

Year-end Reception and Dialogue—Tuesday June 12



Barbara Drachman,
VP for Programs
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drachman@geneseo.edu

Please join us on Tuesday, June 12 when we will honor the graduating class of Women Helping Girls (WHG) as well as our Women Helping Girls alumnae, Women Helping Women (WHW). We will also recognize our new AAUW members, the “class of 2012.” This will be a great opportunity for everyone to meet, greet and get to know one another. Our president, Marilyn Tedeschi, will present a vision for GRAB’s future and discuss our new program theme for the upcoming year.

Helen Jae Cheeves will facilitate break-out sessions focusing on our new program theme, more specifically what leadership means to you and what it means at AAUW to have your voice heard and your unique skills and talents recognized, welcomed and utilized. After these sessions, we will all come together for discussion and wrap-up.

The meeting schedule is:

- 5:30 pm Social Hour & Buffet
- 6:30 pm Meeting & Dialogue

We will enjoy a variety of dishes and desserts provided by our Diversity Team and other members at a per person cost of \$20. The charge for new members, WHG, and WHW is \$10.

Please email or call Felice (244-8890) for reservations by Friday, June 8. Hope to see everyone there!!

Class of 2011-2012

Monique Adams
Evelyn Bailey
Marilynn Barron-McDonald
Betty M. Bayer
Anne Bell
Rebecca Bessell
Kathleen Bishop
Tamu Brown-Hutchison
Regine Calvar
Jean Carroll
Raquel Cofield
Cynthia Cohen
Nella Corryn
Makenzie Delmonte
Wendy DeMott Fambro
Mariann Federici
Marie Ferencak

Barbara Hoffman
Susan H. Hoover
Kimberly C. Hostutler
Tanjia L. Isaac
Cynthia W. Kaleh
Alison B. Kearney
Lee A. Kehoe
Linda Shafer Layer
Lori D. Miller
Mary Champagne-Meyers
Shahin Monshipour
Jane Murray
Jessie G. Nimeh
Elaine Spaul
Shannon Trudeau
Sara B. Varhus
Clara Webb
Cassandra W. Williams
Elaine Zander



■ Mission

The American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

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

In principle and 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.



**By Marilyn
Tedeschi,
President**
Phone: 244-4107
**E-mail:
marilyntee@aol.com**

From the President's Desk

First, my sincere apologies to Maureen May and the Tea and Titles group for inadvertently leaving their notice out of our May newsletter. Our interest groups are the life blood of our organization; I do hope that did not cause too much confusion.

It is hard to believe that the school year is ending, but here we are seeing **11** more Women Helping Girls graduate and move on to another chapter in their lives. We wish them well and hope that that will stay connected to us as they journey through life.

Our accomplishments have been many this year thanks to our 20 Board members, each working towards empowering women and girls. They all did an extraordinary job each in her own way to make this branch shine. Our interest groups grew and thrived.

We had an intern each semester, which added more student affiliate members. We gave over \$10,000 dollars in donations and in-kind gifts to other women's organizations in Rochester and around the world. We gave 3 scholarships to high school seniors and 4 scholarships to college students to attend the AAUW 2012 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. We gave over 3500 volunteer hours.

As I review the year, I realize that our 115-year-old organization has stayed relevant and vibrant with the times. Your Board will continue to work towards contemporary needs of women and girls in establishing our vision and activities for next year. If there is something that you feel would make things better, please do not hesitate to make your wishes known to me or any other Board member. I find the interests, fellowship and skill sets of our membership here at GRAB AAUW extraordinary. We support women and girls from junior high to senior citizens. We have maintained our beautiful home and grounds; our staff and caretakers give over and above the call of duty. To all I am thankful. I look forward to working with our newly-elected officers and volunteers. Please be a part of our planning during July and August to make next season and future years at GRAB even better. And please get your membership renewals in by June 12! Thank you all for a very good year!

Marilyn



Susan Hoover
Recording Secretary
Susnhover@aol.com

Thank You!!

We want to be sure to say thank you to the members and friends who put in a full day stuffing packets and tote bags for the Convention. We had a fun time, a tasty lunch, and we got the job done. Thanks to Nancy Kleintop, Laurie Ditzel, Miss Betty Smith, Jane Murray, Marlene Gordon, Marie Feroncek, Adrienne Emmo, Barbara Drachman, Kathy Littleton, Vickie Fumia, Wendy Fambro, Marilyn Tedeschi, and Susan Hoover.

More people attended this convention than any other state convention in recent memory, and everyone agreed that it was a huge success. Grateful thanks to all who participated in making it so!

MEMBERSHIP MEMO



By Marlene Gordon
Membership VP
585-461-1224
aunt5mtzma@aol.com

For those of you who were unable to attend the recent NY State AAUW Convention held here at Woodcliff, I must tell you how impressed members of other branches from around the state were with the finely-organized and stimulating weekend. Thanks are due to Convention Chairperson Marilyn Tedeschi and co-chair Susan Hoover for the incredible amount of hard work and talent which, along with some assistance from Branch members, made the 2012 State Convention a tremendous success.

This month we've been joined by some amazing new members. **Linda Shafer Layer** is a retired professor from George Brown College in Toronto. She received her Bachelor's degree from American University and her MScEd in Instructional Systems Technology from Indiana University. She is interested in travel and financial planning and brings skills in community-organizing.

Clara Webb is a Spanish teacher who received her Bachelor's degree from SUNY Brockport, her Master of Arts degree and Permanent Teaching Certification in Spanish. Clara is interested in Women Helping Girls, the Dress a Girl Around the World Project, sewing, and international relations.

Sara Varhus is Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Nazareth College. She received her Bachelor's degrees in English and History at Rockford College and her PhD in English. She is eager to help us with grant-writing and organizing programs and is also interested in reading, dogs, cooking, and outdoor activity. Though she needs to wait until she retires to join many of our interest groups, Sara says that she will serve GRAB "any place where she can contribute!!" Welcome, Sara!!!

Cynthia Cohen received her Bachelor's degree in history from Yale and her Master's degree in English from the University of London. Currently she is an adjunct professor and PhD student at the University of Buffalo. Though her work and studies demand much of her time, she would like to participate in Tea and Titles, STEM, and the art forum. She's also interested in films and plays and perhaps using her skills in writing and fund-raising here at GRAB.

We are also joined by **Elaine Spaul**, a lawyer and youth advocate, who is the Executive Director of The Center for Youth. Elaine received her Bachelor's degree from George Washington University, her Master's degree from Georgetown, and both her PhD and JD from SUNY Buffalo. Currently a Rochester City Council member, Elaine is an incredible community advocate for women and girls.

PLEASE JOIN US ON JUNE 12 at 5:30 - our **YEAR-END RECEPTION** - to welcome these fabulous women as well as all of our "Class of 2012" new members and our newest Women Helping Girls graduates and alumnae with food, beverage, ice-breakers, and fun!!!

Marlene Gordon, VP for Membership

Tea & Titles

On Wednesday June 27 at 2.00 pm, BEVERLY VAUGHAN will lead this month's discussion, reviewing ERIK LARSON'S tale of the experience of an American diplomat's family in Hitler's Germany in the mid 1930's. This book, entitled IN THE GARDEN OF THE BEASTS, is most readable and insightful. Do join us for refreshments and active discussion.

Refreshments will be served, and all are welcome to attend.

Joy Kinz and Maureen May

The Knit Group

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, June 13 in the dining room. Please bring any hats that you have completed. As usual coffee and donuts will be served as we review our projects of the past year.

BEVERLY VAUGHAN

bvaughan@rochester.rr.com

585-383-0896

Poker Club

Our next meet will be on Friday, June 15 at the Jewish Home. Marlene Gordon, an extraordinary card shark, will be there for her knee therapy and I thought we will get her mind off her pain by taking her money.

Let's gather at 6:00 for food and cheer
Poker at 7:00.

Please let me know you are coming
so we can get numbers.
All levels of players welcome.
Taffe--you coming?

marilyntee@aol.com 244-4107

Mystery Book Club met 5/10 to discuss I. J. Parker's series set in 12th century Japan. We agreed that, because of the modern use of language, it was hard to remember what era we were in and a minor character was more interesting than the major one.

Our next author is the recently deceased Reginald Hill, who authored 18 mysteries with detectives Dalziel (pronounced Dee-el) and Pascoe beginning with "A Clubable Woman" (1970) and ending with "Arms and the Woman" (2011). It's an estimable man who features women in his mysteries! "Have a nice read" as the author says.

Next meeting July 12, 4:00 p.m.

Member Milestones

Congratulations to Marilyn Tedeschi who was honored by the Rochester United Nations Society as Volunteer of the Year.

Congratulations to Dorothy R. Pecoraro who was honored by Charles Settlement House as Volunteer of the Year.





*By Heide Parreño,
Diversity Chair
Phone: 256-7372
E-mail: orostar@aol.com*

Conversing on Diversity: An Exchange of New Ideas, New Language and New Consciousness

By Heide Parreño, Diversity Chair
E-mail: orostar@aol.com

GRAB AAUW initiated and organized a successful forum about Diversity of Women Faculty in collaboration with Rochester Institute of Technology. There were a total of twenty-three participants, with the majority from RIT plus representatives from Nazareth College, SUNY Geneseo and AAUW members. Hector Flores, new Dean of Graduate Studies at RIT provided great insights into the issue of women faculty diversity.



We enhanced the experience of diversity during the continental breakfast with a variety of juices and cultural foods, and the presence of members of our diversity team. GRAB AAUW's Initiative on Diversity was re-affirmed when our President Marilyn Tedeschi shared our Diversity Statement. She emphasized diversity as an important value within our organization and hopes to integrate even more into the programs and activities of our Branch.

The three women researchers from RIT gave an excellent presentation with great interactive participation of attendees during the breakout sessions. To quote one of the participants, "I would like to thank your diversity committee for developing this workshop. I thoroughly enjoyed it and would like to know who I should contact to become a member of the GRAB branch."

If anyone is interested in getting a copy of the handouts and power point presentation, please contact me at orostar@aol.com.

Women Helping Girls

It's hard to believe we've packed so much in since the last newsletter! The following is a brief sketch of our events for the last month. Consider this the Reader's Digest version!

April 17 - Dress a Girl with Angels of Mercy

The girls had a great time making dolls and dresses for girls across the world. It was wonderful to see the girls serving their community, and they really enjoyed it!

April 21 - Women for Women hosted by WDKX at High Falls

Skye Bird, Chloe Anderson and several of our mentors hosted a table for WHG, reaching out to women of color to raise awareness of WHG and recruit mentors.

April 22 - ROCtheRunway Fashion show benefiting Women Helping Girls

Seven girls attended and served as hosts; seating VIP guests and directing "traffic." They did a GREAT job and had a blast. Thank you to Marquita Smith and the rest of the ROCtheRunway team for your generosity!

April 28 - Girls in the Groove dance show benefiting Women Helping Girls

A fundraiser hosted by Courtney Wilson and the Seniors of Spencerport High School. This was a fantastic event involving several girls and mentors and five dance companies throughout Rochester. A delightful example of a community supporting its local organizations.

May 5 - Mother's Day Luncheon at La-Tea-Da

Sixty-five moms, daughters and mentors spent the morning wearing hats, drinking tea, eating scones, talking and laughing. It was a lively event and I received great feedback from mentors about how WONDERFUL it was to talk with their mentee's mom over tea...breaking down barriers and establishing a relationship. It is also always nice to see our girls in their "Sunday best" and have time to sit around and talk about life and happenings.

Amy Kauffman

Event Coordinator, Women Helping Girls, AAUW

Website: <http://womenhelpinggirls.org/>

Many of the Women Helping Girls graduates are attending college and we would like to connect them to the AAUW on the national and state level, as well as the local level. This would mean a \$25 membership in the AAUW. If you would be willing to sponsor a girl for a year, please send a check for \$25 made out to GRAB/AAUW. Mail it to 494 East Ave., 14607, attention Cathy Foster by Monday, July 16, 2012. We'll enroll a girl and let you know who she is and if possible, some additional information about her.

Congratulations to Women Helping Girls Class of 2012!!!

Sierra Boerman
Ivy Bonair
Yamuna Dhaki
Sidney Freeman
Aracelis Perez
Jaz-myne Tross

Crystal Perez
Anetaijia Porter-Monroe
Meaghan Rodriguez
Alyciana Rush
Jenee Skinner

Bowling – Mary Louise Riter,
Phone: 381-4368

We still have room for more bowlers!
 We meet every Monday at 9:30a.m.
 at Clover Lanes. Please call me if
 you are interested.

Bridge

Retired Teachers Bridge – Contact
 person: Carol Achilles (421-0876).
 Meets the First Tuesday at 10 a.m.
Duplicate Bridge A - Meets the First
 Friday at 10:00 a.m.

Duplicate Bridge B – Meets the 4th
 Wednesday at 10:00

Luncheon Bridge – Meets the 3rd
 Thursday at 10: a.m.
 Contact person: Nancy Jones
 (288-7913).

***Bridge leaders: Please call our
 head caretaker Blake Kowalski at
 489-2539 the night before to give
 him your set up numbers.

History & Archives – Doris
Meadows 328-4059

Holistic Health and Wellness –
Heide Parreño, Phone: 585-256-
7372 or E-mail: orostar@aol.com

Knit, Quilt & Chain Stitch – Beverly
Vaughan, phone: 585-383-0896 or
E-mail
bvaughan@rochester.rr.com

Mystery Book Club – Bimonthly
meetings, Contact Lynne Mitchell:
381-7145 for more details.

Poker – Poker Club - Marilyn
Tedeschi – Marilyntee@aol.com,
244-4107.

Tea and Titles – Maureen May,
email maureensmay@yahoo.com
and Joy Kinz,
cjkinz@rochester.rr.com

Lecture & Lunch – Contact Mary
Louise Riter: 381-4368 or Helen
Beveridge: 248-8284.

June 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 10:00-3pm Bridge A	2
3	4	5 10-3 Retired Teachers Bridge	6	7 10-12 Knitting 4-6pm Mystery Book Club	8	9
10	11	12 10-3 Crazy 8's 5:30-8:30 New Member Reception	13	14 10-3 Ladies Duplicate Bridge	15 6:00 Poker at The Jewish Home	16
17	18	19 4-5:30 AAUW Board Mtg	20 10:00-3 Bridge B 1-2:30 pm Great Decisions 2-3:30-Lib- Tea/Titles	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 10:00-3 Bridge B 1-2:30 pm Great Decisions 2-3:30 Tea/Titles	28	29	30

There will be no newsletter in July and August

**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
September Newsletter is
August 15, 2012**

**Please email items to Felice at
Newsletter@aauwrochester.org**

We welcome suggestions or
contributions to include in future
newsletters. Please contact us at the
mailing address above or via e-mail:
Newsletter@aauwrochester.org

**Greater Rochester Area Branch
American Assoc. of Univ. Women Inc.
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Rochester, NY 14607-1911**



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Legal Advocacy Fund – **Lynne Mitchell**
Public Policy – **Patricia Thompson**
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Women Helping Women – **Amanda Jackson-Jacobs**



■ Vision

GRAB AAUW Is a World Class
Lifelong Learning & Teaching
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

Diversity for GRAB AAUW is a
mosaic of gems reflecting persons
from different age, gender, sexual
orientation, national origin, ethnic,
socio-economic, health and spiritual
cultures including the culture of the
Deaf, each with unique ideas and
abilities.

■ 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.