



Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 79, No. 5 • January 2018

“Equal Means Equal” Documentary and Discussion

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Elmhurst Public Library – 6:30 PM – *Please note early start time.*

The documentary film, “Equal Means Equal,” will be shown at the January meeting followed by discussion led by Branch President, Jan Summers, and Director of Public Policy, Denise Dean.

The film is an unflinching look at how women are treated in the United States today. By following both real life stories and precedent-setting legal cases, director Kamala Lopez discovers how outdated and discriminatory attitudes inform and influence seemingly disparate issues, from workplace matters to domestic violence, rape and sexual assault to the foster care system, the healthcare system and the legal system. She also reveals the inadequacy of present laws in place that claim to protect women, ultimately presenting a compelling and persuasive argument for the urgency of ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment. This film is a groundbreaking exploration of gender inequality featuring women’s rights activists, leaders, and survivors. A brutal expose of a broken system, the film reignites the dialogue on full legal equality for all Americans.

The issues focused on in this film could not be more current with the almost daily news reports of sexual harassment. We invite all members to join us, and to bring a guest, for a most interesting and timely meeting and discussion. Please expect to be exposed to new learning, ideas, facts perspectives and then listening and sharing your viewpoints during the discussion.

Holiday Party Gratitude

Our December Holiday Party was the perfect beginning to the seasonal celebrations and Janet Hodge’s condo was the perfect place. We thank Janet, for her welcoming hospitality; we thank Les Caltvedt for sharing his keyboard skills and giving us holiday music and a sing-along; and we thank all the members who attended for their delicious appetizers and desserts, their smiles and conversations, and for our AAUW friendships whether they be long-standing or brand new. It was a beautiful evening with friends! *See pages 5&6 for photos.*



BRANCH CALENDAR

January 3 - 7:00 pm
Board of Directors
Elmhurst Public Library

January 10 - 6:30 pm
Monthly Branch Meeting
“Equal Means Equal”
Elmhurst Public Library

January 13
Dare to Dream
College of DuPage

January 23 - 7:30 pm
Half the Sky
Perry Doubt’s House

January 25 - 1:00 pm
Book Discussion Group
Small Great Things
by Jodi Piccoult
Hostess Marcia Goltermann
Leader: Peggy Fox



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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FINANCIAL REPORT

December 15, 2017

Denise Thompson
Director of Finance

General Fund	\$ 4302.88
Travel Fund	1529.01
Book Sale Fund:	<u>10690.61</u>
Total	\$16522.50

Welcome New Member

Meet our new member, Barbara Hunter.

Barbara is a resident of Oak Brook, where she and her husband Cottrell have lived for five years. Barbara attended Northwestern University where she earned a B.A, M.A. and PhD in English. Barbara also has a J.D. from Northwestern school of law. She is a retired professor of English.

Barbara’s interests include cooking Italian and vegetarian dishes, painting, attending opera and theater. She has recently been reading Scottish and English mysteries.

Barbara has joined AAUW because as she states “ I was looking for a group of like minded women.”

Welcome Barbara!

We want to share the news of the passing of 50 + member Ann Beyer. Ann has been a resident of Penny Farms, Florida. Our thoughts are with her family.

Kudos from National!

“Well done, Elmhurst branch! This month we want to spotlight the Elmhurst Area (IL) Branch leadership, who were able to get 100 percent of their members to renew for fiscal year 2018.

“When asked what contributed to their success, Branch Finance Officer Denise Thompson said, ‘We make timely renewals a priority. [We] work diligently toward achieving on-time renewals with regular reminders and make phone calls to encourage members to renew. Our members respond well, appreciate our programming, and believe that we fill an important role in our community.’ Well done, Elmhurst Branch!”

Thank you members! Receiving our renewals in a timely manner enhances our ability to plan financially, create programming and member events. We will work , with your assistance to reach this goal annually.

Thanks again,
Denise (Thompson)
Deb (Markello)
Jennifer (Jordan)

Elmhurst Branch Returning Scholar Scholarship Search Begins

Hope all of you had personally satisfying, peaceful and fun holidays. With the New Year comes our Branch’s annual search for two deserving returning scholars. As you may remember, \$6,000 has been allocated for two \$3,000 Returning Scholar scholarships.

The Funds Committee will meet in January to again prepare and then carry out plans to promote the Returning Scholar Scholarship Program. We’re open to new ideas and ways to enhance our Branch’s past promotional efforts. Give me or anyone on the Funds Committee (Betsy Aldred, Elaine Davison, Jan Summers and Denise Thompson) a call with your suggestions. Maria Patt is will again lend her expertise in communications. All ideas are welcome.

The selection of the scholarship recipient will take place in April, 2018 by the Funds Committee.

Mary Mallon
Funds Committee Chair
mary.mallon@comcast.net
630-290-8630

HALF THE SKY GROUP

Half the Sky will meet in Perry Doubt's home on the fourth Tuesday- January 23, 2018 at 7:30. The group will view two Ted Talks and discuss Syrian women refugees.

Planning ahead: Note the change in our meeting day for FEBRUARY so that Half the Sky can attend one of the films being shown at the College of DuPage as part of Global Flicks. All AAUW members are invited to join us:

SWEET BEAN (JAPAN)

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 1:30pm or 7:30pm

The manager of a pancake stall finds himself confronted with an odd but sympathetic elderly woman looking for work.

COD's Global Flicks is a series of films that is made available free of charge to the public. Following is the complete schedule for 2018. A discussion session is held after the film is shown.

2/7 - The Salesman – 1:30 & 7:30 pm shows	2/28 – Sweet Bean – 1:30 & 7:30 pm
2/14 – Like Cotton Twines – 1:30 & 7:30 pm	3/7 – Neruda – 1:30 pm & 7:30 pm
2/21 – Monsoon – 1:30 & 7:30 pm	3/14 – Sarah's Key – 1:30 & 7:30 pm

Dare to Dream: Get Educated! - 10th Annual Conference

The Dare to Dream: Get Educated! organization works with middle school and high school Latinas to encourage and support their efforts to graduate from high school, to encourage college enrollment, and to introduce them to college and career role models. Saturday, January 13, 2018 will mark the milestone of the 10th annual one day Dare to Dream Conference!

The idea for Dare to Dream: Get Educated! began in 2007 when two of our branch members, Connie Baker and Dorothy Valintis, attended that year's AAUW National Conference and met a group of women from California who had started a similar program. Inspired by these women and the results of their program, Connie and Dorothy brought the idea back to our branch, and invited AAUW women in the Lombard, Wheaton-Glen Ellyn, and Downers Grove Area Branches to join with them to explore implementing such a conference in DuPage County. Aided by generous grants from AAUW National, AAUW Illinois, and the four participating branches, the first conference took place at Elmhurst College in April, 2009. Many of our branch members were instrumental in laying the groundwork and volunteering. That original conference began with 7 school districts and 105 girls.

Since that time, the one day conference has grown steadily each year. The conference has moved from Elmhurst College to College of DuPage, with the opening session held in the Belushi Performance Hall at the McAninch Arts Center and every seat filled with 800 girls, moms, teachers and volunteers!

Dare to Dream: Get Educated! works on initiatives that aid young Latina students in overcoming obstacles by hosting two annual conferences (Dare to Dream, and an annual STEM conference at Fermilab), creating financial aid scholarships, and developing family-based programming.

The Dare to Dream Conference is only one day in the lives of these girls, but it is a powerful day with lingering effects. Additional follow up activities take place in some of the schools the girls attend—study groups, clubs, aggressive counseling and advising. In 2013, the first class of Dare to Dream alumnae graduated from high school. At West Leyden High School, where John Back had been counseling the D2D girls, he estimated that 20 of the 22 girls who attended the conference had applied to 4 year colleges!

The AAUW Elmhurst branch continues to support Dare to Dream: Get Educated!, with those who volunteer from our branch, a yearly donation from the budget, and in recent years, a \$1,000 named college scholarship from proceeds of the Used Book Sale.

If you would like more information about the organization, please contact Jennifer Jordan (Jordan-Jennifer@att.net) or see www.latinconference.org. A donation form for Dare to Dream included in this newsletter.

President's Message

Our annual Holiday Party was a social success! Delicious and abundant food, brought by our members, at the lovely and festively decorated home of Janet Hodge. The turnout was great, yet Janet's home handled the crowd well. Everyone was in a festive spirit, with music by Les Caltvedt, and even a sing-along. Warming us up for the holidays ahead.

I hope your other holiday gatherings were as successful. If you traveled, I hope the logistics of the trip were "uneventful", as I always hope during my travels. Unfortunately, the week before Christmas there were two national travel "disasters", the Amtrak derailing and the power outage in Atlanta airport for 11 hours. I can't imagine either experience and wish the best for those who were there. So much of what I see in the news, from wildfires to politics, pains me. Yet I'm grateful and fortunate that I and my family are doing well. I'm trying to practice gratitude and kindness to others, especially during the Holiday season and the New Year.

If you stayed home, received visitors, or attended other parties, I hope they all were a social success as well. No matter your beliefs and traditions, this is a time of year we try to connect with friends and family. Hopefully you stayed away from talking about politics which is a firm rule at our family gatherings. As we enter the New Year 2018, I want to reinforce those connections and expand my circle of friends and community, including my AAUW community which inspires me and is a great support system when times are tough.

We will kick off the New Year with our January program, viewing the documentary Equal Means Equal, loaned to us by AAUW-IL Gender Equity Fund. It's a powerful, impactful film that I feel is truly important at this point in our efforts to achieve real gender equity. We need to understand the issues, accept the facts, and absorb the effect of the misogyny and sexism we face, including the legal issues we have as women. We will discuss key points afterwards, facilitated by Denise Dean and me. As this is a packed program, we will start at 6:30 pm. Please bring any feminist friends with you.

And in February we will have a historic dramatization of Amelia Earhart. It's important to understand what drove the pioneering women, so we remember how far we've come, even if we have a way to go.

The continuing news about various celebrities, politicians, and powerful men, who have been finally exposed for their abuses, ranging from verbal harassment, to groping, to sexual assault is very disturbing. All of it crosses the line, but some are so bad and long-standing, it's depressing that it took so long for these women to be heard. Recently my mother asked me if I ever encountered any harassment. I replied yes, and gave her a couple examples. #MeToo. Although it's a tough conversation to have with your mother after 40 years of silence, it's a great example of how bringing it out in the open can make it a part of the national conversation. And release some of the emotions. Now we just have to change the power dynamic by getting more women into power. Good goal for the New Year!

Jan Summers,
Branch President

Deck the Halls: It's the 2017 AAUW Holiday Party!





INTERNATIONAL AND DIVERSITY ASPECTS OF AAUW

Did You Know. . .

1. With all the news and talk these days about BITCOIN, an AAUW International Fellow is using monetary technology for the betterment of women!

Joyce Kim (2003–04 Selected Professions fellow) left her career as a lawyer to develop Stellar, a decentralized protocol for sending and receiving money. Since its development, Stellar’s low-to-no-cost infrastructure has translated into significant savings for immigrants and those in the developing world in particular. In its first pilot operation, which included six million transactions, Stellar saved end users more than \$150 million in fees when compared to Western Union. Essentially, Kim notes, what Stellar provides is an opportunity for people to “[keep] more money in communities so that [they] can invest more into the well-being of their families.” Through her work Kim is using technology to make the world a better place.



See more at:

<https://www.aauw.org/2017/03/06/inspiring-women-international-womens-day/>



2. AAUW has a representative at the United Nations? YES , Gloria Blackwell, and two young women also serve. To learn more about Gloria Blackwell’s role and about other AAUW work at the UN, check out this link: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/global-connections/international-coalitions/united-nations/>



Help Dare to Dream!

Dare to Dream: Get Educated! is a one-day conference for Latina middle school girls and their mothers to empower the dream of education. Our **10th** annual conference will take place at College of DuPage on January 13, 2018. Each conference focuses on the personal, the professional and the financial value of education in general, and higher education in particular. Both the girls and their mothers attend workshops on various topics such as: careers, high school and college campus life, making choices, navigating the U.S. school system, health and family life.

Dare to Dream is made possible by the DuPage Foundation, College of DuPage and by AAUW branches in the Arlington Heights, Downers Grove, Elmhurst, Lombard, Schaumburg, and Wheaton-Glen Ellyn areas, working together with DuPage middle schools and successful Latina business and professional women, who serve as Dare to Dream board members, conference presenters, and role models.

Your generosity will help us to encourage Latina girls of DuPage County to dare to dream and to seek the education that will turn that dream into reality.

This year we are also continuing a program to award multiple \$1,000 scholarships to girls who attended the Dare to Dream: Get Educated! conference in 2014 and who will be entering an accredited college, university, or vocational program for the fall of 2018.

Thank you for your support! Donors will be acknowledged in the 2018 conference program.

Conference Sponsor:

Yes! I would like to contribute \$_____ to help sponsor the 2018 Dare to Dream Conference. A *tax deductible donation of \$55.00 will support the attendance of one girl to the conference. However, any amount will be appreciated.*

Scholarship Donation:

Yes! I would like to contribute \$_____ for the scholarship program. *A contribution of \$1,000 or more allows you to create a named scholarship for a Dare to Dream Alumna. Donations in lesser amounts will be pooled and awarded in \$1,000 increments for scholarships. All donations go directly to the scholarships; they will not be used for the costs to administer the scholarship program.*

Total Amount: \$_____

My check, payable to **Dare to Dream: Get Educated!** is enclosed.

I prefer to charge my contribution to my _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ Discover

Card Number _____ Expiration Date ____/____/____ CVV _____

Authorized Signature _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City/State _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please mail to: Dare to Dream: Get Educated! PO Box 328, Elmhurst, IL 60126

Dare to Dream: Get Educated! is a recognized 501(c)(3) organization (EIN 27-1778698)