



# American Association of University Women Greater Rochester Area Branch

*The American Association of University Women promotes  
Equity for Women and Girls through Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy and Research.*

**Volume 124 Issue #20 Women on the Move: Achieving Women's Economic Justice**

**June 2016**

## **SCHEDULE**

5-6 pm- Social, Networking

6-8:30 pm - Picnic

## **DINNER MENU**

Fresh Garden Salads

Mixed vegetable medley

Pasta

BBQ Chicken

Desserts

## **REGISTRATION**

RSVP to Stephanie by Monday, June 6  
at (585) 233-6180 or email her at  
[stephanie.augonis@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.augonis@gmail.com).

Cost \$20,

**All reservation costs must be honored.**

If you need to cancel after Monday, June 6, or if you have RSVP'd and do not show, you are still responsible for the cost of your ticket.

## **ANNUAL PICNIC - THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2016**

Come Join Us for the end of the year celebration! We had so many wonderful programs this year and now it's time to celebrate our hard work and spend quality time together.

Come and meet our young and talented Winners from our Women Helping Girls Event at the Blue Cross Arena.

You might be surprised with a performance or two!



## **AAUW Annual Francie Wilcox 2016 Card Party**

**Saturday, September 17 from 10 am – 3 pm**

**Join us for a day of card playing Fun!!**

**Bring friends to play cards and / or games, including but not limited to:**

**Quiddler \* Duplicate Bridge \* Poker**

**Party Bridge \* Mah Jongg**

*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 ~ 494 East Ave. Rochester, NY 14607 ~ Phone: 585.244.8890/585.736.1681**

## **FROM OUR PRESIDENT, GAYNELLE WETHERS**

Greetings!

What A Banner Year! GRAB/AAUW celebrates 100 years! The Charitable Trust was launched! COPE (Coalition for Pay Equity) under our Public Policy held a Press Conference addressing Equal Pay, and Women Helping Girls held a girls conference with over 2000 girls at the Blue Cross Arena!

Our branch programs included journey from poverty to a successful journalism career, Women in the Military, Women's Rights, Racism and Disability Rights, and Climate Change. We collaborated with our partners, The League of Women Voters and Rochester NOW, with programs which were well-attended. We were successful with several grants for Women Helping Girls. We received \$1000 from the Palma Foundation and \$10,000 from the Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation. We also received a grant from COPE for Public Policy and \$800 from the Walmart Foundation. The NY Council for the Humanities grants GRAB/AAUW \$200 for the community conversation program when ten people attend the event.



On another note, I had the honor of meeting Dorothy Day's granddaughter, Martha Hennessy, of the House of Hospitality for Baden Street's Annual Luncheon. I also attended a breakfast with a speaker Betty Miller who portrayed Antoinette Brown Blackwell, the first ordained woman minister in the United States. Did you know her home is right here in Henrietta? My yoga mat neighbor just introduced me to Grace Lee Boggs, author, social activist, philosopher and feminist. Women from the past and present inspiring us for the future! My summer reading list includes reading about the study of women being deacons in the Catholic church as well from my friend and author Harriet Washington.

Special thanks to all who contributed to our Annual Appeal. Your support is most appreciated and goes a long way to make our Branch successful. These programs and events could not happen without support and participation from our board, staff members and volunteers! Thank You!

We will end the year with our branch picnic dinner and a few of the winners from the Women Helping Girls Event attending! You might be surprised with a performance or two!

Hope you have a safe and restful summer!

Happy Reading!

The House of Hospitality by Dorothy Day! All the Way to Heaven by Dorothy Day! Antoinette Brown Blackwell by Elizabeth Cazden! The Bone Gatherers by Nicola Denzey! The Gospel of Ruth by Carolyn Custis James, Infestious Madness by Harriet Washington, The Next American Revolution: Sustainable Activism for the Twenty-First Century by Grace Lee Boggs



- Gaynelle Wethers

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

I've been enjoying this beautiful spring weather even though it has been a little chillier this week. Frank and I put up our hummingbird feeder on Mother's Day. As of this writing, we have seen one hummingbird, but expect to see many more.

I decided to drop in and pay a visit to one of our long time members, Aura Streibich, to see how she was doing. Her daughter-in-law, Sally, had called the office a few weeks before and said that Aura had a change of address to the Cherry Ridge Living at the Glen. She was happy to have a visitor and really is enjoying her new digs! Aura looked stunning and sported some beautiful designer sweaters. Aura is a Fashionista for sure!



Aura Streibich

She told me that she regularly invites her long-time AAUW friend, Shirley Miller, to dine with her. Well, I did see the facility and it had a huge dining room that was simply gorgeous. Aura exclaimed that she and Shirley have always been "tight." She proudly showed me photos of her two sons and told me all about their successful careers.

I invited Aura to come to our May Membership Branch Meeting with her family so that we could honor her. We like to honor our senior members who have generously supported GRAB with their time, energy and money.

Good News! Greater Rochester Area Branch is celebrating our Centennial! Our Branch has been active in this community since 1916 and has made a significant impact on education and equity for women and girls. GRAB exists to help women and girls reach their self-described goals and potential through programs and projects.



A note on Women Helping Girls - The Women Helping Girls (WHG) program at AAUW mentors young women to strive for excellence through education.

WHGs held a Black Girls Rock event at the Blue Cross Arena with nationally-acclaimed speaker Beverly Bond, who encourages young women to have self-esteem, a positive attitude and professionalism. Her motto is to change lives one girl at a time.

- Stephanie Augonis, Membership VP

## AAUW NYS - SAVE THE DATES

Missed the AAUW-New York State convention in April 2016 ?

No worries. There is still time to register for the AUW NYS Summer Meeting - July 22-24, 2016 at Cazenovia College, in Cazenovia, NY. The theme is Building Success with Smart Ideas: Focus on Programming and Leadership.

The entire weekend (2 nights, 6 meals) is subsidized by AAUW-NYS to make it affordable for members. *Sign up NOW - click [HERE](#) for the registration form!*

Interested in attending next year's AAUW NYS convention? Watch for news of the 2017 convention - April 21-23 at the Hilton [Doubletree](#) Hotel in Syracuse!

Want to know what's happening on the AAUW NYS level ? Visit <http://www.aauw-nys.org/index.htm>.



## AAUW Statement on New Overtime Compensation Rule



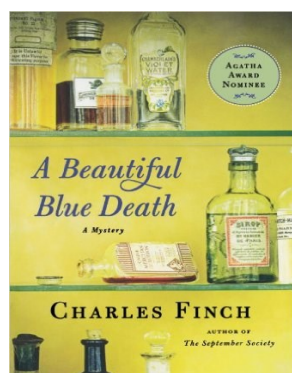
**May 18, 2016** AAUW and our 170,000 members and supporters across the country applaud the U.S. Department of Labor for issuing its final rule on overtime compensation protections, which reflects the current economic realities facing women and their families nationwide. AAUW strongly advocated for the new rule because it provides long awaited and improved overtime protections for millions of salaried workers, more than half of whom are women, and it is a critical part of addressing the gender pay gap.

Federal overtime policies haven't kept up with the times. In 1975, more than 60 percent of employees

qualified for overtime pay based on their salaries, whereas today that figure is just 7 percent. The new rule will derail an all-too-common practice: Research shows that employers routinely "promote" previously nonexempt workers (those eligible to earn overtime pay) to salaried, low-level managerial positions that demand more than 40 hours of work each week without overtime pay. AAUW believes that the strengthened rule will help address that problematic practice, which essentially denies millions of workers reasonable overtime pay. By raising the overtime salary threshold, the Department of Labor has taken a commonsense step toward achieving pay equity and economic security for millions of working families.

From AAUW National: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/statement-overtime-compensation-rule/>

## MYSTERY BOOK CLUB



A lively discussion of Paul Doiron's dedicated State of Maine Ranger and his tantrum throwing girl friend was had on 5/19. Our next author in the next state over: Archer Mayor and his Vermont Cop Joe Gunther. Open Season, Borderline, Scent of Evil are just the first of 26! For something entirely different across the Pond, is Charles Finch and his 1860's English detective Charles Lenox. His 10 titles begin with: A Beautiful Blue Death, September Society, and The Fleet Street Murders. Our next meeting is at 2 pm on Thursday, July 21 at the Perkins Mansion.

Please contact Lynne Mitchell for further information. Lynne's email address is:

[lmitchell76@gmail.com](mailto:lmitchell76@gmail.com)

## TEA AND TITLES

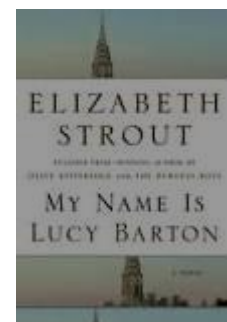
On Wednesday, June 22 at 2:00 pm, the TEA AND TITLES group will meet in the library of the Perkins Mansion to discuss MY NAME IS LUCY BARTON, the latest book by Pulitzer prize - winning novelist, ELIZABETH STROUT.

This is a powerful and melancholy novel, which tells the story of a young woman raised in rural Illinois, who becomes a novelist in Manhattan .

ANNE BELL will lead the discussion.

All are welcome to attend. Light refreshments served.

Please contact Maureen May for further information. Tel. 385-1133, E-mail : [maureens-may@yahoo.com](mailto:maureens-may@yahoo.com)





**AAUW EVENTS CALENDAR AT THE PERKINS MANSION**

# June 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 1 pm MahJong	2	3 10 am Dupli- cate Bridge A	4
5	6	7 10 am Retired Teachers Bridge	8 1 pm MahJong	9 5-8 pm Branch Picnic	10	11
12	13	14 10 am Crazy Eights Bridge	15 1 pm MahJong	16	17	18
19	20	21 4 pm GRAB Board Meeting	22 10 am Dupli- cate Bridge B 1 pm MahJong 2 pm Tea and Titles	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 1 pm MahJong	30		

**INTEREST GROUPS****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  
Janet Miles — 787-0507

**Tea and Titles**

Meets Monthly  
Maureen May - 385-1133

**Mah Jongg**

Meets Wednesdays at 1:00 pm  
Marlene Gordon – 402-5529

**Crazy 8s Bridge**

Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 10:00 am  
Carol Achilles – 421-0876

**Mystery Book Club**

Meets Every Other Month  
Lynne Mitchell – 381-7145

**\*\*Bridge Leaders:**

Please call Ellen at 435-7202  
the day before to give her  
your setup numbers.

## SOCIAL MEDIA NEWS

Have you been to our Facebook page lately ?

GRAB AAUW's Media Intern, Elizabeth Lenz and Beth Garver Beha, Program Administrator/GrantWriter, have been posting a plethora of current and news-worthy articles on women's issues. In doing so, we are making many new friends on Facebook and have amassed a large following.

Please visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/AAUWRochester/](http://www.facebook.com/AAUWRochester/).

Please **LIKE** us on Facebook.

## INTERN NEWS

We are sorry to see Rebecca Bergman, our University of Rochester Intern for COPE and Grant Writing, leave and wish her good luck in her career in Neuro Science. Becca worked with Beth Garver to write grant proposals and also brought in a grant for COPE on her own. Becca will be starting a position in July in Parsippany, New Jersey.

We welcome a new summer Intern, Sarah Khan, a junior at University of Michigan. Sarah will be working with Beth this summer on AAUW projects. She is studying Public Policy with a concentration in Health Care.

Special acknowledgement to the team who assist with set-up, serving and cleaning after many of AAUW and WHG events:

Dr. Rita Gaither, Starr Simmons and Tiffany Gaither.



## SUPPORT GRAB AAUW

### DONATE/PLEDGE A CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION TO AAUW

Please visit our [website](http://rochester-ny.aauw.net/) at <http://rochester-ny.aauw.net/> and click the DONATE United Way image or

DONATE TO GRAB AAUW Paypal Pay Now image and/or to the United Way

Donor Designation Number **2609**



## PERKINS MANSION AND GRAB AAUW - now have LIVE-IN CARETAKERS

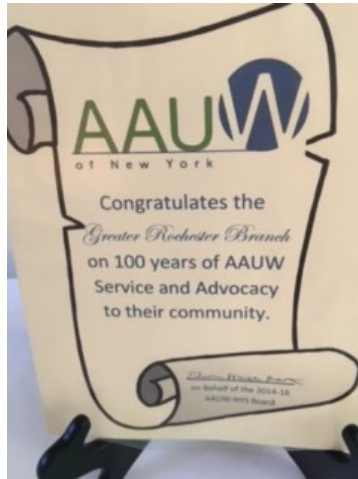
Vonda Cottrell and Billy Redding are our new live-in caretakers. They will reside in the "penthouse suite." Vonda has worked in the health field for many years and Billy worked at the Hi-Rise on St. Paul Blvd for ten years before joining Asbury Church as caretaker. It just so happened that he met James Flack who had been the caretaker at the Perkins Mansion and when he discovered that we needed caretakers, he gave them a sparkling recommendation.

I asked this delightful engaged couple where they met and they said they were neighbors in Waterloo. Who knows, perhaps we will have a wedding here at the Mansion for them one day! We wish them well and that they enjoy all the members. I know that I'm happy that we found them!

Stephanie Augonis, Membership



## 100th GRAB Anniversary Event Photos



“Portraying Mrs. Perkins was fun as I recited her wishes for her beautiful home” — Stephanie Augonis, Membership

A wonderful event celebrating 100 years of Greater Rochester Area Branch (1916—2016) with cake and quotes from Elizabeth Perkins wishing this house a wide future.

Marilyn Tedeschi brought out a lot of memorabilia from past years and had them set up on tables. We found a timeline of events upon a roll of paper written by Catherine Browning, Honorary Life Member (MBHL) of GRAB.

The photographs of past presidents and events showcased GRAB’s long-standing history of empowering women in Rochester.

We also honored those members who passed away this past year, Marion Strand, Mary Elizabeth (Couch) Schmitt, and Taunja Isaac and we enjoyed watching Marlene Gordon’s interviews with five of our fifty-year members!

### Quotes from Mrs. Perkins:

**“I wish for the members of this house a wide future. ”**

**“I wish that this house may send out in the years to come, thoughts and actions that are going to count in making this world of ours a far better one than today. ”**

**“Women need to return to the art of giving tender and loving care in the home and to the community. Education should include more of God and love.”**

**“The World is so in need of sanity, tolerance, discretion, wisdom, faith and love.”**

## Vision

GRAB AAUW is a World Class Lifelong Learning, Teaching and Study Center for all generations of Women & Girls and is 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.



# Greater Rochester Area Branch Celebrates 100 years

## GRAB AAUW BOARD MEMBERS

*President – Gaynelle Wethers*  
*Program VP – Barbara Baer*  
*Membership VP – Stephanie Augonis*  
*Development VP – Cheryl McKeiver*  
*Recording Secretary – Anne Bell*  
*Corresponding Secretary – Marlene Gordon*  
*Treasurer – Tamu Brown-Hutchinson*  
*Assistant Treasurer – TBD*  
*Assistant Treasurer for Membership – Gwen Clifton*  
*Public Policy Director – Cynthia Herriott-Sullivan*  
*College and University Relations – Barbara LeSavoy*  
*Educational Loan Fund – Judy Trabert*  
*Educational Opportunity Fund - TBD*  
*Legal Advocacy Fund – Lynne Mitchell*  
*Women Helping Girls – Cheryl McKeiver*  
*Past President – Marilyn Tedeschi*

## GREATER ROCHESTER AREA BRANCH

## AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

494 East Ave.  
Rochester, NY 14607

<http://rochester-ny.aauw.net/>

Phone: 585.244.8890/585.736.1681  
Fax: 585.244.5277

The deadline for the  
September Newsletter is  
August 15, 2016.

Please email items to  
[grabaauw@gmail.com](mailto:grabaauw@gmail.com).

Articles submitted are printed at  
the discretion of GRAB AAUW.

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 of GRAB.