



Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 76, No. 3 • November 2014

November 12th Meeting

Vivian Maier: Out of the Shadows

Vivian Maier: Out of the Shadows is an extraordinary book of photographs and history based on the work and life of Vivian Maier, a North Shore nanny who died in 2009. She was an amateur street photographer who took more than 1,000,000 photos during her life.

After her death, a real-estate agent—having no idea what he was purchasing—spent \$400 for a box of her photos and negatives that had been left in an unpaid storage unit. Today, her photos are limited editions ranging in price from \$2,200 to \$10,000.

Maier’s photography has taken the world by storm. Join dramatic book reviewer Jenny Riddle as she brings to life Vivian’s fascinating story. The Elmhurst Public Library is cosponsoring this program. Registration is not required.

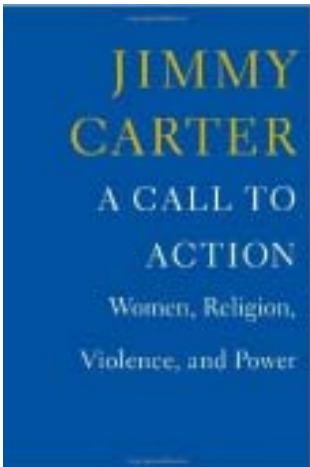
NOTE: After our program on November 12, we will adjourn to the Kossmann Room to hold a business meeting and vote on the Used Book Sale income distribution recommended by the AAUW Funds Committee.

Public Policy Update *by Genie Urick*

AAUW’s dynamic Public Policy Program drives our efforts at the national, state, and local levels. You can comment, share your thoughts, and suggest changes for the Public Policy program by going to the 2015 AAUW national Election web page. There you’ll find all the information you need to propose bylaws, amendments and resolutions. www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/

January Book Discussion

Our book discussion title for the January Branch meeting on January 14 will be *A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence and Power* by Jimmy Carter. The book is available in hardcover, paperback and Kindle formats to purchase. The Elmhurst Public Library owns one hardcover copy and has it available as an ebook through 3MCloud Library. If you would like to get an interlibrary loan copy, bring your Elmhurst Public Library card to the November Branch meeting, and we will submit a group request for our book discussion.



BRANCH CALENDAR

Board of Directors

November meeting cancelled

November 4 - 7:30 pm

Half the Sky

Movie: “Wadjda”

Perry Doubt’s Home

November 12 - 7:00 pm

Next AAUW Meeting

“Vivian Maier”

Elmhurst Public Library

November 15 - 8:30 am

Tech Savvy Workshop

IIT Wheaton Campus

November 23 - 3:00 pm

AAUW Elmhurst Outing

“Shadowtown II: The Johns”

Meyer Kaplan Theater - Skokie

See p.2 for details

December 1 - 1:00 pm

Noontime Potpourri

Discussion Group

Restaurant: 100 South

(York & Park Streets)

December 4 - 1:00 pm

Book Discussion Group

“Boys in a Boat” by Daniel James Brown

Discussion Leader: Joanne McCurdy

Hostess: Joanne McCurdy



AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch
PO Box 243 - Elmhurst IL 60126
Email: info@aauwelmhurst.org
Hotline 1-800-326-2289

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.

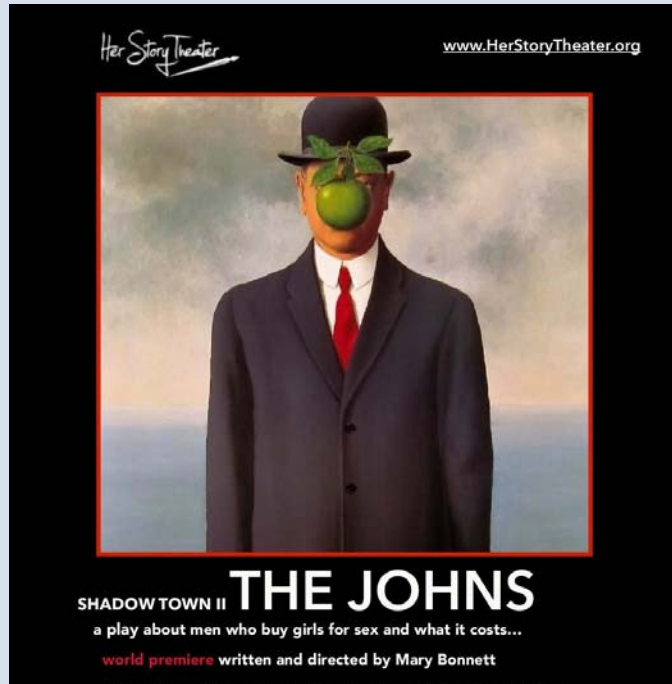
AAUWFUNDS

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.

Tech Savvy Underway

Congratulations to the Tech Savvy steering committee which includes Pat O'Dwyer, Leslie Stipe and Alice Smith. 183 girls will attend with 101 parents on November 15 at IIT in Wheaton. This is a great example of how AAUW makes a difference for girls.



Elmhurst AAUW Outing
“Shadow Town II: The Johns”

November 23, 2014 • 3:00 pm

Mayer Kaplan Theatre
5050 Church Street - Skokie

We will work out carpooling once we know who is coming. Please advise Sarah Caltvedt and purchase your ticket from:

www.brownpapertickets.com
800-838-3006
\$35.00 per ticket + \$2.22 service fee

November President's Message

It's hard to read the news these days without thinking of AAUW (if you can bring yourself to read the news at all).

On the corporate front, we have the chief executive of Microsoft telling women that they shouldn't negotiate a raise, but just work hard, and "karma" will reward them. That's scant comfort for the women who are making 78 cents for every dollar earned by men, but AAUW is working to ensure that women truly do get what they deserve by lobbying Congress to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act and offering \$start \$mart workshops to women all over the country.

Other corporations have announced that they will be so benign as to pay to freeze women employees' eggs so they can postpone childbearing—until retirement? Maybe they should collaborate with AAUW instead to bring family-friendly policies to the workplace and make paid parental leave the law.

Locally, I'm sure you were as horrified as I was to learn of the serial killer who had been preying on women in the "escort" business. Any of you who attended our Branch program on sex trafficking a few years ago, the performance of "Shadowtown" last year, or the recent panel at Elmhurst College on the same subject must have found the story sadly familiar. If all women had the equality of opportunity, fair pay, access to health care and education that AAUW works for, perhaps fewer of them would end up victims of pimps and johns. (Join our group outing to a performance of "Shadowtown II: The Johns" on November 23 to learn more about this topic.)

Some other things I've been reading present a more uplifting picture of women's lives. On Journey, the autobiography of Vida Dutton Scudder, brings to life a woman who devoted herself to helping immigrants through the settlement house movement and to educating the first generation of college women (and of course she was a member of ACA, the forerunner of AAUW). Yet she risked her beloved job as a professor at Wellesley to support the women textile workers of Lawrence, MA in their 1912 strike for higher wages and better working conditions. She was a true "foremother" of AAUW!

And on a personal note, my cousin recently sent me an encyclopedia entry that describes how our 5th great grandmother, Lydia Chapin Taft, became the first woman to vote in America. Her husband, who was a large landowner, had died, and her oldest surviving son was not yet of age, so she was allowed to vote on whether to raise taxes to fund the French and Indian War at the town meeting in Uxbridge, MA back in 1758. Who knew that the issue of women's suffrage went back that far?

Whenever we feel discouraged by all the obstacles that women still face, we need to think of the pioneering women who went before us and take heart. As members of AAUW, we can and will continue to make a difference in women's lives.

Sarah Caltvedt, President

"Wadjda" Featured at Half the Sky Meeting

All members are invited to attend the November 4th meeting of the Half the Sky group at which the world-acclaimed movie "Wajdja" will be viewed and discussed. The movie is the first film directed by a female Saudi filmmaker, Haiffa al Mansour. It is the story of a young girls living in a suburb of Riyadh who is determined to raise enough money to buy a bike in a society that sees bicycles as dangerous to a girl's virtue.

"I come from a small town in Saudi Arabia where there are many girls like Wadjda who have big dreams, strong characters and so much potential. These girls can, and will, reshape and redefine our nation," says Haiffal al Mansour. "I hope the film offers a unique insight into my own country and speaks of universal themes of hope and perseverance that people of all cultures can relate to."

Please confirm to Jan Summers if you plan to attend.

AAUW Funds Allocation

Due to a very successful book sale, our branch has \$11,700 net funds to donate to support AAUW's mission to advance equity for women through education and advocacy.

The Funds Committee, consisting of Peggy Babyar, Sandy Burk, Sarah Caltvedt, Elaine Davison, and Susanne Schmitz, recommends that our branch allocate the funds as follows: \$2,500 to a Returning Student Scholarship; \$2,500 to the Legal Advocacy Fund; \$1,000 to the Lois List American Fellowship, and \$5,700 to AAUW Funds .

The Returning Student Scholarship funds will be awarded to a local woman who needs financial assistance to continue her education at the undergraduate or graduate level. The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund supports the protection of the legal rights of women who are facing discrimination. The Lois List American Fellowship is the only one remaining to complete the Fellowships and Research & Projects Grants that have been started in Illinois.

The AAUW Funds are not restricted to a specific fund, but support the AAUW programs with the greatest needs.

FINANCIAL REPORT

October 25, 2014

Sandra Burk
Director of Finance

Book Sale	\$13,262.43
Conferences	2,814.88
General Fund	<u>4,017.61</u>
Total Account Balance:	\$ 20,094.92

Welcome New Members

Charlotte Mushow returns to our branch after being an AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch member during the 80's. With encouragement from Betsy Aldred and Amy Allen, Charlotte attended our 75th anniversary celebration in May and quickly decided to join our branch once again.

Charlotte received a B.A. in Education from Southern Illinois University and a Masters in Education from DePaul University. She taught in the Cicero public school system for 20 years and was an adjunct faculty member at Triton College. She left teaching in 1988 and worked for a while as an independent business consultant. Her interest in politics soon became an important focus in her life. She is a past state president of the Illinois Federation of Republican Women, and from 1999-2012, she served on the DuPage County Election Commission.

Charlotte has always had a passion for architecture. In the 70's, she was accepted into the yearlong docent volunteer training program at the Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF). At the same time she was accepted into this program, she was also accepted to graduate school at DePaul University. Ultimately, she decided to pursue her Masters in Education from DePaul, but she never lost her interest in Chicago architecture. In 2012, Charlotte was happy when she finally had the time to become a Visitor Experience Volunteer for CAF. She volunteers at the CAF Box Office on Wednesdays and enjoys greeting guests and assisting them as they begin their tours.

A resident of Elmhurst since 1970, Charlotte has been active in many community organizations. She was involved with the College and Community at Elmhurst College organization for 20 years, serving as Chairman for 11 years. She joined the Wheaton chapter of 100+ Women Who Care in 2007 and then helped start the 100+ Women Who Care - Elmhurst Area chapter in November 2013. She is also a long time member of the Elmhurst Garden Club.

Welcome back to our branch, Charlotte!

October Meeting Scores High with Members



Denise Dean, Sarah Caltvedt and Delores Valintis



Anne Klein, Membership Vice President.



Liesel Kossmann and Mary Hallmann



Alice Smith and Jan Summers



Sally Schuster (center) with presenters from the Public Policy Committee of the AAUW Chicago Branch (left to right): Kay Rosen, Pamela Sanner, Paula Perdue, Sheryl Linderbaum.

Report on AAUW-IL Fall Conference Saturday, October 25

By Sarah Caltvedt

Cindy Grau, Alice Smith, Denise Dean and I attended the AAUW-IL Fall Conference at Oakton Community College on Saturday, October 25.

Our guest speaker was Mark Hopkins, AAUW's Chief Strategic Officer, whose topic was "Marketing Your Branch." He pointed out that what we are "selling" is membership and that we have to tell people about AAUW or they will make up their own idea.

It's challenging to convey what AAUW is about because our organization is so broad and varied.

Mark gave a couple of responses he's given to people who asked about AAUW: "It's an organization founded by the first women college graduates when it was scandalous for women to go to college." "Do you have a daughter? Is it OK for her to make 10% less right out of college?"

Along with suggestions for promoting AAUW in our communities, he shared some exciting news about what's been happening at AAUW. For instance,

- Proctor & Gamble has repositioned their brand marketing around women's equity issues and is working with AAUW.

- Glamour magazine wants to reposition itself and is going to provide free advertising and sponsor AAUW programs.

- There are two new research reports coming out in 2015. "Moving the Needle: Women in Computing and Engineering" will be disseminated with the support of grants from the AT&T Foundation and the National Science Foundation. "Women and Leadership" [working title] will examine the skills and attributes of women as leaders at every level, and not just in the business world.

According to Mark, AAUW research reports are very influential in both the corporate and government realms, and we should promote them as part of our branch marketing. As you may have heard, AAUW has acquired the \$tart \$mart and Work \$mart salary negotiation programs. They are working on finding a "power player" to help with funding and/or implementation so that the cost of the programs can be reduced and more women can benefit from them.

Other items from the conference:

- Contact your state representative about supporting passage of ERA in Illinois and your Federal Congressional representative about dropping the time limit for ratification of ERA.

- Jane Addams Day will be celebrated Saturday, December 13, 2014 at Hull House from 3 – 4:30 pm. There will be a reenactment of the Pullman strike, followed by lemonade and cookies. Cost is \$10 at the door. RSVP to chicagoaauw@hotmail.com by Dec. 10. See <http://chicago-il.aauw.net/files/2013/04/Jane-Addams-Day-2014.pdf> for the program flyer.

- The Equal Pay Day rally will be Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at Daley Plaza.

- AAUW-IL 2015 convention will be May 1 – 2 in Bloomington.

- AAUW National Convention will be June 18 – 20 in San Diego.