

MESSAGE FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT – SHARON MICHALOVE



Greetings. As the branch president for the next two years, I am happy to welcome our continuing and new members to our new year. The board has been working on interesting programs and our interest groups offer great opportunities for members to discuss various topics, from world politics to women's issues.

I was asked to give you a little biographical information about myself, so here goes.

In my family, only boys went to college. Mine was the first generation where the girls went to college too. My mother and my aunt weren't allowed to go and they both resented being denied the chance for a college degree. My father's parents were immigrants from Russia who set up college funds for their grandsons and dowries (savings bonds) for their granddaughters. My mother's mother told me that I should not let boys know that I was smart, just that I could cook. The ratio of men to women was the most important statistic, and the letters most women wanted were Mrs., not BA. I not only needed financial aid, I also worked part time when I was an undergrad, paid for all of my first master's degree and worked full-time while getting my second master's and PhD. My brothers couldn't understand why I was still in school after the age of 40.

My degrees are in the teaching of social studies, library science, history, and the history of education, all from the University of Illinois. I do research on court culture and cultural exchange in the fifteenth century. I've had a lot of jobs in my life, secretary, editor, library technical assistant, researcher, academic advisor, and instructor. I am now retired but still an adjunct assistant professor in the Program in Medieval Studies. My late husband was a composer and taught about music. I live alone with my two cats, love to travel, listen to music, read, write, go to movies and plays, and cook. I teach history at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.



Here is the list of the women who will provide the leadership for the Branch for 2015-2016:

Sharon Michalove, President

Denise Taylor, Secretary

Nancy Dietrich, Finance

Laura Keller, Scholarship Committee

Brenda Wilson and Helen Miron, Programs

Pam Erickson, Publicity

Nancy Dietrich, Membership

Sallie Miller, Branch Webmaster and State Board President-elect

Jenny Harvey and Margaret Stewart, International (Great Decisions)

Deborah Richie, Newsletter

Gail Tittle, Drinks and Dialogue

2015-2016 PROGRAM OVERVIEW – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **September 8 - Drinks & Dialogue – 6 pm, Milo’s**



September 16 - Adelante has changed to evening group – first meeting 6 pm, Satterthwaite Conference Room, Urbana library

- **September 23 and October 28 - Great Decisions – 7 pm, Windsor Court**
- **October 1 - Drama Group – 3 pm, Windsor Court**
- **October 24 - AAUW Illinois Southern Conference –Springfield Public Library**
- **December 5 Saturday Luncheon Program - University of Illinois STEM programs for girls – Noon, Ko-Fusion**
- **Wine, Women and Song – Spring 2016**
- **April 29-30 - AAUW-IL State Convention – Roosevelt University, Schaumburg**

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- **September 27 - YWCA Race Against Racism, 1 pm, U of I Arboretum. It is a 5K run/Walk for which CU AAUW is providing sponsorship**
http://www.ywca.org/site/c.9pLLLSPtEclUH/b.9133997/k.FE82/Race_Against_Racism.htm



WELCOME OUR FIVE NEWEST MEMBERS

Kathryn (Kate) Clancy of Urbana received a BA cum laude from Harvard University in 2001 where she studied Biological Anthropology and Women's Studies, and an MPhil & PhD in Anthropology in 2007 from Yale University. Her academic interests include reproductive ecology, reproductive cancer and prevention, food intolerances and inflammatory disease, and science outreach and advocacy, among others. She is the author of several publications and has been part of several academic collaborations. Dr. Clancy gave a presentation to C-U AAUW as well as at the AAUW IL State convention on her recent research on sexual harassment and assault in scientific fieldwork settings.

Mary Heaton of Champaign received her BA from William Jewell College in 1947, her MA from Syracuse University in 1949 and took further graduate work at the University of Illinois when she and her husband moved to Champaign, where her husband taught Physics at Parkland College until retiring in 1989. Mary also spent several years working for the Dean of Students at the University of Missouri in the early 1950's. Mary celebrated her 90th birthday on August 5th.

Constance (Connie) Shapiro of Champaign received her BA from Wellesley College, her MSW from Columbia University, and her PhD from Cornell University. She is Professor Emerita in the Dept. of Human & Community Development at the University of Illinois College of ACES. She is the author of several books on women's sexual and reproductive health. Connie has also received several honors for excellence in teaching.

Anne Sharpe of Champaign received her BFA (Design) from Syracuse University, magna cum laude, in 1960. She has worked as an Art & Production Assistant, Publicity & Program Production Director, Research Assistant/Copyeditor, and most recently, a Textual Editor for Dewey Studies at Southern IL University, where she retired in 2001. She was very active in the Carbondale community, serving on several boards and in the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship. She moved to Champaign in 2007 and is now active at the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Urbana-Champaign.

L. Murl (Benson) White of Sydney received her BA in Science/Botany from Eastern IL University in 1959. She worked for the Coles County Public Aid Office from 1961-2001 and is a retired member of AFSCME. As avid hunters of upland game, Murl and her husband were active in Quail Unlimited, supporting habitat restoration and environmental programs for young people.



BRANCH BOARD NEWS

The Board met on July 24 to begin planning for 2015-2016 programming.

Minutes can be found on the Branch website -

<http://champaignurbana-il.aauw.net/members-only/>

Questions about board can be directed to Sharon

Michalove sdmichalove@gmail.com

National Convention Report from Sallie Miller

I attended my first AAUW National Convention in San Diego in June 2015 and it was exciting to learn all the wonderful things AAUW does to advance equity for women and girls. There were about 38 women from Illinois attending and it was great to meet them and learn a little about their branches. The speakers were inspiring and covered everything from women in engineering and computing to leadership, public policy, and civil rights in education. They all reflect the urgent need for more women's voices to be at the table.

The workshops at AAUW National Convention were educational and they are available to everyone. Here is the link to the workshops -

<http://convention.aauw.org/2015/06/17/presentations-and-materials/>

One last item – I learned that Illinois is number 2 in the nation in donations to AAUW. I hope you will consider attending the AAUW National convention in Washington DC in June 2017.



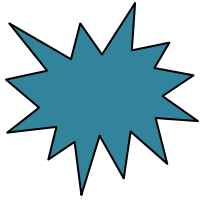
SUCCESS

C-U AAUW held a garage sale on Saturday, June 13 to benefit AAUW National's Legal Advocacy Fund – (more info about LAF can be found at www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/)

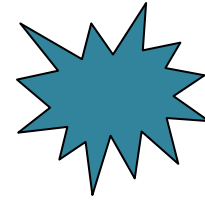
The sale was hosted by Nancy Dietrich during the Myra Ridge annual neighborhood garage sale. The grand total raised was \$443.60, a remarkable amount! A couple of larger items were sold after the sale via neighborhood listserv (bike) and eBay (camera), which brought the final total up from a little over \$300 to the total listed above.

Thank you to all who donated and helped out: Laura Keller, her husband Bob and family (who donated and helped with pricing), Joan Huber, Jan Anderson, Sallie Miller, Helen Miron, Karen Retzer, Phyllis Cline, and Margaret Stewart.

Let's plan on doing it again!



SCHOLARSHIP NEWS



The scholarship committee proposed and the Board approved raising our two scholarships at Parkland Community College from \$800 to \$1000 per year. Our two scholarships, named in honor of branch members, are the Southwood-Van Es and the Amy Kummerow awards. For the coming school year they are awarded to Alyssa Brewer and Sheila Stricklin.

Alyssa Brewer is the Southwood-Van Es scholarship recipient. After graduating from high school, she had a seven year intermission in her education. During that time she operated a small business and did volunteer work. This fall she will be starting in Parkland's Nursing Program as a second year student. She plans to graduate with her RN from Parkland in the spring of 2017 and then continue on with her BSN from an Illinois university. In the time she is not studying, she loves spending time with her family and friends and working with a severely disabled boy, helping him to be able to keep up his skills and participate in activities as much as possible.



Sheila Stricklin is once again, for the third year, our Amy Kummerow scholarship recipient. Sheila is the mother of five children who graduated from high school in 1986 and returned to her education at Parkland with hopes of working in a health related field. She originally was enrolled in the Surgical Technology program but transferred to the Nursing Program last spring. Sheila has attended several of our luncheons in the past two years, and we have enjoyed getting to know her and watch her progressing towards her goals.

A TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS CLINE



Phyllis joined AAUW in 1995. Many of us in the Champaign-Urbana Branch (and beyond) had the pleasure of knowing and interacting with Phyllis over the years of her participation in AAUW.

Phyllis passed away on August 20 at home, and she will be greatly missed. She was 77 years of age. She was a champion of social justice and equality her entire life.

Here are some of the highlights of her full and productive life (thanks to Phyllis for her beautifully written obituary from which I learned a lot and borrowed for this piece).

Phyllis was born in Illinois, grew up in the Chicago area and was an avid Cubs fan. In 1954, she established a fan club for Ernie Banks and Gene Baker, the first two African-American players for the Cubs.

She attended DePauw University and completed her bachelor's degree in 1964 at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She completed her Master's in Social Work degree in 1968 and began working at the VA Medical Center. She retired from that position in 1996.

Phyllis was active in NOW in the 1980's and joined with other opera lovers in 1990 to form the Illinois Opera Theatre Enthusiasts (IOTE). She was their newsletter editor for over 25 years and worked tirelessly with the group to raise funds for students.

With all of her commitments, Phyllis found time to actively engage with AAUW upon joining in 1995. Since I have known her, she facilitated Adelante, and participated in other interest groups. She regularly attended our programs. She served on the Scholarship committee, and became the financial officer for the Branch in 2007. She kept on top of the myriad of details associated with running a branch and provided invaluable support to me during my term as President (I know others share this sentiment).

Prior to her passing, the Board informed Phyllis that we wanted to establish a scholarship in her name. We are pleased to announce that we will offer a 2016-2017 Phyllis Cline Scholarship to a Parkland student.

Across the Branch, we are saddened at Phyllis' death. And amazed and inspired by her energy and commitment to the AAUW mission. Thanks to Phyllis – she made us better.

Submitted by Deborah Richie



BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

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



ADELANTE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP meets on the third Wednesday of selected months at 6 pm, Satterthwaite Conference Room, Urbana library.

Meeting Dates and Titles:

September 16 – *Call the Midwife: A Memoir of Birth, Joy and Hard Times* by Jennifer Worth. The 3 books by this author inspired the BBC series.

October 21 – *Little Women of Baghlan* by Susan Fox. Peace Corps volunteers in the late 1960s work to establish a nursing school for girls in Afghanistan during the time before the Taliban took over.

December 16 – *A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence and Power* by Jimmy Carter

January 20 – *Little Princess* by Conor Grennan

February 17 – *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain

March 16 – *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande

April 20 – *American Nations: A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America* by Colin Woodard

May 18 – *Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness* by Alexandra Fuller

****no meetings in June or July****

August 17 – *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee

For information, contact Laura Keller at 351-8408 or kellerla@comcast.net



DRAMA GROUP meets at 3:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of September, October, November, March, April, and May, at the Windsor Court section of The Windsor of Savoy, 401 Burwash, Savoy. For information, contact Cesaria Lancaster at 384-7798 or fwclancaster@yahoo.com.

October 1 meeting will be presented by Ricardo Herrera. He will talk to us about a new work, based on the letter Beethoven wrote to his "Immortal Beloved." Herrera and Sinfonia da Camera will present the world premier of this work on Saturday, October 17 at 7:30. Please contact Cesaria Lancaster if planning to attend October 1 Drama Group meeting.



Drinks & Dialogue usually meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. at Milo's in southeast Urbana. Participants take turns facilitating the discussion on a range of topics on current events of interest or relevance to the group. Please join this group for a great discussion and a glass of wine, cup of coffee, or a meal. For more information, contact Gail Tittle, gatittle@gmail.com

September 8 topic is people's response to one another based on gender. Article to initiate the discussion can be found at <http://www.houstonpress.com/arts/it-s-weird-how-people-correct-me-when-they-think-i-m-a-woman-7623225>.



GREAT DECISIONS group meets the fourth Wednesday in September, October, November, January, February, March, April, May, at 7:00 PM, Windsor Court, Savoy. Meetings are hosted by Doris Jones.

Discussions utilize a DVD and written materials from the Foreign Policy Association on issues of international interest. Each year the Foreign Policy Association chooses eight subjects and prepares a book covering each one in depth. All are challenging subjects involving issues of international concern.

Upcoming Meetings and program topics:

September 23 - Chapter 5: THE U.S. AND AFRICA: THE RISE AND FALL OF OBAMAMANIA

October 28 - Chapter 6: SYRIA'S REFUGEE CRISIS

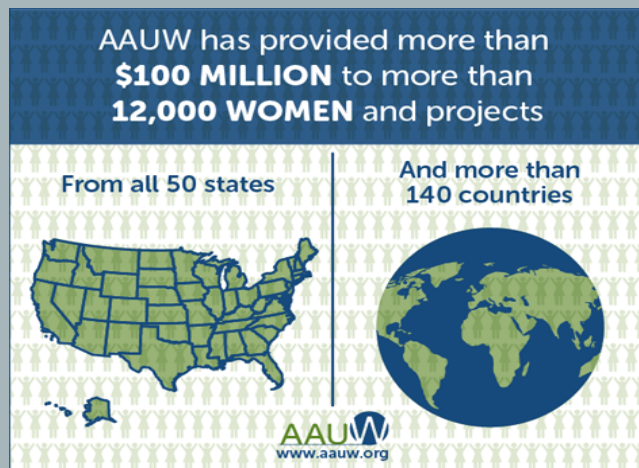
For more information, call Jenny Harvey, 344-5339 or Margaret Stewart, 356-9475.



If interested in the **WRITER'S GROUP**, contact Barb Scott, 352-7364.

STATE AND NATIONAL NEWS

A total of 241 awardees received one of AAUW's six fellowships and grants: [American Fellowships](#), [Career Development Grants](#), [Community Action Grants](#), [International Fellowships](#), [International Project Grants](#), and [Selected Professions Fellowships](#).



Applications for 2017 are now open

AAUW Sites:

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

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



**Champaign-Urbana
Branch Illinois 4012**

Please send news
items, comments or
corrections to:

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