



CONNECTION

MORTON, ILLINOIS BRANCH

September 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

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

Editor: Judy Griffin, email: grifjua@gmail.com

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE:

Hello Friends!

Looking forward to our new year.

You'll be receiving your 2014-15 booklet at the September meeting. Take time to mark the meetings on your calendar. Deb Elliot and Jan Martin have done a wonderful job of developing our programs. Be sure to invite a friend to our first evening of scrumptious salads by the board and entertainment by Erin Elward, Morton's 2013 Pumpkin Idol winner. There's a facebook event to help with inviting friends and an email will be sent for you to use as well.

Have you ever been asked "What is AAUW?" Betty has printed our purpose, mission and vision statements in our booklet. Think about why you are an AAUW member and how you would answer "What is AAUW?"

Be sure to welcome our newest member, Kathy Morgan. We are looking forward to meeting her!! We are 45 members strong! We are blessed! I have been overwhelmed at times with feelings of pride and thankfulness for the service this organization does. You are a vital part of this group. Many hands make light work!

A kind, wonderful person needs to chair the Community committee.

Look ahead dates:

Lunch Bunch-@ Salt TBA

Matin-As-TBA

September 3rd BGBG @ Patti Erwin's, Discussion—RSVP by today if attending

September 10th 4:15 -7 PM Volunteering at Pumpkin Festival Sweet Shoppe Tent

September 16th Salad Supper @ Community Church. Invite a friend!!

October 28th @ Board Meeting Judy Petefish's home

November 8th – District 2 & 3 joint fall conference in Springfield.

Take care,

Patti

Local news

Program

We hope you enjoy some of the programs that are planned for this year. Thanks to help from our board members we have a great variety and hope you are inspired and informed by them. Our first meeting of the year is our Salad Dinner at the Community Church in Morton at 6:30. Board members will be providing the salads, desserts and bread. We will also have a little entertainment. Please bring a friend who might be interested in learning about our organization. We are looking forward to reconnecting with everyone.

Deb Elliott/Jan Martin
Program Chairs

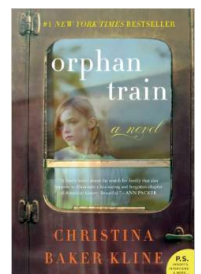
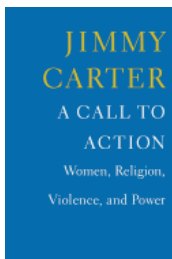
Book Review

The following books have been selected by Sue Roth for our book review next spring:

A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence, and Power by Jimmy Carter "The world's discrimination and violence against women and girls is the most serious, pervasive, and ignored violation of basic human rights: This is President Jimmy Carter's call to action. President Carter was encouraged to write this book by a wide coalition of leaders of all faiths. His urgent report covers a system of discrimination that extends to every nation. Women are deprived of equal opportunity in wealthier nations and "owned" by men in others, forced to suffer servitude, child marriage, and genital cutting. The most vulnerable, along with their children, are trapped in war and violence. A Call to Action addresses the suffering inflicted upon women by a false interpretation of carefully selected religious texts and a growing tolerance of violence and warfare."

The second book, The Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline, is a novel about the so-called orphan trains that ran from the cities of the east coast to the farmlands of the Midwest between 1854 and 1929, based on fact. Penobscot Indian Molly Ayer is close to "aging out" out of the foster care system. A community service position helping an elderly woman clean out her home is the only thing keeping Molly out of juvie and worse...As she helps Vivian sort through her possessions and memories; Molly learns that she and Vivian aren't as different as they seem to be. A young Irish immigrant orphaned in New York City, Vivian was put on a train to the Midwest with hundreds of other children whose destinies would be determined by luck and chance. Molly discovers that she has the power to help Vivian find answers to mysteries that have haunted her for her entire life – answers that will ultimately free them both.

A BIG "thanks" to the Morton Public Library for purchasing several copies of these books for us. Please extend your thanks when you check out a book.



Pumpkin Festival Sweet Shoppe

Thank you to the following who have agreed to volunteer at the Sweet Shoppe on September 10, 2014. Please note that the time slot has changed. **It is from 4:15 until 7:00 PM.** Wear your AAUW shirt and khaki pants.

Deb Elliott, Judy Griffin, Sharon Farney, Betty Fugitt, Kay Lindley, Joan Rice, Suzanne Ligon, Juel Bennewitz, Roberta Beutel, and Linda Young.

If you didn't get a chance to sign up to work with AAUW, there are still many volunteer opportunities available during the week. You can sign up by visiting the Morton Chamber of Commerce website.

Linda Young

Lunch Bunch

How about trying lunch at **SALT?** Date and time to be announced. If we go, we should carpool as parking there almost does not exist. Email bjpetefish@cs.com if interested.

Judy Petefish

Website

Please check out our local AAUW website: <http://morton-il.aauw.net/>
We thank Heather Thompson for her outstanding work. Click on links to view the current newsletter, BGBG information, photos, events, and much more.

National News

Public Policy

Women's Equality Day—August 26th marked the day in 1920 when the 19th Amendment was added to the U.S. Constitution, recognizing a woman's right to vote! However, in 2014, the right to vote for many is under attack. AAUW urges women nation wide to take action—We need to stand up to protect the right to vote for which the suffragists before us fought so hard. Please urge your elected officials to co-sponsor H.R. 3899/S 1945 to protect voting rights across the country. Go to **Two Minute Activist** sight and submit the given email form asap! The email is all set-up for you, follow along and hit submit—It's that easy to make such an important stand! Thanks for your interest!

Lynda Hootman

Corresponding secretary,
Judy Griffin