_\_ 2. New Mexico Water Issues: Challenges for the Future, Allyson Siwik

\_\_\_\_ 3. The 3 "R's" of Movement, Melinda Shaner

Make your check or money order payable to AAUW – Grant County. Credit cards cannot be accepted.

Please send registration to: AAUW–NM Convention Registrar, Sharyn McDonald, 707 West College Ave., Silver City, NM 88061. If you have any questions, contact Adrienne Dare at 575-388-2013.



Mimbres Pottery Collection, WNMU Museum

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

### WHY SO FEW? GOES GLOBAL



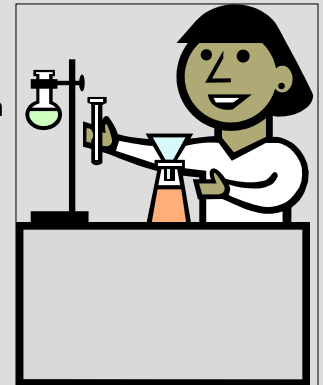
The theme of the 55th United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is participation of women and girls in science and technology, including women's equal access to full employment and decent work. The CSW will meet at the U.N. in New York in February and March 2011. To prepare for that meeting, the U.N. Division for the Advancement of Women, in collaboration with the U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, convened an Expert Working Group (EWG) on gender, science, and technology from September 28 to October 1, 2010, in Paris. AAUW Chief of Strategic Advancement Jill Bird-whistell participated in this important meeting to draft recommendations on increasing the global participation of women in science and technology. The EWG

identified policies and programs that would accelerate progress toward internationally agreed-upon goals, including the U.N.'s Millennium Development Goals. It focused on strategies for the following:

- Increasing women's access to and use of technology, including more gender-responsive products
- Increasing women's access to and participation in science and technology education and training
- Eliminating barriers to women's participation in science and technology employment

Each of the approximately 30 participants in the EWG was asked to submit a background paper that would help to guide the group's discussion. AAUW's submission focused on our key research, programs, and advocacy related to increasing women's and girl's participation in STEM. AAUW also included an executive summary of our recent research report, *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*, which was used extensively by the group in drafting their U.N. recommendations. This research will also provide the basis for AAUW's panel discussion of critical STEM issues for women and girls at next month's CSW meeting.

Information taken from the Winter 2011 Spotlight on Stem newsletter. You can subscribe to this newsletter on the AAUW website: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).



*Information on the Spring Convention in Silver City, April 15, 16, and 17, appears on pages 3 through 6. The convention registration form appears on page 11. We hope to see you there!*



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First Class Mail