



Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 81, No. 7 • March 2020

NEXT MEETING

Democracy in America: A Tea at Hull House with Jane Addams

Elmhurst Public Library
March 11, 7 pm



Jane Addams (1860-1935), portrayed by Betsey Means, was a crusader for social justice. She devoted her life to caring for the underprivileged and oppressed. She fought for the rights of workers, women, children and so much more. Addams founded Chicago's Hull House, which is known as one of the most famous settlement houses in America. She is considered a pioneer in the field of modern social work and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931.

Join us for this enlightening, entertaining program celebrating Women's History Month. The Elmhurst Public Library is our cosponsor. If you can, please register for this program: by phone, 630-279-8696; or online: elmlib.org/registration. You will need your Elmhurst Public Library card. This will help the library for planning purposes, however it is not required that you to register in order to attend.

2020-2022 New Officer Slate

The Elmhurst Area AAUW Branch Nominating Committee presents the following slate of new officers for two-year terms beginning July 1 2020:

- Membership Vice President – Linda Fischer
- Recording Secretary – Sheila Hope
- Director of AAUW Funds – Tsue Ostermann
- Director of Public Policy – Jane Jegerski

The committee is thrilled that these wonderful branch members have agreed to join the board and continue to move AAUW and our branch forward.

*Directors of the Nominating Committee -
Carolyn Heiney and Darlene Van Meir*



MARCH 2020

March 4 - 7:00 pm
Board Meeting
Elmhurst Public Library

March 11 - 7:00 pm
Branch Meeting: "Democracy in America: Tea at Hull House with Jane Addams"
Elmhurst Public Library

March 19 - 10:00 am
Springfield Day

March 21 - 8:30 am
Tech-Savvy
Triton College

March 21 - 2:00 pm
Work Smart
Elmhurst Public Library

March 26 - 1:00 pm
AAUW Book Group
Just Mercy by
Byron Stevenson
Discussion Leader:
Janet Hodge
Hostess: Janet Hodge

March 31 - 7:30 pm
Half the Sky Meeting
Perry Doubt's Home



AAUW Hotline 1-800-326-2289
Email: 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.

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FINANCIAL REPORT

January 31, 2020

Moira Murray
Director of Finance

Book Sale Fund:	\$ 9,910.35
Conferences Fund	2,634.01
General Fund:	<u>6,577.53</u>
Total	\$19,121.89

Half the Sky News

Half the Sky will be visiting BETHANY HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY on Saturday April 18 for a luncheon fellowship with young refugee/immigrant women. <http://bethanyhouseofhospitality.com/>

There are currently 12 women and 3 girls aged 3 months, 16 months and 2 years old at the residence in Hyde Park.

We invite all AAUW members to join us in gathering items to bring with us. They especially need:

- two twin beds,
- 4 drawer file cabinet with lock,
- diapers sizes 4 and 5 and baby wipes,
- baby and toddlers' girl clothes (sizes 6 months, and 3T).
- paper towels and toilet paper always

There is also an Amazon list Bethany HH List for the house:

- 3 TaoTronic Therapy Lamps
- 10 Hillfair Thermal Blankets blue
- 1 Cuisinart Cookware set
- 1 Mattress encasement waterproof mattress protector
- 2 Aquagear Water Filter Pitchers
- 2 Folding Clothes Drying Racks
- 4 Euro toilet paper holders
- 5 compact umbrellas
- 5 Pantene shampoo and conditioner sets

Please go to the website to learn exact specifications https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/23OCPHCS8C5HX/?ref=nav_wishlist_lists_3?encoding=UTF8&type=wishlist

Thank you for considering this project. Donations may be brought to the March and April AAUW meetings.

Questions? Call Betty Laliberte. 630 832 9010 who is collecting items to bring with us.

Bethany House of Hospitality offers housing and support services to young immigrant women as they journey to independence. Residents are from El Salvador, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Guatemala, Somalia, Venezuela, Honduras, Saudi Arabia and Sudan.

Services offered to residents include coordination with immigration attorneys, health care providers and other community based programs to help with social integration into US. culture.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Elmhurst Area AAUW Branch started 2020 with two terrific and timely programs. In January several of our members gave an overview of the platforms and issues of the presidential candidates. This was followed in February by Mike Zaniello, Volunteer and Illinois State Co-Coordinator, Citizens Climate Lobby. His presentation included a comprehensive climate solution.

In our upcoming March 11 program, Betsey Means portrays Jane Addams, a crusader for social justice. Jane established Hull House in Chicago and, in 1931, she was co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. This program, Democracy in America: A Tea at Hull House with Jane Addams, is cosponsored by the Elmhurst Public Library. Bring a friend, neighbor or relative for this exciting event! Mark your calendar.

Our Nominating Committee has been working hard to create a Slate of Officers for 2020-2022. This slate is listed elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Meanwhile, Jennifer and I are working to replace outgoing Appointed Officers and Special Committee Chairs. At this point we need two Appointed Officers.

- College/University Relations – this officer is the branch liaison to Elmhurst College, and a member of the Funds Committee which handles the allocation of funds and selection of scholarship recipients

- Newsletter Officer – this officer is responsible for publishing and distributing the Branch monthly newsletter. Please note: Perry Doubt has agreed to continue in this capacity for one additional year. An “understudy” is being sought to work with Perry during the year to learn the position and to assist Perry.

We also need the following Special Committee Chairs.

- STEM – this officer works to advance study in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics

- Used Book Sale – this person or persons oversees the annual Book Sale

Please send recommendations to either Jennifer Jordan or me, Suzanne Stock.

While there is no National AAUW Conference planned for this year, a 13-state Regional AAUW Conference being hosted by Illinois in East Moline on June 18 – 20. A very impressive roster of inspirational speakers and a variety of programming on women's issues are included. Besides the draw of the conference, there are numerous activities in the Quad Cities area. Plan to attend. Further information is attached to this Newsletter.

Respectfully,
Suzanne Stock, Co-Chair

February AAUW Meeting “Solving the Climate Challenge”



Susan Boyd and Betty Laliberte



*Heidi Hartmann and speaker Mike Zaniello,
from Citizens' Climate Lobby.*



Sally Ott and Pat O'Dwyer

MARCH 19, 2020 • SPRINGFIELD DAY

AAUW members from around the state will gather at the Stratton Office Building (next to the Capitol) at 10am on March 19th.

We will start our day with AAUW-IL lobbyist Jennifer Perdue educating attendees on the technical process by which our laws become laws.

How the rest of the day unfolds will become clearer once we are there and know the specific legislative agenda for the day.

Attendees can; visit with their representatives, watch a session from the gallery or attend a committee hearing. We will have late lunch and wrap up session at 2pm at nearby Moxo Cafe before heading home. During this more casual conversation we will hear the behind-the-scenes stories of how politics really works in Illinois.

Please wear a white shirt. You will receive a scarf as a gift. That helps us to stand out as a united group.

Please contact your representatives to set up an appointment to speak to them in person (they will likely not give you a specific time as the rule in Springfield is FLEXIBILITY)

Bring a light snack and water as we will be busy from 10am-2pm.

ILLINOIS LAWS;

HB 3113: Health insurance policies will soon also have to cover one annual office visit for a whole – body skin examination for lesions for skin cancer, without charging the patient a deductible, coinsurance or co-payment.

HB3503: Requires insurers to offer optional coverage for hearing instruments and any related services for all individuals 65 years old and older when so prescribed by a hearing care professional.



New News in STEM

The UIC College of Engineering and Computer Science department will be partnering with Break Through Tech via a five-year grant provided by Melinda Gates' company, Pivotal Ventures, among others. With this grant, UIC will be able to design and promote programs to encourage female students' interests in the computing field.

Thanks to Perry Doubt for finding this interesting article. To read more details, head over to <https://emails.uofi.uic.edu/newsletter/257302.html>.

TechSavvy 2020 is Finally Here

The Director of STEM Education at Elmhurst District 205 has been advertising the TechSavvy Illinois STEM Conference at Triton in their principals' newsletters to parents – hopefully this will encourage girls in the area to attend on Saturday, March 21st.

Mary-Jo Wolsky is still looking for TechSavvy volunteers, so please let her know (630-802-0652 or mjwolsky7@gmail.com) if you can work the event on the 21st. Thanks!

--Denise Dean



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: 6 th to 9 th 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: Triton College 2000 Fifth Avenue River Grove, IL 60171	How: Online Registration <i>Required</i> (opens Feb 2020) (limited to first 200 registrants)
Date: Saturday, March 21, 2020	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



TechSavvy Illinois  **Triton College**



The ERA: Where Are We Now?

By AJ Conroy, ERA Illinois

In January, Virginia became the 38th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. The resolution was promptly sent to the National Archivist for certification. This ministerial task is proscribed by federal statute and was the process followed by Nevada, Illinois, the archivist, and every state that ratified the “Madison Amendment” in the 90s. However Alabama, South Dakota and Louisiana sued to prevent the archivist from doing his job. Upon the advice of the Department of Justice (i.e, the lawyers for the Executive Branch), the Archivist has not yet certified Virginia’s ratification.

In response, Illinois, Nevada and Virginia filed a separate lawsuit to compel the Archivist to certify Virginia’s ratification and declare the Equal Rights Amendment as added to the US Constitution. Again, this is a clerical task given to the Archivist by a federal law. Meanwhile, a private lawsuit was filed by the group Equal Means Equal (filmmakers). The three lawsuits are in different federal courts. One or all of them is expected to go before the Supreme Court. More on that in a bit.

In another development, the House of Representatives voted on February 13 (Galentines Day!) to remove the Congressional ERA time limit. The resolution is now before the Senate as SJRes6.

What happens next?

There are several possibilities, but no one really knows. The best outcome would be for the Senate to vote this year to remove the time limit, and for the Supreme Court to then defer to Congress on the doctrine of “political question” and affirm that only Congress can author an Amendment. The ERA would then become part of the US Constitution. Another possibility is that the Supreme Court directs the Archivist to certify Virginia’s ratification without the Senate taking action. The ERA would then become part of the US Constitution. A third possibility is that a Supreme Court decision dismisses the ERA, and advocates must restart the ratification process.

Much of the future will be determined by the Supreme Court but there is one thing that ERA advocates can influence and that is pushing for a senate vote.

The plan for the Senate.

In Illinois, at the height of ratification efforts, we focused on legislators in contested races. That same strategy can work in the Senate. Pollsters have identified eight states as having competitive Senate races. Working under the assumption that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and party leadership are focused on maintaining a senate majority, our task is to convince them that allowing a vote for the Equal Rights Amendment is critical to winning key Senate races. Stated another way, the strategy isn’t to get a majority of votes, but convince McConnell to have a vote. These key states are Arizona, Colorado, Maine, North Carolina, Georgia, Missouri, Kentucky and Iowa.

What you can do?

Reach out to family friends and peers in those states. Tell them about the Senate and why they could play a crucial role. Not only are they in a pivotal state, but they may be part of a pivotal demographic. Historically, middle-age and older women vote at a higher rate, and politicians know that well. Here are some things they can do 1) call their Senator weekly, 2) attend candidate forums, 3) write a letter to the editor, and 4) host screening of Equal Means Equal. Details and more ideas are located at www.erallinois.org/resources.

When to act?

We have a window between now and November. You can make a difference and together we can get this done. #ERAnow!



2020

Regional Convention

June 18-20, 2020

Hyatt House Hotel

East Moline, IL

Registration Opens Soon!



Confirmed plenary speakers—

- ◆ Kim Churches, Chief Executive Officer, AAUW;
- ◆ Kendra Davis, Senior Vice President Advancement & Partnerships, AAUW;
- ◆ Lisa Maatz, Former VP Government Relations, AAUW;
- ◆ Denise Lieberman, Director, Advancement Project's Power and Democracy Program;
- ◆ Dr. Angie Maxwell, Director of the Diane Blair Center of Southern Politics and Society, University of Arkansas;
- ◆ Michelle Duster, author and great-granddaughter of Ida B. Wells.

Early Bird Registration (before May 15) \$175

Regular Registration (after May 15) \$225

Includes lunch on Thursday & Friday, dinner on Thursday

Optional Riverboat Cruise Dinner \$50.95

Friday evening aboard the Celebration Belle

Register at <https://aauw-il.aauw.net/>

Convention Hotel

Hyatt House

111 Bend Blvd, E. Moline, IL 61244

Register at

<https://aauw-il.aauw.net/>

Double or King rooms are \$149, tax included and include a full breakfast.

Interesting Programming:

- ◆ Economic Security Panel
- ◆ ERA Passage in Illinois
- ◆ Celebration of 19th Amendment
- ◆ WorkSmart--bring your own device for the online workshop
- ◆ Town Hall with Kendra Davis
- ◆ Branch Program Sharing--bring your best ideas and take some home!
- ◆ Breakout sessions on Cyber Security, Running for Office, Title IX, Diversity & Inclusion, and more!

Catch up with old friends and meet new friends from 13 states—Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin!

**The Elmhurst Branch of AAUW
and the Elmhurst Public Library present**

Work Smart

- The AAUW Work Smart course is designed to help women negotiate for a new job, raise, or promotion.
- Become empowered with the skills and confidence to negotiate for fair pay.
- Learn how to research a competitive salary; to articulate your skills, qualifications, and experience; to ask for AND GET the pay you deserve.

**Saturday
March 21
2-4:30 pm
Computer Lab
Elmhurst
Public
Library
125 S. Prospect**



American Association of University Women
<http://www.aauwelmhurst.org>

**Registration is required at the Elmhurst Public Library
by phone: 630-279-8696 — online: elmlib.org/registration**