

Monday, November 23, 2009**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.**

Women Unbound

*Dr. Martha Reineke,
Professor of Religion
University of Northern Iowa*

Mission:

AAUW Cedar Falls Branch advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

Vision:

AAUW Cedar Falls Branch will be recognized as a leader in the community in advocating for women and girls.

Diversity Statement:

In principle and in practice, the AAUW, 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 Beckman, Mary Dove

President Elect Maureen White

Past President Gloria Tollefson

Vice President for Program

Mary Fogarty

Vice President for Membership

Dee Lynch

Co-Vice Presidents for

Educational Foundation

Barbara Cardamon, Allaire George

Secretary Mary Franke

Treasurer Nancy Henderson

Public Policy/Voter Education

Director Maureen White

Legal Advocacy Fund Director

Jane Close

Wearing the Veil: In a world full of choices, why do many Muslim women opt for tradition?

Most of our programs this year focus on ways to reduce or remove limitations on women's opportunities. November's program shifts the focus to women who severely constrain themselves, using traditional Muslim women as an example, and asks why they do this. It is understood that all people, or nearly all, impose restrictions on themselves; they do so in order to be good people, good parents, good citizens, and so on. But some practices seem unnecessarily severe, going beyond what is required for order and civility. Is there reason to believe that such women are brainwashed, rather than educated in their traditions, as we are educated in our religious, ethical, and social traditions? How are we, as AAUW members, to think about women who, instead of removing barriers, seem to be raising up new ones?

Martha Reineke, who is also an AAUW member, has specialized in philosophical theology, philosophy of religion, feminist theory in religion, phenomenology and existentialism, and nineteenth century continental philosophy. She has a long-standing scholarly interest in the intersection of religion and violence, especially violence against women. In her research, she has considered how religion informs and shapes "our gendered experience of the world." Her broad and deep knowledge of the field promises an interesting and provocative discussion.

Menu:

Pineapple glazed ham

Scalloped corn Duchesse potatoes

Baked Alaska

or Chef Salad, regular or vegetarian

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**Reservations:**

Marcia Street 277-1780  
streetmc@cfu.net

**8 pm Wednesday,**

**November 18, 8:00 pm**

**\$11** State your menu choice

**Named Grant Award**

The 2009 Named Grant Award for the Cedar Falls Branch of AAUW has been presented to Gloria Tollefson. The named grant began as a way to honor a member of our local branch who has contributed significantly to the mission of our AAUW branch. Gloria has served our branch as co-president the past two years, was vice-president for membership, and has chaired *Telling Our Stories*. Currently Gloria is past-president in charge of communications. She is active in the Literature and International Studies interest groups, as well as leading *Great Decisions*, one of our community action projects.

In accepting the named grant award, Gloria thanked our branch board for their efforts, our educational foundation chairs: Allaire George, Barb Cardamon and Jane Close, for their fundraising efforts and all our members who contribute through their dues. She hopes a well deserving woman will benefit from the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund scholarship that we have made possible by our branch giving. AAUW Educational Foundation (EF) and Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) provide funds to advance education, research, and self development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.



## *From your co-presidents ~*

Happy Holidays! We hope that life isn't too busy for you to join in on some of our branch activities this month. If you can make the November 23 meeting. Our speaker is Dr. Reineke from UNI whose topic will be, "Wearing the Veil: In a world full of choices, why do many Muslim women opt for tradition?" Just a reminder that Marcia Street takes reservations for our monthly meetings. You may contact Marcia by email [streetmc@cfu.net](mailto:streetmc@cfu.net) or phone 277-1780.



*Judy Beckman & Mary Dove, Co-Presidents; Jane Close LAF*

### **MINI-MESSAGE from your Membership Committee**

Each of us claims membership in an organization for a wide variety of reasons. This Mini-Message will serve to remind us of some of the valid reasons AAUW members celebrate and affirm their AAUW membership by responding to this question?: What has AAUW done lately on behalf of all women and girls to "promote education and equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive social change?"

AAUW awarded \$4 million in grants and fellowships to over 250 extraordinary women for the 2008 - 2009 academic year.



### **Your Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Donations at Work**

A plaintiff supported by the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund has won her latest legal battle over allegations of sex-based pay discrimination at Berea College in Kentucky. Claire Schuster, a tenured associate professor of nursing, sued the institution for sex discrimination in pay in violation of the Kentucky Civil Rights Act.

The Kentucky Supreme Court issued an August 19 ruling in favor of Schuster, denying Berea College's motion for Discretionary Review of the decision of the Court of Appeals in Professor Schuster's favor, remanding for a new trial. At her next state trial her lawyers can now use important discovery information. Watch for details of this case in the news as the suit unfolds.

*Jane Close, LAF Director*



### **Report From the Board of Directors**

- > The Board met at AEA 267 on Monday, November 2, 2009.
- > Meeting was called to order by Co-President Mary Dove at 4:30 PM.
- > The AAUW State Conference will be held in Ames April 23-24.
- > Monthly committee reports are due December 15 for review by the Board.
- > The Art Sale and Holiday Help Project has been canceled.
- > Socks and underwear for women and children will be collected at the November Dinner Meeting for Cedar Valley Friends of the Family.
- > Books and magazines for the incarcerated women at the Black Hawk County Jail can be given to Maureen White.
- > There will be no Board Meeting in December.
- > The next Board Meeting will be held January 4, 2010, at AEA 267.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

*Mary Franke, Secretary*

### **Educational Foundation / Legal Advocacy Fund**

It's the end of the year and time to think about tax deductions. Consider a donation to EF or LAF. Donations can be made at the AAUW web site or a check can be written to AAUW Funds and sent to our treasurer Nancy Henderson. Designate which fund you are gifting with # 4336 for EF or # 3999 for LAF on the line. Thank you for your continued support.

*Barbara Cardamon, co-chair EF, [cardmore@aol.com](mailto:cardmore@aol.com)*

### **Orientation for New Members Introduction for Prospective Members**

An Orientation to AAUW for New Members and an Introduction for Prospective Members will be held at 4:30 pm, Monday, November 23 at the Cedar Falls Woman's Club just prior to the general meeting. A new brochure detailing the Interest Groups and Community Action Projects will be presented. AAUW members are encouraged to bring a prospective member to the meeting, greet new members and add to the discussion.

# Community Action

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

Mark your calendars for the November 9, University of Northern Iowa Museum, 4:30-5:30 pm. CV3D (Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity) will discuss *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* by Sherman Alexie. There is no CV3D meeting in December. However, January 11, 2010, from 4:30-5:30, at the UNI Museum, CV3D will discuss *Monique and the Mango Rains: Two years with a midwife in Mali* by Kris Holloway. These diversity discussions are sponsored by the Cedar Falls/Waterloo Public Libraries, and the UNI Museums. All Cedar Valley residents are invited and welcomed; participants need not have read a title to attend. The UNI Museum is located on Hudson Road. It is handicapped accessible.

For information: [drjudy.beckman@cfu.net](mailto:drjudy.beckman@cfu.net).

## ***We would rather build them than clean them!***

Honorary co-chairs for the 2010 Women build will be Gloria Gibson of UNI and Helen Guernsey of Waterloo. Women Build 2010 will focus its efforts on a Habitat home build at 659 Lunar Lane in Waterloo. The family who will help build her own home with women volunteers is Kim Spates and her two daughters aged five and two. Kim works at Harmony House. The plan is to build the walls in February 2010 and begin raising the walls in March or April.

Women Build participated in the UNI Foundation Power of the Purse and will also have a display at the Allen Hospital's "Go Red for Women" on February 19, 2010.

Mark Friday, March 5, on your calendar for the 11th Annual Habitat Spring Auction with a focus on Women Build 2010.

Linda Morgan

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

***Books for Incarcerated Women Project  
collecting books at our meetings***

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

## **Socks and Underwear**

At our November AAUW meeting we will be collecting underwear ~ socks and undies for boys and girls, as well as large sizes for women. These will be given to the Cedar Valley Friends of the Family organization.

## **Promoting Global Awareness - Great Decisions**

Our community *Great Decisions* study group will meet November 17 at the Cedar Falls Public Library from 7 - 8:30 pm in the conference room. The Great Decisions program is a national educational program that encourages participants to learn about global issues and U.S. foreign policy and then discuss their viewpoints in a group setting. Our topic this month will be Energy and the Global Economy. After viewing a 30 minute panel of experts on this topic, we will discuss, "How big a role should the U.S. government play in trying to stabilize the situation?"

Each month a different topic is discussed. We encourage members from the community to join us. At our October discussion on Afghanistan and Pakistan, there were 17 participants.

Gloria Tollefson Project chair

## **UNI Children's Literature Participants**

Last May and again this semester in October, ten AAUW members participated in leading group book discussions with Professor Jacque Smith's Children's Literature class. The enthusiasm of the AAUW women for reading the All Iowa Reads winner, *The Rope Walk* by Carrie Brown, that this fall, Lois Lowry's Newbery winning title *The Giver*. AAUW women participated in helping these students engage with alternative perspectives portrayed in literature, perspective-taking that is extended through writing, talk, and drama activities involved in responding to literature. This connection with the UNI literature classes was sparked by another AAUW member, Patty Achey-Cutts.

AAUW women will again participate in leading group discussions in March of 2010. Other members of AAUW who find this a provocative way to serve should contact Dr. Judy Beckman,

[drjudy.beckman@cfu.net](mailto:drjudy.beckman@cfu.net)

## **International Friendship Program**

Families hosting international students celebrate the International Friendship Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday, November 15, 2009, at Trinity Bible Church at Orchard Drive and South Main Street.

[drjudy.beckman@cfu.net](mailto:drjudy.beckman@cfu.net)





## International Studies Great Decisions Study Groups

International Studies will meet Monday, November 16 at 1:15 pm at the home of Carol Dotseth with Barb Cardamon as her co-hostess. Maelou Baxter will lead the discussion on *Energy and the Global Economy*, topic 3 in the Great Decisions program. New members are welcome. Call Carol if you are interested in attending... 268-0649

For December, the International Studies Group will meet on Monday, December 21, at 1:15 pm at the home of Gloria Tollefson. Dee Lynch will lead the Great Discussion study on *The Arctic Age*.

Kathy Agness



## Women in Motion...



### International Friendship Thanksgiving Dinner

Families hosting international students will celebrate the International Friendship Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday, November 15, at Trinity Bible Church, located at Orchard Drive and South Main Street. Social time with punch begins at 5:30 pm, followed by the turkey dinner at 6:15. Join your fellow AAUW Women in Motion members by bringing two side dishes, your own table service, and celebrate the holiday with the families and their international students. Please contact Dr. Judy Beckman if you will be joining us. Phone 268-0544 or e-mail: [drjudy.beckman@cfu.net](mailto:drjudy.beckman@cfu.net).

### Cedar Falls AAUW Newsletter

Sheryl Bewyer, editor

266-6614 [sbewyer@cfu.net](mailto:sbewyer@cfu.net)

## Interest and Study Groups Opportunities to Participate



### Literature Interest Group

We will meet at the home of Jean Kelly with Marion Svendsen as her co-host on November 9 at 1:15 pm. Gloria Tollefson will be sharing two books, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, a novel about a unique book club during WW II and *The Girls from Ames*, a story of close female friendships throughout the years. We welcome AAUW members to join us! Just call Jean to let her know you would like to come.

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

### A Hmong Family Memoir

October 12, Cedar Falls Branch of AAUW hosted the author, Kao Kalia Yang. Yang spoke at the Cedar Falls Public Library to a packed room. She is the author of *The Latehomecomer*. She eloquently and unforgettably shared her story from the war-torn jungles of Laos, their escape to Thailand's Ban Vinai Refugee Camp, to the hardships and joys of immigrating to the United States and becoming citizens. Yang reminded us of the history we all share and the richness of our diverse cultures.

Bringing Yang to the Cedar Valley was a team effort. Thank you to the board and members who shared their time and energy to help make this event such a success.



### Bridge For Educational Foundation



AAUW Bridge Groups meet the third Wednesday at Bonanza Steak House at 11:30 am for lunch followed by an afternoon of Bridge. Hostess for the November 18th date is Lorraine Tressler. Tuesday, November 24, at 12:30 pm, Ardelle Brown will host the fourth Tuesday game. For further information: Contact Lorraine Tressler or Ardelle Brown. All members of AAUW are welcome to join either or both of these two Bridge groups.

Dargy Baxter, Facilitator, 266-2890 (home)

319-230-3781 (cell) [dargybaxter@mchsi.com](mailto:dargybaxter@mchsi.com)