



# Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 74, No. 3 • November 2012

## November 14 - 7:00 pm BRANCH MEETING Elmhurst Public Library

Julia Morgan: What A Woman!  
We imagine that Julia Morgan was an AAUW member. She was well educated (first female to graduate with a Civil Engineering degree from University of California); well traveled (first woman admitted to l'Ecole des Beaux Arts, Paris) and a pioneer in architecture (William Randolph Hearst's castle in San Simeon).

Her time was 1872-1957. Still wondering why she is so highly respected? (Morgan designed over 700 buildings in her lifetime). Then, attend the November meeting to look-see, hear and voice your response to Annette Baldwin's well-rehearsed and impeccable presentation. Perhaps, we will present Morgan with an honorary membership.

About the presenter: **Annette Baldwin's** first-person monologues, PowerPoint discussions and Readers Theater productions have been presented to public libraries, historical societies and museums, professional associations, community organizations and educational institutions in nearly 200 cities across the U.S.

Baldwin's Visual Journeys on architecture, fashion and art are inspired by a past life in fashion promotion for Marshall Field's and Lord & Taylor and as editor at the Chicago American Institute of Architects.

## Graduating to a Pay Gap

On October 24, AAUW released its newest research report, *Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earnings of Women and Men One Year after College Graduation*, showing how the gender pay gap persists and affects the student loan debt burden for women college graduates.

The AAUW report explores the earnings difference between female and male college graduates who are working full time one year after graduation. The finding: in 2009, the most recent year for which data are available, women earned on average, just 82% of what their male peers earned.

Using the latest nationally representative data, the study compares apples to apples by looking at the pay gap after controlling for various factors known to affect earnings, such as occupation, college major, and hours worked. It also examines one immediate effect that the pay gap has on many women: the heavy burden of student loan debt.

A complete copy of the report is available on the national AAUW website ([www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)).

Remember to Vote  
NOVEMBER 6

## Calendar of Events

November 6 - 7:00 pm  
**Half the Sky Group**  
Viewing of "Half the Sky - Part 2"  
Susan Szymanski's House

November 7 - 7:00 pm  
**Board Meeting**  
Sarah Caltved's House

November 14 - 7:00 pm  
**Branch Meeting**  
1st Person Portrayal: Julia Morgan - Pioneering Architect  
Elmhurst Public Library

December 3 - 1:00 pm  
**Noontime Potpourri**  
100 South  
*Continuation of TIF discussion plus other local area news and issues including the Elmhurst city elections in April. Note new location!*

December 6 - 1:00 pm  
**Book Discussion Group**  
*Georgetown Ladies Society*  
by C. David Heymann  
Hostess: Joanne McCurdy

December 12, 2012  
**Branch Meeting**  
Holiday Get Together  
Ann Klein's House



AAUW 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.

**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**

*as of October 25, 2012*

General Account:	\$ 3,866.13
Savings Account:	1,746.45
Book Sale Account	<u>12,844.94</u>
Total:	\$18,457.52

**Carolyn's Corner**

**Is AAUW Really Top-Rated?**

When I recently scrolled through my email in hope of discarding some of those formally important communications, I discovered an article proclaiming that AAUW has been recently recognized as a top charity by the Huffington Post, Charity Navigator, and even NerdWallet! For the second year in a row, Charity Navigator gave AAUW their highest rating in recognition of our financial management, accountability, and transparency. We also made their top 10 list of highly rated education charities. In addition, GreatNonprofits, a group that catalogs and shares the reviews of nonprofit organizations around the world, has again recognized AAUW as a top-rated women's empowerment organization. AAUW also received the GuideStar seal for our commitment to transparency. GreatNonprofits named AAUW a 2012 top-rated charity based on the ratings given by individuals who have directly benefited from our work. Wow, Wow, and Wow! Great news for us, as we send those hard earned book sale profits off to our national AAUW Funds.

An important part of the AAUW mission is philanthropy. As a group of women, we care about others and want to make the world a better place. When we receive flyers touting the fact that Marie Curie received an AAUW grant in 1920 and Challenger astronaut Judith Resnik used her 1975 grant to complete her dissertation in chemical engineering, we smile with pride that an organization of which we are a part made such smart decisions.

The good news is that we can continue to give to AAUW Funds to help women finish those dissertations and write to publish. Through the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund we continue to support important research such as the ground breaking report on sexual harassment, and through the Legal Advocacy Fund we can assist women and men who stand up for equal pay and Title IX.

As a branch, we work together to support these funds. As an individual, you also can contribute to these fine projects too. Go online to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) or call me for details. It's easy, it's worthwhile, and as you just have read, your money will be well used.

**Allocation of Book Sale Funds**

The AAUW Funds committee met and discussed the allocation of the Book Sales Funds. The recommendation from the committee of Peggy Babyar (chair), Sarah Caltvedt, Darlene Van Meir, and Carolyn Heiney, (Kathy Willis not present) is as follows:

Legal Advocacy Fund.	\$1,000
Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.	\$1,000
AAUW Funds.	\$7,500
Local Returning Scholar	\$1,000
Dare to Dream Scholarship.	\$1,000

These figures were presented at the October Branch meeting. The branch vote will be held at the November Branch meeting.



## Special Spotlight on You

With the election just a few days away, we must acknowledge the outstanding efforts of our own **Alice Smith**, who organized numerous voter drives this year throughout and around Elmhurst. She not only planned events with managers of buildings and programs, but she also scheduled our own member voter registrars to work various drives. In addition, Alice coordinated efforts with the Elmhurst League of Women Voters to ensure that our events didn't compete with those of the League. Alice completed all this while also wearing the hat of co-program chair this year.

We are so grateful that Alice returned to our branch from sailing the ocean blue. She has navigated the voter registration waters with great aplomb. Thank you, Alice!!!

## New Member Drive

For the last year Carolyn Heiney and Cindy Grau, our Membership Chair, have been fantasizing about our branch reaching the 100 member mark.

We have 91 members right now. But instead of fantasizing we are telling our branch members to bring their friends to our programs to find out what a wonderful organization we are.

For every guest that a branch member brings to a meeting you will receive a raffle ticket for a free national membership next year worth \$49. We will have the drawing in April. We don't want AAUW to be the best kept secret in the Elmhurst Area – you can help us spread the word!

### 2013 AAUW National Convention is right around the corner!

Join us as we explore the topic, "Leading across Generations" in New Orleans

June 9–12, 2013.

## The Invisible War

Several area AAUW branches are presenting a showing of the groundbreaking documentary, *The Invisible War*, at the Borden Public Library in Elgin.

The film, which won the Audience Award at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival, focuses on one of the most shameful and best-kept secrets: the epidemic of rape within the U.S. military.

### SHOWINGS

GAIL BORDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ELGIN

6:00 pm - Tues., Nov. 27  
6:00 pm - Thurs. Nov. 29

On both nights there will be a discussion following the film led by Johanna Buwalda, the Director of Mental Health at VVAW Military and Veterans Counseling.

The viewings are co-sponsored by Elgin Area AAUW; Schaumburg Area AAUW; Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles AAUW; League of Women Voters Elgin Area; Fox Valley Citizens for Peace and Justice; Watch City Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 1307; and Gail Borden Public Library

## Barbara Swords

Long-time branch member Barbara Swords passed away October 23, surrounded by her loving family.

Barbara, well known for her amazing ability to review a difficult novel for our book group, was a gift to us, to her family and to the Elmhurst College community of students, faculty, and staff. The branch has sent a donation in her name to AAUW Funds. Information about services for Barbara can be found on the EC website: <http://public.elmhurst.edu/news/archive/176313131.html> and in *The Chicago Tribune*.

Notes of sympathy can be sent to her daughter Susan Swords Steffen and son Steven Swords, 203 Fairfield, Elmhurst, IL 60126.

## Welcome New Members



### **MARGA BRECKENFELDER**

Marga Breckenfelder is rejoining AAUW after hearing about it from Mary Eleanor Wall. She was previously a member of the Maywood-Proviso Branch of AAUW and the Elmhurst branch at different times. She is a retired high school and college English teacher. Marga is currently an ESL teacher and also is a part of the PEP program at College of DuPage. She has four children and nine grandchildren. She likes to read, travel and also likes antiques but doesn't have as many as she used to. When she downsized to move to the Park Place retirement community she kept her antique button collection. She has spent about 34 years in the Elmhurst community. Welcome Marga!



### **RACHEL KYLE**

Rachel Kyle also lives at Park Place where Marga and Mary Eleanor Wall live. She moved there this spring from Deerfield where she lived for 60 plus years. She is a retired Art teacher. She has four children and 13 grandchildren who live in Denver, DC and Wisconsin. She likes to knit and has done calligraphy, stage design, illustration and even artwork for the Deerfield Savings and Loan. Rachel's mother was a member of AAUW in DeKalb when Rachel was young. Her mother had to quit teaching when she got married but she enjoyed AAUW as a way to keep engaged. She remembers the ladies meeting in their home. Rachel always thought she would join AAUW and she finally has. We are happy to have a second generation member!



### **SALLY SCHUSTER**

Sally Schuster is returning to AAUW after a long hiatus. She recently retired from her public relations and adult programming job at the Addison Public Library when Carolyn Heiney asked her to rejoin AAUW within a month of retirement. She had previously been a member when she was on the board of the then AAUW Elmhurst preschool, Buttons and Bows. She and her husband have been in Elmhurst for 36 years and have raised two sons, one of whom is currently engaged to be married. She is also a member of Questers and is a collector of antique Christmas ornaments and black glass. She loves to read and is currently reading "Half the Sky" which was recommended by our branch. Welcome back Sally!



***NEW MILLENNIALS SPEAK OUT.** Three of the panelists from last month's meeting (Rose Skegg, Blessing Steele and Mayra Cortez) share a moment with Program Co-Chair Alice Smith. Thanks, ladies! It was a very informative evening.*