



Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 80, No. 3 • October 2018

BRANCH MEETING • OCTOBER 10 • 7:00 pm

Normally our Branch monthly meetings are held at the Elmhurst Public Library at 7pm on the second Wednesday of each month; however, this October 10th we will gather at the Elmhurst History Museum Annex Building 120 E. Park Ave. at 7pm.

Come and meet the Museum's new Director, Dave Oberg and hear about the latest happenings at the Museum. As guests of the Museum, Dan Lund (who is in charge of the Museum's massive collection) will give us the rare opportunity to view many of our AAUW Branch items that have been donated over the years by our past officers.

Do you remember what our original Branch Banner looks like? Would you recognize our current Banner?

We'll be able to view old photographs and look through our AAUW scrapbooks. (Once items are donated to the History Museum they cannot be "checked out" or removed from the premises.)

If you know someone who used to be a member of our Branch please invite them as a guest for the evening. So let our celebration of 80 years (1938-2018) continue...

Refreshments will be served.

MEMBERSHIP

We are very happy to welcome six new members to the Elmhurst Branch.

- Krista Friedman
- Teri Mulcahy
- Kimberly Miller
- Claudia Stenvig-Olsen
- Victoria Ludkowski
- Debbie Hatmaker

Our newest members joined us via the Shape The Future recruitment event which was held during the book sale. Please look for them at the next meeting and watch for their interviews in upcoming newsletters.

Deb Markello and Suzanne Stock



BRANCH CALENDAR

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

October 6 - 9am-1:00 pm
AAUW Illinois Fall Conference
IIT Rice Campus
201 E Loop Road - Wheaton
\$15 includes lunch
Register <https://aauw-il.aauw.net>
click on "Fall Link"

October 10 - 7:00 pm
Elmhurst Branch Meeting
Elmhurst History Museum

Oct 23, 2018 7:30 pm
Half the Sky at Azra Haque's home
Discussion: Girls' and women's health from book 100 Under \$100: One Hundred Tools for Empowering Global Women by Betsy Teutsch

October 25 - 1:00 pm
Book Discussion Group
First Women
by Kate Anderson Brower
Discussion: Marcia Golter-



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 (August/September through May) by the American Association of University Women - Elmhurst Area Branch.

FINANCIAL REPORT

September 25, 2018

Denise Thompson
Director of Finance

Book Sale Fund:	\$17,106.48
Conf/Travel	1,969.01
General Fund:	<u>5,035.96</u>
Total	\$24,111.45

HALF THE SKY - OCTOBER MEETING TOPIC

The next meeting of Half the Sky is on Tuesday, October 23 at 7:30 pm at the home of Azra Haque. Our group discussion will center on a chapter from the book **100 Under \$100** by Betsy Teutsch. The book is available from the Elmhurst Public Library or through the interlibrary loan system - #305.4TEU).

We will consider Section 2 of the book, a look at programs that address health issues of women and girls in developing countries. Please “dig” a bit deeper into one organization that has spoken to you as you read about the tools being made available to women.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO HALF THE SKY MEETINGS – COME ONCE, COME OFTEN - contact Betty Laliberte with questions.

WOMEN’S MARCH and More

Women’s March Chicago/March to the Polls 2018 will take place on Sat., October 13 at 9 am in Grant Park in time for the polls opening for early voting and to demonstrate that women are more united than ever to work for women’s rights and our democracy. This rally will reflect the “power of the women’s movement and inspire more women to head to the polls than ever before.”

The Women’s March will include guest speakers, live music, and a sponsor village with the opportunity to meet candidates and sponsors. It will culminate with marching through downtown Chicago to the Federal Plaza. Carolyn Heiney will be getting us information about an AAUW-Elmhurst group participating in the March. Contact Carolyn if you want to join our group for the March.

To learn more about important political and social issues, join the nonpartisan **Just Views film and discussion programs** on the 2nd Friday of each month at 7:20 pm at the Naperville Unitarian Church.

After the showing of a film, viewers get to hear from a panel of local experts/activists on what is happening in our area related to the topic. Free parking, free programs, all sponsored by The DuPage Peace through Justice Coalition. I have been attending for years and have learning a great deal from these interesting presentations.

The October 12 topic is “Dark Posts & Dark Funding.” I wish I could attend but I will be in Vermont. Most months, just call me and you can ride with me. Otherwise there’re good directions on-line with a detailed description of that month’s film.

Jane Jegerski
Public Policy

Celebrating our 80th Anniversary

In celebration of our Branch's 80 years (1938-2018) this monthly column will feature highlights of our AAUW members who made countless contributions to the Elmhurst Community. Their completed biographies can be read in the book First Ladies of Elmhurst: Prominent Women of the 20th Century Authors: Ruth Strand & Genie Urick.

MARY ELEANOR (KIDDER) WALL

In 1966 Mary Eleanor Wall was President of our Branch and served on local and national AAUW committees, councils and commissions. She was elected AAUW Illinois State President in 1997 and served again as Co-President of our Branch 1997 -1999. "My AAUW experience has been very significant in nurturing my interests and development in my adult years, with the opportunity to establish lifelong friendships and work with outstanding women of all ages and many experiences."

While studying for her Masters Degree of Religious Education at Emory University she met her future husband, Reverend James Wall. They settled in Elmhurst and raised three sons. Mary Eleanor was active in Elmhurst serving on church and club committees. In 1971 she chaired the DuPage County Democratic Women's Caucus. She was elected in 1974 to the DuPage County Board as one of the first Democratic women ever to be seated. "Jim and I were active in the Jimmy Carter Presidential Campaigns in 1975-76 and 1980. Jim was Illinois Chairman for the Carter Primary Campaign. Jimmy Carter was elected U.S. President in 1976. It was the most exciting thing! While he was President, he spent the night at our home in Elmhurst on May 25, 1978 after speaking at a Democratic dinner in Chicago."

In 1979 Reverend Wall and Mary Eleanor spent a night at the White House after going to an opera with the Carters. "We slept in the Lincoln bedroom!" While in Washington Mary Eleanor, as AAUW Illinois State President, met with President Carter's Senior Advisor on Women's Affairs to discuss the prospect of her home state ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment.

In 1980 Mary Eleanor was appointed by President Carter as one of three public members on a twenty-six member Federal Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

Closer to home she served as a DuPage County Regional Planning Commissioner and was Chairman for sixteen years (1980-1996). In 1989 Elmhurst Mayor Charles Garrigues appointed Mary Eleanor to the Senior Housing Task Force. As a direct result of her enterprising efforts, the DuPage Senior Citizens Council was established as was the Senior Home Sharing Group. Mary Eleanor was the Executive Director until 2000.

She assisted in forming the Illinois Shared Housing Network and has been graciously called the "God-mother of DuPage Senior Citizens". She also was the founding force behind the DuPage Community Foundation, a nonprofit organization that awards monetary grants to arts, civic, and social service groups. Mary Eleanor has received many honors and awards for her able leadership, outstanding service, and volunteer work. She has said, "I am loyal, persistent...interested in current events...a liberal Protestant Christian woman which brings me to being a feminist and a Democrat concerned about human rights and justice for all people and especially for the most vulnerable persons, often girls and older women..."



FLASHBACK

1942 -- Our first Branch Newsletter is created in August. Postage is a one-and-a-half cent stamp.

1948 -- The Education Committee studies Community Recreation, concluding that a recreational organization is needed in Elmhurst. This impetus leads to the establishment of the Elmhurst YMCA.

1953 -- The first Branch Yearbook is printed and distributed to members.

1959 -- After organizing & storing books in member's basements, the first AAUW Used Book Sale is held in a vacant Elmhurst storefront. All books are priced at \$1.00 and under. Proceeds = \$375.

March to the Polls 2018 – October 13, 2018

The Women's March Chicago (WMC) will once again take over Grant Park on October 13, 2018, calling upon women and allies to come together and march as the polls open for early voting in Illinois.

Dubbed March to the Polls 2018, the event is a follow-up to the march held in January. As the assault on both women's rights and democracy continues in this country, women and allies are more united than ever in their focus on the 2018 elections. This rally and march is a critical next step in voter engagement, as women deliver on the promise that they are changing outcomes at the ballot box to protect a fragile democracy. This rally will reflect the power of the women's movement as we march and head to the polls in greater numbers than ever before.

March to the Polls 2018 will include special guest speakers and live musical performances, and will feature a new sponsor village in the rally area, where attendees will have access to participating candidates and sponsors in hosted booths. All campaigns will have an opportunity to take part in the sponsor village, along with local and national non-profit organizations. The day will culminate with a march through the streets of downtown Chicago to Federal Plaza, and access to the Board of Elections downtown early voting site.

"We know that hundreds of thousands of women and their allies are excited and energized to vote this fall, and the October march will enable us to come together and harness this energy and excitement and turn it into action," says Jaquie Algee, WMC Board member and March On Board President.

Interested in going to the march with other members of AAUW? Contact Carolyn Heiney.



COLLECTING BRAS for FREE THE GIRLS –

Is it time to revisit your lingerie drawer?

Half the Sky has sent 80 bras to Free the Girls this summer. We hope to send more.

ACTION PROJECT:

At each general meeting for the 2018-2019 year, Half the Sky will be providing a box to place donations of new or gently used bras to send to the organization FREE THE GIRLS which uses these bras to create entrepreneurial opportunity to women coming out of sex slavery in Mozambique, Costa Rica and El Salvador. Bras will go to Chesterton Indiana's staging area.

For more information about this organization, check out their website: <https://freethegirls.org>

On YOU TUBE, view:

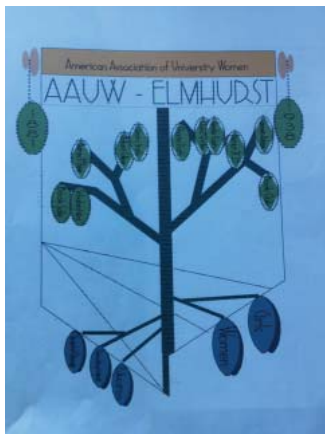
- Free the Girls: Stop Human 8.5 minutes about the organization from 2013
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Pex7hYRrzo>
- Mozambique or Bust [CNN] 25 minutes from CNN from 2013
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WaY-QS8RaCs>

THE LOST IS FOUND

It has been missing for a few years and now has mysteriously been found!!! You will see it once again at our October Meeting, the month emphasizing Women's History.

What was lost...a banner, made in April, 1999. The 75th Convention for AAUW-IL was opened with a parade of banners representing all the branches in the state. The banners were then hung in the convention room for the entirety of the convention activities. The requirements included the name and founding year of our branch.

Our Branch co-presidents at the time were Mary Eleanor Wall and Carolyn Heiney, our current co-president. History repeats itself!!!



A former member and artist, Barbara Goodman, designed the banner and many members participated to produce the banner. It was carried proudly by a current member, Carol Rounds.

Be it 1881 when AAUW was founded, 1938 the year our branch was formed, 1999 when the banner was made or 2018, the mission and goals of AAUW are the same. We advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

We are looking forward to our October meeting when we can once again view The Banner, inspecting each leaf carefully for the mission and goals for our branch during the 2018-19 year. We are excited that THE LOST IS FOUND!

Darlene Van Meir, Co President

Just a Thought: I want to share the AAUW position on Diversity from the official website as we work to support women's issues. Diversity and International Affairs:

July 03, 2018 - WASHINGTON — AAUW Chief Executive Officer Kim Churches released the following statement after the Trump administration announced it would rescind Obama-era guidance concerning affirmative action and diversity in schools.

“Diversity and equal opportunity should be top priorities for U.S. education. Today’s decision by the Trump Administration to rescind the affirmative action and diversity in schools guidance is a major step backward in efforts to advance equity in education. Affirmative action has been a critical tool for promoting opportunities for all students and diverse learning environments, where all students thrive from learning with and from individuals of different backgrounds and perspectives and can better contribute to a more tolerant, global economy.

The roll back of this guidance does not change the current laws or take away any rights — the U.S. Supreme Court has recognized the value of diversity in upholding the use of race-conscious admissions – and we encourage educational institutions to continue to follow practices that support affirmative action programs and increased diversity. While there have been many advancements for women, including women of color, in education and in the workforce, equal opportunity remains elusive in part because discrimination still exists. AAUW will continue to fight for educational equity and economic security for all women and girls.”

<https://www.aauw.org/article/trump-administration-rescinding-diversity-and-affirmative-action-guidance/>

Betty Laliberte - Diversity Committee

September Supper Great Success



AAUW Elmhurst members enjoyed a great evening together at the September Supper, held this year at the Diplomat West.

The program included an overview of current AAUW projects, introduction of committee chairs and a discussion of plans for the coming year. Get ready!

Left: Two new members - Kimberly Miller and Victoria Ludkowski - were introduced at the meeting by Membership Co-chairs Deb Markello and Suzanne Stock.



Spread the word to those you know who might benefit from this workshop!

DON'T LEAVE MONEY ON THE TABLE!

You can ask for the salary you deserve.

Attend our AAUW Work Smart salary negotiation workshop for women.



Attend an AAUW Work Smart salary negotiation workshop for women

AAUW Work Smart is designed to help experienced working women negotiate for a new job, raise, or promotion. In this 2.5-hour workshop you'll gain confidence in your negotiation style through facilitated discussion and role-play.

Date: Thursday, November 15, 2018 6:15 – 9:15 pm

at NIU Naperville, 1120 E. Diehl Rd., Naperville

For Registration sign up at:

<https://aauw-work-smart-naperville-2018-nov.eventbrite.com>

Registration fee is \$20 (includes workbook & snack break)

Hosted by AAUW Naperville Area Branch