



Vol. 57, No. 5  
May/June/July 2014

## THIS ISSUE

I hope you find this issue interesting and informative. In May I attended the state AAUW meeting and had the opportunity to meet and learn from members and leaders from branches across the state and from national. I came away from that meeting with my belief in AAUW reinforced and excited by what I see in the future for the organization. In this issue, I want to share some of what I heard and encourage you to continue to be passionate about AAUW and share the news with others.

**You need only go to the AAUW website – [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) – to get news, encouragement, and tools to carry forward the message of AAUW. For example, you can find this message there --**

### ***12 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH AAUW***

**Are you an activist? Do you volunteer? There are many ways to get involved and support AAUW's mission – advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.**



**And, watch the 30-second video that was shared with us at the state meeting –**

**<http://www.aauw.org/resource/power-of-membership-recruitment-video/>**

*Deborah Richie*

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

### TIME TO RENEW

Dues covering the National, State, and Branch units are collected by branches in the spring for the membership year that runs from July 1 through June 30. The national office encourages the branches to collect and transmit all dues by June 30. During my tenure as financial office, I have received some dues payments in July and even in August, due to members' travel schedules and other activities that take them away from home during the summer, but I encourage all members who have not yet paid and who plan to renew their AAUW membership to send me their \$70 dues payments as quickly as possible.

Phyllis Cline, 217-344-4806, [plcline@comcast.net](mailto:plcline@comcast.net)

### **Bernadine Stake, C-U AAUW Member, Receives YWCA Leadership Award**



At the March 14, 2014 Leadership Luncheon of the YWCA of University of Illinois, Bernadine Stake received the YWCA Leadership Award for Trailblazer. Bernadine was nominated by another AAUW member, Esther Patt.

### WE'RE ON FACEBOOK

**Thanks to Karen Retzer for updating the Champaign-Urbana Facebook page. We encourage you to go to the site, "Like" us and post**

<https://www.facebook.com/cuaauw>

**Branch Bylaws were updated to reflect changes from state and national. Updated text can be found on Branch website at <http://champaignurbana-il.aauw.net/> at the "Members Only"**

# AAUW ILLINOIS 90<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION

The meeting was held May 2-3 at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Illinois. Three members of our branch attended – District Director, Sallie Miller along with Nancy Dietrich and Branch President, Deborah Richie. Highlights included a keynote “Forward in 15” from Mark Hopkins, AAUW Chief Strategy Officer, along with breakout sessions on topics such as Investing in Young Women (NCCWSL), Public Policy, Responsible Fundraising, and Multiplying Your Membership.

Our Branch was recognized with multiple awards:

- Platinum Level Communications Award
- Public Policy Recognition Award
- International Affairs Programming Award
- Branch Pride Recognition Award
- Recognition of New Member Recruitment

In addition, 2 of our members received awards:

- ❖ Phyllis Cline, Spice Award
- ❖ Nancy Dietrich, Agent of Change Award

The **Agent of Change Award** is presented annually to a branch member who has served as a catalyst to bring about positive societal change. All efforts that relate to AAUW’s missions are considered, with special emphasis placed on activities that relate to current AAUW priorities and initiatives. For example, individuals who have actively promoted change in the areas of education, equity, and/or public policy should be among those considered as nominees for this prestigious award.



Congratulations to Phyllis and Nancy and thanks to Sallie Miller, our District Director.

You can find the Branch report of the year’s activities posted on our website  
<http://champaignurbana-il.aauw.net/>

You can find more information on the State Convention at  
<http://aauw-il.aauw.net/>

## SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS PROGRAM

C-U AAUW hosted the program on May 14, 2014. Erik Hawley from the local Social Security Office spoke about Social Security in general, including their online services. He and Lonii Jones, also from Social Security were available to answer questions.

Claudia Lenhoff from Champaign County Health Care Consumers spoke about the importance of saving Social Security, and what we can do to help make sure it remains solvent. Information about why Social Security is particularly important to women was available.



Lenhoff, Jones, and Hawley



Program Participants



### **Branch Annual Meeting, April 12, 2014**

Ten people attended and had the opportunity to hear the guest speaker, **Jenni Purdue**, who is a Legislative and Political Consultant for the State of Illinois. She works for *J & J Legislative* as a contractual lobbyist in Springfield representing many clients, including AAUW, in non-profit education, social justice, municipal, health and human services fields. She follows the legislative process from conception of a bill to getting it signed by the Governor.

Jenni spoke to us about several current issues, including the Bullying Bill (sponsor Representative Kelly Cassidy); the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (sponsor Rep. Mary Flowers); and the Equal Rights Amendment (Rep. Lou Lang).

## BRANCH INTEREST GROUP SUMMER NEWS

Participation is welcome by members and non-members. Invite others and introduce them to the variety of interests shared by the members of our branch.

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### ADELANTE BOOK DISCUSSION

Contact: Phyllis Cline 344-4806, [plcline@comcast.net](mailto:plcline@comcast.net). Complete reading list is available at <http://champaignurbana-il.aauw.net/groups/>

#### **Upcoming Meetings:**

**JUNE 24—** *The Tenth Parallel: Dispatches from the Fault Line Between Christianity and Islam*  
by Eliza Griswold

**JULY 22—** *Overdressed: the Shockingly High Cost of Cheap Fashion* by Elizabeth Cline

**AUGUST 26—** *Strength in What Remains* by Tracy Kidder

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# STAY INFORMED

#### **AAUW Sites:**

Champaign-Urbana Branch: <http://champaignurbana-il.aauw.net/>

AAUW-Illinois: <http://aauw-il.aauw.net/>

AAUW: <http://www.aauw.org/>

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