



# HIGHLIGHTS

AAUW AURORA AREA BRANCH  
CELEBRATING 99 YEARS

FALL 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)

**Mission:** To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

**Vision:** Equity for all.

**Values:** Nonpartisan.  
Fact-based.  
Integrity.  
Inclusion and Intersectionality.

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## Comments from Tracey's World

**WOW! It's September already! It has been a busy summer for me. June started with an End of the Year Party for Ice, our host daughter from Thailand. She lived with us for the school year and graduated from West High at the end of May. We had to send her home, to Thailand so we celebrated all of her accomplishments. It was an amazing experience for Ice and my family.**

**After hanging up my role as mother, I have taken on a new role as your Aurora Branch President and Public Policy co-chair on the State Board for AAUW IL. I am truly excited about my new roles. Meetings, phone calls, and e-mails have filled in the spaces between parades, picnics, rallies, and fests of summer. So it has rounded out to be a fun, productive summer for me.**

**I am part of AAUW because I believe in the mission. I'm challenging myself to take on these leadership roles to improve my personal skills as well as to make the world a better place for all. I'd like to thank the outgoing board member for all they have done. I'd like to thank the incoming board for taking on the new challenges our branch faces this year. I truly feel supported by this group of women and look forward to working with you all this coming year.**

**And what a year it is turning out to be! I'm excited about the programs that our Program Committee, led by Valerie Burd, has planned for our branch. They, along with Books by Night and Movie Group committees, have done a great job by making AAUW's mission shine in their planning. Start marking your calendars now so you don't miss out. There will be calls for help on some of the programs. I hope you'll consider stepping up to join a program committee and be part of the action!**

**Speaking of action! I hope to see you at our kick off meeting on Saturday, September 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at Apple Villa in Batavia. The yearbooks will be passed out and Jerre Henriksen will be taking about voter registration. The general election is right around the corner on November 6th! Remember to vote for candidates that support the values and mission of AAUW. Your vote is your voice!**

**Tracey Sherman-Falcon, President**

# 2018—2019 Program Dates

## Active Involvement and Responsibility Builds Community

**September 15 AAUW Opening Meeting** - Mission and Purpose/Jerre Henriksen  
Voter Registration

**Time:** Saturday 10:00 a.m.

**Location:** Apple Villa, 1961 W. Wilson, Batavia, IL

**October 17 Imperfect Angels: Jetara Perry**

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

**Location:** Pal Joey's, 2010 Main Street, Batavia, IL

**November 11 AAUW Fundraising Event—Bunco Party**

**Time:** Sunday 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

**Location:** Old Library, 1 East Benton, Aurora, IL

**December 16 Holiday Social Event—Ornament Exchange**

**Time:** Sunday, 2:00—6:00 p.m.

**Location:** Joy Bowling's Home, 418 Bluegrass Parkway, Oswego

\*

“The power of human empathy, leading to collective action, saves lives, and frees prisoners. Ordinary people, whose personal well-being and security are assured, join together in huge numbers to save people they do not know, and will never meet... Unlike any other creature on this planet, humans can learn and understand, without having experienced. They can think themselves into other people's places... We do not need magic to change the world, we carry all the power we need inside ourselves already: we have the power to imagine better.” – *J.K. Rowling, author, philanthropist*

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.



This party will be a fundraiser for AAUW Funds, which support Fellowships & Grants for women; and it will be a Girls Day Out event, with food, fun & prizes. Bring a guest or 3 guests to make a table of 4! The more you promote this event with non-members, the more successful we will be.

Volunteers will be needed for:

**Food Committee:** Contact Pat Daugherty [patricia.daugherty@att.net](mailto:patricia.daugherty@att.net) if you would like to bring an appetizer (finger food only—We won't have forks.) or dessert.

**Prize Committee:** Contact Val Burd [val.burd@comcast.net](mailto:val.burd@comcast.net)

**Tables & Décor:** Contact Tracy Sherman-Falcon [shermanfalcon@hotmail.com](mailto:shermanfalcon@hotmail.com) If you have a card table we can borrow for the event.

# Study Groups

## **AAUW Movie Study Group for 2018-19, @ 6:15 p. m., potluck & viewing/ discussion following**



**September 10 -- May Keenan**

***Paris Can Wait (2016)***

Director/Writer: Eleanor Coppola

With her daughter at college and her workaholic husband, a successful movie producer, perpetually absent, Anne Lockwood is ripe for the wooing. It just happens that one of her spouse's associates offers to give her a lift from Cannes to Paris -- a seven-hour journey that turns into two days. The trip takes the viewer through the south of France to Paris, during which culinary delights abound—along with “other delights.” Starring Diane Lane.

**October 8, 2018 -- Pat Daugherty**

***Difret (2015)***

Director: Zeresenay Mehari

Writer: Zeresenay Mehari (screenplay)

A young lawyer travels to an Ethiopian village to represent Hirut, a 14-year-old girl who has shot her would-be husband as he and others are practicing one of the nation's oldest traditions: abduction into marriage. The 14-year-old girl is jailed and charged with murder, so her only hope becomes the zealous young lawyer determined to save her client's life.

**November 12, 2018 – Penny Cameron**

***RBG (2018)***

Directors/Writers: Betsy West and Julie Cohen

This documentary provides an illuminating look at the life of trailblazer Ruth Bader Ginsburg -- including her career-defining work in gender-discrimination law. The film charts her journey to becoming a justice on America's highest court. At the age of 84, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has developed a breathtaking legal legacy while becoming an unexpected pop culture icon.

**December 10, 2018 – Karel Thompson**

***The Brooke Ellison Story (2004)***

Director: Christopher Reeve

Writer: Brooke Ellison & Jean Ellison

On her way home from school, 11-year-old Brooke Ellison's life is radically transformed after a car accident leaves her a paraplegic. Despite the overwhelming odds confronting her, she perseveres to graduate summa cum laude from Harvard University. Based on her true story, this young girl fights against all odds to succeed in life from grade school to her acceptance into college under the assistance of her loyal and dedicated mother.

“Only the gentle are ever really strong.”



**January 14, 2019 – Sandy Hipp  
(2018)**

**Won't You Be My Neighbor?**

Director/Writer: Morgan Neville

Touching on the many facets and talents of a unique and beloved personality, this affectionate documentary profiles ingenuous and kindly Fred Rogers, host of the children's show "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" for more than 30 years. The trailer for the film debuted on what would have been Rogers' 90th birthday, March 20, 2018.

Sources for above information: [IMDB.com](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8075570), [Netflix.com](https://www.netflix.com/title/80193144), and V. E. Ross



“We love films because they makes us feel something. They speak to our desires, which are never small. They allow us to escape and to dream and to gaze into the eyes that are impossibly beautiful and huge. They fill us with longing. But also. They tell us to remember; they remind us of life. Remember, they say, how much it hurts to have your heart broken.” — **Nina LaCour**

“Many of my movies have strong female leads- brave, self-sufficient girls that don't think twice about fighting for what they believe with all their heart. They'll need a friend, or a supporter, but never a savior. Any woman is just as capable of being a hero as any man.” — **Hayao Miyazaki**

JOIN US! The mind is a muscle—exercise it! Our study groups include **Books-by-Night and Movie Study Group**. Evites will be sent to all members for study groups, committee meetings and monthly branch programs.

## Books-By-Night

Thank you Amazon for the book descriptions!



**September 26**

Fireside Grill, 49 Sugar Lane, Sugar Grove

***The Line Becomes a River*** by Francisco Cantu—Hispanic Heritage Month

Francisco Cantú served on the Border Patrol. He and his partners are posted to remote regions crisscrossed by drug routes and smuggling corridors, where they learn to track other humans under blistering sun and through frigid nights. They haul in the dead and deliver to detention those they find alive. Cantú tries not to think where the stories go from there. *The Line Becomes a River* goes behind the headlines, making urgent and personal the violence our border wreaks on both sides of the line.

**October 24**

Two Brothers, 205 N Broadway, Aurora

***Andy Warhol Was a Hoarder*** by Claudia Kalb—Disability Awareness Month

Was Andy Warhol a hoarder? Did Einstein have autism? Was Frank Lloyd Wright a narcissist? In this surprising, inventive, and meticulously researched look at the evolution of mental health, acclaimed health and science journalist Claudia Kalb gives readers a glimpse into the lives of high-profile historic figures through the lens of modern psychology, weaving groundbreaking research into biographical narratives that are deeply embedded in our culture.

**November 28**

South Moon, 211 N. River Street, Montgomery

***Inside This Place, Not of It*** by Robin Levi and Ayelet Waldman , Editors

People in U.S. prisons are routinely subjected to physical, sexual, and mental abuse. While this has been documented in male prisons, women in prison often suffer in relative anonymity. *Women Inside* addresses this critical social justice issue, empowering incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women to share the stories that have previously been silenced .

December—NO MEETING

**January 23**

Raimondo's Pizza, 1033 Kilbery Lane, N Aurora

***The Women Who Smashed Codes***, by Jason Fagone—Mentoring Month

NATIONAL BESTSELLER—NPR Best Book of 2017 “Not all superheroes wear capes, and Elizebeth Smith Friedman should be the subject of a future Wonder Woman movie.” — *The New York Times* Joining the ranks of *Hidden Figures* and *In the Garden of Beasts*, the incredible true story of the greatest codebreaking duo that ever lived, an American woman and her husband who invented the modern science of cryptology together and used it to confront the evils of their time, solving puzzles that unmasked Nazi spies and helped win World War II.

**NO TWO PERSONS EVER READ THE SAME BOOK.**

—Edmund Wilson

# Membership Renewal Form

For Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019



Annual membership dues are **\$ 90**

National: \$ 59\*

State: \$ 10

Branch: \$ 21

Total Dues: \$ 90

For those who are prepaid Life Members of the Association, dues will be **\$ 31**

(\$ 10 for State and \$ 21 for Branch)

Please check 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

Contribution to AAUW's Mission: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Fund designated for your contribution: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **AAUW Aurora Area Branch**

Mail To:

Andrea Danis

24 Scarsdale Rd

Montgomery, IL 60538-2517

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.

\*AAUW National Individual Membership dues are \$59:

\$56 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution, and \$3 is not (because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities).

**AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 130 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.**

# AAUW Branch Treasurer Report/Dues

## AAUW Aurora-Area Branch Proposed Budget vs Actual for 2017-2018

	Budget	Actual	
Carryover from 2016-17	\$1743.15	\$1743.15	
Projected Income:			
Dues @\$21	\$840.00	\$756.00	
Program Fees (Sept. Mtg.)		\$200.00	
Check/Bookkeeping Adj.		\$17.50	
<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	\$211.81	
Printing	\$200.00	\$ 79.21	
President's Expenses	\$ 75.00	\$ 8.64	
Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 75.00		
Social Chair	\$ 50.00	\$ 20.00	
Insurance, Yearly liability	\$200.00	\$185.00	
Board Reserve Fund	\$1283.15		
<b>TOTAL PROJECTED</b>	<b>\$2583.15</b>	Carryover should be \$2,191.34 (6/30/18)	

**Submitted by A. Danis**



<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<b>August 11, 2018</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>AAUW Aurora Area Branch</b>		
Balance 6/23/2018		\$2379.34
DEPOSITS:		
e-deposit from Nat'l dues		\$ 294.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS:</b>		\$ 294.00
EXPENSES:		
Joy Bowling/Social Chair		\$ 20.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		\$ 20.00
<b>BALANCE</b>		<b>\$2653.34</b>
Respectfully submitted by Andi Danis, Treasurer		



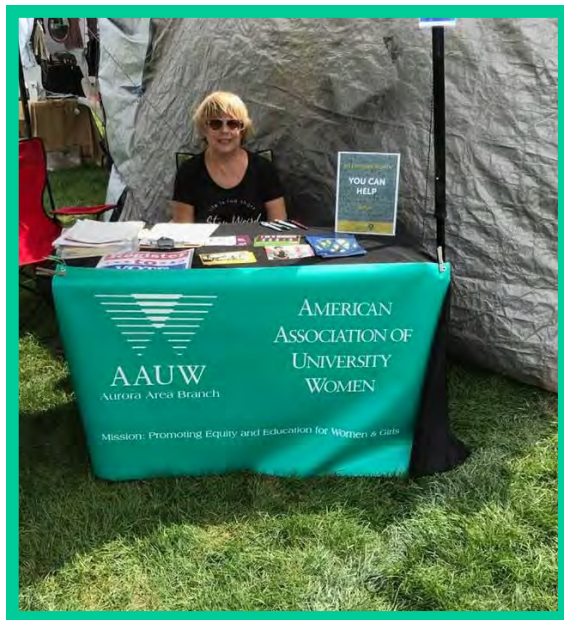
## AAUW Aurora-Area Branch Proposed Budget for 2018-2019

Carryover from 2017-18	\$2191.34		
Projected Income:			
Dues @\$21	\$735.00		
Program Fees (Sept. Mtg.)			
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>\$2926.34</b>		
Projected Expenses:			
Convention/Conferences	\$500.00		
Memorials 2@25	\$ 50.00		
Membership Committee	\$100.00		
Programs	\$300.00		
100th Anniversary	\$500.00		
Printing	\$100.00		
President's Expenses	\$ 75.00		
Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 75.00		
Social Chair	\$ 50.00		
Insurance, Yearly liability	\$200.00		
Board Reserve Fund	\$ 976.34		
<b>TOTAL PROJECTED</b>	<b>\$2926.34</b>		

# COMMUNICATONS

Communication leads to Community

**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.



## Public Policy: Issues To Take Action On—Public Policy Chair, V. Elaine Ross

Probably the foremost issue that AAUW is most concerned about is the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to be the newest Supreme Court Justice. The hearings are scheduled to begin in September, despite the many barriers that are preventing thousands of pages of his writings from being accessible to the Senate before the hearings. Interestingly, he has as long a record as any nominee ever. All the pages of Elena Kagan's record of legal writings were handed over to the Senate with full co-operation from *all* the Senators, but not this time. The available evidence, however, has led AAUW to take a strong position on this nomination. Below is the statement from National, sent to all state and branch public policy chairs:

**After careful consideration**, AAUW has announced its opposition to the confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court. Review of his available record has made clear that Judge Kavanaugh holds positions that are fundamentally at odds with AAUW's mission. I encourage you to read and share this statement from AAUW CEO Kim Churches, which outlines the criteria for AAUW's position.

Let us be clear: this is an issue of policy, not party. AAUW advocates for the health, education, and economic security of all women and girls. Judge Kavanaugh has demonstrated hostility to women's right to access abortion; shown little support for workers' rights; failed to support contraceptive healthcare coverage; argued against long-standing precedent prohibiting the use of public funds for religious activities; and has a record of limiting access to the ballot box. If confirmed, Judge Kavanaugh will have a say in women's constitutional and civil rights for decades to come. We cannot support a nominee who will not uphold and protect our fundamental rights.

Constituent voices are vital to this fight. In your capacity as member leaders, you can play a vital role by sharing information about what's at stake, mobilizing members and activists to speak out, and calling on your U.S. Senators to oppose the confirmation of Judge Kavanaugh. In the coming weeks, we'll share a number of opportunities to make your voice heard.

Now, here is what we can—and must do—as stated from our CEO, Kim Churches:

Share your personal story with your senators and urge them to oppose Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation. Your voice matters! AAUW's toll-free number, 1-855-973-0824, will automatically connect you to your senator's office. Let your senator know what's at stake if Judge Kavanaugh is confirmed – from the erosion of health care coverage for pre-existing conditions to the elimination of access to abortion and contraception.

Share this opportunity with friends and family in key states. The votes of senators in Alabama, Alaska, Indiana, Maine, Missouri, Nevada, North Dakota, and West Virginia are critical. Urge your networks in these key states to make their voices heard.

Judge Kavanaugh has shown he won't stand up for the health, education, and economic security of women and girls — and we won't stand for that. Take action today to oppose Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court.

Go to your *Take Action* link from AAUW Action Network and make yourself heard on this major issue that will have very long-term impact on girls and women in our country long into the future.

If you have not yet made your voice heard, it certainly is not too late to *Take Action*. Perhaps no issue is more urgent now, but even more so into the future. This is about protecting, to any extent possible, the hard-won rights that we have come seemingly to take for granted.

Please stay keenly attuned to the many alerts and emails that come to you from State and National AAUW, as well as our Branch, and try to always *Take Action*. And Thank You All!

# Approved Minutes

## Aurora Area AAUW Board Meeting

June 23, 2018

### Harris Bank at Indian Trail and Orchard

Members Present: Nicole Benziger, Joy Bowling, Pat Daugherty, Jerre Henriksen, Denise Curts-Lueth, Vicki Petersen, Elaine, Ross, Tracey Sherman-Falcon.

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Denise Curts-Lueth. Tracey Sherman-Falcon moved and Nicole Benziger seconded to approve the minutes of March 17, 2018 as written. Motion approved.

Vicki Petersen noted that our AAUW Branch should develop social media policies.

The Treasurer's report submitted by Andi Danis detailed a balance of \$2,379.34. Joy Bowling and Pat Daugherty moved and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion passed. The Assistant Treasurer's report submitted by Tracey Sherman-Falcon indicated a balance of \$1461.17. Elaine Ross moved and Nicole Benziger seconded to approve the Assistant Treasurer's report. Motion approved. The Treasurer has requested that all bills be submitted prior to June 30.

Jerre Henriksen will prepare a postcard and a newsletter to be distributed after Labor Day and before our first meeting.

Jane Zimmerman will not continue as AAUW Funds Chair.

Elaine Ross pointed out that AAUW National keeps membership updated on current policy issues. Tracey and Elaine will discuss her future role regarding public policy.

Social Chair, Joy Bowling, mailed birthday messages, get well wishes, and retirement congratulations.

The National 2018 AAUW National Bylaws Amendment Vote Results were:

Proposal 1. Staggered Terms – Yes;

Proposal 2. Non-AAUW Members on Board – No;

Proposal 3. Degree Requirement – No.

Pat Daugherty will be working on the yearbook. All information has to be to her by August 11, 2018. Books by Night will be held on June 27 at the home of Arline Hoban where *White Trash: The 400 year Untold History of Class in America* will be discussed. The Movie Group will have a planning meeting and potluck on July 9 at the home of Denise Curts-Lueth.

Sub-committees will be setting dates to complete their work. August 11, 2018, is our next board meeting. Future dates are: October 27, 2018; January 26, 2019; March 9, 2019; and June 22, 2019. Nicole Benziger volunteered to be archivist. No final decisions were made regarding AAUW's Branch participation in Green Fest.

Joy Bowling moved and Tracey Sherman-Falcon seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jerre Henriksen

## 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

**NORTHERN CONFERENCE** 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday, **October 6**, Illinois Institute of Technology Rice Campus 201 E. Loop Rd Wheaton

## Reservation Policy— AAUW Aurora Area Branch

**Our branch uses 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 27, 2018**

**January 26, 2019**

**March 9, 2019**

**June 29, 2019**

**President**

Tracey Sherman-Falcon

**Vice President, Program**

Valerie Burd

**Treasurer**

Andi Danis

**Assistant Treasurer**

Vicki Petersen

**Co-Vice President, Membership**

Kathy Schultz

**Communications Vice President**

Nicole Benziger

**Secretary**

Barb Muschler

**AAUW Funds**

Pat Daugherty

**Newsletter Editor**

Jerre Henriksen

