



THE INITIATIVE

American Association of University Women—Rockford Area Branch

Website: www.aauw-il.org/rockford February 2012

CALENDAR 2012

Sat., Feb 11, 11to 2
*Valentine
Potluck and Chocolate
Auction.*
*Member Andrea Wright
will talk about her
participation in a
humanitarian mission to
Haiti.*
*2nd Congregational
Church*

Sun., Feb. 19 2:00
*Election Forum for State
Candidates*
@
1st Presbyterian Church

Sat., March 24, 1:00 p.m.
*Women in My History
Awards Ceremony
At Rockford College,
Grace Roper Lounge*

April 21 11am
*Women Artists from
Guerrilla Girls to the
Present*
@
Rockford Art Museum

Sat., May 19,
*Presentation of STEM
Scholarships and Annual
Meeting*
@
*Mauh-Nah-Tee-See
Country Club*

**FYI: New members may
join from Jan. – Mar. for
half price--\$36.00**

President Christine Haeggquist

You are viewing the first issue of the New Year! –Hello 2012!
Let's make this the best year ever in AAUW Rockford.
Below are some ideas for a new year's resolution:

1. Recruit one member for AAUW—Rockford Branch
2. Become active on one of our committees
3. Do not miss any of our great and informative meetings.

Thanks to all who participated in the Dec. 3 brunch and auction.
Lots of lovely items were donated and we enjoyed collaborating
with the LWV.

We raised \$637.00 for AAUW. The board voted to donate \$500.00
to our national projects—the Education Foundation and the Legal
Aid Fund. This is our contribution for 2011. The remainder plus the
luncheon profit will benefit our branch.

The board is very excited about our fundraising for our local
scholarships. We made \$735.00 from the Bergner Days Coupon
Book sales. This brings our scholarship fund to \$1389.00. This will
enable us to award two \$500.00 scholarships to local girls this May.
Please see page 2 for a report from the scholarship committee.

Many thanks go to our auction chairperson, Karen Weedman and
our Bergner's sales coordinator Judy Schultz!

You can see that we have a busy springtime ahead of us and I hope
to see you all at our coming events.

Learn...Act...Connect...Join...Give!

Program VPs Donna Joy and Faye Marcus

There is a small mountain village called **Gramothe** just outside
Port Au Prince, Haiti. This was the site of a medical mission by a
group of American nurse practitioners, nurses and a doctor including
AAUW member **Andrea Wight**.

Please join us on **Feb. 11** to hear about the mission and the
treatment of about 1000 patients.

And—just for fun—enjoy a potluck luncheon and take home a
fabulous chocolate dessert to enjoy for Valentine's Day.

Please call **Donna Joy** with your reservation by **Feb. 8**.

FEBRUARY INITIATIVE PG. 2

Joan Tunnell-- Women In My History Project

Invitations to participate in this year's WIMH contest have been sent to 57 public, private and parochial schools and 200 teachers in the area. We have also sent the link to the Northern Region of Girl Scouts so we are hoping for great student participation.

Judging will be held the week beginning Feb. 13, 2012 and ending on March 9 at Kent Hall, Rockford College.

Here are areas that I could use help:

- Help judge entries at Kent Center during the month of February
- Prepare participation certificates for all entrants
- Prepare winner certificates
- Arrange publicity for the award ceremony
- Attend the award ceremony on Sat., March 24 at 1:00 p.m. in the Grace Roper Lounge, Burpee Center, Rockford College

If you are able to help in any of these ways, please call Joan at 815-397-6280. Thanks!

*You can see the WIMH entry forms on our web site. Click on "Projects" at the top of the page and then link to the entry forms.

NEW MEMBER-DR. ELIZABETH MENDELOFF

Dr. Elizabeth Mendeloff was one of the presenters at our fall "Women in Health Care" panel. She is a family nurse practitioner at the University of Illinois College of Medicine Family Health Center.

Please add her to your yearbook. Her info is:

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Yearbook correction—Marsha Ackerman Cell
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SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE—Pat Gomez, Diane Kuehl, Faye Marcus & Anne Dempsey

The committee met to develop criteria and guidelines for awarding two \$500.00 scholarships this year. We decided to focus on STEM areas of the curriculum since that is a national goal of AAUW.

STEM is science, technology, engineering and math. There is a concern that not enough girls choose to delve into these areas of the curriculum and therefore miss out on future opportunities.

Nationally and locally, AAUW wishes to encourage girls to get involved and to succeed in STEM. We have sent letters to all public and private high schools in Winnebago and Boone Counties. Girls may apply by going to our web site and accessing the criteria and entry forms there. The deadline is March 15 and the scholarships will be awarded to two deserving girls at our luncheon on May 19.

BOOK BEAT—The Jan. meeting of Book Beat was postponed due to snow. At the Feb. meeting, we will review the same book—"The Triple Agent" by Joby Warrick. Hostess will be Barbara Simon and reviewer will be Ruth Siegfried.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS—This interest group met recently and decided to begin learning more about immigration policies and safe communities. New members are welcome; call or email Faye Marcus.

STATE CONVENTION will be held on April 27-28 in Naperville. Keynote speakers will be Amy Blackwell, a new and young member of the National Board of Directors and also an LAF plaintiff.

DON'T FORGET to get your Eclips card. Everytime you shop at Hilander or Schnucks you will benefit our branch. Barbara Simon has the cards—just give her a call.

PUBLIC POLICY—A separate flyer was sent about the three election forums cosponsored by AAUW during the month of February. Please attend to learn more about local and state candidates.

FUTURE FUNDRAISERS—The board is planning future fundraisers to benefit our scholarship fund. Look for events at Egg Harbor, Culvers, Just Goods and possibly a wine tasting.