



# AAUW Springfield

*Breaking through barriers for women and girls*

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

**January, 2017**



## **AAUW is learning, serving, and socializing in 2017!**

Happy New Year from the Springfield affiliate of the AAUW! The end of 2016 was fun and productive for our membership. Vicki Stalbird led a discussion of the book, “We Should All Be Feminists” by C.N. Adichie at the November branch meeting. The discussion was followed by a viewing of Adichie’s TED talk.

In December, AAUW partnered with the staff and clients of Project Woman for an evening of cookies and crafts (more details inside). The Springfield branch also held our holiday party at The Meadows. The consensus was that the menu, service, and conversation were top notch.

The board (pictured above) met in January at the AAUW board nerve center (Kathie Harbaugh’s house) to plan for 2017. Two exciting opportunities coming up soon include our **annual trivia event**. Also, building on the phenomenal success of the first **Girls in STEM** event last year, AAUW is excited to be collaborating with The Springfield City Schools and the Springfield Links to offer it again this year. See page 2 for more details!

## **2016-2017 Board**

President:  
**Kathie Harbaugh**

President Elect:  
**Joan Elder**

Treasurer:  
**Kathy Kridler**

Secretary:  
**Barbara Matthies**

Membership:  
**Joyce Spangler**

Program Chair:  
**Karen Duncan**

**Newsletter Editor: Pam Dixon**

## Local Events

### Annual Trivia Event to raise funds for AAUW scholarships

Get your team of four together for fun, food, and prizes! Registration info coming soon...watch your email!

Date: Monday, February 27

Time: 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Where: BW3's, Bechtle Ave., Springfield

Ten percent of food sale proceeds will go to fund AAUW's efforts for girls and women in the community!



### The second Girls in STEM event!

When: Monday, March 20 from 6-8 p.m.

Where: CareerConnectED center at Springfield's Dome (formerly South High School)

This is a collaborative project with AAUW, Springfield City Schools, and the Springfield chapter of Links.



In December, AAUW partnered with the staff and clients of Project Woman to offer a cookie swap and craft event. It was the second year that AAUW sponsored the popular activity. Participants brought cookies and shared their recipe, then had fun making snowmen out of tube socks, rice, and fun decorations. Lined up on the windowsill, the plump little products were an amazing sight to behold!

*-Barbara Matthies*



# AAUW Member Spotlight



**K**aren first joined the Springfield branch of AAUW in 1970, right after graduating from Wittenberg University. She was an active member for about 2 years before moving to the country to raise her family. Karen re-joined the branch in 2011 because she wanted to help ensure it had enough members to continue. Karen found that she really enjoyed the company of the other women and loves being able to have open, respectful conversations about include women of every generation.



Karen's degree from Wittenberg was in History. While her children were young, she worked part-time and the most influential job she had was as a Field Representative for Sherrod Brown. This job was her introduction to party politics and strengthened her resolve to be politically active. Eventually, Karen decided to campaign for a seat on the Springfield, Ohio City Commission. She was elected on her first attempt and has been a City Commissioner since 2006. Karen will step down from her seat in 2017, after 12 years of public service.

Among many issues, Karen is passionate about women's rights, the environment, support for local businesses, and access to nutritious foods. Karen is a Master Gardener and supports the work of Ohio State University Extension and a local activist group, People for Safe Water working to protect the quality of our water and other natural resources.

Karen's role model is her good friend, 92-year-old Ruth Rudawski. Ruth represents the ideal "Wise Woman" and Karen hopes to age as successfully as Ruth has. In addition to a long and happy marriage, Ruth raised 5 children and continues to be active and interested in the community and politics.

Karen is a strong advocate for women's and environmental issues on the City Commission and the many other organizations in which she participates.

*-Joan Elder*

# ***International Dining Group***



On Saturday, November 12, the gourmet group met at Cheri and Mike Crothers' to dine on Argentinian cuisine. Denise prepared some wonderful appetizers, while Vicki made a delicious stew. Morgan and Kristen had the honor of the entrée: a beef-chorizo beef filet with mushrooms, served with lime rice. Cheri presented the dessert...a chocotorta, which is made of chocolate biscuits layered with a dulce leche /cream cheese/whipped cream mixture and covered in chocolate ganache. Yum!

The group took a break in December, but met again in January to dine on French cuisine. On February 18th, the group will partake in Iranian cooking! Members of the group alternate preparing courses (appetizer, soup or salad, entrée, and dessert), and each person takes a turn hosting. If you are interested in joining them, please call Cheri at 937-460-7259.

*-Cheri Crothers*

## **Membership News**

Our membership continues to grow! The Springfield Affiliate of AAUW now stands at 34 members! Whoo hoo!

Our newest member is Bonnie Pinkerman. Bonnie retired from the Springfield High School. Bonnie first worked as an educational aide at Northside School for several years. Then, in her late 40's she returned to school, graduating from Wright State with a B.S. in secondary education. She completed her master's degree at Wittenberg University in 2004.

Bonnie worked as a classroom teacher at North High School until construction of Springfield High was completed. Then she returned to the classroom for two more years.

In 2010, Bonnie changed her focus from classroom teaching to tutoring. She finally retired

this year. Bonnie currently serves as First Vice President of the Clark County chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG). She is also a member of High Street United Methodist Church, where she serves on various committees.

Please welcome Bonnie!

*-Joyce Spangler*





# Upcoming Events

## Ohio AAUW Equity Day and Convention 2017



The annual Ohio AAUW convention will be held May 5-6 at the Double Tree Hotel by Hilton in Columbus. The theme this year is “Women: Be the Change.” The busy weekend starts on Friday evening with the annual meeting. Saturday will be completely devoted to activities marking Equity Day. Springfield branch members Karen Duncan and Peggy Hanna will lead one of the workshops. The keynote speaker will be DeLores Pressley, an author, life coach, and personal power expert.

## Monthly Branch Meetings

The Springfield Branch generally meets on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m., High Street United Methodist Church in Springfield. On February 13, a representative from Springfield City Schools will inform the membership about this year’s Girls in STEM event plans. The March branch meeting has been scheduled for March 13<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see you there!

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW is the nation’s leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day—educational, social, economic, and political.

Membership is open to anyone holding an associate’s (or equivalent, e.g. RN), bachelor’s, or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

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