



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

AAUW — CHAMPAIGN-URBANA BRANCH

NEWSBRIEFS

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You are invited to the annual



Holiday Brunch

Featuring

Original Works from The Writer's Group

Saturday, December 6 at 10 AM

**at the home of Barbara Scott
5 Bellamy Court, Champaign**

Please bring a salad or dessert to share

*Join us for this annual favorite!
Good food, good friends, and*



Local Scholarship Good News ! From Jenny Harvey

Elia Ayala is our 2008-2009 recipient of the Ida King Stevens Scholarship Award of \$1,000.00. She is a native of Chicago and after high school, while exploring college possibilities, worked at Northwestern Memorial Hospital as a file clerk and medical transcription assistant in the vascular laboratory. Her interest in health care grew as she gained even more experience working at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Spine and Sports rehabilitation Center. Elia has developed a strong interest in and dedication to issues, problems, and solutions involving Health Care Administration. Her curriculum at the University of Illinois will reflect this interest.

Congratulations and WELCOME to Elia!!

C-U Branch Calendar of Events

- December**
- 4 Drama Group
 - 6 Holiday Brunch
 - 10 Jane Addams Day
 - 16 Afternoon Adelante
 - 17 Evening Adelante
 - 19 Writer's Group

- January**
- 16 Writers' Group
 - 27 Afternoon Adelante
 - 28 Evening Adelante

 AAUW-Illinois State
 Convention
 April 24 - 25, 2009
 Decatur Conference
 Center and Hotel
 Plan to attend!

Jane Addams Day

On December 10, 1931, Jane Addams, founder of Hull House, brought honor to Illinois by winning the first Nobel Peace Prize ever awarded to an American woman. The State of Illinois now honors Jane Addams' memory with a commemorative holiday on December 10 to remind us of her lifelong commitment to making the country a better place to live. Every December 10th beginning in 2007, is now "Jane Addams Day"



AAUW Educational Foundation By Deborah Richie

Take a look at the AAUW website to learn about and celebrate the activities of the Educational Foundation (EF). As stated there, "AAUW generates significant resources for higher education, underwriting advanced education opportunities for women and girls to ensure women have access to and the opportunity for high performance in their profession of choice" (<http://www.aauw.org/education/index.cfm>). In 2008-2009, 271 women received such support from AAUW. You can access the list of recipients as well as read success stories from former fellows at the AAUW site. Take a look at the difference your support of the Educational Foundation makes in the lives of women in our area and around the world.

Interested in Travel?

The Decatur AAUW Branch has a travel interest group called the "Gad Abouts." Next June, Linda Bullock, a member of the Decatur branch, is hosting a tour to Spain and Portugal. This will be a great opportunity to experience the history, culture, fascinating sights, beautiful landscapes, and charming towns in these two countries. Linda is a teacher and has been hosting trips to Europe for the past twenty-three years. The trip is scheduled for June 19-28, 2009. For a brochure, call Linda Bullock at 217-422-0776.



It's not too late to donate to local scholarships, EF, or LAF!! *Phyllis Cline, V.P. Finance*

Letters were recently mailed to all our members regarding fundraising. Last year branch members responded generously to our fundraising challenge to increase our local scholarships for Parkland and the UI, as well as to increase our contributions to AAUW's Educational Foundation and Legal Advocacy Fund. Our annual local scholarships are now \$1,000 to a UI student and \$800 to a Parkland student.

This year we are offering the opportunity to make local scholarship donations in memory of Mary Louise Mylin, an honorary life member who died earlier this year. She was active in the branch for many years and served as President in 1955.



Legal Advocacy Fund News *Margaret Stewart, LAF Chair*



AAUW Celebrates 30th Anniversary of the Pregnancy Discrimination Act

The [Pregnancy Discrimination Act](#), which requires employers to treat pregnant women the same as other employees with similar abilities or physical limitations, turned 30 on October 31, 2008. This important civil rights law has helped to change the mindset about pregnant women and working mothers in America. By ensuring that women cannot be discriminated against as mothers, women have a better opportunity to secure their families' future. The National Partnership for Women and Families released a new report that looks in-depth at pregnancy discrimination complaints filed with the EEOC over the last twelve years in light of the Act's 30th anniversary .

Treasurer's Report Phyllis Cline, VP Finance

October 31, 2008

Checking account = \$3,152
Local Scholarships = \$4,203
Educational Foundation = \$808
Legal Advocacy Fund = \$524
Centennial Money Market = \$5392
TOTAL = \$14,081

C-U AAUW INTEREST GROUPS

Drama Group

Thursday

December 4 8:00 p.m.

Attend Station Theater to see

“A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur”

Directed by Tom Mitchell

Contact Phyllis Cline at 344-4806 or
email her at pcline@comcast.net



*Drama Group does
not meet in January.*

The Drama group gets together each month to discuss a selected play. Occasionally the group will host a guest speaker working in the field to discuss a pertinent topic. Once a year the group selects and attends a play together.

New members are always welcome!!!

Drama group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm, September—May.

Co-Chairs: Phyllis Cline 344-4806
Helen Miron 344-4225



Community Outreach



¡Adelante! Book Discussion

Afternoon: 2:30 pm

Tuesday, Dec. 16

Tuesday, Jan. 27

Home of Amy Kummerow,
1805 Pleasant St. Urbana

Evening: 7:00 pm

Wednesday, Dec. 17

Wednesday, Jan. 28

Pages for all Ages, Savoy

Please attend, even if you haven't read
the book!!

Contact Person: Phyllis Cline 344-4806

December Book:

The Colony by John Tayman (2006)

From 1866 through 1969 the Hawaiian and American governments banished nearly 9,000 leprosy sufferers into exile on a peninsula on the Hawaiian island of Molokai because leprosy was considered to be highly contagious. Tayman crafts a tale of fear, endurance and hope in telling their story. From 1873 to 1889 Father Damien, a Belgian priest, lived and worked there until he contracted leprosy and died of the disease.

January Book:

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini (2007)

From the author of the highly acclaimed *The Kite Runner*, his second novel is a deeply moving account of family and friendship. Set against the volatile events of Afghanistan's last three decades, it is a tale to two generations of female characters brought together by the tragic sweep of war, where personal lives are inextricable from the history playing out around them.

The afternoon group meets every 4th Tuesday at 2:30pm at the home of Amy Kummerow, and the evening group meets every 4th Wednesday at 7:00pm at Pages for all Ages Bookstore in Savoy. **Anyone interested in discussing these books are welcome, whether or not you are an AAUW member.**

Writers' Group

Friday, Dec. 19th & January 16th 1:30 p.m.

Pages for All Ages Bookstore, Savoy

The AAUW Writers' Group meets on the **third Friday of the month** at Pages for All Ages (behind the fireplace) at **1:30 p.m.** We read our writings and exchange information about writer's conferences and local classes, as well as reading our own creations to each other. We usually present the program in December for the general AAUW members with our original works.

All are welcome to attend—beginners as well as more experienced writers. You may come to listen and offer comments, too—we do not require that you present something at every meeting but hope that we interest and encourage people to create. **Come join us!!**

Chair: Barbara Scott 352-7364

2009 AAUW National
Convention
“Breaking Through
Barriers”

June 26-28, 2009
St. Louis, Missouri

Mark your calendars!

What's Happening by Co-President Sallie Miller

Many AAUW members attended our November 8 Saturday Luncheon Forum. Dr. Suzanne Trupin's educational program, "Beautiful Backs", addressed many issues of interest to women and sparked a number of questions, a good indication of audience connection.

Don't forget, on December 10, Illinois will again be celebrating "Jane Addams Day". As founder of Hull House she was a tireless advocate for reform who worked night and day to make Chicago's city water cleaner, to improve city schools, and to clear garbage off the streets. Her life typifies our mission: ***Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.***

I attended the AAUW-IL Fall District Conference in Springfield which focused on breaking through educational and economic barriers. A study was presented on the progress girls have made in educational achievement in the past 35 years, and it refuted the myth of the "boy's crisis" in our schools. The study found that family income level and race/ethnicity are closely associated with academic performance.

The next C-U Branch event will be the Holiday Brunch at the home of Barbara Scott on Saturday December 6. We will hear some writings done by our Creative Writing Group. Please plan on attending this annual event!

WILL YOU DO PUBLICITY FOR OUR BRANCH!!! TRAINING PROVIDED!!!
INTERESTED? Contact Sallie Miller 356-9214 millersallie@hotmail.com

Champaign-Urbana Branch
Illinois 4012

American Association of University Women

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Mission

***Advancing equity for women and girls
through advocacy, education, and
research.***

Vision

*AAUW will be a powerful advocate and
visible leader in equity and education
through research, philanthropy, and
measurable change in critical areas
impacting the lives of women and girls.*

Diversity Statement

*In principle and practice, AAUW values
and seeks a diverse membership. There
shall be no barriers to full participation in
the organization on the basis of gender,
race, creed, age sexual orientation,
national origin, disability, or class.*