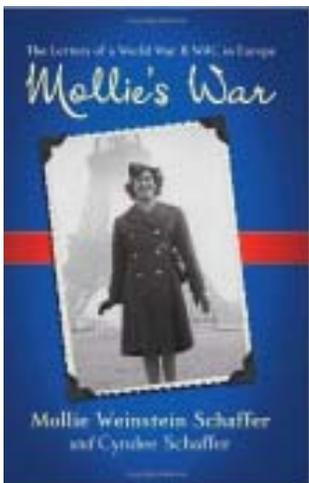


Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 77, No. 8 • March 2016

March 9th Meeting “Mollie’s War”

Co-sponsored by AAUW Downers Grove



In celebration of Women’s History Month, our speaker will be Cyndee Schaffer, the daughter of Mollie Weinstein Schaffer and co-author of the publication of her mother’s letters, Mollie’s War: The Letters of a World War II WAC in Europe.

Why did an average American woman become a WAC during World War II and place herself in peril? This presentation describes the life of a WAC enlistee, Mollie Weinstein (who lived in Vernon Hills) who joined the military to serve our country and journeyed to Europe to labor for an important cause while experiencing the adventures of a lifetime. Her story documents the human side of life during the war—a life that alternates between fear and romance, exhaustion and leisure.

Come to our March Program, and bring a friend, to hear this inspirational story.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 9th at 7:00 pm at the Elmhurst Public Library.

Annual Business Meeting

Highlight April 13th on your calendar for our Annual Business Meeting, which will be held directly after our April program.

We have lots to discuss: Changes to our Bylaws and Policies, the proposed budget for 2016-2017 and the election of officers for 2016-17 as well.

Please attend and voice your opinion and vote!

Returning Student Scholarship

We, the members of our branch, know how difficult it is for a woman, age 25 or older, to finance her goal of pursuing an education at the undergraduate or graduate level. Our offer of a \$2,500 scholarship will help such a woman pursue this dream.

Please encourage qualified candidates to complete the application form which can be found online at aauwelmhurst.org by the deadline. The deadline for filing is April 1, 2016.



BRANCH CALENDAR

March 2 - 7:00 pm
Board of Directors
Elmhurst Public Library

March 9 - 7:00 pm
AAUW Meeting
“Mollie’s War”
Elmhurst Public Library
Co-sponsored with
AAUW Downers Grove

March 23 - 7:30 pm
Half the Sky Group
Perry Doubt’s Home

March 24 - 1:00 pm
Book Discussion Group
“Samurai Garden”
by Gail Tsukiyama
Hostess: Darlene Van Meir
Leader: Darlene Van Meir

April 4 - 1:00 pm
Noontime Potpourri
Cafe Amano

April 16
Tech Savvy Event

April 29-30
AAUW Illinois Convention
Schaumburg



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.

New Branch Officers for 2016-18

By: Sarah Caltvedt, Nominating Committee Chair

Elections are in the air! At our Branch business meeting in April, we will be voting to elect new officers to fill positions that will be open as of the end of this membership year. The Nominating Committee, made up of Sarah Caltvedt, Chair, plus President Jan Summers and Past President Carolyn Heiney, takes pleasure in nominating the following Branch members for these positions:

- Program Vice President: Pat O'Dwyer
- Recording Secretary: Carol Rounds
- Director Publicity/Communications: Maria Patt
- Director AAUW Funds: Mary Mallon

Many thanks to these Branch members who are willing to volunteer their time to support the work of our Branch and keep it strong and vibrant. We count on each other to advance the vital mission of AAUW. As always, nominations for these offices will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

AAUW Conference Call re Supreme Court

Please join AAUW for a conference call to learn more about the judicial nomination process and what you can do to urge the President and Senators to uphold their constitutional responsibility to nominate and approve a new judge for the U.S. Supreme Court..

Call date and time: Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Central Time

Registration link: http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=5607

As stated on AAUW's national website: "AAUW is hopeful that our elected leaders will rise above the partisan fray and simply do what the Constitution requires: President Barack Obama and the U.S. Senate must move forward to fairly and expeditiously select and consider a nominee.

In so doing, the American people will be reassured that a fully staffed court will be available to deliver this year's critical Supreme Court decisions."

FINANCIAL REPORT July 2015-February 2016

Denise Thompson
Director of Finance

Book Sale Fund:	\$ 5,686.84
Conferences Fund	2,065.44
General Fund:	<u>3,212.67</u>
Total	\$10,964.95



Well Done! Dare to Dream drew another record-breaking crowd this year. A total of 25 local middle schools participated; 288 girls and 177 mothers registered for the all-day event, which was held at the College of DuPage. The program was inspiring, including a great presentation by Kathy Willis at the opening ceremony. Volunteers from the Elmhurst AAUW Branch included Jennifer Jordan and Sarah Caltvedt (above), Perry Doubt, Betsy Aldred and Jennifer Aldred-Berry.

President's Message

Although the weather impacted the turnout in February, our small group discussion of the book Grace and Grit by Lilly Ledbetter, and the issue of pay equity, was invigorating. All agreed that we've made progress, and many had personal stories to share, yet there are changes still needed in our culture and economy to be truly supportive of gender equity in pay.

March is Women's History Month and we'll be co-sponsoring a program at our library with the Downer's Grove AAUW Branch. Our speaker will be Cyndee Schaffer, the daughter of Mollie Weinstein Schaffer and co-author of the publication of her mother's letters, Mollie's War: The Letters of a World War II WAC in Europe.

It's been a busy time for the administration of the branch, doing the biannual review and revision of our Bylaws and Policies to conform to AAUW National changes, as well as the continuous improvement of our organization. We've also been soliciting volunteers to fill positions on our board for next year and we've drafted a new budget for the coming year. We'll vote on all those topics at our Annual Meeting in April, so please plan to attend.

And we're also ready to kick off our Used Book Sale Committee to plan our big fundraising event for this summer. Get ready to collect your used books and sign up to work at the sorting and/or the sale.

There are two upcoming events at AAUW-IL level; one is Tech Savvy, an event for girls to learn more about STEM topics and careers. It's April 16th at Oakton Community College in Des Plaines. If you know a girl who might be interested in attending, or if you would like to volunteer for that day or donate money to support it, contact me, Leslie Stipe or Suzanne Stock. The second event is the AAUW-IL Conference April 29-30 and any member can attend. I would love to have lots of our members attend with me. Let me know if you're interested.

It's also time to begin renewing for next year, due by June 30th. It's the ideal time to invite a friend to join as anyone who joins between March 15th and July 1st is covered as a member until June 2017.

So after a little winter hibernation, we're ramping up again with lots of activities over the next few months. Please put our programs and events on your calendar; and invite a like-minded friend. And if you have an idea for a program in the future, please advise me or one of our Program VPs. We're working to strengthen our AAUW community, with programs which interest our existing members, and potential members.

Let's enjoy our community while supporting our mission of impacting gender equity, and make a difference for women and girls in 2016!

Jan Summers
Branch President

Annual Used Book Sale: Help Wanted!

Planning for this year's Used Book Sale will begin soon, and we look forward to another summer of hard work and lively conversation as we gather and sort books for the sale.

In the past several years we've depended on a couple of younger helpers to pick up books from our collection bins and do the heavy lifting.

Unfortunately, our two wonderful helpers from the last sale, Gail and Matthew, are both unavailable this year, so we will need to hire new people to assist us.

If you know of someone with a car and a strong back who would be available to collect books most days and assist with taking out the trash/recycling and other tasks during our sorts on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, please contact Jan Summers, Carolyn Heiney or Sarah Caltvedt.

This is a paid position that will start in mid-late June and run through the sale in early August.

AAUW Tech Savvy Conference Slated for April 16

AAUW Tech Savvy is a one-day career conference designed to attract girls in sixth through ninth grade to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

The Conference will be held at Oakton Community College from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Online registration is required and will begin in late February 2016. Cost is \$10 per person (girls and adults) and includes lunch.

For additional information go to: <http://janeaddams-il.aauw.net/tech-savvy/>

Volunteers are needed to help with this event. Contact Gloria Liu at glorial@oakton.edu.



AAUW Hinsdale-Oak Brook Area Presents

INTREPID WORLD TRAVELER EXPERIENCES IN IRAN

SATURDAY • March 12, 2016

9:30 A.M. Refreshments • 10:00 A.M. Program

The Union Church of Hinsdale
137 South Garfield Street, Hinsdale

Open to the Public
Cost: \$10.00

RSVP to *H.OB.aauw.reservations@gmail.com* by **March 7th**

Checks should be mailed IN ADVANCE to:
Carolyn Barenberg,
929 S. County Line Rd. • Hinsdale, IL 60521

Hear June Scott tell about her experiences in Iran. She will speak about its history, culture and the wealth of antiquities in this ancient controversial country filled with bustling bazaars, historic sights, superb architecture, parched deserts and beautiful snow-covered mountains.

Many local students and parents know June as the “penguin lady.” Having traveled to Antarctica for a second time, June boarded a Russian ice breaker and went Ross Sea. She was sitting on an ice pack off the ship when an emperor penguin came up, pecked her boots and camera, and looked her in the eye. She was smitten.

Ms. Scott has experienced many other lands and cultures: she has visited all seven continents as well as all the national parks in the western United States. She has marked milestone birthdays with trips that have included a barge trip in France, exploration of Costa Rica, an African safari, and an up-close and personal study of Turkey.

Scott, who belongs to an organization called Women Welcome Women World Wide and goes on group tours, takes her camera along so she can share her travels with others. She offers programs on Antarctica, Africa, India, Costa Rica and Japan to schools, libraries and civic groups.

Her program on Iran is popular, she says. “Not many people go there. Not many people would feel comfortable going there.” Scott says her travels have broadened her understanding of people around the world, and her excellent presentation skills allow her to share those experiences with us.

For more information: hinsdale.oakbrook.aauw@gmail.com

**Members
Meet & Greet at the
February Branch
Meeting**



AAUW Research Project on Leadership & Gender Bias

Women make up almost half the workforce and earn more college and postgraduate degrees than men do, but leadership positions in business, government, and education are disproportionately filled by men. Why?

Part of the story is that women face a variety of structural barriers, but a major factor is implicit bias. Most people — consciously or unconsciously — are more likely to associate men with workplaces and leadership positions and women with home and support roles. These kinds of associations lead to a biased assessment of women's performance and ability as leaders. Even those of us who believe in gender equality and want to see more women leaders are vulnerable to bias, thanks to internalized cultural associations about gender roles and leadership.

Knowing about the unconscious associations we hold is the first step toward correcting our biases. That's why AAUW National is conducting original research on people's associations between gender and leadership, and you can contribute! Please take the Implicit Association Test and pass it on to your colleagues, friends, and family. It just takes 10 minutes, and the results will inform our research on women in leadership.

Both women and men should take the Implicit Association Test. We're looking for a diverse group of respondents so that we can better understand how people across our society think about women and leadership. We need women and men, younger and older people, people of every race and ethnicity, and people from different states and regions to participate!

We appreciate your role in helping us understand — and eliminate — the barriers and biases facing women in leadership. Link for the test: <http://www.aauw.org/article/implicit-association-test/>