



# Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 75, No. 7 • February 2014

## February Meeting

2/12/14 sounds like a special date, and it is!

Branch members and guests will conduct business as usual and then discuss our Branch book for 2014, *Lean In: Women, Work and the Will to Lead* by Sheryl Sandburg.

We are extremely fortunate that Jan Summers, our Branch member and Health & Wellness Consultant and Career Coach agreed to guide the discussion.

Branch members who are employed will certainly contribute with their personal workplace realities. For Branch members who are retired, your past experiences compared with today's workplace conditions will be very telling. This discussion will be good for all of us.

We will leave understanding how women in the workplace can better manage to compete and find peace. Don't let the cold keep you away.

## Connect with New Members

Our Yearbook and Directory is updated online as we welcome new members. For contact information on our new members, go to our website, [www.aauwelhurst.org](http://www.aauwelhurst.org), and click on Members Only. Log in with our password, which is on the inside cover of your Directory. There is a link to the Directory on the Members Only page.

## AAUW on Elmhurst Time Travelers Show

If you missed seeing our Branch featured on the Elmhurst Time Travelers show last summer, you can watch it any time now on the Internet.

Here's how to see this and other Elmhurst Our Kind of Town shows:

- Go to [elmhursttv.com](http://elmhursttv.com).

- Select *YouTube* from the choices at the top.

- Click on *EOKOT (Elmhurst Our Kind of Town)* to go to YouTube.

- Click the arrow on the right side of the strip of *EOKOT* thumbnails until you get to *EKOT #1236, Time Travelers #12*. You'll see a photo of Marcia Goltermann and Susan Szymanski.

- Click on the photo to start the show.

Alternatively, go to [YouTube.com](http://YouTube.com) and search for *EOKT 1236*. It should be the first show that comes up.

Thanks again to Marcia Goltermann, Susan Szymanski and Mary Eleanor Wall for participating in the program with President Sarah Calvedt and to Genie Urick for making all the arrangements.



## BRANCH CALENDAR

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*

February 5 - 7:00 pm  
**Board Meeting**  
*Elmhurst Public Library*

February 12 - 7:00 pm  
**Monthly Branch Meeting**  
*Book Discussion: "Lean In: Women, Work and the Will to Lead"* by Sheryl Sandburg. *Elmhurst Public Library*

February 28 - 1:00pm  
**Book Discussion Group**  
*"Doc"* (Mary Doria Russell)  
Hostess & Discussion  
Leader:  
Marcia Goltermann



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.

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**Let the Celebration Begin!**

Darlene Van Meir, Sarah Caltvedt and Genie Urick paused for this group shot at the January AAUW meeting which was held at the Elmhurst Historical Museum to help kick off the celebration of our 75th anniversary year. Special thanks to Nancy Wilson, Curator of Collections, who talked about the Elmhurst Historical Museum and provided access to Branch scrapbooks and photos of items we have archived there, and to our speakers Genie Urick, Pat O'Dwyer and Sarah Caltvedt.

**News from AAUW Headquarters**

**Task Force Confronts Culture of Rape on College Campuses**

On Tuesday, President Obama announced the creation of the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault. This taskforce will come up with best practices to guide schools in preventing and responding to sexual violence. Also this week, the Council on Women and Girls released a report that revealed nearly one in 5 women has been sexually assaulted during college. "It's great news to see plans to increase transparency around enforcement activities identified as a priority. The current information, if available, is scattered online and can be difficult to find — we hope that will change," said Anne Hedgepeth, AAUW government relations manager.

**D.C. Council Committee Holds Hearing on Title IX Legislation**

On Wednesday the D.C. Council Committee on Education held a hearing on the Title IX Athletic Equity Act. This bill, which mirrors AAUW priority legislation at the federal level, requires D.C.'s public and charter K-12 schools to report the gender breakdown for student athletic participation and expenditures for sports programs on a public website. It also requires new regulations establishing grievance procedures and district- and school-based Title IX athletic coordinators and instructs the mayor to develop a strategic plan for D.C. schools to comply with Title IX. Thanks to our D.C. activists who contacted their city council members in advance of the hearing!

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**December 19, 2013**

*Sandra Burk*  
*Director of Finance*

Book Sale Account:	\$ 4,545.56
Savings Account:	2,014.88
General Account:	<u>3,405.60</u>
Total All Accounts:	\$ 9,966.04

## Annual Used Book Sale

The Used Book Sale Committee could use a few more members.

The committee reviews past book sales, divides up the tasks needed to support the sale and makes decisions on how it will be run.

Please consider volunteering if you've helped sort or sell in the past and have some ideas and time to make it work even better.

This year we will start sorting two days a week on June 26. The sale will be July 31 – August 3.

Our Used Book Sale is the way we raise funds not only to pay for our local scholarships, but also to help support the work of AAUW – research, graduate fellowships, community action grants, legal support for victims of gender discrimination and more.

Call President Sarah Caltvedt if you'd like to have a hand in running the book sale this year.

## Our Seventy-Fifth Year: Historical Tidbits

### Part V: The Eighties

**1983.** The Branch sponsored a lecture at York High School by Margaret Papandreou, Elmhurst native and First Lady of Greece.

**1987.** The Elmhurst Branch Research and Projects Endowment was established within AAUW Educational Foundation.

**1988.** 50th anniversary year. State awards for newsletter and public information, for the community intervention program, with Agent of Change award going to Pam Conrad.

### MARCH 12 MEETING

#### *Mother Jones*

A portrayal by Betsey Means

7 pm - Elmhurst Public Library

## President's Message

I hope you've all had an opportunity to read our February Branch book discussion title, Lean In, by Sheryl Sandberg. It certainly resonated with me as I thought back over my own career and some of the issues I struggled with.

As so often happens, I began to find connections in other reading I have been doing. Anna Quindlen's Lots of Candles, Plenty of Cake is a memoir and reflection on her life as a woman breaking into what had been a man's world of serious journalism (and as she notes, she only got her opportunity at the New York Times because of a lawsuit filed by other women staffers who had experienced discrimination there). Quindlen began working in the 1970s, when women thought they were "liberated," yet Sheryl Sandberg still finds it necessary and timely in 2013 to write in much the same vein about the difficult career and personal choices that women have to make and the need for men not only to be willing take on some of the burdens of the private sphere, but also to be encouraged and supported in doing so.

Going back much further, I've also been reading diaries written by my grandmother, Pauline Durfee Chapin, when she was a student at Wellesley (Class of 1908) and afterwards as she struggled to find a role for herself as an educated woman. As I shared with those of you who attended the January Branch meeting, Pauline joined the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, AAUW's predecessor organization, after graduation and served on the board of the Boston Branch. Paid work other than teaching was rare for a woman in her position at the time, but she took on a variety of volunteer jobs and pursued her hobby of wood carving until she married in 1917. In later years, civic clubs and book groups helped to satisfy her need for intellectual stimulation.

We have indeed come a long way in gaining rights and opportunities as women since Pauline joined AAUW in 1908, but Lean In reminds us that there is still much to be done to break down barriers and achieve societal equality for women and men. AAUW leads the way!

*Sarah Caltvedt, Branch President*

Note: For a snapshot of AAUW's history, go to <http://history.aauw.org/>

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Jan Alexander** joined our AAUW Branch at the invitation of Sarah Caltvedt. Jan grew up in Berkley, IL and moved to Elmhurst in 1993. She has a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction from Loyola University as well as a MS in School Administration from Northern Illinois University and a MA in Vocational and Technical Education from the University of Illinois. Jan received a BS in Elementary Education from Northern Illinois University.

For the past 13 years, Jan has been working as the Director of Research and Evaluation at Northeastern Illinois University. Before this position, she worked for 23 years as a special education teacher and principal at a private school in Lockport for children with behavioral problems.

Jan has three children; her daughter is a sophomore at the University of Illinois where she is studying finance, and her two sons are a sophomore and a junior at York High School. In what little spare time she has, Jan enjoys golfing and gardening.

We look forward to having you as part of our Branch, Jan!

**Amy Allen** returns to our branch after being an AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch member from the late 90's through 2001. During this time, she was in charge of the book sale with Kathy Wilson, and in 2001, she was one of our AAUW Educational Foundation Honorees. Due to elder care of an out-of-state parent, followed by several years of traveling with her husband, Amy discontinued her AAUW membership. After the recent death of her husband of 46 years, Amy was encouraged to rejoin AAUW through the encouragement of Darlene Van Meir and other AAUW friends.

Amy has a BS from Millikin University and a MLS from Rosary College (now called Dominican University). Upon completion of her MLS, Amy became a learning resource teacher at Jackson Junior High School in Villa Park and taught there for 20 years. In 1969, she moved to Elmhurst when her husband acquired a teaching position in elementary classroom music – Mary Hallman was a fellow music teacher with Amy's husband.

Amy enjoys reading, gardening, traveling, and attending plays and concerts. She is looking forward to renewing AAUW friendships and meeting new members.

We are happy to have you back in our branch, Amy!

**Bonnie Boerger** became a member of our branch during the Shape the Future event at the November Branch meeting. She had been a member of the Elmhurst Area Branch during the years that she had been on the faculty at Elmhurst College. She remained active in AAUW until she left her teaching position in the nursing department at Elmhurst College about 15 years ago.

Bonnie received her BSN from the University of Illinois at Chicago and her MSN from DePaul University. When she stopped teaching at Elmhurst College, she began a new career in the field of healthcare compliance. Most recently, she had been the Director of Compliance for the College of Medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She just retired from the position in May 2103.

Bonnie continues to be involved with Elmhurst College by being on the advisory board of the Center for Professional Excellence, as well as volunteering with the Center's mentoring program. She enjoys mentoring one or two students a year in the healthcare field.

When Bonnie lived in Elmhurst, she liked to bike on the Prairie Path. Now that she and her husband Earl live in Oak Brook, Bonnie has found that the Salt Creek Trail is a great place for biking. Bonnie also enjoys singing in her spare time. She has had 10 years of voice lessons and often sings at family weddings and parties.

We are happy that Sarah Caltvedt encouraged you to rejoin our branch, Bonnie. Welcome back!

## PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

Unemployment benefits are one of the best economic boosts because recipients use the benefits to pay for necessities like food and rent. Women are just as likely as men to receive unemployment insurance benefits. The Dept. of Labor found that for every dollar spent on unemployment benefits, two dollars are pumped back into the economy! Urge your representative and senators to extend emergency unemployment insurance benefits.....

Genie Urick