



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 123 Issue #19 Moving the Mission Forward

May 2016

SCHEDULE

5-6 - Social

6-7 - Dinner

7-8:30 - Annual Meeting

DINNER MENU

Grilled Chicken w Artichoke and Lemon

Baked Eggplant (vegetarian option)

Roasted Veggies

Wild Mushroom Risotto

Field Green Salad

Chocolate Mousse with Berries

ALL ITEMS ARE GLUTEN FREE

REGISTRATION

RSVP to Stephanie by Monday, May 23 at (585) 233-6180 or email her at stephanie.augonis@gmail.com, with your dinner selection (meat-chicken or vegetarian-eggplant).

Cost \$20, Cash Bar

Note: Special menu price for Annual Meeting.

All reservation costs must be honored. If you need to cancel after Monday, May 23, or if you have RSVP'd and do not show, you are still responsible for the cost of your ticket.

ANNUAL MEETING - THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2016

GRAB AAUW IS CELEBRATING OUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY
(1916-2016)

Come one, come all the GRAB AAUW 2016 Annual Meeting

Where you will hear about:

- * The State of the Branch
- * The State of the GRAB AAUW Charitable Trust
- * The Women Helping Girls Program
- * The Educational Loan Fund
- * Vote for new 2016-2017 officers and leaders of or our branch
- * Honor and memorialize those Great Women of our Branch who have passed this year
- * See "Memories of GRAB AAUW" video
- * Meet the class of 2016-2017 and more!
- * Up for elections are several board positions with the nominees. Each position will begin on July 1, 2016 and serve for a two year term.

VP of Program - Barbara Baer

VP for Membership - Stephanie Augonis

VP for Development - Cheryl McKeiver

Corresponding Secretary - Marlene Gordon

Treasurer - TBD

Assistant Treasurer - TBD

Nominations will be taken from the floor at the annual meeting with the written consent of the nominee before hand.

If you are interested in running for one of these positions, or if you would like to nominate someone who has agreed to serve, please call one of us on the Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee is chaired by Stephanie Augonis 585-233-6180. Other members include Gwen Clifton, Lorraine Cappellino, Sharon Clark and Bea McCloud.

We have so much to celebrate and look forward to in the coming year!

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, na-

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

FROM OUR PRESIDENT, GAYNELLE WETHERS

Greetings!

AAUW of Rochester had a stellar April!

We celebrated the National Equal Pay Day by hosting a press conference to deliver the findings of the survey conducted by the Coalition of Pay Equity (COPE) in the morning and concluding the day by hosting a collaborative event with NOW featuring author David Cay Johnston on Pay Equity.

Prior to these events, we hosted an event with the League of Women Voters on Paid Family Leave.

We had a contingent attend the New York State Convention at which Cheryl McKeiver, VP of Development, was recognized as the AAUW 2016 NYS Emerging Leader, and Cynthia Herriott-Sullivan, VP of Public Policy, was presented with the Special Leadership Award.

Congratulations! Our organization was recognized in many categories (see page 6).

Well done!

I served as a judge for our Women Helping Girls program in collaboration with WDKX and our Women Helping Women program. What fun that was! The participants had to have community service as part of the requirement to compete. We had more than 40 groups participate for a \$500 scholarship, offered courtesy of the Monroe Community College Foundation. As President, I awarded the Women Helping Girls scholarship to U’Nisia Calloway, 10th grader, who gave the “Spoken Word” speech, entitled “Cry.” There was not a dry eye in the house.

The dream of a “WOW” event for our Women Helping Girls program was realized.

Thank you to Cheryl McKeiver, VP of Development and Finance Treasurer for WHG!

The team effort and on going communication, collaboration and cooperation made this a roaring success! It was the first of its kind for the Rochester community for women and girls. Click to [view Press Coverage of the event](#).

We are still experiencing the positive ripple effects of the program. Special thanks to all who worked to make this event happen!

Due to our April events, new members and reinvigorated current members are excited to forge ahead with our mission.

In closing, U’Nisia’s story touched the hearts of the entire Blue Cross Arena.

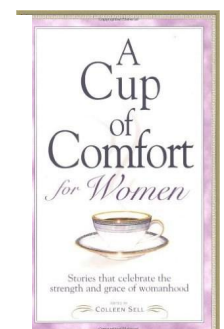
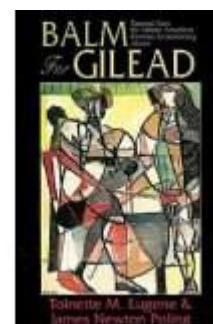
It reminded me of the major challenge I faced as a youth minister.

I published a vignette, a story of failed intervention in a book entitled, Balm for Gilead by Toinette M. Eugene and James Newton Paling. It tugs at my heart to this day.

Also, a book entitled A Cup of Comfort for Women by Colleen Sell, given to me by my friend Pam Douglas for my birthday in 2003, reminds me to celebrate the strength and grace of women.

Happy reading !

- Gaynelle Wethers



Harriet Tubman On the \$20 Bill, Suffragettes on the \$10, and Civil Rights Leaders on the \$5

Thanks to the efforts of lobbyists, such as AAUW and GRAB AAUW, we may see new \$ bills with the females who have historically represented the struggle for racial equality !

US Treasury Secretary Jack Lew announced that Black abolitionist leader Harriet Tubman will appear on the front of the \$20 bill, replacing slave-owner President Andrew Jackson. Women suffrage leaders, such as Sojourner Truth, Susan B. Anthony, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton may appear on the back of the \$10 bill. The \$5 bill may honor the civil rights movement leader, Martin Luther King Jr. and Eleanor Roosevelt.

New designs are expected by 2020 and the new bills may not come out until 2030 and beyond.

Bragging Rights for GRAB -

In the Fall of 2015, Gaynelle Wethers, GRAB President, requested that our intern, Shannon draft letters in honor of this cause. Gaynelle signed the letters and sent them on to Lew and other US government representatives. The result of this endeavor will yield a historic and revolutionary outcome for women.



Click here to read more about the new \$ bills: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/04/20/u-s-to-keep-hamilton-on-front-of-10-bill-put-portrait-of-harriet-tubman-on-20-bill/>

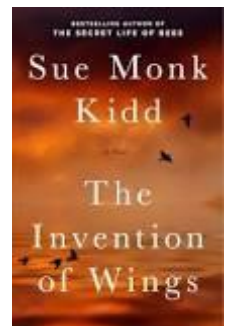
TEA AND TITLES

On Wednesday, May 25 at 2 pm, Tea and Titles will meet in the library at the Perkins Mansion to discuss an acclaimed book by SUE MONK KIDD entitled THE INVENTION OF WINGS. This is a powerful and sweeping historical novel containing a fictionalized account of an abolitionist, her sister, and their family slave.

Sharon Clark will lead the discussion.

All are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

Please contact Maureen May for further information at 385-1133 or via e-mail at maureensmay@yahoo.com.



SENECA FALLS 19K RUN

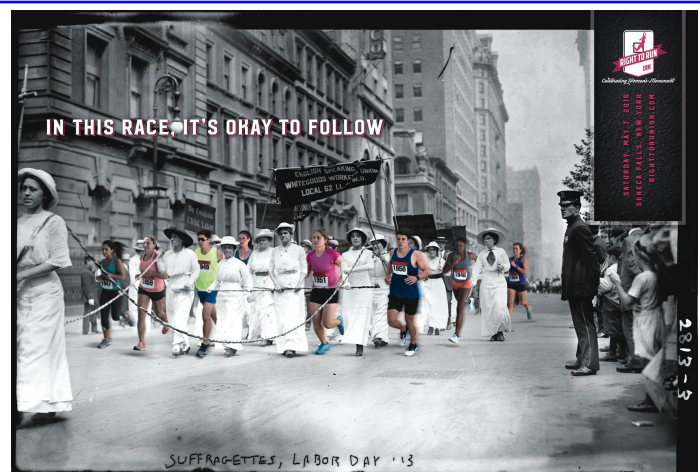
The Inaugural Right to Run 19K and 5K will take place on Saturday, May 7, 2016 - a national fundraiser to benefit the National Women's Hall of Fame and the Mill Project

These races are open to both women and men.

The 19K honors the 19th Amendment.

RACE INFORMATION - <http://righttorun19k.org>

REGISTER NOW - <https://runsignup.com/Race/NY/SenecaFalls/RighttoRun19K5>



SUMMARY OF EQUAL PAY DAY TUESDAY EVENTS - APRIL 12, 2016

Morning Event -

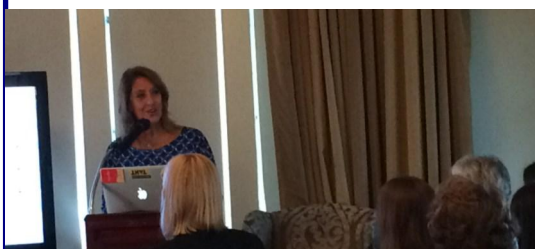
The Coalition on Pay Equity (COPE) hosted a Press Conference at the Mansion to coincide with National Equal Pay Day.

Attended by more than 45 women and men from the Rochester community, introductions were given by COPE and former AAUW Member President Marilyn Tedeschi. GRAWA and COPE Member Laura Myers, Esq. introduced the updated Equal Pay Tool Kit. Eastside City Council Member and Executive Director for the Center for Youth Elaine Spauld offered a Call to Action. Chair of Unite Rochester, AAUW and COPE Member Cynthia Herriott Sullivan shared a Legislative Update. Results of the Equal Pay survey were given by Director of the Susan B. Anthony Center, AAUW and COPE Member Dr. Kate Cerulli.



Kate Cerulli speaks.

Other participants included Deborah Hughes, AAUW and COPE Member and Executive Director of the Susan B. Anthony House, Elizabeth Sciaolino, AAUW Public Policy Intern, and Rebecca Bergman, University of Rochester Student, COPE Member and Project Coordinator for the Susan B. Anthony Center.



Elaine Spauld addresses the audience.

The event was a huge success. Many similar events were hosted across the United States by AAUW chapters and other groups in favor of Pay Equity and Equal Rights.

Visit <http://www.aauw.org/2016/04/20/how-were-pushing-for-equal-pay/> for other AAUW chapter events on Pay Equity.

Evening Event -

Held at the Mansion and co-sponsored by GRAB AAUW and National Organization of Women, nationally known investigative journalist and author David Cay Johnston addressed a large crowd regarding pay inequality.

According to Johnston, women make less than men in the same occupations because American federal and state law perpetuate gender discrimination in pay. He says there is a way to change that. "It will take time and focused efforts to educate both men and women about structures that enable discrimination, and a lot of cajoling. It won't be easy, but with determination it will be inevitable that equal pay will become reality," stated Johnston.

In his talk he explained how to make pay equity a reality.



Marilyn Tedeschi, David Cay Johnston, Jaclyn Richard

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

Our next author is Paul Doiron who writes about Mike Bowditch of the Maine Game Warden Service. They are a brave bunch who began their unpaid, dangerous work in 1880. They get paid now and have all the latest crime detection gear but it's still dangerous, as you'll see. Some titles include The Poacher's Son, Trespasser, Bad Little Falls, and Massacre Pond.

The next meeting is on Thursday, May 19 at 2:00 pm at the Mansion.

Please contact Lynne Mitchell for further information at lmitchell@frontiernet.net.

AAUW EVENTS CALENDAR AT THE PERKINS MANSION

May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 10 am Retired Teachers Bridge	4	5	6 10 am Duplicate Bridge A	7
8	9	10 10 am Crazy Eights Bridge	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 4 pm GRAB Board Meeting	18	19 2 pm Mystery Book Club	20	21
22	23	24	25 10 am Duplicate Bridge B 2 pm Tea and Titles	26 5-8 pm Branch Dinner and Program	27	28
29	30	31				

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 some 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.

FROM MEMBERSHIP

It's that time again for renewing our commitment to GRAB AAUW and the letters will be going out soon. Kindly update your information to ensure that you receive your newsletter. Without you, we would not be able to provide the programs, activities, scholarships and community service that have empowered women since 1881.



The AAUW-NYS Convention was awesome! Marlene Gordon, Lorraine Cappellino, Vicki Fumia, Marilyn Tedeschi and I enjoyed the Saratoga Springs convention. Workshops on Paid Family Leave, Suffrage (100 year Anniversary of the 1917 NYS Amendment for women's right to vote), and Know Your Legal Rights gave us history, as well as up-to-date knowledge and information about current issues.

Meeting old friends and getting to know the other branches was very exciting. We shared ideas, planned for next year, and discovered that other branches have challenges that are similar. Our private wine pairing parties were not so bad either! I feel energized!

We are entering a historically important few years. This year is the 100th anniversary of our Branch! The year 2017 marks 100 years of voting rights for women in New York State. Finally, we and women across the country are planning a huge celebration for the year 2020, the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the US constitution, granting voting rights to women across our nation. Stay tuned!

**- Stephanie Augonis, Membership VP
with Marlene Gordon**

RESULTS FROM THE NYS CONVENTION -APRIL 15-17, 2016

GRAB AAUW won many categories at the 2016 New York State Convention, including the following:



- AAUW Women on the Move
- Achieving Women's Economic Justice
- Public Policy VP's 2016 special Leadership Recognition Award - Cynthia Herriott-Sullivan
- Emerging Leader - Cheryl McKeiver
- Community & Visibility Awards - Website Awards of Distinction
- Visibility Award - Award of Distinction
- Visibility Award - Awards of Merit
- 2016 Public Policy Awards
- Voter Registration and Education
- STEM
- Paid Family Leave
- Public Policy Newsletter Recognition
- Newsletter Award of Distinction
- Social Media Award of Excellence
- Eleanor Roosevelt Funds



AAUW 2016 NYS EMERGING LEADERS - Greater Rochester Area - Cheryl McKeiver



Cheryl McKeiver said yes to the call of working with the Women Helping Girls program at the American Association of University Women and immediately assisted the program financially by maintaining the finances for our events and assisted with our grant applications. This was certainly no ordinary task but then she kicked it up a few notches by securing for us Beverly Bond of Black Girls Rock, who is a national figure was recently recognized by the First Lady, Michelle Obama. The BLACK GIRLS ROCK organization seeks to build the self-esteem and self-worth of young women of color by changing their outlook on life, broadening their horizons, and helping them to empower themselves.

Since 2006, this organization has enriched the lives of girls aged 12 to 17 years old through mentorship, arts education, cultural exploration and public service. Cheryl garnered her resources, namely our black owned radio station, WDKX 103.9, and resources connected with the station as well as securing the Blue Cross arena to host this event and all the details pertaining to it. Cheryl has meticulously addressed every aspect of this event -which is no small task. Our goal for the event is 5000 girls! An event of this caliber and size will offer the American Association of University Women at the Greater Rochester Area Branch its "WOW" moment in the city like no other group - to say nothing of the exposure for our Women Helping Girls program that is dedicated to girl empowerment through its mentoring program to help young girls gain self-esteem, professionalism and power. Cheryl currently serves on our AAUW Board of Directors as the Vice President of Development and is a proven leader among women and girls. She deserves to be recognized as an Emerging Leader in our community and as an advocate for young girls through her dedication, public service and community activism.

Read more at http://www.aauw-nys.org/districtcouncil_emerging.htm.

AAUW SAYS GOOD LUCK AND GOODBYE TO BLAKE

If you've been around the Perkins Mansion over the past 8 years, you have likely run into Blake. Blake has lived on the third floor of the Mansion and has been a Caretaker and friend to many of us at GRAB.

Blake is always courteous, prompt and precise in his work fulfilling GRAB event responsibilities. Blake is the guy who sets up and tears down for each GRAB event and cleans the dishes and around the Mansion.

As of May 1, Blake will be moving on to pursue new opportunities. We'll miss Blake greatly.

PERKINS MANSION AND GRAB AAUW - SEEKING LIVE-IN CARETAKER

HOURS PER WEEK: Based Upon Need

JOB SUMMARY: To keep the interior and exterior of The Perkins Mansion in a clean, orderly and attractive fashion, in cooperation with other team members, and to support the appropriate and effective use of the property by GRAB AAUW members and outside guests.

BENEFITS: Opportunity to live and work in a unique property with free, on-site parking in one of Rochester's most desirable neighborhoods. Private bedroom and use of shared kitchen and other common areas.

CONTACT: If you know of persons who may be interested and suited to this position, Ellen can offer a full job description. Ellen can be reached at 585-435-7202 or at elewis@perkinsmansion.org.



BLACK GIRLS ROCK EVENT ON APRIL 23, 2016 A SUCCESS

Women Helping Girls and WDKX's Women for Women, held a grand event for girls at the Blue Cross Arena on Saturday, April 23, 2016.

It was an opportunity for girls and young women in the community to be empowered.

The keynote speaker for the event was Beverly Bond, founder and director of Black Girls Rock! The organization provides youth enrichment programming and has also established the annual Black Girls Rock! Awards to celebrate exceptional women of color who stand as pillars and inspirational role models in the community.

Cheryl McKeiver did most of the organizing from the GRAB AAUW Women Helping Girls side, with help from Gaynelle Wethers and a few others.

Some attendees from GRAB included Marilyn Tedeschi, Stephanie Augonis, Marlene Gordon, Gwen Clifton and Helen Jae Cheves.

Read more at: [http://](http://www.rochesterfirst.com/news/local-news/rochester-celebrates-black-girls-rock)

www.rochesterfirst.com/news/local-news/rochester-celebrates-black-girls-rock.



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**



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.



FOLLOW UP - APRIL 14TH BRANCH DINNER AND PROGRAM

Members enjoyed hearing Luticha's story at the branch dinner and program with Luticha Doucette, former Ms. Wheelchair of NYS and 2nd Runner Up at Ms. Wheelchair America 2012. The program was a huge success.



GRAB AAUW APRIL 2016 EVENT PHOTOS



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.

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 – Marilyn Tedeschi (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

Legal Advocacy Fund – Lynne Mitchell

Women Helping Girls – Cheryl McKeiver

Past President – Marilyn Tedeschi

GREATER ROCHESTER

AREA BRANCH

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

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Rochester, NY 14607

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Fax: 585.244.5277

The deadline for the

June Newsletter is

May 15, 2016

Please email items to

grabaauw@gmail.com.

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 AAUW.