



NEWSBRIEF

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Champaign-Urbana branch hosting State Convention, May 5-6, 2017

There is still time to register!

We are excited that the Champaign-Urbana branch is hosting the AAUW-IL, Inc. 93rd State Convention this year. Let's represent our branch well! Join us on Friday and Saturday, May 5 & 6 at the IHotel and Conference Center, 1900 S. First Street.

The theme for this year's convention is *BUILDING ON A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP*

The program features a number of interesting sessions, starting with our Friday night dinner performance by Champaign actress Jennifer Goran of "Elizabeth's War", which tells the story of Elizabeth Van Lew, southern belle from Virginia who spied for the North during the Civil War.

The keynote luncheon speaker on Saturday will be Amanda Simpson. Ms. Simpson was Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense at the US Dept. of Defense during the Obama administration. She was recognized as one of the top 50 successful transgender Americans, and was a 2015 AAUW NCCWSL Women of Distinction recipient.

The full conference program and registration form is available online at aauw-il.aauw.net

Registration is open until April 28 and payment can be submitted through PayPal or submitting a check.

Contact Program Co-VP Deborah Richie at dr_drtwin@comcast.net with questions.

We look forward to seeing you at the state convention!

--submitted by Deborah Richie, *co-Vice President of Programs, AAUW-Illinois Board of Directors*

RECENT HAPPENINGS

Wine, Women, and Song, our annual fundraising and social event, has been a branch tradition since 2004. This year's event was held on March 4 at Milo's Restaurant in Urbana. The thirty-five people in attendance enjoyed a delicious three-course hors oeuvres and wine sampling and were entertained by the duo, Ms. M and the Jokers, with Dorothy Martirano on violin and Armand Beaudoin on cello.



Besides providing a very enjoyable afternoon, the event was successful in raising over \$2,000 for local scholarships to Parkland and the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) as well as for National AAUW's Fellowships and Grants and the Legal Advocacy Fund. In addition, \$900 was donated directly to Parkland for our local scholarships. Thanks to the Branch, Elaine Peppers, and Sharon Michalove for donating items to the raffle.

In addition to the entertainment, the Branch honored **Gail Tittle** with the **Marion Talbot Award for 2017**. The award, named for one of the founders of AAUW, is given annually to recognize the recipient's outstanding contribution to the Champaign-Urbana Branch.



C-U AAUW 2017 Slate of Officers installed at the April 4, 2017 Annual Meeting.

Our branch Annual Meeting took place on Tuesday, April 4th and marked Equal Pay Day (the symbolic day when, on average, women's wages catch up to men's wages from the previous year) at Pizza M in downtown Urbana. Branch members Brenda Wilson & Julie Laut gave an excellent presentation to about 16 people regarding the pay gap, and how progress on closing the gap has stalled. Postcards were written & sent to our legislators, urging them to pass legislation to help close the pay gap. Also at the meeting, our new officers were installed for the term beginning July 1, 2017.

For a 2-year term starting July 1, 2017:

President - Laura Keller

Vice President for Program - Brenda Wilson (continuing)

Secretary - Nancy Dietrich

Replacements (taking office mid-term):

Vice President for Membership - Gail Tittle (replacing Laura Keller)

Vice President for Finance - Pam Erickson (replacing Nancy Dietrich)

In Memorium

The Champaign-Urbana Branch lost two of its long-time members in 2016:

Doris Jones

Doris was born in 1931 and died November 1, 2016. She earned her bachelor's degree in education minoring in special education from Southern Illinois University and later her master's degree in education with a school administrative endorsement from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She taught special education and fourth grade before serving as the principal of Carrie Busey Elementary School in Champaign from 1980-1999. Carrie Busey, during her tenure, served as both an elementary school and as the districtwide special education site. In 1990, while Doris was principal, Carrie Busey was nationally recognized as a School of Excellence. Doris served as Co-President of the Champaign-Urbana AAUW Branch from 1999-2001 and, in later years, was a member of the Drama Group.

Jean M. Due

Jean was born in 1921 and died November 27, 2016. She earned her BA from the University of Toronto and her MS and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Jean was an agricultural economist primarily interested in international agriculture specializing in the development economy of East Africa. She traveled to East Africa over the span of 40 years to improve the lives of women through improved agricultural production and microfinancing. She also sponsored African women to come to the U of I as students. Jean was an Honorary Life Member of AAUW, having been a member for over fifty years.

Travel with AAUW!

AAUW member Linda Bullock (Decatur Branch) is hosting two trips in 2017. One is to New York City and the other one is a Portugal & Spain Douro River Boat Cruise. Below is a brief synopsis of both trips. For specific information & a brochure, call Linda Bullock 217-422-0776 or e-mail (rribul@comcast.net).

New York City Trip (July 6-10, 2017)

"Start spreading the news," because New York City is America's most exciting metropolis for a getaway filled with shopping, sightseeing, & endless entertainment. Highlights include the following: the Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island; the moving 9/11 Memorial & Museum; 2 Broadway Shows (your choice from a selection of big hits); Greenwich Village; Wall Street; Little Italy; Chinatown; the Empire State Building; Central Park; & Times Square where our hotel is located!

Portugal & Spain Douro River Boat Cruise (October 25 – November 5, 2017)

Travel Europe's most unspoiled UNESCO World Heritage river valley through Portugal & Spain! Rambling vineyards & charming native farms called "quintas" cling to the steep sides of the Douro River Valley, creating an incomparable backdrop to one of Europe's most unspoiled regions and to Port country – the oldest demarcated wine region in the world. Highlights include: 3 nights in Lisbon, where you will uncover a treasure trove of Old World architecture; 7-night cruise which includes everything; & an optional tour to Fatima.

2017 AAUW National Election—One Member, One Vote!

AAUW members received their voter information in early April by e-mail and mail with the Spring *AAUW Outlook*! Candidate slate, bylaws proposals, Public Policy Program proposals, and resolutions were published in the Spring issue of *AAUW Outlook*. And don't forget to check for the latest updates on the [AAUW National Election web page](#).

Welcome New Members!

We welcome three new members! Mary Emma Borgeson graduated with a Bachelors degree & a Masters degree in Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She was a Peace Corps volunteer in El Salvador from 1968-71. She lived in Venezuela for a year and was a member of the Venezuelan Association of University Women in 1981. She has been a retired Reading Recovery teacher for the past 4 years, both in English and Spanish. Welcome, Mary! Please add the following contact information to your directory: Mary Emma Borgeson, 2207 Belmore Dr., Champaign, IL 61821; Home ph: 217-352-6131; Email: maryborgeson@comcast.net

We also welcome Andrea Fain as a student affiliate. Welcome, Andrea! Please add to your directory: Andrea Fain, 2206 Noel Drive, Champaign, IL 61821; Ph: 217-766-3465; Email: andrea.fain@gmail.com

And, we welcome Melissa Pires Alves who earned her PhD from the Universidade Federal of Rio Grande Do Sul. Please add her contact information to your directory as well: 2315 S. First St. #204, Champaign, IL 61820, 217-693-2427, melalves73@gmail.com.

Future Dates for Your Calendar

AAUW-IL State Convention in Champaign, Friday and Saturday, May 5-6, 2017 (see cover story).



Monthly Socials

With the object of giving members more opportunity to get to know each other, our branch has sought to provide a get-together of some sort each month. In May, the State Convention will serve as that opportunity. In June, we will meet on Wednesday, June 21, at 5:00 for dinner and/or drinks at Pizza M in Urbana.

Branch Interest Groups

We have four active interest groups. All members and soon-to-be members are welcome!

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. We discuss a predetermined topic that can be found on our Facebook page (CU-AAUW) monthly or through emails to those on our list. Meetings regularly take place at Milo's Restaurant, 2870 Philo Rd., Urbana at 6:00-8:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Please join us. If you would like to be on our email list, please contact Gail Tittle, gatittle@gmail.com.

Drama Group meets the first Thursday of the month at 3:00 pm at the Windsor Court of Savoy. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, May 4. For further information, members can contact Cesaria Lancaster at 217-384-7798, 217-493-9600 or fwclancaster@yahoo.com) or Betty Cook at 815-383-1817.

Great Decisions meets the fourth Wednesday at 7:00 pm. The next meeting is Wednesday, April 26. We will also meet in May. Discussions utilize a DVD and written materials from the Foreign Policy Association on issues of international interest. Please contact Jenny Harvey for more information: 217-344-5335 or jennygharvey@yahoo.com

Adelante Book Discussion Group continues to meet on the third Wednesday of each month in the Satterthwaite Conference Room on the lower level of the Urbana Free Library **from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.** The book for May is *Red Kimono* by Jan Morrill and for June is *The Woman in Cabin 10* by Ruth Ware. All members are welcome; we hope you will join us! Feel free to bring book-loving friends who may be prospective members. Books are available at the Champaign and Urbana libraries. Questions? Contact Laura Keller (kellerla@comcast.net) or Sallie Miller (millersallie@hotmail.com).



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