

TC Area AAUW Quarterly

February–March 2009

WINTER MEETING



Tuesday, February 10
Grand Traverse
Heritage Center
6:00–9:00 PM

Program: Women and Poetry

Speaker: Fleda Brown

Light Refreshments Guests Welcome

We are excited to welcome poet **Fleda Brown** as our speaker at the February meeting. Fleda is the former poet laureate for the state of Delaware, and currently is a contributing writer for the *Record-Eagle*. Fleda will enlighten and entertain you with her readings and discussions about women and poetry. She will have her latest book available for purchase and will remain for autographs.

Special chocolate treats from Barbara Disborough's newly published book, *The Guide to Chocolate in the Grand Traverse Region* will be served.

For more information, contact Vicky McDonnell at 943-9182 or victoria.mcdonnell@gmail.com.

Souper Bowl Sunday Beckons!

Sunday, February 1, at 1:30 PM

Join us at the Women's History Project program at the Heritage Center featuring Lorraine Anderson of the *Record-Eagle*. We will meet before the big game to bond with like-minded women and think about our Traverse City women's suffrage work.

Bring cookies or some kind of bread or roll. The soup is provided. No charge but donations are welcome.

For reservations, call the Heritage Center at 995-0313.

Welcome to the Branch Blog

By Shirley Murray, President

Taking advantage of new computer technology, the Branch has established a **blog** for members to share ideas, make suggestions, explore an interest, voice an opinion, or just chat about our Branch.



Blogs are places on the Internet where anyone with permission to enter can contribute to the on-line discussion. We hope that all members with computer access will take advantage of this new communication forum.

You can ask others to respond to your interest: downhill skiing, snow shoeing, a new grandchild, an upcoming play, film, lecture or concert.

I hope that all members will read the comments made by others and keep the online conversation going. This will be a wonderful exchange of news and ideas.

Here's what you do to join our Branch blog:

1. Go in www.aauwtcb.blogspot.com.
2. Click on AAUW invites your thoughts.
3. Post your comment.
4. Click the down arrow in the profile box to choose to share your name and email address OR to post the comment as "anonymous."

See you on the blog!

Audit Complete!

By Jan Coley, Treasurer

The audit was conducted and the finances are in order. Many thanks to **Anne Robinson, Etta Rajkovich, and Catherine Harold** for auditing the financial records of our AAUW branch for the fiscal year July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008.

We have 98 members to date.

What's New in Education

By Irene Brown, *Education Chair*

- The **Minnie Votruba Moore Scholarship** application is now available @ aauwtc.org. Applications are due to Irene Brown by Friday, May 1. Encourage everyone you know in continuing education to apply.
- We received a thank-you note from President Barbara L. O'Connor for our \$1,600.00 gift to the **Education Foundation** for 2008 and also a thank you for our 2008 contribution of \$390.00 to the legal Advocacy Fund for 2008.
- Our branch was also recognized for its \$50.00 contribution to the Educational Foundation for its Fifty-Year Anniversary.

What's Happening on the Hill?



By Nadine Dolan,
Public Policy Chair

- The House passed both the **Ledbetter Fair Pay Act** and the **Paycheck Fairness Act** recently. The Senate is expected to take up these bills as soon as next week. As you may remember, the Senate narrowly failed to pass a vote to move forward with Ledbetter bill last year.
- AAUW applauds the House of Representatives for the passage of two pieces of legislation that will provide a powerful one-two punch in the fight for pay equity.

AAUW Quarterly—February-March 2009

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
TRAVERSE CITY AREA BRANCH

The Quarterly is published two weeks prior to scheduled Branch meetings.

Editor: Doty Wilhelm

Incoming Editor: Sandy Seppala

Send articles and information to Sandy:
604 2nd St., Traverse City, MI 49684-2221

Sansep19@earthlink.net

New Books on the Shelf

Rainstorms and Fairies

Carol Atkins from the Manistee Branch has another new book called **Rainstorms and Fairies**. Carol wrote it with Sharon Lemmer, the former AAUW president. Look for them at Horizons Book Store for a book signing.



Carol wrote the play about women from history that we presented at the college two years ago and at the State Convention.

The Guide to Chocolate in the Grand Traverse Region

Branch member Barbara Disborough has written a new book called **The Guide to Chocolate in the Grand Traverse Region**. The book is a *guide* with maps and write-ups about more than 50 local sources for candies, fudges, sauces, desserts, and beverages, and includes at least 30 coupons.

The book is available at bookstores and our February general meeting for \$14.95.

Interest Groups

Bridge Group

Meets the second Wednesday year round for lunch and bridge at 11:30 AM at Firefly restaurant on Cass Street in Traverse City. Interested AAUW members who have a basic knowledge of the game are welcome to join. Call Cynthia Defoe at 932-1098. Play on February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8.

International Affairs Forum

Gain insight and up-to-date information attending lectures hosted by the International Affairs Forum and Northwestern Michigan College. All events are held in the Milliken Auditorium on NMC's main campus. Refreshments and reception begin at 5:15 PM followed by the guest speaker at 6 PM. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Lectures are on February 19, March 19, April 16, May 21, and June 18. AAUW members and friends often go to Firefly

on Cass Street after the lecture. Call Shirley at 943-4663.

Verna Mae Book Discussion Group

Meets the last Wednesday of the month, year round, from 10:30 AM to noon, in the lower level of Horizon Book Store on Front Street. Food and beverages may be purchased.

- Jan 28 *Never Let Me go* by Kazuo Ishiguro
- Feb. 25: *Away* by Amy Bloom
- Mar. 25: *The Nine* by Jeffrey Toobin
- Apr. 29: *Wolves at the Door* by Judith Pearson
- May 27, 2009 *River Town* by Peter Hessler
- June 24: *Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali

For more information, contact Maryln Lawrence at 946-5453 or glawrence10@charter.net

Evening Book Discussion Group

Meets at 7:30 PM on the second Thursday of each month from September through May. The book discussions are held in member's homes. Some members meet at 6 PM for dinner at Minerva's Restaurant at the Park Place Hotel.

- Feb.12: *Proud Son* or any book by Jimmy Carter
- March 12: *Faith Club* by R. Idleby et al
- April 9: *Worst Hard Time* by Timothy Egan
- May 14: Potluck and choosing books at Payne's

Contact Deanna, 929-7146, for more information.

Lobdell's Lunch Bunch

Meet the third Wednesday of the month at 12 noon at Lobdell's, which is the restaurant at the NMC Maritime/ Culinary Center on Front St. Scheduled luncheons are Feb. 18, Mar. 18, and April 15. Contact Alta Cameron, 995-0786, for reservations and information.

Writing Interest Group

Meets the first Wednesday of the month, 3-5 PM at the Traverse Area District Library Study Room on the second floor. For the Feb 4th meeting, bring three copies of something you are working on. Meetings will be in the larger second-floor study room. Ask at the adult reference desk. Call Shirley at 943-4663

Computer Interest Group

Meets the second Friday of the month. Explore what's out there in the computer world. Here's what's ahead:

- Feb 13: *Brain Boost Online*. 1:30-4 PM Room 213, University Center. \$29/25. Sign up 995-1700.
- March 11: *YouTube*
- April 10: *Government Documents*
- Call 995-0566 to register. Call Rochelle, 995-1064, at Osterlin Library. Sign up now. Free, except Feb class.

State Theater Volunteers

Volunteers the third Saturday, 12:30-4:30 PM, Feb. 20, Mar 21, April 18. Jobs include **ushering** (taking tickets, running vacuum, checking bathroom), **concessions** (popcorn OR drinks OR cash register), and **box office** (using the easy-to-learn computer/cash register, answering the phone). The "what's in it for me" is that AAUW gets a mention in the list of volunteer groups; and it is lots of fun. Contact Bonnie to volunteer at 929-2036 or bkillings@yahoo.com.

Downhill Skiing Group

Meets on Wednesdays. Call Irene Brown at 938-1336.

Changing of the News...

One day last summer, Sandy Seppala, who was brand new in town and a member of the Branch, wandered into the Heritage Center where Dotty French sat at the reception desk.

After much discussion, Dotty convinced Sandy to transition in as editor of the Branch newsletter.

Sandy went on holiday for three months, returning in December, nearly forgetting her promise.

Dotty now is pleased to hand over the reins to Sandy and become chief reporter.

Thank you, Dotty, for the tremendous job you have done for the Branch as editor!

March is Women's History Month

In 1981, Congress established National Women's History Week to be commemorated the second week of March. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month. Every year since, Congress has passed a resolution for Women's History month, and the president has issued a proclamation.

Interesting Facts:

- 154.7 million females in the U.S. as of October 1, 2008; the number of males was 150.6 million.
- At age 85 and older, there were more than twice as many women as men.
- 33% of women 25 to 29 had attained a Bachelor's degree or higher in 2007, which exceeded that of men in this age range (26%).
- 28.2 million women 25 and older had a Bachelor's degree or above in 2007, more than double the number 20 years earlier.

(Source: National Center for Educational Statistics, Projections of Educational Statistics to 2017)

AAUW
604 2nd St.
Traverse City, MI 49684-2221

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Calendar of Events

February

- 1 Souper Bowl Sunday.** 1:30 PM. The Heritage Center
- 10 Winter Meeting.** Tues. 6 PM. Speaker: **Poet Fleda Brown.** The Heritage Center.

March

- 14 Women's History Project and NMC's Phi Theta Kappa for dramatic presentations of First Ladies in the White House: "Remember the Ladies."** Sat., 1:30 PM. NMC Fine Arts Building.
- 21 Benzie Area WHP Day.** Sat. 9:30 AM-3:30 PM. The theme is *Every Woman Has a Story*. Large and small group activities, music and more. Crystal Mountain.

April

- 14 AAUW Annual Meeting/Potluck Supper.** Tues., 6:00 at the Heritage Center.

June

- 9 AAUW Field Trip.** Tuesday. 6 pm Boardman River Nature Center Supper, tour, hike.

Key AAUW Web Sites

AAUW-TC: www.aauwtc.org

AAUW-TC Blog: www.aauwtcb.blogspot.com

AAUW National: www.aauw.org

AAUW Michigan: www.aauwmi.org