



The *INITIATIVE*

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN—ROCKFORD AREA BRANCH

Website: rockfordarea-il.aauw.net

January 2015

Calendar 2015

Sat., Feb. 7, 11:30 am – 3:00 pm
Networking Luncheon, Deerfield Embassy Suites,
Deerfield, IL Speaker-- Dr. Lisa Elliot, author of *Pink
Brain, Blue Brain: How Small Differences Grow Into
Troublesome Gaps and What We Can Do About It*

Sunday, Feb 8, 12:30 p.m. Dining Explorers Interest
Group at Ojeda's Steak House, 6030 11th Street

Sat., Feb.21, 11:00 am, 2nd Congregational-1st
Presbyterian Church, 318 N. Church St.,
Potluck Luncheon with a Middle Eastern Theme.
Speaker—Dr. Andrea Azar—*Art, Culture and Islam in
the Middle East: A Woman's Perspective*

Fri., Feb. 27, 12 Noon--*Let's Do Friday Lunch* at
Garrett's on Bell School Rd.

Thurs., Mar. 12, 6:00 to 8:30 pm, Girl Scout
Headquarters, 2820 McFarland Rd., Speaker-- The
Reverend Amy Nyman—*Juliette Gordon Low*

Sun., Mar. 8 or 15, TBA—LWV & AAUW Forum for
School Board Candidates for District 205

Tues., April 14—*Equal Pay Day*

Thurs., Apr. 16, 6:00 pm, Olive Garden Restaurant,
Speaker—RVC Professor Dr. Paulette Gilbert, *Maya
Angelou*

May 1 & 2, 2014 AAUW-IL Convention at Pheasant Run

Sat., May 16, Forest Hills CC, Annual Meeting
Speaker—RVC President Dr. Michael Mastroianni,
Introduction of STEM winners

June 18 – 21, Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina,
San Diego, CA—AAUW National Convention

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year, everyone, and I hope that it will be a healthy one for you and your families.

To the left you see a list of programs and activities that are directed to the Branch's Vision of lifelong learning and community engagement and collaboration. The board is excited about our 2015 season and I hope that you will get all the dates into your calendar ASAP.

Many thanks go to Karen Weedman, Agnes Cooling and Janet Bursiek for doing a tremendous job on the December auction. A total of \$1132.00 was received, enabling us to support the Educational Foundation and the Legal Aid Fund with \$500.00 each. The luncheon at Franchesco's was also lovely, thanks to Regina Potts and Marsha Ackerman. Sharon Boehlefeld has prepared a picture page of the event on page 2.

Welcome to new member Patricia Kaufman who joined at the Dec. luncheon. She is a teacher at Spectrum School and remembers that her mother was also a member of AAUW.

We have bought ads and brochures this year as part of marketing ourselves to the community. Still the best marketing, however, is personal contact and an invitation to one of our events.

Please invite a friend to any of our spring meetings. The potluck on Feb. 21 will have interesting food and a great speaker, Dr. Andrea Azar. The Feb. 27 lunch is just for fun. The April 16 event about Maya Angelou will have literary appeal. All these events will give you an opportunity to invite a guest.

Lastly, the scholarship committee is ready to receive applications for our STEM Scholarships. Also, we thank the family of William and Donna Joy who have made a generous donation to our scholarship fund in memory of their parents.

Barbara Simon, President

LEARN ACT CONNECT

Public Policy On the Go

Faye Marcus, Public Policy Chair

The new legislative session both in Springfield and in Washington D.C. is starting up.

I would like to schedule some in-district meetings with our Congress-people-Rep. Adam Kinsinger (16th Congressional District) and Rep. Cheri Bustos (17th Congressional District) during the winter recess time (Feb. 16-20). Rep. Kinsinger has an office in Belvidere and Rep. Bustos has an office in Rockford. During these visits we will introduce ourselves and AAUW and discuss the AAUW public policy agenda. I have lots of information. It would be great to go with others so please let me know if you would be interested. I may also ask other organizations-League of Women Voters and YWCA- to join in. We can also schedule meetings with our state representatives and senators.

Dates to remember:

March 8 or 15: League of Women Voters will sponsor a candidate forum for our local school board election- RPS 205. I will let you know when the exact date has been confirmed. There are seven seats on the school board and 3 are up for election. Please take advantage and attend the forum. This will give everyone an opportunity to hear what they have to say and to ask questions.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7: School board election. Please vote. The children in our community depend on your participation.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14: Equal Pay Day. If anyone has any ideas of how to focus on Equal Pay Day, just holler. We have received proclamations from the Rockford City Council and from the Winnebago County Board. I also wrote an op-ed column that was published in the RRS last Equal Pay Day.

Book Beat Reading List: 2015

Feb. 17 *Nora Webster* by Colm Tobin
Reviewer: Barbara Simon
Hostess: Ruth Siegfried

Mar. 17 *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova
Reviewer: Faye Marcus
Hostess: Marlene Mizen

April 21 Since we will have a speaker about **Maya Angelou** at a branch event on April 16, the group will choose among several of her works for **Bookbeat**. They are: ***Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now*** (essays published in 1993), ***The Heart of a Woman*** (autobiographical from age 57 – 62), ***All God's Children Need Travelling Shoes***(age 62-65), ***A Song Flung Up to Heaven*** (age 65-68), or ***Mom and Me and Mom*** (overview).

May 19 *Bully Pulpit* by Doris Kearns Goodwin.
Reviewer: Kathy Dierstein
Hostess: Beckie Weber

All meetings begin at 12:45 on the third Tuesday of the month. Please call the hostess if you would to come.

LET'S DO FRIDAY LUNCH

We will meet (usually) on the 4th Friday of the month. On Feb. 27, the luncheon will be at Garrett's. Please call or email **Regina Potts** for a reservation. rp226@aol.co 815-262-6504

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

Please add to your yearbook: Patricia Kaufman, 3428 Burlwood Dr., Rockford IL 61114. 815-985-3993 pkau@aol.com

AAUW POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Saturday, February 21, 11:00 a.m.

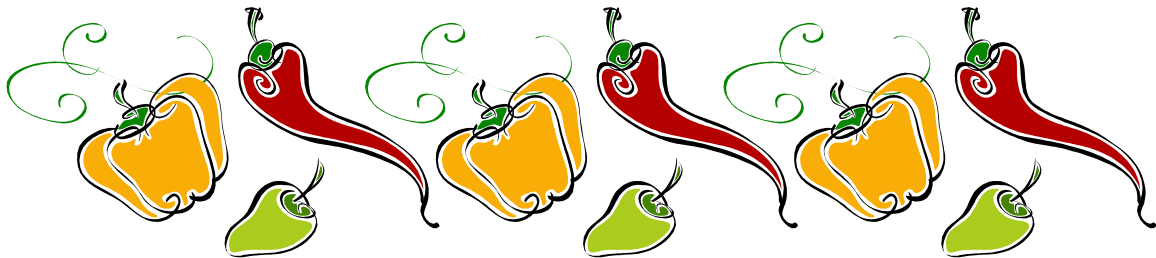
Second Congregational/First Presbyterian Church

318 North Church Street

Art, Culture and Islam in the Middle East:

A Woman's Perspective

Speaker: Dr. Andrea Azar



Please join us for an inviting array of delicious foods from middle eastern countries that will complement our speaker's topic. Sheryl Hall and Jean Herro have chosen a menu of soups, salads, main dishes and desserts and will send you a recipe of your choosing. A list of dishes will be available in another document.

If you would rather make a recipe of your own, middle eastern or not, that is OK, too. Just come and enjoy the event and bring a guest!

Beverages will be provided.

Please reply to Sheryl Hall (sa_design@msn.com or 815-298-9194) by Feb. 11 so that she and Jean have time to respond with recipes.

Please enter at the south parking lot door or the street level door on the east.



AAUW FEBRUARY 21 POTLUCK LUNCHEON RECIPE LIST

Choose something from this list and Sheryl Hall will send you the recipe (sa_design@msn.com) or you can bring a dish of your own choosing. Please let Sheryl know by Feb. 11 so that we will have a nice assortment of foods.

Lentil soup—2 people, 1 recipe each

Pita Bread—1 person, 3 packages cut into wedges and heated in a dry electric skillet

Pita Chips—1 person, 3 packages—plain

Yogurt and cucumber salad with mint—2 orders @ \$4.99—Ali Baba—Sheryl

Hummus—2 orders @\$4.99 each—Ali Baba—1 person

Carrot Salad—1 recipe—1 person

Tabouleh Cracked Wheat Salad—1 recipe—1 person

Jerusalem Salad w/ Tahini Dressing—2 people, 1 recipe each

Spinach Salad w/ Feta Cheese—1 recipe—1 person

Saffron Rice w/ Toasted Almonds and Sesame Seeds—1 person—double recipe

Wedding Pilaf—1 person—double recipe

Caramelized Yellow Peppers—1 person—double recipe

Eggplant Casserole—1 person—1 recipe

Kefta Meatballs—2 people—1 recipe each

Aromatic Cardamon Lamb—2 people, 1 recipe each—Barbara and ?

Chicken with Pomegranate Sauce—2 people, 1 recipe each

Rice Cream w/ cinnamon and lemon peel—1 person, 1 recipe

Baklava—walnut—1 person--Sheryl

Baklava—any flavor—1 person

Spicy Butter Cookies—Barbara

Bottled Waters (small)—30—1 person

Hot tea with cinnamon and clove--Jean