

HIGHLIGHTS

AAUW AURORA AREA BRANCH

CELEBRATING 96 YEARS

FALL 2017

Branch Website http://aurora-il.aauw.net

Branch EMAIL aauwaurorail@gmail.com

National Website

An association of college graduates whose mission is to advance equity for women through, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW values a diverse membership and welcomes men and women with an Associate's Degree or a higher degree.

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Comments from Denise's World

It's hard to believe the dog days of summer are almost gone. Cool nights and warm days bring fall and the return of our AAUW program year.

The branch board and committees have been busy planning the general meetings, *Books-by-Night*, and *Movie Study Group*. We have many exciting programs, books and movies planned - all excellent opportunities to learn and socialize at the same time. **Evites will be sent out for study groups, committee meetings and monthly branch programs.**

Come and join us at the fall kick off meeting on **Saturday, September 16**. At that time, we will pass out the yearbook which will include the details for all general meetings and groups—a real starter point for the year. The meeting will be a luncheon at the Aurora Historical Society using Subway Sandwiches as the caterer. Arrival time is noon.

Our fundraiser will be **Raise Your Glass to Women** at the Fox Valley Winery raising money for both education and legal advocacy. Mark your calendars for **November 11, 2017** at 5:00 PM. Check out Nicole Benziger's fantastic flyer in this newsletter.

Thanks to everyone that worked this summer in preparation for our exciting new program year listed in the newsletter including a complete listing for *Books-by-Night* and *Movie Study Group*— opportunities for fun and learning.

Thank you all for renewing your membership and welcome to our new members! We will rely on each of you to have a part in membership, recruiting and retaining members.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

Denise Curts-Lueth, President

2017—2018 Program Dates

Active Members Wanted: Be One, Bring One!

SEPTEMBER 16—General Meeting—See President's Letter

OCTOBER 26— All-Branch Book Discussion

Time:5:30 p.m.Location:Millhurst Ale House, 2075 Marketview Dr, Yorkville (just north, in front of Menard's)Program:Meet the Author—Rania Zelthar, Amrican Through My Eyes: Experiences of an Egyptian Muslim
Women

November 11—AAUW Fund Raising Event—See Nicole Benziger Flyer On Following Page

December 10 Time: Location: Cost: Program:	Holiday Social Event: The Lueth House Followed by A.U. Holiday Concert 4:30 – Social; 7:30 – Concert Lueth residence and then A.U. Bring appetizer or dessert to share; beverage of choice Spouses and Friends Welcome—Concert reservations are made individually through Aurora University: online at <u>www.aurora.edu</u> or 630.844.4924
JANUARY:	No Program
February 15	Chili Supper Winter Get-together
Time:	5:30 p.m.
Location:	West Plaza Meeting Room
March 14	Engineered Toys for Special Needs Children and How They Impact Their Lives Dr. Anne Lucietto 6:30 p.m.
Location:	Sugar Grove Library
April	TBA
Location:	Waubonsee Community College
Cost:	\$0
Program:	Emily Burd—Perpetual Heritage Destruction
MAY 5	Spring General Meeting, Including Public Policy Updates
Time:	10:00 A.M.
Location:	Apple Villa Restaurant, 19 W Wilson, Batavia
Cost:	Off the Menu

Evites will be sent out for monthly branch programs to all members. Study group hosts and committee chairs can check the evites at any time for reservation updates. Also, be sure to click "Message from host" for more details about events, including registration fees.

The American Association of University Women Aurora Area Branch



Presents

Raise Your Glass

to Women!

a Fundraiser for Educational Opportunities & Legal Advocacy Funds

Saturday November 11, 2017 5 - 7 PM

Fox Valley Winery

5600 U.S. Route 34 Oswego, II 60543

Tickets - \$30

Includes 3 wine tastings or soft drinks, and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets must be reserved by **Nov. 6**. Look for your invitation to arrive in the mail.

Raffle tickets for gift cards will be available.

Glasses and bottles of wine will be available for purchase. Please bring an hors d'oeuvres or dessert to share, as well as a gift card for the raffle.

Study Groups

JOIN US! It's a fact—life long learning and maintaining a great circle of friends are two habits that keep us healthier and happier. Both life long learning and socializing are elements in our two study groups **Books-by-Night and the Movie Study Group.** Check out the list of this years activities and join us. The list will be repeated in our yearbook. **Evites will be sent out for study groups, committee meetings and monthly branch programs to all members.** Don't let these opportunities pass you by!

The **Books-by-Night** format includes great food, drink, and conversation on the **4th Wednesday** of each month. The books selected include topics relevant to the AAUW mission and help our members understand our current world.

BOOKS by NIGHT-2017/2018-5:00 P.M. (unless otherwise stated)



SEPTEMBER 27 Crusade Burger Bar 209 S. Bridge St., Yorkville

The Invention of Russia: The Rise of Putin and the Age of Fake News by Arkady Ostrovsky Mr. Ostrovsky, a first class journalist who has spent many years covering Russia for *The Financial Times* and *The Economist*, is also a native of the Soviet Union. With an instinctive understanding of how politics, ideas and daily life really work in Russia, Mr. Ostrovky provides a much needed, dispassionate and eminently readable explanation of how Russia and Putin rose to power.

OCTOBER 26 * Millhurst Ale House 2075 Marketview Drive, Yorkville America Through My Eyes by Rania Zeithar

In Rania Zeithar's words: "Moving from the Middle East to the United States was something that I never imagined. It was a step that changed my life, my thoughts, and my perspective of the world. It enabled me to see clearly things that were hidden. In this book, I share in my second language, moments, tears, smiles, reflections, thoughts, lessons I learned and my answers to many questions I heard." *ALL-BRANCH MEETING 5:30 P.M.

NOVEMBER 29*South Moon Barbeque211 N. River Street, MontgomeryKillers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBIby David GrannDisturbing and riveting...Grann has proved himself a master of spinning delicious, many-layeredmysteries that also happen to be true...It will sear your soul." —Dave Eggers*Fifth Wednesday due to the Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER: NO MEETING

JANUARY 24: Two Brothers Roundhouse 205 N. Broadway, Aurora

Blood Rites: Origins and History of the Passions of War by Barbara Ehrenreich In Blood Rites, Barbara Ehrenreich confronts the mystery of the human attraction to violence: What draws our species to war and even makes us see it as a kind of sacred undertaking? Blood Rites takes us on an original journey from the elaborate human sacrifices of the ancient world to the carnage and holocaust of twentieth-century "total war."

FEBRUARY 28 Riverview Diner 1420 SE River Road, Montgomery The Firebrand and the First Lady: Portrait of a Friendship: Pauli Murray, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the Struggle for Social Justice by Patricia Bell-Scott (an AAUW American Fellow)

A groundbreaking book—two decades in the works—that tells the story of how a brilliant writer-turnedactivist, granddaughter of a mulatto slave, and the first lady of the United States, whose ancestry gave her membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution, forged an enduring friendship that changed each of their lives and helped to alter the course of race and racism in America.

MARCH 28Raimondo's Pizza & Pub1033 Kilbery Lane, North AuroraSenator Hattie Caraway: An Arkansas Legacy by Nancy Hendricks

Hattie Caraway unexpectedly became the first female U.S. senator in 1931 by filling the seat of her late husband. What her colleagues viewed as an honorary position was in fact the start of a distinguished career. Despite strong male opposition, Hattie won reelection and loyally and effectively served her constituency for twelve years through the difficult times of the Great Depression and World War II.

APRIL 25 Ballydoyle Irish Pub 28 W. New York St., Aurora Some of My Best Friends Are Black by Tanner Colby

An incisive and candid look at how America got lost on the way to Dr. King's Promised Land

MAY 23 Arline Hoban's House Refreshments TBA *Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging,* by Sebastian Junger

We have a strong instinct to belong to small groups defined by clear purpose and understanding--"tribes." This tribal connection has been largely lost in modern society, but regaining it may be the key to our psychological survival.

JUNE 27Arline Hoban's HouseRefreshments TBAWhite Trash: The 400-Year Untold History of Class in America by Nancy Isenberg

In her groundbreaking bestselling history of the class system in America, Nancy Isenberg upends history as we know it by taking on our comforting myths about equality and uncovering the crucial legacy of the everpresent, always embarrassing—if occasionally entertaining—poor white trash.

JULY 25Planning Session at the Big Rock LibraryCold potluck

AUGUST 22The Spartan House1032 Prairie St., AuroraThe Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women by Kate Moore

Written with a sparkling voice and breakneck pace, *The Radium Girls* fully illuminates the inspiring young women exposed to the "wonder" substance of radium, and their awe-inspiring strength in the face of almost impossible circumstances. Their courage and tenacity led to life-changing regulations, research into nuclear bombing, and ultimately saved hundreds of thousands of lives.

QUESTIONS? Contact: Andi Danis <u>danishouse@sbcglobal.net</u> or 630.606.6366

All comments regarding the books are shamelessly lifted from Amazon by Jerre Henriksen.



Movie Study GroupAAUWAurora BranchFilms are shown on the 2nd Monday of the month, with the potluck at6:15 and film at 7:00. Addresses of each host are in the Yearbook.

Hysteria 2011 R Rated R 1hr 39m September 11 Pat Daugherty: Host

In 1880s London, forward-thinking young doctor Mortimer Granville has a difficult time keeping a job until he and an inventor friend concoct an *electrifying* solution to the rampant "hysteria" affecting England's sexually and socially repressed women. Granville and friend are behind the invention of the first vibrator in the name of medical science.

Maudie

October 9

Linda Seyler: Host



2017 PG Rated PG 1hr 55m

October 9

This affecting biopic charts the story of Maud Lewis, who lives in Nova Scotia working as a housekeeper. Maud rises above the juvenile rheumatoid arthritis that made her a social outcast and finds a passion for painting, becoming a beloved Canadian folk artist in the process. Based on a true story. Highly awarded film.

The Zookeeper's WifeNovember 13Penny Cameron: Host2017 PG-13 Rated PG-13 2hr 6m

After the Nazis invade Poland, Warsaw Zoo caretakers Antonina and Jan Zabinski place themselves in grave danger when they begin collaborating with the Resistance in an effort to save Jews from the horrors of the Warsaw Ghetto. The Zabinskis manage to save hundreds of people and animals during the German invasion. Based on true events telling the story of a "female Schindler."

Queen of KatweDecember 11Karel Thompson: Host2016 PG Rated PG 2hr 4mDecember 11Karel Thompson: Host

Disney presents Queen of Katwe, a movie based on a vibrant true story starring Lupita Nyong'o and David Oyelowo. A Ugandan girl's life changes forever when she discovers she has an amazing talent for chess, in this celebration of the human spirit. Based on real events.

The Legend of Billie Jean King:Battle of the SexesJanuary 8Sandy Hipp: Host2013 Made for television film for PBS American Masters' Series 1hr 23m

The series' first profile of a sports figure commemorates the 40th anniversaries of the famous Billie Jean King/Bobby Riggs battle of the sexes tennis match and the launch of the Women's Tennis Association. King presents her own story, with perspective from Rosie Casals, Chris Evert, Venus Williams, Gloria Steinem, Riggs' son Larry, and others.

after a brief courtship, which leads to an international political and diplomatic crisis.

A Quiet Passion 2017 PG-13 2 hr4m

A United Kingdom

2017 PG-13 Rated PG-13 1hr 51m

Famously reclusive poet Emily Dickinson comes to life in this lush biopic that follows her from her days as a gifted-but-insecure student through her years as an introverted adult whose attachment to her family leads to self-imposed sequestration. We follow Dickinson from her early life to her schoolgirl days to her adult life when she struggled as an unrecognized artist, although posthumously was "discovered" as a great artist.

February 12

controversial marriage to a British white woman, Ruth Williams. Meeting at a

March 12

Ruth. They share a love of jazz and an instant attraction. Subsequently, they wed

This is the story of King Seretse Khama of Botswana and his loving but

The Eagle Huntress	April 9	Elaine Ross: Host
2016 G Rated G 1hr 27 m		

Aspiring to be an eagle hunter-a role historically performed only by men--Mongolian teen Aisholpan Nurgaiv dedicates herself to the art of taming and training golden eagles to hunt game in the stark Altai Mountains. Thirteen-year-old Aisholpan is determined to fulfill her dream and has unexpected support from others, especially her father. She manages to become the first female in twelve generations of her Kazakh family to become an eagle huntress.

Loving **May 14 Michele Brown-Rodriguez: Host** 2016 PG13 Rated PG 13 2 hr3m

Recounting a landmark chapter in the struggle for civil rights, this absorbing drama depicts the 1958 arrest and imprisonment of Richard and Mildred Loving for violating Virginia's law against interracial marriage.

The Great Gilly Hopkins June 11 **Joy Bowling: Host** 2016 PG Rated PG 1 hr37m

Spirited and rebellious, 12-year-old Gilly Hopkins has been in and out of a long string of foster homes. When she is sent to live with the unorthodox Maime Trotter, Gilly does not intend to stay long, but Maime is not about to guit her young charge. This uplifting and funny film will delight its viewers.

Potluck and Planning Meeting July 9 **Denise Curts-Lueth: Host** Films for August 2018-July 2019 will be selected for publication.



Sources for above information: IMDB.com, Netflix.com, and V. E. Ross

Joy Bowling: Host

May Keenan: Host

AAUW Branch Treasurer Report/Dues

AAUW Aurora-Area Branch Proposed Budget 2017-2018

Carryover from 2016-17		\$1743.15	
Projected Income:			
Dues @\$21	\$840.00		
Miscellaneous	\$0		
Total Projected Income		\$840.00	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE			\$2583.15
Projected Expenses:			
Convention/Conferences	\$500.00		
Memorials 2@25	\$ 50.00		
Membership Committee	\$ 50.00		
Programs	\$100.00		
Printing	\$200.00		
President's Expenses	\$ 75.00		
Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 75.00		
Social Chair	\$ 50.00		
Insurance, Yearly liability	\$200.00		
Board Reserve Fund	\$1283.15		
TOTAL PROJECTED			\$2583.15

Submitted by D. Curts-Lueth, A. Danis, & P. Daugherty



Treasurer's Report	Aug. 12, 2017		BAL.
AAUW Aurora Area Branc	h		
Balance 6/24/2017		Ş	2353.15
DEPOSITS:			
			⁺ 105 00
e-deposit from Nat'l d	ues		\$ 105.00
Dues			\$ 320.00
EXPENSES:			
State Convention—Ela	aine Ross		\$ 50.00
Nat'l Convention—A.	Danis		\$ 350.00
Dues to Nat'l and Stat	te		\$ 236.00
Adjustment from Aud	it Result	+	\$.35
BALANCE			\$2142.50
Respectfully submitted by	Andi Danis, Treasur	er	

If American women would increase their voting turnout by ten percent, I think we would see an end to all of the budget cuts in programs benefiting women and children.

Coretta Scott King



COMMUNICATIONS

Many thanks to Jerre Henriksen, who served as a panelist at Faces of Our Community: Women's Panel Discussion. The event, held Aug. 3, was sponsored by Congressman Bill Foster. The discussion explored the challenges women continue to face in the workplace, including gender bias and equal pay for equal work.

Kathy Schultz and Tracy Sherman-Falcom were busy over the summer promoting our branch, first at the Bill Foster event, and later that week at the Aurora Farmers Market in downtown Aurora. They coordinated a membership table and passed out materials about AAUW.

As you've probably seen, over the summer our branch switched over to evites to manage reservations for branch events. Evites will be sent out for study groups, committee meetings and monthly branch programs to all members. Study group hosts and committee chairs can check the evites at any time for reservation updates. Also, be sure to click "Message from host" for more details about events, including registration fees.

Please be sure to update evites with your RSVP. Social Chair Joy Bowling will be making follow up phone calls to members who have not RSVP'd to monthly programs. Let me know if you have any questions.

Vice President—Vicki Petersen

Public Policy Update from your PP Chair

You all frequently receive two very important email postings from National AAUW, <u>"AAUW in the</u> <u>Statehouse" and "AAUW Action Network."</u> If you have not opted out, you get the timely information about what is happening with legislation and government officials at both the federal and state levels. It would not be helpful to repeat the information, but I think it might be helpful to remind you to read these postings as often as you can and to *take action* when you can. I would like to highlight two issues for you, which I plan to do each time we have another newsletter or when we have an official branch meeting.

<u>Issue #1</u>: Our new Executive Director, Kimberly Churches, sent an email on 8/15 sharing her deep concerns about current threats to Title IX under the new head of the Dept. of Ed., Betsy DeVos. For 45 years, Title IX has been protected and strengthened, but now the Dept. is "considering rolling back or weakening the Title IX guidance and regulations that have been crucial to ending and preventing sex discrimination in our schools," says Churches.

<u>Issue #2</u>: AAUW of Illinois, in an email on 8/27, noted that "HB2462, which would have banned a potential employer from requesting an applicant's salary history, was VETOED by Gov. Rauner." Some AAUW -affiliated legislators are at work to help override this veto. The position of AAUW is that the "implementation [of this bill] would help close the gender wage gap, one of AAUW's core priorities."

When you receive emails concerning issues such as these, please try to take a few minutes to respond via the links provided to make your voice heard. <u>Also, you can sign up to have text alerts sent immediately to your cell phone by texting "AAUW" to phone no. 21333 to join the Two-Minute Activist Mobile</u>.

Thank you for being an involved and active member of AAUW.

V. Elaine Ross

Aurora Area AAUW Board Meeting—June 24, 2017

Members Present: Jerre Henriksen, Denise Curts-Lueth, Vicki Petersen, Elaine Ross, Kathy Schultz, Tracey Sherman-Falcon, and Sue Zieche.

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Denise Curts-Lueth. The amended minutes of March 18, 2017, were approved as amended following a motion moved by Kathy Schultz and seconded by Denise Curts-Lueth.

The Treasurer's report submitted by Pat Daugherty detailed a balance of \$2,353.15. The process of collecting dues is ongoing. The Assistant Treasurer's report submitted by Tracey Sherman-Falcon indicated a balance of \$998.92 (LAF \$81.21 and EF \$917.71).

Thank you to Andi Danis and Val Burd for the high quality programs presented during the 2016/2017 branch program year. The variety was excellent and overall outstanding. Next year, the May meeting should be left as general meeting. Next year's planning committee will be meeting and volunteers are encouraged.

Thank to Sue Zieche for her excellent work on membership. Kathy Schultz will continue on membership. AAUW will host a non-profit booth at the Farmer's market. A fall membership recruitment social is also planned.

Vicki Petersen reported 36 likes on Facebook as well as shared posts. Please keep sending in the pictures.

Sandy Hipp will not continue as social chair.

Representative Bill Foster will host an event centering on women's issues – particularly the Gender and Wage Gap. AAUW Aurora Area has been asked to participate on the panel. The event is a great opportunity to solicit membership and to promote AAUW.

A motion was moved and seconded to support member's attendance at state and national conventions. Elaine Ross will receive \$50 to help support AAUW State Convention attendance and Andi Danis will receive \$350 for AAUW National Convention attendance.

A Fall and Spring Newsletter will be distributed. The deadline for the Fall Newsletter is August 31, 2017 and the deadline for the Spring Newsletter is January 15, 2017.

Possible Fundraising strategies were suggested – specifically a painting night. Suggested by Tracey Sherman-Falcon, Women in Science postcards are artistically appealing and informative. Our organization can make a profit by selling them in bundles of 6 for \$5.

Vicki Petersen suggested we use Evites as an electronic vehicle to extend invitations to events and track attendance. This method will be tested during the summer.

Pat Daughety will handle the Yearbook and serve on our Board; Andi Danis is our new Treasurer.

2017-2018 planning meetings for programs, budget, book club, and movie group will be held during July and August.

Our next board meetings will be held on August 12, 2017; October 28, 2017: January 20, 2018; March 17, 2018; and June 23, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m. following a motion by Jerre Henriksen and seconded by Sue Zieche.

Respectfully Submitted, Jerre Henriksen

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

AURORA AREA BRANCH MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM For físcal year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

Annual membership dues are **\$80.00** (\$49.00 for the National Association, \$10.00 for the Illinois State Association, and \$21.00 for the branch).

For those who are prepaid life members of the Association, dues will be \$31, (\$10.00 for the state and \$21.00 for the branch).

Please make checks payable to AAUW Aurora Area Branch. (\$46.00 of your dues will be tax deductible as a charitable donation.)

Please circle Membership Status:

Annual (\$80) –Correct status for Most members

Association Life (\$31)-status of only a few members who prepaid in the late 1980's

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"Science and everyday life cannot and should not be separated."

> Rosalind Franklin chemist and X-ray crystallographer

We are selling Women in Science postcards to raise funds for LAF and EF. Each postcard depicts a different woman scientist done by the female artist Rachel Ignotofsky. You get 6 differ postcards for \$5. They are great to sent to your representatives, give as gifts, or display them as art. Contact Tracey Sherman-Falcon <u>shermanfalcon@hotmail.com</u> or 630-234-6091 to get some today and support AAUW!



Stay Connected with the AAUW Aurora Area Branch

Not on Facebook? We still have our branch website at www.aurora-il.aauw.net. The homepage features announcements, latest branch news and upcoming events. There also are sections that explain the AAUW and our branch, how to become a member, branch activities and a newsletter archive.

Remember to take and share photos at branch programs, study groups and events. These photos are posted on both Facebook and the branch website. It is best to send those photos to our branch email address at aauwaurorail@gmail.com so they do not get buried in my personal email account. Whenever possible include who is in the photo from left to right and a sentence or two explaining where the photo.

Save the Date—AAUW-IL

AAUW-IL Northern Conference—Saturday, October 21, 9:00–12:00—Illinois Institute of Technology Rice Campus—Wheaton

Reservation Policy– AAUW Aurora Area Branch

As you've probably seen, over the summer our branch switched over to evites to manage reservations for branch events. Evites will be sent out for study groups, committee meetings and monthly branch programs to all members. Study group hosts and committee chairs can check the evites at any time for reservation updates. Also, be sure to click "Message from host" for more details about events, including registration fees. Please be sure to update evites with your RSVP. Social Chair Joy Bowling will be making follow up phone calls to members who have not RSVP'd to monthly programs. Reservations for a meal are binding. No-shows and those canceling less than 48 hours in advance are still responsible for payment. A prompt mailing of your check to our Treasurer, Andi Danis, will be appreciated.



Board Meetings/Membership

Branch Board Meetings : Saturdays @ 9:00 a.m..

Harris Bank on Orchard Rd/Indian Trail, Aurora October 28, 2017 January 20, 2018 March 17, 2018 June 23, 2018

President

Denise Curts-Lueth chaslueth@sbcglobal.net

Vice President, Program Valerie Burd

Treasurer Andi Danis

Assistant Treasurer Tracey Sherman-Falcon

Co-Vice President, Membership Kathy Schultz **Communications Vice President** Vicki Petersen

Secretary Jerre Henriksen

AAUW Funds Jane Zimmerman and Mary Hinterlong

Newsletter Editor Jerre Henriksen

