



The ROADRUNNER

Volume 54 Number 3 Summer 2009
www.aauw-nm.org

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The ROADRUNNER is a quarterly publication of AAUW-NM.
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Please submit address changes to your branch membership chair.
Members-at-large: Notify AAUW Records Office, 1111 16th St., Washington, DC 20038.

BARBARA CASEY WINS GRACE BARKER WILSON AWARD

On Saturday, April 25, during the state convention banquet in Los Alamos, Barbara Casey of Las Vegas received the 2009 Grace Barker Wilson Distinguished Service Award. Barbara has blazed a trail for women in New Mexico. Her career includes many "firsts." Barbara is:



Barbara Casey

- the first woman from southeastern New Mexico to be elected to the New Mexico House of Representatives;
- the first public school teacher in the New Mexico legislature;
- the first female legislator to serve as Education Commissioner representing New Mexico in the Education Commission of the States, serving for an unprecedented nine years;
- the first female legislator to serve as chair of the House Rules committee;
- the first female superintendent who advanced from classroom teacher directly to the position of school district superintendent.

While serving in the legislature in 1987, Barbara was challenged by then-Attorney General Hal Stratton, who contended that as a school teacher, she was a member of the executive branch of government and therefore could not serve in the legislative branch. Barbara countersued and won her case in both district court and the New Mexico Court of Appeals. Her action paved the way for other teachers to serve in the legislature. While serving on the House Rules committee, Barbara led an unprecedented investigation of a legislator accused of taking a bribe. This led to the enactment of ethics reform laws and changes in the way in which the legislators can conduct business. As an educator/legislator, Barbara was instrumental in increasing teacher minimum pay and ensuring that teachers have a duty-free lunch. She also enacted into law a ban on drugs and weapons on school campuses.

Barbara was selected by the United Nations as the only person from New Mexico to monitor the first democratic elections in El Salvador. She also was also honored as the only female legislator from New Mexico to meet with then-Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari to discuss regional concerns about NAFTA.

As a first year administrator, Barbara took an especially challenging job with a school district that was at the point of being shut down because of mismanagement. All school board members eventually resigned their positions. This left the district with no governance structure, forcing the New Mexico Public Education Department to develop a protocol for the removal and replacement of school board members.

Barbara was a member of AAUW in Roswell from 1974 – 2001. She has both a bachelor's and master's degree from New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas and a doctorate in education from the University of New Mexico. She is the incoming co-president of the Las Vegas branch. Please join us in congratulating this inspirational woman on her receipt of our state's most prestigious award.

Information provided by Karyl Lyne, Co-President, Las Vegas branch

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NATIONAL CONVENTION TO BRING FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES TO AAUW



Mary Sandford (l.), Jackie Littleton (AAUW Director-at-large), and Nina Thayer at the state convention banquet

By now, all AAUW-NM members should be aware of the changes pending at the Association level. We've discussed the proposed bylaws changes at Leadership Team and branch meetings. We've read the changes in the *Out-look* or on the Association website. Fifty of us heard Jackie Littleton's excellent presentation and question/answer session at the convention in Los Alamos. "Change" is happening and we must embrace it!

The most important change to be voted on in St. Louis will reorganize the two entities we know as AAUW and AAUW- EF into AAUW and AAUW Action Fund with a single board of directors. This is required to realign AAUW organizations with federal tax law and reduce administrative costs. All of AAUW's 501c3 activities (membership, program, leadership training, scholarships, research, and legal advocacy) will be grouped into AAUW, and the 501c4 activities (voter guides, voter registration and the Lobby Corps) will become the AAUW Action Fund. Overall, this will have little effect at the state and branch level, other than to make \$46 of our Association dues tax deductible.

The proposed bylaws also allow for flexibility in state and branch structure. They minimize officer requirements and replace regions with a "Leadership Corps." However, this flexibility does not mandate that states and branches

change their current structure. States and branches may maintain a complete slate of officers and states may still elect to form regions. Your co-presidents do not foresee any immediate changes in the state or branch structures within AAUW-NM.

Under the proposed bylaws, AAUW will no longer have its complicated delegate system for conventions. One-Member-One-Vote will allow business to be conducted electronically by email, fax, or postal mail. Every member will have a voice in the decision-making process.

The most controversial topic at the St. Louis convention will be the bylaws proposal to drop the educational requirement for membership. Many of our members feel strongly that AAUW should maintain the college degree requirement upon which our organization was founded. How can we advance educational opportunities for women and girls if we ourselves do not represent the attainment of higher education? In contrast, others feel that to move AAUW into the 21st century, "break through barriers" and truly promote equity, we must open membership to all those who support our mission. There are very strong arguments on both sides. St. Louis should prove extremely interesting.

We will be attending the St. Louis convention and so will many state officers and branch representatives. Please let any one of us know your feelings on the proposed bylaws so we can truly represent you. Whatever changes occur in St. Louis, one thing remains constant: **AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.**

*Your partners in change,
Nina Thayer and Mary Sandford, Co-Presidents*

THANKS, LOS ALAMOS!

Congratulations to the Los Alamos branch for a wonderful and successful spring convention! The Leadership Team meetings and business sessions were productive; the locations were convenient and accommodating; the food was excellent, and the entertainment at the banquet was delightful! Lilly Ledbetter's talk about her experience with pay discrimination was a highlight for all who attended! Jackie Littleton, our Association "Champion," answered many questions and alleviated much anxiety about the proposed bylaws. Many thanks to Natalie Markin and her planning committee, Helena Whyte (Los Alamos branch president), and all the Los Alamos branch members who shared the responsibilities of the weekend. Special thanks go to my co-president, Nina Thayer, for her hours of planning with her branch and for sharing her beautiful home for Sunday morning's Town Hall meeting, Leadership Team meeting, and breakfast.

Las Cruces is the site of the Summer Leadership Team meeting on July 31 and August 1. We will be reporting on the Association convention and doing some strategic planning. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Mary Sandford, Co-President

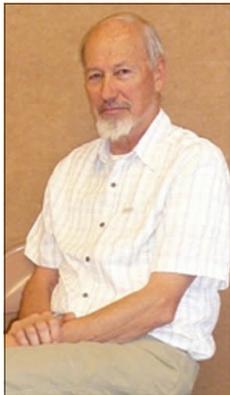
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EXCELLENT SPEAKERS DOMINATE STATE CONVENTION

After the appearance by Lilly Ledbetter on the first afternoon of our 2009 state convention, people might have thought it was all downhill from there. But they would have been so wrong! Our convention featured one compelling speaker and topic after another. Lilly Ledbetter's talk attracted 60 or more attendees, including AAUW members, University of New Mexico-Los Alamos students and faculty, and Los Alamos and Santa Fe community members. She told a harrowing story of discrimination during her 20 years as a Goodyear supervisor, what she endured after seeking justice over the pay inequity, her subsequent victorious lawsuit and crushing reversal of the decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, and the joy of being present when President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law last January.



Lilly Ledbetter (l.) with Lina Germann, state LAF chair



Dr. Chick Keller

Our Saturday keynote speaker was Dr. Chick Keller, retired director of the Institute for Geophysics and Planetary Physics at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Dr. Keller gave a convincing presentation on climate change and the effect of greenhouse gases on our environment over a significant period of time, and how this has accelerated dramatically since the middle of the 20th century. Dr. Keller delivered his talk in a convincing but objective manner, being very careful not to let emotion intrude on science. Anyone interested in his presentation can view it at our website, www.aauw-nm.org.

Dr. John Bartlit, also retired from the Los Alamos National Laboratory, is an engineer who presently chairs New Mexico Citizens for Clean Air and Water. His presentation, titled *The Public Forum is an Ecosystem*, was a thought-provoking look at the breakdown of true dialogue in our current public discourse, and how the sound-bite is polluting true communication. This again was a thoughtful, non-emotional discussion of an important topic for these, or any, times.



Dr. John Bartlit

Deanise Marta, Roadrunner Editor

TIME TO APPLY FOR MINI-GRANTS

AAUW-NM 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 include the community, Educational Foundation (EF), Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF), or the start of a new branch. The grants given for 2008-2009 went to the Carlsbad branch for its GULRS (Girls Using Real Life Science) program, to the Las Cruces branch for the Girls Can program, to Santa Fe and Las Alamos branches for Voter Education forums, and to the Albuquerque branch to assist in starting a Student Affiliate group on the Central New Mexico Community College campus.

Mini-Grant Criteria:

1. All applications must be submitted between July 1 and October 1.
 2. Grants for the 2009-2010 program year will be awarded during the fall workshop in Carlsbad.
 3. A branch may apply for one grant per year, in any amount up to and including \$100.
 4. The amount granted may not equal what was requested. The final amount depends on state budget limitations, number of applications, and frequency of the same project requests.
- New projects and new branch applications will receive first consideration.

Applications must include:

1. Branch name, contact person and contact information (e-mail address, telephone, etc.)
 2. Title of project
 3. Dollar amount requested
 4. Project summary
 5. Simple budget of project costs
- List of contributors and supporters, if applicable

Submit applications no later than October 1 to:

Nancy Scheer
1894 Esplendor
Santa Fe, NM 87505
505-473-9897
nscheer@cowboys.uwyo.edu

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STATE EXPLORES FORMATION OF ONLINE BRANCH

Our Membership Vice-president is working to form an online branch similar to the Texas and California online branches.

Its purpose is to reach AAUW members and people interested in furthering AAUW's goals who may be too busy or too distant to attend regular branch meetings. The online format can give members-at-large (MALs) a "Virtual Community" forum to interact with other like-minded people and to learn about and discuss issues which interest and affect women in New Mexico.



Who Can Join

Membership in the New Mexico online branch is open to:

- Any AAUW-NM MAL
- Any AAUW-NM branch member residing out of the state at least 3 months of the year
- Any AAUW-NM branch member who travel extensively
- Those branch members whose branches are no longer accessible to them because of branch inactivity, travel distance, or time (Gallup area, Portales, Raton, Valencia County)

How to Join

AAUW MALs can join the AAUW-NM online branch for the same \$12 state dues regular branch members pay.

If you would like to participate, please send an e-mail with your name, current branch (if any), and another way to contact you, such as phone number or address, to mozden08@aol.com. Please indicate your preference for a chat room type meeting at a set time, a list serve e-mail set up, or a blog discussion on multiple topics. The online branch could use any or all of these modes at different times.

Texas and California online branches charge \$10 branch dues; many members are dual members. For examples of online branch activities, visit:

<http://www.aauwcaonline.org/>

<http://www.aauwtexas.org/branches/online/index.html>

<http://aauwtarheel.wordpress.com/>

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Departmental listing: <http://hsc.unm.edu/som/micro/michelle.shtml>

Lab home page: <http://hsc.unm.edu/som/micro/ozbunlab/index.html>

IDIP Program home page: <http://hsc.unm.edu/infect/faculty.htm>

CARLSBAD TO HOST FALL WORKSHOP

The Carlsbad branch will host the Fall Workshop on October 23 and 24.

Save the dates and see the Fall Roadrunner for details.



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AAUW-NM 2009-2010 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 policies that promote justice and human rights, and we recognize the need for a clean and healthful environment in an interdependent world.

2009-2010 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:
 - pay equity
 - 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 reasonable guidelines and efforts to develop new energy resources and conservation programs
8. Support for campaign finance and ethics reform, including the creation of a state-wide Ethics Commission with subpoena powers over state-wide elected officials
9. Support of civil liberties and all efforts to preserve the rights guaranteed to our New Mexico constitution

This program was approved and adopted at the 2009 Spring Convention

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CORRINE WOLFE ENDOWMENT NEARING COMPLETION



As the present AAUW year draws to a close, and we review our successes and begin planning for the 2009-2010 year, I would like to highlight a few of the accomplishments of the Educational Foundation (EF). On April 17, 2009 the Corrine Wolfe endowment contained \$85,044.99, thanks to the generosity of our members and branches. We also had the support of EF contributions from other states. As reported in our last *Roadrunner*, we had several very generous contributions from Indiana, Colorado, and Pennsylvania. Each dollar helps bring us closer to completing this endowment. That is the our goal for the coming year.

Completing the endowment would allow AAUW to help a young woman to continue her studies at a time when it has become more difficult to obtain financial aid. Then we, all our branches and members, will be able to move forward and focus on other projects and priorities. For many years our major emphasis has been to raise the \$100,000 for the Corrine Wolfe International Endowment. We need an additional \$14,955.01 to reach this goal. If each branch could sponsor one more fundraiser, and each member make a generous contribution, we could do it!

Rosmarie Frederickson, EF Chair

CATHY WALTERS WINS QUILT RAFFLE

Our lovely quilt, donated by the New Mexico Quilter's Association, has a new home. No longer will it be moved from one branch to another to help raise money for the EF and LAF funds. The winning ticket, sold by Nina Thayer, was purchased by Cathy Walters of Los Alamos. The raffle netted \$1,055.00 for our contributions to LAF and the Corrine Wolfe International Endowment. Thanks to the many ticket buyers for your support. This was a fun project.



Lina Germann, LAF Chair
Rosmarie Frederickson, EF Chair

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED AT STATE CONVENTION

The following members were nominated and elected for the 2009-2010 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 everyone to support these dedicated women.

Ruth Benjamins (Las Cruces)	Finance Chair
Pamela Daves (Las Vegas)	Outreach Chair
Deanise Marta (Las Cruces)	<i>Roadrunner</i> Editor
Dixie Trebbe (Albuquerque)	Public Policy Chair

Carol Ann Council, Nominations Chair

2009—2010 AAUW-NM LEADERSHIP TEAM

Nina Thayer (Los Alamos)	Co-President	Kathie Gilbert (Grant County)	Strategic Planning Chair/ Diversity Chair
Mary Sandford (Carlsbad)	Co-President		
OPEN	Program Chair	Barbara Carey (Carlsbad)	International Interests
Helena White (Los Alamos)	Membership Chair	Betty W. Smith (Albuquerque)	Media Chair
Ruth Benjamins (Las Cruces)	Finance Chair	Margaret Dike (Albuquerque)	Parliamentarian
Karen Nelson (Carlsbad)	Secretary	Jan Lifson-Bray (Albuquerque)	Alternate Parliamentarian
Rosmarie Frederickson (Los Alamos)	EF Chair	Pamela Daves (Las Vegas)	Outreach Chair
Lina Germann (Santa Fe)	LAF Chair	Dixie Trebbe (Albuquerque)	Public Policy Chair/ Choice Chair
Jean Bahr (Santa Fe)	Academic Chair	Denise George (Los Alamos)	Webmaster
Deanise Marta (Las Cruces)	<i>Roadrunner</i> Editor	Carol Ann Council (Las Cruces)	Nominations Chair
Jan Lifson-Bray (Albuquerque)	Bylaws Chair	Nancy Scheer (Santa Fe)	Mini-Grant Chair
Marion Isidoro (Albuquerque)	Public Policy Senior Advisor	Carolyn Glen Kaye (ABQ)	Pay Equity Chair
		Sandra Bradley (Santa Fe)	Historian

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NCCWSL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING IS APPROVED

During the Spring convention the Leadership Team voted unanimously to include an ongoing line item of \$1,000 in the annual budget to support scholarships for collegiate women from New Mexico to attend the National Conference for Collegiate Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

AAUW and NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education) present NCCWSL in early June of each year. It is sponsored specifically by the AAUW Leadership and Training Institute (AAUW-LTI), and is usually held at a university campus in the Washington, DC area. The two-and-a-half day conference features keynote speakers, workshops, Women of Distinction Awards, dialogue and networking with the 500 or more participants from all over the nation.

NCCWSL provides an excellent opportunity for young women to learn leadership strategies and techniques from outstanding women leaders, as well as develop relationships with other young women leaders across the country. The cost of the conference is approximately \$1000, which is outside the financial realm of many of the young women who would benefit by attending the conference.

Branches will be encouraged to promote NCCWSL on campuses around the state by advertising the AAUW website (www.aauw.org/nccwsl/program), and by distributing NCCWSL materials on their local campuses. Branches also will be encouraged to contribute to the state NCCWSL scholarship fund and/or to create a branch NCCWSL scholarship fund.

Students may either apply for the scholarship or be nominated by a branch. Applicants nominees can be graduate or undergraduate students currently pursuing degrees at a New Mexico community college, college, or university. The applications must include the student's name, contact information, college or university, classification, field of study, a listing of current and/or past leadership roles, and a brief statement by the applicant/nominee of why she wishes to attend NCCWSL. The application must be received by February 1. Applicants will be interviewed by the state selection committee, appointed by the state co-presidents, and the award made by March 1. Following the conference, the scholarship recipient will be expected to submit a written report about the conference to the selection committee and to speak at state or branch meetings.

This is an exciting possibility for women students in your area. Please refer to the AAUW website referenced above for additional information.

Karyl Lyne, Co-President, Las Vegas branch

TWO NEW MEXICO DESIGNS AMONG AAUW NOTE CARD CONTEST WINNERS



To Life!

Of the six designs selected for the new AAUW note card collection, two were produced by New Mexico AAUW members. Kathi Barit of Las Cruces submitted "To Life!" and Michelle Stump of Los Alamos submitted "Skyward Dreaming." As there were more than 200 submissions, to have two selected from New Mexico is an honor for our state, as well as for these talented artists. The winning entries, in the form of note cards, will be sent to over 100,000 AAUW members, whose donations are expected to result in significant funding for the association.

The image "Skyward Dreaming" features the landscape of Pojoaque, New Mexico, north of Los Alamos. "To Life!" is a wonderful example of Kathi's warm, expressive painting style. Said Kathi, "I can't live my life without being creative. Winning the contest made me feel good. It fed my spirit."

Both women consider being members of the AAUW to be very rewarding. Kathi joined in August 2008 and is the incoming Membership Co-Vice President of the branch. She has formed a new Mahjong interest group, and has organized several of our monthly "Going Places" activities, most recently a trip to an iris farm and gallery in Hondo, New Mexico.

Michelle, who joined in 2006, said "Being able to make a contribution to AAUW allows me to give back to an organization that has helped me over the course of many years. I was delighted that "Skyward Dreaming" was one of the six winning designs and am very glad that I am part of the Los Alamos branch of the AAUW.



Skyward Dreaming

Deanise Marta, Roadrunner Editor

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SUMMER LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING SCHEDULED

The Summer Leadership Team meeting will take place on Friday, July 31 and Saturday, August 1. On Friday, we will meet at my home at 5 pm for dinner, provided by the Las Cruces branch, followed by a Strategic Planning session from 6:30 until 9 pm. On Saturday morning, we will meet at the Good Samaritan Las Cruces Village Creative Arts Room from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm. The tentative schedule is as follows:

8:45 am	Leadership Team Meeting (includes 15 minute break)
12 noon	Lunch/Breakout Groups
1:15 pm	Break
1:30pm	Strategic Planning Session 2
4:30 pm	Adjourn



Coffee, tea, and water will be available in the morning, and a lunch at noon of soup, salad, sandwiches, dessert, iced tea, and water will be served for a cost of \$8.50. Hotel details, directions, and maps will be available after July 1. The Las Cruces branch also will provide Bed and Breakfast accommodations for a \$25 donation to the Corrine Wolfe International Endowment.

The Good Samaritan Las Cruces Village needs a final count of attendees by July 20, so please notify me at dxmarta@msn.com, or 575-541-8003, if you plan to attend. Also indicate if you are interested in Bed and Breakfast. We hope to see you in Las Cruces this summer!

Deanise Marta, President, Las Cruces branch

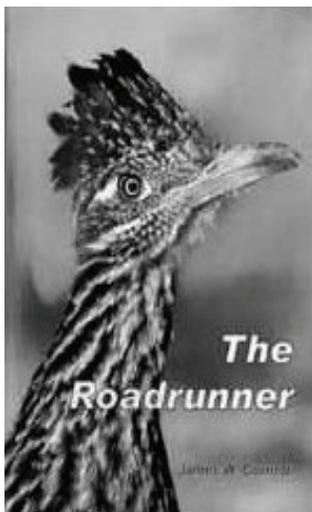
PLANNING ALREADY UNDERWAY FOR 2010 STATE CONVENTION

The 2010 State Convention is scheduled for April 16, 17, and 18 in Albuquerque. This convention will be a first in that it will be held in conjunction with the tentatively titled "Women Across Borders" program on April 16 and 17. The program is a joint effort between AAUW-NM, AAUW-Albuquerque, the Albuquerque Soroptimist Club, Mana de Albuquerque, the Mexican Consulate, the Women's Institute of the State of Chihuahua, and the University of New Mexico. Planning is already underway for this program and its coordination with our state convention.

The program will include a trip to the El Camino Real International Center south of Socorro on Thursday, April 16, sponsored by the Continuing Education department of the University of New Mexico. The afternoon of Friday, April 17 will feature three different panel discussions on border issues affecting women to be held at the National Hispanic Center. Speakers from the United States and Mexico will be featured. The field trip and panel discussions will also be open to the public. The convention business will take place Friday morning and all day Saturday.

Please save these dates for what is sure to be an exciting and educational weekend. More in-depth information will appear in the Fall and Winter editions of the *Roadrunner*.

Ted Cooley, President, Albuquerque branch



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