



## April Program Speaker: Nina Atencio

Nina Atencio Kearn is the Mesa County Chief Deputy County Attorney – Civil Division. She started with the Mesa County Attorney’s Office 16 years ago as an Assistant County Attorney working on the child welfare dependency and neglect caseload.

She will be speaking about her job responsibilities and her experiences in Mesa County as an attorney working with families.

When not working, Nina spends most of her time shuttling her two daughters (9 and almost 12 years old) to and from soccer and other activities. She is also on the Holy Family Advisory Council as the middle school parent representative.

**When:** Wednesday, **April 10**....from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Guests Welcome.

**Where:** Chez Lena Restaurant at WCCC, 2508 Blichmann Avenue, Grand Junction

**Menu:** Your choice from the delicious daily offerings

**Payment:** Chez Lena will no longer accept payment from individuals in a large group. Therefore, please mark your menu with your name and the items you ordered. Hand the menu to Jane (the treasurer). She will use her trusty calculator to add the total, multiply that by .2602 (for the tax and gratuity), and add the two amounts for the new total. Please then make a check payable to AAUW (preferably) for that total or cash in the exact amount. (Be aware that we will not have unlimited funds for change). Jane then pays Chez Lena.

Be kind and **RSVP** to Jeannie Dunn **no later than April 8<sup>th</sup>** by either calling (970) 250-1468 or by emailing at [jeannedunn01@gmail.com](mailto:jeannedunn01@gmail.com).

If you need transportation, please call Jane Fitzgerald at 241-9684.

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**Branch President** Virginia Brown 201-0386  
**VP Program** Jeannie Dunn 242-3177  
**Secretary** Jean Yale 257-0697

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**VP Membership** Kathy Singer 261-2112  
**Treasurer** Jane Fitzgerald 241-9684  
**Newsletter Editor** Jane Fitzgerald

## What You May Have Missed Last Month

What a great meeting we had last month, and it appears almost all of you were able to attend ! We were especially proud to be able to award the branch's first "Women Who Make History" award to the very deserving Jane Quimby. KREX-TV's presentation on the evening news was part of their Women's History Month coverage, and was excellent.



Thanks to all those who provided items and who purchased items, our Silent Auction was a success, bringing in \$147 for the General Fund.

## Next Month at Chez Lena

**The Branch's Annual Meeting will be on Wednesday, May 8, starting at 11:30 am.**

### Business on the Agenda

**Election of Officers:** The Nominating Committee has put forward the following recommendations for officers: President: Virginia Brown; VP Membership: Kathy Singer; Secretary: Becky Zlebnik

**Dues Increase:** At the March Branch Board meeting, the Board voted to propose a branch dues increase of **\$8 per year**. This would mean that with the new branch dues of \$26, state dues of \$10, and national dues of \$59, your yearly total for 2019-2020 would then be \$95, which should be paid prior to June 20, 2019.

The rationale is that with the declining number of members it has become more difficult to have funds available for just the basic branch activities. For a number of years, we have tried various things to try to increase branch membership, with limited results.

You should plan to attend to participate in the discussion of this important branch business. Per the branch bylaws a "quorum shall be those branch members in good standing that are present at the meeting". Items may be "amended by a two-thirds vote of members voting after a quorum is obtained".

## Thoughts from Virginia Brown, Branch President

Recently, a young person in my life basically said to me that she did not truly realize her self-worth until she started spending time with me. Of course, my buttons burst with pride. But, then I was thinking. Why is that? Why do we not recognize in ourselves our self-worth? Do my own children realize how special and wonderful they are? Have I done everything possible to encourage them? As a mom, my first response is YES. I set the standard raising my children that they would know how to be self sufficient. That they would be exposed to different (age appropriate) life choices as they were growing up to be able to be self confident. Did I succeed? I honestly don't know.

What I do know, is that each of us can make a difference in others lives by pointing out the positive and good in others around us. Sometimes, we need to coach others through rough spots. Please take the time every day to find something positive to compliment someone else on.

In the meantime, the board continues to work towards being inclusive and welcoming to all. We are still working on growing the college affiliate membership. Annessa Bryant is sharing with me all the options at CMU that we can participate in. Today I attended an equal pay event with her at CMU....The CMU Fair Pay Seminar. I was pleasantly shocked that the Instructor for HR had pulled data from AAUW National, a flyer titled "AAUW: About the Gender Pay Gap: Fall 2018 Edition", which was a hand-out to the attendees. We will be inviting those we connected with to the next AAUW event that is targeted to younger women.

The March luncheon honoring Jane Quimby was well attended. Jane is an excellent speaker, shared many details of her life and I am not only honored, but lucky, to live in the same county as she does. Thank You to all who came and all who purchased silent auction items.

Kathy Singer, Annessa and I will be attending the AAUW of Colorado State Convention later this month. The event is always educational, thought provoking, encouraging...

You are always welcome to attend state or national events for AAUW.

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### Connecting with Global Equity Partners

AAUW was proud to have a presence at the 63rd UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), taking place March 11-22 at UN headquarters in New York. The CSW is the UN's largest gathering on gender equality and women's empowerment. Senior Vice President of Fellowships and Programs Gloria Blackwell developed an expert panel of AAUW fellowships alumnae that was moderated by CEO Kim Churches. Titled "Economic Security, Women and Work: Global Solutions for Equity," it was a standing-room-only event.

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### Make Time for Action on Equal Pay Day

Tuesday, April 2, is a great day to take action on the gender pay gap. It's the date that symbolizes how many days into the year women must work to earn what men made in the previous year. Or, if you missed April 2, take action today, instead.

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All branch members, and any guests, are encouraged to attend the Brunch, supporting our student affiliate group, and having fun making your own Easter bonnets.



**AAUW COLLEGE AFFILIATE  
APRIL BRUNCH**

The Grand Junction Branch of AAUW request the honor of your presence at a fun social! We will enjoy a potluck brunch social while exercising our creativeness in creating Easter bonnets (just for the fun of it), and learn a bit about negotiating our wages as we work towards equal pay.  
**JOIN US FOR THIS SOCIAL!**

AAUW Saturday April 13  
11:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Virginia Brown's Residence  
(Address to be shared upon RSVP)

Bring a dish to share and fun things to share for decorating bonnets!

For more information or to RSVP your attendance at this Brunch, to either Annessa (870-897-8504) or Virginia (970-201-0386)  
RSVP's are required by NOON on 4/12 so we have enough bonnet/hats to build our creations on!

Virginia will be proving the hats, but is asking for donations of cute hat decorating items. She does have some ribbon and 1 glue gun.

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### Happy Birthday to You

Your AAUW Branch wishes to acknowledge its members and let you know we appreciate you.  
Therefore we wish a Happy Birthday to those with birthdays in April.

**Betsy Zollner on April 11**