



Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 80, No. 1 • June/July 2018

Branch Reminders

•Membership Directory

Editor Sally Schuster is updating the 2018-2019 Membership Directory. If there are any changes that you would like to make please contact Sally Schuster at sally@schuster.me or 630-833-3132.

•**Annual Dues.** Don't forget to pay your 2018-19 AAUW Dues. Payments can be made online or by mail. Contact Denise Thompson if you need assistance.

Think BOOKS and BRAS this summer!

As you bring in your used books and come to sort at Lincoln this summer, please consider bringing those bras you bought that never fit or even a new bra. Half the Sky is collecting them!

Deb Markello introduced Half the Sky to a nonprofit that is working to provide a livelihood for women coming out of trafficking. **Free the Girls'** goal is to allow women to take control of their lives.

They work by gathering bras - gently used and new- for these women who can start their own independent lives by selling the bras.

For more info... check out the organization's website: <https://freethegirls.org/thesolution>

Half the Sky will provide a collection box for donations during the sort at Lincoln School. **REMEMBER: Think BOOKS and BRAS this summer!**

Elmhurst Branch Gearing Up for the 2018 Used Book Sale





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.

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

Elmhurst Branch on Parade

By Carolyn Heiney

Memorial Day was hot, and so were we! The wonderfully sunny day offered our branch the opportunity to publicize our annual AAUW Used Book Sale and to inform the community of our 80 years in Elmhurst.

Special thanks to Genie Urick for bringing the opportunity to parade to the branch and for coordinating all the details with the City of Elmhurst and Chamber of Commerce and for supplying us with holiday jewelry for the event. For those of you who might have missed it, we had amazing marchers who not only carried the large banner but distributed 400 book sale information sheets to the community. Many thanks to Maria Patt for coordinating the walkers and the banner carriers and to Cynthia Smith Jans for once again updating our large banner.

Walkers included Denise Dean, Judith Ekblad, Debra Markello, Tsue Ostermann, Maria Patt, Carol Rounds, Suzanne Stock, and Jeanne Reder. Our photographer extraordinaire, Pat O'Dwyer, walked the parade route taking our pictures from every angle, and her wonderful husband Mike drove his gorgeous convertible with our AAUW signs proclaiming our 80 years as a vibrant organization in Elmhurst. Genie Urick and Carolyn Heiney plus grandson Mikey waved flags and smiled and smiled.

What a great opportunity for us as a branch!! Thanks to all who made it possible.



FINANCIAL REPORT

May 31, 2018

Denise Thompson
Director of Finance

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| General Fund | \$ 4,827.78 |
| Conf/Travel F | 1,429.01 |
| Book Sale Fund: | <u>4,663.52</u> |
| Total | \$10,920.31 |

ERA, ERA, Rat-i-fy the ERA

By: Denise Dean

Yes. We Did!

As most of you know by now, both Houses of the Illinois General Assembly provided the required three-fifths YEA votes and adopted SJRCA4, making Illinois the 37th state to approve the ratification of the proposed equal rights amendment to the United States Constitution. It was pretty close on the House vote, squeaking by with only one vote to spare. I hope you had the opportunity to watch the live stream of the House debate and subsequent vote on May 30 – it was exhilarating!

Following the Illinois vote, there was a lot of celebration, and many thanks are due the state representatives and senators who worked so hard to get this passed after a 40-year drought. We also all owe tons of appreciation to the persistent state and local members of AAUW, LWV, P4C, NOW, ERA-IL, ACLU, and so many more organizations and supporters that would not give up on the ERA.

But, as National NOW President Toni Van Pelt told NPR, “There’s still more to be done to correct this shameful failure of our Constitution.” She is oh so right. Women – we still need for one more state to adopt the traditional legislation so the “three-fourths of the states” threshold is reached, as well as for the U.S. congress to remove the expiration date from the 1980s. So, how can we help get the amendment attached to the constitution?

At this point, we can work with our sisters in North Carolina and Virginia. Currently, my understanding is that the focus is on these two states. Virginia gave it a try at the beginning of the year, but despite a big Blue Wave of women entering their general assembly, ERA supporters were shot down in the legislature, such that the bill was not allowed to come up for a proper vote. Virginia, however, has not given up. As to North Carolina, they are putting their case together. Let’s contact them and ask if we can participate in letter-writing and post-carding campaigns, or whatever else they need.

Here are some websites these states already have up and running – please get in touch:

ERA North Carolina - <https://ratifyera-nc.org/> and <http://www.era-nc.org/>

ERA Virginia - <http://vanow.org/ratify> and <https://www.women-matter.org/>

When the next newsletter comes out, you will have a new BPPC in Jane Jegerski, as after three years, I will be moving on. Jane will be a great Elmhurst branch chair for public policy. Please welcome her – with elections coming up later this year, she will need your support and participation.

Cheers,

Denise Dean



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.*

Year-end Board Meeting



Standing: Jan Summers, Betsy Aldred, Peggy Fox, Sally Ott, Carol Rounds, Darlene VanMeir, Maria Patt. Seated: Suzanne Stock, Denise Dean.



Standing: Pat O'Dwyer, Carolyn Heiney, Deb Markello, Denise Thompson, Mary Mallon, Perry Doubt, Sally Schuster, Genie Urick, Jennifer Jordan Seated: Tsue Ostermann, Sarah Caltvedt.

Board Dinner. Incoming and Outgoing Board members got together for a review and planning dinner at the home of Jan Summers.

Meet the New Board

Hats off to the members who have agreed to lead AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch in the 2018-19 fiscal year. We are grateful for the time they give to our organization and look forward to good things in the coming fiscal year.

Elected Officers

Co-Presidents -

Carolyn Heiney &
Darlene Van Meir

Program Vice Presidents -

Sally Ott & Genie Urick

Membership Vice Presidents -

Suzanne Stock &
Deb Markello

Secretary - Peggy Fox

Finance - Denise Thompson

Bylaws & Policies -

Tsue Ostermann

Director of Funds -

Carol Rounds

Public Policy - Jane Jegerski

Nominating Committee -

Jan Summers

Appointed/Voting Members

College/University Relations -

Maria Patt

Diversity/International Affairs

Betty Laliberte

Newsletter - Perry Doubt

STEM - Denise Dean

Special (Non-Voting)

Used Book Sale - Perry Doubt

Yearbook - Sally Schuster

Book Discussion Study Group -

Carol Rounds

Half the Sky Study Group

Betty Laliberte



Thanks, Jan!

The members of our Elmhurst Area AAUW Branch are most grateful to Jan Summers for her willingness to serve as our president. Jan is a strong leader who consistently kept us focused on the AAUW mission, attended conferences, meetings, and conventions to learn about new programs, and then shared that knowledge with the board and branch. We are grateful to her for giving us a third year of service and performing all of her duties while living in Wheaton and Aurora. At the May Supper the branch honored Jan with a gift of \$50 that was sent in her name to AAUW Funds in gratitude for all that she has done for AAUW Elmhurst. Thanks so much, Jan. We look forward to your continued membership in Elmhurst!

May Supper

The annual May Supper is our end-of-the-year Branch Celebration. First, we celebrate our AAUW membership, our friendships and the close of an interesting and informative program year. Second, we celebrate and congratulate our Returning Scholarship Winners. Third, we celebrate our 50-Year members, welcoming Genie Urick and Elaine Davison to that honored and loyal group. Fourth, we begin to turn our focus towards this year's Annual Used Book Sort leading up to the Used Book Sale, scheduled this year for August 2-5. Our Branch has sponsored this community event for over 50 years! The money generates funds that we donate for AAUW national programs and for scholarships in our own community.!



The meeting drew five of the Branch's 50-Year Members: Genie Urick, Mary Eleanor Wall, Marcia Goltermann, Elaine Davison and Sally Allen.



Mary Mallon (center) shares a moment with Robyn-Leigh Zaras (left) and Suzanne Oddo (right), winners of this year's Returning Scholar awards.

AAUW PHOTO POLICY
AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch takes photos at meetings and other events for use in the newsletter and publicity materials. Notify a Board member if you do not wish to be photographed.