

HIGHLIGHTS

AAUW AURORA AREA BRANCH CELEBRATING 99 YEARS WINTER 2019

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

Branch EMAIL aauwaurorail@gmail.com

National Website

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

President's Message

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. I was fortunate to have time during the busy FedEx season to go to our branch Holiday social at Joy Bowling's home. I truly value the social gatherings because it gives me a chance to get to know fellow AAUW members on a more personal level. I learn what a diverse, inspiring group of women I am surrounded by as we all share the common mission of AAUW.

Here is a condensed year in review of the events our members participated.

Women's March Chicago in January.

Paint and Sip fundraiser.

AAUW State Convention in Lisle.

Mutual Ground benefitted from our Chili Supper where members donated items on their wish list.

ERA Lobby Day in Springfield.

10th Annual Women's Power Lunch.

Voter Registration at Aurora GreenFest.

Bunco Fundraiser.

At our October opening meeting, Jerre Henriksen talked about the new strategic plan that was announced by AAUW National. The plan's goal is to support women and girls in the areas of Education, Economic Security, and Leadership. In November's midterm elections, more than 100 new Congressional seats and governorships were won by women.

From the Outlook letter by Kimberly Churches, CEO and Julia T. Brown, Chair "With the recent infusion of female voices in Congress, all of us at AAUW are optimistic that we can make gender pay equity the high priority it needs to be next year, and we are emboldened by our goal to close the pay gap once and for all by 2030."

Here's to an optimistic, inspiring 2019!

I hope to see you all at the Chili/Spaghetti Supper in February.

Tracey Sherman-Falcon President

2018—2019 Program Dates

Active Involvement and Responsibility Builds Community

February 20 Chili/Spaghetti Supper "7 Keys to a Better Life"

by Sandra Wilcoxon Time: Tuesday 5:30 P.M.

Former Aurora Public Library Building, 1 East Benton, Aurora

March 16 Women of WWII: On the Front Lines & The Homefront

Barb Warner Dean Time: Saturday 1:00 P.M.

GAR Memorial Museum, 23 E Downer Place, Aurora

Reservations Required

April 9 Saving the Planet: What You Can Do; What Your Business

Can Do; What Your City Can Do—by Mavis Bates and

Marta Touloumes Keane Time: Tuesday 11:30 A.M.

Co-Sponsors: Green Connect/Yorkville Area Chamber of Commerce—Make Reservations @ 630-553-6853 or

www.yorkvillechamber.org—Cost: \$20

May 11 Three Fellowship Recipients: Aisha Motlani, PhD—British Art &

Empire; Jelena Radovic-Fanta, PhD—Turning the Year

Around: Uncertainty and Motherhood in Chile's Fruit Export Industry; Naeema Torres—Documentary Media from Northwest ern University

Time: Saturday 10:00 A.M.

Grandma's Table Restaurant, 1700 Douglas Rd, Montgomery

Cost: Order Directly From the Menu

NEVER STOP
LEARNING

BECAUSE LIFE NEVER STOPS TEACHING

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.

Bountiful Bunco Sunday, Nov. 11th

Our Bunco Party fundraiser was a great success in raising more than \$2,000 for AAUW Funds, and a delightful time was had by all attendees. The old library building was a beautiful spot to hold our event. It has character, charm and convenience; and it let us show off some of the lovely amenities that can be found in our city.

BUNCO PARTY INCOME:

NET:	\$2083.11
EXPENSES:	\$76.89
Total Income	\$2160
Staycation Raffle	<u>795</u>
Bag Pull	115
Donations	250
40 paid attendees @ \$25 ea.	\$1000

^{*} Note rent for the space was paid by a donor and is not reflected in our costs.

Thank you for this success go to the many members who participated by making donations and by bringing guests. More than half the attendees were guests, and feedback from them all has been very positive. Thank you for bringing so many guests! We all had fun and raised money for the Legal Advocacy Fund and the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.

Thank you to the following for donating food or prizes:

Penny Cameron, Jane Zimmerman, Jerre Henriksen, Aubrey Mikos, Tracy Sherman-Falcon, Joy Bowling Elaine Ross, Mary Lou Hinterlong, Vicki Petersen, Pat Daugherty, Karel Thompson, Paramount Theatre Nicole Benziger—a special thanks for the beautiful invitations, as well as her skill at Bunco Ghandi & Tracy Sherman-Falcon- Special Thanks for renting the beautiful space Valerie Burd—a very special thank you for donating our Staycation raffle package

Thank you to the businesses that donated prizes for our game and for the Bag Pull items. We hope you will be able to frequent these establishments: Harmony Aesthetics, Yorkville Capistrano Deli & Sweets, Yorkville Foxy's Ice Cream, in Yorkville, Tap House Grill in Oswego, Target.

Submitted by Pat Daugherty, EF Chair



Study Groups

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

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.

February 11, 2019 – Joy Bowling

The Tale (2018)

Director/Writer: Jennifer Fox

With a job that takes her around the world and a doting boyfriend, filmmaker Jennifer has it all--or so she thinks--until a story she wrote at age 13 resurfaces and belies her memories of her relationship with two adult mentors. The film is an investigation into one woman's memory as she is forced to re-examine her first sexual relationship and the stories we tell ourselves in order to survive. Starring Laura Dern.

March 11, 2019 - Linda Seyler

Thelma and Louise (1991)

Director: Ridley Scott

Writer: Callie Khouri

Two best friends set out on an adventure, but it soon turns around to a terrifying escape from being hunted by the police, as these two women attempt an escape from "crimes" they have committed. Fed up with her boyfriend, live-wire Arkansas waitress Louise Sawyer (Susan Sarandon) persuades her friend Thelma Dickinson (Geena Davis), a naïve housewife burdened with a negligent, sexist husband, to hit the road with her for a simple weekend of freedom. But after accidentally killing a man, the two friends wind up outlaws blazing a cathartic trail across America. Callie Khouri won an Academy Award for Best Screenplay for this movie



April 8, 2019 -- Denise Curts-Lueth

Megan Leavey (2017)

Director: Gabriela Cowperthwaite

Writers: Pamela Gray, Annie Mumolo, &

Tim Lovestedt

Based on the true-life story of a young Marine corporal whose unique discipline and bond with her military combat dog saved many lives during their deployment in Irag. U.S. Marine Megan Leavey and her bomb-sniffing dog build a bond of trust and loyalty that sees them through more than 100 missions during the Iraq War -- until an improvised explosive device injures them both.

May 13, 2019 - Elaine Ross

Mudbound (2017)

Director: Dee Rees Writers: Dee Rees & Virgil Williams

Two men return home from World War II to work on a farm in rural Mississippi, where they struggle to deal with racism and to adjust to life after war. In 1940s Mississippi, two families come into conflict after the white McAllan clan acquires the cotton farm lived on by the Jacksons, black tenant farmers who have tilled the land for generations. This film features a breakout role by singing superstar Mary J. Blige, for which she was nominated for an Oscar. It also stars Carrey Mulligan and an all-star cast.

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



Carol Burnett Quotes:

"No one ever said life was fair. Just Eventful." "Comedy = tragedy + time." "Because nobody goes though life without a scar." "Cavort, dear, just cavort" "Giving birth is like taking your lower lip and forcing it over your head." "Carol, if you could be a member of the opposite sex for twenty-four hours, and then pop back and be yourself again, who would you be and what would you do?" Carol's Answer "I'd be Osama bin Laden, and I'd kill myself."

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. Same time every meeting—5:00 pm.

Books-By-Night

Thank you Amazon for the book descriptions!



January 30

DATE

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 and helped win World War II.

February 27

The Turf Room, 1033 Kilbrey Lane, N Aurora

Barraoon, by Zora Neale Hurston—Black History Month

New York Times Bestseller - In 1927, Zora Neale Hurston went to Plateau, Alabama, just outside Mobile, to interview eighty-six-year-old Cudjo Lewis. Of the millions of men, women, and children transported from Africa to America as slaves, Cudjo was then the only person alive to tell the story of this integral part of the nation's history. Hurston was there to record Cudjo's firsthand account of the raid that led to his capture and bondage fifty years after the Atlantic slave trade was outlawed in the United States.

March 27

Ballydoyle Irish Pub, 28 W New York St, Aurora

First Women, by Kate Anderson Brower—Women's History Month

Brower offers insights into this group of remarkable women, including Jacqueline Kennedy, Lady Bird Johnson, Patricia Nixon, Betty Ford, Rosalynn Carter, Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush, Hillary Clinton, Laura Bush, and Michelle Obama. The stories she shares range from the heartwarming to the shocking and tragic, exploring everything from the first ladies' political crusades to their rivalries with Washington figures; from their friendships with other first ladies to their public and private relationships with their husbands.

April 24

Panera Bread, 154 W Wilson St, Batavia

I Still Believe Anita Hill, by Amy Richards—Sexual Assault Awareness Month

What is less well-known about the Anita Hill story is how many women and men were inspired by Anita Hill's bravery, how her testimony changed the feminist movement, and how she singlehandedly brought public awareness to the issue of sexual harassment. "These timely essays show us how those historic hearings brought sexual harassment (especially in the workplace) into the public eye, while also revealing what still hasn't changed, and reminding us of the intersection of race, class, gender, and power that underlies this contentious issue." —Publishers Weekly

Evicted, by Matthew Desmond

From Harvard sociologist and MacArthur "Genius" Matthew Desmond, a landmark work of scholarship and reportage that will forever change the way we look at poverty in America. Even in the most desolate areas of American cities, evictions used to be rare. But today, most poor renting families are spending more than half of their income on housing, and eviction has become ordinary, especially for single mothers. In vivid, intimate prose, Desmond provides a ground-level view of one of the most urgent issues facing America today. As we see families forced into shelters, squalid apartments, or more dangerous neighborhoods, we bear witness to the human cost of America's vast inequality—and to people's determination and intelligence in the face of hardship.

The 2018 National Book Award Finalists

Finalists for Fiction

Jamel Brinkley, A Lucky Man

Lauren Groff, Florida

Brandon Hobson, Where the Dead Sit Talking

Rebecca Makkai, The Great Believers

Sigrid Nunez, The Friend

Finalists for Nonfiction

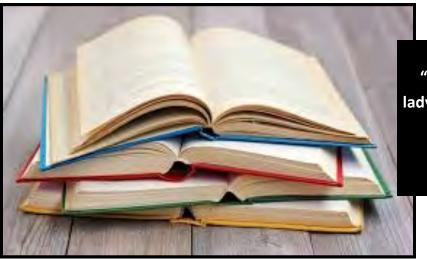
Colin G. Calloway, The Indian World of George Washington: The First President, the First Americans, and the Birth of the Nation

Victoria Johnson, American Eden: David Hosack, Botany, and Medicine in the Garden of the Early Republic

Sarah Smarsh, Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth

Jeffrey C. Stewart, The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke

Adam Winkler, We the Corporations: How American Businesses Won Their Civil Rights



"The person, be it gentleman or lady, who has not pleasure in a good novel, must be intolerably stupid." — Jane Austen

AAUW Branch Treasurer Report/Dues

TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF October 27, 2018

Ending Balance from 9/15/2018	\$2716.34
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DEPOSITS: Full dues/donation \$240.00

(\$180-dues+\$60-donation)

TOTAL DEPOSITS: \$240.00 \$2956.34

EXPENSES: National/State Dues \$138.00

Andi Danis-Treasurer \$ 21.07 Valerie Burd-Programs \$ 29.24

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$188.31 \$2768.03

Balance as of 9/15/2018 \$2768.0

Submitted by A. Danis



How to Support AAUW's Mission

Thank you for promoting equity for women and girls by supporting AAUW's critical work! When supporting the following funds, you give AAUW the ability to carry out its bold, strategic vision for the future.



AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (9110)

Allows AAUW the flexibility to respond rapidly to new and emerging challenges facing women and girls and to utilize your gift where it's needed most. This fund ensures the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW into the future.



Education and Training Fund (4450)

Addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women by championing equal access to education and ensuring that education at every level is free from sex discrimination.

STEM Title IX Pathways to Jobs

Examples of programs include: Fellowships Alumnae Initiatives Fellowships and Grants Public Policy Research



Economic Security Fund (4449)

Ensures livelihoods for women through achieving pay equity for women, providing training in salary negotiation, and deepening women's retirement security and quality of life.

Pay Equity
Title VII
Retirement Security

Examples of programs include: Start Smart Work Smart Work Smart Online Legal Advocacy Fund



Leadership Fund (4452)

Supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by bolstering the participation of and increasing the number of girls and women in leadership roles, particularly in education and nonprofit organizations.

> Career Workplace Training

Examples of programs include: Campus Action Projects Empower NCCWSL

Contributions to AAUW are fully tax-deductible and can be sent to the address below or made online at www.aauw.org/contribute.

P.O. Box 98045 Washington, DC 20090-8045 800.326.2289 | connect@aauw.org www.aauw.org

Public Policy Review for Newsletter January 2019

Happy 2019 to All!

This will be our first newsletter summary of Public Policy in the new year. Happy 2019!

Let us hope for a good year for our branch, district, and overall organization. Fortunately, good news can be reported on so many of our policy issues, so here goes the good news:

First are the results of this last election in November; the statistics are amazing for the increasing representation and participation of women in this 106th Congress. Elected were 102 women. Though this is only 23% of the total, this is still the largest percentage in history. Of these, 35 are newly elected, and among them are four women of the LGBT community, two Muslims, and two Native Americans. Nine percent are Hispanic Americans, and five percent are Asian Americans. Tennessee elected its first ever woman representative. And, now the new Speaker of the House is a woman—Nancy Pelosi once again. Obviously, we cannot say legislation will be the best or even good just because it is more represented by women, but, for sure, we can say that their perspective will be much more "in the game," at least.

This year of 2019 is the 100th anniversary of women receiving the right to vote, so it seems fitting to see the outcome of all these women's insistence that their voices matter and will be heard. A lot of the credit belongs also to the many of us who helped elect them.

You receive many email notices from AAUW National and State in which many policy issues are addressed and our action on them is solicited, but I would say that the largest concern has been the future of Title IX under the present Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos. I refer you to the lengthy email of January 3rd from Olivia Guerrieri, Public Policy Advocacy Assistant. Her explanation of the deep concerns of AAUW about what is proposed and what could happen to the protections under Title IX is a must read. She pleads that action be taken by all branch members. Here is a part of what she states:

"As you've likely seen by now, the Department of Education recently unveiled its <u>Notice of Proposed Rule-making (NPRM)</u> to amend regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. We've summarized some of the major changes in the NPRM in <u>this article</u>, and the bottom line is clear: the Department of Education's actions amount to a blatant rollback of strong and necessary protections for students, and particularly for student survivors of sexual assault.

AAUW vehemently opposes the Department of Education's proposed rule, which would significantly and detrimentally impact women' and girls' ability to access education free from sexual harassment or assault. That is why we are asking every Branch Public Policy Chair to author and submit an op-ed to their local newspaper that calls on the Department to withdraw its proposed rule. Our goal is to stop the proposed regulations from ever taking effect, and key to that fight will be the ability to shape public opinion about what's at stake for student safety."

On this policy issue, you are encouraged to respond through your **Two-Minute Activist** email page. Also, you are encouraged to **contact your Representatives and Senators** to make an impact regarding Title IX.

Submitted by Elaine Ross

Twenty Three Percent Women

116th Congress Members-Elect



Republican Members-Elect



























































Democratic Members-Elect























































































NV 04

NY 11

AAUW Aurora Branch Celebrates 100 Years

Saturday, September 21, 2019 The Aurora Country Club Noon (Check in: 11:30)

> Speaker: AAUW-JL, Inc. State President, Jennifer Urish



January 2019

Happy New Year!

As we begin 2019, AAUW is more committed than ever to bolstering our efforts to empower women and girls. That's why we're asking members to make these four New Year's resolutions to promote gender equity:

- Take AAUW's Work Smart Online and share it with 20 people you know as part of our Members Mobilize a Million challenge.
- **Sign our petition** to oppose the Department of Education's proposed changes to Title IX's regulations, which would undermine students' civil rights protections and drastically reduce schools' obligations in responding to reports of sexual harassment and violence.
- **Empower a young** woman in your community by giving her a scholarship to attend AAU-W's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.
- **Give** to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund or to one of our Strategic Plan priorities to allow AAUW the flexibility to respond rapidly to emerging challenges facing women and girls.

We greatly appreciate whatever you can do to join the fight for fairness in 2019. Together, let's make this a banner year for women and girls!

AAUW – ILLINOIS – District #5 **36TH ANNUAL NETWORKING LUNCHEON**

Saturday, January 26, 2019 Embassy Suites – Deerfield, IL1445 Lake Cook Rd

Networking at 11:30 AM – Lunch at 12:15 PM Speaker – 1:15 PM

Guest Speaker – Wendy Pearlman

Scholar - Associate Professor of Political Science – Northwestern University

Author: We Crossed A Bridge and It Trembled: Voices From Syria

The Topic of Wendy's Talk Is - Of: "Comparative Politics of the Middle East"

Of: Arab - Israeli - Syrian - Refugees - Political Violence/Non-Violence - Migration



We Invite you to Join Together at this 36th Annual Networking Luncheon.

- Please Complete Reservation Form Below and Mail -

- Please Complete Reservation Form Below and Mail
(along with check made payable to: AAUW Networking Luncheon) at::

Donna Zimmerman – 1540 Rutland Ct. - Schaumburg, IL 60173

Reservation Forms and Payment to Arrive at Donna's NO LATER THAN January $19_{\rm th}$.

Name:	Email	Phone #
Entree Choice:	Dietary Restri	ctions

Entree Choices - Each \$40:

Salmon with Lemon Cream Sauce; Choice Sliced Beef; Chicken Picatta; Mushroom Risotto;

Also included with Entree: Green Salad, Rolls, Dessert, Coffee & Tea

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.

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

Equal Pay Day Rally – Noon at Daley Plaza in Chicago April 9

AAUW-IL Convention – Crowne Plaza, Springfield May 3 & 4

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.

Please email Joy Bowling, joybowling@att.net with your birth month and date by January 31, 2019!

Board Meetings/Membership

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

Harris Bank on Orchard Rd/Indian Trail, Aurora

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

