



# HIGHLIGHTS

AAUW AURORA AREA BRANCH  
CELEBRATING 97 YEARS

SPRING 2018

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

Branch EMAIL  
[aauwaurorail@gmail.com](mailto:aauwaurorail@gmail.com)

National Website  
[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

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

### Happy New Year!

Our branch has been busy since the September 2017 general kick off meeting. We have had excellent programs, book discussions and movie groups. Our activities suggest our members all enjoy new ideas and good conversation—join us.

We also have had two fundraisers. The first one was in November at the Fox Valley winery and the 2nd one was a 'paint and sip' in January. Thanks to everyone that was involved in making both fun and successful!

On January 20th, six members participated in the second annual Chicago Women's March. The overall size of the crowd was larger than last year creating even more excitement and energy. With the surge of awareness of women's issues, please post on our Facebook your ideas or efforts that involve the mission of AAUW.

A new informal study group 'The Scribblers' has been created. It is for individuals interested in journaling and writing. The new group will meet at member's homes on the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 PM. The Scribblers will meet February 26th @ Denise Curts-Lueth's. Bring your favorite popcorn and beverage to share.

Please refer to Evites and emails on an ongoing basis so you don't miss upcoming events. We look forward to seeing you at the chili/spaghetti get together on Thursday, February 15th!

Denise Curts-Lueth  
President

# 2017—2018 Program Dates

## Active Members Wanted: Be One, Bring One!

**February 15 Chili Supper Winter Get-together** Tracey Sherman-Falcon and her husband, Gandi, are hosting an AFS exchange student from Thailand this year. Their host daughter Kanticha (Ice) Sutthapan will be giving a short presentation about her country and her experiences in our country at the Chili Supper.

**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**

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Sugar Grove Library

**April April 10**

**Location:** Waubensee 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

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.



# Study Groups

JOIN US! Don't forget that great conversation keeps us healthier, increases our sense of well being, and gives us a perspective on the world in which we live. Our three study groups include **Books-by-Night, Movie Study Group, and The Scribblers**. Evites will be sent to all members for study groups, committee meetings and monthly branch programs.



## Books-By-Night

**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-turned-activist, 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 28** Raimondo's Pizza & Pub 1033 Kilbery Lane, North Aurora  
***Senator 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 27** Arline Hoban's House Refreshments TBA  
***White 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 ever-present, always embarrassing—if occasionally entertaining—poor white trash.



**JULY 25**

Planning Session at the Big Rock Library

Cold potluck

**AUGUST 22**

The Spartan House 1032 Prairie St., Aurora

***The 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 [danishouse@sbcglobal.net](mailto:danishouse@sbcglobal.net) or 630.606.6366

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

**Movie Study Group**     **AAUW**     **Aurora Branch**  
**Films are shown on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month, with the potluck at 6:15 and film at 7:00. Addresses of each host are in the Yearbook.**

***A United Kingdom***

**February 12**

**Joy Bowling: Host**

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

This is the story of King Seretse Khama of Botswana and his loving but controversial marriage to a British white woman, Ruth Williams. Meeting at a dance in 1947, the prince (destined to become king) meets a London office worker, Ruth. They share a love of jazz and an instant attraction. Subsequently, they wed after a brief courtship, which leads to an international political and diplomatic crisis.

***A Quiet Passion***

**March 12**

**May Keenan: Host**

2017 PG-13 2 hr4m

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.



***The Eagle Huntress***  
2016 G Rated G 1hr 27 m

**April 9**

**Elaine Ross: Host**

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**  
2016 PG13 Rated PG 13 2 hr3m

**Michele Brown-Rodriquez: Host**

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***  
2016 PG Rated PG 1 hr37m

**June 11      Joy Bowling: Host**

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 quit 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](http://IMDB.com), [Netflix.com](http://Netflix.com), and V. E. Ross



**The nominees for the 2018 Oscar nominations Best Picture are:**

**“Call Me by Your Name”**

**“Darkest Hour”**

**“Dunkirk”**

**“Get Out”**

**“Lady Bird”**

**“Phantom Thread”**

**“The Post”**

**“The Shape of Water”**

**“Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri”**

# 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	
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>		<b>\$2583.15</b>

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	
<b>TOTAL PROJECTED</b>		<b>\$2583.15</b>

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



<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<b>January 27, 2017</b>	<b>BAL.</b>
<b>AAUW Aurora Area Branch</b>		
Balance 10/28/17		\$2419.29
DEPOSITS:		
e-deposit from Nat'l dues		\$ 84.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS:</b>		\$ 84.00
EXPENSES:		
Oct. Program—Kathy Schultz		\$ 19.10
AHT Insurance (Liability Renewal)		\$ 185.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		\$ 204.10
<b>BALANCE</b>		<b>\$2299.19</b>
Respectfully submitted by Andi Danis, Treasurer		



**As you've probably seen, 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

I know that all of you branch members receive the AAUW emails with requests for action and with information to help you stay abreast of the many issues we members are facing every day. These emails give us all many opportunities to take action and to support the mission and policies of AAUW. I hope you are paying attention to these—even though there are often so many. Look for these emails:

- **AUW In the Statehouse--our state Public Policy Co-Directors, Jo-An Sabonjian and Marcia Wherry**
- **AAUW Washington Updates--our national Grassroots Public Policy Manager, Elizabeth Holden**
- **Mission and Action notices in the AAUW e-newsletter—our editor Hannah Balec**
- **AAUW Action Network**

This list is not complete, but it identifies the ones you most need to take note of in order to keep up with what is happening and what AAUW is asking you to learn about and to take action on. I hope you are taking some time to do so! Sometimes I am overwhelmed myself by all of these, but do try to read and learn and often to respond.

On another note, I know you all are reading about the many women who are stepping forward to run for office, which is largely due to The Resistance following the election of 2017. Women everywhere, in both parties, are saying they can do the job--and maybe better!

Here are some interesting statistics that I received from [the Data Center for American Women and Politics on January 25, 2018](#): Currently, only 20% of Congress is made up of women. In 2018, there are 317 Democratic women candidates for the House and 80 Republicans. There are 31 Democratic women candidates for the Senate and 19 Republicans.

On the national level, there will be more than 500 women running for office in 2018, which includes those running for the House, the Senate, and governorships. The January 29 issue of *Time* magazine is a great resource to learn about over a dozen of these candidates, featured in the article, "The Avengers" (pp. 26-33). And surely these numbers will increase as more "retirements" take place weekly, three more just since I received this report from the Data Center.

Elaine Ross, Public Policy Chair



# Approved Minutes

## Aurora Area AAUW Board Meeting

October 28, 2017

Harris Bank at Indian Trail and Orchard

Members Present: Joy Bowling, Valerie Burd, Andi Danis, Pat Daugherty, Jerre Henriksen, Denise Curts-Lueth, Vicki Petersen, Kathy Schultz, Tracey Sherman-Falcon, and Jane Zimmerman.

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Denise Curts-Lueth. The minutes of August 12, 2017, were approved as printed by Jane Zimmerman and seconded by Andi Danis.

Jane Zimmerman reported on the fall fundraiser for educational opportunities and legal advocacy. The event will be held on November 11, 2017, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Fox Valley Winery. Jane will email the Foundation Letter needed for soliciting gift cards and gifts.

Val Burd reported on programming. Attendees at our first meeting indicated that they loved the space at the David L. Pierce art and History Center. In October, the program centered around a lively and enjoyable discussion lead by the very delightful author of *America Through My Eyes*, Rania Zeither. Details regarding the April meeting are still being discussed with LuLu Blacksmith at Waubensee Community College. A painting party is also a possibility. The following lists the programs as planned.

**December 10** Holiday Social Event: The Lueth House Followed by A.U. Holiday Concert

Time: 4:30 – Social; 7:30 – Concert

Location: Lueth residence and then A.U.

Program: Spouses and Friends Welcome—Concert reservations are made individually through Aurora University: online at [www.aurora.edu](http://www.aurora.edu) 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

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Sugar Grove Library

**April** TBA

Location: Waubensee Community College

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

Kathy Schultz reported that the membership “Wine and Cheese” recruitment event was a success. We have three perspective members and two committed. Three others have expressed interest.

Vicki Petersen reported 41 likes on Facebook as well as shared posts. Evites have also been well received.

The Treasurer’s report submitted by Andi Danis detailed a balance of \$2,419.29. The dues have been paid for 36 members; we also have five members who have a life membership. The cost of our yearbook handed out this fall was \$79.21. The Assistant Treasurer’s report submitted by Tracey Sherman-Falcon indicated a balance of \$1001.17. Tracey has sold postcards this fall to add \$150.00 to the account. She noted that EF and LAF accounts need no longer be split within this account.

The deadline for the newsletter is January 10.

Our Social Chair, Joy Bowling, recommends we put our birthdays in the yearbook – just the month and date, not year. She has sent a get well card to Mary Hinterlong.

The study groups are scheduled for the upcoming meetings.

**Books by Night** November 29\* - South Moon Barbeque, 211 N. River Street, Montgomery  
*Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by David Grann

\*Fifth Wednesday due to the Thanksgiving Holiday

December – No Meeting

**Movie Study Group** November 13 - *The Zookeeper’s Wife* - Host: Penny Cameron

December 11 – *Queen of Katwe* – Host: Karel Thompson

### **Old Business:**

Andi Danis, Pat Daugherty, and Tracey Sherman-Falcon will attend The AAUW-IL Northern Conference on Saturday, October 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Illinois Institute of Technology Rice Campus in Wheaton. Outside groups for partnership will be one area of concentration during the conference.

### **New Business:**

Plans will be made for a writer’s group.

Joy Bowling proposed and Val Burd seconded that we should renew our General Liability Insurance for the year of 2018.

At the Chili Supper, we will bring basic supplies like toilet paper to donate to Mutual Ground.

Joy Bowling reported that School District 308 has invited the community to a free film screening of Paper Tigers. A community discussion on creating -trauma-informed schools and communities on Monday, Nov. 6, at Oswego’s Village Hall will follow the screening.

Our next board meetings will be held on January 20, March 17, 2018; and June 23, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m. following a motion by Joy Bowling and seconded by Kathy Schultz.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jerre Henriksen

Supporting Mutual Ground has become an increasing concern because the State of Illinois has not kept the financial commitments made to the organization. Abusing others is a behavior that cuts across all social and economic classes while almost all religions call us to help those who need a hand up. The Mutual Ground wish list asks for very basic items that will help reduce the budget. The items are not glamorous but they will make a real difference for the women and children among us who need the services Mutual Ground provides.

## **MUTUAL GROUND WISH LIST**

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

13-Gallon and 50-Gallon Garbage Bags

Quart and Gallon Ziploc Bags

Plastic Sandwich Bags

Copy Paper

Lysol Cleaning Wipes

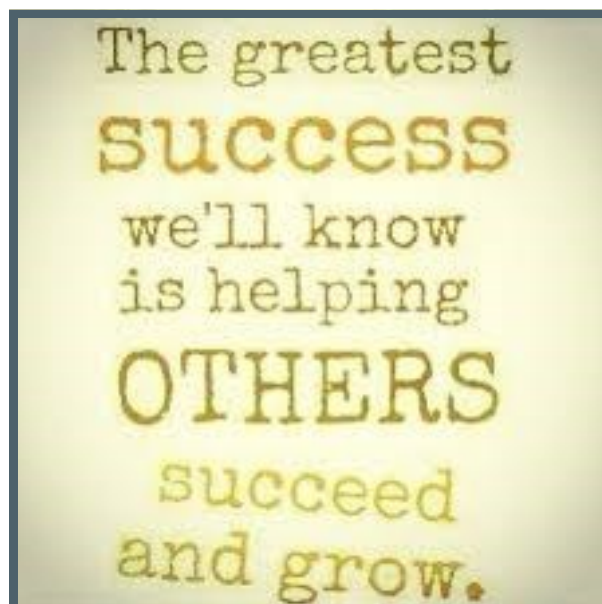
Grocery and Gas Gift Cards

Please bring a donation of item(s) above to our February Chili Supper. If you would like to donate but cannot attend, you can contact:

Andi Danis or Tracey Sherman-Falcon to arrange pick-up or drop-off.

Of course, cash is always welcome as well!

Thank you in advance for your support of Mutual Ground, Inc.



# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

## *AURORA AREA BRANCH MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM*

*For fiscal year July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019*

Annual membership dues are **\$90.00** (\$59.00 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 (\$90) –Correct status for Most members

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

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please select communication preference:

I prefer to receive newsletters and reminders via email. (This is the most cost effective for the branch.)

I prefer to be reminded of meetings via email.

I prefer to receive newsletters via regular mail.

I prefer to be reminded of meetings with a phone call.

**Send your Membership Renewal and check to:**

**Andi Danis, Treasurer**

**24 Scarsdale Rd.**

**Montgomery, IL 60538**

Payment must be received by August 30, 2019, to ensure that you are listed in the Yearbook. Furthermore, we need you to complete the information form and send it with your check so that we can update your email, phone numbers, and address for the yearbook.

**AAUW advocates equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.**



"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 Ignatofsky. 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 [shermanfalcon@hotmail.com](mailto:shermanfalcon@hotmail.com) 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](http://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](mailto: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— April 27 & 28** AAUW-IL Convention – Lisle Hyatt Regency and Benedictine University

## Reservation Policy— AAUW Aurora Area Branch

**As you've probably seen, 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

**March 17, 2018**

**June 23, 2018**

**June 24, 2017**

**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



The purpose of life is to live it,  
to taste experience to the utmost,  
to reach out eagerly and without fear  
for newer and richer experience.

*- Eleanor Roosevelt*