



# NEWS BRIEF



## General Membership Luncheon Meeting

Saturday, November 5 at Noon  
Location: Kennedy's at Stone Creek  
2560 Stone Creek Blvd., Urbana

### "Moms and Babies Program at Decatur Correctional Center"

Susan Creek, Infant Development Administrator

Come learn about this special program for female inmates who are pregnant when they become incarcerated. They can apply to live on a special unit, give birth, and instead of having to relinquish their baby immediately, they can return to the Decatur prison with their baby and raise it there until they are scheduled for release (as long as it is within two years of the baby's birth). The state does not provide support for the babies so the women depend on donations of baby items and gift cards that the staff uses to shop for on-going needs.

Luncheon includes salad, entree choice, coffee or tea for \$14.50 (includes tax & gratuity)

For reservation call Phyllis Cline at 344-4806 or email [plcline@comcast.net](mailto:plcline@comcast.net) by Wednesday, November 2.

We want to "shower" Susan Creek with donations for the babies. During August and September six babies were born and more are due. The items most needed now are 0-3 month clothing, especially for girls, and the bag sleepers with elastic at the bottom. Scrapbook kits are also helpful because each mother is required to keep one for her baby's pictures. Many pictures are taken of the babies so that they will have the same kind of picture albums of themselves, as do children raised in their own homes. Batteries in sizes AA, C, D for the toys on the unit are needed, and rechargeable batteries are especially useful. Gift cards from Walmart or Target in any amount are very helpful to the staff. Clothing in larger sizes and baby care items are always needed, so if you've bought those please bring them. The newborns need the smaller sizes but they do grow quickly.

Another kind of donation is used women's clothing, generally in larger sizes, which the released inmates can use for job interviews. At this time of year many of us receive multiple one-year calendars (one month per page) and these are distributed throughout the prison. Women on the Moms & Babies unit especially need them because they have a lot of meetings, classes, and other events. As long as the calendar does not have a spiral binder it can be donated. The prison does not allow metal objects such as spiral binders, nor does it allow glass items.

If you wish to donate but cannot attend the November 5 program, contact Phyllis Cline at 344-4806 or [plcline@comcast.net](mailto:plcline@comcast.net) and she will pick up your items.

## Annual Holiday Brunch

Featuring  
Original Works from the Writers' Group

Saturday, December 3 at 10:00am  
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 friends, good food, and original works  
from the C-U AAUW Writers' Group.

**GREAT DECISIONS**

The Great Decisions interest group met in October to discuss the topic of Multilateralism. Jenny Harvey led the discussion. The next meeting will be November 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the home of Helen Miron, 612 W. Nevada St.,

Urbana. The topic will be the Caucasus and Sharon Michalove will be the leader.

As background the group is using materials prepared by the Foreign Policy Association. New participants are welcome. For more information contact Margaret Stewart at 356-9475.

**DRINKS & DIALOGUE**

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 8th 6:00-8:00pm at Wines at the Pines in Urbana. We had a great discussion at our first meeting in October! Join us for our next meeting in November.

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 6:00-8:00pm at Wines at the Pines in Urbana. Enjoy a glass of wine or a cup of coffee while discussing current events with forward-thinking women. Each month an article or current event of relevance to women will start the discussion—we'll see where it goes from there! For more information contact Nancy Dietrich at 337-0334 or [nancydietrich@juno.com](mailto:nancydietrich@juno.com).

**HOT TOPICS DIALOGUE C-U AAUW is a co-sponsor of this exciting series focusing on feminist**

**Hot Topics Dialogue**, is a series hosted by the Women's Resources Center and the YWCA on campus. Hot Topics seeks to provide a space for dialogue on gender and other social identities and social justice--and occurs every 2nd and 4th Mondays 7-9pm. Refreshments will be provided. Event is free and open to the public.

***Hot Topics Dialogue:******"Troy Davis and the Prison Industrial Complex"*****Monday November 7th 7:00 pm**

Location: Women's Resources Center (703 S. Wright St. Champaign--On Campus, Above Freestar Bank!)

We're delighted to bring together three activist-scholars to unpack the prison industrial complex (PIC). Rachel Herzing, in collaboration with Critical Resistance, defines the PIC as a term used to describe the overlapping interests of government and industry that use surveillance, policing, and imprisonment as solutions to what are, in actuality, economic, social, and political problems. Using the

case of Troy Davis, an American man convicted of and executed for the August 19, 1989, murder of police officer Mark MacPhail, we will examine how we can, as Ruth Gilman says, use "community-based activism [to bridge] urban-rural, racial and other divides to achieve victories against the growing prison system."

***Hot Topics Dialogue: "Women in Men's Trades"*****Monday December 5th 7:00 pm**

Location: Women's Resources Center (703 S. Wright St. Champaign--On Campus, Above Freestar Bank!)

**Volunteer Opportunity:** The Women's Resource Center is in need of volunteers to help promote the Hot Topics Dialogue series. Would you be willing to write a press release? Post fliers? Have any other ideas to promote Hot Topics? If so, please contact Rachel Storm, Program Coordinator of the Women's Resources Center at the U of I at [rstorm2@illinois.edu](mailto:rstorm2@illinois.edu) or 333-3137



VIVIAN

Our congratulations to **Rachael Dietkus-Miller and her husband Steve** on the arrival of their beautiful baby girl Vivian Joyce. She was born on Wednesday, September 7 at 1:22pm. She weighed 7 lb. 4 oz. and was 20 1/4 in. long. She is absolutely perfect and has incredibly smitten parents.

**England, Scotland, & Wales Trip**  
Decatur Branch AAUW member Linda Bullock is hosting a trip to England, Scotland, & Wales June 21-30, 2012. This trip will be a great opportunity to experience the history, culture, fascinating sights, beautiful landscapes, and charming towns of these three countries. For information and a brochure, call Linda Bullock at 217-422-0776.

**Jane Addams Day - December 10**

On December 10, 1931, Jane Addams founder of Hull House, won 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.

**DRAMA GROUP**

Thursday  
November 3 at 7:30 pm  
Home of Sallie Miller  
1101 Foothill Dr., Champaign  
356-9214 or [millersallie@hotmail.com](mailto:millersallie@hotmail.com)  
Presenter: Cesaria Lancaster  
Program: **Cabaret**



Thursday  
December 1 at 7:30 pm  
Home of Helen Miron  
612 W. Nevada St., Urbana  
344-4225 or [hkmiron@yahoo.com](mailto:hkmiron@yahoo.com)  
Presenter: Sharon Michalove  
Program: *Charles Dickens as dramatist*  
with a focus on **A Christmas Carol** and  
**The Frozen Deep**

The Drama Group meets the first Thursday at 7:30 pm in members' homes during September, October, November, December, February, March, April, and May. Programs about plays and other theatrical productions are presented by members. New members are always welcome. Contact person: Phyllis Cline 344-4806, [plcline@comcast.net](mailto:plcline@comcast.net)

**Book Group**

Meets the fourth  
Tuesday at 2:30 PM at  
the home of Amy  
Kummerow, 1805  
Pleasant St., Urbana. It  
features books, both  
fiction and non-fiction,  
that focus on various  
aspects of diversity.  
Contact person: Phyllis  
Cline 344-4806,  
[plcline@comcast.net](mailto:plcline@comcast.net)

**ADELANTE BOOK DISCUSSION**

NOVEMBER 22

***Fifty Miles From Tomorrow: A Memoir of Alaska and the Real People***

Author: William L. Iggiagruk Hensley (2009)

Hensley brings to life this little-known part of America through tales of toil, triumph and the Inupiat spirit. As a child growing up in rural Alaska he learned that survival was the primary concern of his society. After attending college in the Lower 48 he returned to his homeland where he became a crusader for the Inupiat people as an activist, a state representative, and worker in the corporate sector.

DECEMBER 27

***The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey***

Author: Candice Mallard (2005)

Roosevelt's search for adventure led to an ill-prepared journey down an unexplored tributary of the Amazon known as the River of Doubt. The small group had neither sufficient supplies nor canoes sturdy enough for the river's rapids, and a cannibalistic indigenous tribe stalked them much of the way. Descriptions of the flora and fauna, including millions of insects, that the group endured will lead many readers to appreciate armchair travel.

**WRITERS' GROUP**

Friday, November 18 and Friday, December 16 at 1:30 pm

Barnes &amp; Noble, 66 E. Market View Dr., Champaign

Meets the third Friday at 1:30 PM at Barnes & Noble, 66 E. Market View Dr., Champaign.  
Members share their writings with the group and present their favorite writings at the December holiday brunch program.

All are welcome to attend-beginners as well as more experienced writers.

Contact person: Barbara Scott 352-7364



### What's Happening by Lynda Morgan, Co-President

The board has come up with some very exciting programs and projects. Some of the student interns at the YWCA continue to work with our local chapter on increasing membership. Drinks and Dialogues and Great Decisions have been added to the programs our local branch offers. Additionally, the branch has planned some very interesting programs for our Saturday luncheons, as well as Wine, Women, and Song.

### Friday Forum Lecture Series

#### ***C-U AAUW is a co-sponsor of this popular lecture series on the U of I campus***

All lectures are on Fridays at 12:00pm at the University YMCA, 1001 South Wright Street, Champaign

This semester's topic: "The Future of Learning: Is Public Education Under Siege?"

This semester's free, public lectures will offer speakers who are positioned to explore the relationship between education and society with special attention to the challenges of improving education in an era where budgets, politics, and ideology are central to the debate.

**October 21** - 'Collegiate Learning and Early Labor Market Outcomes: Findings from the Academically Adrift Study'  
Richard Arum, Professor of Sociology and Education, New York University

**October 28** - 'Educate to Innovate—A National Imperative'

Deba Dutta, Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate College, University of Illinois

**November 4** - 'Education: What Now?'

Mary Kalantzis, Dean of the College of Education, University of Illinois

**November 11** - 'The Gridlock of Public Policy Resulting from Polarization'

Jim Edgar, 38th Governor of Illinois, 1990-1998

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



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