

AAUW EVENTS CALENDAR 2017—2018

Friday, Sept.1: 10:30am at Katie's Cup — Round Table Discussion Group — Led by Dr. Christina Kamer

Thursday, Sept.7: 6:30pm at the University Club — Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence — Pam Clark-Reidenbach

Wednesday, Sept.13 at 5:30pm at Cherry Valley District Library — Monthly AAUW Board Meeting

Tuesday, Sept.19 at 12:45pm with Carol Jacobs — Book Beat: *The Last Days of Night*

Tuesday, Sept.26: 5:30pm at North Suburban Library — Human Trafficking 101 — RAASE speakers/+ LWV

Friday, Sept.29: 12:00pm at Cucina di Rosa — Let's Do Lunch

Wednesday, Oct.11 at 5:30pm at Cherry Valley District Library — Monthly AAUW Board Meeting

Saturday, Oct.21 at IIT-Rice Campus, Wheaton — Illinois Districts 4 & 5 Northern Conference

Thursday, Nov.9: 6:00pm at Tavern on Clark — K-FACT - Keeping Families & Communities Together — Led by Shamika Williams

Saturday, December 9: 11:00am at Franchesco's — Holiday Luncheon and Silent Auction — "Rickrack Attack" by Nancy Hanewell, The Apron Lady

Sunday, January 14 TENTATIVE — Film: "Equal Means Equal"

February date/location TBD — STEM Program — Led by Deepshika Shukla

March date/location TBD — Women Firefighters: Girls Fire Camp for Ages 9-13 — Chief Derek Bergsten

April date/location TBD — Program TBD

Saturday, May 19 11:00am at Forest Hills Country Club — Annual Meeting and Luncheon, STEM Scholarship Awards
Keynote Speaker: Mayor Tom McNamara

Tuesday, July 17 at the University Club — Tip the Bartender 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope everyone had a great summer! One of the highlights for AAUW members was the Membership Tea at the home of Barbara Simon on 815 day. We were able to enjoy the weather and her beautiful gardens while engaging in relaxing conversations with others from AAUW. As a result of the delightful evening, we have a new member Mirela Zemani. Please join me in welcoming her.

Often when looking for inspiration we look outside or we look to the past. This past summer, I found that we need only to look within our own community to see progressive movement for women. Rockford is divided into three policing districts. Each with their own station and Division Chief. It should be noted that the position for Deputy Chief belongs to Karla Redd. She with the other two Deputy Chiefs are second in command.

Next is our Fire Department where Chief Bergsten has been actively recruiting and advocating for women firefighters. There his second in command is Chief of Operations, Michelle Pankow and the Division Administrator for the 911 center is Leigh Sterrenberg. In addition, out of a class of 15 recruits, a woman was selected to be the next person hired. She was selected because throughout the entire process, she ranked the highest. To encourage future interest in firefighting, a female firefighter with the support of the Chief held a 2nd Alarm Girls Camp this summer. It was aimed at 11 to 13-year-olds.

You can view a video of the camp at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WAig7wR6nuM>

Not to be outdone, the Carpenters have formed Sisters in the Brotherhood (www.sistersinthebrotherhood.org). This organization provides craft and leadership training, advocates on women's issues and mentors new members.

We are moving in the right direction and as I learn more, I will relay the information.

Enjoy the Fall!

Karen Hoffman, President

NOTE: The Rockford Area Branch bylaws will now be on our website instead in the directory. If you want to have a paper copy, please keep this year's directory.

Guests are welcome at all events. Let's invite interesting and active women to our events!

Please RSVP to Regina Potts by Monday, Sept. 4th.

Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence (NICNE) has provided capacity building, training, technical assistance and resource support to nonprofit organizations in the region since 2004.



Thursday, Sept. 7, 6:30pm at the University Club
Pam Clark-Reidenbach will speak about NICNE.
Note that this is **not** a dinner, but drinks may be purchased.



THU, AUG 24 1:00 PM
**The Story We're Telling: Reframing Your Organization's
 Message to Create Action & Support**
 NIU - Rockford, Rockford



WED, SEP 6 8:30 AM
Exchange on Volunteerism, September 2017: Making
Meaningful Volunteer Experiences
NIU - Rockford, Room 204, Rockford



WED, OCT 4 8:30 AM
Exchange on Volunteerism, October 2017: Technology and Today's Volunteer
NIU - Rockford, Room 204, Rockford



WED, NOV 1 8:30 AM
Exchange on Vol., Nov. 2017: Paperwork, Paperwork, & More
Paperwork!
NIIJ - Rockford, Room 204 Rockford



WED. DEC 6 8:30 AM
Exchange on Volunteerism, December 2017: Background
Checks
NIU - Rockford, Room 204, Rockford



**Round Table Discussion
Group — 10:30am, Sept. 1
at Katie's Cup**

LET'S DO
LUNCH

Noon on Sept. 29
at Cucina di Rosa

Save this SEPTEMBER date!



HUMAN TRAFFICKING 101

What do you know about Human Trafficking?

Come and learn what RAASE (Rockford Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation) is doing about this issue in the Rockford area.

This is a joint AAUW & League of Women Voters program.
Presenters: Jennifer Cacciapaglia and Lori Johnson
Legislative Update by Special Guest State Rep. Litesa Wallace
TUESDAY, SEPT. 26: 5:30pm – 7:30pm
North Suburban Library
6340 N. 2ND St.
Loves Park, IL

Meet Our 2017 STEM Scholars

Rhea Bridgeland – Byron High School



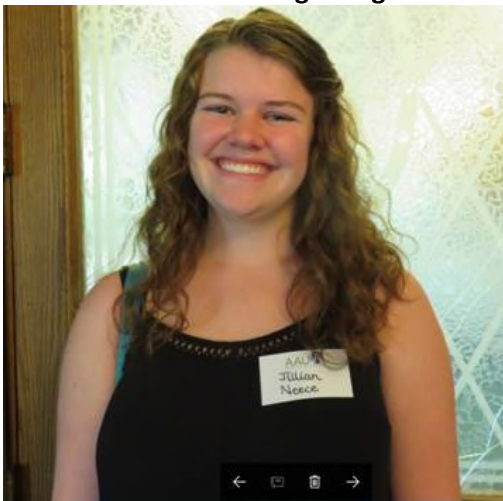
Rhea graduated from Byron High School and is going to study Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her “long term career goals center on my passion for environmental science, soil and water conservation.” Rhea’s math teacher claims that “her extraordinary academic performance was one of the best” in his teaching career. Rhea’s Agriculture teacher has “no doubt that Rhea will become one of the leaders in this valuable profession.”

Lexy graduated from Rochelle Township High School and is going to study Chemical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology. Her chemistry, math and physics courses made her eligible to attend a week-long Materials Science Camp at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee where she studied “tensile testing, solar cell constructing and electroplating... Studying chemistry has taught me to view the world more analytically...I make connections between related phenomena that ordinarily would seem obscure.” Her chemistry, physics and math teachers rate her as number one of all students they have taught through the years. The math teacher related that he “created a higher-level calculus course just for Lexy.”

Lexy LeMar – Rochelle Township High School



Jillian Neece – Hononegah High School



Jillian graduated from Hononegah High School and is going to study Medical Laboratory Science at Northwestern University. Jillian is “most passionate about is Microbiology, Epidemiology and Forensic Pathology.” Besides her rigorous High School academic schedule, she was also involved in the Math Club and the Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering Team. Her AP Biology teacher said that Jillian “possesses the intelligence, dedication and people skills to be successful in a STEM career.”

Treasurer's Report — Katy Paterson

August 17, 2017

Operating Fund

Beginning Balance \$3,681.96

Receipts

Dues 434.00

Schnucks Scrip 32.04

Disbursements

Dues 620.00

Ending balance @ August 17, 2017 \$3,528.00

Scholarship Fund

Beginning Balance \$10,813.62

Ending balance @ August 17, 2017 \$10,813.62

As of August 17, 2017, we have 43 paid and 5 life members.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Cherry Valley Library. Meetings start at 5:30pm and will conclude by 7:00pm.

Members are always welcome to attend.

Membership Report — Angelique Bodine

Hello everyone! As you read in the last issue of the Initiative Newsletter, I am your new VP of Membership. As this is my very first report for our newsletter, I would like to express how honored I am to be able to serve such a fine organization of women who share such incredible values! Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

It is my honor to welcome five new members to our ranks! At the annual Tip the Bartender event, Rock Valley College Professors Erin Fisher, PhD and Liz Hanson, PhD, along with Rockford Public School Teachers Barb Chidley and Marianna Ruggerio became members. Also, at this month's Member Tea, Rockford University Professor Mirela Zemani joined our ranks. Welcome also to RVC Professor Theresa (Paulette) Gilbert, our February 2017 speaker on "Hidden Figures." Welcome ladies! I'd like to encourage everyone to tell all your friends about the fine work we do, inviting them to events and encouraging them to join.

I'd also like to give a big THANK YOU to everyone who has remained current on their annual local, state and national dues. Dues are a very important tool which enables our organization to accomplish the wonderful work we do of helping young women pursue STEM educations. In the hectic hustle and bustle of everyday life, it's such an easy thing to overlook. Each year, we look forward to everyone's renewal so that we can continue serving our community in our special capacity. Each member is so very valuable, and we would be very sad to lose even one. There are still 26 members who have yet to renew for 2017 – 2018. We look forward to receiving your renewal and keeping you in our company! Please be sure to submit your annual membership renewal along with a check to me as soon as possible. All info for renewal can be found at:

<http://rockfordarea-il.aauw.net/local/membership/>

The **International Affairs Interest Group** is still looking for a leader for the 2017-2018 membership year. If you are interested in taking on the role of leader, contact Karen Hoffman to discuss the opportunity.

Welcome to New Members:

Barb Chidley, Erin Fisher, PhD, Theresa (Paulette) Gilbert, Liz Hanson, PhD, Marianna Ruggerio, and Mirela Zemani

STEM SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Diane Kuehl

WE FAR SURPASSED OUR GOAL OF \$3,000.00 FOR OUR 2017 MEMBER CHALLENGE! In fact, at the end of the night at Tip the Bartender on July 18th, we realized a grand total of \$5,461.00! The Scholarship Committee would like to thank our many members who attended the event at the University Club and those who sent their checks ahead of time who could not come.

Because our own membership donated \$3,187.00 in checks as part of that grand total (besides the cash donations at the event), we received the \$750.00 Challenge monies promised. This included the initial \$250.00 Challenge and additional amounts of \$250.00, for a total of \$500.00 more, for having reached the \$1,000.00 and \$2,000.00 mark. Thank you to our anonymous donor!

This is a huge achievement and our entire Rockford Branch should feel incredibly proud!

SAVE THE DATE!

Next year's STEM Scholarship fundraiser is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 17, 2018!** Please put it on your calendars! The University Club has graciously agreed to give us use of their beautiful location and the committee is already thinking of fun activities to make the night more than entertaining...and all for the support of our local STEM Scholars! Now the academic search begins!

The Scholarship Committee thanks you for your generous support!

Marsha Ackerman, Linda Auman, Ann Dempsey, Filiz Dik, Dale Dunnigan, Sheryl Hall, Jackie Parochka, Deepshikha Shukla, and Diane Kuehl, Chair.

AAUW FUNDS COMMITTEE

Sheryl Almquist Hall

A new committee, AAUW Funds, has been created to help develop an overarching strategy for the way our Branch fundraises for both our local interest, STEM scholarships, and our national support for LAF and the various EF initiatives.

If interested in being a part of this committee, please contact Sheryl Hall.

Sheryl Almquist Hall
sa_design@comcast.net
815/298-9194

HOW CAN 10 = 100?



Like to shop? ✓ Shop online? ✓ Want to help increase branch finances? ✓

Register and shop using the eScrip Online Mall, linked on our website home page.

BOOK BEAT READING LIST 2017

Book Beat meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 12:45pm. Please call the hostess if you would like to attend.

Sept. 19 *The Last Days of Night* by Graham Moore

Reviewer: Carol Jacobs

Hostess: Carol Jacobs

Nov. 14 *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult

Reviewer: Faye Marcus

Hostess: Enid Michalowski

Oct. 17 *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles

Reviewer: Carol Newcomer

Hostess: Faye Marcus

Baseball for All update

Beyer Stadium has been restored. Land across the street has been purchased and cleared for an International Women's Baseball Center and the Baseball for All Tournament played recently at the stadium and various other places in the community. Rockford is working toward becoming the center for Women's Baseball in the US. With all of this happening we made national news.

Their site is linked below, or you can view the CBS Video on the Rockford tournament on You Tube.

BASEBALL FOR ALL site: <http://www2.baseballforall.com/>

CBS Video: <https://youtu.be/dQiQ9KlZgCg>

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS GROUP UPDATE

Catholic Charities Refugee Wish List

Our AAUW Board approved the following ideas for AAUW Branch support of the work that Janet Biljeskovic and her office at Catholic Charities are doing to resettle refugees locally. Please feel free to participate if you choose. You will remember that several years ago our Branch donated a sizeable number of needed items and gift/gas cards in support of their work.

The current needs are:

Monetary donations for the "Sewing Project" which will allow for the greatest flexibility in their planning. Write "Sewing Project" in the MEMO line on your check.

Prepaid Walmart cards sent to Janet for her to distribute for shoes and coats.

Prepaid gas cards sent to Janet for her to distribute to refugees to allow them to purchase gas for the volunteers who drive them to work as a way of saying, "Thank you".

Send checks and/or prepaid cards to:

Janet Biljeskovic

Director of the Refugee Resettlement Program for Catholic Charities

6116 Mulford Village Dr. #8

Rockford, IL 61107

There are currently about 350 refugees living in the Rockford area. Most of the new arrivals have been from Congo.

PUBLIC INFORMATION – FAYE MARCUS

What Do You Know about Human Trafficking?

Do you know that many incidences of Human Trafficking occur right here in the Rockford area? Come and learn more about this situation and what can be done about it.

Join us on Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 5:30pm to find out what RAASE (Rockford Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation) is doing about this issue.



Human Trafficking

Modern day slavery is in our midst. Human Trafficking is happening every day in our community.

American Association of University Women and League of Women Voters

Cordially invite you to an informative program on
Human Trafficking in our region.

Presentation by RAASE

Jennifer Cacciapaglia

Lori Johnson

A Legislative Update by Special Guest

State Representative Litesa Wallace

North Suburban Library

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

5:30pm – 7:30 pm

6340 North Second Street • Loves Park, Illinois 61111

RSVP's preferred/walk-ins are welcome

More info: Susan Janson at lwvqr22@gmail.com

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION GROUP – BARBARA SIMON

The next meeting of the **Round Table Discussion group** will be September 1, 10:30 am at Katie's Cup on 7th Street. We will continue on topics of AAUW and national interest.

PUBLIC POLICY – FAYE MARCUS

How do you stay informed? Are you signed up to get AAUW public policy emails?

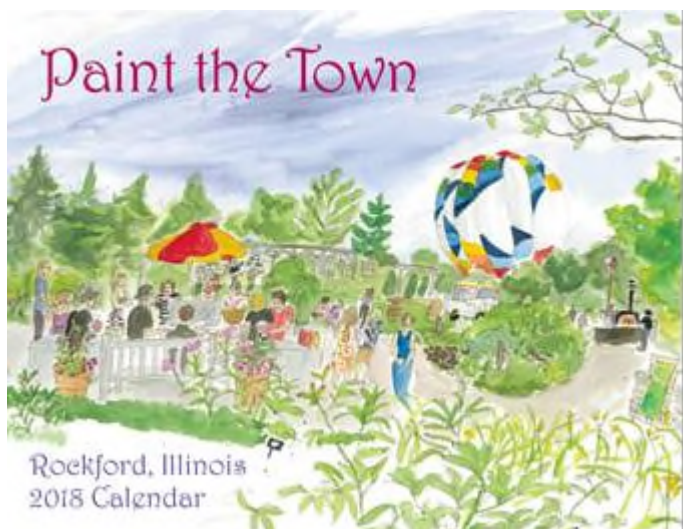
Learn about **AAUW's Action Network** at www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/

Sign up to be a **Two-Minute Activist** at www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/

or text **AAUW** to 21333 for mobile alerts.

Want a **Washington Update**? Sign up at www.aauw.org/resource/washington-update/

These are great ways to learn about issues, stay connected to federal and state legislators and make your voice heard!



AAUW Fundraising Opportunity – Diane Kuehl

A Rockford philanthropist commissioned a talented French watercolor artist to paint impressions of popular Rockford sights for a 2018 calendar which goes on sale August 15th – 815 Day – for \$14.95. This calendar is a beautiful tribute to the many local gems that all of us have shared with our friends and family. It includes a bit of history of the downtown, Tinker, Anderson, Coronado and many other places that add to the sense of pride

we feel for our City.

Forest City Beautiful is the beneficiary of this undertaking with \$10.00 from each sale going to support their wonderful efforts to enhance our City with colorful landscaping. **But what about the other \$4.95? AAUW Rockford has been given the opportunity to sell the calendars ourselves and make \$4.95 on each one! Wow!**

We will be selling them to you (and your friends and family if you can help us get the word out) for \$14.95 each. When all the orders are in, our Treasurer will forward \$10.00 for each one we sell to Forest City Beautiful and we will keep the other \$4.95! Our Board has decided to use these monies raised to pay for lunches for our STEM scholarship awardees and their guest at the Annual Meeting, with any additional amounts over those needs going to our general operating fund.

The artwork you see is a small preview of this beautiful calendar! I am planning on buying copies to use as holiday presents for my daughters who graduated from a Rockford High School many years ago. I know you will want one for yourself too! And please keep in mind others you can sell them to or think of gifts you can buy to make the holidays that much easier this year.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CHECKED THE BRANCH WEBSITE?

DID YOU KNOW?

- We publish new content from AAUW National on our local website each month. You can read the latest articles on our site under the **"NATIONAL"** menu option.
- If you smiled for a photo at a recent event, your picture might be featured on our site. Check the **"PHOTOS"** menu option to see the latest pictures.
- There is a calendar for branch events available under the **"LOCAL BRANCH"** menu option.

If you'd like to help with this newsletter, please contact Kathe Heyer or Barbara Simon to volunteer.