



# Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 80, No. 4 • November 2018

## NOVEMBER BRANCH MEETING Wednesday November 14 - 7:00 pm Elmhurst Public Library

We will meet back at our regular location in the Kossman Room at the Elmhurst Library on Wednesday, November 14th at 7pm.

The topic is Women in the Workforce. Our own member, Jennifer Jordan, will speak about the steps she took to start her successful company Jordan Daily Money Management.

John Quigley, President & CEO of the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce & Industry, is also a guest speaker. He will highlight the Chamber's 100th Anniversary and the part women have played over the years. He will also explain the Chamber's Internship Program at Elmhurst College.

We hope you can join us for an interesting and informative evening. At the end of our program a brief business meeting will be held with the main agenda item the approval of the distribution of funds from our very successful book sale. (See the proposal for funds distribution on page 2 this newsletter.)

Note: Betty Laliberte will be collecting bras for FREE THE GIRLS at the general meetings. Look for the BRA BOX as you enter the room.



**November 7 - 7:00 pm**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Elmhurst Public Library

**November 14 - 7:00 pm**  
Elmhurst Branch Meeting  
"Women in the Workforce"  
Elmhurst Public Library

**November 27 - 7:30 pm**  
**Half the Sky**  
Perry Doubt's Home

**Book Discussion Group**  
*No meeting in November*

Here's a thought from the AAUW website . . . concerning Women's Pay and Diversity Awareness. . .

How would you like to work the same hours for half the pay? That's the Gender Pay Gap for Latinas.

November 1, 2018 is  
#LatinaEqualPayDay

**LATINAS IN THE U.S.**

**ARE TYPICALLY PAID**

**53 CENTS**

**FOR EVERY DOLLAR**

**PAID TO WHITE MEN.**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau





**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	\$16825.42
Conf/Travel	1969.01
General Fund	<u>4827.41</u>
Total	\$23621.84

**Used Book Sale Funds Distribution Proposal**

Once again, our hard work reaped great rewards. After expenses, our net income for the sale of books at the used book sale was \$12,200. Income from the recycler will be about \$500, and a check for \$700 has already been sent to AAUW Funds for the books sold online.

At our November business meeting, the branch will vote on the proposal listed below to distribute the used book sale income. Our branch bylaws state that we send 60% of the money to the AAUW Funds at national to promote the mission of AAUW. The remaining 40% can be used for local scholarships or branch projects designed to advance the mission of AAUW. The branch board, who has approved this proposal, recommends that the membership votes to approve the following recommendation:

Used Book Sale Income

Net income	\$12,200
Discover Books	500
Online Sales	<u>700*</u>
Total	\$ 13,400

Sixty percent of \$13,400 = \$8,040 AAUW Funds donation

Forty percent of \$13,400 = \$5,360 Local Scholarships

The board recommends that we divide the local scholarships as follows:

2 returning scholars @ \$2,000 each

1 Dare to Dream scholarship @\$1,000

Remaining money of \$360 goes into the used book sale fund for expenses next year.

*\*Since this amount has already been sent to the national AAUW Funds, it will be deducted from the check sent in December to AAUW Funds.*

**Voting in 2018**

As we vote early or head for the polls on November 6, AAUW reminds us to keep in mind the public policy priorities including access to education funding and reproductive health; paid family leave; and curbing sexual harassment in the workplace.

To research your candidates or learn more about your ballot and the election, visit [IllinoisVoterGuide.org](http://IllinoisVoterGuide.org). It was developed by the IL League of Women Voters and is our best election source. You can read all about your candidates and complete a sample ballot to print and take when you vote. (It's a felony to use a phone in the voting booth!) [Ballotpedia.org](http://Ballotpedia.org) can also be helpful to navigate politics and voting.

[AARP.org/vote](http://AARP.org/vote) provides information on candidates' positions on balancing budgets to ensure senior services, protecting retirement income (i.e., Social Security and Medicare), and extending quality services for seniors aging at home.

After you have information on your candidates, you might want to check the evidence for candidates' claims. For example, how do you find evidence to evaluate a claim like "half of the caravan of Central American immigrants are unknown Middle Easterners"? The Pulitzer Prize winning, popular non-partisan resource [Politifact.com](http://Politifact.com) rates the accuracy of claims of elected officials and candidates using its famous rating scale which ranges from "True" to "Pants on Fire." [Politifact.com](http://Politifact.com) rated the claim above as "Pants on Fire" because there is no evidence from several sources traveling with the caravan. [Politifact.com](http://Politifact.com) is truly non-partisan - members of both parties sometimes earn "mostly false" or "Pants on Fire" ratings.

Ensure your vote is heard by casting your ballot for this election (on mostly hack-free paper if possible).

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 complete biographies can be read in the book First Ladies of Elmhurst: Prominent Women of the 20th Century by Ruth Strand & Genie Urick.*

### Mary Willis (Waters) Mahon (1935 - 1982)

Mary Mahon was President of our Elmhurst AAUW Branch in 1971. She was also elected President of the Chicago Area Council of AAUW. Mary once recalled, "During my administration two important projects were begun. One was the Educational Resource Volunteer Program. This program, now a PTA sponsored function, brings community & AAUW volunteers into the schools to augment the basic school program. These volunteers, having expertise and interest in many topics, add a new dimension of learning for our children. The other project was the opening of the Elmhurst Recycling Center located on West Avenue. I also served on a committee to have the Prairie Path become designated as a National Trailway. This resulted in it being established as a green belt in Elmhurst for recreational purposes."

Before her marriage to her husband Bruce, Mary had taught second and fourth grades. They moved to Elmhurst in 1963 and had two children. Mary became an active citizen! She was Chairman of the First Ward's People Party, Local Government Chair for the LWV, and served on committees for the Elmhurst underpass, Prairie Path and College of DuPage. All the while though, Mary's primary concern was for the education of her children.

Mary was President of the Hawthorne School PTA, on the Educational Planning Committee for Elmhurst School Dist. 46, and York High School Remodeling Committee. She was Chairperson of the Dist. 205 Task Force which led to the formation of Elmhurst Unit School Dist. 205 by referendum in 1974. After serving as a member, Mary was elected the first woman to ever hold the position as President of the Elmhurst School Board. She also served on the Illinois Assoc. of School Boards. For her outstanding contributions to education in Illinois, she was honored by the Illinois Principals Association and given an honorary life membership in the Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers.

She was presented with the Those Who Excel Award recognizing her years of achievements and contributions not only to the schools, but to the entire community of Elmhurst. In 1979 Mayor Abner Ganet proclaimed Mary Mahon Day in Elmhurst. She was the Grand Marshal of the Elmhurst Fourth of July Parade. She also was honored with the 29th Distinguished Service Award by the Elmhurst Jaycees. During her acceptance speech at the gala event Mary commented, "A few years ago the motto of this group was DO SOMETHING! I like that motto. Don't just sit around talking about problems or taking the role of an armchair critic, but get into the action and try to make changes for the betterment of our community." Perhaps these words best describe Mary's philosophy about life, and the way she chose to live it.

Sadly Mary struggled with cancer and died at the young age of forty-seven. All who had the privilege of knowing and working with Mary benefited from the association. For her outstanding efforts and achievements, a Grant Fellowship was established posthumously in Mary Mahon's name by our AAUW Branch in 1986.

### === flashback ===

**1968** -- After researching for two years, the Study Group "Know Your Schools" made ten recommendations (prepared in consultation with the Teachers Association) to the Elmhurst School Board. Most recommendations were implemented.

**1970** -- "We the People" Study Group leads to active support for the development of the Illinois Prairie Path.

**1987** -- In anticipation of its 50th Anniversary in 1989, our Branch establishes a Named Research and Projects Endowment of \$35,000 as part of the AAUW Educational Foundation and commits to its full funding within 15 years. It is completed in 8 years!

**1993** -- Our Branch joins 7 other AAUW branches in DuPage County to sponsor the AAUW Educational Equity Roundtable with participation of local civic, business and religious leaders. Our Branch sponsors "Yes I Can" Seminar for middle school girls to encourage interest in math & science.



## Welcome New Members - 2018

### **KIMBERLY MILLER**

Welcome to new AAUW member, Kimberly Miller. In 1989 Kimberly earned a BA in Business Management with a concentration in Marketing as well as a BFA in Theatre and Dance from Barat College in Lake Forest. In 1993 she completed her MBA with a concentration in Finance from Keller Graduate School of Management.

Kimberly's entire career has been in aerospace where she worked for three companies doing everything from structure leases of aircraft, engines, and parts, MRO operations and parts distribution and design to development and manufacturing of components. Her last position was as the Global VP/GM of a large Tier 1 manufacturer where she had four plants around the world with seven product lines. Currently she runs her own Consulting Company where she works with large aerospace manufactures, airlines and MRO on strategic planning, deployment, operational management and processes as well as organizational structure.

Kimberly has been an Elmhurst resident since 2001. She and partner Ken are parents to four adult children, his two daughters and her son and daughter. They also have a son-in-law and one grandson.

Kimberly's many interests include travel, reading, cooking and gardening. She volunteers for PADs, the food pantry and an organization called Catchfire that matches executives with non-profits that need short-term guidance.

While Kimberly has benefitted from the AAUW Book Sale, the mission of AAUW attracted her to join. Women's equality is of great importance to her. She looks forward to working with the Elmhurst AAUW Branch to advance the mission.

### **VICKIE LUDKOWSKI**

Our new member Vickie Ludkowski is a very active member of the York High School community. She is a member of the parent club and music boosters for which she writes the school newsletter. When not volunteering at York, Vickie substitute teaches, a second career after fourteen years as a computer programmer. Vickie has two sons and felt her teaching career gave her the flexibility she needed for active parenting. Her husband is also a computer programmer.

Vickie's hobbies include sewing, reading and daily workouts at Courts Plus. She joined us as a result of the book sale (her first time!) and felt that she now has the time for active membership and also thoroughly enjoyed the book sale and supports our mission. Welcome Vickie!

### **DEBBIE HATMAKER**

Our new member Debbie Hatmaker comes to us as an accomplished musician and retired teacher of music, theater and voice. Debbie continues to employ her talents as an accompanist at Elmhurst College, as well as various school districts, including neighboring Villa Park.

While not tickling the ivories, Debbie enjoys spending family time with her husband, three daughters, and four grandchildren who reside in California and Oak Park. Her interests include plants and gardening and reading. Debbie is an huge fan of Steinbeck works. She enjoys attending a variety of concerts and theater productions. In addition, she regularly watches Cubs, Bears, and Blackhawk games. When asked why she chose to join AAUW, Debbie stated that she wanted to support an organization of professional women whose mission was to advocate for the future of women.

Welcome Debbie!



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# Will We Need to Raise Our Local Dues?

By Co-President Carolyn Heiney

The good news is that at this time there are no plans to raise the branch dues. The need to increase dues for next year was discussed at our August board meeting. With the increase in the the number of our 50-year members, who deservedly get a free membership, and with some of our costs increasing, our income side of the budget has decreased over the last few years, even though our membership numbers remain steady. In addition, dues have not been increased in at least 11 years. Since we want to manage our funds in a fiscally responsible manner, we looked into the need to find more income.

As we talked about the possible need for more funds, two ideas surfaced that we felt were a better alternative than increasing local dues. The first idea was to increase our Holiday Party fee that covers drinks, paper goods, and other expenses from \$5 to \$10. The money remaining from the cost of wine and other drinks would definitely help offset the need for some extra funds in the general account. The board felt that this was a reasonable increase and approved the proposal.

Secondly, Perry Doubt remembered that we added a donation jar at the book sale last year. This year we were even more purposeful about promoting the donations, and it was a terrific success! We received over \$300 in the jar. This money too can be used to help keep our general fund in the black.

To me it seems that the best part of this decision is not that we aren't going to raise dues, but that your AAUW branch board creatively came together to find a way to problem solve. As ideas emerged, discussion continued with an addition here, a new twist there, and voila, we can feel good about our fiscal position for the next year. Our branch is blessed to have talented, bright women, who work well together and solve problems well. What a terrific board and branch we have!!!

## JUST A THOUGHT.....

here is a diversity share from the AAUW website

November is Native American Heritage Month:

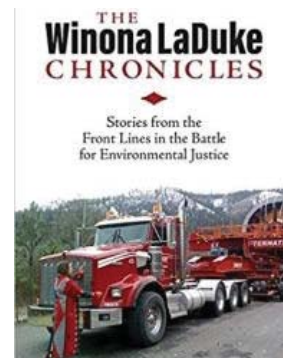
**The Winona LaDuke Chronicles:  
Stories from the Front Lines in the Battle for Environmental Justice  
Winona LaDuke (@WinonaLaduke)**

“Chronicles is a collection of timely, persuasive, and inspiring stories of indigenous communities from the Canadian subarctic to the heart of the Navajo Nation. It is a collective account of Winona LaDuke’s personal journey to recovery, beginning with her home burning down in 2008. It is also a story of strength and resilience — not just LaDuke’s own, but that of all tribal and First Nations communities in the North American first world who struggle just to survive.”

Recommended by Peggy Woods-Clark, AAUW National Member

World Catalog summary: *Winona LaDuke's Chronicles is a collection of stories of Indigenous communities from the Canadian subarctic to the heart of Dine Bii Kaya, Navajo Nation. Stories range from visits with Desmond Tutu, front line Indigenous leaders, to restored Indigenous farming, and the ability of this society to move from a Tipi to a Tesla. This book tells of the need and the ability to make an elegant transition to a post fossil fuels economy. Chronicles is a book literally risen from the ashes--beginning in 2008 after her home burned to the ground--and collectively is an accounting of Winona's personal path of recovery, finding strength and resilience in the writing itself as well as in her work.*

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/adelante-book-of-the-month-club/>



## Branch History Comes to Life at October Meeting

In honor of the Branch's 80th anniversary, our October meeting was held at the Elmhurst Historical Museum so members could see items tied to our history that have been donated to the museum over the years, including scrapbooks and banners. Members took turns reminiscing about programs and successes in the early days -- a great evening for all of us!

