

Volume 59, Number 4
April/May 2016

GREETINGS FROM BRANCH PRESIDENT SHARON MICHALOVE



It's spring and our fancies turn to gardens and travel. At least mine do. While I wait to leave for my next trip, I am remembering past travels--mostly to Italy. That seems to mean indulging in lots of espresso. I hope you are all enjoying some favorite things too.

While we are at the end of the year in terms of general meetings, some of our interest groups will continue throughout the summer. In the meantime, the board will be planning our autumn events and would welcome suggestions for possible programs. And a few of us will be attending the state convention in a little more than a week.

I would like to thank Laura Keller and Nancy Dietrich for agreeing to take on the jobs of membership and finance. We would appreciate renewals as soon as possible after Nancy sends out the notices. Prompt renewals make both Laura and Nancy's jobs easier. For those of you who prefer, an online option will be available for the first time.

I hope everyone enjoys the warmer weather.

Upcoming Activities – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **Drinks & Dialogue – May 10, 6 to 8 pm, Milo's, discussion of women in leadership based on AAUW newest research report *Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership* found at <http://www.aauw.org/research/barriers-and-bias/>**
- **Adelante – April 20 and May 18, 6 pm, Satterthwaite Conference Room, Urbana library**
- **AAUW-IL State Convention – Roosevelt University, Schaumburg - April 29-30**



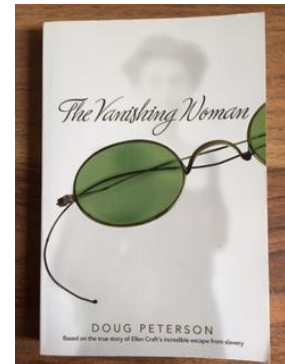
Wine, Women and Song, our annual fundraiser/ friend raiser event, was held on March 5 at Milo's in Urbana. Forty-two people had submitted reservations and there was agreement that the event was again a very enjoyable, successful event, raising around \$2,000 for Local Scholarships, Fellowships and Grants, and the Legal Advocacy Fund. The raffle was a hit as well, yielding \$86 for scholarships – thanks to Sallie Miller and the Branch for submitting the 2 wonderful prizes.



The program this year featured actress Jennifer Goran performing “Meet the Vanishing Woman”. The performance introduces us to Ellen Craft, an escaped slave in 1848 who pretended to be a white man, while her husband posed as her slave.

In addition to Ms. Goran, Doug Peterson, the author of *The Vanishing Woman*, was in attendance with copies of his book available.

Together the two provided a provocative and thoughtful program and discussion with the crowd.



In addition to the performance, the Branch honored Deborah Richie with the Marion Talbot Award for 2016. The award recognizes the outstanding contribution of the recipient to the Champaign-Urbana Branch. Here Sallie Miller presents the award to Deborah.

About the award: Marion University in 1880 and found of teaching, and faced social had gone to college. In friend from Vassar met with graduates, and met again in the Association of Collegiate AAUW.



Talbot graduated from Boston little opportunity for work outside ostracism since few other women November 1881, Marion and a some 15 other female college January with 65 women to launch Alumnae, the predecessor of

ANNUAL MEETING – APRIL 12, 2016

Around 15 people met together for the annual meeting of the branch. At this meeting, the new officers were elected —

Vice President for Membership: Laura Keller

Vice President for Finance: Nancy Dietrich

Local Scholarships Co-Chairs: Elaine Peppers and Bette van Es

Newsletter: Karen Retzer

The new terms begin in July and all other offices remain the same.



The meeting was intentionally held on Equal Pay Day and the discussion was led by branch member Professor Brenda Wilson. Participants received a copy of the Spring 2016 edition of the AAUW publication, *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap*. Information provided in that publication and comments by Dr. Wilson and participants include:

- The pay gap is the difference in men's and women's median earnings
- In 2014, women working full time in the US were typically paid 79% of men were paid (Illinois figure is also 79%)
- For African-american women, the percentage is the highest of all at 90%
- For women with a Bachelor's or advanced degree, the rate is 75% and 74% respectively

For more info, the publication can be accessed at <http://www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap>



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

It's time to renew your C-U AAUW Annual Dues

From Nancy Dietrich, C-U AAUW Financial Officer

The fiscal year for AAUW runs from July 1st through June 30th. Therefore it is now time to renew your dues for the upcoming year. As you know, annual dues for most branch members are \$70, which covers National, State, and Branch dues for the upcoming year.

This year, C-U AAUW has joined the AAUW Membership Payment Program, a way for you to renew your annual dues with a click of a button!

Here's how it works: Soon, you will receive an email from National with the email address of memberinfo@aauw.org. The subject line should read: AAUW Membership Renewal Notice. The body of the letter will include directions on how you can either pay your dues with a credit card, or pay your dues via check (the usual way we've been doing it). Here's an example of what your email will include:

SAMPLE FROM EMAIL: It's time to renew your AAUW membership. As an AAUW member whose state and branch has opted to participate in the Membership Payment Program (MPP), you will be paying all of your dues - branch, state, and national - at once.

There are two ways to renew your membership.

- 1) To renew online, click [HERE](#) to renew with your credit card!
- 2) To renew by check: Make your check payable to your AAUW branch, and mail it to your branch finance officer listed below.

(My mailing address will be listed below). END OF SAMPLE EMAIL

We want to encourage you to renew this way, as it will make the dues renewal process a lot easier for your financial officer. However, it is optional, so if you still want to pay via check, it is perfectly fine to do so.

-If you opt to pay by check, make the check out for \$70, payable to C-U AAUW, and mail to Nancy Dietrich, C-U AAUW Financial Officer, 2803 S. Myra Ridge Dr., Urbana, IL 61802. This information will be in the email/letter you receive as mentioned above.

-If you do not have an email address, you will be mailed a form for you to mail back to me with your payment.

-If you want to donate to the National funds (Legal Advocacy Fund and Fellowships & Grants), you can do that at the same time you renew your dues online. Our branch will receive credit for those donations. Information about donating to local scholarships is below.

-Please do not hesitate to contact Nancy Dietrich, C-U AAUW Financial Officer, if you have any questions about this new dues renewal procedure: nancydietrich01@gmail.com or 337-0334.

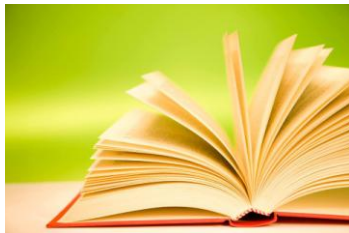
NEW MEMBER WELCOME – February 21

Several board members welcomed recent new branch members at a get-together held at the Champaign Library. Thanks to member Margaret Stewart for taking the lead with this event.



LIKE CU AAUW ON FACEBOOK – FOLLOW THE BRANCH AND POST INFORMATION

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/cuaauw/timeline> and sign in (if you already follow Facebook) or log in if new



**Like to read? Like talking with others about what you read?
Come to Adelante!**

The new book list is being chosen for the 2016-2017 year and we invite your suggestions. The books may be fiction or non-fiction consistent with Adelante's diversity outreach themes. Although our branch has chosen to make its own selections, you can find lists of national selections from past years at the national AAUW website, www.aauw.org. There are some interesting books listed that have not been on the chapter list before. You may send book ideas or questions about Adelante to Laura Keller kellerla@comcast.net or Sallie Miller millersallie@hotmail.com



Community Partnerships

In response to the decision to co-sponsor the Race against Racism, the University YWCA sent a thank you note to Nancy Dietrich, AAUW board member who served as the contact person for the Branch.

State AAUW News

Several members of the Branch plan to attend the **AAUW-IL State Convention** in Schaumburg on April 29 and 30, 2016. For more information about the upcoming meeting, go to http://aauw-il.aauw.net/files/2013/04/il_link_spring16.pdf

Sallie Miller is President-Elect, and Deborah Richie is on the slate for Co-VP for Programs.

IN 2017, THE STATE CONVENTION WILL BE HELD IN CHAMPAIGN-URBANA

NATIONAL NEWS

National Conference for College Women Student Leaders – Registration is still open - <https://www.nccwsl.org/>

Nearly 1,000 women college leaders from around the world will convene this summer for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, held June 2-4 at the University of Maryland. At this conference, students participate in workshops, meet inspiring role models and learn about opportunities for employment and graduate study.

See AAUW'S IMPACT IN ILLINOIS - AAUW is as relevant and vibrant today as it was at its inception in 1881, and that's because of the work we do together, a legacy of which we all can be proud. The generosity of members and supporters makes the vast array of projects and initiatives in each of these

states possible. <http://www.aauw.org/resource/aauw-state-impact/>





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.

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

No meetings in June or July.

Upcoming Meeting Dates and Titles:

April 20 - *American Nations: A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America* by Colin Woodard, 2013. Compelling explanation of the regional differences that make up the cultural and political landscape of America.

May 18 - *Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness*, 2012, by Alexandra Fuller.

From the author of *Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight*, *Cocktail Hour* provides a continuation of Fuller's story of family life growing up in Africa, with war, hardship and tragedy.

August - *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee and ***Go Set a Watchman*** by Harper Lee.



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.



Drinks & Dialogue is open to all members and friends of AAUW and is an informal gathering at a local restaurant for drinks and/or dinner. The group discusses a predetermined topic that can be found on the CU-AAUW Facebook page monthly or through emails to those on our list. Meetings regularly take place at Milo's Restaurant, 2870 Philo Rd., Urbana, 6:00-8:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. If you would like to be on the email list, please contact Gail Tittle, gatittle@gmail.com.

May 10 topic is status of women in leadership based on the AAUW's recent report found at <http://www.aauw.org/research/barriers-and-bias/>.



GREAT DECISIONS group meets the fourth Wednesday in 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. For more information, call Jenny Harvey, 344-5339 or Margaret Stewart, 356-9475.

Upcoming meetings and topics:

IN APRIL AND MAY, COME DISCUSS TWO INTENSE AND COMPLEX INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS:

- April 27, 7-8:30 pm - The Rise of ISIS
- May 25, 7 -8:30 pm - The Future of Kurdistan



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



**Champaign-Urbana
Branch Illinois 4012**

Please send news
items, comments or
corrections to:
Deborah Richie, editor