



Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 77, No. 5 • November 2015

December 9, 2015

Holiday Party

Join us for a festive evening of holiday cheer at Sally Schuster's home. View holiday collections which include ornaments from the late 1800s through the 1960s. This year Sally will decorate a tree with Italian ornaments from the 1950s and 60s along with a Santa tree and a travel tree.

Sally lives at 253 Ridgeland in Elmhurst. Ridgeland is 3 blocks east of West Avenue and 3/4s of a block south of North Avenue. Ridgeland ends at Third Street south of North Avenue. You can park on both sides of the street as well as on Third Street, but you may want to carpool.

Members whose last names begin with A-L bring a dessert; those with last names which begin with M-Z bring an appetizer. A \$5 fee will cover beverages and other incidentals. Jane Jegerski will collect it at the party.

For more information contact Jane Jegerski (janej@elmhurst.edu, 630-530-4826) or Sally Schuster (630-833-3132).



Half the Sky Report

The discussion at our October meeting focused on the book *Keeping Hope Alive* by Dr. Hawa Abdi. The complexity of Dr. Hawa Abdi's personality, the cultural differences that were noted and the immensely difficult situation in Somali for the past 30 years made this a lively discussion rich with diverse viewpoints!

Jennifer Jordan reported that \$100 each was lent to two women through our KIVA account. In addition, \$250 was sent to the Fistula hospital at a time of matching funding so in effect, \$500 was contributed to expand the hospital. We are building the funds for another fistula operation.

To date we have \$340 collected and \$450 is needed for the operation. Only \$110 to go!

NEXT MEETING - HOLIDAY GATHERING: TUESDAY Dec. 1, 2015 6:30pm at Shahi Nihari 541 W. North Avenue Villa Park, IL 630.792.8839 This is an Indo-Pakistani restaurant which will have foods that can please those with mild as well as spicy palates.

Please RSVP to Betty Laliberte if you can or cannot come.



BRANCH CALENDAR

December 1 - 6:30 pm

Half the Sky Group
Holiday Gathering
Shahi Nihari Restaurant
541 W. North Avenue
Villa Park

December 3 - 1:00 pm

Book Discussion Group
"I Feel Bad About My Neck: and Other Thoughts on Being a Woman" by Nora Ephron
Hostess - Joanne McCurdy
Leader - Sherall Carson

December 9 - 7:00 pm

AAUW Meeting
Annual Holiday Party
Sally Schuster's Home

December 2015

Board of Directors
NO MEETING

2015 Funds Distribution

\$5000 to AAUW Fund - National

\$2500 to local Continuing Scholar

\$500 to support local STEM projects



AAUW Hotline 1-800-326-2289
Email: info@aauwelmhurst.org

Mission Statement

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

AAUW Value Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.

Membership

The American Association of University Women is open to any graduate holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution.

AAUW FUNDS

The AAUW Funds support educational fellowships and grants, legal advocacy, public policy, leadership programs and research reports.

ELMHURST AREA BRANCH NEWS is published ten times a year (August/September through May) by the American Association of University Women - Elmhurst Area Branch.

FINANCIAL REPORT

November 18, 2015

*Denise Thompson
Director of Finance*

General Fund	\$ 3,362.67
Book Sale Fund	5,686.84
Conf./Conv. Fund	<u>2,065.44</u>
Total	\$11,114.95

President's Message

In November, we had a great program on LGBTQ issues at the Elmhurst College Library. The informative panel discussion was led by Scott Matheney, the Elmhurst College Chaplain, with other staff and students representing the diverse community at Elmhurst College. I learned that Elmhurst College has been, and still is, a leader in welcoming self-identified LGBTQ students to their campus. Students from their GSA (Gay Straight Alliance) answered questions afterwards and many expressed their comfort with Elmhurst as an accepting business community. The program initiated enough interest that follow up activities are being investigated.

In addition, we had a Branch meeting shortly after the Program. The key votes were to accept the AAUW Funds committee's recommended distribution of the Book Sale proceeds and to accept Marcia Lagerwey's nomination to the position of Policy and Bylaws, which makes sure we're aligned with national and state policy changes. Finally, our Board is fully staffed.

Our New Member event in November was a successful get-acquainted social at Jennifer Jordan's. With appetizers, desserts and wine, as well as stimulating conversation, we watched and discussed the "One AAUW" video, which is a great encapsulation of our organization's mission. I recommend new and long-term members view it online at <http://www.aauw.org/resource/one-aauw-video/>

Now we turn to the Holiday season after our first snowfall, the largest November snowfall in over 100 years! It does set the scene for winter festivities ahead. Our main social activity of the year is the holiday party on December 9th. See details in this newsletter. I hope to see you there!

As we end the year, if you plan some year-end charitable donating for tax purposes as I do, please consider AAUW among your choices. And as we make New Year's resolutions or review the vision and goals for the coming year, let's resolve to grow and strengthen our AAUW community, increasing awareness of our mission and the issues impacting gender equity, and make a difference for women and girls!

Jan Summers
Branch President



Dare to Dream Conference Seeks Volunteers

Founded in 2007 by four AAUW branches, including the Elmhurst Area Branch, Atrévete a Soñar ¡Educar! (Dare to Dream: Get Educated!) is a one-day conference for Latina middle school girls.

The conferences focuses on the personal, professional and financial value of education in general and higher education in particular.

The first conference had 105 girls and mothers attend. Since that time, the conference has grown significantly. The 2015 conference had over 600 girls and mothers register.

The 2016 conference will be held at College of DuPage on Saturday, January 30. Volunteers are needed for a variety of activities for the weeks leading up to the conference, as well as the day of the conference itself. To volunteer, please contact Suzanne Elger at selger@me.com, or look for the sign up sheet at the next branch meeting.

SCENES FROM NOVEMBER MEETING AT ELMHURST COLLEGE

The November Chapter meeting on “Exploring LGBTQ Issues in a Local Context” featured a distinguished panel from Elmhurst College including Rev. Scott Matheney, Dr. Colleen Munro-Leighton, Dr. Mike Lindberg, Rev. Emily Labrecque and Susan Swords Steffen.



Jane Jegerski, Mary Eleanor Wall and Rev. Scott Metheny [Chaplain, Elmhurst College].



Marcia Lagerwey, Susan Swords Steffen [Director of Elmhurst College Library and former member of our branch, as was her late mother, Barbara Swords] and Mike Lindberg.



Jan Summers, Sarah Calvedt and Denise Thompson.



Charlotte Mushow, Elaine Libovicz and Leslie Stipe.

16 Days of Activism

Please take a few moments to read Gloria Blackwell's Nov. 24th AAUW article on the issue of Advocacy titled, "16 Ways to Mark 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence!" The 16 Days began on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. This year's campaign theme is, From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Make Education Safe for All.

The article is located at <http://www.aauw.org/2015/11/24/16-days-countdown/> , where you will also find additional information for each of the 16 Days in the schedule below. Help support this year's campaign by selecting the actions to which you are best suited.



Nov 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

Nov 26: Swap your Facebook profile picture. At <http://16dayscwgl.rutgers.edu/about/16-days-logos>, *right-click* on the English image, then *save as* to your desktop. Then, upload the image to your FB acct.

Nov 27: Download and share the AAUW [Ending Campus Sexual Assault Tool Kit](#).

Nov 28: Check out the international 16 Days [campaign calendar](#).

Nov 29: Follow [@16DaysCampaign](#) on Twitter and join the conversation!

Nov 30: Share the United Nations' [Orange the World poster](#) via Twitter and Facebook.

Dec 1: Write and share your own blog!

Dec 2: Take two minutes to [tell your members of Congress](#) to end sexual violence on campus!

Dec 3: Take action on Flickr.

Dec 4: Reach out to your government leaders for help with lighting and ["orange-ing" iconic buildings](#) in your community, town, or city.

Dec 5: Share via social media videos from the [U.N. video channel](#) "Say No to Violence."

Dec 6: Quiz yourself. How much do you know about violence against women worldwide?

Dec 7: Join the #16Days campaign #GBVTeachin on Twitter using handle @womenslead!

Dec 8: Read about the United Nations' 15-year plan for global issues like empowering women and girls.

Dec 9: [Tell Congress to do more](#) to protect survivors of gender-based violence.

Dec 10: Human Rights Day – Join the #16Days campaign #GBVTeachin on Twitter using handle @WorldPulse.



Help Dare to Dream!

Dare to Dream: Get Educated! is a one-day conference for Latina middle school girls and their mothers to empower the dream of education. Our seventh annual conference will take place at College of DuPage in January 2016. Each conference focuses on the personal, professional and financial value of education in general, and higher education in particular. Both the girls and their mothers attend workshops on various topics such as: careers, high school and college campus life, making choices, health, navigating the American school system and family life.

Dare to Dream is made possible by The DuPage Community Foundation and by AAUW branches in the Arlington Heights, Downers Grove, Elmhurst, Lombard, and Wheaton-Glen Ellyn areas, working together with DuPage middle schools and successful Latina business and professional women, who serve as board members, conference presenters, and role models.

Your generosity will help us to encourage Latina girls of DuPage County to dare to dream and to seek the education that will turn that dream into reality.

This year we are also continuing a program to award multiple \$1,000 scholarships to girls who attended the conference in 2012 and will be entering an accredited college, university, or vocational program for the fall of 2016.

Thank you for your support! Donors will be acknowledged in the 2016 conference program.

Conference Sponsor:

Yes! I would like to contribute \$_____ to help sponsor the 2016 Dare to Dream Conference. A tax deductible donation of \$52.00 will support the attendance of one girl to the conference. Any amount will be appreciated.

Scholarship Donation:

Yes! I would like to contribute \$_____ for the scholarship program. A contribution of \$1,000 or more allows you to create a named scholarship for a Dare to Dream Alumna. Donations in lesser amounts will be pooled and awarded in \$1,000 increments for scholarships. All donations go directly to the scholarships; they will not be used for the costs to administer the scholarship program.

Total Amount: \$_____

My check, payable to **Dare to Dream: Get Educated!** is enclosed.

I prefer to charge my contribution to my Visa MasterCard Discover
Card Number _____ Expiration Date ____/____/____ CVV _____

Authorized Signature _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City/State _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please mail to: Dare to Dream: Get Educated! PO Box 328, Elmhurst, IL 60126

Dare to Dream: Get Educated! is a recognized 501(c)(3) organization (EIN 27-1778698)