

Sept 2009 CALENDAR

BRANCH MEETING

Sat, Sept 5 —Astor Hotel
Social 11:15am Suite 202
Luncheon 12 Noon
Program 1:00 pm

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sat, Sept 5 — 10:00 am
Astor Hotel — Suite 202

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Will meet quarterly.
Date to be announced.

FOURTH FRIDAY BRIDGE

Fri, Sept 25 at 11:45 am
We meet at St John's,
1840 N Prospect Ave for
luncheon & cards.
Come and join us.
New members are
always welcome.
For reservations, call
Mildred Setright,
414-962-7119

GIRLS' CLUB FUND BOARD

Thurs, Sept 17 — 10:30 am
Astor Hotel — Suite 202

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Tues, Sept 22 —1:00 pm
Astor Hotel — Suite 202
Details on page 4

SUNSHINE

When you know of an AAUW member's need for a little sunshine —illness, accident, cheering up, loss of a loved one— we would like to express our concern and support. Please contact me.

Patricia Sheldrick
414-258-2967

Email: pshel102@sbcglobal.net



MILWAUKEE BRANCH American Association of University Women NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2009

Welcome Back to the Monthly Branch Meetings!
Saturday, September 5, 2009 at 12 Noon; Program at 1 pm
Social at 11:15 am in Suite 202

Books, Bytes, and Buildings Milwaukee Public Library in the 21st Century

Paula Kiely, Milwaukee Public Library Director

Only the 11th director in the Milwaukee County Library's 130-year history, Paula Kiely was appointed by Mayor Tom Barrett in September 2006. She joined the Milwaukee Public Library system in 1995 and has served as children and young adult librarian (1995-98), Children's Services Coordinator (1998-2000) and Deputy City Librarian/Central Library Director (2000-06).

During her tenure at MPL, Kiely developed the award-winning Books2Go initiative, which fosters reading readiness skills in preschool children through outreach efforts to day-care providers in low-income

Milwaukee neighborhoods. She also established the Teen Advisory Board to help improve library services to teens through their active participation.

Kiely's partnership with UWM helped bring StoryCorp®, the national oral history project, to Milwaukee's Central Library in 2007. Kiely has served on state-wide committees, most notably the Library Services and Technology Act advisory committee that recommends the expenditure of federal funds for library service to the Superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction.



COST OF THE LUNCHEON \$15.00

RESERVATIONS CLOSE **THURSDAY, AUGUST 27 AT 1:00 pm**
CALL 276-6820

Reservations ONLY – please NO walk-in surprises. If you make a reservation, and do not cancel by the deadline date, you will be charged for the cost of the meal. Please inform us if you or your guest is a vegetarian or allergic to any foods.

Members are always welcome to attend JUST the program. Come to the Astor dining room at the time the program is scheduled.

Guests and prospective members are ALWAYS welcome!



President's Message ~ Benita Clark

I am happy to say that I believe our AAUW-Milwaukee Branch is one of the most friendly, hard-working and financially sound organizations in the state of Wisconsin. And that is because of our great members.

You will notice in your Membership Directory that our members include the greater Milwaukee area. Prospective members from beyond the City of Milwaukee are interested in our branch when they hear about the outstanding monthly meeting programs which just keep getting better and better, and our generous community commitment and involvement.

We are building on the shoulders of great women in our history. Our volunteer mentoring and the giving of substantial scholarships and grants to women and girls determined to improve their lives through education have been a tradition which goes back to our early founders. These women had a vision of education being

the bridge to equality for all women. We are building on the shoulders of great women in our history. We are determined to keep building on that vision.

Voice Concerns to Board

Thank you for electing me to serve as your president for the next two years. Please call me or any of your Board members if you have any suggestions or questions regarding your AAUW. Do not hesitate to let your voice be heard at our monthly meetings or other organization gatherings. It is important that you continue to take ownership of your branch. And the enthusiasm of your new Executive Board is highly evident. Together we will continue to represent you and strive to make you proud to be a member of not just any local women's social club, but a member of an international association of dedicated, goal-oriented, professional women – AAUW Milwaukee Branch.

Reporting Sad News

I regret to inform you that Donna Jordahl's husband (Dr. Clarence "Bud" Jordahl) died this summer. Donna has always been a very active member of our Branch.

She is a former president and is the chair of our Book Discussion Group. She is also a member of the Scholarship Committee and Finance Committee. We would like to express our sincere and heartfelt sympathy to Donna and her family.

Welcome Back, Kathe

A special Welcome Back to our Administrative Secretary, Kathe Bogdan, who has been gone June and July for her double-knee replacement operation. We truly missed her professional services which she so readily provides in the office. We delivered a "Get Well Basket" to Kathe containing some of her favorite books and music CDs with which to relax during her recovery. Kathe is back at your service on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Thank you to the Board Members who Covered the Office in June and July

And a special thank you to each of our Board Members who, during Kathe's absence, volunteered a week of their time to check telephone messages, emails, and piles of regular mail in the office.

The Newcomers' Tea was hosted by Grace Ellen Ehr (center) in mid-August.



Author Paul Salsini Meets with Book Discussion Group

At the invitation of Grace Ellen Ehr, Milwaukee author Paul Salsini discussed his widely acclaimed book, The Cielo: A Novel of Wartime Tuscany, with the Book Discussion Group on June 23rd. The author is a former reporter, editor and writing coach at the Milwaukee Journal and he is currently teaching journalism at Marquette University.



Grace Ellen Ehr and author Paul Salsini.

Paul began by talking about his inspiration for The Cielo, which he attributes to visiting his relatives in Italy and hearing about their World War

II experiences. He then spoke about the challenges he encountered in writing as a novelist rather than as a journalist, as well as the difficulties he faced in attempting to publish his book. After reading several passages from The Cielo, he responded to an array of questions from book club members.



The event was followed by an informal reception for the author and his wife, Barbara. The refreshments, provided by Grace Ellen, were appropriately Italian.

Paul Salsini more recently published Sparrow's Revenge: A Novel of Postwar Tuscany as a sequel to The Cielo, and he is currently working on the third book of the trilogy. His articles about Italy have appeared in the New York Times and elsewhere. Visit him online at www.thecielobook.com.

Julie Ferris Announces Programs for 2009-2010

Saturday, September 5, 2009

"Books, Bytes, and Buildings - Milwaukee Public Library in the 21st Century."

Paula Kiely, Milwaukee Public Library Director

Saturday, October 3, 2009

"Health Care Reform in the United States: An Idea Whose Time Has Finally Come."

Susan Giaimo, Ph.D., Visiting Asst Professor
Dept of Political Science, Marquette University

Thursday evening, November 5, 2009

"Anatomy of a Trial. From Living History to Writing it."

Jerrienne Hayslett, award-winning author and Milwaukee Branch member

Saturday, December 12, 2009

Holiday Event at the Woman's Club of Wisconsin
Mr. R. Roberts and the Milwaukee High School for the Arts Vocal Jazz Group

Saturday, January 2, 2010

Jessica Michna as Eleanor Roosevelt

Thursday evening, February 4, 2010

"Milwaukee's Water Initiative and the Great Lakes Water Institute"
Dr. Rebecca Klaper

Sat, March 6 and Thurs, April 8, 2010 — TBA

Saturday, May 8, 2010

Annual Scholarship Awards and Officer Installation



Milwaukee Branch American Association of University Women

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Milwaukee, WI 53202
Phone: 414-276-6820
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Book Discussion Group Planning Ahead

Tuesday, September 22
The Book Discussion Group will meet on Tuesday, September 22 at 1:00 pm to make recommendations for books to be read and discussed in 2009-10. Everyone are welcome to join the book discussion group for this planning session and for all future book discussions.

Tuesday, October 27

The Book Discussion Group will meet on Tuesday, October 27 at 1:00 pm to discuss The Story of Edgar Sawtelle by David Wroblewski.

The following review is excerpted from Amazon.com: "It's gutsy for a debut novelist to offer a modern take on Hamlet set in rural Wisconsin--gutsy, particularly one in which the young hero, born mute, communicates with people, dogs, and the occasional ghost through

Public Policy Forum – Paid Sick Leave

Approached by Lecia Imbery, AAUW national grassroots, public policy and government relations coordinator, our Branch was asked to join in an effort to appeal a judge's ruling that struck down the city's mandated paid sick leave ordinance as unconstitutional. Before agreeing to do so, the Executive Board wanted input from the members on this issue. So far, this decision affects the City of Milwaukee, but eventually could have national implications.

It is believed that this legislation would have a positive impact, especially for women, since women are more likely to be care givers. If women have to jeopardize their jobs in order to stay home because of illness or to take care of sick family members, it would further diminish their economic status. Workers who go to work ill put fellow workers at risk, as well as not being able to perform their jobs as well. Also, sending ill children to school puts other students at risk, especially with a flu pandemic lurking.

AAUW of Wisconsin is listed as a co-signatory for this appeal.

In July 2008 the AAUW presented a national action statement: "AAUW members have been very supportive of the Healthy Families Act in the past, and many have already contacted your representative and senators about this legislation. However, millions of Americans still do not have the option of taking a sick day to care for family members or themselves without putting their jobs, their healthcare benefits, or their family stability at risk."

Please be prepared to discuss this issue at the luncheon on September 5. If you are not able to attend the luncheon, you can leave call the AAUW office and leave a message, or send an email as to whether you would like AAUW Milwaukee Branch to support the paid sick days ordinance or oppose it.

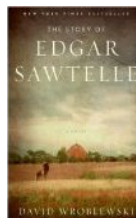
Marcia Zientek, Chair
Milwaukee Branch Public Policy

An Inside Tour of City Hall, Photo Festival at Brady Street

Members are invited for an insider's tour of historic City Hall, 200 E. Wells St. downtown Milwaukee on Thursday, September 10 at 11:00 a.m. Julie Ferris,

Branch program vice-president and Public Relations Supervisor for the City of Milwaukee, will meet members in the main floor rotunda. If you plan on attending this 45 minute walking tour on the history of the building, call the office at 414-276-6820.

his own mix of sign and body language. But David Wroblewski's extraordinary way with language in The Story of Edgar Sawtelle immerses readers in a living, breathing world that is both fantastic and utterly believable."



Another event not to be missed is the Brady Street Photo Festival and Gallery Show hosted at Caggio Gallery, 918 E. Brady St. between August 28, and September 9, 2009. Member Julie Ferris has a photo in the show!