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**AAUW CONNECTION**  
**MORTON, ILLINOIS BRANCH**  
**March 2014**

**Mission Statement:** AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

**Vision Statement:** AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

Association website: <http://aauw.org>

Illinois state website: [www.aauw-il.org](http://www.aauw-il.org)

Morton Branch AAUW website: <http://morton-il.aauw.net/>

Editor: Judy Griffin, email: [grifjns@frontier.com](mailto:grifjns@frontier.com)

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**PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE:**

Malicious but Magnificent March!

March is coming in like a lion and will hopefully leave as a lamb! Weather sure has been a conversational topic this year. Spring is coming!

2014 has been a series of ups and downs for my family. Thank you for your kind support and prayers.

Looking forward to seeing some of you at the Winter Fine Arts Concert and Our "Women in Egypt" Program at Cathy's lovely home will be interesting!

Take care,

Patti Erwin  
President

**Local news**

**Program**

March Branch Meeting: March 11, 2014

Location: Home of Cathy Durlinger  
121 Timberlane Drive

Time: 7:00 PM

Program: Women in Egypt

The program for the March 11 meeting will focus on the topic of women's religious dress.

Inaam Abuelsoud, is a 24 year old woman born and raised in Egypt's capital--Cairo, where she focused on learning to teach English to Egyptians. She is the current Fulbright scholar at Illinois Central College, teaching Arabic for the school year. Inaam has been involved in social media analysis during the time of the January 25th uprising in Cairo. I encourage you to join us for an enlightening discussion with an international focus.

Diane Pflederer

Program Vice President

### **Lunch Bunch**

Please note: **We are making a change to the Lunch Bunch schedule.** Due to water main construction near One World Café in Peoria, we will postpone that location until April. Instead, we will be enjoying lunch at **The Harvest Café in Delavan** on Wed, March 19, at 11:45 AM. The address is 317 Locust St. The Harvest Café is a “farm to table” restaurant featuring fresh, locally grown food. Come and try out their creative dishes. Call or email me if you can attend so that I can make reservations. We will make carpool arrangements when I know who is attending. **Remember, The Harvest Café in Delavan on March 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Sharon Farney

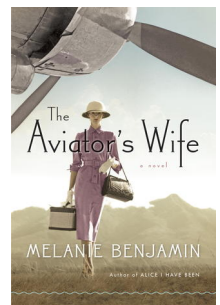
### **Book Review**

Sue Roth has selected the following two books for our reading pleasure:

**The Aviator's Wife** by Melanie Benjamin is a historical fiction story about Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh .

For much of her life, Anne Morrow, the shy daughter of the U.S. ambassador to Mexico, has stood in the shadows of those around her, including her millionaire father and vibrant older sister, who often steals the spotlight. Then Anne, a college senior with hidden literary aspirations, travels to Mexico City to spend Christmas with her family. There she meets Colonel Charles Lindbergh, fresh off his celebrated 1927 solo flight across the Atlantic. Enthralled by Charles's assurance and fame, Anne is certain the celebrated aviator has scarcely noticed her.

But she is wrong. You'll have to read the book to learn more.



The other book is narrative nonfiction, called **Behind the Beautiful Forevers**, by Pulitzer Prize winner Katherine Boo. With intelligence, humor, and deep insight into what connects human beings to one another in an era of tumultuous change, The reader is carried headlong into one of the twenty-first century's hidden worlds, and into the lives of people impossible to forget. It's a book about Annawadi, a makeshift settlement in Mumbai, India.

**BGBG** will meet at Judy Griffin's on **March 12<sup>th</sup>**, 231 E. Lakewood at 7 PM. The topic is book lists. Each participant is to research a book list that might be used to select books and tell the significance of the list. Let Judy know if you plan to attend by March 11<sup>th</sup>. Call her at 309 266-5426 OR email her at [grifins@frontier.com](mailto:grifins@frontier.com). The April discussion will take place at Lynne Walters. The book being discussed is *Life after Life* by Kate Atkinson.

## **Community**

### **AAUW Funds:**

AAUW Funds/ Concessions at Bertha Frank - Second try for the American English Concert

To everyone who signed up for the Winter Concert Series Concessions Mon. March 10, 2014:  
Winter Concert Concessions items:

#### **Large bag of M&Ms**

1. Bev Shull
2. Betty Fugitt
3. Diane Pflederer

#### **Large container of Mixed Nuts**

1. Judy Petefish
2. Marti Atwater
3. Judy Griffin

#### **Two dozen cookies**

#### **Bottled Water (24 or 36 count)**

1. Peggy McDonald
2. Lynne Walters

#### **Medium bag of ice**

1. Roberta Beutel
2. Lynda Hootman

#### **Workers (come at 5:00 p.m.)**

1. Deb Elliott
2. Patti Erwin
3. Cheri Patterson
4. Faye Walker

Susan Scott can come at 6:30

#### **Large bag of Chex Mix (traditional)**

1. Mary Venden
2. Cathy Durflinger
3. Patti Erwin

#### **Two dozen cookies**

1. Sally Davis
2. Deb Elliott
3. Cheri Patterson
4. needed
5. needed

You can bring things to Bertha Frank at 5:00 or you can call me 263-0161 and arrange to drop things at my house earlier.

Thank you everyone.

Cheri Patterson

### **Grant**

Laura Fuoss Memorial Grant applications are available at the Morton Library and due on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Committee members are Roberta Beutel, Diane Pflederer, Becky Walker and Judy Griffin.

## **Membership**

Recruit a new member before March 15 and she only has to pay half price national dues. That would be \$24.50, making the total dues only \$43.50. What a bargain!! But hurry, this is only good till March 15!!

Sharon Farney, Membership Vice President

Here's the slate of officers for 2014-15.

Program Vice President – Deb Elliott (Jan Martin will help her)

Membership Vice-President – Judy Petefish

Treasurer – Linda Young

Nominating committee

## **Education**

The Women's History Month poster, book marks, Gazettes, and 2 books by Betty Carlson Kay were delivered to the Morton Library for Women's History Month. I also delivered one poster to the Morton Junior High. Kay Lindley and Judy Triggs will be reading a women's history book to the two third grades at Grundy School. Heather Thompson and Mike Gunn will be reading books to the two third grades at Lettie Brown School. Cheri Patterson and Judy Petefish will be reading books to the three third grade classes at Lincoln School. Thanks to all my volunteers.

Betty Fugitt, Area Representative  
Education/ Women

## **Jan update:**

Feb 15, 2014

Dear Friends and Family,

Jan had an appointment yesterday with her oncologist to discuss the outcome of last week's PET scan. His first words to us were, "I have some very bad news for you." The scan showed she has three spots on her liver. A liver biopsy will be done on February 24 to learn more. Stunning as his words are we are standing tall and have hope. Please pray with us for further healing, courage, wisdom, and strength.

Faith, Hope and Love,

Chuck and Jan

Mar 1, 2014 10:27am

Dear Friends and Family,



The results of Jan's liver biopsy confirmed the pancreatic cancer has spread to her liver, and has been reclassified as stage IV. That is not the news we wanted to hear.

Jan will start a new oral chemotherapy next week; hopefully the treatment will slow the growth of the cancer cells. We are blessed in so many ways, and having the support and prayers that we have from all of you is one of our greatest blessings. So remain positive with us, and pray that the chemo will work and Jan will continue to feel as well as she does now.

Thanks for your support and prayers.

Faith, Hope and Love,  
Chuck and Jan

### **Newsletter**

The name chosen for our newsletter was **AAUW Connection**. A big thank you to all who submitted names.

Judy Griffin

### **State and National News**

The 44th Annual Central Illinois World Affairs Conference will be held on March 8, 2014 at Embassy Suites Hotel Conference Center in East Peoria. Topic for this conference is : "Cybersecurity: Challenges and Opportunities in the Digital Age" with Opening Keynote address by Dr. Lori E. Murray, Distinguished Chair for the National Security at the US Naval Academy, and Special Security Advisor to President Clinton. Christopher Finan, Former director for Cybersecurity Legislation and Policy in the Obama White House. Three distinguished panelists will chair the afternoon discussion on "Metadata, Intellectual Property, Personal Information and more: What's Out There On the Web and How It May Be Used."

The cost is \$60 for all sessions and lunch for PAWAC members. \$45 for sessions only. For non members the cost is \$75 for lunch and all sessions or \$60 for sessions only. Students get the same price as PAWAC members. Phone 677-2454 for more information and to register.

Judy Triggs

### **Public Policy Report**

#### **Public Policy Highlights Synopsis for March 2014:**

#### **Bits and Pieces:**

Challenges, appeals, and applause from Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA) for the new draft rules on school food. Such rules suggested by First Lady Michelle Obama include banning advertisements for junk food.

### **AAUW at Arizona's Lobby Day:**

Women from all over the state came to the capital to discuss education funding, human trafficking, and the now-infamous SB 1062.

### **Senate Decides Path for Military Sexual Assault Bills:**

On Thursday, Senators reached a consensus on how they will vote on competing bills to tackle sexual assault in the military.

### **New Studies Indicate Success of Common Core**

Taken together, two important studies released this week show that Common Core states which actively engage teachers and schools and put aside time for teacher collaboration to implement the new standards are more successful and experience higher teacher approval of this education reform.

### **AAUW Research at the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women**

AAUW is proud to be hosting a panel during the 58th Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations in March.

## **From Nazi-Occupied Denmark to the Labs of 4 Nobel Laureates**

Just days before the Nazis invaded Denmark; Hilde Levi escaped in a rowboat to Sweden. Her fellowship file in the AAUW archives tells the astonishing story of her escape. Not only did she escape Nazi persecution, she was also an accomplished physicist who won a 1947–48 AAUW International Fellowship. And just when one thought her story couldn't get any more interesting, three letters were found that had been tucked away in an old folder of the AAUW archives, written by Nobel Prize-winning scientists [Niels Bohr](#), [George de Hevesy](#), and [James Franck](#). Read this fascinating article by *Justine Rothbart*.

Being an inquiring mind in March and read Public Policy Highlights posted on the Morton AAUW Website, *IN THE NEWS!*

Submitted by Lynda Hootman

Corresponding secretary,  
Judy Griffin