



# Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 75, No. 6 • January 2014

## January 8 Meeting: Begin the Celebration!!!

Our Elmhurst Area Branch is 75 years old this year and our January Branch Meeting will begin our anniversary programs and events.

Did you know that our AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch:

- Opened The Exchange Shop in town during World War II to make available children's clothing, furniture and toys that were scarce due to the war?

- Founded Buttons & Bows Cooperative Nursery School, the first pre-school in Elmhurst?

- Designed a Babysitting Training Course for junior high girls as well as a Babysitting Coop?

- Has consistently raised money for grants and scholarships for women on both the local and national levels and for community projects, particularly those related to education?

- Started the annual Used Book Sale in 1959?

The January Branch Meeting will take place at the **Elmhurst Historical Museum** on Wednesday, Janu-

ary 8, 2014 at 7:00pm in the **Education Center** which is the building directly south of the museum.

We will first hear from Nancy Wilson, Curator of Collections, who will give us a brief overview of the museum, its history, mission and purpose, and how decisions are made as to what is accepted for its collection. Then we will watch the first showing of an Elmhurst Branch Story Project video produced by our member Genie Urick. Ten branch members were filmed telling personal stories of their connections, memories, experiences and loyalties to our branch. Finally, although we cannot have the branch scrapbooks at our meeting, several committee members were allowed to carefully look at them and will share highlights of what they learned about branch activities from our founding year of 1938 to the early 1980's.

You will come away not only with knowledge of our branch and its history in Elmhurst, but with great admiration and pride as you hear about the intellectual and philanthropic, the social and community activities of our members since our branch's inception.

Come and hear some of our "branch story" – our "herstory." Come and learn about our "founding mothers" and about who we were and about how we got to be who we are today. We stand on the shoulders of many amazing women. Come and begin the celebration!

### Membership Offer

From January 1st to March 15th, new members can join AAUW for \$44.00. Both national and branch dues are half price for this half year membership. If you know of someone who may be interested, pass the word! Checks can be mailed to: AAUW - Elmhurst, P.O. Box 243, Elmhurst IL 60126.



## BRANCH CALENDAR

January 2- 7:00 pm

### Board Meeting

*Elmhurst Public Library*

January 8 - 7:00 pm

### Monthly Branch Meeting

*"A Glimpse of Elmhurst AAUW History"*. Location:

Education Center at the *Elmhurst Historical Museum* (120 E. Park Street - south of the Metra tracks and 1/2 block east of York Rd.)

January 23 - 1:00pm

### Book Discussion Group

*"A Week in Winter"*

(Maeve Binchy)

Hostess & Discussion Leader: Elaine Davison

February 3 - 1:00 pm

### Noontime Potpourri

100 South Restaurant, York & Park Streets, Elmhurst

February 4 - 7:30 pm

### Half the Sky Group

*Perry Doubt's Home*



**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.

**AAUWFUNDS**

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

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# Is There a Box of AAUW Files Lurking in Your Attic or Basement?

This year we are making an effort to organize and streamline our records, keep what needs to be kept, and toss what needs to be tossed. In January, we will visit the Elmhurst Historical Museum, where we will be able to see some of the records that we have archived there and learn more about why this is important for local history, as well as our own. It's also time to prepare another deposit for the Museum. If you've ever held an office in the Branch, you may have some old files stashed away. Now is the time to dig them out and see if there's anything that needs to be archived. All the rest can be recycled. Here's what AAUW Archivist Suzanne Gould has to say about what to keep and what to pitch:

**Keep:**

- Bylaws revisions
- Annual budgets
- Financial reports
- Minutes
- Recordings
- Historically significant correspondence
- Photos (labeled in pencil on the reverse)
- Digital documents should be printed out for archiving
- Branch directories and publications

**Toss:**

- Drafts
- Routine correspondence
- National or state publications unless the Branch is mentioned
- Other external publications unless the Branch is mentioned
- Duplicates (may keep copies of some significant records for reference, since archived material is not readily accessible)
- Old forms, receipts
- Notes

Each officer should retain records for the prior five years. Anything older can be archived. So take a look in those dark corners and closets, and let Branch President Sarah Caltvedt know if you have any Branch files that need to emerge from hiding.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

December 19, 2013

*Sandra Burk*  
Director of Finance

Book Sale Account:	\$ 4,545.56
Savings Account:	2,014.88
General Account:	<u>3,467.92</u>
Total All Accounts:	\$10,028.36

## Roster Change

*Theresa Klengelhoffer* has notified us that she has a new phone number: 630-617-2899.

Please change your roster.



## Public Policy Update

Women appear poised to crack the state executive branch glass ceiling in 2014. With 36 states holding gubernatorial elections, so far 27 female candidates have filed in a governor's race.

Historically women have been vastly underrepresented in the state executive office, with only five current female governors. We'll see what happens....

*Genie Urick*

## Plan Ahead

We remind everyone that at AAUW meeting on February 12th we will discuss the book, "Lean In: Women, Work and the Will to Lead," by Sheryl Sandberg, the Chief Operating Officer at Facebook.

Employed or not, this book speaks to us all, providing the latest information on what it means to be a woman in the work force and what our daughters, granddaughters and nieces face when they say they are employed. Branch member Jan Summers will lead the discussion.

## Historical Tidbits: The Seventies

**1970.** The Branch's "We the People" study topic led to active support for the Illinois Prairie Path. The Branch urged the DuPage County Board to extend the lease on the path.

**1971.** The Branch organized a program that provided 100 educational resource volunteers for the District 46 schools. Mary Eleanor Wall was elected state program vice president.

**1972.** The Branch was instrumental in opening the first Recycling Center in Elmhurst.

**1973.** The Branch banner designed by Genie Urick was displayed at the 50th Anniversary of AAUW Illinois. Membership: 223.

**1974.** Three members were elected to the DuPage County Board: Elaine Libovicz, Jane Spigel and Mary Eleanor Wall.

**1976.** The Branch's Bicentennial Committee produced a booklet entitled Elmhurst: Origin of Names, Streets, Schools, Parks and Landmarks.

**1977.** Branch member Betsy Aldred was elected to the City Council.

**1978.** Mary Eleanor Wall was elected state president-elect, to be president 1979-81.

## President's Message

### Looking Back – Looking Ahead

The month of January is named for the double faced god Janus, who can look at the past and the future simultaneously. We've been focusing a lot on the past in this 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, and what an impressive history our Branch has! From the Book Sale to Buttons and Bows to Dare to Dream, we've launched projects that have made a difference. At our meeting on January 8, we'll have a chance to learn more about how our Branch has evolved with the times and see the inaugural showing of our Story Project oral history. Many thanks to past president Carolyn Heiney for spearheading this project and to Genie Urick and her tv crew for making it possible.

Looking ahead, we have some great programs and some great opportunities to get involved. Now that Dare to Dream is launched as an independent organization, we need to consider whether we want to find another major project, like the \$tart \$mart workshops AAUW sponsors, or other projects that could build on our relationship with Elmhurst College and help support their women students. There are elections coming up, and we will again have the opportunity to help register voters. ERA is seeing a new push for ratification. There are so many causes. Where shall we focus our energies? Please share your ideas with me and the other Board members as we discuss where our Branch will head in the future.

Another very important part of our future is our new members. We have been very fortunate this fall to attract many new and returning members to the Branch. Please make them welcome and encourage them to get involved in our activities. And remember, the best way to recruit a new member is to ask someone you know who shares AAUW's interests and goals. Let's build on the legacy of our founders and help create a brighter future for all women!

Sarah Caltvedt  
Branch President

## AAUW Celebrates the Holidays



*AAUW kicked off the holiday season with a wonderful party at the home of Sally Schuster (right). Thanks, Sally, for a great evening!*

