

# American Association of University Women

October 2007

Cedar Falls, Iowa

Vol. 64 No. 2

**Monday, October 29, 2007**

**Cedar Falls Woman's Club**

**Third and Clay Streets**

**Gather 5:00 p.m.**

**AAUW Program 5:30 p.m.**

**Dinner and Business Meeting 6:15 p.m.**

## One Shared World Come Share the World

### **Mission:**

The American Association of University Women advocates equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

### **Vision:**

The American Association of University Women, Cedar Falls Branch, will be recognized in the community as an advocate for women and girls.

### **Diversity Statement:**

In principle and in practice, the American Association of University Women, Cedar Falls Branch, values and seeks diversity. 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:**

Co-Presidents

Judy Focht, Gloria Tollefson  
President Elect Nancy Henderson

Past President Jane Close

Co-Vice Presidents for Program

Dee Lynch, Liz Poole

Vice President for Membership

Mimi Zischke

Co-Vice Presidents for

Educational Foundation

Bev Lundy, Melba Widmer

Secretary Allaire George

Treasurer Diane Davison

Public Policy/Voter Education

Director Maureen White

Legal Advocacy Fund Director

Carol Cooper

## Hope for Africa Through Justice

Dr. Donna Maier, better known to many of us as Dolly, is a professor of history at UNI and teaches African studies. Dr. Maier has spent the last seven years living on two continents, Africa and the U.S, along with her husband, Steve Rapp, and their two children. Prior to her husband's appointment as council for the United Nations in Arusha, Tanzania, where he was trying those who had participated in the Rwanda genocide, she had studied in Africa and has helped author several history text books.

While in Arusha she has been involved in projects that promote the status of women and children, that include health as well as education. She will share these experiences as well as bring news of what's happening in Africa through the help of the United Nations and the World Court.

### **Reservations:**

Dee Lynch 266-3747

deelynych@cfu.net

**8 pm Wednesday, October 24**

### **Menu:**

Baked Chicken w/ Apricot Sauce

Apple Salad

Marinated Vegetables

Spice Cake Trifle

You may order a Chef's Salad  
(regular or vegetarian)

\$10.00 for either



## Welcome New Members

AAUW is really "blooming" with new members who can be identified by their name badges which sprout bright yellow daisies. Also, at our general meetings, you'll see them sitting at one or two tables with centerpieces and place cards decorated with the same yellow daisies.

Please introduce yourself to these new "blooms".

Marnell Lyle

Eunice Dell

Lori Hansen

Mary Dove

Doris Maurer

Joan Loslo

Gayle Wood

Pam McMullen

Marcie Hagge

Yvonne Everton

They are a lively, fun-loving group. I know because they met at my house on September 11 for an informational meeting about AAUW. Welcome to all our new "blooms".

*Mimi Zischke, Membership chair*

# Community Action

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## **Cedar Valley Discuss & Discover Diversity Reading & Sharing**

Cedar Valley Discover Diversity Discuss: Reading and Sharing will meet Monday, November 12, 2007, to discuss *Cotton Field of Dreams*, by Janis F. Kearney. Dr. Ronelle Langely of Cedar Falls will be the discussion leader for a television discussion with author, Janis P. Kearney.

Imagine yourself one of nineteen children of sharecropper parents in Gould, Arkansas. Imagine going into the fields to pick cotton at age seven. Imagine missing school during the harvest and planting season, and being taught by your father. Meet this woman, via television. Janis Kearney graduated from the University of Arkansas, is now a writer and lecturer and was formerly personal diarist to President William Jefferson. We look forward to welcoming you to this discussion at the University of Northern Iowa Museum, 4:30-5:30 pm. The UNI Museum on Hudson Road is handicapped accessible.

*Judy Beckman, Diversity Chair  
268-0544 drjudy.beckman@cfu.net*

## **Current Research on Educational Equity**

October 25, 2007 at 4:30 pm, Waterloo Public Library: Jane Lindaman met with us in September and answered many of our questions about the single gender classes at the Cunningham School. This month we will compare the test results among the fourth grade classes. We will look at the proficiency results, used in No Child Left Behind, as well as the ITBS percentile results.

Watch your email box and the website [http://www.uni.edu/aauw/community\\_action\\_projects.html#cree7](http://www.uni.edu/aauw/community_action_projects.html#cree7) for updates. If a teacher is able to come to explain the "templates" used in the all girl classes, as discussed in September, you will be notified. To be placed on the email list, or if you have questions, contact Neysa Picklum or Sharon Gatewood.

*Neysa Picklum, co-chair [Neysa@mchsi.com](mailto:Neysa@mchsi.com)  
Sharon Gatewood, co-chair [sbgatewood@cfu.net](mailto:sbgatewood@cfu.net)*

## **Iowa Radio Reading Information Service (IRIS)**

Three members and the husband of a member are now reading for IRIS. Volunteers, especially for weekends, are needed to read items of local interest in the Waterloo Courier once or twice a month from a small studio at UNI. Reading is done daily from am and is done in teams of two. Contact Larry Cardamon, 233-2848, for more information.

*Barbara Cardamon, project coordinator  
[cardmore@aol.com](mailto:cardmore@aol.com)*

## **Public Policy: Your AAUW at Work**

Your dues support the AAUW Public Policy and Government Relations staff who work with members of Congress on issues of importance to AAUW members.

This term, Congress will consider the Fair Pay Restoration Act (S.1843), which aims to restore the law as it was applied prior to the Supreme Court decision last term in the case of Ledbetter vs. Goodyear. The decision limited the ability of victims of pay discrimination to sue under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. AAUW believes pay discrimination is responsible for the wage gap for women and persons of color.

AAUW supported The College Cost Reduction and Access Act (H.R. 2669), designed to reduce loan costs and increase scholarships for undergraduate students, which was recently passed and signed into law.

AAUW encourages member to contact congresspersons regarding the Mathew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007.

To stay informed and involved with these issues and others, you can sign-up for the Washington Update, a weekly bulletin from AAUW, by sending an email to [voter@aauw.org](mailto:voter@aauw.org). For a quick method to learn about an issue and contact your congressperson, sign-up for the Two Minute Activist. On the AAUW home page, go to Quick Links (upper right corner). Under Take Action, select Two Minute Activist.

*Maureen White, Public Policy/Voter Education  
266-9901, [mwhite@cfu.net](mailto:mwhite@cfu.net)*

## From your co-presidents ~

The general meeting on Monday, September 24, was very well attended. We enjoyed hearing our state president, Jan Heinicke, speak and some of us wished we had taken notes! Jan says she reads our newsletter and is impressed with the work we are doing. We, in turn, are impressed with her work teaching women around the world to use art projects to sell to improve their ability to provide for themselves and their families. Thank you, Jan.

We wish to extend congratulations to Nancy Henderson, our president elect, who was recently named Dean of Students at Hawkeye Community College. Nancy has served as treasurer of our branch and is presently on AAUW Iowa board. Thank you, Nancy.

Victoria DeFrancisco, the recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award from AAUW in 2002, has been named Interim Associate Dean of Graduate Academic Affairs at UNI. She has worked diligently on women's causes at the university and for our branch. Our best to you, Victoria, and thank you.

Our branch has a complete set of AAUW research publications that are available to you for check out. These titles are listed in the Equity Essentials catalog or on the Association website [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). If you see a title that looks of interest to you, contact Judy Focht at 266-3083 and she will lend you a copy. Thank you, Neysa Picklum for organizing these materials.

We are pleased to support the Cedar Falls Woman's Club by scheduling our monthly dinner meetings there again this year. Their theme for the year is **Empowering Women**. One of our branch goals is to partner with groups with similar missions. We are a good match for each other. Thank you, CFWC, for providing a beautiful meeting place for community groups.

We are in the second year of changes in the way our branch leadership works. As we discover inconsistencies (bugs) in the plan, we try to get those corrections done ASAP. Sometimes it takes longer than we expect. We appreciate your patience as we experiment with the best way to smooth things out.

Co-Presidents: Judy Focht Gloria Tollefson [juffocht@cfu.net](mailto:juffocht@cfu.net) [gtollefson@mchsi.com](mailto:gtollefson@mchsi.com)

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

Bev Lundy [lundy1185@msn.com](mailto:lundy1185@msn.com) 266-1185  
and Melba Widmer 277-7311 EF co-chairs

The American Association of University Women is applauding the College Cost Reduction Access Act which President Bush recently signed. One of the issues the bill addresses is making payments of student loans more manageable. The Act also raises Pell Grant Scholarships by \$1,090 over the next five years.

Women college graduates often have a more difficult time paying back loans because they earn less on average over their life time than men. Even one year after graduation women earn less than males in the same field.

Lisa Maatz, the AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relations said, "Students shouldn't have to mortgage their futures for a college education or worse, avoid college altogether - because of skyrocketing costs and dwindling aid." This "is a positive step for access to higher education in general and for women in particular."

Barbara Cardamon, EF Committee,  
[cardmore@aol.com](mailto:cardmore@aol.com)



## Report From the Board of Directors

On October 1, 2007, the Board met and heard reports from the following standing committees:

Communications - Liz Poole will assume responsibility for notifying the local newspapers about upcoming meetings and special events. The concern for maintaining privacy was discussed and it was agreed that anyone submitting an article to the newsletter would decide if a phone number and/or e-mail address would be included.

Membership - Mimi Zischke reported a total of 87 renewing members and five new paid memberships as of October 1.

Program - Liz Poole confirmed all dinner meeting programs have been scheduled and are listed in the Branch Directory.

EF and LAF - Carol Cooper provided a short update for LAF.

Many committees, community action projects and study/interest groups meet at the Cedar Falls Public Library and the UNI Museum. Since their facilities are used free of charge, the Board decided to encourage *all* members to join/volunteer at the museum and the Book Nook.

A committee was formed to be in charge of finding financial solutions to support the community action projects. Diane Davison, Treasurer, will serve as the facilitator with the following as members: Ardelle Brown and Linda Morgan (HFH Women Build - book case), Liz Poole and Allaire George (Bright Move Network), Phyllis Steele (CareBags), Judy Beckman (Discuss and Discover Diversity), Bev Lundy and Melba Widmer (EF), and Carol Cooper (LAF).

Ardelle Brown will contact Gerald Peterson, Special Collections Librarian at UNI, to determine the appropriate location to archive records of the Cedar Falls Branch.

Allaire George, Secretary

## Literature Interest Group

Members select and report on books of personal interest that others may also chose to read.

The next meeting will be at the CF Public Library, (Shira Sternberg is hostess) on Monday, October 8th at 1:15 pm. Program is Liz Poole. Regular meetings are the second Monday at member's homes.

*For more information call:*

*Jean Kelly 266-0809 [jeankelly@cfu.net](mailto:jeankelly@cfu.net)*

## Telling Our Stories

Telling Our Stories interest group will meet at the Cedar Falls Library, Monday afternoon November 5 at 1:15 pm. Please join us as we write about people, places and experiences that we want to share with future generations. We spend most of our time sharing ideas and writing. We do not critique each other's writing so do not be intimidated. If you have a laptop, you might like to bring it. *Gloria Tollefson, chair*

## Tech Talk

(formerly E-list Friends)

Tech Talk will meet on Wednesday, October 17 at CF Public Library at 4:30 in the conference room. We will start the session sharing at least one thing you have learned about computers since our last meeting. The rest of the session will be devoted to learning to use tables and charts. Bring your lap top if you have one.

*Judy Focht Tech Talk Facilitator  
266-3083 [jujfocht@cfu.net](mailto:jujfocht@cfu.net)*



## Diversity Cookbook Do you have one?

*Judy Focht 266-3083*

### Cedar Falls AAUW Newsletter

Sheryl Bewyer, editor  
3016 Shady Lane, Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
266-6614 [sbewyer@cfu.net](mailto:sbewyer@cfu.net)  
Gowri Gulwadi, circulation

## Women in Motion...

### Ghoul's Night Out

Join us at my office at 4807 University Ave, on October 28,, at 5 pm, to deliver Halloween goodies to members and friends that do not get out much anymore. I encourage everyone to dress up a bit. I can help you if you want suggestions. Please bring 10-20 treats to share. If you have the name of someone or a home you would like to visit, contact me. Please RSVP by the 18th of October.

*Shira Sternberg [shira.sternberg@gmail.com](mailto:shira.sternberg@gmail.com)  
319-389-7274 or 802-779-6872*

## International Studies

### A Study of Turkey

October 15 1:15 pm Home of Carol Dotseth

*Co-leaders Lois Crowley 266-2174 and  
Kathy Agness 266-9292 [jkagness@cfu.net](mailto:jkagness@cfu.net)*

## What You Always Wanted to Know About AAUW, But Were Afraid to Ask

Approximately ten newer members and other interested members attended our first orientation session before the September general meeting when we focused on our community action projects and interest groups. Preceding our October 22 general meeting from 4:30-5:15 pm, our topic will be our branch board's responsibilities. Join us in the parlor at the Woman's Club. Please bring your yearbooks.

Questions? *Judy Focht [jujfocht@cfu.net](mailto:jujfocht@cfu.net),  
Gloria Tollefson [gtollefson@mchsi.com](mailto:gtollefson@mchsi.com)*

## Bridge Groups



### Third Wednesday Bridge

- October 17, 2007  
Esther Kieffer
- November 21, 2007  
Lorraine Tressler
- December 19, 2007  
Ardelle Brown

### Fourth Tuesday Bridge

- October 23, 2007  
Judy Beckman
- November 27, 2007  
Phyllis Steele
- December no meeting

*Dargy Baxter, Facilitator, 266-2890 (home),  
319-230-3781 (cell), [dargybaxter@mchsi.com](mailto:dargybaxter@mchsi.com)*