



The *INITIATIVE*

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN—ROCKFORD AREA BRANCH

Website: rockfordarea-il.aauw.net

November, 2013

Calendar 2013-14

Tues., Nov. 12, 6:30 – 8 pm, Just Goods
Sip and Shop at Just Goods

Sat., Nov. 16, 6:00 pm Join the AAUW Gourmet Group at
the Romanian Dinner at Midway Village

Tues., Nov. 19, 12:45 pm, Book Beat *"The Garden of
Evening Mist,"* Ruth Siegfried, Hostess

Sat., Dec. 7, 10:30 am – 2:00 pm, Giovanni's
Holiday Luncheon & Silent Auction benefitting EF/LAF
"Songs of the Season and More" by the Belvidere High
School Choraliers directed by Karen Cantele

Sat., Jan. 18, 2014, 11:30 am – 3:00 pm
Networking Luncheon, Deerfield Embassy Suites,
Deerfield, IL Speaker Laura Caldwell, Director of
Life After Innocence

Sat., Feb. 15, 11:00 am, 2nd Congregational -1st
Presbyterian Church, Potluck luncheon.
Speaker--Robin Carlson-Goethe, Dir. of Mother House

Mon., Mar. 17, 7:00 pm, Mendelssohn PAC Emerson
House A collaborative "Women In History"
program with Sigma Alpha Iota.
Martha Dahlberg and area musicians will present a
program about composer and pianist Amy Beach.

Wed., Apr. 23, 7:00 pm, TBA
Speaker--Marsha Ackerman—*"Think Like a Crook: How
to Stay Safe Online"*

May 2 & 3, 2014 AAUW-IL Convention at Pheasant Run
Resort

Sat., May 17, Forest Hills CC, Annual Meeting
Speaker—Dr. Ehren Jarrett, Supt. of District 205
Intro of STEM Scholarship winners

**Bring a potential new member to the Dec. 7
Luncheon and Silent Auction.
You will be amazed at the versatility and
vocal skill of the Belvidere Choraliers.
The reservation form is on page 4.**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At our district meeting last week we were encouraged to collaborate with other groups in our city. We can maximize our efforts, make new friends and share AAUW's mission with others.

Our **"Sip and Shop"** at **Just Goods** on **Nov. 12** is a good example. If you haven't been there, Just Goods is a fair trade store with many charming and beautiful items from around the world.

They gain by having people come to their store. They will discount their goods by 10% that evening.

We gain by having that 10% donated to our Scholarship Fund **and** we get a start on our holiday socializing and shopping.

Please come promptly at from 6:30 to 8:00 and enjoy the evening! The shop is at the corner of 1st Ave. and 7th St. Parking is in the back. Turn from 6th Ave. onto 1st St. and you will see the parking lot behind the shop.

We had a small but supportive group at our meeting at Rockford University on Oct. 29. We hope that this is the beginning of the **Rockford University AAUW Affiliate Group**. Dr. Stephanie Quinn, Diane Kuehl and I used the AAUW web page area called **"What We Do"** to tell the group about the many superlative offerings that AAUW has. We are planning another meeting in early December.

I encourage you to look at the national web site—www.aauw.org. Check out the beautiful presentation of all of AAUW's activities.

What we do: Research, Campus Leadership, STEM Education, Public Policy, Legal Advocacy, Educational Funding, Global Connections, Member Leadership—AAUW Empowers Women

Barbara Simon, President

PUBLIC POLICY-WHAT WE DO by Faye Marcus

Since AAUW was founded more than 130 years ago, we have advocated for policies and issues that are important to women and girls. Without our voices, invaluable legislation would never have been passed. Some of the more recent legislation includes: the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.

- Our Public Policy work connects and rallies our advocates at the local, state, national, and global levels to advance our mission to empower women and girls.
- Our Lobby Corps in Washington, D.C. meets twice monthly with members of Congress to advocate for our public policy agenda.
- The AAUW Public Policy committee, with the help of the AAUW Government Relations Department, helps guide the lobby corps and grassroots efforts in our important advocacy work.

Do you want to become a Grassroots Advocate? Just go to www.aauw.org and sign up to receive the Washington Update and Action Alerts. Become a two minute advocate.

ILLINOIS PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW IL has received two Impact Grants that will help support AAUW priorities. One of these issues is the ERA—Equal Rights Amendment.

Three more states are needed to ratify and AAUW-IL and MO are working together for passage.

Why now? This is tied to pay equity for women, a very important issue for AAUW and all women.

To sign a petition urging the IL state legislature to pass the ERA amendment, go to <http://bit.ly/laaz81H>.



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE by Pat Gomez

The Scholarship Committee met and decided to award two \$650 scholarships in 2014. The application will be posted to the AAUW website in November.

Committee members will distribute information at two Scholarship Fairs, one for high school counselors on Nov. 9 and one for parents on Dec. 10, in collaboration with the Rockford Public Library.

The Committee hopes to see everyone Tuesday, November 12, from 6:30 – 8 pm at Just Goods for socializing and shopping. Check out the newest fair trade items! Just Goods will donate 10% of sales to the scholarship fund.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members:

Agnes Cooling, a retired educator and tutor at M.L. King School.

Rev. Muriel Morley Jahn, Pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ in Belvidere,

Karen Hoffman—we're glad you're with us!

Don't forget to collect a donation or two for the Silent Auction on Dec. 7. Bring your items to Giovanni's at 10:30.

If you can't attend, please consider a donation to EF/LAF. Just send a check to Joan Stehulak, 5719 Skinner Rd., Stillman Valley, 61084.

GOURMET INTEREST GROUP by Ramona Cornea



Why do we have a culinary/gourmet interest group within AAUW?

In my web search for inspiration on writing this article about the importance of an international culinary group within the AAUW, I came across this intriguing statement by the comedian and writer Hardeep Singh Kohli: Food defines who we are. People from different parts of the world eat differently.”

In other words, foods are a way that cultural groups express their way of living. People who belong to ethnic groups will have been brought up in a certain style and manner. Their attitudes towards life and people, health and even food choices will be greatly influenced by their ethnic group. These factors are instilled into individuals at an early age and emanate from the country where each of these ethnic groups originates.

Our American society is made up of a wide range of individuals from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Ethnicity refers to a social group, which shares certain distinctive features, such as language, culture, physical appearance, religion, values and customs. Culture refers to how we do and view things in our group. In order for our American society to function efficiently, individuals must learn to integrate and coexist together. One easy and fun way to do this is to sample different types of ethnic foods.

I have been a part of our AAUW gourmet section (international culinary) for the past three years because I liked its concept, organization and application. The coordinators are Katy Paterson and Jean Hero. There are ten to twelve active AAUW participants and the meetings are held monthly or bi-monthly, usually on a Sunday evening.

How it works? First a host and co-host volunteer for a coming meeting. These people are in charge of choosing an ethnic group, historical time, renowned chef or favorite cookbook for a food experience. They do a little research and choose the recipes which are then given to each member of the group.

On the day of the gathering, each one brings the assigned dish and may make a presentation of what she learned about the respective ethnic food/nationality by making the recipe.

Not only these meetings are fun and instructive, but we share a great time and spend the evening in a convivial way with our AAUW friends.

I would like to invite and encourage our AAUW members to sign up for the gourmet group. Just let Katy or Jean know that you are interested in coming.

The Gourmet Group will attend the Romanian Dinner at Midway Village Museum on Nov. 16. Reservations are due by Nov. 12. The flyer with all the details follows on page 5.

Schnucks Cards: Schnucks cards have added about \$33.00 per month to our operating budget. That pays for printing and other communication costs. It is not a credit card but rather tallies purchases and gives AAUW a percentage. If you don't have one, please send an email to Dr. Stephanie Quinn at squinn@rockford.edu. Every little bit helps!



AAUW LUNCHEON & SILENT AUCTION

(benefitting EF/LAF & Branch Programming)

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013

Giovanni's

10:30—Bring Auction Items

11:00—Auction Begins

11:45—Luncheon

12:30—Program-- ***“Songs of the Season and More”*** given by the *Belvidere High School Choraliers* and director, *Karen Cantele*

Luncheon cost is \$25.00. Reservation deadline is Nov. 22.

Menu choices are:

Chicken Piccata: Boneless breast of chicken sautéed with lemon and capers in butter sauce accompanied with julienne vegetables and roasted new potatoes.

Filet of Sirloin: Sirloin seared with a cabernet mushroom demi glace accompanied with julienne vegetables and roasted new potatoes.

Vegetarian Lasagna: Layers of low-fat pasta, zucchini and cheese with a meatless marinara sauce accompanied with duchess sweet potatoes and asparagus.

Name _____ Entree _____

Guest _____ Entree _____

Guest _____ Entree _____

Please send check made out to AAUW Rockford (\$25.00 per person) to Donna Joy, 5474 Roanoke Rd., Rockford, IL 61107. Phone 815-877-4762 or joysc248@att.net for information. **Deadline is Nov. 22.**



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY
WOMEN, ROCKFORD AREA BRANCH

AAUW DONATION AGREEMENT

The American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, research and philanthropy. The organization was founded in 1881 and the Rockford Area Branch in 1929. Our vision is to continue to develop a diverse, involved membership committed to this mission statement.

If you would like to donate a silent auction item for our Dec.7, 2013 event, we will acknowledge your business in our program.

Funds raised will be used for AAUW philanthropies and activities.

BUSINESS NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM _____

Signature of Donor _____

Signature of AAUW Member _____

Thank you for your donation!

ROCKFORD
MANY FACES
ONE COMMUNITY
MIDWAY VILLAGE MUSEUM

**Many Faces Cultural Dining Experience
You're Invited Romanian Traditions
Saturday, November 16, 2013**



Reception: 5:30 pm
Dinner: 6 pm

Guests will learn about different cultures and gain a deeper understanding and appreciation as a result. This fall the theme will focus on Romania. Romanian food and folk dancing by OSANA Folk Dance group as well as a short presentation on Romania and its culinary culture are part of this unique dining experience.

Guests will enjoy:

- . A three-course authentic dinner
- . Festive and lively folk dancing with colorful costumes
- . Handmade folk art on display
- . A talk by Mr. Consul General Predescu with Consulate of Romania in Chicago

Cost is \$25 per guest. For more details or to make a reservation, call Jessica MacDonald at 815-397-9112, ext. 104. **Please make a reservation by Thursday, November 14.**

"We are very excited to have this Romanian event hosted at the Midway Village Museum, the home of Nelson Sock Monkey whose twin brother will represent Rockford at the Sister City Garden in Cluj-Napoca, Romania"

Rockford Sister City Committee for Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Midway Village Museum

6799 Guilford Road . Rockford . IL . 61107

www.midwayvillage.com

815-397-9112



Hi, I'm Nelson, the Ambassador of Rockford to Cluj-Napoca.