

# BRANCHING OUT

OUR MISSION: *Advancing Equity for Women and girls through advocacy, education, and research*

March 2015

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING TO BE MARCH 30 GENERAL MEETING TOPIC.



After our winter break, we will meet for a general branch meeting on Monday, March 30, at 5:30 at the Northwest Community Center, 5100 Franklin Ave. Dawn Taylor, an activist and spokesperson against human trafficking and sexual violence, will be our speaker.

In addition, Kathie Farris from the Indianola Branch will also tell us about the AAUW Tech Trek summer camp for Des Moines area middle school girls that they are sponsoring at Simpson College June 21-27. They are looking for women who made their careers in STEM fields to volunteer.

Our branch board voted to recommend giving \$500 to this Tech Trek camp program. A vote will be taken about this issue at the March meeting.

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Facebook!*

Find us at [https://  
www.facebook.com/  
AAUW.Des.Moines](https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.Des.Moines), or  
just type in AAUW Des  
Moines the next time  
you log on. Read about  
events and issues!



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## STATE-WIDE FORUM FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

A state-wide forum for women and girls was held on February 17th. The release of the report "She Matters: 2015 Issues and Action Report" was announced at a Capitol rotunda news conference. The forum, which addressed the topics of economic self-sufficiency, pay equity, leadership, safety from violence, STEM careers, and women-owned businesses, was held at the Des Moines Botanical Center.

## IOWA COLONIAL DAMES AND GUESTS

AAUW members are invited to hear C.J.King's talk on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 2:00PM - 4:00PM at the Des Moines Arts Center, Levitt Auditorium. C. J. King's book "Four Marys and A Jessie: The Story of the Lincoln Women" tells the history of four generations of Lincoln women. There will be time for questions and answers at the end of her talk.

The event is free to Colonial Dames and guests. Good-will donations to the NSCDA Des Moines Borough for the "Dames Discuss History Series" will be gratefully accepted.

### Email?

Would you rather save the some trees and receive this newsletter in email? If so, please send your email address to Amy Getty at [agetty@grandview.edu](mailto:agetty@grandview.edu)

## Conference Opportunities

### NATIONAL AAUW CONVENTION JUNE 18-21.

San Diego will be the site of the national AAUW convention next June 18-21. Information about the convention can be found in the Outlook.



### STATE AAUW CONFERENCE APRIL 10-11.

"Create Your Future" will be the theme of the state AAUW conference to be held on the University of Northern Iowa campus April 10-11. Information about the conference and registration forms will be included in the spring Initiative. Our Branch will supply a silent auction item of challenging technology and educational value games suitable for buying and giving to a girl.

Contact Faith Sherman if you are interested in car pooling to Cedar Falls.

### AAUW LOBBY DAY MARCH 10

At the AAUW Lobby Day at the Capitol participants discussed two issues: human trafficking and the appropriation of at least 4 per cent in supplemental state aid for schools. Senator Rita Hart (D. Wheaton) described SF 312 that provides for support from the Attorney General's victim compensation fund for victim assistance and training for law enforcement personnel on human trafficking.

After preparation and role playing, participants contacted their legislators to discuss these issues. Faith Sherman attended the lobby day and talked to Sen. Janet Petersen, who is already solidly supportive. Contacting the governor would be the next best step for AAUW members to take.

### NELSON AND SCHRADERBACHAR NOMINATED FOR TITLE IX AWARD.

Charlotte Nelson and Lori Schrader-Bachar have been nominated for the national and state AAUW Title IX Champion award for their work with the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women in gender equity.



## DECEMBER 6 HOLIDAY TEA — A SUCCESS

Our Holiday Tea at Grand View University last December 6 was a grand event. C.W. Smith and Justin Chastain entertained with holiday music. Leonardine Utecht, a graduate student at Drake University and winner of an AAUW scholarship, spoke about her circuitous educational route that brought her out of a very challenging background to a position with a social service agency. Donations to AAUW funds from ten attendees totaled \$685.

A total of \$1587 was given to AAUW Funds by branch members in 2014.



Holiday Tea attendees enjoy the music of CW Smith and Justin Chastain

**Next Equal Pay Day:  
Tuesday,  
April 14, 2015**

**Wear RED on Equal Pay Day  
to symbolize how far women  
and minorities are "in the red"  
with their pay!**

## IN MEMORIAM

Our Branch lost five longtime members recently and we extend our sympathy to their families:

**Ronda Armstrong (Past President) 11/28/14**

**Marian Easter 12/4/14**

**Violet Thompson 1/28/15**

**Mary Harlan lost her husband James Herteen on 1/28/15**

**Dorothy Dennis 2/17/15**

**June Taylor (Past President) 2/20/15**

## GRAND VIEW UNIVERSITY BRANCH NEWS

The C/U Branch has been working to raise money to help send three of its student members to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) this May.

They are also taking nominations for GV "Wonder Women" in honor of Women's History Month. Each nominee will get a certificate and the kind words of the person who nominated her.

## YWRC HOLIDAY PARTY REWARDED THEIR CLIENTS.

Branch volunteers helped provide a wonderful holiday party for the young women who use the services of the Young Women's Resource Center. The event was held last December 16 at Plymouth United Church of Christ. JoAnne Cook, Barb Zimany, Sharon Gee, and Faith Sherman helped with crafts.



**AAUW Des Moines**  
c/o Amy Getty  
804 Grandview Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50316

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

## Upcoming Dates

March 23rd — International Relations, 9:30 a.m., Urbandale Library

March 25th — Contemporary Literature Book Club, 1-3 p.m. Contact Sharon Gee, Mary Harlan, or Barb Zimany for details.

March 30th — General Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Northwest Community Center

April 9th — Modern Ideas, 6:00 p.m., Perkins on Merle Hay and Meredith

April 22nd — Contemporary Literature Book Club, 1-3 p.m. Contact Sharon Gee, Mary Harlan, or Barb Zimany for details.

April 27th — International Relations, 9:30 a.m., Urbandale Library

April 27th — General Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at Grand View University, Cathy Beck-Cross speaking on suicide and mental health

May 27th — Contemporary Literature Book Club, 1-3 p.m. Contact Sharon Gee, Mary Harlan, or Barb Zimany for details.

June 1st — General Meeting, 5:30, location TBD

June 24th — Contemporary Literature Book Club, 1-3 p.m. Contact Sharon Gee, Mary Harlan, or Barb Zimany for details.

## Contact Us

The Leadership Team is at your service.

**Faith Sherman, President**  
[wsherman41@gmail.com](mailto:wsherman41@gmail.com)

**Elaine Avgerinos**  
[elaineavgerinos@gmail.com](mailto:elaineavgerinos@gmail.com)

**Fran Shoop**  
[fshoop1@aol.com](mailto:fshoop1@aol.com)

**JoAnne Cook**  
[cookiejar1958@gmail.com](mailto:cookiejar1958@gmail.com)

**Barb Zimany, Treasurer**  
[bzimany@aol.com](mailto:bzimany@aol.com)

**Mary Harlan,**  
[mrharlan@juno.com](mailto:mrharlan@juno.com)

**Amy Getty,**  
[agetty@grandview.edu](mailto:agetty@grandview.edu)

**Sharon Gee,**  
[derfgee@mchsi.com](mailto:derfgee@mchsi.com)