



Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 82, No. 11 • June 2021

AAUW Monthly Meeting

Saturday - June 12 - 12:00 noon

Salt Creek Park • 574 W. 2nd Street, Elmhurst

June Meeting: Lunch at Salt Creek Park

Our final meeting for this year will take place in person on Saturday, June 12th at Salt Creek Park, 574 W. 2nd St., Elmhurst, IL 60126. We will have box lunches from Rosalia's Deli. The cost is \$15 per person.

You will choose one of three sub sandwiches. All come with lettuce, tomato, and onion.

- ITALIAN: Dressing, Mortadella, Salami, Hot Capicola, & Provolone
- AMERICAN: Mayo, Ham, Turkey, American Cheese & Pickle
- CAPRESE: Tomatoes, Fresh Mozzarella, Basil, Red Pepper, Balsamic Glaze, & Olive Oil

For dessert, we will have cookies from Rosalia's. We will supply bottled water. If you want something different to drink, please bring your own. Individual bags of chips come with each sandwich.

In addition to enjoying everyone's company, we will meet this year's returning scholarship award winners.

Included with this newsletter is a flyer about the event. Reservations must be received by June 4. We have reserved the shelter at Salt Creek Park so this event will take place rain or shine. We look forward to seeing everyone. Bring your mask, just in case.

Results: AAUW Election 2021

Here are the results of the three items that were on the member ballot in the recently completed National Election:

(1) Election of members to the National Board of Directors -- Board Chair, Julia T. Brown, and Vice-Chair, Melinda Gaul, were re-elected. Board Members Elizabeth Haynes and Joseph Bertolino were elected to another term in office.

(2) Public Policy Priorities 2021-2023 -- Approved.

(3) Open Membership Bylaws Amendment -- Not approved.

The board-recommended ballot initiative to remove the college-degree membership requirement did not receive the two-thirds, or 66.6%, vote required to enact a bylaws change. However, a remarkable 63% voted in favor of making this change, a significant increase over previous votes that hovered at 50%, giving hope that next time the change will go through.



Board of Directors

June 2 • 6:00 pm

Box Lunch

Butterfield Park

Branch Meeting

June 12 • 12 noon

Box Lunch

Salt Creek Park

Reservation Form enclosed

Book Group

June 3 • 1:00 pm

Hill Women

by Cassie Chambers

Marcia Goltermann's Backyard

Hostess: Carol Rounds

Discussion: Darlene VanMeir

Also will vote on books to read next year. Bring your own beverage.



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.

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

April 30, 2021

Moira Murray

Director of Finance

Fund Raiser Fund	\$ 10,650.35
Conferences Fund	2,634.01
General Fund:	<u>7,369.15</u>
Total	\$20,653.51

Renew Your Membership Now!

It's been a challenging year, but our Branch is looking forward to getting back to our normal in-person programs and activities in the coming months, starting with our Used Book Sale this summer.

We depend on members to maintain the programs that our Branch and the national AAUW offer. AAUW's membership year runs from July 1 to June 30, and renewals are underway. As of May 25, 32 branch members have already renewed. Thank you!

All regular Branch members with an email address have received a message from our Director of Finance, Moira Murray, with a link to renew their membership for 2021-22. This is by far the quickest and easiest way to renew, for you and for Moira. Don't lose your link in your inbox - click on it, enter your credit card information, update with any changes in your contact information, and you're done!

Contact Moira (MoCruising@gmail.com) if you can't find the email with your link, and she can send you a new invoice. If you prefer, or if you want to make an additional contribution to our Branch, you can fill out the Renewal Form in this newsletter and send it with a check to our P.O. Box.

You'll notice that national dues are increasing by \$3 this year, bringing the total to \$91, of which \$78 is tax-deductible. Our Branch and State dues remain the same.

Special note to 50-year Honorary Life Members: Although you're exempt from paying dues, would you consider making a voluntary contribution to help support Branch activities if you are able?

Please try to complete your renewal by June 30. It's much less work for our Director of Finance and Membership Vice-Presidents if you do it before the end of the fiscal year, and you'll ensure that you're included in our forthcoming Member Yearbook and Directory. Don't put it off - renew today

--Sarah Caltvedt, Membership Co-Vice President



It won't be long! Get ready for the 2021 AAUW Used Book Sale. See details on p.5.

President's Message • June 2021

As you know, as of June 30, 2021, our program year will end. Our Program Vice Presidents, Kimberly Miller and Sally Schuster, have done a great job of constructing a wonderful set of programs for this past year. They are to be commended for adapting so well to the COVID19 environment and bringing us a variety of very informative programs. As Sally passes her baton to Chris White, we are looking forward to another year of programs and events that Kimberly and Chris will plan.

We are also looking forward to the June 12 Branch picnic at Salt Creek Park. We can all connect with long time acquaintances as well as get to know our newer members. Hopefully all will attend.

A huge thank you to the two members who will no longer serve on the Board: Darlene Van Meir will be leaving her post on the Nominating Committee and Sarah Caltvedt who will be leaving the Membership Co-Vice President position. We recognize you for your leadership, service, and willingness to share your time, energy and skills as you fulfilled your duties. Kudos to you both!

And a special thanks goes to Carol Rounds who very willingly and graciously took on the role of interim Board Secretary when it was needed. Thank you Carol!

Many Board members will remain on the Board, some taking on new positions. We welcome new members to the Board: Rosemarie Eck takes on Membership Co-Vice President, Debra Markello will be Recording Secretary, Jane Klenck will take on Publicity, Chris White will serve as Program Co-Vice President, Elizabeth Neill will focus on Diversity and International Affairs, and Judy Ekblad STEM. I hope each of you experiences great satisfaction from your new role. Thank you for your willingness to assume these new responsibilities.

As I mentioned in my very first President's Message back in 2019, we have a number of unfinished business items. First, women are in danger of losing their right to reproductive choice. Second, equal pay for equal work, equality in the workplace, the ability to advance in our careers, and the right to be heard as equal members of our community. While we have made some strides forward with these issues, none is resolved. Also needing mention is the fact that AAUW members did not vote out the degree requirement for membership.

Thank you all for allowing me to serve as an Elmhurst Area AAUW Co-President these past two years. I am very fortunate to have shared this position with Jennifer Jordan. I have greatly enjoyed working with her. Thanks to Jennifer for all she has contributed to the organization.

Respectfully,

Suzanne J. Stock, Co-President

Half the Sky

We celebrated our last meeting of the season of Half the Sky when the sky gave us blustery winds and threats of thunder storms. For all the drama, the sky was good to us and we were able to picnic and complete some business before the rains came.

Nineteen members enjoyed a South of the Border picnic dinner in Carolyn Heiney's park of a backyard after a year of studying the women of the Northern Triangle of Central America.

Our study moved us from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador to the U.S. southern border, to Chicago and then directly home to northwest Elmhurst where a contingent of Guatemalan immigrants live.

Covid kept us from socializing this year, but brought out the best of us as we worked for others. Supplies and equipment were given to Bethany House of Hospitality: 244 snack bags, 16 female hygiene bags, 44 wallets, multiple clothes and shoes were given to Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants in great numbers.

Supporting immigrants locally will be the focus for this coming year. Stay tuned for our next adventure in September! All are always welcomed.

--Betty Laliberte

AAUW Funds Committee Report

The deadline for the two Returning Student Scholarships (\$2,500 each) was May 1. After the application documents were scanned and distributed electronically for the committee members to review, the committee met in person on May 13 to select the two winners: Heather Callan of Villa Park and Megan Pagel of Elmhurst.

Heather Callan works full-time at Advocate Aurora Health and is now taking classes for her MBA at Elmhurst University. Her goal is to obtain a leadership position in CI (Clinical Informatics) or IT (Information Technology which is still held predominantly by men).

Megan Pagel is a full-time social worker with a Master's Degree who is now seeking a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. Her goal is to become a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE). She has already completed 40-hour trainings in both domestic violence and sexual assault awareness. As a social worker and a registered nurse, she believes she will be able to attend to the mental and physical toll a patient suffers.

The two winners have accepted our invitation to join us at the end-of-the year picnic on June 12,

and we are looking forward to meeting them in person.

The committee felt strongly that the applications received were all from very qualified candidates and wished there were more scholarships to give out.

--Tsue Ostermann,
Chair



Elizabeth Neill made a report on the not-for-profit group Raicest at the last at the Half the Sky meeting

Illinois SB 818: Keeping Youth Safe and Healthy

In a move to help prevent child sexual abuse, teenage pregnancy, rape and other sexual health problems with children, the Illinois State Senate has passed SB 818, the Keeping Youth Safe and Healthy Act. The proposed Act now goes to the Illinois House of Representatives for endorsement before it can be signed into law by the Governor. The Act creates a major change in sex education in Illinois.

The new comprehensive sexual health education standards proposal includes, but is not limited to, these topics: anatomy and physiology; healthy relationships; identity; personal safety; pregnancy and reproduction; puberty, growth and adolescent development; and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV.

For grades K-5, the focus would be on personal health and safety: focusing on respecting others, personal safety, what's appropriate behavior and what's not, and identifying trusted adults that students can rely on for guidance and support. For grades 6-12, the focus is on comprehensive sexual health education that is medically accurate; developmentally, culturally, and age appropriate; and inclusive and trauma informed. It is also affirming of identities that have historically been stigmatized or excluded including pregnant or parenting youth.

The Keeping Youth Safe and Healthy Act includes provisions for parents to opt out for their children and for school districts to adapt the provisions for their community. Also, as with all state curriculum requirements including civics, Charter Schools do not have to comply with the requirement. So, if this Act is passed, Charter Schools would not have to change to include the new sexual education standards; they teach what they want to teach for the most part. (This author hopes this loophole is dealt with in future legislative sessions.) Opposition to this bill has come from several religious organizations (e.g., Catholics, Baptists) and the main criticism from these sources is that the Act proposes inappropriate ages for the education. I have read the entire bill and I see no sex education in the traditional sense until grade 6. And, because 7 to 13 year olds are the most vulnerable to sexual abuse (average age 9 years), grade 6 seems to be an appropriate time to begin sexual health education.

If you are interested in supporting this bill, contact your State Representative asap. To find your IL state representative, follow the instructions on the p. 42 (last page) of our AAUW Yearbook and Membership Directory.

-Jane Jegerski, Public Policy

Used Book Sale Needs You!

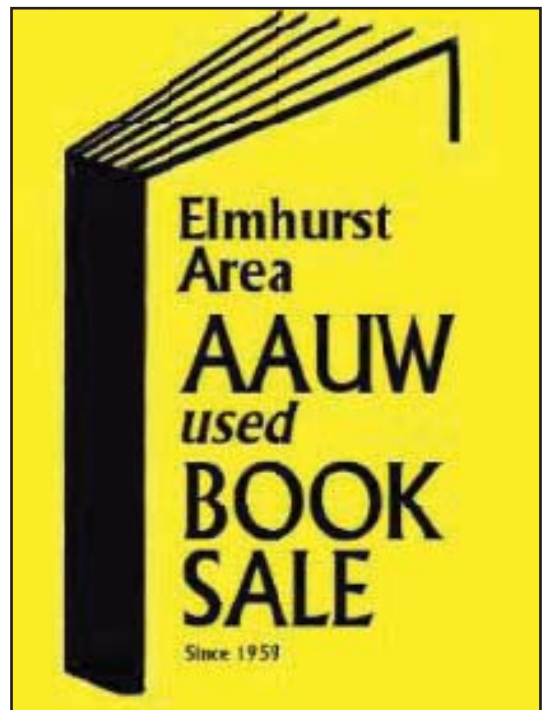
You've been waiting! You missed it last summer. It's almost here. Finally, you have the opportunity to be a part of our wonderful used book sale experience. Yes, it's time to start sorting!

Beginning on Tuesday, June 8, you can join us for sorting at Sandburg Middle School on St. Charles Road. We will be sorting books in the Sandburg cafeteria from 9 to noon Monday through Saturday each day through July 7. Come when you can. Leave when you must. Stay for an hour or all morning. Bring a friend. It's a wonderful way to meet our terrific branch members and be a part of something that benefits the community, the mission of AAUW, and women searching for financial assistance as they work to complete their education.

We also need members to work the sale July 8-11. If you have a special two-hour slot that you want to work call Pat O'Dwyer, 630-414-1746, to sign up. Questions? Call Carolyn Heiney 630-674-1426.

Have some fun this summer! Be a part of the book sale! See you at Sandburg!

--Carolyn Heiney, Used Book Sale Chair



SANDBURG JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Sorting: June 8 - July 7
Monday through Saturday • 9am - 12 noon

Book Sale: July 8 - 11
Thurs. (6-9 pm) Fri. (9am-8pm)
Sat 9am-3pm) Sun 11am-3pm