



NEWS BRIEFS

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Please join us and invite your friends to
C-U AAUW's Seventh Annual
Wine, Women and Song
to benefit **Local Scholarships, Educational Foundation, & Legal Advocacy Fund**

Saturday, March 12 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Milo's Restaurant 2870 S. Philo Rd., Urbana

Come hear an historical program,
A Place to Live.

Kim Sheahan

In the program storyteller Kim portrays civil rights activist Anne Braden, who, with her husband Carl, purchased a house in a white Louisville, Kentucky neighborhood for an African-American family in 1954. Their story is so important, and Kim is thrilled to be able to bring it to a



new AAUW audience. To read more about Anne, visit
<http://www.commondreams.org/headlines06/0308-01.htm>



Wine, non-alcoholic drinks, hors d'oeuvres

\$20 for the first person,
\$15 for each additional person

Reservations due by March 8 to
Phyllis Cline, call her at 344-4806 or email plcline@comcast.net

Please support this event & come enjoy it!

Branch Raises \$550.00 to Support Schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan

Congratulations and thanks to all of you who showed your support for the work of Greg Mortenson and his organization, the Central Asia Institute, in building schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Your donations made it possible for us to send the CAI a check for \$550.00.

In his book, *Three Cups of Tea*, Mortenson describes how he got started in this endeavor, and then he brings the story up to date in 2009 in a second book, *Stones into Schools*. If you are unfamiliar with his work, these are two very good reads.

Now we are looking at how we can use our branch programming to increase our knowledge and understanding of that part of the world. If you have ideas on how to do this, please pass them on to me, as I would very much like to follow up on the interest so many of you have shown.

Margaret Stewart
International Relations Chair

C-U Branch Calendar of Events

February

- 18 Writers' Group
- 22 Adelante

March

- 3 Drama Group
- 12 Wine, Women and Song
- 18 Writers' Group
- 22 Adelante

AAUW-IL State Convention
April 29-30, 2011
Par-a-Dice Hotel, Peoria

Reminder!

Of your \$49 national dues,
\$46 is tax-deductible.

C-U AAUW INTEREST GROUPS

Drama Group



Thursday
March 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Home of Diana Morris
506 North 4th St., St. Joseph
469-9015

Discussion Leader: Helen Miron
Program: *Candide*

Thursday
April 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Home of Norma Peters
401 Burwash, Savoy
363-2387

Discussion Leader: Jackie Terry
Program: *The Little Prince*

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



FEBRUARY BOOK—Black History Month

Family Properties: Race, Real Estate, and the Exploitation of Black Urban America Author: Beryl Satter (2009)

This book is about the history of the wide-spread and systematic economic exploitation of African-Americans in the real estate market in Chicago during the 1950s and 1960s. Redlining of black neighborhoods and lack of equal access to credit forced the majority of black homeowners into contract ownership under unscrupulous terms, leading to impoverishment for many homeowners and the decline of black neighborhoods into slums while speculative investors reaped big profits.

MARCH BOOK-Women's History Month

When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present Author: Gail Collins (2009)

New York Times columnist Collins goes behind the scenes of the women's rights movement, describing the closed opportunities and limited horizons that women faced in 1960. Facts, court cases, legislation, and personal anecdotes are used to show how far American women have come in every aspect of their lives. Collins reminds us of what we remember and shows us what we've forgotten about this critical period in women's history.

¡Adelante!

Book Discussion
4th Tuesday of month

Afternoon: 2:30 pm
Tuesday, Feb. 22
Tuesday, March 22

Home of Amy Kummerow,
1805 Pleasant St. Urbana

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

**Anyone interested in discussing
these books is welcome,
whether or not you are an
AAUW member.**

Contact Person: Phyllis Cline
344-4806

Writers' Group

Friday, Feb. 18 & Friday, March 18 1:30 p.m.
Borders Bookstore, 802 W. Town Center Blvd., Champaign

The AAUW Writers' Group meets on the **third Friday of the month** at Borders Bookstore 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

Branch Names Second Parkland Scholarship for Amy Kummerow



When they were established many years ago our UI scholarship was named in memory of Ida King Stephens and our Parkland scholarship was named in honor of Janet Southwood and Bette van Es. We established a second scholarship at Parkland two years ago to address the increased need women have for financial assistance in returning to school and completing their education. Thanks to the generosity of our members who donate to Local Scholarships, we now feel confident that we can continue offering the second scholarship at Parkland, so it is time to give it a name.

The Board has chosen Amy Kummerow as the branch member for whom the scholarship will be named. Amy has served the branch in many ways over the years, including being a Co-President and International Chairperson. For several years she has hosted the Adelante book discussion group in her home. Amy told us that years ago she taught Sociology at Parkland, and she has always been a generous supporter

of our local scholarships. Amy's years of service to the community, including serving on the County Board, are recognized by all who have had the privilege of knowing her.

We invite our members to honor Amy's dedication to AAUW and the cause of promoting equity for women by making donations to our local scholarships in Amy's name. Send checks for any amount, made payable to C-U AAUW, to Phyllis Cline, financial officer, 104 E. Willard, Urbana, IL 61801-6660. Each Parkland scholarship is \$800 for the school year, and the UI scholarship is \$1000, so we need to raise a minimum of \$2,600 each year. You can contribute to local scholarships when you receive the Wine, Women and Song invitation, when you renew your dues, when you receive the September fundraising letter, or at any time during the year that fits your financial plans.

Amy is no longer leaving home to attend AAUW activities but you can express your appreciation to her for her contributions to the branch by sending a card or letter to her at 1805 Pleasant St., Urbana, IL 61801-5828 or calling her at 344-6380.

Submitted by Phyllis Cline

Jean Thompson Passed Away

Jean Thompson, a branch member, died on January 20 at age 84. She was a member of the Writers' Group and read her works at the December holiday brunches. The following is taken from her obituary -

Although a long and avid student of the Women's Suffrage Movement and writer of poems, her writing and reading of poems and short stories was focal in recent years with friends in the AAUW. Their responses to her work buoyed spirits delightfully. She was a radiant gem in the family. Memorials may be made to the Nature Conservancy, the Scholarship Fund of C-U AAUW, or the Salvation Army.

AAUW to Receive Cy Pres Award for Work to Fight Gender Discrimination Award Follows Groundbreaking Gender Discrimination Case Settlement

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) has been awarded \$23,500 as part of a cy pres award from the judgment in the largest gender discrimination case to ever go to trial.

The class action lawsuit against Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation included approximately 5,600 women sales force employees who claimed gender discrimination based on pay, promotion, and pregnancy. A jury found Novartis liable for gender discrimination in May 2010, and the subsequent settlement was filed in federal court in New York in July 2010. Judge Colleen McMahon of the U.S. District Court for Eastern New York approved the final settlement agreement in November, and AAUW learned of its selection to receive a cy pres award in December.

Cy pres awards are the result of class action lawsuit funds and are typically distributed to charitable organizations. AAUW will receive this award to support its mission to advance equity for women and girls.

It's time for *Wine, Women and Song*, our annual fundraiser / friend raiser event. AAUW's mission is advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

This event enables us to live up to our mission.

How can you help?

First, buy a ticket (\$20.00) and attend the March 12 event at Milo's. Come enjoy wonderful hors d'oeuvres, wine, non alcoholic drinks, AAUW friendship and listen to a wonderful storyteller.

Second, bring friends (additional tickets cost \$15.00) who might be interested in joining AAUW.

Members are asked to buy a minimum of 2 tickets and, if possible, attend the event. Please make your reservation for Wine, Women and Song to support our AAUW mission. **Join us and have fun!**

What's Happening by Co-President Helen Miron

The Writers Group Brunch was a most enjoyable afternoon; the conversations were stimulating and the works that were read provided food for thought. And the brunch itself was delicious. Many thanks to Barb Scott for hosting this annual event.

Our branch lost a valued member with the passing of Jean Thompson on January 20th. AAUW and the Writers' Group meant a great deal to her, and her presence will be truly missed.

Winter is half over and we're starting to look ahead to warmer times and sunny days. The changing seasons are somewhat parallel to the gains and progress of AAUW and our own branch. There are good seasons when legislation is passed, attitudes and expectations change, and the goals set by our organization seem to be closer to achievement. These are often followed by dark seasons when our elected officials seem to work against the things we value and attitudes and expectations fall back.

But positive change does come, slowly sometimes like a late spring, and our goals do move ahead and changes do occur. We need to keep contact with our elected officials to be sure they know our concerns, and to thank them when they support legislation that helps to break down barriers for women and girls. They need to hear from us. They need to hear from you.

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

www.aauw-il.org/champurban

Champaign-Urbana Branch
Illinois 4012

American Association of University Women

Sallie Miller, editor
1101 Foothill Dr.
Champaign, Illinois 61821

Mission

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW's Value Promise

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

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.

www.aauw.org
www.aauw-il.org
www.aauw-il.org/champurban

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