



Greater Rochester Area (NY) Branch

Greater Rochester Area American Association of University Women

Volume 94 Issue #8 Moving the Mission Forward

September, 2013



LaShunda Leslie-Smith

Branch Dinner

September 10, 2013

Speaker: LaShunda Leslie-Smith, Executive Director of CASA

Welcome Back to our Branch Dinner Meetings!

We're looking forward to bringing an exciting year of interesting dinner programs to the membership of GRAB AAUW. Our newly formed committee for branch dinner meetings 2013/2014 includes Nancy Jones, Marlene Gordon, Myrtle Merritt, Lorraine Cappelino, Sarah Carbone and Jean Arrowsmith. And let's not forget those supporting our efforts at the house, Leslie Sellers and Ana DeThomaso! Many thanks to everyone for agreeing to participate.

The theme for the 2013/2014 season series is "Focus on the Future of Women and Girls in the Greater Rochester Community." Our committee felt strongly that we should know more about our own community of women and girls and their struggles to succeed and gain equity in their lives. Please join us in the coming months to explore issues for women and girls in our own community.

Our first dinner of the 2013/2014 season is on Tuesday, September 10, at which we will welcome LaShunda. Author of the newly published book, Journey of a Teenage Mother, she will share her life story, how she developed her passion for youth and the human service field and will give us an introduction to her current work at CASA, in which she and her staff train and supervise a diverse group of volunteers to advocate for children who have been abused and/or neglected. These children are at risk of being removed or have been removed from their homes.

Among her many accomplishments, LaShunda Leslie-Smith earned a BA in Psychology from St. John Fisher College, a Masters in Social Work from the Greater Rochester Collaborative Master of Social Work Program, and a Certificate in Non-Profit Leadership from Roberts Wesleyan College. In February of 2007, LaShunda was named by the *Democrat and Chronicle* one of Rochester, New York's Emerging African- American Leaders. She has been featured in *Rochester Insider* magazine, and was named the Woman in the Spotlight by the Women's Council of Rochester, NY. In 2008 the *Rochester Insider* magazine named Ms. Leslie-Smith, Most Likely to Succeed. In 2009 she was named a Woman to Watch by *Her Rochester*. The City of Rochester awarded LaShunda the 2011 Pioneer Award for the youth work that she does in Rochester.

Jean Arrowsmith, Programs VP

Dinner Menu

• **Salad:**

Tomato, Cucumber, Sweet Peppers and Red Onions with Extra-Virgin Olive oil

Italian Bread

• **Entrees :**

Roasted Vegetable in Phyllo
Savory Chicken In Phyllo

Spanakopitas-Spinach & Feta
Cheese in buttery, flaky phyllo
Orzo Pilaf
Baked Zucchini Au Gratin

• **Dessert:**

Miniature Cookies

• **GRAB AAUW Cash Bar:**

Red or White Wine
\$3.00 per glass

"Welcome Back Members"
Specialty Drink of the Evening
\$5.00 per glass
Margarita Madness

Letter from the President



We have been working hard over the summer and I am very excited about the programs and events for the new year. Our theme this year is *Focus on the Future* as it was at the 2013 AAUW New York State Convention in Lake Placid. **Jean Arrowsmith** has great branch dinner programs planned with that theme and is working with our new events director, **Leslie Sellers**, to put on some fun evenings.

I'm pleased to tell you about a few of the projects developed over the summer. **Dr. Uma Gupta** will be leading a strong Science Technology Engineer Mathematics (STEM) initiative, fostering young women in these fields. **Ana DeTomaso**, our new program and intern coordinator, will be developing our intern program which may have up to 24 interns participating this year.

Lucienne Nicholson will be leading our college student recruitment initiative. **Dr. Barbara LeSavoy** and **Dr. Betty Bayer** will be putting together cross-campus dialogues and event actions on campus, starting with our October District 2 meeting at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Another major focus this year is our newly formed scholarship committee with **Barbara Blaisdell** becoming our scholarship coordinator. These chair-people will all need volunteer help. Please see them and consider volunteering.

Our lovely home will be open for community discussions and dialogues on current and relevant topics of local, national and international interest. **Rachel Adonis** and **Marlene Gordon** will be continuing with our fun membership Nights Out. Watch for dates and times through this newsletter AND our new website. www.aauwrochester.org Our interest groups are continuing and expanding. **Heide Parreño** is meeting with member **Gail Reeves** to discuss expanding our holistic health interest group to our members at Valley Manor. This idea came from our annual meeting where we honored our 50-year members. We look for members who would like to start new interest groups. An interest group can begin with two or more members who have an activity or topic they wish to pursue together. I am still looking for an interest group director, but in the meantime, anyone interested in forming a new group can see me. We are also looking for a librarian to care for our books, book donations and lending library. This is a job that can be very flexible in hours. Our retired librarian, Christy Simons, has said she will help any new librarian get started. If interested, please call or email me.

Your active participation in groups and committees is needed. We are an all-volunteer service organization and there are many volunteer opportunities to serve on committees for mentoring, fundraising, scholarship, library, history and archive, curriculum writing, hospitality, gardening and more. Come and renew that volunteer spirit. The friendships formed and the camaraderie of women and girls working together for the good of all is truly an uplifting and powerful experience.

Also, please remember to give as generously as you can to our annual card party fund raiser for the house. All proceeds of the day are matched by **Dr. Nora Wilcox** in memory of her mother. This year all money will be targeted towards patio awnings. All donations are welcome even if you can not attend. See flyer attached and let the games begin!

Marilyn

- **The American Association of University Women promotes equity for women and girls through, education, philanthropy and research.**
- **AAUW will be 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 orientation, national origin, disability or class.



GRABAAUW
New York State
National

www.aauwrochester.org
www.aauw-nys.org
www.aauw.org

Hospitality Committee

New Committee start-up by Lorraine Cappellino

Marilyn has asked a few members to begin a tour and hospitality service. Beverly Vaughan and I are just starting, with Vickie's help, to write a simple script to use as we take groups through the rooms. Leslie Sellers, Director of Events, will determine the events which would benefit from this service.

The committee will also think about the benefits of a hospitality service that may enhance our programs and/or events.

If volunteer effort is something that might interest you, please call Lorraine at 426-4073 by September 10, 2013.

House Committee

It is hard to believe that Labor Day is here already! This report will give you a brief idea of what has been done over the summer. Tim Albert has been working fixing many things around the house. He has done a lot of pointing around the windows, cleaned the gutters and installed traps to prevent the leaves from clogging the drains. He has started scraping the back porch so that it can be painted. There are new lights at the front door that are on timers.

We hired Broccolo to mulch the gardens and trim the trees. They mulched the area between the beach tree and the front of the house and planted pacasandra there. They weeded along the exit driveway and re-mulched there. They also worked on the flower bed by the Perkins Mansion sign. We paid in part for this with the money sent in by members in memory of Lois Inman. Lois was an avid gardener and belonged to seven garden clubs!

The caretakers have done a wonderful job of keeping the House bright and shiny. The chandeliers look beautiful, the furniture has been polished and the floors cleaned. Everything looks good inside and out!

We will keep on keeping on and want you to remember to be kind to one another!

College/University Partners (CUP)

CUP Chair Barbara LeSavoy, Director of Women and Gender Studies at the College at Brockport was recognized by the College at Brockport with two awards:

- ✓ The 2013 Outstanding Service to Students Award
- ✓ 2012-13 Outstanding Academic Advisor Award



Dr. Barbara LeSavoy, pictured with Brockport College President, Dr. John Halstead

HERS Institute

Dr. Barbara LeSavoy, CUP chair, and Director, Women and Gender Studies at The College at Brockport was selected to attend the Higher Education Resource Services (HERS) Bryn Mawr Class of 2013, held on the Bryn Mawr campus June 22 -July 9, 2013.

HERS was created in 1972 with a goal of advancing women's leadership and promoting equity and excellence for all women involved in higher education.

Since 1976, the HERS Bryn Mawr Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration has provided a residential program with an intensive leadership and management curriculum for approximately 70 women faculty and administrators on the campus of Bryn Mawr College.

All HERS graduates can be expected to facilitate positive change on their home campuses and join a global network of esteemed female leaders and change agents.

For more information about HERS or the HERS Summer Institutes please visit:

<http://www.hersnet.org/Institutes.asp>

Please click in the icons below to visit our website and social media





Women Helping Girls



This year Women Helping Girls is focusing on enhancing the program that we offer. It has always been successful even when run on a shoe string. So we thought we would take a minute and look at all that is good and concentrate on making it better.

We are reorganizing, rebuilding and revitalizing WHG.

Monique Adams is our vice chair this year as she prepares to be our next chair as I finish my term in June. We have a new program facilitator in the person of Miranda Wilcox. Miranda will follow through with the details of the programs our different committee's schedule.

We welcome two new members to our Planning Committee, Phyllis Fleischman and Mary Kate Masters. We are saying good-bye to Susan Donovan, our past chair, as she moves on to relocate. We also said adieu to Amy Kaufman and Chloe Anderson. We have been fortunate to have many in our WHG community step forward and assume the roles of those who are leaving or have left us.

This year the girls are going to have the opportunity as in past years to participate in many varied workshops, events and activities from budgeting, developing interviewing skills, women's health concerns, and nutrition to taking in a play. We are all very excited about the upcoming year which kicks off on September 14.



From right to left GRAB AAUW members: Marlene Gordon, Régine Calvar, Leslie Sellers and Taffe Ezezew

GRAB-AAUW STEM Program

Overview of STEM Program



STEM is a new program that was launched recently at GRAB AAUW.

This program aims to address local and regional challenges and opportunities in STEM. It offers a collaborative platform to individuals and organizations

dedicated to advancing STEM education and careers for all people from all backgrounds, but in particular, for women, girls, and minorities in New York.

While our dependence as a society and nation on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics continues to increase, the number of girls and women, especially minorities, pursuing STEM degrees remains disappointingly and dangerously low.

We hope to address this problem by working together with a wide range of stakeholders from all walks of life who can help AAUW-GRAB build a steady pipeline of students who will pursue STEM degrees and eventually meaningful careers in STEM.

We work closely with five key stakeholders:

1. K-12.
2. U.S. Colleges/Universities with STEM programs.
3. U.S. corporations where STEM is a core competency and a driver of competitiveness.
4. Non-profits that serve the educational needs of the under-privileged and the under-served.
5. The general public, including parents and other stakeholders.

We are eagerly looking for volunteers.

You do not have to be a scientist or engineer to volunteer. If you love to serve, we have a position for you!

Please contact Dr. Uma Gupta at ugupta@aauwrochester.org.

Thank you!

Visit us at [http://rochester-ny.aauw.net/programs/stem/overview/](http://rochester.ny.aauw.net/programs/stem/overview/)



The festival was a great success. Thank you for your support and collaboration.

AAUW Annual Francie Wilcox 2013 Card Party

September 20 & 21 from 10 am – 3 pm
Join us for one or two days of Fun!!

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

Quiddler * Duplicate Bridge * Party Bridge
Poker * Bunko * Canasta

*Note: Poker and Bunko will be played on Saturday only.
Quiddler will be played on Friday only*

**DOOR PRIZES!
TABLE PRIZES!!
AND RAFFLES!!!**

\$80.00 for a table of 4 per day

\$20.00 per person per day

A tasty lunch of the usual Card Party fare is included and will be prepared by Branch members. If Games are not your thing, come for lunch only at noon for only \$15.00

Call Carol Achilles by Friday, Sept. 13th for Reservations!

585-421-0876

Or email Carol at: bobachilles@aol.com

Make checks payable to: GRAB AAUW

Send Payment & names to: Carol Achilles: 3 Alleyn's Rise, Fairport, NY
14450-3901

Remember the Dr. Nora Wilcox Challenge!

In memory of her mother, Francie Wilcox, Nora will match our earnings dollar for dollar!

This year the proceeds are earmarked for a Patio Upgrade!!!



Thursday, September 19 – Mystery Book Club

Time: 4:00 p.m.



Our next series is by James R. Benn who writes about the devastation and agony of Europe and North Africa during World War II. His hero, Lt. Billy Boyle, a Boston Irish cop assigned to General Eisenhower's staff who's never been out of Boston, struggles with his Irish roots' distrust and resentment of the British while having to work with them. Some of Benn's early titles are: *Billy Boyle*, *The First Wave*, *Blood Alone*, *Evil for Evil*, *Rag & Bone* and *A Mortal Terror*. It's not a series for the faint of heart.

Lynne Mitchell, 585.381.7145

Friday & Saturday, September 20-21 – Annual Francie Wilcox - Card Party

Time: 10:00 – 3:00 pm Living room



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

Quiddler- Duplicate Bridge- Party Bridge- Poker,-Bunko- Canasta

A tasty lunch of the usual Card Party fare is included and will be prepared by Branch Members.

\$80 for a table of 4 per day

\$20 per person per day

\$15 lunch only at noon

RSVP: Carol Achilles by Friday, Sept. 13th
585-421-0876

Monday, September 23 – Our Community Café

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Living room



Legacy Women Institute
INTERNATIONAL



Join us as we complete our final round of *Lean-In* conversations. The response has been so great to this topic series that we are elevating it to a more comprehensive level. At our next session, we will introduce *Lean-In to Mosaic Connections: Community of Women-to-Women*, a 9-month matching program specifically designed to strengthen the social capital and connectedness between women. This program serves to unseed the effects of gender stereotyping, particularly the biases occurring between women. It is designed to powerfully unify women's actions through collaboration, leveraging talent, and understanding our relationship to differences.

Dr. Melody Cofield, Legacy Women Institute International, President will facilitate the discussion and introduce the new program assisted by Heide Parreño.

Bring your own sandwich - tea and coffee will be provided free.

Free to AAUW Members

Non-members \$10.00

RSVP: Ana DeTomaso 244.8890 ext. 5

Wednesday, September 25 – Tea and Titles

Time: 2:00 p.m.



The Tea and Titles group will meet, as usual on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The book to be discussed is *THE PARIS WIFE* by Paula McLain and the discussion will be led by LORA ALLEN. This book has been climbing up the best seller lists . It is a historical novel about Earnest Hemingway's first marriage.

Light refreshments will be served, and all are welcome to attend.

Contacts: Maureen May
Joy Kinz

Friday, September 27 – Nights Out!!!

Time: 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.



Join us for this month's Nights Out Fiesta, Noche Mexicana!

Come to mix and mingle with our members and their guests.

Light refreshments, music, dancing, and conversation will be served, all for \$10 !!

Contacts: Rachel Adonis
Marlene Gordon



Thursday, September 12 ~ Knitting Group

Time: 10:00 a.m. **Location:** GRAB AAUW Dining Room

Please join us for knitting and great conversations and bring whatever extra yarn that you have!

Beverly Vaughan, 585.383.0896



The Perkins Mansion website has arrived !!!

We are so excited. Check us out at perkinsmansion.org

Tell all your friends.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 10-2:30pm Retired Teacher Bridge	4	5	6 10-3:00 p.m. Bridge A	7
8	9	10 10-2:30pm Crazy 8's Bridge 5:00 pm Branch Dinner	11	12 10:00 am Knit group	13	14
15	16	17 4:00 pm Board Meeting 4:30 to 6:30pm Program Committee (WHG)	18	19	20	21
22	23 5:30pm Lean In Community Café	24	25 10:00 a.m. Bridge B	26	27 5-8 pm Nights Out!	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

Bowling will resume in October. Please think about joining us. We really do have a wonderful time. We would welcome a couple of new bowlers. Good exercise and fun ! Happy Summer, **Mary Louise Riter 381-4368**

Bridge

- **Retired Teachers Bridge**
Meets the 1st Tuesday at 10 a.m.
Carol Achilles – 421-0876
- **Duplicate Bridge A**
Meets the 1st Friday at 10:00 a.m.
Pauline Sherwood – 671-3556
- **Duplicate Bridge B**
Meets the 4th Wednesday at 10:00 am
Jean Erskine – 266-5055
Janet Miles – 787-0507
- **Crazy 8's Bridge**
Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 10:00 am
Carol Achilles – 421-0876

History & Archives
Doris Meadows -328.4059

Holistic Health and Wellness
Heide Parreño -414.6312

Knit, Quilt & Chain Stitch
Beverly Vaughan -383-0896

Mystery Book Club
Lynne Mitchell -381.7145
Bimonthly meetings

Night Out At the House
Rachel Adonis -654-5259
Marlene Gordon
Bi-monthly social evening for members and guests.

Poker
Marilyn Tedeschi -244-4107

Tea and Titles
Maureen May-385.1133
Joy Kinz-392.7134

**Bridge leaders: Please call our head caretaker 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
October Newsletter is
September 15, 2013**

Please email items to

Ana DeTomaso

Newsletter@aauwrochester.org

Articles submitted are printed at the discretion of GRAB.

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

Board Members

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Woman Helping Women - *TBA*



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.