

AAUW EVENTS CALENDAR 2018

- Friday, Jan.5: 10:30am at Katie's Cup –**
Round Table Discussion Group — Led by Dr. Christina Kamer
- Sunday, Jan.7: 1:30pm – 4:00pm at North Suburban Library District –**
Film: "Equal Means Equal"
- Friday, Jan. 26: 12:00pm at Mexico Clasico Grill, 6876 Spring Creek Rd. –** Let's Do Lunch
- Friday, Jan. 26: 7:00pm at BMO Harris Bank Center – IWBC benefit**
Rockford Peaches Night at the Ice Hogs
- Thursday, Feb. 1: 5:30pm at Tavern on Clark –**
AAUW Board Meeting
- Thursday, Feb.15: 6:00pm at Fisher Memorial Chapel, Rockford University –**
STEM Program: Women in Science, with Lab Girl by Hope Jahren) — Led by Dr. Deepshikha Shukla
- Friday, Feb. 23: 12:00pm at Octane InterLounge –**
Let's Do Lunch
- Thursday, Mar. 1: 5:30pm at Tavern on Clark –**
AAUW Board Meeting
- Saturday, Mar.10: 10:00am – Main Fire Station –**
Women Firefighters: Girls Fire Camp for Ages 9-13 — Chief Derek Bergsten
- Friday, Mar.23: 12:00pm at JMK Nippon –**
Let's Do Lunch
- Saturday, Apr.14: 10:00am – Indian Hill Manor,**
Tour with Docent Judy Jolly
- 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

Barbara Simon will chair a **nominating committee** in early 2018. Please let either Barbara or Karen Hoffman know if you would like to help plan for the future of the Rockford Branch.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With a woman running for President, 2016 was expected to be the year of the woman. When her campaign ended without a win it was expected that the pursuit for equity and equality would come to a halt or at least a slowdown. What happened instead is that there was an awakening. Women across the country began organizing and moving ahead, becoming their own leaders. They organized the Women's March of 2017 which brought attention to many of the things that affect our daily lives. Then came the "Me Too" movement that brought about great changes in our country as it pertains to women in the workplace.

In Rockford, we had the first woman Police Chief named and the first woman in ten years hired at the Fire Department. The Department is now actively pursuing more women and is reaching out to young girls to get them to consider a career in Fire Fighting. Unions joined in and made us aware of programs to help women learn non-traditional jobs that previously would not have been considered as appropriate for them. At the City level a new "Office of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking" was initiated to address crimes against women.

But it doesn't end here. 2018 looks to be even more exciting. As a state we will be pursuing the passage of the ERA. This will be discussed in our upcoming screening of "EQUAL MEANS EQUAL" at our meeting on January 7, 2018.

At AAUW we continue working to expand our commitment to the equity/equality of women by working even harder to support our STEM scholarships. We have also begun working to support the young women engaged in KFACT, a local group that mentors low income young girls and helps them break the cycle of poverty by promoting education all the way through college. In addition, we have joined with the International Women's Baseball Center which is committed to helping girls and women to maximize their potential through the skills they learn in sports. The IWBC is going to be a major focus in the Illinois Bicentennial celebration.

Get ready ladies, 2018 is going to be an even bigger year for women. Please join us for all our upcoming activities. This should truly be a year to remember!

Karen Hoffman, President

REMINDER: Rockford Area AAUW Branch bylaws are now posted on our website instead in the directory.

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

Our Upcoming Events



EQUAL MEANS EQUAL

Learn more at: <http://equalmeansequal.com/>

EQUAL MEANS EQUAL

EQUAL MEANS EQUAL offers an unflinching look at how women are treated in the United States today.

Examining both real-life stories and precedent-setting legal cases, this film uncovers how outdated and discriminatory attitudes inform and influence seemingly disparate issues, from workplace harassment to domestic violence, rape and sexual assault to the foster care system, and the healthcare conglomerate to the judicial system.

SUNDAY, JAN. 7: 1:30pm – 4:00pm

North Suburban Library
6340 N. 2ND St.
Loves Park, IL



Round Table Discussion Group
10:30am, Friday, Jan.5
at Katie's Cup



Noon on JAN. 26 at
MEXICO CLASICO GRILL
(6876 SPRING CREEK RD.)

Coming in February: Women in Science



Review: 'Lab Girl,' Hope Jahren's Road Map to the Secret Life of Plants

Ms. Jahren's book, at its best, does for botany what Oliver Sacks's essays did for neurology, what Stephen Jay Gould's writings did for paleontology.

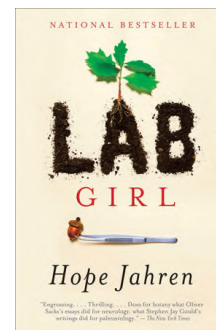
NYTIMES.COM

Read a [review](#) at The New York Times.




Link: <https://goo.gl/Esgsb5>

For our STEM program, Dr. Deepshikha Shukla will address the topic of "Women in Science." We will also cover the book *Lab Girl*, with Dr. Deepshikha Shukla facilitating the discussion. (You don't need to read the book to attend the meeting, but it's worth reading.) Here's a short list of awards it won:

- Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Autobiography
- A *New York Times* Notable Book
- Winner of the American Association for the Advancement of Science/Subaru Science Books & Film Prize for Excellence in Science Books
- Finalist for the PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award
- One of the Best Books of the Year: The Washington Post, TIME.com, NPR, Slate, Entertainment Weekly, Newsday, Minneapolis Star Tribune, Kirkus Reviews



ROCKFORD PEACHES NIGHT AT THE ROCKFORD ICEHOGS ON JAN. 26

 <p><i>At the IceHogs!</i></p>	
<p>Join your friends! Bring the family!</p>	<p>\$5 per \$15 ticket</p>
<p>Friday, January 26, 2018, 7 p.m.</p>	
<p><i>To benefit the International Women's Baseball Center</i></p> <p>← ● ● ● →</p> <p>Click on your favorite group's name (see backside) from the drop down menu on the Icehogs ticket website:</p> <p>IceHogs.com/Tickets</p>	
 <p><i>At the IceHogs!</i></p> <p>Join your favorite group at the game to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Rockford Peaches -- the most successful team in the history of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League!</p> <p>AAUW Rockford, League of Women Voters, Catholic Women's League, Friends of Beyer, Starfires Women's Baseball Team, Womanspace, Rockford Network of Professional Women, #PeachDIVAs and #PeachDIVADudes</p> <p><i>Rockford Peach outfits encouraged!</i></p>  <p><i>To benefit the International Women's Baseball Center.</i></p>	

AAUW Rockford has challenged other women’s groups to bring the most people to a Jan. 26 Rockford IceHogs game at BMO Harris Bank Center -- a special night celebrating the Rockford Peaches ahead of the May 30 – June 3 Rockford Peaches 75th Anniversary Celebration planned for summer 2018. This is for you, your friends and family. Everyone’s welcome to come!

Other groups that will be bringing their friends and family are League of Women Voters, Catholic Women’s League, Friends of Beyer, Starfires Women’s Baseball Team, Womanspace, Rockford Network of Professional Women and the #PeachDIVAs and #PeachDIVADudes. All are attending in support of the International Women’s Baseball Center (IWBC), a new women’s group in Rockford.

The IceHogs are giving IWBC \$5 for every \$15 purchased. **To avoid online fees and to be sure that AAUW Rockford gets credit for bringing you to the game, order your tickets over the phone by calling the Rockford IceHogs directly and ask for Curtis Tousant (815-847-6387).**

On Jan. 26 the IceHogs announcer will be asking “*Who’s here from AAUW Rockford*”, so be prepared to cheer! And know that you’re doing it to welcome another women’s group to Rockford.

Additional Note:

We already have a number of AAUW Rockford members helping IWBC plan for next summer’s “Rockford Peaches 75th Anniversary Celebration” in what has now become our city’s State Bicentennial offering. Thanks to Karen Hoffman, Christine Haeggquist, Barbara Simon, Diane Kuehl, Faye Marcus, Diana Vlase and Sheryl Hall for offering their time and talents to what will be “**the** Rockford event of 2018.”

A **Branch Bylaws committee** will convene in the new year. Please let Barbara Simon know if you would like to review the bylaws with her. Meetings will be short and include a cup of tea.

Treasurer's Report — Katy Paterson

October 12, 2017

Operating Fund

Beginning Balance \$3,889.96

Receipts

Dues 227.00

Auction 929.00

Luncheon 909.00

Schnucks Scrip 43.01

Disbursements

Dues (335.00)

Public Policy (59.82)

Franchesco's (890.98)

Ending balance @ Dec. 13, 2017 \$4,712.17

Scholarship Fund

Beginning Balance \$10,112.12

Donations 80.00

Paid scholarship (J. Neese) (1,000.00)

Ending balance @ Dec. 13, 2017 \$9,192.12

On Dec. 13, 2017, we have 63 paid and 6 life members, for a total of 69 members.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board Meetings are normally held on the first Thursday of each month.

Meetings start at 5:30pm and usually conclude by 7:00pm.

Members are always welcome to attend.

Links to articles from AAUW National site

- [Analysis Reveals Gender and Racial Pay Gaps for 25 Major U.S. Cities](#)
- [4 Tips to Negotiating for the Salary and Benefits You're Worth](#)

Membership Information

We are so happy to welcome seven new members to AAUW Rockford Area Branch. You may have met them at "Tip the Bartender" and will want to reach out to them at future events. Their information (except for Janet's) is already in the Directory.

Barb Chidley is an English teacher who is currently taking a break from teaching to try to establish a new business creating jewelry and is also working on writing projects.

Three new members are professors at Rock Valley College. **Dr. Erin Fisher** teaches Psychology, **Teresa Poullette Gilbert** teaches composition and literature and **Dr. Liz Hansen** teaches Chemistry.

Marianna Ruggerio is the AP Physics teacher at Auburn High School.

Mirela Zemani is a teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL) at Rockford University.

Our *really* new member is **Janet Hoisington**. She is a retired reading specialist and is currently working in ESL with Mirela at RU. Janet's information will be sent through email since The *Initiative* is posted on our website.

We feel very fortunate to have these seven educators join our branch this year. Please remember to reach out and invite other interesting and involved women to Branch meetings. Our best recruiting tool is always through friends and co-workers.

Information for membership and renewal can be found on the branch website at:

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

DID YOU KNOW?

- We publish new AAUW content 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 Branch event, your picture might be featured on our site. Check the "**PHOTOS**" menu option to see recent pictures.

STEM SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

Diane Kuehl

What a positive time it has been planning for the future of the Scholarship Committee. Sheryl Hall, Kathe Heyer, Marsha Ackerman and I have discussed the best way that the new Funds Committee and Scholarship Committee can work together for the success of the STEM awards. It is encouraging that teams are coming together to work for the whole of AAUW local and individual projects. As a committee you may not find much change in your commitment and service to the STEM award effort, but there will be more ideas and folks joining us for the Tip the Bartender event. More discussion at our April meeting.

January is the time for the Scholarship Committee to contact or reconnect with their assigned high schools to encourage the counselors to promote the AAUW STEM scholarship to qualified students. Please let me and Kathe Heyer know who your high school contacts are this year. We are organizing a list of the school contacts for future reference.

A special thank you to Marsha Ackerman and Linda Auman for attending the Scholarship Fair at Mendelssohn this year. Hopefully they made some good student contacts on a very windy night.

Our application form is posted on the local AAUW website for students to access for easy submission. If you know of a student who meets the qualifications for the scholarship, please direct them to <http://rockfordarea-il.aauw.net/>

AAUW FUNDS COMMITTEE

Sheryl Almquist Hall

The AF Committee would like to thank the following businesses for their donations to our **Holiday Silent Auction**: Luxe Nail Bar, Meg's Daily Grind, Pepper Creek, Roxy Carmichael, Stockholm Inn and Tavern on Clark.

Thanks also to the following members who collected or made donations: Joan Bailey-Murray, Barb Chidley, Mary Lou Fitzpatrick, Sheryl Hall, Jean Herro, Faye Marcus, Katy Paterson, Regina Potts and Barbara Simon. And a special thanks to our AAUW Book Beat Interest Group for three fantastic baskets!

With our Auction proceeds and the checks sent in from members for Year-End Giving, we will be sending \$929.00 to national and "The AAUW Fund".

The AF Committee would also like to thank the following individuals that dropped off items and checks at the Open House at Sheryl Hall's home on Dec. 20th for our contribution to K-FACT's Wish List: Pat Gomez, Sheryl Hall, Wanda Hoover, Diane Kuehl and Faye Marcus. Thank you to our other members who have already sent checks directly to K-FACT.

BOOK BEAT READING LIST 2018

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

Jan. 16 *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

Reviewer: Enid Michalowski

Hostess: Barbara Simon



Feb. 20

Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger

Reviewer: Karen Shifo

Hostess: Ruth Siegfried

HAPPY NEW YEAR – RING IN 2018 SAFELY!