

## WINE AND CHEESE GATHERING: BRING YOUR FRIENDS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22nd, 4:30 to 6:30 PM

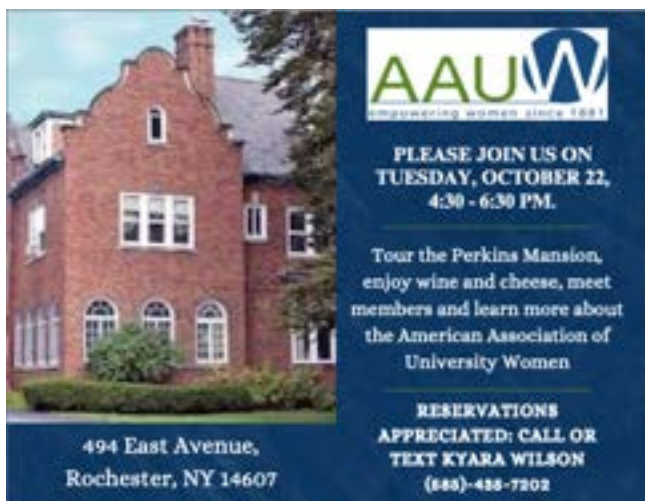
Wine, cheese, and snacks, tours of the house, conversation about AAUW; that's the program for October. We're inviting you, your friends and family and acquaintances to join us for an informal late afternoon event. There's no charge for you or your guests.

The event is called a Wine and Cheese, but of course there will also be non-alcoholic beverages, and there will be a variety of other snack food.

Do you know anyone who's expressed an interest in AAUW? Anyone who's driven by 494 East Avenue and wondered what's in there? Anyone who you'd like to welcome to this group of lively, committed women? Invite them yourself, or give us their names and we'll send an invitation.

We had a table at a recent conference of retired teachers. We talked to attendees, invited them to the Wine and Cheese, and gave them copies of the postcard below. We'd be happy to give you postcards or send them for you.

**Reservations appreciated:** Call [585-244-8890](tel:585-244-8890) and leave a message.



*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



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S KITCHEN TABLE

October 2024

I'm writing on one of those end-of-summer days that makes it hard to believe that we're only a few weeks from crisp Fall weather and even snow. In the meantime .....

### Voter Registration:

October 26 is the last day to register to vote in New York State. Remind your family members and friends that they can register or change name, address or party enrollment online. We will have paper voter registration forms at the October 22nd Wine and Cheese party. We know how long and hard our foremothers worked for this critical citizenship right. Help to ensure that everyone you know exercises it.

### TPMI Game Weekend:

In another part of the newsletter, Marilyn Tedeschi describes the success of the Friday game night and Saturday card party in raising money for the new roof. I want to add my two cents to say how much fun it was to be silly with friends old and new. Friday, I played Mexican Train, a dominoes variation. We weren't very good, but we laughed a lot. On Saturday we learned how to play Bunko, a fast-moving, simple dice game. Again, lots of fun. Help me think of more ways we can have fun together.

### New Board Members:



#### BARBARA STEVENS, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

As Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Stevens' new job is contacting members on behalf of the branch. Do you know a member who is sick, or in the hospital, or who could just use a bit of encouragement for whatever reason? Please let Barbara know ([585-235-2548](tel:585-235-2548)) so she can follow up with our good wishes. With the member's permission, she can also share news with the branch.

And who is Barbara? A Rochester native, she holds degrees in education from SUNY Brockport and Teachers College, Columbia. Barbara's teaching career with RCSD included time in elementary and middle school classrooms. In retirement, she volunteers with the downtown library bookstore along and keeps the Mansion's library and plants in line.



#### CATHY DAYAN, ASSISTANT TREASURER FOR MEMBERSHIP

Since Carol Achilles' death in January, Midge Pia has been wearing multiple hats, but Cathy is now being oriented to the duties of her new job. Email or text Cathy ([cathyldayan@gmail.com](mailto:cathyldayan@gmail.com) or [585-645-5254](tel:585-645-5254)) if you change your contact information or if you see that we've made a mistake.

Cathy grew up in Latham, NY, near Albany. Educated at Cornell and U of R, she had multiple careers as a dietitian, a nursing home administrator, and the coordinator of a workplace wellness program. In retirement, she's active with the Eastman School's New Horizons band and serves as a dispatcher with the BriPen Volunteer Senior Ride Service.

## NEWS FROM THE PERKINS MANSION

October 2024

The Raise the Roof Campaign is off to a great start! When the estimate of over \$125,000 to put a new roof on the mansion and the Junior House came in, we questioned our ability to pay for it without draining our bank and endowment accounts or taking out a major loan. We came up with a year's worth of activities to "Raise the Roof". The first one would be the annual Francie Wilcox Card Party. Next would be sales of fine jewelry and fine art in November. The last fundraising event would be a Trash and Treasures sale in Spring 2025. And where do you come in? The success of the jewelry, art, and "treasures" sales will all depend on donations from Friends and Members. Please start thinking about what items you might donate for one of the sales.

I am so pleased to report that the proceeds of the Francie Wilcox Card Party went over our \$10,000 goal. Dr. Nora Wilcox, daughter of Francie, had pledged to match our proceeds up to \$10,000. Between the Friday game night and the Saturday Bridge and Bunco party, we took in \$10,475!! The following members and friends sent donation checks: Karen Sue Brown, Barbara Case, Tim Devel, Laurie Ditzel, Jean Erskine, Ruth Fisher, Vickie Fumia, Ginger Goyer, Marlene Hosenfeld, Ellen Lewis, Anne Miller, Midge Pia, Lorie Seagren, Beth Smythe, Jill Stolt, Marilyn Tedeschi and Judy Trabert. A special thanks goes out to Miss Betty Smith who bought food and her family and cooked for Saturday's games. Also, thanks to Anne Miller and Marilyn Tedeschi who bought pizza and table prizes for both events. A special shout out to all the Game Table Leaders: Our three caretakers, Joe Cinanni, Shea Davis, and Edmari Fort; members Judy Trabert and Midge Pia; and Friends Adriene Emmo, the Bunco Queen from Seneca Falls, and Bess Watts, Blackjack Dealer Extraordinaire, from Rainbow Seniors.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart. Your generosity and willingness to pitch in shows that our spirit and dedication to maintaining the Mansion as a place for women and girls to gather remains STRONG! Thank you, thank you.

*Marilyn*



**UPCOMING TPMI EVENT:  
FINE ART AND JEWELRY SALE  
NOVEMBER 16, 1-4 pm**

Open to the public.  
Contact Marilyn if you have items to donate.





## WE REMEMBER THREE MEMBERS LOST THIS SUMMER

The Branch lost three long-time members over the course of this past summer. They will be missed.

### Lorraine Cappellino

**There will be a memorial celebration for Lorraine Cappellino on Sunday, October 13, 1 PM, at the House.**

From her obituary:

*Lorraine lived her full 92 years as a proud Rochesterian. As a staunch feminist and American history buff, she lived in awe of Susan B. Anthony and all of the suffragists and buoyed by this city's amazing history in the building of the country. She loved intellectual pursuits, international travel, opera, and art.*

Marilyn Tedeschi adds that Lorraine had scrapbooks of newspaper articles about Miss Anthony and the SBA House and gave tours of the House. She donated books about women's history to the GRAB library, and honored Anthony with a brick in our garden. Lorraine also started the program that offered tours of the Perkins Mansion.

### Bettie Lindley

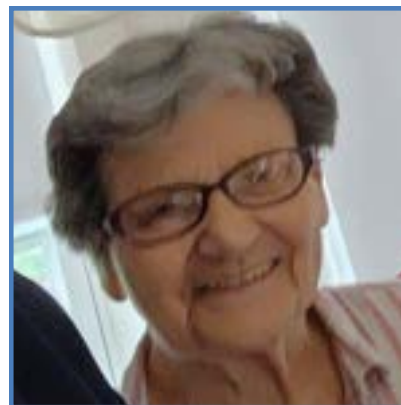
GRAB president and co-founder of Women Helping Girls, died on July 22nd. Branch members attended her calling hours and funeral; we honored her memory with roses in "Suffrage yellow." From her obituary:

*Bettie attended St Boniface grammar school, St Agnes High School and D'Youville College. She received her Masters in Education from the University of Rochester. Bettie taught in the Rochester City School District for over 30 years, starting at Madison High School, working at several other schools and ending her career as an administrator at East High School.*

*Over the years, she was very active in her community, starting with her involvement with the 19th Ward Community Association over the course of 50+ years. She was also a past President of the local chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), where she started the Women Helping Girls mentor program, she was on the board and the Investment Committee for Sojourner House, and she volunteered for many years at Oasis (an organization that provides enriching experiences for older adults). In addition, she also helped organize the yearly Palm Sunday breakfast at the Presbyterian Home and served as the president of the 'Friends of Strong' (a hospital volunteer group). Through all these activities and many more, she was gratified to have been able to have a positive impact on the lives of so many in the Rochester community.*



Bettie Lindley



Lorraine Cappellino

## WE REMEMBER THREE MEMBERS LOST THIS SUMMER

### Dr. Myrtle Merritt (Myrt)

Dr. Myrtle Merritt (Myrt), Professor Emerita at Geneseo, and GRAB board member and staunch supporter, died on July 30th. Again, Branch members attended her funeral and offered yellow roses. From her obituary:

*Myrtle was born at her parents' farm in Norway, Iowa and was the middle daughter. She graduated school in Norway, Iowa and went on to get her Bachelor's Degree at Northern Iowa University. Later she got her Masters' and PhD from the University of Iowa.*

*In 1952 Myrt accepted a Professor's position at SUNY Geneseo. She became a well-known figure in the Geneseo Community and on the SUNY Geneseo Campus. Myrt was a Distinguished Service Professor of Health, Physical Education and Recreation Emerita at SUNY Geneseo for over 30 years. During Myrt's 30 plus years at SUNY Geneseo she served on numerous faculty committees, the university senate and the faculty senate. Myrt was awarded the Distinguished Service Professor Award in 1976. She retired from teaching in 1982 but was still a major influence on the campus of SUNY Geneseo and especially the Athletic Department. Myrt was inducted into the Geneseo Sports Hall of Fame in 1995. In 2004 the Sports Complex at SUNY Geneseo was officially designated the Dr. Myrtle A. Merritt Athletic Center. She also has created two scholarships, the Dr. Myrtle Merritt in Dance Annual Scholarship and the Dr. Myrtle A. Merritt Scholarship Endowment.*



Dr. Myrtle Merritt (Myrt)



Flower arrangement

## COMING ATTRACTIONS: MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 16

### TPMI'S Fine Art and Jewelry Sale

NOVEMBER 20

### Branch meeting

Featuring educators from Innova, the new girls-only elementary school. Find out how we can partner with them to serve young girls.

DECEMBER 10

### Holiday Open House for members and guests

MARCH 8, 2025

### International Women's Day Celebration

MAY 11, 2025

### Mother's Day Celebration

#### GREATER ROCHESTER AREA BRANCH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

494 East Ave. Rochester, NY 14607

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We welcome suggestions or contributions to include in future newsletters.

Deadline for October: October 20, 2024

Please email items to

[judy.a.trabert12@gmail.com](mailto:judy.a.trabert12@gmail.com)

**Articles submitted are printed at the discretion of GRAB**

