

Monday, January 22, 2007

Cedar Falls Woman's Club

Third and Clay Streets

Gather 5:00 p.m.

AAUW Program 5:30 p.m.

Dinner 6:15 p.m.

What in the World are we doing?

... about advocating
for children?

Menu:

Roast Pork
Mashed Potatoes
Apple Sauce, Ice Cream
You may order a Chef's Salad
\$10.00 for either

Reservations:

Phyllis Steele 266-1595
psteele@cfu.net
8:00 pm Tuesday January 16

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 Ed. Sheryl Bewyer

An Opportunity to Make a Difference

**Rene Else, Coordinator
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
and Foster Care Review Board (FCRB)
of Black Hawk County**

The January program, "What in the world are we doing about advocating for children?" will be presented by Renee Else, Coordinator of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) and the Foster Care Review Board of Black Hawk County. CASA provides volunteers to the court who advocate for children who have been abused or neglected. The Foster Care Review Board periodically reviews the placement of children in foster care to insure that they are in a safe and healthy environment.

The CASA program was conceived in 1977 by a Seattle judge who envisioned trained volunteers who would speak for the children who had no voice, by becoming the eyes and ears of the judge. The program currently has 50,000 volunteers who advocate for 225,000 abused and neglected children nationwide. For the past seven years Ms. Else has provided the training and leadership for twenty five CASA's and forty Foster Care Review Board members.

This will be a very informative meeting concerning the need for more advocates to meet the needs of the most vulnerable: the children of Black Hawk County.

Happy Mid Year!!

From the president ~

While everyone seems to be celebrating a new year, in the cycle of AAUW January 1 is our mid year. Let's take this opportunity to celebrate, too.

Activities already completed and/or in progress are: • Strategic planning • Prairie walk and lunch • Joy Corning inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame • Board leadership training • Book Talks presentation by book discussion members • Yearbook with a new look and more information • Fall open house and membership kickoff • New interest group – Women in Motion • Get Out the Vote activities • Garage/plant sale • \$500 donation to Legal Advocacy Fund • \$2000 donation to Educational Foundation • New group - E-List Friends • Web site restructuring and updates • Interest survey administered • Updated newsletter and electronic distribution • Two program/dinner meetings • Three community book discussions on diversity • Community Single-sex Education Study meetings • Collaboration on early childhood care and education • Bottle Bill Coalition "Thank You" cards for handling can/bottle returns • International Friendship Program Thanksgiving dinner • Cedar Valley Conference on Race single-sex education presentation by Victoria DeFrancisco • Habitat for Humanity Women Build fundraising and planning • 41 hours assembling meal packets for Feed My Starving Children • Holiday gifts for mothers in the House of Hope program • 125 Anniversary Celebration open house • Numerous study/interest groups playing bridge, studying India, reading great literature, writing personal stories, working on service projects • Membership at 100!!

And still ahead are: • Four program/dinner meetings • Annual meeting and election of officers • Six community book discussions on diversity • Community Single-sex Education Study meetings • Habitat for Humanity Women Build construction • Assembling meal packets for Feed My Starving Children • Bright Move Network International Tea Party • Electronic newsletters available • Educational Foundation garden party • Collaboration on early childhood care and education • Two Minute Activist opportunities • Bylaws and Branch Policies review and revision • More study/ interest groups playing bridge, studying India, reading great literature, writing personal stories, learning about technology, working on service projects • Membership over 100?

All of this is possible only with a dedicated and energized Board of Directors and a supportive membership.

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

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.

January 15 will be at the Cedar Falls Library
Religions of India

February 15 will be at the Cedar Falls Library
India Today

March 19 will be at University Book and Supply
Current Issues: India in the News

Join E-list Friends (ELF)

To subscribe, send an e-mail to Neysa@mchsi.com. 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

Literature Group

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

January 8 Marilyn Hanson hostess
Jean Kelly program
February 12 Liz Poole hostess
Marilyn Hanson program
March 12 Marion Svendsen hostess
Dee Lynch program
contact Jean Kelly 266-0809

Telling Our Stories

This small group of about six to eight members meet the first Monday of every month at the CF Library from 1:15-3:15 pm. We spend our time writing about people, places and experiences we want to remember and share with future generations. We have had guest writers share ideas with us but we usually spend our time writing. Please join us!

Gloria Tollefson, chair 266-4075

Women in Motion...

Women in Motion was formed in September to provide activities for members who wish to keep their minds and bodies moving.

Recent activities:

- Feed My Starving Children, October 16 - At least eight members helped fill, seal and pack protein and rice bags to feed the hungry around the world.
- *Nickel and Dime*, October 19 - Seven members ate a light dinner at Maucker Union on the UNI campus, then walked to Lange Auditorium to watch the play *Nickel and Dime*.
- Northeast Iowa Food Bank gift-wrapping, December 19 - Four members wrapped Christmas packages for shoppers at College Square Mall. The shoppers made a voluntary contribution to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank to "pay" for the gift-wrapping service.

During the winter and spring 2007, we plan to tour the Northeast Iowa Food Bank and possibly pack sacks of food. We will also take a walk or bike ride along one of the area trails. Suggestions for additional events are always welcomed.

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

- January 17, 2007
Hostess Glenyce Butschy
- February 21, 2007
Hostess Willa Smith
- March 17, 2007
Hostess Gladys Wagner

Fourth Tuesday Bridge 12:30 homes

- January 23, 2007
Gladys Wagner
- February 27, 2007
tbd
- March 27, 2007
tbd

**** BOARD MEETING:

Newsletter items due on, or before, February 7, 2007 All branch members are welcome to attend.

Tuesday February 6, 4:30 pm CF Public Library

Cedar Falls AAUW

Sheryl Bewyer

3016 Shady Lane

Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613



Community Action

House of Hope

Thank You, Thank You! Through the generosity of all of you we were able to help give the young mothers at the House of Hope in Waterloo a nice Christmas.

Many of you shopped and wrapped gifts that I delivered along with a large Christmas tree. Thank you for your participation. Next year we might want to become more involved in other ways with this group of ten women who are working to complete their education and improve their parenting skills.

Gloria Tollefson, Project Chair 266-4075

Cedar Valley Feed My Starving Children

Last October, 16 members and four family members representing AAUW were part of a group of 1000 community volunteers that packed food for starving children around the world. We served 41 of the 100 hours which is our goal for this community action plan. Our next opportunity to participate depends on obtaining funding for the food. I am on the e-mail list and will let all our members know when I receive information regarding the next packing event.

Gloria Tollefson, Project Chair 266-4075

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~ Women Build 2007 ~

Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity

January 2007 brings the start of the Lowe's Women Build with Habitat for Humanity closer to realization.

The home will be built on Lot 5 of Newell Street in Waterloo for the Hacker Family, mom and five children.

Be watching for a schedule of construction classes at Lowe's that will prepare women for building a home.

Save the date of March 2nd, 2007 at 6:00 when Habitat for Humanity will have its annual dinner auction at UNI Commons Ballroom. Dollars donated at the auction will help "raise the roof" of the 2007 Women Build.

A total of \$4390 has already been raised toward the \$30,000 goal.

For more information about the auction or to make a contribution, contact AAUW members Linda Morgan, Kristin Olson or Ardelle Brown

Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity Reading & Sharing

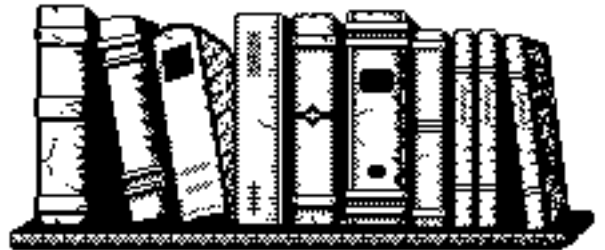
Mark your calendars two upcoming CV3D Reading and Sharing events.

~ Tuesday, February 12 Pat Higby discusses Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight by Alexander Fuller.

~ Tuesday, March 12, Gloria Tollefson leads the discussion over When Heaven and Earth Changed Places written by Le Ly Hayslip. Both CV3D events are to be held at the UNI Museum.

Contact Allaire George at 319-233-5320 for book purchases. Got a new MP3 player? Contact the Waterloo Library at 291-4476 for download information for these titles.

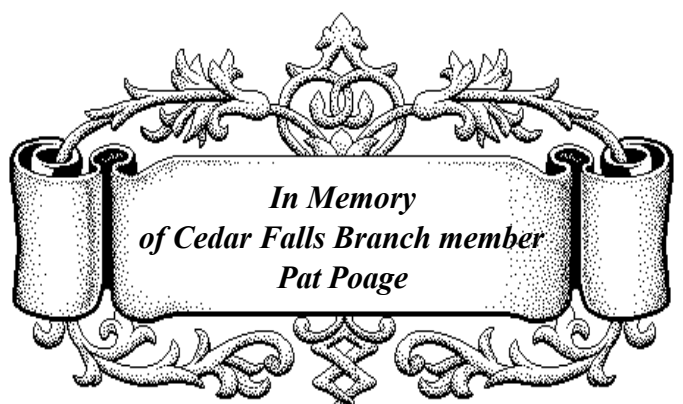
For information: *Dr. Judy Beckman*
268-0544 drjudy.beckman@cfu.net



Bright Move Network

Dee Lynch, Gloria Tollefson and I met with Clementine Msengi in November before our last meeting and began planning the tea. We have selected a date, place and time. A number of members signed up at the November meeting to give money or volunteered to help with the tea. A number of suggestions were given as to the entertainment, what to serve, decorations, etc. We will be meeting in January to continue planning the event. We are in hopes that we will have as many of our AAUW members as there will be immigrants/refugees from the area. It will be held Sunday, February 18 at the First Presbyterian Church from 2:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon.

Liz Poole 268-1321



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

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

In a letter to the editor, Eleanor Tacke, the president of AAUW in Traverse City, Michigan writes, in part, that the inequality between the sexes still exists. College educated women average \$31,223 a year while college educated men average \$40,798 a year, a whopping \$9,575 difference. The Education Foundation works to support and fund woman in their quest for higher education. We continue to call on you to help support the cause.

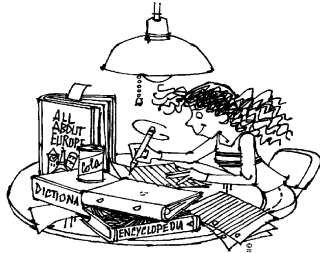
We will again be having a garage sale/plant sale this spring. As you are making room for new Christmas gifts, set aside items that you can donate to the garage sale. We do not take clothing for our sale.

Our matching fund challenge is over for this year. We raised \$167, which was sent to the National AAUW. We thank all who generously donated.

Barbara Cardamon

Nominations Are Requested for the Offices of President-Elect, Treasurer, Membership, and Edu- cation Foundation

If you, or someone you know are interested in contributing your leadership talents to Cedar Falls AAUW please contact Pat Higby, chair of the 2007 Nominating Committee. These positions are opportunities for interesting and rewarding activities that fulfill our mission to empower women and girls. There is an additional bonus of making lifelong friends with other members of the Cedar Falls AAUW Board. If you have any questions about the time commitment or activities involved, contact Pat at 319-266-4934 or higby@uni.edu.



Public Policy- Voter Education

If you would like to be better informed about AAUW policies and become a "two minute lobbyist", you may sign up for e-mail from our national headquarters to be forwarded to you. Here is your chance to have a say in those issues that affect the lives of women and children in the areas of economics, education, the environment and social justice.

E-mail me or sign up at our general meeting and I will add you to the list of informed voters.

Liz Poole, Public Policy/Voter Education
lizpoole@cfu.net

Meet new member

Mary Sue Ellinger ~

I retired in 2005 after teaching in Cedar Falls for thirty years. I spent the first year of retirement trying to get settled into a new routine and ended up doing some substituting after a friend reminded me how desperate schools are for subs. This fall I started a new part-time job at G & R Publishing in Waverly, and I'm also looking forward to reconnecting with AAUW. Jean Kelly is such a great promoter of the organization that I couldn't resist!!

My family includes my husband, Bill, who is retired from John Deere, two grown sons and families that include two grandchildren.

Mary Sue Ellinger BMSELLINGER@aol.com



Report From the Board of Di- rectors

The 2 January 2007 Board meeting reviewed updates from:

Community Action Projects

Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity (CV3D)
UNI International Friendship Program
UNI Conversation Partners/Cultural Intensive English Program

Program

Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity Women Build
Bright Move Network
House of Hope
Cedar Valley Feed My Starving Children

Standing Committees

Bylaws
Communications

Study/Interest Groups

International Studies (written report)
Telling Our Stories (written report)
Women in Motion

Other

July 17 Prairie Walk
December 19 Open House

The Nominating Committee was activated with Pat Higby as Chair. The positions open are president elect, treasurer, membership, and Educational Foundation

Members are reminded they may sign-up to receive the newsletter electronically. However, paper copies will continue to be available.

Allaire George, Secretary

Membership Update

NEW MEMBERS:

Jeannette Mukayisira
3712 Eastpark Rd
CF 50613
277-6345
jamu526@hotmail.com

Jennifer Waldron
2032 Ansbrough Ave
Waterloo, IA 50701
236-9634

RENEWALS:

Kathleen Herman
(life member)
3133 Boulder Dr.
CF 50613
266-8621
kathyqltr@cfu.net

Catherine Morin
2729 82nd Pl. Apt. 340
Urbandale, IA 50322
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Marcy Seavey
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