



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 106 Issue #3 Moving the Mission Forward

October 2014

Branch Dinner Thursday, October 9th

SCHEDULE

- 5:00 - 5:45 pm Social Hour
- 5:45 - 6:30 pm Welcome & Dinner
- 6:30 - 6:45 pm Meeting
- 6:45 - 7:00 pm Dessert
- 7:00 - 8:00 pm Program

BUFFET DINNER MENU

- **Chicken** cutlet with artichoke and lemon or
- **Roasted salmon** with herbs
- Veggie lasagna
- Roasted potatoes
- Mixed field green salad
- Bread and rolls
- Triple chocolate cake
- Coffee or Tea

REGISTRATION

To RSVP call Ellen Lewis by Friday, October 3rd at 3pm at 585-435-7202 or elewis@perkinsmansion.org

Choose an entree when making your reservation.

Tickets: \$25

Public Policy



This month's topic on Public Policy will prove to be thought-provoking! The goal is to build a clear understanding of why it is necessary for organizations such as ours to have a Public Policy Committee. How does public policy impact decisions made on the state, local and national levels as well as the non-profit community. What can we do to influence how public policy is shaped and what services get delivered and to whom?

These are some questions raised when discussing such a topic as Public Policy. Our speaker this month is senior Vice President of Public Policy Katherine Astrich.

Katherine is senior vice president of public policy and mobilization for the Alliance. She previously worked as a consultant for The Lewin Group, a national health and human services consulting firm. She has advocated for Medicaid, early education, and workforce assistance programs that benefit vulnerable children and families.

Her expertise includes regulatory and information collection policy. During her 8-year tenure with the Office of Management and Budget, she oversaw executive branch evaluations of regulations related to low-income and immigrant programs, and led White House teams on program evaluation and cross-agency coordination.

She received her master's degree in public policy from Duke University and bachelor's degrees in government and psychology from the University of Virginia.

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.aauwrochester.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

This has been a month of sunshine and rainy days-literally and figuratively. We have lost two longtime members, **Elaine Kraus** and **Beverly Barr Vaughan**.

Shirley Miller is in therapy recovering from a stroke. Several members have fallen, another hospitalized for pneumonia, and several are caregivers of spouses and aging parents.

As I write this letter to you, we are planning for the Memorial Service for our beloved past president (2006-2010) **Beverly Vaughan**. My words cannot adequately express my gratitude and appreciation to have had Beverly in my life both personally and professionally. Her support as Past President has been invaluable to me. Her slow, deliberate analysis of many emotionally-charged situations always provided me with the wisdom, courage and humor needed to face any situation. If these conversations occurred over a glass of wine, the message became clearer and more invaluable. I will miss her dearly.

Beverly was a life member of AAUW (50+ years) and she was also one of the chief proponents of the maintenance and preservation of the Perkins Mansion. Beverly was one of the founders of the WHG program, was active in book club, knitting, tours and hospitality and antique interest groups. She sat as past president on the board and was on the transition team and on the GRAB-AAUW Charitable Trust Board. To prove Beverly's passion for the house and its preservation, she even drove downtown, alone, at night to speak to the Preservation Board against the 10-car garage proposed at 474 East Avenue. She was finally satisfied, after much to-do, with the smaller garage and the beautiful landscaping that will be put (pro bono) behind the garage on our property. Her main concern and unfinished business of the project was the landscaping that goes from the rear lot line of 474 to our carriage house. So, my friends, I challenge you to donate to the house in memory of Beverly Barr Vaughan (makes checks payable to GRAB-AAUW Charitable Trust) to have the landscaping along the west driveway all the way back to our carriage house finished. I will personally pledge the difference if for enough money if that goal is not met.

On another sunshiny note, take a look at our calendar for the month of October! All committees are going strong. **Gaynelle** is moving on all program fronts. We will host along with the Fairport Area Branch (FAB), the District 2 conference, (looking for volunteers for that day) also hosting Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

Celebration with Community partners and guest **Louise Slaughter**. We are hosting another fundraising event for Gateway Music Festival. We are having another Nights Out, restarting Table Talk, a new library program, sponsoring the 2014 Seneca Falls Dialogue and starting some new interest groups. Hope you are getting involved. Please call **Ellen Lewis** at 435-7202 if you are interested in volunteering for any of these events.

We are in need of 3 members for the nominating committee-(contact **Barbara LeSavoy**), 2 members for the Ed. Loan Committee (contact **Laurie Ditzel**), one member for the charitable trust and 6 month sit in for House VP while **Anne and Vickie** go to their winter retreats. Also looking for a new Ed. Opportunity Fund Director and Scholarship committee chair (or co-chair). Please contact me for interest in those positions.

Marilyn Tedeschi, President



"A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies. It brings us together again and again."

~Maya Angelou

Beverly Barr Vaughan 1931-2014

Born in Rochester, Beverly graduated from West High School, Syracuse University (where she was a member of Chi Omega Sorority) and earned her Masters Degree at the University of Rochester. A teacher and administrator in the Rochester City School District for 30 years, she also taught Education at Nazareth College. Active in her community with the Susan B. Anthony House, she was a member and past president of the American Association of University Women, volunteer at Planned Parenthood; past president of the Syracuse Alumni Club of Rochester and a national Alumni Trustee, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. She also was a volunteer for CASA in Family Court and She tutored at School No. 9.

REST IN PEACE

DIVERSITY IN THE ARTS: A Call to Action in ROC

A little over a month after the groundbreaking “Diversity in the Arts: A Call to Action in ROC” symposium, Rachel DeGuzman announced the formation of the A Call to Action Advisory Task Force - convened to instigate dialogue and actions that advance sustainability and relevance in the local arts and cultural sector.

As its first actions, the task force will review information presented at the “Diversity in the Arts” symposium and data from the post-symposium surveys as well as the plan for the upcoming “Entrepreneurship in the Arts: A Call to Action in ROC” event, which will be held this fall.

Two AAUW Greater Rochester Area Branch Members have been named to this Task Force. **Lisa Hoffman**, who is also a member of the Branch Development Committee, and **Gaynelle Wethers**, who is Program Vice-President, will be doing this important work in the community. Congratulations to them and ask Lisa and Gaynelle about the work of the Task Force when you see them.

Rachel DeGuzman - *Democrat & Chronicle*, Sept.7, 2014
Edited by Mary Myers, Membership Treasurer

Citizens to Learn About Our Courts



Unite Rochester/Justice:
An Update on the Speaking Out page the *Democrat and Chronicle* dated September 20, 2014 was written by new Branch member, Cynthia Herriott Sullivan. She chairs the Unite Rochester Justice Engagement Panel. Under her leadership the Panel is planning several events including a Court Academy and a Community Town Forum. Cynthia has a position on the Board of GRAB as Public Policy Director.

Congratulations to Cynthia!!!



House News

We are pleased with the results on the “Adopt a Yard” campaign this year. We are waiting for a few more to send in their maintenance fees and then we can claim 100% paid. Please help us make our deadline with your maintenance check now.

Vickie and I have worked this summer to get the house in “shape”. Now we are at the time when we have to leave and we need someone to step up and cover for us while we are out of town. We are not really deserting - we are a computer click away, but we do need someone to be in Rochester taking charge. If you think you have an hour or so a week to fill in please let one of us know. The “house” would appreciate it.

Anne Miller, House Co-Chair

Mary Keller: Library

After **Christy Simons** departure as librarian, the library continued to lure some of you to borrow and to donate. As a new volunteer librarian, I continue to utilize Christy’s structure and am beginning to straighten up and to weed out accumulated books. You may notice orange signs that indicate the location for returns and for your book donations. Thank you for responsibly returning books and for your generous donations.

Unlike Christy, I am not an official librarian but, like Christy, I love books and reading. My background is primarily in customer service and training for Logical Operations/ Element K, which ended in March of 2013. As I continue to search for my next career, I am grateful to spend time with the AAUW and its members. I was raised near Sea Breeze and still live near the lake and Durand Eastman Park. I am an avid hiker during all seasons and love swimming as well. Please stop by to introduce yourself to help me acclimate and learn about you.

I plan to spend a few hours each week organizing the library. I welcome any suggestions you have to assist you in finding resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you.

Mary Keller
mxkeller@yahoo.com

Trip to Washington

This summer the Women Helping Girls mentors and mentorees had the opportunity to travel to Washington, DC to meet the first lady **Michelle Obama**. The purpose of the trip was educational, social and rewarding for a successful academic school year. There were 11 girls and 8 mentors attending the field trip. The girls were selected based on their grade point average. **Komekia Peterson**, was one of the mentors and she describes the experience below:



Initially when I reviewed the detailed itinerary given by the travel agent I was a little nervous to embark and lead this trip to one of the most popular cities for tourist in the US, Washington, DC. The itinerary was jam-packed with activities beginning immediately upon our arrival. The morning of the trip however eased my nerves. All of the participants, young people and adults, were present and excited about this adventure at the early departure time of 6 AM.

Friday afternoon we arrived at the Capitol for a guided tour. The tour was educational as well as enlightening. After the tour we enjoyed great food and fellowship at the legendary Hard Rock Café. **Shai Da** (Wilson Magnet high student and WHG participant for 2 years) shared with her mentor **Pam Killaby** (WHG Mentor and Volunteer for 5 years) that prior to the trip she set a goal of getting to know one of our more quiet participants. Shai Da shared that she “had been successful” in her goal, as both participants chatted and became friends during meal times and on the bus ride home.

Saturday morning we had more time for fellowship and fun, as the hotel treated us to a private buffet room for breakfast. Then we headed out to meet our ‘Step on Guide’ for a full day of touring Washington DC. This tour included the Roosevelt Memorial, the First Ladies at the Smithsonian exhibition and the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, just to name a few sightings on our six-hour tour. In the evening we were accompanied by a colonial dressed tour guide for a Hunted Dine around Alexandria, Virginia.



Sunday morning, before departure for Rochester, we went to the Holocaust Museum where we viewed new exhibits like Remember the Children: Daniel’s Story. I think I speak for the entire group when I say this was not only a great educational opportunity, but also this trip established a sense of responsibility for the girls and true bonding and fellowship among everyone. We all look forward to more opportunities such as this one in the future!

Komekia Peterson, WHG

Jennifer Grimes Lindley Scholarships

In August the annual Jennifer Grimes Lindley scholarships were awarded for the ninth year. They are in memory of **Jennifer Grimes Lindley** who had just completed her term as GRAB/AAUW secretary when she died from cancer in 2005. Jennifer was intellectually curious and received a degree in electrical engineering from Weber State College in Utah. After working in Utah she moved back to Rochester to take a position at Eastman Kodak Company. After her death, her family and friends established in her memory two scholarships.

Each recipient must be a female pursuing a degree in the physical sciences or engineering. The thousand dollar award can be used for any purpose that the recipient chooses and is awarded for the recipient’s freshman year. In addition to the monetary award, each winner is given a four year undergraduate membership in GRAB/AAUW. This year’s winners are **Angela Bozza** from Greece Arcadia High School who will attend Monroe Community College participating in its Two + Two program, majoring in Engineering and Industrial Design. The second winner is **Lauren Sedita** from Penfield High School who will attend Cornell University and major in Biological engineering.



GRAB/AAUW’s Educational Loan Fund selects the awardees from among the applicants. The award itself is housed at the Rochester Area Community Foundation and is listed on its website www.racf.org

Bettie Lindley



Interest Group Corner

Welcome to Autumn! By now some of you have reunited with your interest group friends, while others are looking for something new. This "corner" is where you'll find new interest group announcements, ideas for groups in search of a leader, leaders in search of participants, and exciting updates on already-existing groups. Think outside the box - and suggest something you've been longing to teach or experience with others. The sky's the limit!!!

Here are a few of our newly-forming groups:

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE - AND OUR TOMATOES!!!

Are you interested in Preserving? Think jams, jellies, veggies, drying herbs, brine pickles, tomatoes, fruit butter-any food of interest using various methods of food preservation - water bath, pressure canning, dehydrating, freezing, brining.

Equipment to be supplied each month in the House kitchen. Attendees share the ingredient cost and take home jars of the finished bounty! Old-time recipes, modern-day twist recipes. What to preserve will be to the group's interests.

Please call Michele Conners at (585) 248 5165 if interested. We'd like to determine if there is support to start this new group. Thank you!

MAH JONGG, anyone???

Many of you have expressed interest in learning Mah Jong, and we have at last found a few willing teachers!! Please call Marlene right away at 402-5529 if you're interested. Rumor has it that these teachers may fly south to play in warmer climate during our chillier months. (No worries - we'll be semi-pros by then.)

Films With Friends

Many of us LOVE films and would love to see a film with friends and afterwards get a bite to eat or drink and discuss what we've just experienced. Besides the commercial theatres, Rochester enjoys having the Little Theatre for foreign and independent films and the Dryden Theatre for film classics. In addition, October in Rochester hosts two major film festivals, Image Out, October 10 - 19, 2014 and the High Falls Film Festival, October 23 - 26, 2014.

If you are interested in joining other AAUW members and friends for some great films and lively discussion, call Marlene at 402-5529.

Looking forward to seeing you at the movies, in the kitchen, at the mah jong and bridge tables, as well as all the other groups, meetings, committees, and activities here at GRAB!

Marlene Gordon
Interest Group Director

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Party

Thursday October 23, 2014



Celebrating 20 years of National Commitment to Ending Domestic Violence & Recognizing Unfinished Business

ALTERNATIVES for Battered Women (ABW) and the American Association of University Women invite you to join us for the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the passage of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA 1994).

It will be a special evening honoring **Congresswoman Louise Slaughter**, whose tireless efforts over many years made possible the triumphant passage of VAWA in 1994 and in subsequent years, most recently the multi-year battle for its renewal in 2013.

Location: Perkins Mansion
494 East Ave. Rochester, NY 14607

Time: 5:00 - 7:00pm

Free Network & Celebration Event!!!

All Welcome; Cash bar, appetizers provided.

RSVP to AmberL@abwrochester.org or call ABW at 585-232-5200 ext. 227

GRAB-AUW Directory Add

Anyone wishing to place an add in this year's directory, call Anne Miller or Ana DeTomaso at 244-8890 ext. 2



Gateways Music Festival

September 29, 2014

On Monday, at 7:00 p.m., the Gateways Music Festival Planning Committee is hosting An Evening of Classical Music, featuring the internationally-acclaimed violist and violinist Amadi Azikiwe, accompanied by pianist Thomas Schumacher. This special concert is a collaboration between Gateways and GRAB-AAUW and will be held at The Perkins Mansion, home of GRAB-AAUW. A reception will follow the concert.

Call Ellen Lewis to r.s.v.p at 585-244-8890 ext. 1

NIGHTS OUT!!!

October 2, 2014

Bring a friend! Stop in after work!
5:00 -6:30p.m.

Wine and Munchies \$5.00

Please r.s.v.p at 585-244-8890 ext. 2

Gaynelle Wethers, Programs VP

BOWLING

OCTOBER 6, 2014

Bowling will begin again on Monday October 6th. We will be at Colver Lanes at 9:15. Anyone interested in joining us may call me at 381-4368. Thanks.

Mary Louise Riter

TABLE TALK!

October 11, 2014

Table Talk is a series of presentations once a month on Fridays to address the interests of members. The subjects, programs and initiatives discussed are in the Greater Rochester Area Branch's community and impact the lives of women and girls.

Facilitators: Dr. Ruth Scott and Dr. Gaya Shakes

Topic: Safe Guarding our Children

11:30 -1:00

Bring your lunch

Dessert and Beverages provided

Please r.s.v.p at 585-244-8890 ext. 2

Gaynelle Wethers, Programs VP

UN Day on Human Rights, Empowerment of Women and Girls!



October 24, 2014

Free Conference and Open to the Public

United Nations Association of Rochester (UNAR), is celebrating UN Day by focusing attention on human rights and specifically women's equality in a half day conference in Rochester, NY. Registration is required.

The keynote speaker is **City Court Judge Ellen Yacknin**. Her strong background in human rights from prison issues to overseeing human trafficking will start the 8:15 AM conference. Panelists will lead in breakout discussion groups on the topics of Violence, Health Care, Children and Economics to examine inequalities for women and girls in their fields, both locally and globally.

UNAR has traditionally celebrated UN Day in the Rochester region publicly and in collaboration with other community and governmental organizations. This year the UN Day Conference will be held at The Strong Museum of Play from 8:15 AM until 12:30 PM.

E-mail reservations to unar@unar.org.

For more information Contact:

Margaret Corbin, UNAR VP Programs
corbinpih@aol.com, 585-329-5400

Saturday, October 25, 2014

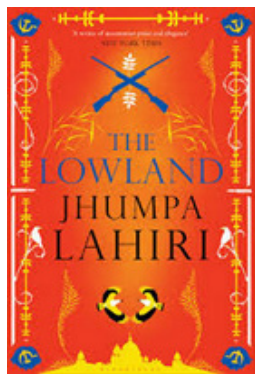
District 2 Conference

The District 2 conference will be held Saturday, October 25, 2014 in Rochester, NY at the AAUW house. The theme of the conference will be "Common Core Checkup: Year 2".

Registration and coffee will be from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The program will start at 10:00 a.m. Further details for the conference program please visit our website www.aauwrochester.org

Conference Schedule and Registration Form are attached to the newsletter.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2 5:00-8:00pm Nights Out	3 10:30-2:30pm Duplicate Bridge A	4
5	6 9:15am Bowling	7 10:00am-2:30pm Retired Bridge	8	9 2:00-4:00p Mystery Book Club 5:00-8:00pm Branch Dinner	10	11 11:30-1:00pm Table Talk
12	13 2:00-4:00pm WHG Planning	14 10:00am-2:30pm Crazy 8's Bridge	15 3:30-5:00pm Edu. Loan Fund	16	17 Seneca Falls Dialogues	18 Seneca Falls Dialogues
19 Seneca Falls Dialogues	20	21	22 10:00am-2:30pm Duplicate Bridge B 2:00-4:00pm Tea and Titles	23 5:00-7:30pm VAWA-ABW	24	25 District 2 Conference
26	27	28	29	30 5:00-8:00pm Nights Out	31 Happy Halloween!!!	1



Tea and Titles Wednesday October 22, 2:00 pm at the Perkins Mansion

EDITH THOBURN will lead the discussion on THE LOWLAND, the latest book by acclaimed Indian- American author JHUMPA LAHIRI. Ms. Lahiri is the winner of numerous awards. The Lowland is her most ambitious book to date, and tells a moving family story.

Do join us for refreshments and active discussion. All are welcome to attend.

Note: Tea and Titles meets MONTHLY (with the exception of July and December, when we do not meet).

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

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
November Newsletter is October 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**

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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.
1 Trustee is needed for the Charitable Trust Fund. Please call or email Marilyn Tedeschi if you are interested.**