



Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 83, No. 6 • December 2021



Wednesday, December 1, 7 pm Annual Holiday Party via Zoom

We had hoped to meet in person at the Willows, but that location is no longer an option due to COVID restrictions. Therefore, we will be meeting via Zoom, although this year there is a twist.

Thanks to Tsue Ostermann our Zoom gathering will have Breakout Rooms. Instead of having one person talk at a time in a large group, small groups of four or five people can get together for conversation just as we would at an in-person party. We will bring everyone back to the large group after 15 minutes or so and reshuffle for another small group conversation of 15 minutes or so. It will be more like a real party where everyone engages in small group conversation. Enjoy a beverage and feel free to share your Holiday Spirit either in your attire or environment.

Watch your email for the Zoom link to join the celebration.



Half the Skiy

November 30, 2021
7:00 pm
Zoom Meeting

Branch Meeting

December 1, 2021
7:00 pm
Zoom Meeting
"Annual Holiday Party"

Book Group

December 2, 2021- 1 pm
A Woman of No Importance
by Sonia Purnell
Discussion Leader: Carol Rounds
Meet via Zoom

Board Meeting

No Board meeting in December



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

October 31, 2021

Jennifer Jordan

Director of Finance

Fund Raiser Fund	\$ 21,436.40
Conferences Fund	3,564.01
General Fund:	<u>7,946.58</u>
Total	\$32,946.99

**January 5 Branch Program:
The Women’s March: A Novel of the 1913 Woman
Suffrage Movement**

The January AAUW meeting will feature the book “The Women’s March: A Novel of the 1913 Woman Suffrage Movement” and will be led by members of the book discussion study group. As you read the book, here are some questions to think about.

1. Why did the author choose these 3 women?
2. Pick one of the 3 women and discuss how they influenced the women’s rights movement.
3. Do you think that Alice Paul’s march to the capitol was important? Do you think the march down Pennsylvania Avenue was a game changer in getting the 19th Amendment passed?
4. Did you learn anything about the suffrage movement?
5. Some in the suffrage movement felt that the tactics used by the English Suffragettes, rock throwing, fires, etc. wouldn’t work in America because it would turn people against the movement. Do you agree? Why or why not?

Some interesting facts about the Suffrage Movement in Illinois:

- Began in 1855 when the Earlville Suffrage Association was founded by a cousin of Susan B. Anthony.
- 1869 Illinois Suffrage Association (IWSA) formed.
- 1890 IWSA renamed Illinois Equal Suffrage Association)(IESA).
- April 6, 1891: Fifteen Lombard women, led by attorney Ellen A. Martin, voted using the loophole in the law (town charter did not mention gender).
- August 1891: Illinois state charter altered allowing women to vote in local school board elections and serve on the school board.
- Members based their fight on “no taxation without representation.”
- 1913 Illinois becomes the first state east of the Mississippi River allowing women to vote in presidential and local elections.
- Republican Party inserted a suffrage plank in the 1916 platform due to the efforts of 5,000 women marching on Michigan Ave. in the rain.
- June 17, 1919 Illinois becomes the 7th state to ratify the 19th Amendment.

Note: The January 5 branch meeting will be in person with masks unless notified otherwise.

President's Message - December 2021

With the holidays upon us this year and the leaves still coming down we look forward to having special gatherings with family and friends.

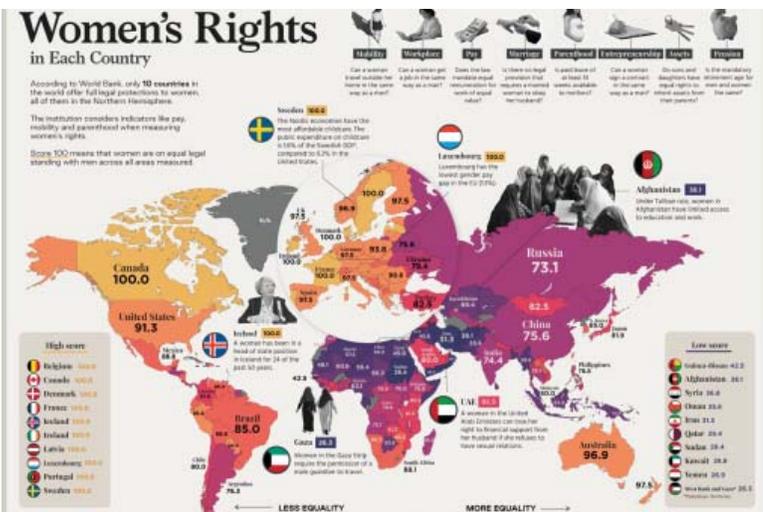
Unfortunately our planned "In Person" Holiday event has been moved to a ZOOM format (see information in this newsletter and on our website). We hope many of you can join us for fun discussions.

In November AAUW had its 140th Birthday! National hosted a virtual event to celebrate with more than 1500 registrants, one of their largest-ever online gatherings!

In Illinois ninety-five branch members attended the virtual Fall Leadership Conference on October 30th with participation from almost all the Illinois branches, including Elmhurst. We had breakout rooms for meetings with our colleagues from other branches (which worked out very well). Key topics included our survival despite the pandemic, the renewed assault on women and other challenges. We look forward to the State Convention on May 6th and 7th in Lisle.

I hope everyone has a safe and healthy holiday season and look forward to seeing everyone next year in person!

Moira Murray, President



Global View of Women's Rights

In recent years, many economies have made women's rights a priority, yet only 10 countries in the world offer full legal protections to women, according to a report issued by the World Bank. The rating indicators included such things as pay, mobility and parenthood. A score of 100 means women are on equal legal standing with men across the areas rated. The U.S. scored 91.3, Canada 100 and Mexico 88.8. For a full-size version of this chart, go to the Visual Capitalist website: <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/visualizing-womens-economic-rights-around-the-world/>



Half the Sky

On Monday November 1, 2021 four cars traveled to Carol Stream IL to deliver the three welcome kits that Half the Sky had assembled to assist refugees.

Half the Sky has been studying the challenges of Afghan women this year. Gathering the items for the welcome kits has been the action component for our study.

Above, one Welcome Kit being received by Melanie Rohla of World Relief. Below, collection of children's hats and gloves that we donated in November to ICDI, the Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants. Thanks to all who helped with these projects.



AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch, NFP 2021-2022 Branch Officers

Elected Officers

President	Moira Murray
Program Vice Presidents	Kimberly Miller Christine White
Membership Vice President	Rosemarie Eck Linda Fischer
Recording Secretary	Deb Markello
Director of Finance	Jennifer Jordan
Director of Publicity/Communications	Jane Klenck
Directors of Nominating Committee	Jennifer Jordan Suzanne Stock
Director of AAUW Funds	Tsue Ostermann
Director of Bylaws and Policies	Pat O'Dwyer
Director of Public Policy	Jane Jegerski

Appointed Officers (Voting Board Members)

Editor—Newsletter	Perry Doubt
Director—College/University Relations	To Be Appointed
Director—Diversity/International Affairs	Elizabeth Neill
Director—STEM	Judy Ekblad

Special Committee Chairs (Non-Voting Members)

Chair—Fundraisers	Carolyn Heiney
Editor—Yearbook/Directory	Sally Schuster
Editor—Branch Facebook Page	Sarah Caltvedt
Editor—Website	Sally Schuster
Chairs—Book Discussion	Carol Rounds Elaine Davison
Chair—Half the Sky	Darlene Van Meir Betty Laliberte

Fake News

This column is an update of a similar column three years ago. The following information is taken word-for-word from an Elmhurst Public Library document distributed at one of their programs.

Whether you call it propaganda, urban legend, misinformation, disinformation, or alternative facts, fake news is nothing new. Learn how to identify fake news, evaluate the potential biases of the real news you're consuming, and even flex your fake news spotting skills so that you can encounter the news with more confidence.

How to Tell if Information is Biased or False

General Tips. Consider the source and read beyond the inflammatory headlines. Check if the article is an opinion piece or if it is news. Check the author's credibility and consider the credibility of the sources he or she cites. Check how recent the article is and whether the website is satire (such as The Onion). Consider whether you are believing an article too easily because it confirms your own biases. Check other news sources; if no one else is reporting on this story, it's more likely to be fake. If there is an image, consider doing a reverse image search to find the source. (tips adapted from FactCheck.org and Pen.org).

Fake News Does Not Equal Partisan News. Fake news is wholly untrue. Partisan news is at least partly true, but can often be as damaging as fake news if it's so partisan as to be misleading. To avoid getting stuck in a partisan echo chamber, try consuming a wide variety of print, radio, internet, and television news sources of all different agendas while being aware of their biases. Each news source will choose to cover different stories, so getting a wide coverage is best.

Media Bias/Fact Check. The site <https://mediabiasfactcheck.com> catalogs the bias and veracity of the different news sources. It also catalogs satirical news sites so that you can easily check if an article that seems unlikely is true.

Allsides.com. Allsides.com provides articles in one place from center-, right-, and left-biased news media.

Snopes.com. Founded in 1994 to investigate rumors and urban legends, Snopes.com has broadened its focus and become the most well-known fact-checking site on the internet.

Politifact.com. Politifact.com started as a project of the Tampa Bay Times and has evolved into an independent fact-checking resource. You can track a candidate's record of truth-telling and whether promises are kept.

Newsguardtech.com. Newsguard is a browser extension (\$2.95/month) that rates the news websites you visit based on 9 criteria relating to credibility and transparency. Sites can be assigned a green, red, satire, or neutral rating.

Factitious. Discerning fact from fiction in the news is hard for anyone. Test your skills on <http://factitious-pandemic.augamestudio.com/#/> to see how good you are at telling fake news from real.

Spot the Troll. Learn how to spot fake social media profiles. Test your skills on <http://spotthetroll.org/start> to see how good you are.

--Jane Jegerski, Public Policy