



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 117 Issue #13 Moving the Mission Forward

November 2015

November Branch Dinner — Thursday, November 12, 2015

SCHEDULE

5:00-5:45 - Social

6:00-6:45 - Dinner

7:00-8:00 - Program

REGISTRATION

RSVP by phone or text to
Beth by Friday, November 6
at 585-736-1681 or at
grabaauw@gmail.com.

Ticket Cost: \$25

Program Only: Free

Students: \$15

All reservation costs must be honored. If you need to cancel after Friday, November 6, or if you have RSVP'd and cannot attend, you are still responsible for the entire cost of your ticket.

PROGRAM: WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

PANELISTS INCLUDE:

Jocene Henderson is a Retired Army Reserve Sergeant Major with over 30 years of military experience. Her last assignments include: Battalion Command Sergeant Major, Division Personnel Sergeant Major, and Sergeant Major of Troops for Deploying 98th Division Soldiers.

Dr. Betty Perkins-Carpenter is the President of Senior Fitness, Inc. A former Olympic diving coach, she has been hailed as “America’s Ambassador to Senior Fitness.” Dr. Perkins-Carpenter has addressed the White House Conference on Aging, and was inducted into the prestigious Healthy American Fitness Leaders. Betty is a veteran of the United States Air Force.

Possible Third Panelist — TBA



Dinner will be provided by Unkl Moe’s— More information on Unkl Moe’s is on page 8 of this newsletter.

Menu:

- Baked Chicken
- Salad
- Collard Greens
- Candied Yams
- Rice and Gravy
- Corn Bread
- Bread Pudding

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.

GRABAAUW Rochester-ny.aauw.net New York State www.aauw-nys.org National www.aauw.org

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

FROM OUR PRESIDENT, GAYNELLE WETHERS

“Strengthen us to find the wherewithal to shine your light into the dark places of our world. Give us the ability to uncover those who are hidden from view, locked away, forgotten. Let us never forget that nothing is hidden and no one lost from before you. Embolden us in the knowledge that neshamot-human souls are neither disposable nor replaceable; that we can never, try as we might, lock away the humanity of another.



- Rabbi Brant Rosen “A Prayer for International Human Rights Day”

Dear Members,

During these last two months, I have had the privilege of attending several community events. Whether it was a gala, luncheon or one I spearhead for our Women Helping Girls program, I noticed a theme emerging ... Testimonies of Women. There was a common thread that was evident in most ... Their struggles growing up poor, in some cases struggles with addiction, being a single mom and most common coming to grips with their own spirituality— and in others their relationship with God.

For example, Margaret William Walker grew up in the Marketview Heights section of Rochester and attended The Rochester City School District. She earned a BA in Political Science from the U of R and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Michigan. She began her legal career at Nixon Hargrave Devans & Doyle in Rochester. She is presently the Associate General Intellectual Property Counsel at Xerox Corporation. She is an Ordained Minister. She was a young volunteer at Baden Street and wanted to show appreciation to her mentors there by coming to speak at Baden’s Gala.

And then there was Lucille O’Neal who spoke at the YWCA luncheon. What a story she told! Her journey being a teenage mom, her struggle with addiction and being a military wife and her struggle from “mental welfare to mental wealth” left the filled room spell bound! Now she’s a college graduate, author of Walk Like You Have Somewhere To Go and a Motivational Speaker.

And lastly, our own Women Helping Girls speakers, which are young professional women who have entered politics, as well as Miss Black New York, (event held at the Mansion on October 17). These women have all told their stories. In attendance on October 17 were well over 100 girls and their program staff members.

This month at the November 12 Branch dinner and Program, we will hear Testimonies from women who have served our country in celebration of Veterans’ Day. No doubt our guest panelists will have equally powerful stories to share.

Come and bring a friend!

Feeling inspired from my activities this month, I am reading Grace and Grit by Lilly Ledbetter (“one of our own”), My Fight for Equal Pay and Beyond and House of Hospitality by Dorothy Day and Lucille O’Neill’s book, Walk Like You Have Somewhere To Go.

Happy Reading!



**WHG Sept
2015**

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Dear Members,

Fall has arrived with the leaves at full color this week. It's time for wearing your jackets and starting to think about coming back to the Perkins Mansion for those great Branch Dinners. We are in the process of getting a new kitchen with stoves and appliances donated!

Thank you for sending in your renewals for this club season!

We are all set with lots of great AAUW Branch Programs and "Nights Out" that is nominally priced at just \$5.00 for libations and snacks while socializing here at the Perkins Mansion. Come and renew your friendships and even gain new ones. Don't forget to bring a friend !



GRANTS UPDATE

Rebecca and Beth have been sedulously researching grant opportunities for AAUW and specifically, Women Helping Girls. They have 6 grant proposals out the door and a 7th for COPE in review.

We have received a \$1000 grant from these efforts from the Palma Foundation.

Beth has been working with the NYS Council for the Humanities to bring Community Conversations to GRAB AAUW. Each conversation earns the chapter \$200 if 10 people attend.

We have hosted 6 conversations so far this year and will be offering the 7th topic, FRIENDSHIP for discussion in December. Please look for information on the discussion of FRIENDSHIP in the December newsletter.



FOLLOW UP FROM OCTOBER'S BRANCH DINNER

Our speaker at the October Branch Dinner was Judy Braiman, President of Empire State Consumer Project, Inc. (ESCP). She brought many products with her and spoke about their toxicity, while raising our awareness of chemicals and safety. Judy has been involved in environmental and consumer product safety for close to 50 years.

ESCP, which is a registered 501c3 Not-for-Profit Organization, is dedicated to reducing the use of pesticides and other chemicals toxic to human and environmental health. They work to educate consumers and industry, conduct product testing and reporting, and advocate for regulation where needed to protect the public interest.

They are especially concerned with children's health and with educating parents on important public health issues that affect their families. They believe that consumer awareness coupled with corporate responsibility will increase the demand for toxic-free goods, which in turn will create a safer, healthier community and environment for our children and for future generations.

Judy will be holding ESCP's annual Toy and Holiday Product Safety Press Conference. Once we have the date, I will invite you all to attend.

To learn more about Judy and her work, please visit [ESCP's website](#).



GRAB AAUW CALENDAR OF BRANCH EVENTS November —December 2015

General Theme: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP, What's Up With the Arts

Branch Dinner Events

- Thursday, November 12 - Women of the Military
- Thursday, December 10 - Celebrating Cultures Dinner

Schedule for Branch Dinners

- 5-5:45 PM—Networking
- 6-6:45 PM—Branch Dinner — RSVPs 1 week in advance necessary for branch dinners.
- Brief Meeting During Dessert
- 7 PM – Branch Program

Nights Out

- Friday, November 20 from 5-7 pm, light snacks provided, \$5 ticket

Women Helping Girls

- Saturday, November 14-Giving Back (to be held off site at the Strassenburgh Planetarium)
- Saturday, December 12-Kwanza

We will provide event dates and details for the 2016 calendar as soon as they are available. Thanks for being patient !

TEA AND TITLES

On Wednesday, NOVEMBER 18 at 2:00 PM, the TEA AND TITLES group will meet at the clubhouse, to discuss a recent collection of short stories entitled TOO MUCH HAPPINESS, by acclaimed Canadian writer, ALICE MUNRO.

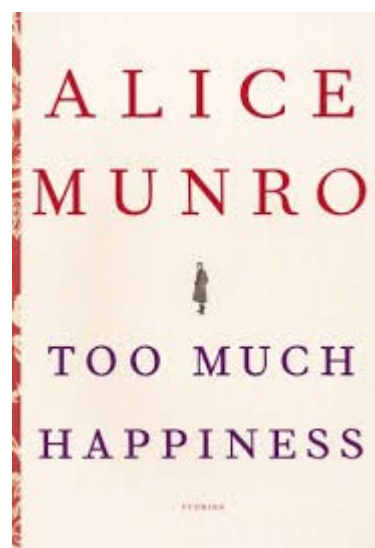
Munro is a winner of both the Booker Prize and the Nobel Prize for literature. Maureen May will lead the discussion.

PLEASE NOTE that our November meeting is on the 18th, the 3rd Wednesday of November.

Also, please come prepared with suggestions for our readings in 2016.

All are welcome. Do join us for light refreshments and active, friendly discussion.

Tea and Titles Chair: Maureen May, 585-385-1133



AAUW EVENTS CALENDAR FOR PERKINS MANSION

November 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3 10 am Teachers Bridge	4	5	6 10 am Duplicate Bridge A	7
8	9	10 10 am Crazy Eights	11 8 am COPE	12 2 pm Mystery Book Club 5 pm Branch	13	14 9-3 pm Women Helping Girls (off site)
15	16	17 4 pm Board Meeting	18 2 pm Tea and Titles	19	20 5 pm Nights Out	21
22	23 6 pm Exec Board Meeting	24	25 10 am Duplicate Bridge B	26	27	28
29	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 each Wednesday 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 Blake at 489-2539 the night before to give him your setup numbers.

FROM THE CHARITABLE TRUST



Dear AAUW Members and Friends of the Perkins Mansion,

I remember when we would have our “Thanks for Giving” Turkey dinner with all the trimmings for those members and friends who gave so generously to the House during our Capital Campaign. Liz Cook would cook and serve on her fine family china which she, by the way, donated to AAUW.

Those were the days- difficult as they were, they were fun! Thank you Liz!

This year, we have another angel to thank and that is Ken Greene.

Things are pretty chaotic right now, but if you peek in the kitchen, you will see two new 6 burner stoves, one with a regular oven and one with a convection oven. You will also see a three bay sink donated to us by Ken Greene. And, in a week or so, you will see a new ANSUL fire suppression system to go over the stoves!

Our heartfelt thanks along with some tears of joy have filled our hearts with Ken’s generous donations.]

This, of course, could not have been done without the help and planning of Ellen Lewis, the patience of Tim Albert, who painted and spruced up the kitchen in sections as pieces arrived.

Then there are those generous donors from the card party and Dr. Nora Wilcox who matched our proceeds which were targeted this year for the new kitchen expenses...Thank you, all!

So now...how will we leverage this new kitchen to best help sustain the Perkins Mansion?

This is one of the questions that will be answered over the next few months.

I have asked a wonderful friend and professional marketer, Jill Stolt, who will come and walk us through the process of brainstorming and creating a new entity which we envision.

I will keep you up to date on all the happenings.

Please keep the house in mind as you decide your year-end giving plans.

Thank you all for Serving and Giving at the Perkins Mansion.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Marilyn



PLEASE WELCOME 2 NEW INTERNS -

RACHEL VARNER

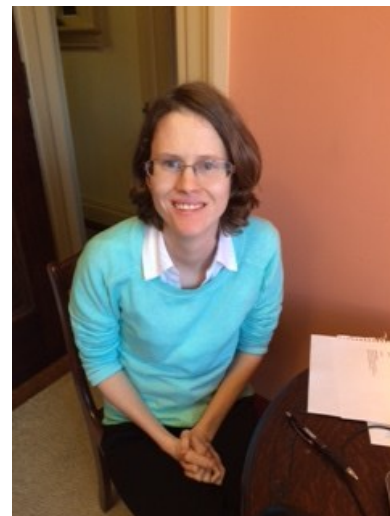
and

SHANNON DEHOFF

We are very excited to welcome **Rachel Varner**.

Rachel is the Perkins Mansion's first Hospitality Intern. Rachel is studying at the Rochester Institute of Technology in the School of Hospitality and Service Management.

Rachel has been working closely with Ellen on event planning, coordination and management. Rachel is a great addition to the Perkins Mansion team and is an interested and eager learner.



Shannon DeHoff, our St. John Fisher College intern has, has written the following column for this month's newsletter —

“I am a junior English and philosophy major at St. John Fisher College looking to make a difference in the community.

My goal after undergrad is to be accepted into an esteemed law school. I would like to become a lawyer so that I can continue my efforts in fighting for equality and justice.

I applied for the internship at AAUW because I wanted to be involved in an organization that is making an impact on the community. Social issues are very important to me, and any difference I can make is valuable. I believe there is a lot to be learned at AAUW that will transfer well not only in my academic and professional life but my social life as well.

I am particularly passionate about gender inequality. On my campus, I help to run an organization known as the Feminist Caucus. We work with the campus to draw attention to women's issues and fight for equality.

So far, I have enjoyed my time working at GRAB AAUW. I have been working side by side with Beth Garver Beha and I look forward to the work we will accomplish.

My first few weeks at the internship have been mostly getting comfortable — Being shown around, being introduced to members, and for the most part familiarizing myself within the branch and the organization.

One project that I have begun working on is with the branch president, Gaynelle Wethers. We are currently trying to put Harriet Tubman on the \$10 bill. In order to make this happen, we are drafting letters to many organizations to gain support. We have reached out to the National Urban League, Children's Defense Fund, National Children's Alliance, NAACP, Congressional Black Congress, Harriet Tubman House, and African American Mayor's Association. Additionally, we are sending memos to the US Treasury Secretary, Mr. Jacob Lew.



YOUNG WOMENS COLLEGE PREP BREAKFAST

WEDNESDAY, NOV 18, 2015

8-9:30 am

TEMPLE B'RITH KODASH

2131 ELMWOOD AVE

GRAB AAUW will have a table in support of our sister school. This is the YWCP's major fundraiser for the year.

Please call or email Marilyn Tedeschi@ marilyntee@aol.com or at 244-4107 for reservations. Tickets are \$45. Make checks payable to GRAB AAUW and send to 494 East Ave. Rochester, NY 14607

Attention: Marilyn. Please send payment by October 30th.



EASY WAYS TO DONATE TO AAUW—GRAB

AMAZON PURCHASES: Amazon will now donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to Greater Rochester Area Branch American Association Of University when you shop at Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com).

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make
a donation to:

Get started

amazon smile

Before you make a purchase on Amazon, either go to our website at <http://rochester-ny.aauw.net/> and click the Shop at Amazon Smile image (on right) or use the following link to make purchases on Amazon: <https://smile.amazon.com/>.

UNCLE MOE'S CATERING

We have recently decided to change our catering services for the monthly branch dinner. November's Branch Dinner will be catered by Unkl Moe's BBQ. We look forward to their services. Here's some information about them:

"Family runs Unkl Moe's. My family has supported me all the way and has been instrumental to me making it this far.

The name Unkl Moe's is Ebonics for Uncle Moe's, was created because I have been an uncle since the age of 10; having 8 sisters, I've been an uncle for as long as I can remember.

Our family reunions/gathers sometimes totaled a few hundred people, hosted in a location selected at the end each previous reunion. This is where I started to Bar-B-Que for the flock, which helped me to perfect my cooking skills. Back then my family was my critics because they had no problem telling me what they thought I should improve upon.

The Smith family hopes you take pleasure in your dining experience, and that it is an enjoyable one. We pride ourselves in giving the most delicious product possible, and the most pleasant atmosphere we can provide."

BRICK PROJECT

Dear AAUW Members and Friends,

November 2015

Through AAUW's Buy-a-Brick Program, you can be a part of an enduring piece of our fundraising project. For just \$100 per brick, you can choose a message to be laser engraved on one of the bricks to be included in our AAUW Garden. Because we know that this is such an endearing opportunity to honor a member, friend or loved one, we are offering a discount for multiple bricks. Two bricks are \$190, three bricks are \$275.

You can engrave up to three lines of text with 20 characters (including spaces) per line. If you would like to add a clip art picture, there will be a \$6.00 extra charge. It's totally up to you to create the text.

You can pay for your engraved brick with either cash or a check sent to Charitable Trust, at the Perkins Mansion 494 East Avenue, 14607. If you have any questions, you may call Myrt Merritt, Anne Miller, Dorothy Pecoraro or Marilyn Tedeschi.

For your order, please send your text exactly how you want it to appear on the brick. All engraved text is automatically centered and will be engraved onto the brick. Your payment must be included with your order form.

Don't pass up this exciting opportunity to commemorate a life or any occasion of your choice.

- Charitable Trust Development Committee

AAUW BRICK ORDER FORM 2015

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

No of bricks: _____ 1 \$100.00
 _____ 2 \$190.00
 _____ 3 \$275.00
 _____ Clip Art \$6.00

Exact text for brick (Max. 20 letters/spaces per line)

Line 1. _____

Line 2. _____

Line 3. _____

Check Amt: _____

Cash Amt: _____



TOUR GUIDES DESIRED

We have started training volunteers and tour guides at the Perkins Mansion. If anyone would like to volunteer, please reach out to **Ellen Lewis** at 585-435-7202 or elewis@perkinsmansion.org and/or contact **Lorraine Cappellino** at 585-426-4073 or auntsusan@frontiernet.net.

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 – Cheryl McKeiver (Acting)
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
Leadership Development – Helen Jae Cheves
Legal Advocacy Fund – Lynne Mitchell
Women Helping Girls – Gaynelle Weathers, Cheryl McKeiver
Interest Groups – Marlene Gordon
Past President – Marilyn Tedeschi

GREATER ROCHESTER

AREA BRANCH

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

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Fax: 585.244.5277

**The deadline for the
 November Newsletter is
 November 15, 2015
 Please email items to
bgarver@aauw-rochester.org.**

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

Articles submitted are printed at the discretion of GRAB.