



# Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 84, No. 3 • September 2022

## September 7 September Supper

Francesca's Amici (North Party Room)  
174 North York Street, Elmhurst

Renew old friendships and meet new members at our annual September Supper. Because members really enjoyed the May Dinner at Francesca's Amici, we are returning to that venue for the 2022 September Supper.

Following dinner, branch officers will give an overview of the exciting year ahead.

## Mary Eleanor Wall Memorial Service October 1, 2022

The celebration of life for Mary Eleanor Wall (long time Elmhurst branch member and former President, AAUW-Illinois, will be held on Saturday, October 1, at 11 am at First United Methodist Church of Elmhurst (232 S. York St.). A luncheon will follow the service at the church. All are invited. After the luncheon there will be an interment at St. Peters Cemetery in Elmhurst.

Please contact Jennifer Jordan (jennifer@jordan-dmm.com) or 630-328-3857) if you have questions.



## SEPTEMBER 2022

### Branch Meeting

September 7 - 6:30 pm  
Fall Supper  
Francesca's Amici

### DEI Study Group

September 17 - 2:00 pm  
Program: "The Invisible Backpack"  
Speaker: Betty Laliberte  
Elmhurst Public Library

### Book Group

September 22 - 1:00 pm  
*Violin Conspiracy*  
by Brendan Slocum  
Discussion Leader: Mary Hallman  
Hostess: Janet Hodge

### AAUW Fall Conference

September 24 - 9:00-11:00 am  
Virtual Meeting

### Half the Sky

September 27 - 7:00 pm  
Bob Neiman, Guest Speaker  
Elmhurst Public Library  
Kossmann Room

### Board of Directors

September 28 - 7:00 pm  
Elmhurst Public Library  
Gathering Room



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**

July 31, 2021

Jennifer Jordan

Director of Finance

Fund Raiser Fund	\$ 2,750.52
Conferences Fund	1,681.75
General Fund:	<u>9,406.21</u>
Total	\$13,838.48

**Another Record Breaking Used Book Sale**

Thanks to the contributions of so many members of our branch, we are able to report that we had another record breaking used book sale this summer!

We grossed \$22,265 and are expecting about \$900 later this fall from the book recycler that took away the books that were not sold by the end of the sale. The book sale last summer (2021) had been the highest grossing book sale previously, collecting about \$20,460, and it was a surprise to surpass that. Of course, we still need to pay our final expenses (the largest of which are to the school district and our high school helpers) before the Funds Committee can meet to determine how best to apportion the funds to scholarships and national AAUW, but we are gratified with the proceeds.

During the book sale, we were able to offer a Shape the Future promotion, which allows new members to join at a reduced rate for one year. The great news there is that we had 7 members join! 5 are brand new to AAUW and 2 are rejoining after a number of years' break. Hopefully we'll be able to meet them in person at the September supper or one of our fall programs at the library.

While we did have support from people outside our organization, such as school district personnel and the York football team members, Carolyn and I are most indebted to the branch members that helped with the sale.

Whether you donated books, worked on publicity, collected boxes, helped at the sale itself, or sorted one day (or every day!) – we thank you! Without your efforts the book sale would not have been the success that it was.

With gratitude,  
Jennifer Jordan, Co-Chair, Used Book Sale



## Branch Fiscal Year End Update

Our branch fiscal year ended on June 30. Financially, it was a positive year for our branch. We received more in donations than we have in prior years, most likely due to the fact that we are now a not-for-profit organization and all donations are tax deductible. We retained our membership numbers.

Because many of our programs were held via zoom, we saved on our program budget. And last summer's book sale was very successful, allowing us to make a substantial donation to the national AAUW organization as well as to award 4 local scholarships.

Overall, the branch spent about \$2,000 more than it received in income during the last fiscal year. This was intentional, as money had built up in some of our funds and we felt it would be better to give the money out in the form of scholarships than to continue to retain the funds.

At the end of the fiscal year (06/30/22), the branch had healthy balances in all three of its funds, with a total of \$13,491 in the bank:

<input type="checkbox"/> Conferences Fund	\$1,681.75
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraiser Fund	\$4,172.08
<input type="checkbox"/> General Fund	\$7,637.65

Please let me know if you have questions or would like further information about the branch finances.

*Jennifer Jordan, Director of Finance*

## Funds Committee Report

The AAUW Funds Committee will meet in September to begin discussing the allocation of the funds earned from our successful book sale. Last year the \$10,109.49 designated as the amount to send to our National Organization was divided evenly between two funds—the Greatest Needs Fund and the Education and Training for Women Fund. These funds and others are described on the AAUW website.

The Greatest Needs Fund allows AAUW to respond rapidly, in our communications and advocacy, to critical issues affecting women as they emerge – whether it's a new threat to Title IX, an opportunity to partner with employers, or the dawn of a social justice movement like #MeToo. When donations are not restricted to fellowships or specific projects, AAUW National has the dollars to pivot as the national dialogue shifts – and get our work covered by major media outlets such as the New York Times, CNN, and Fortune.

The Greatest Needs Fund is also what fuels AAUW's groundbreaking research and effective advocacy to work to pass fair-pay laws and other key equity legislation.

The Education and Training Fund addresses the barriers that prevent women from thriving in school and pursuing the careers of their dreams. That means championing equal access to education and ensuring women can learn in environments free from harassment and discrimination.

The Economic Security Fund promotes women's livelihoods through advocacy for fair-pay, legislation, researching the pay gap, training women to negotiate for the salaries they deserve, and advising employers on fostering fair cultures.

The Leadership Fund supports AAUW's work to bolster the number of women in top roles across all industries by addressing systematic biases and giving women skills and resources they need to lead.

The Governance and Sustainability Fund enables AAUW to function as effectively and efficiently as possible—following the latest best practices for hiring and governance and incorporating state-of-the-art technology into our member database and other systems.

In the coming months, the Funds Committee will be recommending to the Branch for your approval how to allocate the 2022 Book Sale Funds.

*Judy Ekblad, Funds Committee Chair*

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

I am looking forward to meeting with many of you at our upcoming events, meetings and programs. It looks like it will be a busy year with lots of interesting programs and Study/Action Group activities. The new Yearbook and Membership Directory will be out soon. They will be given out at our September Supper and mailed/dropped off to those who cannot make that event. The directory details the programs and interest group activities. The directory will also be up on our website ([www.aauwelmhurst.org](http://www.aauwelmhurst.org) Password: Selden1938) . Once again, thanks to all who have contributed to these efforts.

I hope you heard that this year's fund raiser - the Used Book Sale at the beginning of August was a great success. I'm sure you will hear more about this from Carolyn Heiney and Jennifer Jordon who co-chaired this major undertaking - with the help of many of our dedicated branch members.

We have at least 8 new branch members who joined this summer during our "Shape the Future" event tied to the Book Sale. Welcome! Special thanks to those of you who helped work at the Book Sale. Since our meetings and events are once again planned to be in person, we hope to get to meet you all and introduce you AAUW and our branch's activities supporting our Mission "To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy."

I recently heard from David Wall (the son of our deceased member - Mary Eleanor Wall). He wanted me to let our members know that there will be a memorial in her honor on Saturday, October 1st , at the First Methodist Church in Elmhurst. It will be at 11 AM and a light lunch after. He will be sending me more detailed information to distribute to you. He said she loved the AAUW.

Moira Murray  
President

## Membership

We welcome into our fold our newest members – **Robyn-Leigh Zaras joined in June.** Then at our Book Sale, seven new members joined. They are **Krista Friedman, Pam Locke, Marian Nelson, Renee Oshinski, Susan Szymanski, Geri Goeransson and Ruth Thomas.**

*Linda Fischer*

## HALF THE SKY

SEPTEMBER 27, 2022 - 7pm  
Elmhurst Public Library Kossmann Room

Bob Naiman who has worked for a "grassroots" foreign policy organization will talk about Yemen via Zoom. Half the Sky will send a list of readings about the USA and Yemen. Members might also search for the Yemeni Women's GROUP OF NINE Network to learn what the women are doing .

For our action component, Half the Sky will begin to build snack bags for ICDI in anticipation of a large immigrant movement through Chicago in the near future. A list of preferred items will be distributed via email. If you are interested in helping, please contact Betty Laliberte [bettylaliberte2007@gmail.com](mailto:bettylaliberte2007@gmail.com).

*Betty Laliberte*





# DEI STUDY GROUP REPORT

By Elizabeth Neill

September is going to be a great month for folks who are interested in diversity-related issues.

Our very own DEI Study Group will meet on September 17, at 2 pm, to participate in a blockbuster program: Betty Laliberte will discuss feminist scholar Peggy MacIntosh's famous essay, "The Invisible Backpack," and Betty will lead us in an exercise based on the "Privilege Walk." We'll also talk about other DEI resources. We will meet at the Elmhurst Public Library's Gathering Room; please RSVP to Elizabeth Neill, at [elizabethneill09@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethneill09@gmail.com).

To learn more about this notion of privilege, here' are excerpts from Professor Richard Guzman's great blog on this topic (<https://richardrguzman.com/peggy-mcintoshs-invisible-knapsack/>):

6. When I am told about our national heritage or about "civilization," I am shown that people of my color made it what it is.

8. If I want to, I can be pretty sure of finding a publisher for this piece on white privilege.

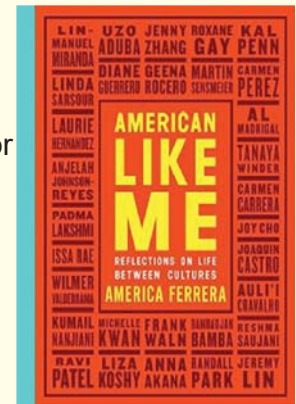
12. I can swear, or dress in second-hand clothes, or not answer letters, without having people attribute these choices to the bad morals, the poverty or the illiteracy of my race.

14. I can do well in a challenging situation without being called a credit to my race.

19. If a traffic cop pulls me over or if the IRS audits my tax return, I can be sure I haven't been singled out because of my race.

23. I can choose public accommodation without fearing that people of my race cannot get in or will be mistreated in the places I have chosen.

26. I can choose blemish cover or bandages in "flesh" color and have them more or less match my skin.



In October, the DEI Study Group will read *American Like Me: Reflections on Life Between Cultures*, the book edited by America Ferrara and featuring essays from Lin Manuel Miranda, Roxane Gay, Michelle Kwan, Kal Penn, and many others. In November, we will attend the Elmhurst Public Library co-sponsored book discussion of *American Like Me*: at the Elmhurst Historical Museum. Be sure to call the Library, at 630-279-8696, to RSVP.

More treats are in store this month:

•Tuesday, September 6th: Come Unity/Coffee Break for Social Justice will have their first in-person meeting since the pandemic started at the Helen M. Plum Library, 110 W. Maple Street in Lombard (a block off Main Street, next to Lilacia Park).

•Saturday, September 17th: AAUW DEI meeting, Elmhurst Public Library, 2 pm, Gathering Room.

•Sunday, September 18th: TIBA (Together is Better) meeting, Unitarian Universalist Church, 11 W. Maple, Hinsdale (a few blocks west of the Hinsdale Public Library on Maple; take York Road south to Maple, a block north of the train tracks, and turn left), to talk about *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* by Richard Rothstein.

•Wednesday, September 21st: Elmhurst Backyard Caucus will meet to discuss education in our community.



## AAUW-Illinois Fall Conference Sat, Sept 24, 2022 – VIRTUAL

### Conference Schedule:

8:45am – 9am Gather & Social

9:00 – 9:20 Open & Welcome to Conference, President remarks

9:20 – 9:30 Public Policy Update: “2022 Midterm Elections”

9:30 – 10:15 Mini Workshop: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence:  
The 1948 Project Team

**TO REGISTER: Click here: <https://aauw-il.aauw.net/district-conferences/>**

### Breakout Sessions – you’ll select one when you register:

- Strategic Alliances:** Stronger Together. How can your Branch multiply its policy impact in the community? Leader: Donna Jean Simon
- Supporting Public Education through School Board Advocacy.** Leaders: Paula Purdue, AAUW-IL Co-Director of Public Policy, and Kathy Wessel, AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn
- Program Sharing.** If you have a mission-based program from 2021/22, or planned for 2022/23, we invite you to briefly share the idea. Leaders: Peg Gallagher & Becky Glimco, AAUW-IL Program VPs
- Doing the Dues:** Using AAUW’s Community Hub to Manage Member Dues & Rosters. Leaders: Carolyn Schelderup, AAUW-IL Director of Finance, and Ruth Holst, AAUW-IL Director-Elect of Finance
- Reach for the (Five) Stars!** Updates on AAUW Recognition for Branches. Leaders: Amy Green & Nann Hilyard, AAUW-IL Membership VPs
- Grow Your Branch Presence through Social Media.** Leader: Kate Skegg, AAUW-IL Social Media Manager
- WordPress Websites Q&A.** Ask questions and get tips & tricks to make your Branch website stand out using the WordPress framework provided by AAUW. Leader: Leslie Sulla, AAUW-IL Web Manager