



# 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 134

NOVEMBER 2017

## GRAB AAUW BRANCH DINNER

### DATE

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

### TIME

5:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

### LOCATION

494 East Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14607

### MENU

- Oven Roasted Turkey and Gravy
- Savory Stuffing
- Cranberry Sauce
- Mashed Potatoes
- Golden Corn
- Garden Salad
- Rolls and Butter

Catering by Dave's Sidewalk cafe

### COST

\$20

### RESERVATIONS

RSVP by November 8th to  
Kim Frarey at 455-0477 or  
Email:

kfrareyaauw@gmail.com

## About Refugees Helping Refugees

Refugees Helping Refugees picks up where refugee settlement agencies must leave off. They offer English language training, case management, cooking, sewing and healthy living classes, they help with job placement and the warm embrace of refugees who have already lived through the whole process. They are the only organization in Rochester run by refugees for refugees, and our services are free.



Refugees Helping Refugees

### Our Speaker:

Sadiya Omar helped found Refugees Helping Refugees and now directs all of the organization's case management.

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



“When a stranger sojourns with you on your land, you shall not do him (her) wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you and you shall love him(her) as yourself for you were stranger in the land of Egypt.”  
Leviticus 19:33-34

## *Welcoming the Stranger!*

When I first moved into our neighborhood years ago, I was greeted by a group called the “Welcome Wagon.” Hostesses were assigned to visit new homeowners and present each with a gift basket. The basket was filled with “goodies” such as cookies and coupons. I was made to feel welcomed and supported. In Pam Sherman’s (aka the Suburban Outlaw) article titled “Rochester Won’t Wear Out Its Welcome on My Watch ( Democrat and Chronicle, August 11, 2016), Ms. Sherman comments on the “Welcome Wagon” hostess, Jeanne, who showed up on her doorstep with cookies. She goes on to say that Jeanne would bake the cookies and Ms. Sherman would give the wine. They were the unofficial “Welcome Wagon.” “Even though Jeanne was long gone, the practice of welcoming others have continued.” According to Ms. Sherman, “with each welcome, we all have a chance at expanding our horizons.”

This practice of welcoming occurs in our local community, especially in our places of worship. If you notice, some businesses have adopted the concept. Greeters at Walmart welcomes customers as they enter the store, K Mart announces welcome to its shoppers over the intercom, and “Moe’s Southwest Grill” welcomes its customers as they enter. Even Rite-Aid does the same.

Here at GRAB AAUW, our practice is to greet each other at our many events. Recently, we “Welcomed the Stranger” in our mist as we greeted our guest speaker Dr. Elsie Scott from out of town to provide some remarks at our evening reception for COPE.

Today however, we are witnessing in real time fear of the stranger in our mist. An example, the record number of children from Central America crossing the Mexico-U.S. border unaccompanied by parents, according to P.T.Tobia in the June 20, 2014 article. They are fleeing from violence at home. However, upon arriving here, instead of “Welcoming the Stranger” they are greeted with anti-immigration activists protesting with signs outside the U.S. Border Patrol Station in California. What meaning does this give to the words engraved on the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.”

And what about the refugees who are citizens of their countries, but now fleeing war torn countries?

Who are these new immigrants??? Who are these refugees??? Who are these homeless children arriving in our communities???

Do we really believe the words etched on the Statue of Liberty: “Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

Are we “welcoming all the immigrants and refugees to our shores seeking freedom and a place to live from foreign lands?”

Are we going to build a wall? Are we going to require new neighbors to speak English? Are we going to require them to be people of means?

Senator John McCain recently received the Medal of Liberty and said “[w]e live in a land made of ideals, not blood and soil.”

Do we really live in a land of ideals? If so, what are you willing to do? What are we willing to do? Harriet Tubman once said : “I had crossed the line. I was free but there was no one to welcome me to the land of freedom. I was a stranger in a strange land.”

Yet A Stanger: Why Black Americans Still Don’t Feel at Home,” by Deborah Mathis, African American journalist and author.

I had the great fortune to meet her! Hope you have the chance to read her book! Worthwhile Read!

*Gaynelle*

# MEMBERSHIP

Our October Branch Dinner was a great success with old friends bringing new guests to join us for an evening of thought provoking conversations. The fare was delicious with a beautiful birthday cake to celebrate October birthdays: Barbara Blaisdell, Barbara Baer, Katherine Detherage, and Kimberlee Frarey who was thrilled to have her peers sing to her.

At seven o'clock, we headed to the parlor for a talk on Terrorism from Federal Agent Christopher Cronin and Scott Hill of the Rochester Police Department. It appears that "Eco-terrorism" is the biggest threat of domestic terrorism in the United States according to one source. The group had many questions regarding how the federal government works and the limitations placed upon that agency since we have the constitution that gives us freedom of speech and many legal rights as citizens. We learned that with today's technology many police departments and federal agents have connecting databanks throughout the world that can share information that can help deter terrorism before a catastrophe happens.



*Stephanie Augonis*

On a lighter note: GRABs membership increased with Mary Quisenberry Chapin renewing her membership. Mary earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Binghamton University in 1991. She is a retired Sr. Personnel Administrator, Arbitrator and Historian who has been acknowledged for her community work and has earned numerous awards. Mary was an active GRAB member for many years so if you see her so please give her a warm welcome. Email her at [mchapin15@roadrunner.com](mailto:mchapin15@roadrunner.com).

Several bridge players from Carol Achille's group have decided to join GRAB as well. Camille Clayton was already a National Member and decided to become a Branch member. She lives in Pittsford New York and you can reach her at [cclay244@aol.com](mailto:cclay244@aol.com). Phyllis Haviland recently joined GRAB and lives in Rochester. Email her at [pmkhaliv@frontier.com](mailto:pmkhaliv@frontier.com) if you need a bridge partner. Welcome aboard.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Augonis  
Membership VP

## What are YOU Thankful For?



Women As Political Leaders  
A Regional Project for Africa  
October 4, 2017

AFRICAN UNION

HAITI

ALGERIA

MOROCCO

CENTRAL AFRICA  
REPUBLIC

SENEGAL

COTE D'IVOIRE

SWAZILAND

THE GAMBIA

ZIMBABWE



BRANCH DINNER  
"DOMESTIC TERRORISM"  
OCTOBER 24, 2017



## GRAB AAUW PROGRAMS FOR 2017

### BRANCH DINNERS -

#### SCHEDULE FOR REMAINDER OF 2017:

- Tuesday, November 14, 2017 - 5:00pm - 8:30pm
- Tuesday, December 12, 2017 -
  - 5:00pm - 7:00pm Branch Dinner
  - 7:00pm - 8:30pm Branch Members Meeting w/ Elections



## WOMEN HELPING GIRLS 2017 - 2018

Women Helping Girls events will typically take place on Saturdays at the Perkins Mansion.

December 2

Tech Talks

10:00am - 2:00pm

*You're Invited!*

Showcase and promote your company and your finest wine at our wine tasting.

**November 11, 2017  
5:30pm - 7:30pm**

American Association of University Women (AAUW) at  
The Perkins Mansion  
494 East Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14607

**\$25**  
(Includes hors d'oeuvre and drink)

\$5 of each ticket will be donated to Women Veterans Affairs

Please contact:  
Gaynelle Wethers at (585) 261-1955 or gwether9@gmail.com

## TEA AND TITLES

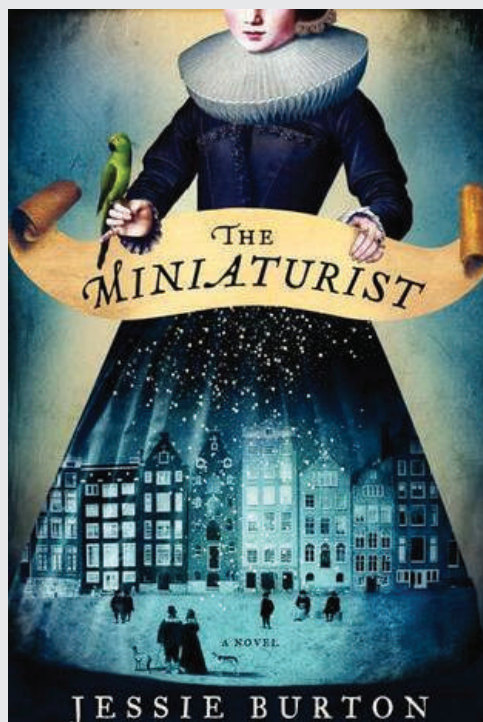
TEA AND TITLES will meet at  
2PM on Wednesday, NOVEMBER 16<sup>th</sup> at the Clubhouse.

NOTE EARLY MEETING DATE DUE TO THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

The discussion will be led by Donna Palmer. The book under discussion is the debut novel by JESSIE BURTON entitled "THE MINIATURIST." It looks at the life of a newlywed bride living in 17th century Amsterdam, where her husband creates a cabinet replica of their house!

Light refreshments served. All are welcome to attend.

Maureen May  
Chair, Tea and Titles  
maureensmay@yahoo.com  
(585) 385-1133



# *Perkins Mansion Trust*

Our fundraising efforts this fall have been successful. A special thank you goes to our Francie Wilcox Card Party Committee - Carol Achilles, Vickie Fumia, Anne Miller, Myrtle Merritt, Dorothy Pecoraro and myself. We raised \$3,438.00 and Dr. Nora Wilcox matched that amount in memory of her mother, Francie Wilcox, who was an avid bridge player. This gave us a total return of \$6,776.00. A special thanks to our cooks, shoppers, cake makers and players. We also had a 50/50 raffle and 13 donors. Our cake makers were Janet Miles, Barbara Case, Carol Achilles, Nancy Jones and Marilyn Zingara. Donors were Carol Achilles, Aggie Perry, Sue Lawrence, RTO Bridge Players, Barbara Case, Myrt Merritt, Joyce Wechsler, Carol Hopkins, Anne Miller, Lorraine Cappellino, Marilyn Tedeschi, Vickie Fumia and Dorothy Pecoraro. Proceeds from this year's card party are earmarked for 3rd floor Caretaker apartment renovations. It takes a village and we have a special one. Thank you to all!

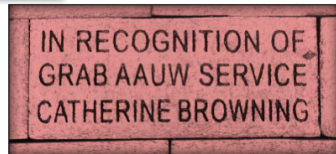
Another fund raising effort we run every year is our **Adopt-a-Yard Program**. Many of us adopted a Square yard back in 2010 and have continued, to contribute to the maintenance of that yard which brought our beloved house \$4,065 this year. Thank you to the 23 members who still contribute- Michele Conners, Laurie Ditzel, Vickie Fumia, Sarah Gardener, Marie Ginther, Marlene Gordon, Ginger Goyer, Bonnie Jackson, Joan Kohout, Sue Lawrence, Bettie Lindley, Myrtle Merritt, Anne Miller, Maureen Mulley, Dorothy Pecoraro Gaya Shakes, Paulene Sherwood, Barbara Stevens, Marilyn Tedeschi, Edith Thoburn, Shirley Townsend, Marilyn Wadsworth and Carol Zavada. Thank you all of your continued support!!

Our third and **on going** fundraiser is our **Brick Garden** which is located in our back yard between the handicapped ramp and the back door. This brick garden was started in 2016 and will continue throughout the years. Please consider buying a commemorative brick for a special person or event that has inspired **you** in your life.

*Marilyn Tedeschi*



## AAUW MEMORIAL BRICK GARDEN



Through the AAUW "Buy a Brick" Project, you can be part of the Memorial Brick Garden to honor or remember an endearing friend or event and at the same time to support the AAUW Charitable Trust Fundraiser which supports *The Perkins Mansion*.

Bricks can be purchased for \$100 each or at a discount rate of two for \$190, three for \$275. You can engrave up to 3 lines of text using 20 characters (including spaces) per line. Payment can be by cash or check and must accompany your order.

### BRICK ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Text for each brick ordered (20 characters including spaces)

Line 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Line 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Line 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Line 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Return form with payment made out to:

GRAB/AAUW Charitable Trust,

494 East Ave. Rochester NY 14607 Attn: Anne Miller

# AAUW EVENTS CALENDAR AT THE PERKINS MANSION NOVEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Duplicate Bridge A (10:00 am – 2:30 pm)	4
5	6 Executive Committee (5:15 pm – 6:15 pm)	7 Duplicate C Bridge (10:00 am – 2:30 pm)	8 COPE (8:00 am – 10:00 am)	9 Mah Jongg (1:00 pm – 3:00 pm)	10	11 Winetasting Fundraiser (5:30 pm – 7:30 pm)
12	13	14 Crazy 8's (10:00 am – 2:00 pm)  Branch Dinner (5:00 pm – 8:30 pm)	15	16 Mah Jongg (1:00 pm – 3:00 pm) Mystery Books (2:00 pm – 4:00 pm) Ed Loan (4:30 pm – 6:00 pm)	17	18
19	20	21 GRAB AAUW Board Meeting (4:15 pm – 5:15 pm)	22 Tea and Titles (2:00 pm – 3:30 pm)	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Mah Jongg (1:00 pm – 3:00 pm)		

\* SUBJECT TO CHANGE

## INTEREST GROUPS

### Duplicate Bridge C

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 Wed at 10:00 am  
Janet Miles - 787-0507

### Mystery Book Club

Meets Every Other Month  
Lynne Mitchell - 287-5840

### Tea and Titles

Meets Monthly  
Maureen May - 385-1133

### Mah Jongg

Every Thursday at 1pm  
Marlene Gordon - 402-5529

### Crazy 8s Bridge

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



### *November Birthdays*

DOROTHY EVANS

ANNE BELL

SUSAN BEAST

### \*\*Bridge Leaders:

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



**GREATER ROCHESTER  
AREA BRANCH  
CELEBRATES 100 YEARS**

**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**

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**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.

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**GRAB AAUW BOARD MEMBERS**

President – **Gaynelle Wethers**  
Program VP – **Tammi Herron**  
Membership VP – **Stephanie Augonis**  
Development VP – **Cheryl McKeiver**  
Recording Secretary – **Anne Bell**  
Corresponding Secretary – **Marlene Gordon**  
Treasurer – **Jenifer Kloppel**  
Assistant Treasurer – **Barbara Baer**  
Assistant Treasurer for Membership – **Gwen Clifton**  
Public Policy Director – **LaShana Boose**  
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 Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14607

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

Phone: (585) 244-8890/ (585) 736-1681

Fax: (585) 244-5277

The deadline for the December Newsletter is November 22, 2017. Please email items to **NEWSLETTER@AAUW-ROCHESTER.ORG**

Articles submitted are printed at the discretion of GRAB AAUW.

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