



Elmhurst Area Branch News

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October Branch Meeting Program

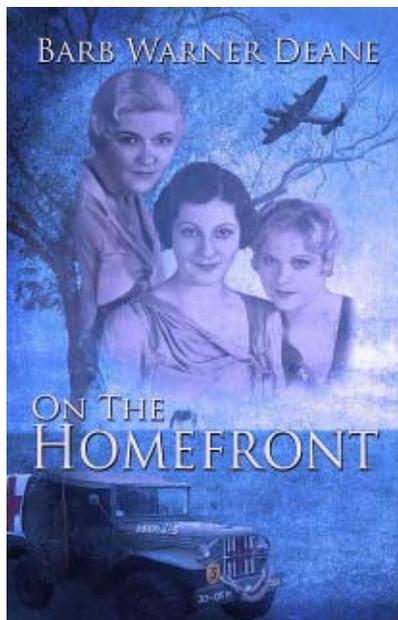
"Women of World War II: On the Front Lines and the Home Front"

Author Barb Warner Deane

Wednesday, October 11, 2017, 7:00pm, Elmhurst Public Library

Our October Meeting speaker will be Elmhurst author, Barb Warner Deane, who will speak to us about her recently published book, On the Homefront. It is a World War II historical fiction novel set on the American home front and the front lines during the World War II. The main character joins the American Red Cross Clubmobile program to serve on the front lines. In order to be eligible for the Clubmobile program women had to be a least 25 years of age, college-educated, in good physical shape, and personable. After training at American University in Washington, D.C., they were sent to the front lines.

American women took on many new roles during World War II, both in the military and as civilians. Beyond Rosie the Riveter and the Atomic Girls, women made incredible contributions to the war effort. One of the civilian avenues was through the American Clubmobile program which was essentially a mobile club featuring doughnuts, coffee, and good old American girl-next-door friendliness — all served up at the front lines, wherever the troops were to be found.



Barb will present her program on the research and writing of her book and on the Clubmobile Program in particular, as well as on other areas in which women took on new and important roles during WWII. At the conclusion of her presentation she will take questions and then there will be a book-signing with her book, On the Homefront, available for purchase. You can read more about the book at Barb's website — www.barbwarnerdeane.com.



BRANCH CALENDAR

October 11 - 7:00 pm
Monthly Branch Meeting
Elmhurst Public Meeting

October 15 - 3:00 pm
Half the Sky Outing
"Unveiled" Performance - COD

October 19
Chicago Foundation for Women Conference
Hyatt Regency Chicago

October 21
AAUW-Illinois Fall Conference Northern Illinois Branches
9am - 12:00 noon
IIT Rice Campus

October 26
Book Discussion Group
The Story of San Michele
by Axel Munthe
Hostess: Lois Jones
Leaders: Lois Jones and Mary Haldman

October 26 - 6:30 pm
Adelante! Book Discussion
Webinar - 6:30 pm
A Disability History of the U.S.
by Kim E. Nielsen
Register at www.aauw.org

October 26 - 7:00 pm
Status of ERA in Illinois
Elmhurst Public Library



AAUW Hotline 1-800-326-2289
Email: info@aauwelhurst.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.

ELMHURST AREA BRANCH NEWS is published ten times a year (July/August through May) by the American Association of University Women - Elmhurst Area Branch.

Hear Illinois NOW VP of Communications Discuss Status of the ERA in Illinois

Our members have been invited to join the League of Women Voters of Elmhurst on Thursday, **October 26th at 7:00 pm at the Elmhurst Public Library** to hear Illinois NOW Vice President of Communications, Michelle Fadeley, present information on the ERA coalition in Illinois and its statewide strategy to secure Illinois as the 37th of the 38 states needed to ratify this amendment to the Constitution.

The ERA proposes that “equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the US or by any state on account of sex.” Passed by both branches of Congress in 1972, the ERA needs 3/4 of the states (38) for it to be ratified and added to the US Constitution.

The League of Women Voters of Illinois is part of ERA Illinois working for ratification in Illinois. For that to occur, there must be a 3/5 majority vote of support in both the Illinois House and the Illinois Senate.

Let’s see how we can contribute to the ERA’s ratification. Hope to see you all there. – Denise Dean.

Hats Off

More donations: A heartfelt thank you to Mary Eleanor Wall and Janet Hodge for their generous donations to AAUW.

Betty Laliberte is looking for ideas about Diversity and Inclusion to share with the branch. Any Ideas? Please email her at bettylaliberte2007@gmail.com

Just One thought from the AAUW website:

Jan Summers has been talking about this.

Denise Dean has been talking about this.

Together we stand stronger.

Join Two-Minute Activist Mobile today!

Members of **AAUW’s Action Network** receive urgent e-mail notices when their advocacy is needed most and spring to action. Last year, Two-Minute Activists sent over 200,000 messages to their members of Congress, ensuring our mission of gender equity was heard in the halls of power.

Now, we are thrilled to announce the next step in AAUW advocacy: Two-Minute Activist Mobile.

This exciting new tool will allow AAUW to send more timely and targeted communication straight to your cell phone via text message. That means we can provide you with more strategic opportunities to take action when your advocacy can make the difference.

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/two-minute-activist-mobile/>

FINANCIAL REPORT September 22, 2017

*Denise Thompson
Director of Finance*

General Fund	\$ 4,449.88
Conferences Fund	939.01
Book Sale Fund:	<u>17,382.45</u>
Total	\$23,771.34

President's Message

Our September Supper was a great success, with 50% of our members attending. Our new Yearbook and Directory is out and it includes the exciting 2017-2018 program schedule lined up by our Program VPs, Pat O'Dwyer and Genie Urick. The October program looks interesting with one of our new branch members, Barbara Deane, discussing her book, [On the Homefront](#).

In addition to our great program schedule, we're continuing our Study Groups / Interest Groups of Half the Sky (focusing on International Issues) and the monthly, afternoon Book Group. We've added a new book group called Adelante! t's a book club focused on women authors, coordinated by AAUW National. I missed the webinar with the author in September but plan to listen to the recording. Check out the planned reading list at <http://www.aauw.org/resource/adelante-book-of-the-month-club/>. The October book is [A Disability History of the United States](#) by Kim E. Nielsen, Ph.D. and the webinar with the author is scheduled for October 26th. If you're interested in joining this group, let me know.

On Sept. 19th I joined several of our branch members and other AAUW branches to see an all-female cast version of **The Taming of the Shrew** at Navy Pier. Our joint branch effort was to celebrate the 19th amendment by planning joint activities on the 19th of each month. This version of the play was set in 1919, with a mix of pro- and not-so-supportive suffragettes, acting in a dress rehearsal of a real production of Shakespeare's play, on the day of the 19th amendment's passage. It was truly awesome to see the women evolve in their thinking, especially as they spoke some truly misogynistic lines as written by Shakespeare. Fantastic kickoff to our celebration plans over the next couple of years. If you have an idea for an activity that Elmhurst can host or sponsor on the 19th of any month ahead, let me know. We are looking at an event at the Chicago Foundation for Women on October 19th.

As you know, our annual Used Book Sale was an awesome success! To establish the distribution of our proceeds, The AAUW Funds Committee presents its recommendation to our Board for a vote. The final recommendation of the Board will then be presented to our membership for approval at the Branch Meeting in November. I hope you can attend. The Board recommendation is included in this newsletter.

At the September Supper, I presented updates about what I learned at the AAUW National Convention. I was so inspired to be an active participant in an admirable mission with AAUW to advance equity for women and girls through **advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research**. Our branch does the Used Book Sale as our method of community philanthropy. We plan to use that money for local scholarships to support education for women and girls. We also support advocacy and research through contributions to AAUW National.

I'm proud to a part of this branch and this national organization. We will continue to strive to succeed in our mission of impacting gender equity, making a difference for women and girls.

Jan Summers
Branch President

On Sept. 22nd, the US Dept. of Education officially rescinded existing guidance on how schools should handle sexual assaults under Title IX, and formally withdrew the Obama administration's "dear colleague letter" that SecEd DeVos criticized as "going too far." Please read AAUW CEO Kim Churches' statement. – Denise Dean

Department of Education Rescinds Crucial Title IX Guidance

WASHINGTON — American Association of University Women (AAUW) Chief Executive Officer Kim Churches issued the following statement responding to Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos' announcement concerning interim Title IX policy at the Department of Education.

"Today's announcement confirms our suspicions: the U.S. Department of Education's intent is to roll back critical civil rights protections for students.

AAUW is disappointed that the Department of Education has withdrawn the 2011 Dear Colleague Letter on Sexual Violence as well as the 2014 Questions and Answers on Title IX and Sexual Violence. Both were critical guidance tools schools requested to clarify their responsibilities under Title IX when responding to sexual violence. In their place, a new, less robust Questions and Answers guidance document is to be used. This is a blatant rollback from the strong and much-needed guidance that was in place. This ever-changing landscape could potentially sow confusion for schools, administrators and staff, students, parents, and communities.

The Department of Education should have heeded the comments submitted this week—including more than 10,000 from AAUW advocates—urging them to protect Title IX. The department's willingness to ignore the overwhelming grassroots to national support for Title IX, its regulations, and prior guidance is proof that the agenda was not to listen and take into account input from the community but rather to move forward with a predetermined plan of action.

AAUW looks forward to weighing in as the Department of Education engages in its stated rule-making process. In the meantime we call on schools to continue to uphold students' civil rights. AAUW stands with survivors and will vigorously defend Title IX and the protections it affords all students."

<http://www.aauw.org/article/doe-rescinds-crucial-title-ix-guidance/>

Plan Ahead: Join Half the Sky to see "Unveiled" at COD

[Unveiled: A One Woman Play by Rohina Malik](#) Sunday, October 15, 3 pm at the College of DuPage Playhouse Theatre. Tickets are \$35 (\$45 if you want to sit on the stage at a cabaret table.)

"Racism. Hate crimes. Love. Islam. Culture. Language. Life. Muslim women in a post 9/11 world serve tea and uncover what lies beneath the veil in this critically acclaimed one-woman show. "Rohina Malik, the hugely talented writer-actress... is a remarkable new theatrical voice in Chicago. In her rich, upbeat and very enjoyable 70-minute collection, Malik gives voice to characters from whom we hear far too little in the theater." -Chris Jones, *Chicago Tribune*."

Above information from <http://www.atthemac.org/events/unveiled-one-woman-play-rohina-malik/>



Meet Our New Members

Linda Fischer is a retired teacher who taught in Bellwood for thirty two years and is presently an instructor at Concordia College. Her students are those pursuing graduate degrees in reading.

Linda is an Elmhurst resident, married with two daughters ages 25 and 30. In her spare time Linda enjoys gardening, reading and needlework. She has a friend in the AAUW Downers Grove branch and it was our Elmhurst book sale that got her attention and inspired her to join us.

Brenda McNamara is an Elmhurst resident who is an attorney, who plans to use her skills to address women's empowerment issues. She is married with three sons, ages 21, 19 and 17.

Brenda is an avid follower of The Daily Method exercise regimen, enjoys yoga, painting, travel, golf, tennis and hiking. She has joined AAUW as she felt it was time to get involved and that AAUW would "light me up."

Scenes from September

The September Supper drew a great crowd. Here President Jan Summers, shares her experiences and stories from the AAUW National Convention which she attended in Washington, D.C. this past June.



Branch Outing. *Members of the Elmhurst Branch attended a performance of "Taming of the Shrew" at Chicago Shakespeare Theater on September 19th. They joined members from other AAUW groups, including Downers Grove and AAUW Northwest Suburban Illinois. Thanks to Cindy Grau for organizing the outing.*

Chicago Foundation For Women

“Activate Your Power” Symposium

October 19, 2017 - Hyatt Regency Hotel - Chicago

9:00-9:30 am Registration & Breakfast

9:30-11:00 am Symposium - No charge; register at www.cfw.org/32nd-annual-luncheon-morning-symposium-register/

12:00 - 1:30 pm Luncheon with speakers Alicia Garza and Dolores Huerta - \$150 per person; register at www.cfw.org/32nd-annual-luncheon-register/

As we witness a groundswell of women seeking ways to activate, get involved and make change, how can we direct our efforts toward the issues that matter most? What actions can we take to improve our communities, workplaces and governments?

Join the Chicago Foundation for Women for a conversation with a diverse group of activists and leaders dedicated to building the power of a wide spectrum of women and girls throughout our region. Through small discussion groups, you'll connect with others committed to ending gender bias, so that you leave informed, inspired and energized.

Please note that space is limited and registration is required; separate registration is required to attend the luncheon.

WOMEN + POLITICS



State Senator Pamela J. Althoff has served as a member of the Illinois State Senate since March 2003, representing the 32nd District in McHenry County. She serves as the Senate Republican Caucus Chair and is a member of the Human Trafficking Task Force.



State Senator Toi Hutchinson represents the 40th District, which includes the south suburbs and portions of Kankakee and Grundy counties. She has passed laws that protect women, children, seniors and people with disabilities, including safeguarding the rights of pregnant women in the workforce, mandating the immediate testing of rape kits and strengthening anti-cyberstalking laws.

WOMEN + ACTIVISM



Barbara Engel co-founded the Chicago Sexual Assault Services Network and the Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network. Engel co-authored model sexual assault legislation, and is a member of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority where she serves as a public voice for victim services issues.



Alyxandra Goodwin works as an activist and writer, using communication and media to advance movements for justice. She is currently a research analyst with the Action Center on Race & the Economy, and has written for Black Youth Project 100

WOMEN + FAITH



Eman Hassaballa Aly is a social worker and public health community educator. Eman recently joined the Muslim Leadership Initiative funded by the Shalom-Hartman Institute. She spoke at the Women's March on Chicago in January and is currently working on Jewish-Muslim relations in Chicago.



Rabbi Shoshanah Conover is an associate rabbi at Temple Sholom of Chicago. Her love of the Jewish people and Jewish texts as well as a strong commitment to social justice led her to rabbinical school. She serves as pastoral counselor and was one of the featured speakers at the Women's March on Chicago.