

American Association of University Women

October 2006

Cedar Falls, Iowa

Vol. 63 No. 2

Monday, October 23, 2006

Cedar Falls Woman's Club

Third and Clay Streets

Gather 5:00 p.m.

AAUW Program Updates 5:30 p.m.

Speaker 5:45 p.m. Dinner 6:15 p.m.

Mission: The American Association of University Women, Cedar Falls Branch, promotes education and equity for all women and girls, life long education, and positive societal change.

Vision: The American Association of University Women, Cedar Falls Branch, will be recognized in the community for promoting the status of women and girls.

Diversity Statement: In principle and in practice, the American Association of University Women, Cedar Falls Branch, 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.

Board of Directors:

President Jane Close
Co-Presidents Elect
Judy Focht, Gloria Tollefson
Past President Pat Higby
Co-Vice Presidents for Program
Dee Lynch, Liz Poole
Vice President for Membership
Jean Kelly
Co-Vice Presidents for
Educational Foundation
Bev Lundy, Melba Widmer
Secretary Allaire George
Treasurer Nancy Henderson
Public Policy/Voter Education
Director Liz Poole
Legal Advocacy Fund Director
Carol Cooper
Newsletter Editor Sheryl Bewyer

What in the World ... are we doing? ...about encouraging people to vote?



Menu:

Ham Loaf & Au Gratin Potatoes
Apple Salad
Sherbet and Cookie
or you may order a Chef's Salad
\$10.00 for either

Speakers:

Former State Senator

Pat Harper

Former Lieutenant Governor

Joy Corning

Reservations:

Dee Lynch 266-3747

deelynch@cfu.net

8:00 pm Tuesday October 17

Sheryl Bewyer Given Named Grant Award

The 2006 recipient of the Named Grant Award for the Cedar Falls Branch of AAUW was announced at the Monday, September 25, Open House meeting. Sheryl Bewyer received the award in recognition of her many years as the branch newsletter editor. A contribution will be sent to the Educational Foundation's Eleanor Roosevelt Fund in her honor.

Sheryl is a life member of AAUW since 1971 and has been president and program vice president of our branch. Sheryl said, "I knew I always wanted to remain a part of an organization of educated women." She has been a part of the AAUW of Iowa state board as Newsletter editor for two terms, served as By-Laws chair and has been a member of other state level committees. Sheryl is presently a teacher in the Cedar Falls School's program for talented and gifted students.

The Named Grant Award began as a way to honor a member of the local branch for their contribution in supporting the mission of AAUW. Notice page 23 of our yearbook to learn of others who have been Named Grant recipients.

AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change. Any member may contribute to this fund with a contribution sent to our treasurer, Nancy Henderson, or by going on line to this website www.aauw.org



International Studies

A Study of India

Co-leaders Lois Crowley and Kathy Agness

Meetings are the third Monday of the month at 1:15 pm.

October 16 will be at the home of Gloria Tollefson
Ancient History

November 20 will be at the home of Ellie Thompkins
British India

December 18 will be at the Woman's Club
Music of India

Literature Group

Each month the meeting is held a members home on the second Monday at 1:15 pm.

October 9 Dee Lynch

November 13 Penny Brown

December 11 Gloria Tollefson

contact Jean Kelly 266-0809

Telling Our Stories

Our group meets the first Monday of every month in the committee room at the Cedar Falls Library from 1:15-3:15p.m. We share ideas for writing and then each person writes about something of interest to her. Some of our topics are things about our childhood or family members that we want to remember and share with future generations. Participants agree that without our group these memories would probably never be written. Some women choose to work on their family genealogy and Allaire George assists us with that when we have questions.

Gloria Tollefson, chair 266-4075

Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity

Second Monday, each month;

4:30 pm, at the UNI museum.

October 9 *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*

November 13 *Cockeyed*

Need a book? Allaire George allaireg7@mchsi.com

Other information:

Dr. Judy Beckman drjudy.beckman@cfu.net

Women in Motion...

5:30 pm supper at Maucker Union and

7:30 pm performance of *Nickel and Dime* at the UNI Interpreter's Theater.

contact Denise Bouska 235-2667

Bridge Groups

Playing bridge is good fellowship, challenge for the brain, good food, laughter and giving to the Educational Foundation. Each player donates two dollars to the Educational Foundation each time they play bridge.

A night group could be started. Beginners are welcome. Anyone interested in playing bridge with either group that is not already on the member lists, contact Dargy Baxter dargybaxter@mchsi.com.

Wednesday Bridge at Bonanza 11:30 am

• October 18, 2006

Hostess Edna Hamilton

• November 15, 2006

Hostess Lorraine Tressler



Fourth Tuesday Bridge 12:30 homes

• October 24, 2006

Hostess Esther Kieffer

• November 28, 2006

Hostess Phyllis Steele

**** BOARD MEETING:

Tuesday November 7, 4:30 pm CF Public Library
Newsletter items due on, or before, November 8, 2006 All branch members are welcome to attend.

Cedar Falls AAUW

Sheryl Bewyer

3016 Shady Lane

Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

the Educational Foundation (EF) and Legal Advocacy (LAF)

We challenge you to match the donations ~

Bev Lundy 266-1185 Melba Widmer 277-7311
EF co-chairs

Cedar Valley Discuss & Discover Diversity:

Expand your world of cultural knowledge through reading and sharing.

COCKEYED by Ryan Knighton

Imagine going blind, having no idea that anything is wrong, and being a teenager with a driver's license. **COCKEYED** by Ryan Knighton's memoir is his journey from being sighted and considered inept, through the diagnosis of Retinitis Pigmentosa, and going unsteadily but surely into increasing blackness. This fifteen-year journey with Knighton as he careers and guessworks his life of approaching blindness is an engrossing read for adolescents and adults.

Today, Ryan Knighton's clinically defined vision is at one percent. In one eye the world is a Vaseline smear, in the other he has narrowing tunnel vision he describes as seeing his life through a long drinking straw. As a teenager before the diagnosis of oncoming blindness — Retinitis Pigmentosa, Ryan's parents believe him driving drunk after he parks his father's car on top of a decorative gas station boulder. Before fourteen-year-old Ryan has a name for this growing Swiss cheese vision, he gains a coveted teenager's summer job. He is being paid \$6.50 for driving a forklift. Through the miasma of shadows and indistinguishable shapes, Ryan narrowly misses running over a fellow worker who believes this near-miss tragedy is intentional. In a mixture of fear, denial, and confusion, Ryan Knighton feels doomed to accept his parent's belief that he is drinking while driving, and lying to cover up. How else can he have parked his family's car on the very lip of the precipice of a deep and dangerous ditch. Humor and unexpected insights combine urging the reader to stumble alongside Ryan as he negotiates dancing at the punk rock scene, finding and using the men's washrooms, and pretending sightedness to keep a teaching job in South Korea. Knighton's insights into this congenital, progressive disease provides readers with an open window of understanding how sighted language may be useless to the blind and how codes of behavior change as sight diminishes.

Ardelle Brown, of the Cedar Valley Discuss & Discover Diversity Read and Share, will facilitate the discussion. Join this event at the UNI Museum on Monday, November 13 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., courtesy of the UNI Partner host, Dr. Sue Grosboll. Parking is convenient and accessible to special needs participants. Read this provocative memoir of a man who today teaches contemporary literature and creative writing at Capilano College in Vancouver, British Columbia. No time to read the book? Boot up your computer and listen to the National Public Radio Archive "Talk of the Nation," taped May 31, 2006, Authors: 'Cockeyed': An Unsentimental Take on Blindness. Come share your insights. You will be welcomed and your presence valued.

To obtain books contact Allaire George at allaireg7@mchsi.com. For information on programs contact Dr. Judy Beckman at drjudy.beckman@cfu.net

Five of our members have graciously offered to donate \$50 each to EF/LAF. Can the rest of the membership match the donation? Any amount would be welcomed. A basket will be available for your donations at the October, November and December meetings or you may mail your EF/LAF gift to Bev Lundy, 1103 Ellen, CF 50613

Cultural Intensive English Program/UNI

International students at UNI have an opportunity to meet members of the Waterloo/Cedar Falls community through the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). The purpose of the meetings is to give the students an opportunity to practice listening and speaking English in a conversational one-on-one setting outside the traditional classroom.

The group meets every Tuesday at 2-3:00 at the Wesley Foundation 2422 College Street in Cedar Falls. If you are interested in joining other volunteers with this project, please contact the RSVP office at 319.272.2250 and ask for Ruth Buck. She will explain the procedure you will need to follow to get started or call our branch member Judy Focht at 266-3083 for more information.

jjfocht@cfu.net

New Members:

- Anne Cook
2 Silver Lake Dr.
Waterloo 50702
231-9541
acook@hawkeyecollege.edu
- Mary Sue Ellinger
303 12th St. SE
Waverly 50677
352-4572
bmsellinger@aol.com
- Mary Franke
1717 S. Union Rd.
277-8014
- Judy Moser
615 Walnut St.
266-5952
jmoser@area267.k12.ia.us
- Kris Owens
1101 Elmer Ave.
Evansdale 50707
236-8634
kowens@hawkeyecollege.edu
- Kelen Panec
2416 Valley High Dr.
240-8706
paneck@waterloo.k12.ia.us
- Anne Schuessler
2003 State St.
266-1549
- Maureen White
2303 Greenwood Ave.
266-9901

Membership Update:

Listed are the names/address of members who have renewed since the yearbook was published:

- Glenyce Butschy
717 West 8th St.
266-3196
gbutschy@cfu.net
- Eleanor Crownfield
1100 Grove St. #17
266-2484
- Betty DeBerg
826 Westwood Dr.
277-5071
deberg@uni.edu
- Joan Duea
3422 Pheasant Drive
266-3606
joan.duea@uni.edu
- JoAnn Finkenbinder
31 River Ridge Rd.
266-7756
o2@cfu.net
- Willa Smith
1149 Lantern Sq. #2
Waterloo 50701
232-2974
wsmith4765@aol.com

From The President

October 2006

What a great September open house/fall kickoff at the library!! Thanks go to the membership and program committees as well as to many others for a highly enjoyable and informative evening that makes us proud to belong to the Cedar Falls AAUW.

This month we return to the Woman's Club for our program meeting. The purpose of the Woman's Club is "to stimulate intellectual and social development and create an organized center of thought and action among women of Cedar Falls for the best interest of the community." That sounds like a perfect match for AAUW women.

While the board of directors periodically evaluates this meeting location as well as others, the Woman's Club remains the best fit for us in terms of size, location, parking, access, privacy, multimedia needs and ambience. Add a dinner for \$10.00 that includes entrée, drink, desert, excellent service and gratuity in a facility that fits our program requirements so well, and we have a value we have not found elsewhere. At the same time, we are able to support another women's organization, one that includes a number of our own AAUW members.

As you approach the Woman's Club for our next meeting, stop to appreciate the beauty of the structure both inside and out. From its Italianate design with double round headed windows, highly decorated bay window, detailed eaves and round window, to its stained glass rose window, original stairway, and the ballroom which has become so familiar to us, it is an altogether amazing facility. Special thanks go to the Woman's Club for making it available to us.

See you at the club house!

Jane Close President
273-6250 jane.close@uni.edu



From the Branch Board of Directors

AAUW, Cedar Falls Branch, Open House was held from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. on September 25, 2006, at the Cedar Falls Public Library. *"What in the World Are We Doing? Come and See!"* was the theme and the focus for the informative displays of the study/interest groups, community action projects and standing committees.

Vice President for Membership, Jean Kelly, recognized the members of the committee: Mary Fogarty, Olean Yahnke and Joan Kurt. Liz Poole and Dee Lynch, Vice Presidents for Program, presented the Program Schedule for 2006-2007. Yearbook editor Phyllis Steele, communications director Pat Higby, newsletter editor Sheryl Bewyer and Presidents Elect Judy Focht and Gloria Tollefson were recognized for their contributions to the open house.

The EF Named Grant was presented to Sheryl Bewyer by Ardelle Brown, Historian/photographer.

Hors d'oeuvres and informal conversation was enjoyed until 7:00 p.m.

Allaire George allaireg7@mchsi.com 233-5320

Community Action

The Iowa Empowerment State Board met in the Cedar Falls Library in September just a few days before our last meeting. If you want to see how your tax dollar is being spent go to www.empowerment.state.ia.us then click on newsletter on the left and when the newsletters are all listed click on October, and there is the Cedar Valley's Promise night to show off what is happening here.

Ardelle Brown dabrown@cfu.net



Join E-list Friends (ELF)

Do you sometimes need a little help using new technology? Would you volunteer to help an AAUW colleague learn a new skill? Join our new e-mail list so we can help each other. No expertise required, no monthly meetings, no added stress to your life, just an easy way to facilitate "life long learning" among AAUW friends. It's a three step program:

When you need help just send an e-mail to the group. Someone will read your request and respond with an offer of help. You two get together by phone, by e-mail or in person.

To subscribe, send an e-mail to Neysa@mchsi.com. (or sign up at the October meeting).

The list will be compiled and sent to all other subscribers. That's it. If several people want the same kind of help then there might be a group meeting, otherwise this is one-on-one. The more we know how to do, the more we can help AAUW's mission.

Neysa Picklum 290-6220