

# American Association of University Women

September 2007

Cedar Falls, Iowa

Vol. 64 No. 1

**Monday, September 24, 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**

## *Hope is Our Common Language*

**Dr. Janet Heinicke**

**President, AAUW of Iowa 2006 - 2008**

### **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

We will welcome as our speaker for September Dr. Janet Heinicke, current president of AAUW of Iowa. Dr. Heinicke has experience in AAUW that extends over several decades including Regional Director for the Great Lakes Region of AAUW as well as chairing an Association Committee for structural change called the "Committee for the Second Century."

Dr. Heinicke presently serves as chair of the Art Department at Simpson College. Pursuing volunteer activities in AAUW as well as in Delta Kappa Gamma and in Iowa Sister States, she served as President of Iowa Sister States and has chaired the committee for relationships with both Stavropol Russia and Terengganu Malaysia. In March of this year Dr. Heinicke received the Robert D. Ray award for outstanding work for the Iowa Sister States.

Deeply involved in international affairs through her church, she returned in June from Tanzania where she taught rural women farmers the craft involved in hand drawn batik.

Waverly and Waterloo Branches have been invited to hear her speak to us on the topic "Women's Work Abroad and Here" as related to the work of AAUW of Iowa and about her visit to Tanzania.

### **Menu:**

Roast Pork Jello Salad  
Broccoli Baked Alaska  
You may order a Chef's Salad  
(regular or vegetarian)  
\$10.00 for either

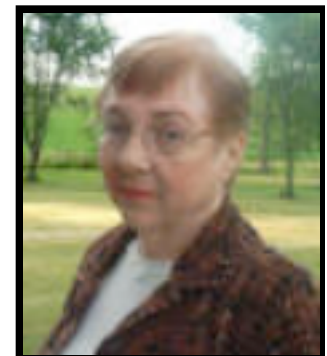
### **Reservations:**

Dee Lynch 266-3747  
deelynych@cfu.net  
**8 pm Wednesday, September 19**

## **Sandvik Elected Regional Director**

Myrna Sandvik was recently elected Upper Midwest Regional Director at the National Association Convention in Phoenix, AZ. She will act as leadership trainer and liaison officer between the Association and the five states of Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Myrna has previously served in several positions including president of the Cedar Falls Branch of AAUW. She was also the president and public policy director of the Iowa AAUW. The regional convention was held in Cedar Falls during her term as state president.



# Community Action



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

Cedar Valley Discuss & Discover Diversity welcomes the 2007-08 season with Mary Pipher's timely read: *The Middle of Everywhere: The World's Refugees Come To Our Town*. Readers recognize current Iowa and national immigrant issues. Hear immigrants recount their local experiences from 4:30-5:30 pm on Monday September 10, at the UNI Museum, a handicapped accessible building. Participants do not have to have read the book.

Monday, October 8, 2007, Anne Tyler's novel, *Digging to America*, will be discussed by Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity group. The novel examines what "belonging," means? Meet the Donaldsons and Yazdans who adopt Korean babies on the same day, meet by accident, and begin a journey that mixes families, cultures and traditions. Be prepared to meet people you will recognize. Their story touches the lives of multigenerational families who will make you smile. Come to the UNI Museum from 4:30-5:30 pm and share how very unique "fitting into a culture" can be for men and women of different ages from differing backgrounds. (Title Available in Audio CD, Audio Download) CV3D is co-sponsored by UNI Museums, CF and Waterloo Public Libraries, and AAUW. *Judy Beckman, Diversity Chair*

268-0544 [drjudy.beckman@cfu.net](mailto:drjudy.beckman@cfu.net)

## **Current Research on Educational Equity**

Thursday, September 27, 4:30 pm, a new community action group will meet in the Conference Room at the Cedar Falls Library. Data analysis of ITBS test scores from Cunningham School's single gender and mixed gender classes are now available for study, after our long wait last year. Co-chairs Sharon Gatewood, Waterloo branch, and Neysa Picklum, Cedar Falls branch, will lead the discussion. We expect to submit follow-up questions to Waterloo Schools for further study.

This group, formerly named Single Sex Education Study, has been renamed to allow for pursuing a wider range of interesting current issues in education. As a Community Action Project we encourage participation by members of the community. Last year the group included equal numbers of Cedar Falls and Waterloo branch members.

*Neysa Picklum, co-chair, Current Research on Educational Equity, 290-6220* [Neysa@mchsi.com](mailto:Neysa@mchsi.com)

## **Cedar Valley Back to School Project**

AAUW values education especially for women and girls and supports local community projects that reflect this value. These were the reasons the board decided to make this one of our projects this year.

The AAUW Cedar Falls Branch membership was notified via e-mail of the needs and dates of the project. On August 9, the collected supplies were delivered to Grace Baptist Church in Waterloo. Three members contributed.

On August 13, the school supplies were packed in brown paper bags for individual children. At least three members worked, maybe more, since it was a come-and-go day.

August 18 was Distribution Day. Children came to the church to pick up supplies. The Waterloo Courier and the Cedar Falls Times featured this well organized community project. There were similar projects sponsored by other groups. Hopefully no child should have had to start the first day of school without those important supplies.

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

## **CareBag Project**

The Cedar Falls Branch of AAUW has undertaken to help with a project started by a Hudson 4-H club to ease the lives of children in drug homes. Federal tax dollars through the Drug Free community Support Project of Black Hawk County have helped Lutheran Social Services with this project. LSS does in home drug testing and will give to the children of the home bags, which contain a fleece blanket, stuffed toy, crayons, coloring book and toiletries. This past year 225 bags have been given to these children who are allowed to take nothing when they are removed from the home.

We are making fleece blankets to help with the project. In August, nine members gathered to make 20 blankets, with a cost of \$7.50 per blanket. Initially funded through our treasury, we are hoping for donations of money and materials. Donations may be sent to Phyllis Steele, 2207 Oxford Lane, CF, as well as given to Ardelle Brown or Judy Beckman. *Phyllis Steele, facilitator 266-1595* [psteele@cfu.net](mailto:psteele@cfu.net)



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

Volunteers are needed to read items of local interest from the Waterloo Courier for the visually handicapped over a transmitter located at the UNI Communication Arts Building. Volunteers commit to approximately 75 minutes per month from 7:45 to 9 am. Weekend readers are the biggest need, but volunteers for any day are most appreciated.

*Barbara Cardamon, project chair*  
233-2848 [cardmore@aol.com](mailto:cardmore@aol.com)

## From your co-presidents ~

We hope all of you have had a busy and fun-filled summer. In June, many of us enjoyed brunch in Mimi Zischke's beautiful garden. Then in July we met for lunch at Paco's in Waterloo enjoying the unique art there. Bridge for Education groups continued to meet over the summer.

Our board has met monthly and we are excited about our plans for our 2007-2008 year. Our program committee has planned interesting and informative programs for each of our branch meetings around the theme, **One Shared World**. Our strategic plan has been updated and we have decided on ten (yes, 10!) community action plan, offering each of us opportunities to serve others. We hope each of you will be involved in at least one of our six interest groups. We would like to start a new group based on our members' interests.

This is the time of year we focus on membership. First, we hope you have renewed your membership. Then, please give Mimi Zischke names of prospective members that she can invite to a wine and cheese event at her home on September 11. Belonging to AAUW gives you many opportunities. Share your enthusiasm about all we are doing with friends, neighbors and family members. Share this newsletter. It is packed with opportunities for learning and serving others. It is going to be a great year!

Gloria Tollefson, 266-4075 [gtollefson@mchsi.com](mailto:gtollefson@mchsi.com) Judy Focht, 266-3083 [jujfocht@cfu.net](mailto:jujfocht@cfu.net)

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

Because we realize that attending a prospective membership event does not answer all your questions about AAUW, we would like to give newer (and interested) members an opportunity to discuss AAUW before our September, October and November meetings from 4:30-5:15 pm, in the parlor at the Woman's Club.

Our focus will be ~ *September*: Interest Groups and Community Action Projects; *October*: Our Branch Board's Responsibilities; *November*: Educational Foundation, Governmental Affairs, Public Policy and Research.

Please come early and find out more about what membership in AAUW can mean to you!

Questions? *Judy Focht, Gloria Tollefson*

### 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

We wish to thank everyone for their support of our fundraisers this spring. The auction in Marshalltown raised \$202.00, the sale of cookbooks, \$139.00, and the garden party at Mimi's brought in \$300.00.

Gloria Blackwell, Director of Fellowships and Grants, American Association of University Women Educational Foundation, in a memo writes that the AAUW Educational Foundation Fellowship and Grant Awards for 207-2008 allowed "... 254 recipients working at the grassroots level to provide quality experiences for girls and young women. We thank you for your support of the EF and your contributions that assist in changing the lives of women and girls across the U.S." *Barbara Cardamon, EF committee, cardmore@aol.com*

### Report From the Board of Directors



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On September 4, 2007, the Board met and received copies of the Strategic Plan for 2007-2008 and the Cedar Falls Branch Policies. Standing Committee reports were presented.

Program announced that arrangements have been made for the 2007-2008 Dinner Meetings. Communications shared a new and revised Branch brochure which will serve as a recruiting tool and the website is nearing completion. All newsletter items require a subject line beginning with AAUW and attention must be paid to deadlines. Gowri Gulwadi will serve as backup for Sheryl Bewyer, editor of the Branch newsletter. LAF proposed a fund raising venture to improve literacy and Carol Cooper will finalize plans. A new Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, (S.T.E.M.) UNI initiative offers an opportunity for Branch involvement and that could improve AAUW visibility on campus. Membership will have a Wine & Cheese Event for prospective members and EF reported raising \$300+ at the June Garden Party.

Care Bags completed 23 blankets and had participation by 9 people with Phyllis Steele and Ardelle Brown working as coordinators as part of the Community Action Project. Judy Focht organized and completed the Back to School Supplies Project.

Meeting attendees were asked to brainstorm possible fundraisers to support the Bright Move Network, CareBags, Discuss & Discover Diversity and Habitat for Humanity Women Build. A committee to determine further action will be composed of the 4 Community Action facilitators, EF, LAF, and the Branch treasurer.

Ideas for improving visibility at UNI and plans for new member orientation concluded the meeting.

*Allaire George, Secretary*

## International Studies *A Study of Turkey*

The International Studies interest group will meet September 15, 1:15 pm, at the home of Kathy Agness, 413 Oak Park Boulevard. Nadine Bartak is hostess and Marlys McAninch will be presenting the program about the Geography of Turkey.

*Co-leaders Lois Crowley 266-2174 and  
Kathy Agness 266-9292 jkagness@cfu.net*

## Literature Interest Group

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

The first meeting will be at Jean Kelly's on Monday, September 10th at 1:15. Regular meetings are the second Monday at member's homes.

*For more information call:*

*Jean Kelly 266-0809 jeankelly@cfu.net*

### A Leader Needed

Leadership positions in our branch are filled except for Gender Equity. This is one spot that is very important to us because equity is still an issue. We need someone to step up and say, "Yes, I will accept responsibility for that!" At this point, you only have to agree to serve. From there we will work together to set goals and form a plan of action. Please give me a call or send an e-mail ASAP.

*Judy Focht,  
co-president 266-3083 jujfocht@cfu.net*

### For Sale:

One long sleeved sweatshirt, extra large, with the AAUW logo and American Association of University Women written in white on an aqua - \$25.00. One short sleeved T-shirt, same writing, same color, same size-\$20.00. Both will be available at the September meeting or call Judy Focht at 266-3083.

## Women in Motion...

### Telling Our Stories

*Gloria Tollefson*

*Shira Sternberg*

### Cedar Falls AAUW Newsletter

Sheryl Bewyer, editor

3016 Shady Lane, Cedar Falls, IA 50613

266-6614 sbewyer@cfu.net

Gowri Gulwadi, circulation

## Tech Talk

(formerly E-list Friends)

Last year an interest group was started to help some of our members learn more about current technology, especially computers. Those who signed up for this interest group could e-mail each other with a question and hopefully another member of the group would be able to answer it. Soon it was discovered that stating the question and answer clearly was difficult. Face to face meetings were set up and that proved to be somewhat better. Neysa Picklum was the facilitator. Since Neysa is very busy with other projects, she has declined to continue with these duties, but promised to help when and where she can.

The name E-list Friends has been changed to Tech Talk. Our first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 19 at 4:30 in the Strategic Planning room in Stratton's at 405 Main Street. This is a private room (wireless available) large enough to accommodate eight-ten people. We can purchase drinks/food if we want. If we have a larger number interested, we will move to the CF Library.

We will be discussing what kind of technology you would like to learn about, who can help us with it, when and where we should meet as a large group/small group, etc. Members of the group will be expected to take leadership roles at various times.

PLEASE reply to me <jujfocht@cfu.net> if you wish to participate in Tech Talk either as one who needs help or one who can give help. If you are interested but unable to come to the organizational meeting, I let me know that, too.

*Judy Focht  
Tech Talk Facilitator 266-3083*

*Judy Focht  
jujfocht@cfu.net*

## Diversity Cookbook Do you have one?

*Judy Focht 266-3083*



## Bridge Groups

### Third Wednesday Bridge

- September 19, 2007  
Hostess Judy Beckman
- October 17, 2007  
Hostess Esther Kieffer
- November 21, 2007  
Hostess Lorraine Tressler

### Fourth Tuesday Bridge

- September 25, 2007  
Hostess Carol Dotseth
- October 23, 2007  
Hostess Judy Beckman
- November 27, 2007  
Hostess Phyllis Steele

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