



# The *INITIATIVE*

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN—ROCKFORD AREA BRANCH

Website: rockfordarea-il.aauw.net

September, 2013

## Calendar 2013-14

**Wednesday, September 11, 6 - 8 pm, RPL East Branch**  
**Speaker Pablo Korona, "Our City, Our Story"**

**Tuesday, October 22, 6:00 - 8 pm, RPL East Branch**  
**Speaker—Kerry Leigh, Executive Director of the**  
**Natural Land Institute**

**Saturday, October 26, 9:00 am - 12:15 pm**  
**District 4 & 5 Conference at Oakton Community**  
**College**

**Tuesday, November 12, 6:30 - 8 pm, Just Goods**  
**Social Time & Shopping at Just Goods**

**Saturday, December 7, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm, Giovanni's**  
**Holiday Luncheon & Silent Auction benefitting EF/LAF**  
**Belvidere High School Choral Ensemble**

**Saturday, January 18, 2014, 11:30 am - 3:00 pm**  
**Networking Luncheon, Deerfield Embassy Suites,**  
**Deerfield, IL Speaker Laura Caldwell, Director of**  
**Life After Innocence**

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

**Monday, March 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.**

**Wednesday, April 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**

**Saturday, May 17, TBA Annual Meeting**  
**Speaker—Dr. Ehren Jarrett, Supt. of District 205**  
**Intro of STEM Scholarship winners**

### Membership Information:

Contact Christine Haeggquist @ 815-624-0579  
or [chaeggquis@aol.com](mailto:chaeggquis@aol.com)

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Welcome back, everyone! As you can see in the left column, we have an exciting year of events planned. I would like to thank our program committee led by Donna Joy and Marsha Ackerman for planning a great variety of programs that are interesting and also meet the goals of AAUW. Committee members were Sheryl Hall, Faye Marcus, Diane Kuehl and Pat Gomez.

The Artale wine tasting in July raised \$1000.00 for scholarships. That's fantastic! Thanks go to Diane Kuehl for chairing and also for signing us up for a possible future date. On page 2, you will find a wonderful letter from Sarah Timm, one of our 2013 recipients.

Jo Sullens and Joan Stehulak arranged the dining at Lone Star Steakhouse fundraiser. Thanks!

I'm also appreciative of the help of Christine Haeggquist, Dr. Stephanie Quinn and Donna Joy for revising our Branch's strategic plan. It will be published in the directory.

Christine, Judy Jolly and Judy Schultz have formed a dynamic membership committee to help us retain and find new members. Remember that guests and prospective members are welcome at any event.

Below you will see a list of committees for this year. We are off to a great start and I hope to see you on Sept. 11.

### **Barbara Simon, President**

We are kicking off our 2013-2014 AAUW Program Year with a wonderful presentation.

Pablo Korona is a young film maker in Rockford who has made several videos showing how different people in Rockford have contributed to making our city a good place to live. Pablo will present his video that focuses on women in Rockford to AAUW! Please come, bring friends, family, etc. You will be really impressed with this young man and what is being done in Rockford, sometimes behind the scenes.

**Wednesday, Sept. 11, 6 - 8 pm**  
**RPL East Branch, 6685 E. State St.**  
**Treats will be served.**

**Faye Marcus**

## 2013-2014 OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President—Barbara Simon**

**Program VP's— Donna Joy & Marsha Ackerman**

**Membership VP—Christine Haeggquist**

**Secretary—Katy Paterson**

**Treasurer—Joan Stehulak**

## APPOINTED COMMITTEES

**Membership—Judy Jolly & Judy Schultz**

**Public Policy—Faye Marcus & Wanda Hoover**

**Publicity—Annie Hose-Ryan & Ramona Cornea**

**Initiative Editor—Barbara Simon**

**Rockford University Liaison—Dr. Stephanie Quinn**

**Scholarship Committee—Diane Kuehl**

**Schnucks Cards—Dr. Stephanie Quinn**

**Winetasting—Diane Kuehl**

**Directory—Barbara Simon**

**Book Beat Liaison—Carole Newcomer**

**Gourmet Liaison—Katy Paterson**

**International Affairs—Andrea Wight & Jean Herro**

**Silent Auction—Karen Weedman & Carole Johnson**

**Archives—Katy Paterson**

**Webmaster—Leslie Sauerbrei & Barbara Simon**

## BOOKBEAT-2013-14

**Sept. 17—*The Year the Lights Came On* by Willie Morris**

Reviewer: Kathy Dierstein Hostess: Barbara Simon

**Oct. 15—*Coco Chanel: An Intimate Life* by Lisa Chaney**

Reviewer: TBA Hostess: Faye Marcus

**Nov. 19—*The Garden of Evening Mist* by Tan Twan Eng**

Reviewer: Barbara Simon Hostess: Ruth Siegfried

**Jan. 21—*Fludd* by Hilary Martel**

Reviewer: Enid Michalowski Hostess: TBA

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Donna Joy, who has been a member of AAUW for 50 years.

**BEST WISHES** to Susan Turner, who has moved to the Denver, Colorado area.

## Oct. 22, 6 – 8 pm at RPL East Branch

Speaker **Kerry Leigh** has an extensive background in horticulture, restoration ecology, watershed planning and management of natural resources.

The Natural Land Institute is a non-profit organization whose mission is to create an enduring legacy of natural land in northern Illinois for people, plants and animals. Since 1958, the NLI has helped to preserve and restore more than 16,000 acres of natural land in northern IL.

As executive director of the Natural Land Institute, she will speak about her role as a woman in a non-traditional field of science, about her work for the Institute and what NLI does.

**LETTER EXCERPT FROM SARAH TIMM**, one of our 2013 scholarship winners:

Dear AAUW Women,

I am filled with both honor and excitement as I thank the Rockford Branch...for finding me worthy of such a scholarship as yours. The night of the ceremony I found all the women not only welcoming, but also fascinating! Such brilliance and joy for life could not possibly be found anywhere else that night. My mother and I had a wonderful time meeting many members and getting to know more about AAUW and what it is really about.

Everyone please take care and thank you for making a difference in my future at Monmouth College!

With Love,

Sarah Timm

**AAUW—Breaking through barriers for women and girls.**

**DECEMBER 7, 11:00 am, LUNCHEON & SILENT**

**AUCTION, Giovanni's** –We always have a great time at our luncheon party benefitting EF/LAF. This year the music will be provided by the Belvidere High School Chorale directed by Karen Cantele.

Please start collecting or making your items for the silent auction. Original art work, jewelry and other creative ideas are always popular. When you visit your favorite restaurants and shops, ask for gift certificates. Of course, your home bakery items and food products are always appreciated.

Page four is the Donation Letter which you can copy and carry with you this fall.

**CONVENTION REPORT** BY Faye Marcus

From June 9-12, about 800 women from all over the U.S.A. and Puerto Rico came to New Orleans to celebrate AAUW at our biennial national convention. It is always a great time to reconnect with AAUW friends and meet new friends. There were lots of workshops on membership, financial information, programming, international affairs, scholarships, college-university partnerships and more. We heard some great speakers, ate great food and had a wonderful time. I brought back some good information for our board that we can use throughout this year and beyond. If you want more information, just go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). Click on the Convention link at the top of the home page.

Save the Date: June 18-21, 2015

AAUW CONVENTION IN BEAUTIFUL SAN DIEGO, CA.

**SCHNUCKS CARDS**--Our Branch is now averaging about \$33.00 per month from our Schnucks cards donors. If you don't have one, please email Dr. Stephanie Quinn at [squinn@rockford.edu](mailto:squinn@rockford.edu) to get one. It's not a credit card but rather designates some of the profit of your shopping to AAUW. Every little bit helps our branch! Thank you!

**PUBLIC POLICY** by Faye Marcus

AAUW public policy is always making news. I have been appointed to the National Public Policy Committee. As part of this committee, I will help to determine the focus of our public policy agenda for National AAUW. Any of you who know me are aware that public policy is my passion. I am very excited to be part of this committee.

Here are some things that are happening. AAUW supports our state organizations by awarding Impact Grants. These are 2 year grants that allow state AAUW's to focus on certain issues. Eleven states were awarded grants and Illinois is one of them. In fact, Illinois was awarded 2 of the grants to focus on STEM and Pay Equity. Illinois and Missouri were awarded a cooperative grant focusing on ERA (Equal Rights Amendment). This amendment has not passed in several states-Illinois and Missouri being 2 of them.

During the past few weeks, I have taken part in 2 conference calls. One was with the state public policy chairs from Impact Grant states. The other was with Tina Chang, assistant to President Obama and Chief of Staff to Michelle Obama. Ms. Chang is also the Executive Director of the White House Council on Women and Girls. Secy of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sibelius also joined us. It was really interesting to hear them speak about health care and how the Affordable Health Care Act will positively affect women's health care. For more information go to [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov). There are fact sheets regarding the new health care initiatives that will begin Oct. 1, 2013. You can find those on [www.marketplace.cms.gov](http://www.marketplace.cms.gov)

I will keep you informed about important AAUW public policy issues.

## **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS—Andrea Wight and Jean Herro**

- AAUW and YWCA are collaborating to bring the documentary **“Girls Rising”** back to the area. Just go to <http://gathr.us/screening5356> to order a ticket. The film will be shown at **Showplace 16** on **Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m.** The cost is \$10.00. The deadline to order is **Sept. 10**. 100 tickets must be sold by that date to have a showing. (You will not be charged unless 100 tickets are sold).
- Member Ramona Cornea has invited AAUW members to attend the **“Many Faces Cultural Dining Experience—Romanian Traditions”** which will be held on **Saturday, November 16, 2013** at **Midway Village Museum**. The reception is at 5:30 and dinner at 6:00 p.m., followed by folk dancing and talk by Mr. Consul General Predescu from the Consulate of Romania in Chicago. The cost is \$25.00.

The AAUW Gourmet Interest Group is planning to attend. A flyer about the dinner will follow.

- The **Social and Shopping at Just Goods** on **Tuesday, Nov. 12, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** will benefit those workers around the world who need to sell their goods for a fair price and have good working conditions to produce them. AAUW members will receive a 10% discount that evening and be able to enjoy a glass of wine while they shop. Marsha Ackerman and Wanda Hoover will chair this event.

## **MONTH OF PEACE IN THE ROCKFORD AREA—Faye Marcus**

For the past 11 years, the International Day of Peace has been celebrated on or near Sept. 21 at the Keeling-Puri Peace Plaza on McFarland Rd. in Rockford. Many school children in our area have participated in some wonderful activities. This has truly become a community event.

This year the International Day of Peace has expanded to an International Month of Peace. For the past several months, I have represented AAUW at planning meetings for this special month. Pam and Jim Keeling have devoted their time to guiding these groups in planning many activities focusing on PEACE. With all that is going on in the world and with the crime in Rockford we need to think about what we as groups and individually can do to foster peace in our homes, communities, schools, religious organizations, cities, towns, states, country, and the world. Perhaps if we began to focus on activities that would bring groups of all ages, ethnicities, races, genders, socio-economic sectors together, we could encourage people to behave more peacefully towards one another.

This year, the International Day of Peace will take place on Friday, September 20 from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. If you would like to volunteer at this event, please email Faye: [fe.marcus@att.net](mailto:fe.marcus@att.net). Look at the flyer in this bulletin for more information.

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!**