

Monday, February 22, 2016
Cedar Falls Woman's Club



Menu: *Pulled Pork Sandwich
Fruit Salad & Toll House Bar
Vegetarian and Meat Chef Salads
also available - \$12*



Reservations:

Mary Ellen Beckman
269-1893 pal.m@cfu.net

**NOON Thursday,
February 18**



Mission:

AAUW Cedar Falls Branch advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy 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 Jane Close
and Bonnie Smith
Presidents-elect Joan Bunkofske
and Arleen Cook
Vice Presidents for Program
Ardelle Brown and Carol Hedberg
Vice Presidents Membership
Liz Poole and Julie Rathmell
Vice Presidents Fundraising
Sandy Lawry
and Nancy Hasenwinkel
Secretary Anne Schuessler
Treasurer Jodi Bergmann
Public Policy Pam Hays
Leadership Development
Maureen White

Gather 5:00 p.m.
AAUW Program / Event 5:30 p.m.
Questions and Answers 6:00 p.m.
Dinner 6:15 p.m.

***** Riverview Center *****

Alicia Smiley - Iowa Program Director

Riverview Center provides client-centered care for individuals affected by sexual violence. Alicia Smiley, Iowa Program Director, is one of our members, joining our branch last fall. For information before the meeting, go to www.riverviewcenter.org and be ready with discussion and questions.



**Riverview
Center**

MISSION STATEMENT

Riverview Center is a nonprofit agency committed to providing compassionate, client-centered care for individuals affected by sexual assault in Iowa, and for individuals affected by sexual and domestic violence in Illinois. Riverview Center serves 16 counties with multiple offices in Iowa and Illinois.

Free services include a 24-hour crisis hotline, legal and medical advocacy, long and short-term counseling, transition assistance for domestic and sexual violence survivors and violence prevention education programs.

Visitors are welcome. Anyone may listen to the program speaker and not be required to stay for the meal. Reservations due Thursday, February 18. If you plan to eat with us, you **must** make a reservation by contacting Mary Ellen Beckman, 269-1893 or pal.m@cfu.net Cost is \$12. Cancellations must be made by February 18, or the \$12 charge must be paid.



... and justice for all

Mark your calendars now for the AAUW Iowa State Conference, April 16-17, 2016, at Grandview College in Des Moines. The conference will focus on criminal justice reform, mandatory minimums, drug related sentencing and their impact on women and families.

Jane Close

Board Voted Name Change

On February 1, the AAUW Board voted to accept the name change Artisans from Burma, in place of Weavers of Burma, in an attempt to be more inclusive and ethnically correct.

Anne Schuessler secretary

Co - Presidents Report

Greetings to all of our Iowa members and our snowbirds who have flown to warmer climates. We have had a very active start to our new year and we continue to have lots of events and opportunities to keep us engaged during the winter months.

One such event was our Saturday Brunch, which was held on January 16, in place of our evening dinner meeting. It was very well received with more than 40 women attending. We were pleased to have six women from the Waverly branch in attendance. The six UNI students on the STEM panel program talked with enthusiasm about their majors and it was interesting to hear about their experiences in male-dominated fields of study. Everyone seemed to enjoy the brunch and the program.

We would like your input as to whether we should do another Saturday bunch during the winter months, maybe January AND February next year. Let us know your thoughts or pass them on to the program committee.

Please be sure to read the entire newsletter this month. There are many activities that you will want to get on your calendar. Hope to see you at an AAUW event!

Jane Close Bonnie Smith Co - Presidents

Membership

Welcome to AAUW

Sheryl McGovern is another new member who joined this fall. She earned her undergraduate degrees in English and Psychology from Iowa State and her master's degree in Information & Library Science from the U of I. Sheryl worked 23 years at the Waterloo Public Library in a variety of capacities, including support personnel, department head in Technical Services, Reference, and Circulation, and served for nine years as director at both Waterloo and Cedar Falls public libraries.

Sheryl has two grown children and four grandsons. Daughter Katie (and Damon) live in Santa Cruz with her family, which includes two boys. Her son Allen (and Keisha) live here in Waterloo with his family, also two sons.

Her favorite vacation place is Disneyland. It was her fantasy place growing up, and she's visited there several times. She adds, however, that she loves traveling anywhere, from local day trips to faraway places. Following her first retirement from the libraries, she plans to take some time off to catch up on hobbies and hopes to return to the work force.

Barb Norby is a graduate of UI (1972), ISU (1985), and Valparaiso University School of Law with her JD degree (1987). Her work experience spans education (substitute teacher and special education teacher) and law (Assistant State's Attorney and attorney with Barrett & Trott/Barrett Law Offices, in Des Moines).

Barb and husband Steve have two daughters, Emilie, who lives in Illinois, and Julianna, a senior at Cedar Falls High School.

They love to visit Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park, which brings back memories of their honeymoon 25 years ago. She enjoys the WCF Symphony concerts, cooking, sewing, biking, kayaking, and volunteering for Pet Pals at New Aldaya with their corgi, Duckie.

Barb adds that when she was first practicing law in Des Moines, she was an AAUW member.

*Liz Poole and Julie Rathmell
Co-Vice Presidents for Membership*

Co - Presidents Elect

We are preparing to become the 2016 - 2017 co-presidents and have been trying to participate in many AAUW sponsored activities. There are many varied and interesting things to do and learn! We are grateful for the guidance of Bonnie, Jane and Maureen, in learning AAUW governance. We have a lot to learn!

At the last Board meeting we reviewed the AAUW Fundraising Policy for 501 (c)(3) organizations (nonprofit). We apply for this status every year and agree to random IRS inspection. All members must make sure that any sales and/or solicitations support the AAUW programs that are listed on pages 8 and 9 in the 2015 - 2016 AAUW Membership book. If you have a one-time event to suggest for the branch, we ask that you go through the WIM (Women in Motion) to verify that it is in accordance with our 501(c)(3) status.

We would also like to get back on schedule for Name Gift Honoree nominations. We ask that you nominate a candidate by February 24. The nominee needs have served as a longtime and dedicated officer, made significant contributions to the branch and made significant financial contributions to AAUW. The committee will announce the 2016 recipient at the April Cedar Falls AAUW meeting. You may email suggestions to arleencook@hotmail.com.

Joan and Arleen would also like to meet with committee co-chairs to discuss 2016 - 2017 committees. We invite all members to serve on committees. If you are not on one and would like to participate, the committees and their chairs are listed in the AAUW Membership book on pages 6 - 8. Please, make sure to read the Newsletter to find out the particulars of events and activities. Ardelle does a great job reminding us in emails too! Join us; it's fun!

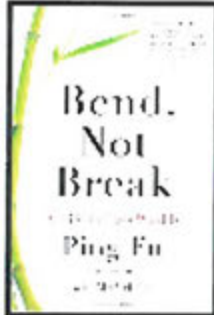
Arleen Cook and Joan Bunkofske

Community Action

Cedar Valley Discuss & Discover Diversity Reading & Sharing

Ping Fu writes her memoirs that began 40 years ago. She lived the first eight years of her life in comfort with her family in Shanghai, China. When the Cultural Revolution erupted, her family members were considered enemies of the state. Her parents were sent away for reeducation and Ping Fu and her sister were sent away to work factories where she was tortured and gang raped. At eighteen, she was asked to leave China for an unpopular thesis on infanticide. Arriving in America, she eventually graduated from college and became a co-owner with her husband in a 3-d computer company, *Geomagic*.

**Bend,
Not Break**
by Ping Fu
with Mei Mei Fox



February 8, Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity, sponsored by the Cedar AAUW, will discuss this memoir at the Cedar Falls Public Library from 4:30 pm to 6 pm. The library is handicap accessible. Cedar Valley residents, whether or not they have read the book, are invited to attend the discussion with Pauline Harding. *Mary Dove Dr. Judy Beckman Co-chairs of CV3D*

Fund Raising

Each of our members will find an addressed envelope at their seat at the February meeting. Follow the simple instructions below for a stay-at-home fund raiser for the scholarship fund.



1. On some windy March day, take out the tea bag/coffee bag from the envelope and make yourself a cup of tea/coffee.
 2. While enjoying your drink, think of all the warm and wonderful ways our AAUW Scholarship Fund has helped young women.
 3. And then while that warm and wonderful feeling still exists, take out your checkbook and make your tax deductible donation to CFCF-AAUW.
 4. Place your check in the "tea envelope" and put in the mail.
 5. Feel good about yourself and the future of women and girls!
- Nancy Hasenwinkel and Sandy Lawry Co - chairs*

Promoting Global Awareness



Great Decisions Evening Discussion Group

This group will meet Tuesday evening, February 16, from 7 - 8:30 pm in the conference room at the Cedar Falls Public Library.

Our February topic is *The Rise of ISIS* and, after viewing a 30 minute DVD on ISIS, we will discuss: What is ISIS, how/ why has it become such a threat and what danger does it pose for the U.S.? We encourage anyone in our community who is interested to come join us! *Gloria Tollefson, Project chair*

Elect Her 2016

January 23, 2016 marked the second annual Elect Her – Panther Women Win conference at the University of Northern Iowa. It was a tremendous success with approximately thirty participants. U.S. Senator Joni Ernst and Iowa State Representatives Timi Brown-Powers and Abby Finkenauer spoke to students about the importance of women running for office. Claire Celsi, founder of The Public Relations Project and current candidate for the Iowa House of Representatives, discussed messaging in campaigns. The facilitator for the day was political and advocacy consultant Chonya Johnson.

Workshop presenters Hillery Oberle of the Cedar Falls Planning and Zoning Commission, Professor Angela Widner, Dr. Harry Brod, Dr. Collice Sanders and Northern Iowa Student Government President Katie Evans led sessions to encourage participation in campus leadership, local governments and governmental advocacy for non-profits.



The program was sponsored by the University of Northern Iowa Department of Political Science, AAUW- Cedar Falls and Northern Iowa Student Government via the Diversity Matters Fund. A special thank you to Pam Hays, Elect Her AAUW local liaison, Arleen Cook and all of the volunteers from the local branch!

Rachel Gregory

Community Action Projects
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continued information ...

Community Action Projects Co-Sponsored Programs and Contacts

Bundles of Joy

Four new babies are expected soon within the Burmese community, two girls and two boys. This brings the total to 39 babies for the Bundles of Joy project. In addition to working with Operation Threshold to distribute infant layettes to Burmese immigrants, we recently expanded the project to include women at the Waterloo Women's Center for Change. This center is a 45 bed residential facility served by community-based corrections. We anticipate there will not be very many pregnant women there, but those who are will surely need our help. If you would like to work on this project, please contact us.

Jane Close and Diane Davison, Co-chairs



International Friendship Program

The IFP committee placed new students with new and continuing families in January 2016 for the spring semester. We are always looking for more families to participate in the program. If you, or any of your acquaintances are interested in the program, please let us know. We will be more than happy to provide further information to prospective families.

Please call Pramod Sarin 504 - 8396 or Bonnie Smith 266 - 2526 for more information, or visit the AAUW website and fill out the application!

Community Action Projects
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Be Informed, Be Present, Speak Up!

As educated, knowledgeable women in our community, we have a responsibility to play a role in the decisions our elected officials make every year in the state General Assembly. If we don't do it, who will? Uninformed, single-issue people?

In the Cedar Valley, at the Legislative Forums, we have an excellent opportunity to become informed about crucial issues, to "vote" with our presence at discussions of these issues, and to speak up about concerns – either publicly in front of the whole audience, or privately before or after forums with legislators.

Below is the schedule of the Legislative Forums. We are a part of a coalition that puts on these forums every year, to which our state legislators are invited, and most of them attend regularly. All forums take place at the AEA 267 Building on Cedar Heights Drive in Cedar Falls.

Saturday, February 6 10 am –

Mental Health / Disability Issues

Friday, February 19 4:30 pm –

Education

Saturday, March 5 10 am –

Human Services – Medicaid, Food Insecurity

Friday, March 18 4:30 pm –

Criminal Justice – Legalizing Cannabis,

Mandatory Minimum Sentences, Ban the Box

Pam Hays, Public Policy

Immigrant Women

Immigrant women are at the forefront of advocacy for continuing to upgrade our nation's Immigration system. Since the passage of the Nationality Act of 1965, more women have begun to arrive. By 2011, in reality, immigrant women in the US, both documented and undocumented, comprise more than half of all US immigrants. They start businesses at high rates and push hard on their families to become American citizens.

But not all news is rosy. Rising deportments of undocumented immigrants are separating children from their parents. They estimated 15,000 children will end up in foster care in the next five years because of immigration enforcement. Research finds that detention and deportations often separate married couples, leaving single parents, and most often single mothers, struggling to cope with burdens of supporting their families. Human Traffickers often take advantage of poor, unemployed individuals who lack access to social services. The U. S. Department of Justice estimates that each year 50,000 people are trafficked into our nation. Too many women are trafficked into the country and exploited.

Passing immigration reform that includes a road to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, promotes family unity, and provides stronger protections for immigrant workers would go a long way to help this group. As a nation of immigrants, we can do no less. Information from center for American Progress. *Rowena L. Hardinger*

continued information ...

Community Action Projects

Literature

The February 8 meeting of the Literature Group will be at 1:15 pm in the home of Mimi Zischke, 414 West Seerley Blvd., in Cedar Falls. Barb Feuerhak will present the book *The Aviator's Wife*, by Melanie Benjamin. All AAUW members are welcome. Call Mimi at 266-8909 if you will be coming, as it is helpful for the hostess in planning refreshments and enough seating. Melba Widmer Melba.Widmer@uni.edu

Books and magazines continue to be collected to be given to various women's centers, as part of the AAUW mission to advance education for women. We thank you for continuing to bring magazines and books which are neat, tidy and appropriate.
Anne Cook and Kathy Krieg

Reaching Out With Books



*** IRIS Iowa Radio Reading Information Service**
Barb Cardamon

The Paris Climate Summit: What Happened and What it Means for Iowa

Most scientists agree that climate change is the single most important issue in this century to impact not just Iowans, but everyone around the globe. A number of Iowans attended the recent UN 2015 Paris Climate Conference, COP2. We are fortunate to have two of them coming to Cedar Falls this month. Andrea Cohen, University of Iowa, monitored climate change as a human rights issue. Nick Fetty, University of Iowa graduate journalism student is one of two journalists who blogged during the conference and reported on the activities of the Iowans attending the conference. Nick Fetty's blog posts may be found at www.iowaenvironmentalfocus.org

The program will be on Monday, **February 15, 2016, 7 - 8:30 pm in the Large Conference Room, Cedar Falls Public Library.** This Cedar Valley United Nations Association program is cosponsored by the Cedar Falls AAUW, the Cedar Falls Human Rights Commission, and the Cedar Prairie Sierra Group. The program is free and open to the public. Since our branch is a partner with the CVUNA as well as a program cosponsor, and because this topic should be of interest to all of us, we hope to see many of our AAUW members there.

Maureen White

Interest and Study Groups Opportunities to Participate

Women In Motion *WIM*



Everyone's invited to join in activities planned by AAUW Women in Motion. Name badges are available in order to identify AAUW members and make AAUW visible within the community.

February is Black History Month and our scheduled events are:

~ February 11, 7 pm *Red Tails* film at the Hearst Center *Red Tails* is a 2012 American war film about the Tuskegee Airmen, a group of African-American United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) servicemen during World War II.

~ February 17, 7 pm *How Iowa Was a Leader in Race Relations and How It Can Be One Again* UNI Seerley Hall Room 115 Presentation by James Loewen, Visiting Professor of Sociology at the Catholic University of America, and author of *Lies My Teacher Told Me*.

~ February 26, 10:30 am **Fourth Friday with Friends** at Cedar Falls HyVee deli. We have had a request for a time to meet for coffee and social time with other AAUW members. If there is enough interest, this may become a regular event.

~ **Clothing Drive** for Women's Center for Change (date and details to be announced)

~ March 3, 4:30 - 6 pm **Happy Hour** at Old Chicago to plan events for March 8 newsletter
Jane Close and Linda Morgan, Co-chairs

International Studies *Kay Thrall, chair*

Bridge For Education



Hostess Wednesday, February 17 Claudia Kaestner
Hostess Tuesday, February 23 Phyllis Steele

Dates and times -

Playing begins at Willowood dining room at 12:30 p.m., 1100 Grove St., CF

Dargy Baxter 230-3781

Cedar Falls AAUW Newsletter
Sheryl Bewyer, editor
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