



Desert Doings

The Newsletter of West Mesa Branch, AAUW

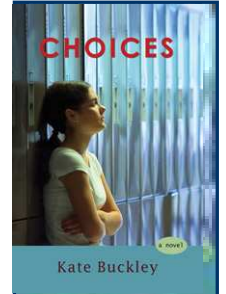
February 2009

February Joint Luncheon with Albuquerque Branch

11:30 to 2:00, Saturday, February 7 • Seasons Grill



Our speaker is Kate Buckley, author of **Choices**, a coming-of-age novel about a teenager facing huge problems that terrify and confuse her. Youth outreach librarian Kathy Costa from Santa Fe calls it "a riveting and important book for teen girls everywhere. *Choices* explores sensitive topics in a compelling and engrossing story."



Ms Buckley has worked in Hollywood as a screenwriter, writing about women's issues. After earning an MA in human development, she volunteered as a teen advocate with the Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women's Teen Abuse Prevention Project and served on the Commission's Rape Crisis Hot Line team. She has facilitated support groups for adolescent girls, and administrated a three-year, science-based drug and alcohol abuse prevention program in the public middle schools of Santa Fe. Ms Buckley, a member of the Santa Fe branch of AAUW, will share how she did the research for her book, and she will bring copies for purchase and signing.

11:30 Registration and socializing

12:00 Lunch

1:15 Meeting and speaker

Cost is \$25 per person.

Reserve by Tuesday, February 3, with Marj Wyckoff at 897-1150.

Reservations are binding.

Choice of Entrée:

- **Nicoise Salad** (cured ahi tuna, chilled potatoes, hard cooked eggs, tomatoes, julienne romaine lettuce, garlic and herb vinaigrette)
- **Linguine & Rock Shrimp Pizzaiola** (fresh tomatoes, basil, white wine butter sauce)
- **Portobello Mushroom Sandwich** – vegetarian (herb foccacia, roasted peppers, mozzarella, basil aioli, orzo salad)

Bread or Rolls

Dessert: Seasons Tiramisu (espresso & vanilla crème anglaise)

Coffee, iced tea, or soft drink

We will be in the Balthazar Room at Seasons, which is located in Old Town at 2031 Mountain Road NW in San Felipe Plaza. The Balthazar Room is on the east end of the building with a separate entrance near the parking garage. From I-40, take the exit for Rio Grande Blvd. Go south to Mountain Rd. Turn left (east). The restaurant is set back from Mountain Rd in San Felipe Plaza on the left (north) side of the street. Turn left at the stop light just before the Melting Pot Restaurant and continue past the restaurant to the parking garage. There is handicapped parking in this garage. You will pick up a parking ticket when you enter the garage; please bring it into the restaurant to be validated so that your parking will be free.

Welcome to new member **Judith Ann Hanson** ! Please insert her information in your Yearbook:

Judith Ann Hanson (Bill) 10/19
6109 Loro Ave, NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114
792-2791
wfjainabq@hotmail.com

Public Policy Be sure to get on Dixie Trebbe's emailing list for current updates on the status of bills of importance to women and girls throughout the legislative session.

Upcoming: "Because Equity is Still an Issue"

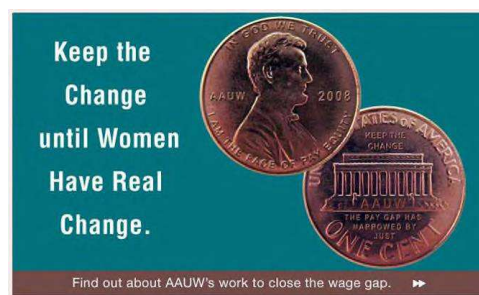
Plan to attend this CNM Guest Speaker Series Event featuring Julie Parker-Coburn from Albuquerque AAUW. It will be held Thursday evening, February 19, from 6:30 - 8:00, at the CNM Montoya Campus (near Juan Tabo), J Building Auditorium. It is free and open to the public. This is a great way to get out the AAUW name and attract new members. Members are encouraged to bring a friend and let them know what AAUW is doing politically in regard to pay equity!

Excerpts from Letter to the Albuquerque Journal from Betty Walker-Smith, Media Chair, AAUW-NM:

"... Did you know that women make 78 cents on the dollar for every dollar that a man makes? ... The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is one group who has been telling Congress that passage of the Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and the Paycheck Fairness Act is an urgent priority.

"The 2007 AAUW Report," Behind the Pay Gap," shows that just one year out of college, women working full time already earn less than their male colleagues even when they have the same major and occupation. Ten years after graduation, the pay gap widens. ... Passage of The Paycheck Fairness Act ... [is] critical to the overall goal of achieving pay equity for women. ... The Paycheck Fairness Act is a comprehensive bill that would create stronger incentives for employers to follow the law as well as strengthen penalties for violations, strengthen federal outreach, education and enforcement efforts, and prohibit retaliation against workers who ask about employers' wage practices. [It] can help create a climate where pay discrimination is not tolerated, and give the new administration the enforcement tools it needs to make significant progress on pay equity."

See the entire letter to be published soon in the Journal.



NEWS FROM NATIONAL: Thanks to the hard work of AAUW Action Network members and coalition partners, the Senate passed the **Ledbetter Fair Pay Act**. The Ledbetter bill fixes a past mistake; the **Paycheck Fairness Act** gives new teeth to the law to ensure that such a mistake won't happen again. Please write and thank our NM senators for supporting the Ledbetter Act, and urge them to continue the fight by acting swiftly on the Paycheck Fairness Act as well. If you wish, you can do this at AAUW's website,

www.AAUW.com.

Calendar

- Feb 7 Joint branch meeting with Albuquerque. See p. 1.
- Feb 8 Winter State Leadership Team Meeting, Santa Fe. Details in the Roadrunner.
- Feb 9 A Day at the Legislature, Santa Fe. Details in the Roadrunner or contact Dixie Trebbe.
- Feb 10 Deadline: nominations for Grace Barker Wilson award.
- Feb 14 *Valentine's Day!*
- Feb 19 Because Equity is Still an Issue CNM Guest Speaker Series Event. See p. 2



A calendar grid for February 2009. The title 'February 2009' is centered at the top in a brown box. Below it, the days of the week are listed in a blue header row: Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat. The dates 1 through 28 are arranged in a grid below the header. The grid is surrounded by a decorative border of small symbols.

Keep up-to-date on state and other branch activities by visiting www.aauw-nm.org

Interest Groups

BRIDGE:

BRIDGE TIPS:

February 5 - Jane Komatz
February f 19 - Merry Sisneros

March 2 - Cheryl Klenner

PARTY BRIDGE: Party Bridge meets the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 1:00 p.m. at the host's home. Please call the host if you would like to play.

February 12 - Marianne Gardner--892-5971
February 26 - Marj Wyckoff--897-1150

March 12 - Mimi Salinger--897-7906
March 26 - Merry Sisneros--890-1406

DINE AROUND Sunday, February 22nd at 6:00 pm at Jane and Harold Ferguson's. Call them at 891-2466 to let them know what you'll bring to the potluck.

NOBLE READERS will meet at the Barnes and Nobel coffee shop at 9:30 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Books for the upcoming meetings are:

February 25: The Devil's Highway by Luis Alberto Urrea
The Zookeeper's Wife by Diane Ackerman

Mar.25 Loving Frank by Nancy Horan
The Post-America World by Fareed Zakaria

GREAT DECISIONS (*WORLD of ISSUES*) will meet Feb. 18 at 7:00 at Acantilado Vista in Rio Rancho. Jo Rose will be leading the discussion on the Global Food Crisis. Please feel free to join us or just visit any time on the third Wednesday of every month. Call Laura at 328 1767 for details.

ROBINSON'S RANDOM RAMBLINGS

In honor of upcoming Valentine's Day, here's **What Love means to a 4 to 8-year-old.**

When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love. Rebecca - age 8

Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs. Chrissy - age 6

Love is what makes you smile when you're tired. Terri - age 4

If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate. Nikka - age 6

Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday. Noelle - age 7

Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford. Chris - age 7

Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day. Mary Ann - age 4

Keep Smiling - Lin



West Mesa Branch