



# Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 83, No. 9 • March 2022

## Branch Meeting March 2, 2022 - 7 pm Zoom Meeting

*"Understanding the Difference Between Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)"*

Elizabeth Neill will facilitate a workshop on understanding the difference between diversity, equity, and inclusion. The program won't be a lecture or presentation. Instead, you the audience will be the program!

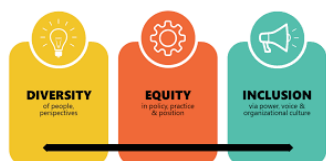
This program is a continuation of the work we did when we considered unconscious bias. In fact, most of the workshop will be thinking, reporting and discussion. Be sure to have a pencil and paper handy because Elizabeth will start by asking you to write down your own definitions of the three words in the title: diversity, equity, and inclusion.

We will break into small groups to share and discuss your responses with the others in your group. Each group will select a reporter, and when we come out of the small groups, reports will be presented.

If we have time, we'll also talk a little bit about "Allyship" and how to be a good ally.

Elizabeth recommends two videos that do a good job of introducing the concept of creating allyship: Allyship is the Key to Social Justice (Whitney Parnell) and What if White People Led the Charge to End Racism? (Dwinita Mosley Taylor).

Another video, Creating Inclusive Spaces, on the National AAUW website, has valuable insights on that topic.



### **Branch Meeting**

March 2, 2022

7 pm

Zoom Meeting

*Understanding the Difference Between Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)*

### **Board Meeting**

March 30, 2022 - 7 pm

meeting via Zoom and in person at the Elmhurst Public Library Gathering Room

### **Book Group**

March 24, 2022 - 1 pm

*Killers of the Flower Moon*

by David Grann

Discussion Leader & Hostess:

Marcia Goltermann

Meeting via Zoom

### **Half the Sky**

March 22, 2022 - 7 pm

Elmhurst Public Library

and Zoom Meeting

*Zoom link will be sent prior to the meeting*



**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**

**January 31, 2022**

*Jennifer Jordan*

*Director of Finance*

Fundraiser Fund	\$12,962.08
Conferences Fund	1,933.84
General Fund	<u>8,246.58</u>
Total	\$23,142.50

**Funds Committee Report**

At the Branch Board Meeting held on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, the AAUW Funds Committee made a recommendation to amend the Branch Policy. The proposed recommendation is the result of the Ad Hoc Committee’s work which reviewed the percentage of raised funds to be given to the National AAUW.

Specifically, the policy in question appears in the second sentence of Section A-2. Branch and National AAUW Funds under Numeral X FINANCES. Currently it states, “A minimum of \$25 per member or 60% of the funds raised shall be contributed to the National AAUW Fund to promote the Mission of AAUW.”

The proposed amendment would eliminate the phrase ‘A minimum of \$25 per member’ and simply state “Fifty percent (50%) of the funds raised shall be contributed to the National AAUW Fund to promote the Mission of AAUW.”

The Branch Board adopted the recommendation, and the Branch members will be asked to vote on it at the April Branch Meeting.

--Tsue Ostermann, Chair

**2022 – 2024 Slate of Officers**

The Branch Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of new officers (to be voted on at the Branch Annual Meeting on April 6, 2022) for two-year terms (unless otherwise designated) that will start July 1, 2022.

- Program Co-Vice Presidents Susan Boyd  
Suzanne Stock (1 year)
- Membership Co-Vice President Linda Fischer (1 year)
- Director of Bylaws and Policies Pat O’Dwyer
- Director of AAUW Funds Judy Ekblad
- Director of Public Policy Jane Jegerski

Nominations from the floor will be accepted subject to approval by the nominee. The Committee thanks these ladies for agreeing to serve on the Board.

The Nominating Committee is composed of directors Jennifer Jordan and Suzanne Stock and Branch President Moira Murray.

**In Memoriam**

Our Branch is sad to have lost two very valued members this month. Both were 50+ Years Members of AAUW:

- Virginia Curran
- Mary Eleanor Wall

Our sincere condolences to their friends and families. Our branch has sent donations to AAUW National in memory of both members.



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – March 2022**

On February 19th I attended a virtual meeting of Northern Illinois AAUW Presidents. It was very interesting and it was the first time I “met” most of these women. I thought I would share some of the information that was brought up at this meeting.

If you have gone online to the National AAUW.org website recently you may have noticed some differences. The Member Services Database has been revamped. You will need to log in a special way the first time you are accessing the new system. Go to “log in” on the upper right corner or the main web page. You will first need to reset your password by clicking on “forget your password?” Follow the directions given then. If you have trouble (which I did), there is a little tutorial by clicking “need help?” on the log in page which is very good. Once you get into the system, you will find a very good Personal Snapshot page where you can view a lot of information about yourself. We urge you to go through that information and update it yourself. It is easy to do. Many members have changed contact information like phone numbers, email addresses and even home addresses that need to be updated here.

Training (Basics and Branch Management) will be taking place on March 3rd at 2:30 pm. This new system should help officers and directors, especially those who need to access member rosters, etc. Right now that functionality is not accessible. You need to register for the training on the National website. On March 31st at 2:30 there will be training on the renewal process.

There will be a State Convention this year in Lisle at The Hilton Doubletree. It will be held LIVE and begin late afternoon on Friday May 6th and end on Saturday. They will have speakers, panels and breakout sessions.

There will be no Vote for Open Membership this fiscal year but the issue is not dead, Only 24% of National Membership (there are 35,000 National Branch Members) voted and only 25% from Illinois. However of those that voted in Illinois 84% voted to Pass the amendment.

AAUW will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Title IX in June with an on-line event with some great Virtual Speakers.

Respectfully,

Moira Murray

## HALF THE SKY UPDATE

Half the Sky continues to study the situation of Afghan women both in their home country and as refugees. *Action component:*

- During the month of February, more than 100 bras were donated to Free the Girls from members of Half the Sky.

- In addition a supply of tee shirts and tops was donated to Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants.

Thank you to all who supported us in these efforts.

--Betty Laliberte

## Next Month's Branch Program

Plan to attend the April 6 program. We are cosponsoring this with the library. It will be at 7:00 pm in the large meeting room at the library and on zoom

Betsey Means is the presenter. Betsey Means will perform her portrayal of Gertrude Stein, which will be a good fit for Poetry Month in April as well.

**Gertrude Stein: Picasso, Picasso and Paris**  
**Wednesday, April 6, 7-8 p.m.**  
**Large Meeting Room and Live on Zoom**



## You're Invited!

Members of the Elmhurst Branch are invited to attend upcoming presentations hosted by other local AAUW Branches. Check their websites for further details.

### Title IX

**Saturday • March 19 • 1:30 pm**  
**AAUW Schaumburg Branch**

With all the participation and excitement around girls' sports today, one might think it has always been that way. However, before Title IX, the federal civil rights law that was passed in 1972, there were no girls sports. Even after the law passed universities and high schools were slow to change.

In 1975, just 3 years after Title IX, Melissa Isaacson was a freshman at Niles West High School. She and the rest of the newly formed girls' basketball team spent all their free time and summers playing basketball, improving skills, with their eyes on the newly instituted state championship. Melissa has written a book, *State: A Team, A Triumph, A Transformation*, that chronicles the journey to a State Basketball Championship in 1979.

On March 19 at 1:30 in the afternoon The Schaumburg Branch of AAUW and the Schaumburg Township District Library will host journalist and author, Melissa Isaacson. Melissa is currently on the faculty of Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism. In the past she was a columnist and feature writer for ESPN.com and the Chicago Tribune. Melissa was the principal beat writer for the Chicago Tribune during the championship year of the early 90's. She will speak about her book *STATE: A Team, A Triumph, A Transformation*.

### STEM

**Thursday • March 3 • 7:00 pm**  
**AAUW Palos Orland Area**

The Palos-Orland Area Branch would like to invite your members to attend a presentation, *Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing*, on Thursday, March 3rd, at 7:00 pm. Andi Danis, president of the AAUW Aurora Branch and AAUW-IL Board of Directors member will be presenting. Masks will be required.

We hope to see you that evening at the McCord Gallery, 9602 West Creek Road, Palos Park (on the corner of Creek Road and LaGrange Road),



## **Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act (SB 835 SA1/HB 5029)** *(Sponsors: Sen. Ram Villivalam/Rep. Sonya Harper)*

Paid Leave has long been a priority for AAUW and IL State AAUW Policy Chairs urge renewed interest in these bills and will be asking for support soon. At some point, nearly everyone needs time to recover from a serious illness, care for a sick loved one, or welcome a new child. But 59% of Illinois families cannot even take the unpaid leave they need without risking their jobs or their economic security.

Paid family and medical leave keeps workers attached to their jobs and the workforce when they have to take the time off to care for themselves or their family members. It helps small businesses stay competitive by helping them attract and retain talent.

Evidence shows that paid leave leads to a wealth of benefits related to child development, child and caregiver health, and caregiver educational attainment and career development.

Paid family and medical leave has broad public support: 79% of voters – including 67% of Republicans, 77% of Independents, and 93% of Democrats – support a permanent paid family and medical leave program.

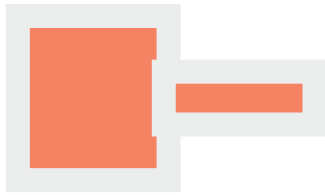
The Illinois Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act creates a state-run insurance program that allows Illinois workers to use up to 26 weeks of job-protected leave a year:

- To welcome a new child into the home;
- To maintain a healthy pregnancy;
- For their own or a family member's illness;
- For reasons related to domestic or sexual violence;
- For reasons due to military service;
- Due to a public health emergency or disaster;
- Due to school or child care closures.

With a contribution from employers of less than 1% of wages, employees can earn more than half their weekly wage while on leave, with low paid workers earning up to 90% of their weekly wage.

Nine states and the District of Columbia have paid family and medical leave laws on the books. Illinois must pass the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act NOW!

Jane Jegerski  
Public Policy



## Stories of Race in Elmhurst

A new organization here in Elmhurst, Elmhurst Backyard Caucus, has published a book called *Stories of Race in Elmhurst*. I found out about this book last summer, thanks to Sarah Caltvedt. She guessed I'd be interested, and she was right!

Through the book I met Jan Alexander, A White woman who, with her Black husband, raised their children here in Elmhurst, and who also helped to found the Elmhurst Backyard Caucus.”

Elmhurst Backyard Caucus's mission is to establish itself as “a voice and force for diversity and inclusion; to educate, inform, and advocate for diversity and inclusion; and to engage for institutional change toward diversity and inclusion.” If you have an interest in learning more about them, they have a website and they meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month on Zoom (you can get the link by emailing Jan Alexander at [doctorja7100@gmail.com](mailto:doctorja7100@gmail.com)).

*Stories of Race in Elmhurst* is a short book, only 100 pages, made up of personal essays by Elmhurst residents, Black and White, about their experiences of racism at home, work and school here in Elmhurst. The essays average about four pages in length. I must say, a 100-page book with four-page chapters is very easy to read!

(I think *Stories of Race in Elmhurst* would make a wonderful book club book: short, easy to read, with loads of local interest and many opportunities for discussion. The book even comes with its own discussion questions. The Elmhurst Public Library owns five copies of the book, and it is also available from Amazon.)

I think *Stories of Race in Elmhurst's* personal anecdotes offer some concrete examples that can be instructive to us as AAUW members set about learning about diversity and inclusivity. Since I've been learning more about what allyship, and what “being an ally,” means in the context of diversity, I found Mary Corazza Parks' essay, “Racism on the Job” especially compelling. Parks worked as a consultant at a large corporation where she worked closely with a Black woman.

After several years of working together and sometimes socializing off the job, both women made a presentation at an important international company meeting where they were introduced by a White male manager. The manager introduced Parks by name but introduced her Black colleague as Parks' “sidekick.” Parks was shocked by the manager's behavior but said nothing. Her Black colleague calmly introduced herself, her company division and her role.

Afterwards, Parks wrote, she told her friend how shocked people in the room were by the manager's behavior. Her friend said that she experienced racism as an employee of that company almost every day. Parks wrote that she now regrets that she didn't speak up that day by introducing her friend and speaking to the manager privately about his remark.

What Parks learned from the experience, she writes, is to “continue to learn, pay closer attention, and to speak up whenever I see racist behavior.” Although Parks missed an opportunity to “speak up,” her account of what she wished she'd done is an excellent illustration of the essence of being an ally: paying close attention, speaking up, and pushing back on microaggressions.

--By Elizabeth Neill,  
Diversity/International Affairs



## Branch Budget Approved

The following is the 2022-2023 Budget was approved by the Board on February 23, 2022.

### Elmhurst Area AAUW 2022-2023 General Fund Budget

INCOME	Budget	
Member Dues (based on 57 Paid Members)	1083	
September Supper	1000	
May Dinner Event	1000	
Donations	<u>500</u>	
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND INCOME</b>	<b>3583</b>	
EXPENSES		
<b>Fees &amp; Services</b>		
Newsletter	20	
Yearbook	200	
Costs for 501c3 Incorporation	0	
General Liability Insurance	215	
Advertising & Promotion	125	
PO Box Rental	125	
Miscellaneous	<u>185</u>	
Total		870
<b>Activities</b>		
September Supper	1000	
May Dinner Event	1000	
Programs	800	
New Member Outreach	<u>80</u>	
Total		2880
<b>Contributions</b>		
Outgoing President(s) Named Gift to National	50	
Memorials	<u>150</u>	
Total		<u>200</u>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>		<b>3950</b>
 <b>NET LOSS</b>		 <b>-367</b>

### Elmhurst Area AAUW 2022-2023 Fundraiser Budget

INCOME	Budget	
Booksale, etc.	16,000	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>16,000</b>
EXPENSES		
Labor	1,400	
Room Rental	2,000	
Publicity/Ads	50	
Supplies	50	
Misc.	<u>50</u>	
Total		3,550
Donation to National Scholarships (Returning Scholar and/or Dare to Dream)	6225	
	6225	<u>12,450</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>16,000</b>
 <b>NET INCOME</b>		 <b>0</b>

### 2022-2023 Conference Travel Fund Budget

INCOME	Budget	
Book Sale Entries	800	
Estimated Carryover	<u>0</u>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>800</b>
EXPENSES		
Registration Fees	300	
Travel Costs	<u>200</u>	
		<b>500</b>
 <b>NET INCOME</b>		 <b>300</b>