



# Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 80, No. 10 • May 2019

## May Branch Luncheon

Put Saturday, May 4, on your calendar! You will want to be at River Forest Country Club at 11:30 am to enjoy a wonderful social time with our branch members and dine on some scrumptious food.

At that time we will introduce our Returning Scholarship winners. It's always so exciting to hear about their lives and see how our book sale efforts can make a difference. Bring a guest. We love having potential new members!

Reservations must be made in advance. Please use enclosed flyer to reserve space.

## Join Us for the Memorial Day Parade

For the second year in recent history our Elmhurst Area AAUW Branch will be marching (actually, just walking) in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27, to honor our veterans, to showcase our branch as a thriving part of the community, and to publicize the book sale.

The route is only about a mile, and the marchers take turns carrying our banner and passing out leaflets about the dates and times of the sale. It's fun! The city's parade coordinators ask that we wear red, white, and /or blue, if possible. Comfortable shoes are always an advantage.

If you are interested, please contact Maria Patt, either at 630-832-5614 or [mdpatt59@comcast.net](mailto:mdpatt59@comcast.net). It's important for Maria to be able to contact you with details of where to meet and the exact time to be there. If you can't walk the mile, wildly cheer for our members as they pass. They will smile, be grateful for your encouragement, and hand you a flyer.



## MAY 2019

**May 3-4**

**AAUW-IL State Convention**

Crowne Plaza Hotel  
Springfield, IL

**May 4 - 11:30 am**

Annual Spring Luncheon  
River Forest Country Club

**May 15**

AAUW Lobby Day - Springfield

**May 27**

Elmhurst Memorial Day Parade



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

**Mission**

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

**Values**

Nonpartisan. Fact-based Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality.

**Vision**

Equity for all.

**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**

**February 18, 2019**

*Denise Thompson*  
*Director of Finance*

Book Sale Fund:	\$10,368.92
Conferences Fund	1,969.01
General Fund:	<u>4,727.41</u>
Total	\$17,065.34

**HR1 For the People Act of 2019**

Chris Carson of the League of Women Voters contends that HR1 For the People Act of 2019 addresses the new level of concern for election cybersecurity and transparency of political ads raised by the Special Counsel’s report.

The For the People Act reads: “To expand Americans’ access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money in politics, and strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and for other purposes.”

This bill would specifically help women by empowering small dollar financing of campaigns - the funding choice for many if not most of the successful 2018 campaigns of women. Secondly, the bill would require gender to be considered for membership of independent redistricting commissions.

Contact your senator now to demand that the For the People Act be heard. The House passed HR1, 234 to 193 votes, and the bill is on the Senate Legislative calendar now.

*Jane Jegerski - Public Policy*

**Scholarships Awarded**

The AAUW Funds Committee reviewed 11 applications for this year’s scholarships. The committee chose Claudia Oropeza and Paulina Rzeszowska to receive the \$2,500 scholarships.

Claudia has been admitted into the University of Chicago Graham School. She will graduate with a master’s degree in biomedical informatics.

Paulina is enrolled in the nursing program at College of DuPage and will graduate in December of 2019.

Claudia and Paulina will be honored at the May Luncheon.

**A Note from Membership ....**

Thank you to those members who have already renewed. For those who have yet to renew, Denise Thompson will be sending out another round of invoices via email. Members who wish to renew by check can bring it to the May Luncheon or do so by mailing it to :Denise Thompson, 117 W. Fremont Ave., Elmhurst,IL 60126

Our dues remain \$88.00 for regular membership and \$29.00 for Life time members. Fifty year honorary life time members do not owe dues. We ask all members to indicate any changes in contact information.

We also ask that if at all possible you please remit your payment in a timely fashion. This will enable our branch and National to financially plan for the coming year.

Thank you all for your continued support. If you have any questions regarding the renewal process please call Deb Markello at 630-832-5419.

## **President's Message**

### **Why Do You Do It?**

Carolyn Heiney Co-President

Last month my goal for this column was to thank you for your gifts to AAUW and to our branch. I hope that you felt appreciated. In the weeks between then and now I've thought about why you are so generous. Maybe it's in your soul, your DNA, to be giving. Perhaps it's part of your faith, of what you believe is a good thing to do. Maybe you find it a preferable way to spend your time. Watching hours of TV or searching Facebook bores you, so giving your time and energy to AAUW is a preferable choice. Then again, maybe you feel good inside when you see what your time and money has accomplished. If that's the case, let me tell you about the good that the money that we give does. You'll probably want to do more.

Recently, our AAUW Funds Committee met to choose our two scholarship winners from eleven applicants. Reading their stories and learning about their struggles to get an education helped me to once again realize that not everyone has had an easy path to get that degree. Of course, we want to help, when we learn about a woman's desire to become a better, more educated woman. What is even more impressive is to learn that these women also want to give back. They want to help others access all that a good education can provide.

This year's winners of our Returning Scholar awards, Claudia and Paulina, have different goals and amazing stories. Claudia is working on a Master's of Science in Biomedical and Informatics at the Graham School of the University of Chicago. Her journey was not traditional. She was brought up in a family that didn't encourage women to pursue an education. She was the first woman in her family to ever attend a 4-year university. Paulina, also seeking her education through a nontraditional journey, is working on a degree to become a registered nurse. In 2006, she came to the U.S. alone from Poland in search of a better life. Once again, her parents did not support more than a high school education for her. As she works toward her degree, she continues as a property manager-housekeeper. She believes that her choice to be a nurse will make a difference in somebody's life.

Since many of our gifts, especially our national dues, are given directly to AAUW, think about these statistics. Our AAUW research, programs and advocacy work were covered by 246 media outlets, including national publications such as Time, Money, U.S. News and World Report and The New York Times, and radio programs in local markets and on NPR's Marketplace. Collectively, we reached more than 356 million people! We must be doing work that is valued by our society. Women all over the country are benefitting from Smart Work, our lobbying efforts to pass laws that advance women's rights, and our LAF support of those who have been treated unfairly at school and in the workplace. Our dues and our gifts seem to be working very well!

As we toil carting, sorting and selling books this summer, think about the good that this effort affords. Our labor results in the money that provides all of these wonderful accomplishments!!! Just maybe this is why you (we) do it!



# Scenes from April AAUW Meeting



# May Lunch

Saturday, May 4, 2019  
11:30 am: Cocktails and Conversation  
12:30 pm: Lunch

River Forest Country Club  
15W468 Grand Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
\$30 per person



## Menu

### CHOICE OF ENTRÉE:

**SALMON CAESAR SALAD:** Hearts of Romaine, Classic Caesar Dressing, Homemade Croutons, Hard Boiled Egg, Parmesan Crisp with Grilled Salmon  
**PECAN CHICKEN SALAD:** Pecan Crusted Chicken, Gala Apples, Strawberries, Red Cabbage, Dried Cranberries, Blue Cheese, Poppy Seed Dressing

### DESSERT:

**PROFITEROLES:** Two Cream Puffs filled with Vanilla Ice Cream and topped with Homemade Chocolate Sauce Dusted with Powdered Sugar

**COFFEE and TEA** included

**CASH BAR** for Alcoholic Beverages and Soft Drinks

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

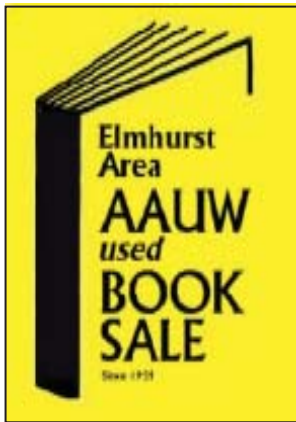
Select One: Salmon Ceasar Salad \_\_\_\_ Peacon Chicken Salad \_\_\_\_

If you have dietary restrictions, please let us know what they are so they can be accommodated.

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Send your reservation with your check to  
Sally Ott  
712 Bryan St.  
Elmhurst, IL 60126





## **USED BOOK SALE 2019 -- 60 Years!**

From: AAUW Used Book Sale Committee

We have exciting news, lots of information, and dates for you to put on your calendar.

First of all, as our Used Book Sale logo tells us --"Since 1959"-- this will be the 60th year that our Branch has offered the Used Book Sale to our community of Elmhurst. It has been consistently successful allowing us to give a generous contribution to the Association every year and to award local scholarships to returning women students.

Second, following extensive conversations with District 205, we have dates and a location for the 2019 Sort & Sale. We have the use of the Sandburg Middle School cafeteria from July 12 through July 28. The sorting will take place from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon every day but Sunday from July 13-July 24 and the Sale will take place from Thursday, July 25-Sunday, July 28.

Third, as you can see, since our time at the school will be compressed this year, we will need every member's help for that 17-day period. Please mark you calendar and plan to devote as many sorting mornings as possible with us as well as working the sale on the final weekend. Sandburg is easily accessible and air conditioned.

## **Welcome Our New Officers – Thanks to the Outgoing Board**

Congratulations to our newly elected 2019-2020 Elmhurst Area Officers! At our April meeting the following women were elected to lead the branch next year:

- Presidents: Jennifer Jordan and Suzanne Stock
- Membership Vice President: Sarah Caltvedt
- Program Vice Presidents: Kimberly Miller and Sally Schuster
- Director of Finance: Moira Murray
- Director of Bylaws and Policy: Pat O'Dwyer
- Directors of Nominating Committee: Carolyn Heiney and Darlene Van Meir

Thanks also to all those who have served on the board this year and will be completing their terms. We are grateful to Denise Thompson, Sally Ott, Genie Urick, Deb Markello, Tsue Ostermann, and Jan Summers for their service! Of course, we are thrilled that Peggy Fox, Carol Rounds, Maria Patt, Perry Doubt, Denise Dean, Jane Jegerski, and Betty Laliberte will continue with their leadership responsibilities for another year. Suzanne Stock, Sally Schuster, Carolyn Heiney, and Darlene Van Meir will continue on the board but change positions. Through their efforts all of these women have made the Elmhurst Area AAUW a terrific branch! You are much appreciated. THANKS!





## Half the Sky Group

••This month Half the Sky discussed the book “Teach a Woman to Fish: Overcoming Poverty” around the globe by Ritu Sharma. The strength of the book is that Ritu was able to blend the theoretical concepts, the arduous tasks of creating legislation and working with lawmakers and international organizations for systemic change with the personal stories of women and their cooperatives. It is a powerful read! Next fall we will read Melinda Gates’ new book “The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World.”

••Half the Sky will meet in June to celebrate the end of the year’s activities. Site and time still to be decided. We will wait until after Ramadan has ended on June 4, 2019 in deference to our Moslem members. Keep a lookout for an email announcement.

••Menstrual Kits. Half the Sky will be collecting 100% flannel and cotton fabric for a workshop we will be doing in conjunction with DAYS FOR GIRLS. If you have fabric to donate, please contact Kimberly Miller 630 758 1007 or Betty Laliberte 630 832 9010.

Days for Girls creates menstrual pads in a kit for girls so that they are free to attend school during the days they are having their period. Three of the Half the Sky members attended a workshop where we made 512 liners for these kits. Watch the newsletter for date and time of this workshop.

••Bras. AAUW Elmhurst Branch has collected 107 bras for Free the Girls. We are above and beyond our goal of 80 bras to commemorate our 80 years as a branch. WE ARE STILL COLLECTING BRAS!!!!

We will take the bras to Chesterton Indiana after our May Luncheon... if you have gently used bras, May 4 will be the final day of our collection.

Thanks to everyone. Our last batch of bras came from Betsy and Jennifer Aldred. THANK YOU for bringing us over one hundred bras!

## Sign up for Lobby Day on May 15th

All members are invited to attend AAUW Lobby Day in Springfield on Wednesday, May 15th. The day will begin around 10:00 am with AAUW-IL’s legislative consultant, Jenni Perdue, educating attendees on the Illinois State legislative process.

Attendees will also learn the “lay of the land” before heading out to meet with representatives. Armed with talking points and materials regarding Public Policy issues that are important to AAUW, our message to our legislators will be on-point and consistent.

Depending on the legislative session that is happening on May 15th, AAUW-IL attendees may get to sit together in the gallery and be recognized by the Speaker. After advocating at the Capitol, members will regroup for a late lunch together at a nearby cafe before returning home.

Contact: Susan Scott at [susscott1@gmail.com](mailto:susscott1@gmail.com) or Tracey Sherman-Falcon at [shermanfalcon@hotmail.com](mailto:shermanfalcon@hotmail.com).