



American Association of University Women Greater Rochester Area Branch

Greater Rochester Area (NY) Branch

The American Association of Women Promotes Equity for Women and Girls through, Advocacy, Education Philosophy and Research.

Volume 108 Issue #5 Moving the Mission Forward

DECEMBER 2014

Branch Dinner Thursday, December 18



Music, Stories, Good Food and
Friendship

BUFFET DINNER MENU

International Stations

Holiday Tastes from Different Lands

**Japan, Ethiopia, Italy,
Thailand, Mexico, India
and more.**

Desserts by Our Members: Ethnic
Holiday Traditions

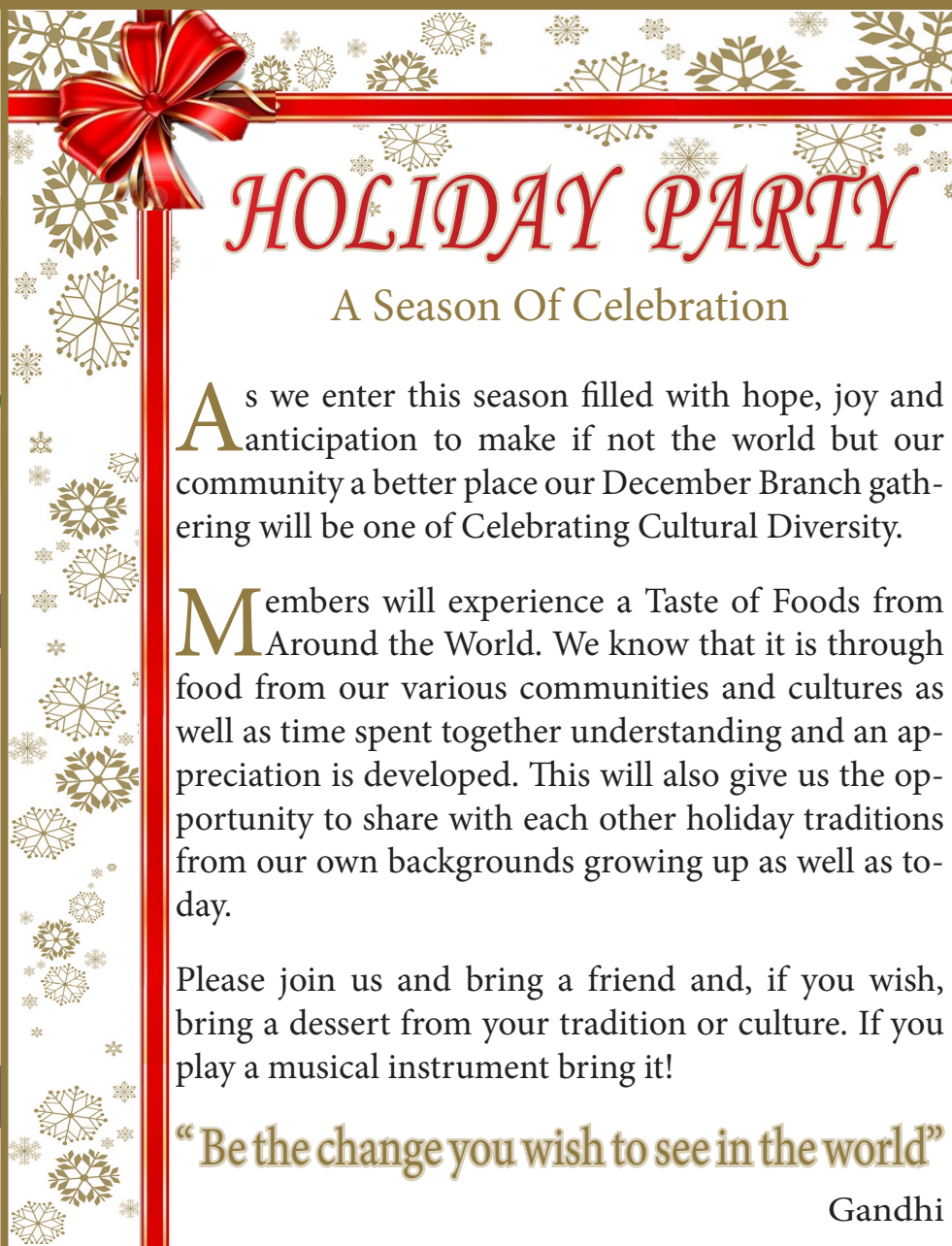
\$25 per person

Husbands, Significant others and Guests Welcome!

REGISTRATION

To RSVP call Ellen Lewis by Friday,
December 12, at 585-435-7202 or
elewis@perkinsmansion.org

Please let her know if you will bring a
dessert to share.



HOLIDAY PARTY

A Season Of Celebration

As we enter this season filled with hope, joy and anticipation to make if not the world but our community a better place our December Branch gathering will be one of Celebrating Cultural Diversity.

Members will experience a Taste of Foods from Around the World. We know that it is through food from our various communities and cultures as well as time spent together understanding and an appreciation is developed. This will also give us the opportunity to share with each other holiday traditions from our own backgrounds growing up as well as today.

Please join us and bring a friend and, if you wish, bring a dessert from your tradition or culture. If you play a musical instrument bring it!

“Be the change you wish to see in the world”

Gandhi

Gaynelle Wethers, Programs VP

AAUW is a powerful advocate and viable leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

GRAB AAUW www.aauw-rochester.org

New York State www.aauw-nys.org

National www.aauw.org

GRAB AAUW | 494 EAST AVE. ROCHESTER, NY 14607 | PHONE: 585.244.8890

Letter from the President

The changes that have occurred at GRAB over the past year are quite amazing!

As I write this New Year message, I am watching the bulldozers dig the foundation at the old Boy Scout building which will now be converted into apartments. How hard the Trust Board worked to make the proposed garages into a win-win situation for us and the new owners.

I see our Women Helping Girls Program taking on a new life and energy. We are preparing to send double the number of students to the next Tech Savvy Conference in Buffalo.

We have a new Board and strategic plan for the GRAB-AAUW Charitable Trust. I am feeling good that finally, the future GRAB presidents and Boards can shift their focus to raising money for mission-based programs and scholarships and not have the heavy burden of raising money to maintain the house. These changes truly excite and inspire me to “keep on going” as Harriet Tubman told the tired runaway slaves. Change is difficult but always exciting.

Another source of excitement for me is to peruse the applications of the 31 new members who have joined the class of 2015 so far. When I read about their experience and talents and why they decided to join our branch, I smile with delight because I am more confident than ever that we will truly make a difference to the women and girls in Rochester. This is what our founders hoped for and what Mrs. Perkins wished us to do when she deeded us the Mansion in 1947.

Thank you ALL for the volunteer work hours and monetary donations you gave this past year. As we go into the New Year, our finances are in order according to our 2013-14 audit. Our proposed budget should be balanced by June 2015. Our program plans, by-laws, operations manual and policies will all be updated before we elect our new President and officers in May of 2015.

I honestly believe that the right people have been sent to us to make the vision of our branch a world class lifelong learning and teaching center for all generations of women and girls and seen as a key community resource and a driving force for any and all women’s issues in the Greater Rochester Area. I wish you all a joyous holiday season and a happy and healthy New Year.

Peace on Earth is in our hands.
Marilyn Tedeschi

SAVE THE DATE!

April 17th - 19th, 2015



THE 2015 AAUW NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION:

AAUW Leading the Way: Women Leadership in the 21st Century

Special Recognition:

A celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the AAUW Buffalo Branch

Workshops will address topics such as :

- 21st Century Education Issues
- The Trials, Tribulations and Triumphs of Women Elected Officials: Women Leading NY into the 21st Century
- Countdown to the Century of Women’s Right to Vote in the US
- Domestic Violence and Women’s Self Empowerment
- And more!

AAUW develops women leaders by strengthening their sense of empowerment. Don’t miss this exciting opportunity!*

* Registration information will be on the AAUW-NYS website beginning in January 2015



2015 National Election Dates

December 5, 2014 Deadline for bylaws proposals and resolutions and for Proposed Public Policy Program revisions or proposals by members.

January 29, 2015 Candidate profiles posted to website Mid-March 2015. Voter PIN mailed to members with the Spring/Summer AAUW Outlook; final slate of candidates, bylaws proposals, and resolutions published in the Spring/Summer AAUW Outlook.

April 1, 2015 Opening date to request paper ballot; voter PIN e-mailed to members

April 15, 2015 Voting begins online

(continue on page 3)

May 8, 2015 Deadline for AAUW to receive request for paper ballot

May 26, 2015 Deadline for mailing paper ballot; ballots must be postmarked by 11:59 p.m. to be counted

June 18-21, 2015 AAUW National Convention, San Diego

June 19, 2015 Online voting ends at 9 p.m. PDT

Questions about the application, election, or nomination process? Read the national election FAQ.

Click [here](#) to download the application for Candidates for Election to the 2015-17 AAUW Board of Directors

ROCHESTER ART CLUB



Barnes and Nobles is hosting the Rochester Art Club show. It is a wonderful exhibit. GRAB AAUW Renate Eckart has two of her pieces on display.



Development Committee

The new awning on the patio is here. This project was made possible by the donations that were collected at the 2013 card party and part of the 2014 card party. We are always looking for improvements in the house to better serve the AAUW members. Thank you for all your support and contributions.



Click in the icons below to visit our social media



Library Lobby

Books are sorted, shelved and ready to read. Would you be willing to help me feature books that you might recommend to others? I will go first.



Book Chatter: Have you heard of Charles Todd?

Charles Todd is a mother/son combo (Charles and Caroline) who writes a mystery series about Ian Rutledge, a Scotland Yard investigator.

Ian Rutledge is a fragile, yet courageous former soldier searching for his place in postwar England. Todd deftly captures the anguish of a man

haunted by his tragic past by delving beneath a cast of unforgettable characters to examine a mystery even greater than murder; the mystery of what is right and what is wrong after the world has committed the sin of war.

If you enjoy psychological and historical mysteries, I invite you to search the library for an Ian Rutledge book or one of Charles Todd's other mysteries. Don't hesitate to leave me a comment.

Who will give the "book chatter" next month? Let me know at mxkeller@yahoo.com.

Mary Keller

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!



MARILYN TEDESCHI - 12/8

SUSAN LENNON - 12/13

KATHLEEN BISHOP - 12/6

BETTIE LINDLEY - 12/17

MUSETTE CASTLE - 12/21



NYS- AAUW DISTRICT 2 CONFERENCE

GREATER ROCHESTER AREA (NY) BRANCH

The conference was very successful!!!

This year the conference theme was the **Common Core Checkup: Year 2** which took place at the Perkins Mansion in Rochester, NY. The conference was hosted by the Greater Rochester Area and the Fairport Area Branch. We had 38 attendees, 33 AAUW members and 5 speakers, of the 33 members, 15 were from GRAB, 6 from FAB, 5 from Bath, 2 from Alfred/Hornell, 1 from Elmira/Corning and 3 non-members.

The speakers were Dr. Michael Doughty, Deputy Superintendent at Monroe #1 BOCES, Annamaria Falzarano, Coordinator of World Languages at Greece Central School District, Malik Evans, Board Liaison at the Rochester City School District, Dr. Jennifer Gkourlias, Principal of Young Women's College Preparatory School and Michael Gill, Superintendent at Canaseraga Central School.

The conference was live-streamed and recorded. You can access the videos on our website by clicking on the YouTube icon.



THANK YOU

Committee of the District 2 Conference:

- Régine Calvar**, Co-Chair & GRAB Communications Director
- Cynthia Herriot**, Speakers & GRAB Public Policy Director
- Cheryl McKeiver**, Moderator & GRAB Member
- Mary Myers**, Treasurer & GRAB Membership Treasurer
- Kimberly Pollard**, Communications & AAUW State Organizer
- Dr. Carol Richardson**, Co-Chair & FAB Leadership Council
- Jane Russell**, Catering & NYS AAUW Programs VP
- Donna Seymour**, AAUW Resources & NYS Public Policy Director
- Marilyn Tedeschi**, Program coordinator & GRAB President
- Gaynelle Wethers**, Speakers & GRAB Programs VP

Sponsors and Volunteers:



The Rochester Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa



Public Policy-Townhall Forum

Unite Rochester is an initiative spearheaded by the **Democrat and Chronicle**.

While there are several areas of focus, the goal of the Justice Initiative: "to unite Rochester by focusing upon justice in the Rochester community and by identifying barriers to inclusion, equal treatment, fairness and impartiality regardless of race or nationality."



The committee came together asking the critical question, "Is there a lack of unity in our community that is evidenced in the Justice System?"

The Unite Justice Engagement Committee came up with 3 priorities - Educate the Community, Engage the Community and Improve Access to Employment. The second priority took place on November 13, 2014 at 6 PM as a locally televised Community Town Hall. Senator Chuck Schumer was instrumental in getting our guest speaker, Ronald L. Davis, the Director of the Office of Community- Oriented Policing Services, United States Department of Justice.

The Town Hall involved a panel of criminal justice professionals that responded to questions submitted by community members as well as those from the criminal justice field. A luncheon was held for the panelists at the American Association of University Women, which was underwritten by the Monroe County Sheriff's Association.

Cynthia Herriot, GRAB Public Policy Director

Congratulations to GRAB AAUW MEMBER !!! Jamie Saunders Recipient of the Forty Under 40 Award

With nominations from the community and selections by a committee of business leaders, the Forty Under 40 awards recognize 40 men and women under the age of 40 who have achieved professional success and made significant civic contributions to our community. The award has become a prestigious honor. Hundreds of people are nominated, and only the best of the best are recognized.



National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Rochester Section Tuesday, December 2, 2014 - 7:30 PM

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE WOMEN'S EQUALITY ACT It's not radical. It's common sense.

Temple B'rith Kodesh, 2131 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618

The Women's Equality Act will help the women and families of New York by preserving women's access to reproductive health care, ensuring fair treatment at work, and helping survivors of violence. It's time for an upgrade. We need laws as strong as New York women.



Kenote Speaker: M. Tracey Brooks,
President and CEO Family Planning Advocates of NYS
Join us for an informative talk. Q & A and light refreshments to follow.

Co-Sponsors: American Association of University Women - GRAB, Genesee Valley Chapter of the NY-

CLU, Interfaith Impact of NYS, Planned Parenthood of Central & Western NY, Rochester Chapter of Hadassah, Women of Reform Judaism/TBK Sisterhood, YWCA of Rochester & Monroe County.



Human Rights Day December 8, 2014 - 5:30pm

"Capitalism vs. Human Rights"

Every year the Rochester Committee on Human Rights upholds the Articles of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and invites the community to eat, talk, and listen to each other.

5:30 Community Potluck (please bring a dish to pass) & Organizational Tabling

6:45 Evening Program

Spoken Word performance by **Shanterra Randle-Brown**

Panel Presentation: Moderator **Denise Young**, Panel **Paola Macas Betchart, David Cay Johnston, Ream Kidane, Colin O'Malley, Danielle Ponder**

7:45 Directed Discussion

8:45 Conclusion

Free and Open to the Public

For more info: Mary Boite (585) 367-9152; maryboite1@gmail.com

4th Annual YWCP Leadership Breakfast

Thursday, December 2

8:00 - 9:30am

The 4th Annual YWCP Leadership Breakfast is hosted by the Young Women's College Prep Foundation. This wonderful event is emceed by YWCP Charter School students and honors three community leaders for their support of education and opportunity for young women in Rochester. This year's esteemed honorees are:



The Cornell/Weinstein Family Foundation
Daisy Algrin, City of Rochester/Latinas Unidas
Daan Braveman ("The Man We Love"), Nazareth College

If you would like to join our table, call Ana DeTomaso at 244-8890 to purchase your ticket.

Temple B'rith Kodesh, 2131 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618

GRAB AAUW Leadership Development Program

We are excited to support the Young Women's College Prep mentoring program which begins in December. The following one-hour presentations will be facilitated at the school located at 311 Flower City Park in Rochester.

Wednesday, December 10th at 3:30pm - Facilitation on being a leader, qualities of a good leader, teen leadership.

Wednesday, January 14th at 3:30pm - College major exploration, career exploration & awareness.

Monday, February 23 at 5:30pm - Discovering your passion and personal career interests.

Monday, March 16th at 5:30pm - The value of community service and community engagement.

Saturday, May 16th at 9:00am - Preparation for the world of work, dressing and speaking professionally and mock interviews.

GRAB AAUW has several dynamic speakers with a wealth of knowledge on the above topics. The Leadership Development program welcomes your participation.

Anyone interested in participating, please contact Helen Jae Cheves at 585-395-9230.

ROC

December 2

THE DAY

ROC the Day is a 24-hour, online event that gives people in our community an opportunity to support all

Choose. Give. Matter.

of the not-for-profit organizations doing great work in the nine-county Greater Rochester Area. People will visit **ROCtheDAY.org**, a secure online giving platform, to make a gift.

ROC the Day Match!

This year, all of the monies collected for the 24-hour period for GRAB AAUW will be matched by Marilyn Tedeschi up to \$500 and will go directly to member scholarships. We give two Emerging Leader Scholarships—one to a Women Helping Girls graduate for college expenses and one to a college student to attend the National AAUW Leadership Conference. Remaining scholarship money will be used for leadership development, workshops and events for members who many not be able to attend otherwise. Please give generously and ROC the Day for Greater Rochester AAUW!

CLICK [HERE](#) TO DONATE

House Decorating Party

Sunday, December 7



Join us on Sunday, December 7 from 12 noon to 5 PM to decorate the Perkins Mansion. Bring your Holiday spirit, snacks, music - Jazz, Vocals (discs and boom box) so we can sing while decorating the house. Casual attire!

GRAB Holiday Gift Giving

Alternatives for Battered Women and Sojourner House

Barbara Stevens has agreed to take over the GRAB Holiday gift giving to Alternatives for Battered Women (ABW) and Sojourner House this year. This was Beverly's pet project to collect, sort, and bring the many donated items to the organizations. We will still ac-



cept gifts, but this year it was decided to bring money instead of buying gifts for the mothers and children. The organizations were pleased with that idea and will see that the cash fills in the gaps where needed for the holiday celebration. Please make checks payable to ABW and/or Sojourner House and mail to Barbara Stevens at 494 East Ave. Barbara will bring all that is collected on Friday, Dec. 19. Thank you all for donating to this worthy cause.

Mystery Book Club

Thursday, January 8- 2:00 pm

Mystery Book Club's next author is Inger Ash Wolfe (Michael Redhill) and his Detective Hazel Micallef in *The Calling*, *The Taken* and *Door in the River*. Creepy and creepier we're told. Read them if you dare.

Tea and Titles

Wednesday, January 28 - 2:00 pm

The Tea and Titles group does not meet in December. Our next meeting will be on January 28 when Joy Kinz will lead the discussion on *I am Malala* by Nobel Prize winning author Malala Yousafzai, the girl who was shot by the Taliban and now lives with her family in exile in England.

Mahjong - New Interest Group Forming!!





Linda Dinino will teach a six-week beginning Mahjong class. Group will meet from 1:00 to 3:00pm on Wednesdays from January 7 to February 11. If interested, email Linda Dinino at linda.diniino@gmail.com or call 586-6888.

Membership News!

I am happy to report that the Class of 2014-2015 has 31 new Members of the Branch (MOB) and 5 new Student Affiliates!

We welcomed **Darline Augustine**, Professor at RIT and **Ruth Fisher**, retired instructor who said she was a "retread" at the November 13 Branch Dinner!

Stephanie Augonis, Membership VP.

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------------------------------|---|-----------|---|--|---|
| 30 | 1 9:15am Bowling | 2 10:00am-2:30pm Retired Bridge | 3 | 4 8:00am-9:30am YWCP Breakfast | 5 10:00am-2:30pm DuplicateBridge A | 6 11:00am-2:00pm WHG Holiday Gathering |
| 7 12:00-5:00pm House Decorating Party | 8 9:15am Bowling | 9 10:00am-2:30pm Crazy 8's Bridge | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 9:15am Bowling | 16 HANUKKAH  | 17 | 18 5:00-8:00pm Branch Dinner Holiday Party | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 9:15am Bowling | 23 | 24 | 25 CHRISTMAS  | 26 KWANZAA  | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2 | 3 |

Shop at AmazonSmile and Amazon will make a donation to: Greater Rochester Area Branch



Support GRAB AAUW by using **AmazonSmile**

If you are considering shopping on Amazon for the holidays, please access Amazon through GRAB's website. All you have to do is to go www.aauw-rochester.org and click in the icon located next to this message. Amazon will donate .05% of your total purchase to GRAB AAUW.

Interest Groups 2014-2015

Retired Teachers Bridge

Meets the 1st Tuesday at 10 am
Carol Achilles – 421.0876

Duplicate Bridge A

Meets the 1st Friday at 10:00 am
Pauline Sherwood – 671.3556

Duplicate Bridge B

Meets the 4th Wednesday at 10:00 am
Jean Erskine – 266.5055

Crazy 8's Bridge

Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 10:00 am
Carol Achilles – 421.0876

Mystery Book Club

Lynne Mitchell – 381.7145
Bimonthly meetings

Tea and Titles

Maureen May- 385.1133
Joy Kinz- 392.7134
Monthly meetings

Preserving and Canning

Michele Conners-585-507-9572

Night Out At the House!

Marlene Gordon – 402.5529
Cynthia Herriott
Gaynelle Wethers

Social evening for members and guests!

****Bridge leaders: Please call Blake Kowalski at 489.2539 the night before to give him your set up numbers.**

**GREATER ROCHESTER AREA BRANCH
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

494 East Ave.
Rochester, NY 14607

Phone: 585.244.8890
Fax: 585.244.5277

The deadline for the
January Newsletter is December 15, 2014

Please email items to Ana DeTomaso
adetomaso@aauw-rochester.org

We welcome suggestions or contributions to
include in future newsletters.
Please contact us at the mailing address above.

**Articles submitted are printed at the
discretion and policy of GRAB**

BOARD MEMBERS

President Marilyn Tedeschi
Program VP..... Gaynelle Wethers
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Communications Régine Calvar
College and University Relations Barbara LeSavoy
Educational Loan Fund TBD
Educational Opportunity Fund TBD
Leadership Development Helen Jae Cheves
Legal Advocacy Fund Lynne Mitchell
Women Helping Girls TBD
Public Policy DirectorCynthia Herriott-Sullivan
Interest Groups.....Marlene Gordon

Vision

GRAB AAUW is a World Class Lifelong Learning, Teaching and Study Center for all generations of Women & Girls and seen as a key Community Resource and Driving Force for any and all Women's Issues in the Greater Rochester Area.

Diversity Statement

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

AAUW Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

3 Trustees are needed for the Education Loan Fund. Please call or email Marie Ginther if you are interested.