



# Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 79, No. 10 • May 2018

## Elmhurst Branch's 2018 Scholarship Winners

**Suzanne Oddo** and **Robyn-Leigh Zaras** were chosen this year to receive our Elmhurst Branch's Returning Scholar \$3,000 scholarships.

Both women will be our guests at the Spring Supper on May 9 where many of you will have an opportunity to meet them and hear their personal and educational stories.

In addition, **Ariana Nava** was the winner of our Elmhurst Branch's Dare to Dream \$1,000 scholarship.

Suzanne has a B.A. in Nursing from Lewis University and 12 years of comprehensive nursing experience. She is enrolled in the Master of Science in Nursing program at Olivet Nazarene University with the expectation of receiving her degree in March 2020.

Robyn received her B.A. in Management from Benedictine University and has been an administrative professional for the past 15 years with an academic and career background in accounting. She is presently enrolled in the Master of Science in Accounting at Benedictine University with graduation expected in March 2019.

Ariana will graduate next month from Proviso Math and Science Academy and attend Northern Illinois University majoring in Hospitality and Tourism Management.

Mary Mallon, Chair  
Funds Committee

## Remember to Vote

Important changes to the AAUW national by-laws are currently under consideration. Vote between now and June 9 at 9 pm Eastern Time.

See the April issue of Outlook magazine for a details on the three proposed changes to the by-laws and voting procedures.

The easiest way to vote is by going online at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and clicking on the VoteNow link. You will need your membership number and the Pin number that appears on the back cover of the April Outlook.

*Join the celebration!*

**MAY SUPPER**

**Wednesday, May 9, 2018**  
**Roberto's Ristorante**  
483 Spring Road

5:30pm: Drinks & Conversation  
6:30pm: Dinner  
\$30.00 per person

Reservations Due to Pat O'Dwyer  
by May 4. Send check with form  
attached to this newsletter.





## BRANCH CALENDAR

**May 2 - 6:30 pm**  
**Board of Directors Meeting & Dinner**  
*Jan Summers' Home*

**May 9 - 5:30 pm**  
**Branch Meeting**  
**May Supper**  
Roberto's Ristorante

**May 22 - 7:30 pm**  
**Half the Sky Group**  
*Betty Laliberte's Home*

**June 7 - 6:00 pm**  
**Book Group Supper**  
**"The House of Mirth"**  
**by Edith Wharton**  
Hostess Carol Rounds  
Leader: Sherall Carson



*Marilyn Thompson, Sally Allen and Virginia Curran enjoy a moment at the 50 year member gathering hosted at Virginia's home on March 9.*



**AAUW Hotline 1-800-326-2289**  
**Email: [info@aauwelmhurst.org](mailto: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.

**AAUWFUNDS**

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.

## Meet Our New Members

We welcome back former member **Amina Yusef**. Amina lives in Oak Brook, is widowed, has three children and ten grandchildren, whom she thoroughly enjoys. When asked what else she likes to spend her time doing, Amina enthusiastically replied, "I love to volunteer- just call me for anything!" She also stated that she would love to join others on outings such as plays, movies, museums and even boat rides. As she says - just call her!

And with the book sale preparations just around the corner- we certainly will!

**Shirley Myers** comes to us with an admirable history of community service. She had a lengthy tenure as the chairperson of the Elmhurst Senior Commission, is a past President of the American Legion and the Elmhurst Symphony and was very active in implementation of various YMCA programs.

She also worked at The Children's Home and Aid Society and Elmhurst College. For many years she worked along side her husband Tom at their family real estate company. Shirley also has two sons.

**Rose Riccio** has been a resident of Oak Brook Terrace for over four years and upon the recommendation of a friend who is an AAUW Naperville member, she decided to explore membership in our branch. Rose has an MBA and a background in nonprofit, small business as well as Fortune 500 companies. She has worked in I.T., professional organizing and as a membership director.

Rose greatly enjoys interacting with children of all ages, is a reader of fiction and non fiction, loves long outdoor walks and is a member of Morton Arboretum. She also is an avid listener of public radio and podcasts.

### ATTENTION MEMBERS

By this time, everyone who is a paying member, should have received renewal invoices, by email or standard mail. As previously stated, please renew in a timely manner. National has expressed a desire to have branch renewals in as soon as possible, likely, so as to enable financial planning on both a National and branch level.

Last year we were lauded for our expedience in renewing our memberships, and truly would like to make this an annual accomplishment. Thank you for your assistance in reaching this goal

### FINANCIAL REPORT

April 29, 2018

*Denise Thompson*  
*Director of Finance*

General Fund	\$ 4,746.63
Conf/Travel F	1,529.01
Book Sale Fund:	<u>10,663.52</u>
 Total	 \$16,939.16

### *Half the Sky . . .*

HALF the Sky meeting at Betty Laliberte's home May 22, 2018 7pm continuing our research on refugees.

Also consider:

**Syria: War, Refugees & the Humanitarian Crisis. What to Know & How to Help** Sponsored by Progressives for Change

**Date & Time** Mon, May 14, 2018 7:00 PM – 8:45 PM CDT

**Location** First United Methodist Church 232 S. York Rd. Elmhurst, IL 60126

Learn more:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/syria-war-refugees-the-humanitarian-crisis-what-to-know-how-to-help-tickets-45519778884>

## President's Message

We're heading into the final month of our Elmhurst Area Branch program year. It's been a great set of programs arranged by Pat O'Dwyer and Genie Urick. In April, the speaker Maggie Boynton from World Relief Services -Dupage/Aurora was not only energetic and entertaining, she taught us a lot of the rigors of the refugee process and the issues they face. She also reminded us that we can help by volunteering or donating.

The attendance at the April event was outstanding which was appreciated during our Annual meeting after the program. We approved the incoming slate of officers, approved the revised Bylaws and Policies, and approved the new budget. And there was lots of discussion on related topics. Thanks for your participation! It was energizing!

In April, our Half the Sky Interest Group reviewed several books focused on the Syrian civil war and refugee crisis. It was an emotional experience to get such insight into the plight of these people as they leave their homes due to impossible situations and as they try to escape to safety and try to rebuild their lives. So many our women, many with kids, and the world is not resolving this situation. I don't know the answer, but again support of organizations like World Relief Services and UNHRC is something we can do.

On a more fun note, in May we will have our May Supper at Roberto's – remember it's a change in venue. Get your reservation in ASAP if you haven't already. You'll get to meet our TWO scholarship winners, and our incoming Board of Directors. I'll give an update from the AAUW-IL convention. And we'll all enjoy the social camaraderie of our AAUW community.

I love AAUW because it is an advocacy organization for women's issues and I passionately support the mission. Voting has already opened at AAUW National on three amendments to the Bylaws. I'm a big advocate for dropping the degree requirement so that women like Lily Ledbetter and some of my feminist friends, who don't have degrees, could join. So, I voted Yes on the third amendment. Please consider that in your voting, which ends in June online.

Other reminders, please renew your membership as soon as you can. Renewals of \$88 are due by June 30<sup>th</sup>. You can renew online or give a check to Denise Thompson. And of course, our Used Book Sale Committee has kicked off. Please consider volunteering at the sorting days or at the sale Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>.

As I'm sure you've heard, the ERA passed the Illinois Senate and it is now headed for the House. There is a planned Lobby Day on May 8th and some of us are headed there by train. Whether or not you can attend any of these lobbying events or other protest marches that are sure to happen, please find a way to make your voice and opinion heard by our politicians.

As this membership year ends, I've reflected on my time as President of the AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch for the last three years. I very much enjoyed the role and the camaraderie of the members. Going forward, I plan to stay active but am also looking at other roles and new phases in my life, especially in my new home town Aurora. I still hope to see you, not only at the branch meetings, but at other events advocating for gender equity.

Jan Summers, Branch President

# ERA Illinois 2018

Denise Dean

Jane Jegerski and I visited Senator Chris Nybo during our April 10<sup>th</sup> ERA Lobby Day visit to the Illinois Senate. The next day, when the ERA resolution SJRCA4 was put before the Senate, both Senators Nybo and Cullerton voted YES – and it passed 43-12. So exciting!

A call of thanks to your senator would be great. Senator Nybo: 630-969-0990 and Senator Cullerton: 630-903-6662. (Republican Chris Nybo has already received some nasty-grams for his vote from those opposing the ERA, so I'm sure he would appreciate hearing from you.)

The resolution will next go before the House. There will be another ERA Lobby Day in Springfield on May 8<sup>th</sup>. At this point, we do not know whether the resolution will be brought to the floor on the 8<sup>th</sup>, but it is expected to be called soon. Please contact your state rep to let them know you would appreciate their support so we can pass this once and for all. Representative Deb Conroy: 630-415-3520 (or [repdebconroy@gmail.com](mailto:repdebconroy@gmail.com)) and Patricia Bellock: 630-852-8633. WE CAN DO THIS!!!

While in Springfield, Jane and I also visited many state representatives' offices to distribute EQUAL, an Illinois ERA coloring and activity book that was put together by AAUW Illinois. (click [here](#) to see what they look like). I believe we will have some soon so they can be distributed to Girl Scouts or at the library.



## The Equal Rights Amendment

*Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.*



**April 2018**

**AAUW Meeting  
"World Relief Services"  
and  
Annual Branch Meeting**

Elmhurst Public Library



# May Supper

## Wednesday, May 9, 2018

### 5:30 pm: Cocktails and Conversation

### 6:30: Dinner



Roberto's Ristorante  
483 Spring Road, Elmhurst, IL 60126  
\$30 per person

## Menu

**Salad:** Roberto's House Salad

### Choice of Entrée:

Chicken Vesuvio - Boneless Chicken Breast with herbs, garlic, oil, brandy, white wine and served with Vesuvio Potatoes

Vegetable Lasagna - Fresh spinach pasta layered with ricotta, asparagus, artichoke hearts, spinach and topped with mozzarella

**Dessert:** Hazelnut Gelato

Coffee, Tea, Lemonade, Soft Drinks  
Cash Bar for Alcoholic Beverages



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*Please send the portion below the dashes to Pat with your reservation.*

I will attend the May supper and am enclosing a check for \$30 made payable to AAUW Elmhurst Branch.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Select One: Chicken \_\_\_ Lasagna \_\_\_

If you have dietary restrictions, please let us know what they are so Roberto's can accommodate you.

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Send your reservation with your check to

Pat O'Dwyer

5 Oak Brook Club Dr., #N204

Oak Brook, IL 60523

630-279-1318 (home) or 630-414-1746 (cell)

Reservations are due no later than  
Friday, May 4, 2018.

