



Elmhurst Area Branch News

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FEBRUARY MEETING

All members are invited to bring a guest to our Wed. Feb. 13th meeting. We will gather in the Library Kossman Room at 7pm.

Our very own “Half the Sky” Study Group will showcase international women and international programs that have an impact on the lives of women in several countries beyond our borders.

We’ll learn about the efforts that have been made by our “Half the Sky” members to address women’s issues in various parts of the world!

KEEP ‘EM COMING

Our BRA DRIVE has collected 28 bras for Free the Girls in the last two months.

Let’s reach 80 bras by the end of this program year to celebrate our 80th year as the Elmhurst Branch.

We are collecting new bras or gently used bras. Time to review your lingerie drawer. Ask your neighbors and friends to join in. Look for a great sale.

Any size, color and style is welcome! Bring them to any monthly meeting... look for the Blue BRA Bag at our events.

With 28 bras already in hand we only need 52 more to go.

In Memoriam

It is with much sadness that we share the news of the passing of lifetime member **Miriam Potter**. Among her many accomplishments Miriam was a teacher for Learning Disabilities students, started a preschool program at her church (Elmhurst Presbyterian) and was also a church elder. She received a Silver Measure Award for her dedicated efforts for the Elmhurst Symphony. Marian also enjoyed playing the organ and harpsichord. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.



FEBRUARY 2019 _____

February 6 - 7:00 pm
Board of Directors Meeting
Elmhurst Public Library

February 13 - 7:00 pm
Elmhurst Branch Meeting
International Support Programs
Elmhurst Public Library

February 26 - 7:30 pm
Half the Sky Group
Betty Laliberte’s home

February 28
AAUW Book Group
Little Fires Everywhere
by Celeste Ng
Discussion Leader:
Darlene Van Meir
Hostess: Darlene Van Meir

MARCH 2019 _____

March 23 - 8:30am-4:00 pm
TechSavvy Illinois
Lewis University - Romeoville



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

December 27, 2018

Denise Thompson
Director of Finance

Book Sale Fund:	\$10,368.92
Conf/Travel	1,969.01
General Fund:	<u>4,752.41</u>
Total	\$17,090.34

Title IX

In fall 2018, after the Chicago Tribune found hundreds of cases of sexual misconduct in the Chicago Public Schools, CPS lost \$4M in federal grants as punishment for violating Title IX. This case demonstrates that Title IX is not just for sports and colleges and there is considerable misunderstanding about when Title IX applies.

Title IX of the Education Amendments (1972) of the landmark American Civil Rights Act of 1964 is the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. It covers women and men, boys and girls, and staff and students in any educational institution or program that receives federal funds. This includes local K-12 school districts, colleges and universities, for-profit schools, career and technical education agencies, libraries, and museums. Music, choir, sex education classes, sports involving bodily contact, and certain religious institutions (if the law violates their religious tenets) are exempt from Title IX.

Title IX applies to all areas of education, including:

- Recruitment, admissions, and housing;
- Career and technical education;
- Pregnant, parenting, or married students;
- Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)
- Sexual harassment and assault;
- Comparable facilities and access to course offerings;
- Financial assistance;
- Student health services and insurance benefits;
- Harassment/bullying based on gender identity; and
- Athletics.

Title IX has long been the major force driving gender equity in education. The U.S. Department of Education (DOE) is responsible for holding schools accountable to the promise of Title IX, including ensuring that students can attend school free from sexual harassment and violence.

Now, enforcement of this law is under threat. DOE is re-interpreting Title IX grievance procedures. Luckily, under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), we can all participate in this rulemaking by submitting a comment to www.regulations.gov (ED-2018-ORD-0064). If you missed that date, AAUW urges everyone to still make their voices heard.

We need to fully enforce our civil rights laws, not undermine them. In undermining those laws we undermine our nation's students and Title IX's original promise of equal access to education for all students.

Jane Jegerski
Public Policy

MEET OUR NEW MEMBER

We are very happy to welcome Valerie Day to AAUW Elmhurst. Valerie holds a bachelor's and a Master's degree in Business Administration. She currently is Vice President For Advancement at Elmhurst College.

Her previous pursuits include working with the homeless, victims of domestic abuse and underserved children. In her words she "tried to be an agent of change."

Valerie enjoys outdoor activities which include hiking, fishing, running and biking. She also is an avid reader, particularly enjoying crime novels and thrillers.

Valerie joined AAUW because she feels our mission aligns with her professional and personal views toward strong advocacy for women. Welcome Valerie!

ATTENTION ART LOVERS!!

We're proud to announce that Deb Markello has submitted one of her paintings to the AAUW National Art Contest. Winning entries are selected on the basis of member votes and will be featured on this year's collection of AAUW cards.

Deb's submission is an acrylic on canvas board portrait, created in shades of blue. The work is entitled, "Perseverance." Deb says, "I strived to depict an image which reflects women's resilience and their ability to face the future, even in times of adversity."

Many beautiful works have been entered in the competition. We urge all members to go to National's website to view the entries and consider voting for Deb's work. Voting starts Feb 12.

HALF THE SKY MEETING

Half the Sky will meet on Tuesday Feb 26, 2019 at 7:30 pm in Betty Laliberte's home.

For the past few months, we have been examining various chapters of the book *100 Under \$100: One Hundred Tools for Empowering Global Women* by Betsy Teutsch.

At our February meeting each member will nominate one women's cause for our group to support from the book. Come prepared to promote the cause that speaks the strongest to your heart and mind!

KUDOS, GENIE!

It is with much pride that we congratulate life time member and current program Vice President Genie Urick on her recent induction into the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Hall Of Fame. She is an author, cable t.v. producer and community volunteer. Genie has produced over 1400 cable t.v. episodes, such as *Elmhurst Our Kind Of Town*, *Newsline Elmhurst*, *Elmhurst Now* and *Time Travelers*.

This latest honor compliments her many achievements and awards. She was named an Educational Foundation honoree in 1984 and had a AAUW Elmhurst grant fellowship established in her name.

In 1987 Genie started a Sunday recreational program for children with autism with an National Projects and Research Grant that she was awarded. She is a two time (1996 & 1997) Excellence in Volunteerism Award honoree. In 1998, Genie long active in the Ray Graham Association, received the Professional Leadership Award for "striving for a better tomorrow."

Genie is coauthor (with the late Ruth Strand) of *The First Ladies of Elmhurst: Prominent Women of The Twentieth Century* which was published in 2001. In addition, she is one of the Founding Parents who established the Reality, Respect, Appreciation and Fulfillment (RRAF) Day Program for adults with autism and developmental challenges, and is a RRAF Volunteer Support Award recipient.

Genie was the first female winner of the Elmhurst Bluejay Backers Community Service Award for her work in expanding cable coverage of Elmhurst College intercollegiate athletics.



In spite of a predicted blizzard, this intrepid gang turned out for the Naked Art Scavenger Hunt at the Art Institute in honor of the 19th Amendment.

SHE PERSISTED

Bernice Sandler 1928-2019

Champion of Title IX and Women's Rights

Bernice "Bunny" Sandler was an American women's rights activist best known for being instrumental in the creation of Title IX, a portion of the Education Amendments of 1972, in conjunction with Representatives Edith Green (D-OR) and Patsy Mink (D-HO) and Senator Birch Bayh (D-IN) in the 1970's. She has been called "the Godmother of Title IX" by The New York Times.

Sandler wrote extensively about sexual and peer harassment towards women on campus, coining the terms "gang rape" and "the chilly campus climate." She received numerous awards and honors for her work on women's rights and was inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame in 2010. According to the National Women's Hall of Fame, where Sandler was inducted in 2013, her efforts led to the first federal investigation of sex discrimination on campuses.

Sandler graduated cum laude with a B.S. in psychology from Brooklyn College in 1948, and a Masters' of Clinical and School Psychology from City College of New York in 1950. In 1969, Sandler received her Ed.D. in Counseling and Personnel Services from the University of Maryland. As of 2013, she was also the recipient of over a dozen honorary doctorates for her work on women's issues.

In 1969, her newly earned doctorate in hand, Bernice Sandler was hoping to land one of seven open teaching positions in her department at the University of Maryland. She was not considered for any of them because, as a male colleague told her, "Let's face it, you come on too strong for a woman."

In other job interviews she was told that women were not hired because they stayed home with sick children too often and that she was "just a housewife who went back to school."

The problem of "sex discrimination" had only recently been given a name. Sandler embarked on a campaign that would change the culture on college campuses-- and eventually the law, with the passage in 1972 of Title IX, the legislation that banned sex discrimination in federally funded educational institutions.

When she began her advocacy efforts, many university departments arbitrarily limited the number of women they would hire. Others hired no women at all. Some disqualified married women. Some colleges barred female students from chemistry and other departments that were deemed more suited for men.

Sandler investigated and found that there was no federal law prohibiting discrimination against women in educational fields. There was, however, an Executive Order signed by President Lyndon John-



son that prohibited sex discrimination by organizations with federal contracts. She realized that the executive order could be used to fight discrimination in American universities

and colleges that had federal contracts. Sandler joined the Women's Equity Action League which was primarily focused on utilizing legal action and lobbying to enhance the status of women and worked to challenge 250 educational institutions for alleged sex discrimination. Throughout her career she worked to address issues of sex discrimination working in various positions in both governmental departments and private agencies.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 was passed by the 92nd Congress and was signed into law by President Richard Nixon, "as a means of correcting sex discrimination at the college and university level." In addition to ending sex discrimination in education, the act also extends to athletics, sexual harassment and employment discrimination.

Title IX has had a significant impact on female collegiate athletics throughout its 46-year history, dramatically increasing the number of women in college athletics, increasing minority representation and increasing overall equity and diversity within the NCAA.

"When Title IX was passed, I was quite naive," Sandler said. "I thought all the problems of sex discrimination in education would be solved in one or two years at most. When two years passed, I increased my estimate to five years, then later to ten, then to fifty, and now I realize it will take many generations to solve all the problems....When I applied to college it was openly known that women needed higher grades and test scores in order to be accepted...No one complained -- it was just the way things were."

For decades after the law was passed, Sandler continued her activism to address women's rights issues nationwide. Her work has led to many 'firsts' in the field that continue to affect women nationwide. A sample of her many 'firsts' include, "the first individual to write the first federal policy report on sex discrimination in education, the first paper about barriers faced by women of color and from other special population groups, the first report on campus gang rape and the first report on peer harassment."

(This article was compiled by Pat O'Dwyer from online information in Wikipedia and from The Washington Post obituary printed in the Chicago Tribune.)

President's Message

Will You Join Our Branch in Spreading the Word About Work Smart?

By Co-President Carolyn Heiney

Each week I receive what seems like a hundred emails from AAUW. As one of your presidents, I feel responsible to read each one. Some contain specific important information; many repeat information that they really want me "to get."

Perhaps, the most frequent of these messages is the one aimed at giving one million women the opportunity to take the Work Smart free course online. At first, this went on my 'to do list' as something that I should do to be knowledgeable about what AAUW is doing. I took the free class and was excited about the content, extremely impressed with the quality, and ready to jump on the AAUW bandwagon to get the message out to one million women about AAUW's Work Smart curriculum that is based on the best research on how to best navigate the complexity of job offers and promotions. Kim Churches, AAUW CEO, urges us to prioritize the Work Smart project as a major goal for AAUW.

I know that many members of our branch are no longer in the work force. This provides us with a great challenge. We need to be creative and invite women not in our branch to partake of this opportunity. Remember, they don't have to be AAUW members. Who could you invite? When I make my quick list, I have two daughters, two neighbors, three daughters of my cousins, one girlfriend of my nephew, probably a half dozen women at my church, and several in an educational women's group to which I belong, who could easily benefit from the class. I'm sure that you can make a quick list too. Together we can do this, and the best part is that this is an easy way to help other women in the workplace.

In addition to the personal touch of inviting those you know, put it on your Facebook page, tweet it if you are so inclined. Just get the word out. As a motivation tool to peak your interest, I have a plan to get us started. Will you join me? Here's the proposal:

1. Each Elmhurst branch member will share Work Smart with at least five women. (Daughters, granddaughters, granddaughters of friends, the young women in your yoga class. You get the idea.)

2. Keep track of the number of women you invite to take the free course and email me the number that you have invited to Work Smart. This way we have some real numbers to assess our impact. The member who has invited the most women to take the course by June 1 will receive a \$25 gift certificate for our 2019 book sale.

To make the process easier, you will find a separate sheet in this newsletter that can be given to the women on your list. It should explain everything, why they should take the class and how to find it online. Please join me in taking this opportunity to help women with Work Smart!!



The January meeting featured reports from some amazing women and their experiences in STEM careers.

AAUW INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

Here a thought about AAUW's far-reaching fellowship efforts. Our "funding for women's education and projects has a tremendous impact on women and their communities by expanding women's potential and supporting their future promise."



Cecilia Gebruers is a recent awardee as a 2018–19 International Fellow. Her project is "Forgotten Subjects of Intersectionality: Indigenous Women Resisting Land-Grabbing."

Cecilia Gebruers is from Argentina and is pursuing a doctoral degree at Yeshiva University. Her dissertation focuses on the current debates around intersectionality in human rights law and legal theory, with special emphasis on indigenous women's rights.

Gebruers managed the legal department for Equipo Latinoamericano de Justicia y Género, an organization based in Argentina doing work on women's rights, and worked as an assistant professor teaching political theory and women's rights at the University of Buenos Aires.

To read more about AAUW fellowships and grants, please go to <https://www.aauw.org/article/fellowships-and-grant-awardees/>

Betty Laliberte – Diversity / International



Be a TECH SAVVY Volunteer this Year!

This an exciting opportunity to work with Generation Z girls. We are looking for volunteers to support the 6th Chicagoland Tech Savvy program. Tech Savvy is a daylong career conference that focuses on STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) areas, designed to attract girls in sixth through ninth grade to the STEM fields and to inform mentoring adults about STEM education and careers.

We expect over 200 students and 100 parents to attend, so please join us at:

LEWIS UNIVERSITY
One University Pkwy - Romeoville, IL

Saturday, March 23, 2019

Activities will run from about 8 am – 4 pm.

Lewis University is only about a half-hour from Elmhurst! So, please head over to our [Volunteer Signup](#) to register your availability. Various different shifts are available.

Volunteers will come from AAUW, educators, local college students, and professional women in science organizations. At least 80 volunteers will be needed throughout the day.

Orientation for Volunteers will be conducted at Lewis University approximately one week prior to the event - details will be available shortly after volunteer registration.

Thanks! Denise Dean, Tech Savvy Volunteer Coordinator

Are You a Tech Savvy Girl?

You will be after a day of hands-on fun with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics!

Tech Savvy is a daylong science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) career conference designed to attract girls in sixth through ninth grade to these fields and to inform mentoring adults about STEM education and careers and how they can support the girls' interest and success in STEM.

Who: 6th to 9th grade girls and parents/mentors/teachers

Cost: \$10 per person (girls and adults)
(Includes lunch and a t-shirt for the attending girls to wear at the conference)

Where: Lewis University
One University Parkway
Romeoville, IL 60446-2200

How: Online Registration **Required**
<http://www.techsavvy-il.org/>
(limited to first 200 registrants)

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019

Questions? Send an email to: info@TechSavvy-IL.org

Time: 8:30 am – 4 pm

Online registration will be required.
Workshop choices will be first come, first served.

<http://www.techsavvy-il.org/>

Organized by Illinois Branches of AAUW:
American Association of University Women



AAUW WORK SMART

Free Online Course

What is it?

- AAUW's **Work Smart** curriculum is based on the best research on how to best navigate the complexity of job offers and promotions. Through presentations and interactive exercises, participants learn to research fair and equitable salaries and benefits in their fields (and geographic areas) and to clearly tout the skills and experience they bring to the table. Participants also learn the precise words and tactics to use when negotiating.

Why take Work Smart?

- You will gain skills that will help you in the workplace.
- You can take it online when convenient to you, stopping and starting at any time.
- It's free and easy to complete, well worth your time.

How do you take the course?

- Go to AAUW.org
- Click on Work Smart or enter Work Smart in the search box.
- Complete the registration section.
- Take the course. No need to worry about where you stopped. The program automatically returns to the correct section.