



Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 78, No. 7 • March 2017

March 8

In Her Own Right: Marion Mahony Griffin

Elmhurst History Museum • 7:00 pm

120 E. Park Avenue, Elmhurst, IL 60126

On Wednesday, March 8, at 7 pm, our meeting will take place at the Elmhurst History Museum, 120 E. Park Avenue, Elmhurst, where we will enjoy a private tour of the current exhibit, "In Her Own Right: Marion Mahony Griffin." And, who is Marion Mahony Griffin?

Many of us as Elmhurst residents are familiar with architect Walter Burley Griffin; but few of us know that his wife, artist and architect Marion Mahony Griffin, was the backbone of the Prairie School of Architecture. Her beautiful, detailed, uncredited renderings are those we associate with many of Frank Lloyd Wright's most famous buildings.

Griffin deserves recognition in her own right as the second woman to graduate from MIT with a degree in architecture and the first woman registered to practice architecture in Illinois. We will have the pleasure of learning about and exploring this amazing biographical exhibit with **Lance Tawzer**, Elmhurst History Museum's Curator of Exhibits.

INVITE A FRIEND. We invite and encourage members to bring a friend (or your sister, neighbor, mother) along to the History Museum for what promises to be a most interesting program.

The museum will be open just for our branch meeting that evening. It will be a unique event in that our group will be able to view the exhibit and learn, interface and converse with the curator. Please plan on attending.

Deadline: April 1, 2017!

Deadline for what, you ask? **The application deadline for our Elmhurst Branch \$3,000 Scholarship Grant Program.**

Inquiries and applications are arriving. As AAUW members, let's continue to spread the word about this valuable opportunity open to women at least 25 years old who are planning to return to school or are continuing their education. Applicants may be studying full or part time and must have completed at least 12 credit hours.

Maria Patt and I have posted flyers at many places in Elmhurst and in neighboring towns from where we hope to attract applicants. One of our applicants said she learned about the scholarship from a flyer at Panera. If you would like a flyer to post at a place you think would attract potential applicants, call Maria.

The application form for the scholarship can be found at our Elmhurst AAUW website: www.aauwelmhurst.org. --Mary Mallon, Chair, Funds Committee



BRANCH CALENDAR

March 1 - 7:00 pm
Board of Directors

Elmhurst Public Library

March 8 - 7:00 pm
Branch Program & Meeting

*In Her Own Right: Marion
Mahony Griffin*

Elmhurst History Museum

March 22 - 7:30 pm
Half the Sky Meeting

Betty LaLiberte's Home

Topic: Half the Sky NGOs

March 23 - 1:00 pm
Book Group

*The Ladies' Paradise
by Emile Zola*

Hostess: Darlene Van Meir

Leader: Anna Kinnan



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.

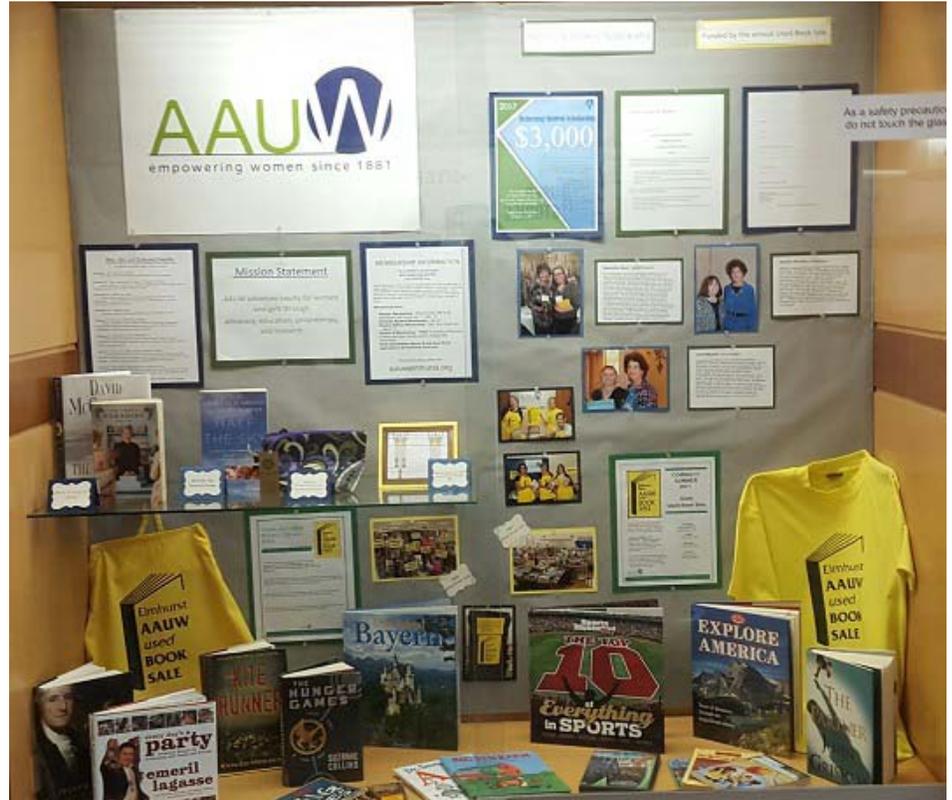
Membership

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.

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Looking Good

AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch is featured in an exhibit case at the Elmhurst Public Library. The exhibit was installed on February 20th and will remain through the month of March.

The case is located just inside the entrance to the library from the parking lot. The display consists of three areas - the AAUW mission statement with general information about membership and local programs, the Returning Student Scholarship, and the Used Book Sale.

I hope that this will generate some new interest in our branch and its activities.

Special thanks to Deb Markello and my son Alex for their assistance in putting up the display - their efforts are sincerely appreciated. I would also like to thank Cynthia Smith-Jans for the Used Book Sale yellow apron, Jennifer Jordan for the AAUW poster, Pat O'Dwyer for all of her assistance with photos, and Deb Markello for the yellow t-shirt. --*Maria Patt, Publicity*

FINANCIAL REPORT

February 17, 2017

Denise Thompson
Director of Finance

General Fund	\$ 3,724.18
Conferences Fund	2,450.44
Book Sale Fund:	<u>8,130.01</u>
Total	\$14,304.63

Reminder - Bring a Friend to the March Meeting

We have a great program planned for March at the Elmhurst Historical Museum: a private tour by curator Lance Tawzer of the exhibit *In Her Own Right: Marion Mahony Griffin*.

Do you know someone who would like to learn about local history, find out more about AAUW, and get to know some great women as well? Make plans now to invite a friend – March 8 @ 7 pm at the Elmhurst Historical Museum.

President's Message

2017 is off to a great start! Two great programs in a row! And the weather has been great for February. I'm looking forward to both continuing.

Our February program focused on the issue of domestic violence against women and children. The Family Shelter Service, located in Wheaton, provided an informative presentation, including a speaker who had lived the process of dealing with and escaping the violence. The presentation was recorded and can be seen on local television. And the Q & A session afterwards was lengthy, informative, and inspiring. We need to understand the issues so that we can also support friends and family who may need help.

Next month we will meet at the Elmhurst Historical Museum for a private tour of the exhibit on artist and architect **Marion Mahony Griffin**. This is also "invite a friend" month, so please think of someone who may find our programs and community of interesting women enjoyable, and bring her along. This is an excellent exhibit about one of the first woman architects, definitely a trailblazer, helping to break down gender stereotypes.

Gender stereotypes are one of my pet peeves. Not only that they exist without real evidence, but that they also contribute to our sense of identity. I have several children and grandchildren but I see the two littlest ones frequently, so they are my recent test case. Although we have come a long way in many respects, it's still amazing how our culture promotes certain colors and different toys and images for girls versus boys. The almost-three-year-old girl is smart and very articulate. But the focus from many in the extended family is on the princess theme and being pretty.

Now the 9-month-old boy is getting bigger and more active, he's getting trucks and cars and building things. Both parents are working to minimize the princess role model for their daughter, but it's everywhere, in movies, stores, and commercials. My granddaughter picked up on the fact that I wasn't keen on Sleeping Beauty and asked me why I didn't like her, even though she did. I told her it's not that I dislike her, just that she doesn't do anything but sleep. She thought about it and agreed some of the newer movie characters were better, more active. So, Sleeping Beauty got shelved. We're evolving, but it takes effort to prevent the slide backwards.

And there are lots of concerns on losing ground in today's political climate. It's sometimes tough to determine the issues on which to focus. Whatever issue is important to you, whether it's to continue improving or to not lose ground, follow that issue and keep in contact with legislators as necessary. Speak up, ask for support from this community, get involved. Send letters or postcards to your elected officials. Call or email or stop by their offices. **Don't keep quiet.**

We need to stay strong and resist efforts to hold us back. We **will** continue in 2017 to strive to succeed in our mission of impacting gender equity, making a difference for women and girls.

Jan Summers
Branch President

New Member Dues Discount

Did you know that any new member who joins our AAUW branch after March 15 this year won't have to pay dues again until June 2018? It's a great time to introduce new women to AAUW!



The February meeting featured two speakers from Family Shelter Service, Lauren DeSimone, Annual Giving Coordinator (top photo-left) and Lisa Fasano (top photo-right) client of the agency and member of the Speaker's Bureau. Thanks to Sarah Aldred-Fleege for bringing a group of her students from Chamberlin College of Nursing (lower-right).

Start Smart/Work Smart Interested in Becoming an AAUW Salary Negotiation Facilitator?

If so, then sign up for an AAUW online workshop and learn to help teach women how to negotiate their salaries, and help close the gender pay gap, which for Illinois women overall in 2016 is at 79.2%.

Learn how to get involved by watching the Start Smart/Work Smart video, and then sign up for a training webinar (which is free for AAUW members). The webinar provides information about the gender pay gap, and guides you through the importance of negotiation skills, presentation methods, as well as collaboration, facilitation and speaking skills. Afterward, you can maintain your certification by conducting one workshop as a facilitator and attending one refresher webinar each year.

So, register today for the March AAUW Start Smart/Work Smart webinars scheduled for Thurs., March 2nd from 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. ET or Wed., March 15th from 4–5:30 p.m. ET at: <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/salary-negotiation-workshops/facilitator/>. If you cannot make one of the March sessions, try for April.

Cheers, *Denise Dean*

Website Revamp

Maria Patt, our Communications Director, has made some improvements to our Branch website that we invite you to check out. “Upcoming Programs” are now listed on the Home Page along with other Branch activities such as the Book Club, Half the Sky, the Used Book Sale and the Returning Student Scholarship.

The intent is to show at a glance our Branch activities, whether it be for a member or someone interested in joining AAUW.

Other areas, including monthly Newsletters, the Photo Gallery, and the Returning Student Scholar recipients, have been updated.

Any feedback on the website is greatly appreciated.