

**AAUW-NM
LEGISLATIVE DAY,
LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING,
POTLUCK, and B&B in SANTA FE**

Sunday January 26th at First Christian Church 645 Webber St. Come to the Leadership Team meeting 1:30-5:30 in the Sanctuary. Gather in Fellowship Hall for the 6:00 p.m. potluck dinner furnished by Santa Fe Branch. At 7:15 p.m. go to the Sanctuary for our legislative issues briefing, tips on lobbying, and a return engagement of our Lobby Corps Players with special legislative scenarios.

To reach the church, from Paseo de Peralta by the Roundhouse, south on Webber, or from Santa Fe Trail (Old Pecos) west on Buena Vista to Webber. If you need a room for the night (b&b) call Agnes Moses, 505-471-6633 or e-mail: agy370@aol.com. For the b&b, give your hostess a voluntary \$25 donation payable to either EF or LAF. If you make a reservation and cannot keep it, please notify Agnes.

Monday January 27th at the Roundhouse. All branches need to be well-represented! We observe committee hearings and visit legislators. Make appointments in advance to talk to your legislators. *Be part of the Rally for Campaign Reform at 11:00 a.m.* In the evening we are invited to attend the reception for female legislators given by Susan Loubet and the Women's Agenda.

Corrine Howard PUBLIC POLICY CHAIR
Donna Walker, SANTA FE BRANCH PRESIDENT

Dec. 31 Postmark deadline for EF and LAF contributions for year 2002

2003

Jan 1 1/2 dues now accepted for new members
Jan 15 Deadline for nomination suggestions for officers
Jan 15 Deadline for nominations for Grace Barker Wilson Award
Jan TBA CHOICE rally, Santa Fe
Jan. 26 Leadership team meeting, Santa Fe
Jan 27 Legislative Day, Santa Fe
Feb 10 Spring *Roadrunner* deadline
March Women's History Month
Apr 25-27 AAUW-NM Convention and Leadership Team meetings, Santa Fe
May 10 Summer *Roadrunner* deadline
Je 20-23 AAUW Convention, Providence, RI

**HOW CAN AAUW ASSIST
WOMEN FACULTY MEMBERS
in NEW MEXICO?**

The AAUW-NM Leadership Team meeting in October hosted an LAF workshop that explored ways in which AAUW members might provide assistance to university faculty women. Problems brought to light by our spring survey of faculty women were listed under the following categories: Tenure, Research, Equal Representation, Pay Equity, Child Care, Sexual Discrimination and Harassment, and the "Old Boy's Network" Working groups discussed these issues, each group suggested actions AAUW could take in support of and in cooperation with the universities. Our time limit prevented much in-depth discussion as well as consideration of all the categories. Below are some kernels from the discussions.

Child Care. Many faculty women teach in the evenings or on weekends, when child care is seldom available. AAUW could investigate the possibility of initiating programs that provide child care by students in education and parents or other family members. In several college programs, students can get credit for participating in this kind of effort. Problems to be addressed would include cost, insurance, certification, and training facilities. AAUW might prepare a fact sheet on available care, its quality, and problem areas.

Equal Representation. University women (and minorities) have won an important battle in that universities, to be politically correct, must include women (and minorities) on every committee. However, because there are more male than female university professors, women spend much more time on committees than males, leading to less time for other professional and personal activities. There is a higher percentage of new Ph Ds who are women than there are newly hired full-time university faculty that are women--the search committees are primarily male. We need to increase the number of female faculty members at our universities. Some workshops for Ph D students (our future faculty) on job interviewing and assertiveness training could prove helpful.

Pay Equity. Men are much better at negotiating salaries than women. Women are more likely to take the first salary offered, and don't like bartering. Men negotiate over and over, for better salaries, for more release time, for research, and for rank. The best time to negotiate for a good salary is at the job interview. Women may not know what salaries to expect, and AAUW may be able to provide guidelines. AAUW might assemble and distribute comparisons of male and female salaries. Workshops on negotiating skills would be helpful. University couples might be advised to negotiate salaries together.

"Old Boy's Network" Women need to create their own networks that include mentoring programs led by faculty (both men and women) and by women within the community. The mentoring program should be formalized, with mentors matched to candidates. Mentors should encourage women to seek leadership roles. Existing groups on Women's Studies could sponsor activities to bring women together. AAUW could identify women's centers and women's study programs at our universities.

I encourage each state branch (especially those with universities in their communities) to consider the role they could play in bringing some of these ideas to fruition, and I welcome every AAUW member's input to our discussions.

Mona Wecksung, LAF LIAISON FOR NM
monaw@lanl.gov 505-662-7084

President's Message:

Greetings! What a wonderful 2002 Fall Workshop we had in Belen/Los Lunas. The lovely facility (at UNM Valencia County), agenda, presentations, meals, and activities were all splendid. Thank you so much, AAUW-Valencia County Branch, and especially President Karen O'Kain, for hosting this annual event.

Beginning our workshop, Margaret Dike (Albuquerque) was pinch-hitter on our "tips on parliamentary procedure." Nina Thayer (Los Alamos) presented various strategies and methods for recruiting and retaining members, and our new venture branch partnering. Valencia County branch provided a good lunch. Our international speaker, Debra Denker, shared insights into the lives of Afghan women. In the afternoon, Cheryl Pulaski (Valencia County) with much enthusiasm described the successful and much-needed Valencia County Branch Sister-to-Sister program. Mona Wecksung (Los Alamos) presented the next phase of our AAUW-NM LAF College/University Women Faculty Assistance project. Marian Matthews of ENMU and Laura Huenneke of NMSU, gave more information, followed by small group brainstorming. By convention time a project plan of action should be in place! Rosario Trujillo (Las Vegas) gave a short EF message and Shila Marek (Carlsbad) presented ideas on how branches can support our AAUW-NM international project, a follow-up of our summer resolution. Carol Woodworth (Raton), with the help of many unique member models, moderated an entertaining style show, with prizes. Our evening dinner was enjoyed by all.

Next morning, our fall AAUW-NM Leadership Team Meeting was well-attended, and 10 of the 14 branches were represented. Our Rocky Mountain Regional Director, Jeanette Misaka,

brought us up to date on Association issues, and commented several times on how outstanding she felt AAUW-NM is doing, with our mission-driven programs, projects for EF and LAF, exploring AAUW issues, studying public policy, Workshop, Meeting, and members.

Two main Association issues every AAUW-NM member needs to know about follow. These proposals will be voted on at the next Association Convention, June 20-23, 2003, in Providence, Rhode Island. AAUW-NM needs input as to how our state feels about them. Please think, discuss, and let me hear!!

1. A national annual "fixed-value" dues increase of a minimum of \$2 is being proposed to take effect 2004-2005. If this is not adopted, a dues increase of \$4 will be proposed. (Details are in your "AAUW in Action" Fall, 2002, page 11.)

2. AAUW-Ohio is proposing a membership amendment which would affect the general makeup of AAUW membership. A new classification of members is being considered: "Partners." See "Membership Requirements: Should They Change?" in this issue.

I look forward to seeing YOU at our next state event in Santa Fe: our Leadership Team Meeting on **Sunday, January 26**, followed by a potluck dinner provided by Santa Fe Branch, and a legislative lobbying briefing by Corrine Howard (West Mesa). **Monday January 27**, is our AAUW-NM Legislative Day in the Roundhouse--always an invigorating experience. Put the dates January 26 and 27 on your calendar now--you won't want to miss these activities.

And, finally, the very best to all of you for a safe, healthy, and happy holiday!

Carol Ann Council PRESIDENT

ASSOCIATION NEWS FROM OUR ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The following are key messages from an Association Board of Directors meeting I attended Nov.7-10 in Washington, D. C.

Leadership Training Institute (LTI) is a 501(c)3. under the Association. Grants can be written and funds received to promote projects for the Association. AAUW members' donations to the LTI are now tax-deductible, as they have always been for EF and LAF. The new Cross Corporate Business Development Department has been doing a great job of fund-raising for AAUW. Planned giving is a departmental focus.

After the November 5th election, the Voter Education campaign is even more important--the Board reaffirmed support. There will be challenges for AAUW, especially regarding judicial appointments and reproductive choice. We adopted a revised public policy program for presentation at the convention. The Board added campaign finance as one of its public policy priorities. AAUW Arizona and New Mexico have already been promoting campaign finance reform.

Study the proposed change in dues structure/ increase. Be ready to vote at convention. A resolution on membership categories will also be taken up. Membership recruitment and retention is a high priority. Let new members know all the benefits of membership. The Board voted to increase MAL dues to \$42.00.

At AAUW headquarters the many new staff members are all very competent and energetic, and support AAUW priorities. AAUW received a clean audit report from our outside auditors. AAUW has decided to change vendors for note cards /calendars. AAUW is trying to streamline the committee appointment process.

The LAF Justice Fund is underway. Deadline to request a litigant to present at the state convention is December 15, 2002. Send the request to Sylvia Newman, LAF president.

Start planning to go to the Association Convention in Providence, RI. There will be a lot to vote on. We want Rocky Mountain Region to be well-represented!

The new convention format will allow State and Branch exhibits of Best Practices. Think about what your Branch's and AAUW-NM's exhibits should be.

This fall I visited leadership team meetings/conferences in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico. I hope to get to Nevada and Arizona soon. The newly elected presidents and their boards are doing a fantastic job of AAUW programming. My thanks to them for making the job of regional director easier and even more enjoyable this second year. Have a great holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Jeanette Misaka ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL DIRECTOR

“AAUW VOTING RECORD 107th CONGRESS”

This booklet “informs AAUW members of positions taken by their senators and representatives on AAUW’s federal legislative priorities. The specific information in this Voting Record was selected on the basis of AAUW’s public policy action priorities and principles as adopted by convention delegates in 1999 and 2002.” Below in brief are issues, positions, and actions. Consult the complete “AAUW Voting Record 107th Congress,” at <http://www.aauw.org/1000/voterrec.html>.

SENATE

1. OPPOSED confirmation of Sen. John Ashcroft as U.S. Attorney General. because of his opposition to civil and reproductive rights. Confirmed 58-42. **2. SUPPORTED** the Harkin amendment (to FY02 budget resolution) to reduce the size of the tax cut and increase education spending by \$224 billion over 10 years. Passed 53-27, but it was eliminated in the final conference report. **3. OPPOSED** the FY02 budget resolution for tax cut through FY11 because it “squandered a historic opportunity to use a portion of the surplus to address unmet critical needs of U.S. families.” Passed 53-47. **4. OPPOSED** the Gregg amendment to S 1 to create a voucher demo project for 10 school districts, to allow public school children to use federal funds to transfer to another public school or to pay their tuition to a private school. AAUW’s position: “public funds should be used to improve only public education.” Failed 41-58. **5. OPPOSED** the Helms amendment to S 1 because it gave Boy Scouts and other youth groups unique rights denied other student-led groups, etc., violating a basic principle of federal funding of schools, and of democracy. Passed 51-49. **6. SUPPORTED** S 1052 establishing federal standards on managed care. Passed 59-36. **7. SUPPORTED** S 625 which would expand hate crimes prevention *and* Sen. Daschle’s motion to invoke cloture (limit the time debating the many amendments), but Senators opposed to S 625 succeeded in defeating cloture 54-43. **8. SUPPORTED** the Murray/Snowe amendment to S 2514 to allow women military personnel stationed overseas to undergo abortions at medical facilities (i.e., SAFE) if they pay for it with their own funds. Passed 52-40.

All Sen. Bingaman’s votes agreed with AAUW.

All Sen. Domenici’s votes were opposite to AAUW’s position. He did not vote on #6.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1. OPPOSED the FY02 budget resolution tax cut because it “squandered a historic opportunity to use a portion of the surplus to address unmet critical needs of U.S. families.” Passed 221-207. **2. OPPOSED** the Hyde amendment to HR 1646 which kept the global gag rule. The gag rule limits free speech and affect’s women’s health and family planning. Passed 218-210. **3. OPPOSED** HR 1’s Arney amendment which would provide vouchers to religious and private schools for students attending schools considered dangerous or low performing. AAUW’s position is “public funds should be used to improve only public education.” Failed 155-273. **4. OPPOSED** HR 1’s Arney amendment to fund five voucher demo projects to private or religious schools. Failed 186-241. **5. OPPOSED** HR 7 because if faith-based organizations receive federal funds to provide social services they must abide by anti-discrimination laws and must not be allowed to proselytize to recipients. Passed 233-198. **6. OPPOSED** HR 2563 as amended by Norwood limiting liability and damage awards for denial of health care because HR 2563 would override state laws and mandate a federal cause of action for use in state courts. Passed 226-203. **7. OPPOSED** HR 3090 accelerating the tax cut, in substance, because it omitted investing new resources in the economy and health care, but gave businesses and the wealthy big tax breaks. Passed 216-214. **8. OPPOSED** HR 476 denying minors facing unintended pregnancies the assistance of anyone other than parents, because “the government cannot mandate healthy, open communication where it does not already exist” and “one-third of teens who do not involve their parents have been the victims of family violence” and fear recurrence. Passed 260-161. **9. SUPPORTED** the Sanchez amendment to HR 4546 to allow women military personnel stationed overseas to undergo abortions at medical facilities (i.e., SAFE) if they pay for it with their own funds. Failed 202-215. **10. OPPOSED** HR 4737 re-authorizing the federal welfare program because it failed to provide tools necessary for women to gain skills to achieve economic self-sufficiency, and it required abstinence-only programs for students to apply only until marriage--no facts on contraceptives or safe sex., etc. Passed 229-197. **11. OPPOSED** HR 4965 the so-called Partial -Birth Abortion Ban Act which violated both Roe and Stenberg decisions. Passed 274-151.

All Rep. Udall’s votes agreed with AAUW.

All Rep. Heather Wilson’s votes were opposite to AAUW’s position except #3, all Rep. Skeen’s except #4.

YEAR-END GIVING TO THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

There is no better place for your investment than the AAUW Educational Foundation when it comes to helping women and girls. We are the architects of our own future! Members, please note that individual contributions to EF may be designated new endowments, or existing fellowships, or to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, or to general Foundation support. If you contribute \$100 or more to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, you will receive a special recognition pin for 2002. Each year, a new pin is designed for this purpose. (Any un-designated contribution goes to general support.) Remember that EF contributions are tax-deductible.

We in New Mexico are presently concentrating on our new NM Corrine Wolfe International Endowment, which, when completed at \$100,000, will be an International Fellowship. Completed New Mexico endowments are: NM Research & Projects Fund, the Georgia Fritz Research & Projects Fund, the Marjorie Bell Chambers International Fellowship (a Rocky Mountain Regional fund), and the Albuquerque Research & Projects Fund. All checks made out to EF should be sent directly to the Foundation.

Please encourage teachers to apply for an Eleanor Roosevelt Fellowship. Information pamphlets were part of the fall EF mailing and more can be ordered. *See more about the Educational Foundation Fellowships elsewhere in this issue.*

If you have suggestions for future fund-raisers, or questions about year-end giving, please contact me.

Rosario Trujillo, EF CO-CHAIR rtruj2002@yahoo.com, 505-454-8928 1316 9th St. Las Vegas, NM 87701

Proposed AAUW New Mexico Bylaws Changes

The following proposed changes have come from the Association requirements for state bylaws and should have been incorporated into the AAUW New Mexico bylaws at some time in the past.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Add a new Section 2. And renumber the following sections.

Section 2. State Members. Individuals who meet the criteria for membership as described in the Association Charter and Bylaws are eligible to be admitted to membership in AAUW New Mexico. The provisions set forth in that document are the sole requirements of eligibility and admissibility for membership. Refusal to admit an eligible graduate to state membership shall result in loss of recognition of the state. The state member shall be entitled to vote, hold office, and participate in all state activities and programs and receive the publications distributed to all members.

Remove the following sentence from Section 3. College/University

The Association shall rebate to each state the amount of state dues for each C/U representative in the state.

Add the words underlined to Section 4.b

Fifty-Year Honor. Any branch member who has paid Association dues for fifty (50) years shall become a FIFTY YEAR HONOR Life Member, and shall thereafter be exempt from payment of Association, state, and branch dues.

ARTICLE VI. FINANCES

Section 2. Dues

Add a new item c. and re-letter the following items.

c. A member of one of the national organizations of the federations of IFUW, whose current dues have been paid and who is spending a period of a year or less in the USA, may attend state meetings without a vote.

Replace the current Section 5 with a completely reworded Section 5.

Current wording:

Section 5. Audit. The elected officers of the state shall provide for such audit and control of funds as are necessary to assure their safekeeping and complete accounting.

New wording:

Section 5. Review. The state shall set and maintain policies and procedures to control financial records consistent with generally accepted accounting principles and federal, state, and local laws.

The last changes are proposed in order to have the AAUW New Mexico Bylaws reflect the way business has been conducted for many, many years.

ARTICLE VI. FINANCES

Current wording:

Section 4. Budget. The annual budget for the state shall be prepared by the Finance Chair and approved by the state Board of Directors at the annual convention. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to revise the budget within available income.

New wording:

Section 4. Budget. The annual budget for the state shall be prepared by the Budget Committee, reviewed by the state Board of Directors, and approved by the delegates to the annual convention. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to revise the budget within available income.

ARTICLE X. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 2. Powers and Duties

Current wording

(2) approve the budget and accept the auditor's report;

New wording:

(2) review the budget and accept the auditor's/reviewer's report;

Educational

Foundation Fellowships

AAUW Educational Foundation distributed \$4,000,000 in fellowships, grants, and awards in the 2002-2003 academic year. The deadline for the coming year is just past for some--but there's next year!--and upcoming for others. Please encourage those who qualify to apply.

★ **American Fellowships.** For women doctoral candidates completing dissertations or scholars seeking funds for postdoctoral research leave from accredited institutions. Application deadline for funding from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004 was Nov. 15, 2002. Range \$6,000 to \$30,000. Find out about next year.

★ **Selected Professions Fellowships.** For women who intend to pursue a full-time course of study in a degree program in which women's participation traditionally has been low.

Master's/First Professional Awards Range \$5,000 to \$12,000. Application deadline January 10, 2003 for funding from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004.

Engineering Dissertation Awards. Award \$20,000. Application deadline for funding from July 1, 2003, to June 30, 2004, was November 15, 2002. Find out about next year.

★ **Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellowships** are designed to provide professional development opportunities for women public school teachers and a range of program options allows flexible funding opportunities up to \$10,000. Application deadline January 10, 2003 for funding from July 1, 2003 through August 31, 2004.

Anyone interested in applying for one of these fellowships or grants, please contact the local branch EF officer, or AAUW-NM Chair Rosario Trujillo.

ERA ON THE MARCH

As of July, 2002, the ERA lacked ratification by just three states.

Review: The 500-Pound Gorilla by Alfie Kohn

The article titled "The 500-Pound Gorilla," was published in *Phi Delta Kappan: the Professional Journal for Education* October 2002 p.113-119. Alfie Kohn, author of many books about education and human behavior, adapted it from his introduction to *Education, Inc., Turning Learning into a Business*, newly revised edition, an anthology edited by Alfie Kohn and Patrick Shannon. Heinemann 2002.

Alfie Kohn begins by saying that he frequently is asked to speak about **"the accountability fad that has been turning our schools into glorified test-prep schools."** And it's all connected. He says, **"Indeed, there are enough suspicious connections to keep conspiracy theorists awake through the night."**

One of the largest makers of standardized tests is McGraw Hill. McGraw Hill owns Standard and Poors, a financial rating service that has recently offered "to evaluate and publish the performance, based largely on test scores, of every school in a given state." (Some states have already spent a total of tens of millions of dollars for these.) McGraw-Hill sells "curriculum programs designed to raise scores." A McGraw Hill vice-president is on the New York Board of Regents, the panel that makes New York's education policies. McGraw Hill's chairman Harold McGraw III, is friend of George W. Bush. McGraw Hill owns the periodical *Business Week*, which in March 2001 published a "strong statement of support for test-based accountability." Five companies make nearly all the standardized tests used on students and teachers: McGraw Hill, Harcourt, Riverside, Educational Testing Service, and NCS Pearson.

Kohn identifies ways our schools and children are turned into sources of profit. Corporations can profit from education in three basic ways: 1. selling curriculum and tests, e.g. Vivendi Universal owns Houghton Mifflin (textbooks) owns Riverside (Iowa Tests of Basic Skills); 2. selling products, e.g., Nike's advertising of its shoes at schools, and 3. running the schools, e.g., Edison.

Corporations are using schools as a "captive market:" ads posted in cafeterias and athletic fields, soft drink companies, free TVs in exchange for watching programs on a channel that plugs the giver's products, curriculum packages furnished by chemical companies, personal hygiene by the product manufacturers, etc. He points out that if a fast food company and a soft drink manufacturer furnish a teaching unit, children may not be aware of the nutritive superiority of home-prepared food, that water is the best thirst quencher, etc.

Corporations are running schools, even owning them. "Privatizing education is predicated on an almost childlike faith in competition" which he says is "the opposite of an invitation to work together to make schools more effective and inviting places...." He quotes Benjamin Barber, "Privatization is not about limiting government; it's about terminating democracy."

Large companies have been pressuring school curricula to be focused on what they want, with "punishment for schools that fall behind, and more testing...." and they get their way. **The state has "usurped much of the power that communities have long enjoyed to set education policy"**--another deleterious development.

All this undermines education as a public good. He says that students now "expect to be controlled with rewards and punishments," to compete against other children, to be rated and evaluated." . He says this is not "particularly effective at preparing children to be critical thinkers, life-long intellectual explorers, active participants in a democracy, or...., good friends or lovers or parents." It conditions children to grow up to be corporate employees and consumers.

He says that business's concern with schools is financial profit, and that if children's needs happen to coincide with that financial profit, it's "purely accidental." "If the motive were not profit, business would have an entirely different approach to education.."

Commenting that "what business wants, it usually gets," he compares acquiescing to business wants to inviting a 500-pound gorilla "to sleep anywhere it wishes." It's dangerous. Mr. Kohn concludes that what we need to do about this is, "to firmly tell them to mind their own businesses."

Commentary

Whatever happened to the educational concept of educating children to the best of their abilities? It worked! Once commercialism was not

permitted in schools, there was little standardized testing, and we had many schools, even schools of whole states, of which we were proud. Once upon a time children could experience childhood in school! Those were the good old days.

There are alarming truths about the accountability fad, how companies are profiteering off our education system through selling their curriculum and tests, through selling products through advertising at schools in a variety of ways, through privatization of schools, and through pressuring schools to train students so they will go to work for a business having little or no extra training after high school.

There has been a desperate need to increase teachers' salaries to a living wage, which would encourage many, many able persons to turn to, or to return to, teaching. Instead, the schools are spending money that should be applied to teacher's salaries and supplies--tens of millions--for standardized tests, the curriculum materials purported to make students pass the standardized tests, the evaluations that convince states and school systems of the validity of the standardized tests. Schools are being taken over by private companies when the students fail these standardized tests which have little to do with the child's education, and have negative consequences on the child's preparation for life. The bottom-line of the accountability fad is not the education of children--it's profiting financially off our children and the taxpayers.

The modus operandi of "accountability" is that cast-off teaching method called "teaching to the test,"--rote learning. Standardized testing as it is conducted today is another form of the discarded "stand and recite." The result of the current intense focus is neither learning, or improving children's education. Children are learning to be unthinking, unfeeling, to mold into a dictated pattern, to not be thinking individually, to not know how to find the information they need to make decisions. It is destructive to the children and to the nation.

Many public officials are unaware of the harm being done to our children, our education system, and our children's futures. As AAUW members, we have a responsibility to inform our governmental officials on issues of great importance. Make your voice heard opposing the negative influences on our schools.

Pat Freeman, EDITOR

ALBUQUERQUE.

Jan Bray, PRESIDENT 505-292-7270

We are co-sponsoring with the Women's Resource Center at UNM. a new book club bringing faculty and students together to discuss provocative books from the Association's ¡Adelante! list.. We had a booth at Welcome Back Day at UNM, giving out information about AAUW, the ¡Adelante! Book Club, and AAUW fellowships and grants. We have also promoted the Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellowships with the NEA and AFT. This year's programs have the theme: "We've Come a Long Way--Are We There Yet?" targeting our mission of equity and education for women and girls. Our holiday luncheon and 75th birthday party for the branch will be December 7th at Sheraton Uptown. The branch bulletin is now posted to www.aauw-nm.org.

CARLSBAD

Cathlene Thackaberry, PRESIDENT 505-628-0678

Our branch membership has more than doubled recently. Our fall membership brunch was a great success. Many members invited more than one guest. We began a guest book at the brunch and will continue to use it at each sponsored event. It has already come in handy.

In October we sponsored for the public a political forum of Congressional candidates. In November we will have our fund-raising tag sale and our Girl-of-the-Month recognition luncheon. In December we combine an international theme with a holiday get-together. In January we co-sponsor with Altrusa a program of stories by a Navajo storyteller. In February we plan an evening on the history of AAUW and women of Eddy County.

Our AAUW archives are housed in the local museum--some members have volunteered to try to access these so we can start research projects.

GRANT COUNTY

Maria Dominguez Rolfe, PRESIDENT 505-538-228

Grant County is looking forward to our traditional holiday potluck. Local eligible non-members were invited to attend the last membership meeting. We have planned many activities for spring.

LAS CRUCES.

Ruth Benjamins, PRESIDENT 505-527-0204

In September our general meeting topic was "The Silence of Cricket Googler: a Political Murder and Cover-Up," a film documentary; in October "Women's Athletics at NMSU; in November the Superintendent of Las Cruces Public Schools. spoke on "Challenges Facing Education Today."

Our only fund-raiser, "Trash and Treasure Sale," was held in October. Proceeds go to the Girls Can! Projects, NMSU Endowment Fund, AAUW-EF and LAF, and some to branch ex-

RATON

Carol Woodworth, PRESIDENT 505-445-3591

In September we held a salad supper. In October the program was on the grieving process. November's general meeting is about the Santa Fe Trail and History of Raton. An emphasis of this branch is sharing and caring about each other.

penses. In Girls Can! to be held March 1, 2003, sixth grade girls will experience "hands on" workshops that introduce them to a variety of careers and the educational requirements needed for the careers. So far we have about 25 careers represented.

Las Cruces Branch has become a member of the Virginia Gildersleeve Fund.

Our branch partner is Grant County.

LAS VEGAS

Ruth Hazelton, PRESIDENT 505-454-0185

Our candidate forum October 10 was held in the Donnelly Library Auditorium on Highlands University campus. Five of the six invited candidates for office in NM government attended. The presentations were instructive and the question and answer period lively. There was a large audience for this program, indicating high interest.

Nancy Child's wrote a proposal that earned the branch a \$100 grant from AAUW-NM. It will allow two more forums during this program year.

The branch membership has increased by one-third recently. We look forward to partnering with Raton Branch.

LOS ALAMOS

Alahna Weller, PRESIDENT 505-672-9539

Cincinnati's mayor proclaimed October 12 "Marjorie Bell Chambers Day in Cincinnati." In June 2003 she will retire from Union Institute and University where she has worked for nearly 25 years in the Union's graduate school for Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences. Over the last fifty or more years she has made immense contributions to education and to AAUW. She is the only New Mexican to have served as Association president.

Our EF fund-raiser in October, "Sonnets, Sonatas, and Tortes," provided an afternoon of music, poetry and elegant desserts at Fuller Lodge. Last year we collected funds toward a scholarship for a single working mother attending college full time. We worked with MANA del Norte to find our recipient,. MANA also contributed funds. The recipient is working toward her RN degree.

Our branch and League of Women Voters will have several meetings together: in November a City Councilor will speak, in December a speaker from the NM Health Care Project will discuss the 2003 legislative proposal re single party payer for health care in New Mexico, and in January our county Representative will present a Legislative Preview. Our branch partner is Taos County.

PORTALES.

Mercedes Agogino, PRESIDENT 505-356-8709

Last March we again gave certificates and books to 6th and 9th graders receiving first place and runner-up recognition at the regional science fair at ENMU. The branch is organizing a seminar of presentations by women faculty members of their graduate research, to be held in the spring.

SAN JUAN COUNTY

Cheryl Gordon & Gail Talaga, CO-PRESIDENTS
505-325-8393; 505-334-1232

San Juan had an outstanding program on the Arab World, and looks forward the annual holiday dinner. San Juan's 9th grade girls awards

project will be held in March. A book reading and reviewing project has been added to branch activities.

We have been saddened by the death of Ann House. A member of our branch for many years, Ann was killed in a car accident. ☒

SANTA FE

Donna Walker, PRESIDENT 505-820-2081

Most of the members now receive our newsletter on-line. The branch has two message trees: e-mail to those who have it, all others by phone.

In September a group participated in the third Habitat for Humanity Women's Build--members did wiring, installed vents, etc. It was great to see the completed houses: this year's house is just across the street from last year's. On November 24th after attending a performance of the Messiah at the Lensic, branch members will enjoy refreshments and fellowship at a member's home.

We are already working on our major fund-raiser--our giant garage sale (Trash and Treasure Sale)--to be held May 17, 2003.

We have been active in Careers and Curiosity for some years. First, one elementary school participated, then two, now FOUR!

The AAUW-NM convention next April will be held at Hotel Santa Fe on Paseo de Peralta, five blocks south of the Plaza. It is a beautiful upscale property owned by the Picuris Pueblo (south of Taos). Members will be treated royally, as Queen Noor stayed there in 2002. Chief Justice Bader-Ginsberg has held a conference there and Julia Roberts stays there before heading to Taos.

SOCORRO

Elise Brower, PRESIDENT 505-835-1721

An October program topic was the proposal for health insurance for all New Mexicans, presented by our NM Representative. In January our topic will be the Heritage Museum. On December 8, we will hold our fund-raiser, Tour the Homes (four homes).

In our book club that meets monthly we choose a high interest book. The meetings are lively, each one an event to anticipate.

TAOS COUNTY

Margarett Killingsworth, PRESIDENT 505-758-3942

Taos is having a Giving Party and Potluck at Adobe Pines, a b&b owned by a member, on December 4--the "Giving" will be making donations of toys, books, dry food, and clothing for the battered women's shelter.

On September 7th we held a breakfast at the EliasInez Gallery, and on the 21st Taos Branch's exhibition of paintings by local artists in the garden of the gallery. The branch got seven new members that day!

To increase Taos's awareness of AAUW, what it is, and what it does, I have spoken on radio several times.

We have a book group, lunch group, and an El Camino Real study group focusing on women's roles.

VALENCIA COUNTY

Karen O'Kain, PRESIDENT 505-864-7714

. Valencia County Branch hosted the Fall Workshop and Leadership Team Meeting held October 19 and 20 at the

Learning Resource Center at UNM's Valencia County campus.

The branch is very busy making preparations for the annual Sister-to-Sister Summit, to be held on February 7 on the campus.

Our member Muriel Smith passed away last summer. A native of Minneapolis, she moved to Belen in 1938. In lieu of flowers, her family asked that memorial donations be made to AAUW-Valencia County Branch for a scholarship in Muriel Smith's name to be awarded to a Belen High School senior in language arts. Send them to AAUW, 1107 Calle del Valle, Belen 87002.

WEST MESA

Mimi Salinger, PRESIDENT 505-897-7906

We have several projects to help Haven House (formerly called Project Sandoval), Sandoval County's only domestic violence shelter. We are collecting needed supplies for them, for our holiday luncheon members are bringing gifts of nighties or toiletries for a mom and an age-and gender-specified toy for a child, and we are furnishing them a list of businesses with contacts we know. At our monthly meetings we collect food for our local food pantry, Storehouse West

We're growing! At our Membership Fair, where Carol Ann Council spoke, half the guests joined AAUW. We sent our MALs a handwritten note and invitation to come to our October meeting. Most of those who came joined West Mesa Branch.

AAUW MALs ARE STILL AT-LARGE!

Like New Mexico and other states, New York State also seeks MALs. Noting that there are 3,600 branch members in New York State and 3,000 MALs (not belonging to any branch), "...you may be missing one of the best sources of new members and new branch leaders.....They believe in AAUW's mission and already support it financially. They may not know there is a local branch nearby. Or they may be waiting to hear from you." AAUW New York State *Focus* Fall 2002 p.5.

URGE SENATE PASSAGE OF CEDAW

CEDAW, the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women*, has been described as the "international bill of rights for women." It has passed the Senate Foreign Relations committee and **is waiting for a floor vote from the Senate**. A 2/3 majority is required for passage. Ratification does not require consideration by the House of Representatives.

The story is a long one. In December 1979, the United Nations adopted the Treaty, which emerged out of the 1975 World Conference on Women in Mexico City. At the time, the U.S. even helped the treaty. And it was unique.

As of May 2002, 170 countries have ratified the Treaty. The U.S. has NOT ratified and is NOT in good company. Iran, Afghanistan, and North Korea are among the other nations that have not ratified the treaty. Even Iraq and Kuwait have.

For 23 years, U.S. Senate action has been blocked by extremists.

Now, with memories of the Taliban's government-approved torture, confinement, and abuse of women still vivid, ratification has gained new momentum. The vote will be close, however. That's why a coalition of women's organizations, including AAUW, is asking concerned citizens to push for ratification now.

From *Montana Treasure Stater*, the AAUW-MT Bulletin, Fall 2002 p.11

♥♥♥♥♥ DIVERSITY REMINDER ♥♥♥♥♥

Branches can apply for one of the two Diversity awards to be presented at the 2003 Convention: \$50 to the branch **LAF** or **EF** fund for the best jingle on **AAUW-NM Diversity**; \$50 to the branch **LAF** or **EF** fund for the best branch effort to achieve a more diverse group. *Sherry Sandlin sherrysandlin@earthlink.net*

LAF BENEFIT RAFFLE winner was Carol Woodworth, President of Raton Branch and immediate past Rocky Mountain Regional Director She won the oil painting by Itzchak Tarkay

Where on the world-wide-web
can you find news, etc.,
about AAUW-NM and
four New Mexico branches of AAUW?
At www.aauw-nm.org

Public Policy News

The West Mesa and Albuquerque Branches partnered with the NM Voter Service Coalition, the NM Secretary of State, and 105 Women in Business contacting women in business by e-mail asking them to help us register anyone in their company who was not registered, then we delivered the voter registration forms. We registered 500 voters.

The House of Representatives passed 229-189 the HR 4691, Abortion Non-Discrimination Act, which allows healthcare, secular, and religious entities to deny health care options to pregnant women, and permits health care entities to violate federal state and local requirements to provide such services. Contact our Senators and urge them to oppose the Senate version of ANDA (S 2008).

AAUW has a strong concern about the nomination of W. David Hager, MD, to the Reproductive Health Drugs Advisory Committee at the FDA because he has a record of using ideological beliefs to guide his medical decisions.

Corrine Howard, PUBLIC POLICY CHAIR

EDUCATION ISSUES: NM LEGISLATURE 2003

- ⊗ AVOID a political appointee by the governor for a State Superintendent of Education czar by keeping the current governance (State Board of Education selects)
- ☺ APPLY CREATIVE FUNDING: i.e., increase the amount of interest from the Permanent Fund; substitute the current 6% tax on food (supplying \$50,000,000 a year) for an increase on a package of cigarettes from the present 21¢ to 80¢; monitor carefully the “incentive funding” proposed by the Commission on Higher Education for NM colleges, universities and branch campuses; identify a consistent permanent funding for Capital Outlay
- ☺ SUPPORT early childhood initiatives
- ⊗ OPPOSE vouchers
- ☺ ARTICULATE the value of public education
- ☺ WORK COLLABORATIVELY with the legislators and organizations to improve education, including Native American culture and language issues
- ☺ SUPPORT parents, teachers, schools and communities toward meeting the needs of children
- ☺ SUPPORT funding for all educators toward a continuum of professional development
- ☺ PLACE qualified teachers in every classroom (11% currently teach outside their subject area or have no license to teach)
- ☺ EXPAND mentoring for beginning teachers (1/3 of all new teachers presently leave the profession the first five years)
- ☺ EXPLORE innovative means for the recruitment and retention of teachers
- ☺ KEEP a constant watch for any disregard of issues affecting women and children—in particular, welfare policies that deny access to education and training

Define and prioritize for yourself these issues and other education problems that will surface. There is no simple solution.

Be sure to tell legislators about our branches statewide, and the branches in their areas. Define the AAUW membership by letting all know there are approximately **1,000** college-educated women members all over the state.

With a new governor and legislature, we can become a strong presence in the Roundhouse this year.

The new brochure “What is AAUW-NM?” can reinforce your communication efforts. The 46th session begins its 60-day deliberations in January.

Jean Bahr, Academic Coordinator

International Opportunities to Help Women in Dire Need

Opportunities abound for AAUW members in New Mexico to act in the international arena. AAUW-NM through the leadership and initiative of its program coordinator Shila Marek has established an international focus for members who wish to make a difference. Individuals and branches are encouraged to support the work of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (VGIF) by becoming individual members, group (branch) members, or by conducting fund-raising events that will provide funds to women and children in low per capita income countries in the areas of health, education, and economic development.

The VGIF is an independent 501(c)3 charitable organization founded over 35 years ago by members of AAUW and the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) to assist women in IFUW affiliates with welfare projects of various kinds in their own countries. Over time, other groups have been included in the granting process.

Last year 20 grants totaling over \$60,000 were made in 15 different countries around the world. Projects as diverse as HIV/AIDS education, prevention of FGM (female genital mutilation), establishing micro-credit for women vendors, buying computer equipment for classrooms educating girl students, purchasing ox carts for women to rent as a business venture, and many others were all funded through member donations.

Find out more by checking the VGIF website at www.vgif.org or by contacting:

Shila Marek 508 Who Who Dr., Carlsbad, NM 88220; 505-885-3835; shila507@yahoo.com, or
Barbara Carey, 1308 Gamma St., Carlsbad, NM 88220; 505-885-5904; barbnroy@pccnm.com.

For those planning to attend the AAUW Convention in Providence, RI, in June, be sure to check the registration materials for the combined International Event, a meal together. The EF International Fellows Program the IFUW and VGIF will all be represented.

Barbara Carey,

AAUW-NM INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COORDINATOR AND
PRESIDENT OF VGIF

AAUW STANDS UP FOR ALL WOMEN

“So many African American, Hispanic, and other women of color are fighting equity issues and have not seen themselves using this organization as a vehicle.” “AAUW had primarily been a homogeneous organization. We have to do a lot of listening to people who haven’t felt they had a voice in this organization.” “Women of color have unique issues.” “And to be actively a part of any organization, we have to bring our issues and our cultural values to the table.”

Jacqueline Woods, AAUW’s first African-American Executive Director, as quoted in “Black Issues in Higher Education,” March 28, 2002, and in “AAUW in Action” Fall 2002, p. 2.

Membership Requirements: Should They Change?

An amendment to the AAUW Charter and Bylaws has been proposed for consideration in the Association Convention next June in Providence, Rhode Island.

In the words of Carol Parker, EF Chair for AAUW-Ohio, who wrote the proposal, "the intent of the change is to open the participation in the organization to those who support the mission of the organization but are not qualified for individual membership by completion of a baccalaureate degree. The use of the word 'partners' as we have used 'affiliates' for student members is intentional and solves the problem of 'members' being IFUW members. Partners would not be eligible for IFUW membership, although they would enjoy the rights of individual members of AAUW."

When this proposal hit the Internet on the state presidents' e-mail list server in September, opinions began to fly. Below I summarize and extract some interesting arguments on both sides so that you can prepare for the debate as it unfolds.

Gae Broadwater, co-President AAUW-KY. "...I applaud those who have stepped forward to craft a new approach to making us a truly inclusive organization. Beyond embarrassment, not offering a membership to at least two-year degree holders violates our fundamental mission--education and equity. If we choose to continue to hold out that four-year degrees are the only means of admission then we diminish, no, discount all other forms of education."

Kathy Horvat, President AAUW-UT. "I have met many women, especially those who earned their degrees as returning students, who were very proud of their eligibility for AAUW membership.... On the other hand, a community college degree is also recognition of accomplishment. As far as others who support our mission, they can do this by participating in our programs, which generally are open to the public, and donating money to our fund raisers."

Cindy Hebert, President, AAUW-Maine. After a discussion of why different members join, she says, "That being said, I must add that I don't believe opening membership to all who support AAUW's goals is changing the values of the organization. Rather, it corrects a wrong and makes the organization inclusive, as it should be and as is so eloquently stated in some of the e-mails we have received.... the two women I have admired most in my lifetime [have been]: Eleanor Roosevelt and Margaret Chase Smith, both of whom were ineligible for AAUW membership until after many years of hard work and struggle and the receipt of many, many honorary degrees."

Corky Bush, AAUW-MT writes a long and well-thought out rebuttal that I will attempt to summarize. First she describes organizational dynamics explaining that conflicts over who we are and why we exist, which she calls "forming" debates, are the most divisive but can be the most growth producing. "On the other hand, good 'forming' debates--those done civilly and respectfully-- can refresh and revitalize an organization because they challenge members to reconnect with the fundamental reasons they joined in the first place....AAUW has always advocated expanding educational opportunities for women and ensuring the quality of these opportunities. There is nothing wrong with this. It is not necessarily illogical or inconsistent or elitist to have a college degree membership criterion. There is nothing wrong with leading by example....do we have reason to believe that AAUW will have more members or more clout by eliminating the degree requirement?" After supporting membership for graduates holding an Associate of Arts degree, "with ^{no} separate name for these members and no differences in membership or voting status," she says. "Finally, there are organizations open to everyone, with or without a college degree. AAUW

does not have to be all things to all progressive people."

Rationale and background information provided by Carol Parker in support of the amendment:

- To open participation in the organization to all who support the mission of AAUW makes possible our goal of inclusiveness.
- To truly seek a "diverse membership" we should not restrict on the basis of formal education.
- To eliminate the reluctance of current members to ask potential members to join if their educational status is unknown.
- To make two-year college graduates eligible for membership as their institutions are eligible for College-University membership.
- To offer support and encouragement to potential transition students by offering membership in AAUW before these women return to college after raising families.
- To include business owners, many of whom are advocates for the same issues in AAUW and are potential partners in our communities.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Amend **ARTICLE IV, MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**, by inserting or adding a new section c.

c. AAUW PARTNERS

1. Individuals not eligible for Association individual membership who support the mission of AAUW and wish to participate in branch, state, and Association programs and projects.
2. Partners shall enjoy all the rights, responsibilities, benefits, and privileges of individual members. They shall pay the same dues as individual members of the Association.
3. Partners, who become eligible for individual membership by completion of a baccalaureate degree, shall become individual members.

What do you think? I will include as many opinions as possible in the next Roadrunner. Please join the study team being formed by Carol Ann Council.

Nina Thayer, MEMBERSHIP CHAIRn

**Electronic
Read and**

Study Team Invitation

Dear AAUW-NM members:

I invite YOU to participate in a team to consider the proposed Membership Amendment. To be involved you need to receive and consider e-mail messages, share and discuss the pros and cons with other members, develop your own questions and opinions, and reply to me if you wish to have input.

This is a very serious issue, because, if adopted, it will affect AAUW's makeup, reputation, and development. AAUW-NM must furnish representative input at the Association Convention in June when this proposed amendment will be presented.

If you will be part of this team, please e-mail me as soon as possible. I will set up a mail list and get us started!

Thank you.

Carol Ann Council, PRESIDENT

KK-CA-Council@msn.com

THE NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT

Congress passed the "No Child Left Behind Act" (NCLB), a federal education act, in the 107th Congress. However, since most budget bills are as yet unwritten and un-passed (the government is operating under continuing resolutions since the beginning of the fiscal year, Oct. 1, 2002), NCLB is not yet funded--is this another unfunded federal mandate to the states?

The bill requires accountability in standardized testing, rating schools on their test results. Schools considered "failing can be taken over by the state, let out to private companies or run by other means to bring the school above "probationary" level. Several school in New Mexico are in this category.

The act also contains many requirements for teachers and para-professionals, which New Mexico will have a hard time meeting. At the close of the 2005-2006 school year, the practice of districts requesting substandard licenses for teachers and not meeting minimum licensing standards will cease. Teachers teaching core subjects in Title I targeted assistance programs and in Title I school-wide, hired after the first day of school in 2002-2003 must be fully licensed, no requirements waived. By the end of the 2002-2003 school year, all elementary school teachers must have passed a state test on subject knowledge in their teaching areas or have demonstrated competency through a high objective uniform standard of evaluation. Para-professionals also have education and competency requirements; many of these are not currently met in New Mexico.

AAUW has stressed the need for teacher proficiency for many years, as has the NM Department of Education. New Mexico is a far cry from the NCLB requirements, and must bring all teachers to full licensing, even with our low teacher salaries--a big challenge, especially in view of current budget shortfalls..

The NCLB also changed the manner in which bilingual services are provided to English Language Learners (now known as Limited English Proficient--LEP students). Now parents may choose whether their children participate, and there is no time limit on participation. How these standards are interpreted at state level is still a question.

Once again, no funding has been appropriated for these requirements.

Terry Sleight

★★ LOBBYING THE LEGISLATURE ★★

In the 2002 Legislature the attempt to abolish the **public school code** (circa 780-pages including statutory and regulatory requirements) failed, but a Memorial directed the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) to review the Code and recommend changes. The LESL will have bills on this introduced into the 2003 session. It should be noted that the 2003 program of the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce calls for abolishing the public school code.

Education Partners now meets monthly, but during the Legislative session will meet every Monday after the House Education Committee meeting. AAUW members attend the meetings.

Other major issues expected this season: **voucher bills**--AAUW opposes vouchers: public money should be used only for public education; **changing the governance system for public schools** via gubernatorial appointment of a cabinet-level person to handle education; **repeat of the education bill carried by Rep. Stewart in the 2002 session**--It covered many facets of public education, was vetoed by Governor Johnson; **splitting APS into four districts**, a bill to be introduced by Rep. Taylor (D-Albuquerque)--Albuquerque Branch will decide whether to support or oppose this; **abolishing the State Board of Education; campaign finance reform**; and possibly **pay equity**.

Funding issues are at the forefront. **Interest taken from the Permanent Fund** is currently 4.7% (as specified in the Enabling Act of 1910). The question of raising it to 6% will be reintroduced. Also, the Commission on Higher Education Task Force has recommended allowing **"incentive funding"** in higher education, rather than funding just on enrollment numbers. The incentives would be for increasing and enhancing areas in which New Mexico has strong needs, such as nursing and teacher education. Presently the six four-year colleges and the 18 two-year/community colleges are considering incentive funding. It would be the first major departure from the funding formulas. A concern is that it might spill into the public school funding formula. Watch this. There may be a "new" special tax to fund education.

The League of Women Voters and AAUW have been working together on **early childhood education** and on the agenda for a New Mexico First one-day summit in June.

AAUW gets input into the education bills by attending the education Interim Committee meetings. In the 2002 Interim Margaret Killingsworth (Taos County), Pam Daves (Las Vegas), Betty Smith (Albuquerque), Corrine Howard (West Mesa), and Delores Halls (Las Cruces) attended LESL and Legislative Finance Committee meetings.

We have a lot to do in 2003. It will be a contentious session. **Join us at the Interim Committee meetings and/or the Wednesday lobbying group during the session.** YOUR help is needed.

Terry Sleight, LOBBYIST 505-889-3720

CHOICE TRACKING

New Mexico has elected a pro-Choice governor. However, many legislators are reluctant to stand up and be counted on Choice issues. In the 2003 Legislative session we can expect these issues:

- ◆ **Parental consent and parental notification bills**, possibly with wording changes from bills defeated in 2001 and reintroduced in 2002;
- ◆ **A bill establishing statewide buffer**

zones around abortion facilities, intro

duced by Rep. Beam in 2002 but it never got to Committee or floor;

- ◆ **Requiring emergency rooms in New Mexico hospitals to dispense emergency contraception**, especially in cases of rape or incest.

Some important bills in Congress:

- ◆ **Declaring bankruptcy** has been used as a device by many violent anti-Choice activists to avoid paying debts

and fines. HR 333 (The Bankruptcy Reform Act) contains an amendment to bar perpetrators of violence against clinics from escaping related debts and fines by declaring bankruptcy. AAUW supports the amendment.

- ◆ **Money for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).** Despite the President's refusal to fund international family planning, both the 2003 Senate and House budgets include funds. AAUW strongly opposes any limit of funding for UNFPA.

Terry Sleight COORDINATOR FOR CHOICE ⑩

NEW MEXICANS FOR CAMPAIGN REFORM (NMCR)

There's good news and bad news about campaign reform (public funding)

Bad news. In 2001 when a bill for public funding of campaigns came before our NM Legislature, it passed the House Committees and was brought to the floor by House Speaker Ben Lujan. He, Majority Leader Danice Picraux and others spoke for the bill. It passed the House, but when it got to the floor of the Senate, some Senators walked off and the bill was not voted upon. As a result, this state had the most expensive campaign in history!

Good news. In Arizona voluntary public funding helped a former New Mexican defeat a candidate who did not use it! Janet Napolitano, who grew up in Albuquerque, whose father lives there, is now Governor-Elect of Arizona.

Public funding of campaigns gives all citizens an equal chance in running for office and elected officials are beholden to the citizens, as they should be, not moneyed people and corporations. Arizona has that opportunity now. We need it in New Mexico. In our 2003 Legislature at least two bills on the issue will be introduced: one covering all elective offices and one covering the NM Public Regulatory Commission members. We must support these bills, and let our Governor, Representatives, and Senators know where we stand.

Come to Santa Fe for AAUW-NM Legislative Day. January 27th, attend the Rally for Campaign Reform at 11:00 a.m. in the Roundhouse, then lobby your Legislators and the Governor on the bills for campaign reform.

Marion Isidoro AAUW-NM Representative to NMCR

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Please send *Roadrunner* material, newsletters, yearbooks
to Pat Freeman, Editor 612 Ridgecrest Drive SE

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

AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

AAUW is open to all graduates who hold the baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.