



# The INITIATIVE

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN—ROCKFORD AREA BRANCH

Website: [www.aauw-il.org/rockford](http://www.aauw-il.org/rockford) September 2012

## CALENDAR 2012

### SEPTEMBER

11 Branch Event, 6 to 8 PM  
Rockford Public Library East  
*"The Play's the Thing" discussion by  
Margaret Raether of AE.*

18 Book Beat 12:45 PM  
Contact hostess, Claire Linden  
815.399.7334

30 Gourmet Group Picnic, 5:30 p.m. at  
Lakewood Hills Shelter House,  
4188 Lakeside Dr.  
Call Katy Paterson 815.964.0089

### OCTOBER

1 LWV Candidate Forum for State  
Representatives and Senators, 5:30 to  
8:30 PM at Rockford College Burpee  
Center-- *Focus on Social Issues*

3 International Affairs Interest Group  
6:30 PM at the home of Faye Marcus  
815.877.4285

16 Book Beat 12:45 Contact hostess Diane  
Kuehl 815.229.7235

25 Branch Event, 6-8 PM at Rockford  
College Grace Roper Lounge  
*Game Changer!--Celebrating Forty  
Years of Title IX.*

### NOVEMBER

9-10 Bergner Days Coupon Weekend

20 Book Beat 12:45 Contact hostess  
Barbara Simon 815.637.6430

### DECEMBER

1 Branch Event 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Luncheon, Musical Program and Silent  
Auction benefitting ED/LAF  
Cliffbreakers Restaurant

### PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Welcome to Rockford Area Branch's 83<sup>rd</sup> year and our 2012-2013 season! We have lots of history behind us but we want to show our commitment to the branch's current vision of community engagement, working with coalitions, educating our membership and supporting women and girls.

First let me introduce our newest members:

**Lynn Fischer-Carlson**      **Tammy Schulz**  
**Judge Janet Holmgren**      **Wanda Hoover**  
**Pastor Amy Nyman**

We look forward to meeting you at branch events!

Our programs will present talented women in various roles of Rockford life. We have local playwright Margaret Raether featured at our opening meeting on September 11, followed by local leaders in sports on the Title IX panel on October 25. The year ends with Janyce Fadden, President of the Rockford Area Economic Development Council, speaking about keeping our young people engaged in Rockford life. In between comes our Holiday luncheon where we will be entertained by two fab local singers, a program about traveling in China by Faye Marcus and a membership social event.

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## **2012-2013 BOARD**

**President**—Barbara Simon

**President Elect**—Dr. Stephanie Quinn

**Program VP's**—Donna Joy & Faye Marcus

**Membership VP's**—Christine Haeggquist & Jean Herro

**Secretary**—Katy Paterson

**Treasurer**—Joan Stehulak

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Initiative Editor**—Jo Sullons

**Directory Editor**—Regina Potts

**Public Policy**—Faye Marcus & Donna Joy

**Publicity**—Annie Hose-Ryan & Judy Schultz

**International Affairs**—Pat Gomez

**Silent Auction**—Karen Weedman

**Bergner Days**—Jo Sullons

**Women In My History**—Joan Tunnell

**Archives**—Katy Paterson

**Book Beat Liaison**—Carole Newcomer

**Gourmet Liaison**—Katy Paterson

Check our website:

[www.aauw-il.org/rockford](http://www.aauw-il.org/rockford)

Having a *SCHNUCKS eSCRIP* Customer Card helps AAUW receive 1% of the total of your purchases. Your gas purchases count, too, and you can shop at Logli or Hilander!

(If we had more people, we would receive 2%).

Barbara Simon can easily add you to our donor list.

In other board news, Pres.-elect Dr. Stephanie Quinn and Dr. Catherine Forslund, both professors at Rockford College, are exploring the idea of having RC become a college/university partner with AAUW. This would connect the students and the institution with AAUW and allow them access to all the funding opportunities that AAUW has. Undergraduates at affiliated colleges can join AAUW as branch student affiliates or national student affiliates for \$17.00.

Our branch was also invited to become a partner with Riverside Community Bank. Marsha Abramson, VP-Operations at RCB, is interested in networking with area women's groups to increase the pool of women hearing about jobs that are available at the bank. We will do this by forwarding her emails to interested parties.

Our first scholarship fundraiser begins soon. The sale of Bergner Days Coupon Books is very easy and earned us over \$700.00 last year. Please see the article below for details.

You can see that we have lots to do this fall. I look forward to seeing you at AAUW events.

**Barbara Simon, President**

## **THE PLAY'S THE THING by Donna Joy and Faye Marcus**

Our first speaker of the year, Margaret Raether, first encountered P.G. Wodehouse in the form of a bettered secondhand paperback copy of *The Code of the Woosters* when she was in college. This, as Bogart once famously observed, was "the beginning of a beautiful friendship." She has penned three adaptations of some of "Plums" earliest published stories, JEEVES INTERVENES, JEEVES IN BLOOM, and JEEVES TAKES A BOW.

Margaret will be bringing two actors, David Gingerich and Gary Wingert, to our Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> event. They will perform the opening scene of the play.

Margaret is a founding member of Artists' Ensemble Theatre where her husband, Richard, is the artistic director.

We hope that AAUW members will be able to attend the play. Tickets are available at for performances (including some matinees) from Sept. 9 – 23. Call 815.394.5004 for ticket information.

## BOOK BEAT 2012-13

**Sept. 18 *The Kitchen House* by Kathleen Grissom**

Hostess: Claire Lindem

Reviewer: Kathy Dierstein

**Oct. 16 *Catherine the Great* by Robert K. Massie**

Hostess: Diane Kuehl

Reviewer: group discussion

**Nov. 20 *The Tiger's Wife* by Tia Obrecht**

Hostess: Barbara Simon

Reviewer: Carole Newcomer

**Jan. 15 *In the Garden of Beasts* by Eric Larson**

Hostess: Faye Marcus

Reviewer: Diane Kuehl

**Feb. 19 *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot**

Hostess: TBA

Reviewer: Barbara Simon

**New interest group members are always welcome. Just call the hostess.**



***Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday to member Kathleen Barch!***

### **SAVE THE DATE—GAME CHANGER! by Christine Haeggquist**

Forty years ago this year, Congress passed Title IX (the law prohibiting gender discrimination in education) and started leveling America's playing field. The legislation guaranteed women equal access to academic and athletic programs at federally funded schools. AAUW was instrumental in helping to pass this legislation.

Between 1972 and 2010, the number in female collegiate athletics grew 622 percent thanks to college scholarships awarded in the wake of Title IX.

**TITLE IX – 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENT  
THURSDAY, October 25, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Rockford College—Grace Roper Lounge**

A panel consisting of athletic directors, coaches and PE teachers from surrounding school districts, Rock Valley College and Rockford College will join AAUW members to tell about their experiences. Emily Tropp from the Rockford Register Star will moderate.

Our daughters and granddaughters have and are continuing to benefit from this legislation. Please join us for the discussion.

**AAUW—because equity is still an issue.**

### **BERGNER DAYS COUPON BOOKS SALE by Jo Sullons**

The Bergners Stores offers the community an opportunity to raise funds by selling coupon books in advance of their Veteran's Day Weekend Sale (Nov. 10 and 11). Books are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$25.00. We get to keep the money from any books we sell and also get a percentage of booklets sold at the store. Each coupon book several coupons for specific areas. They are not able to be used on Bergner's Incredible Values items but are good for many lines that are not usually on sale. (Think about your holiday shopping needs).

**We need your help!** You can purchase coupon books and use them yourself or give them to family or friends. You can also volunteer to spend two hours with another AAUW member selling coupon books at one of the store entrances on the weekend of Nov. 10 -11. Unfortunately, the books will not be ready for our Sept. 11 meeting but I will take names and see that you get them. **Please say "Yes" to helping and email Jo Sullons at [gsullons@aol.com](mailto:gsullons@aol.com) if you need coupon books. Thanks!**

## **SILENT AUCTION**

**by Karen Weedman**

Our silent auction is always eagerly anticipated—those delicious pies, that fudge—Mmmmm!

Please be thinking about getting donations as you are going about the city this fall. People really enjoy getting restaurant meals, wine baskets and tickets to special events.

Also—your handmade items are always in demand—scarves, jewelry or items for your home.

The AAUW donation agreement will be attached to this Initiative. Copy it as many times as you wish and keep it in your purse so that you can ask at your favorite restaurant or place of business.

**See you on Dec. 1!**

**YOUR 2012-13 DIRECTORY WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SEPT. 11 OR WILL BE SENT OUT SOON AFTER. Please let a board member know if you do not have one or are not receiving communications.**

**GOURMET INTEREST GROUP** meets monthly at member's homes. Interested "Foodies" are always welcome to join. Please call Katy Paterson for more information (815-964-0089). See page one to learn about the Sept. 30 picnic.

## **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS by Pat Gomez**

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual International Day of Peace Program will take place on Friday, Sept. 21 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Keeling- Puri Peace Plaza. Children from area school districts will be participating in the program by writing their own version of the Universal Declaration of Children's Rights. We need YOU, AAUW members, to help!

There are two shifts: 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Please email Faye Marcus at [fe.marcus@att.net](mailto:fe.marcus@att.net) to sign up to help.

Each class attending the International Day of Peace will receive the book "*A Life Like Mine: How Children Live Around the World.*" Dr. Barbara Reynolds, Sr. Advisor, Special Projects for UNICEF will be a special speaker at the event. And guess who else will be there? Eleanor Roosevelt, founder of UNICEF, will appear. Megan Wells, a local storyteller, will represent Eleanor Roosevelt in full costume.

### **International Affairs Interest Group Meeting**

The International Affairs Interest Group will meet on Oct. 3, 6:30 p.m., at the home of Faye Marcus, 5676 Haddon Place. The topic for the year will be **Women In Education Around The World** and will focus on international partnerships that enhance educational opportunities for women and girls.

Did you know that there are many international students at Rockford College and Rock Valley College? Would you like to have contact with them and find out how they plan to help their home countries when they complete their education?

The AAUW Education Foundation provides International Fellowships to students from other countries who want to further their education through graduate studies. Let's help students apply for these grants and meet others that are studying at nearby universities with AAUW International Fellowships.

### **PUBLIC POLICY**

**AAUW'S IT'S MY VOTE—I WILL BE HEARD** campaign encourages everyone to vote on Nov. 6. Special emphasis is being placed on encouraging young women of the millennial generation to vote. Voting becomes a habit and allows everyone to have their voice.