

AAUW TIMES



Elgin Area Branch
1920-2013



*Working for 93 years to promote equity for all women and girls,
Life-long education and positive social change*

December 2013/
January 2014

American Association of University Women

Vol. 18, No. 9

Website – elginarea-il.aauw.net

Email Address - aauw.membership.elginarea@gmail.com

December Branch Meeting

Saturday, December 14th
10:00 am

At Patricia Harkin's Home
1005 North Spring Street, Elgin

(Ample parking is available across the street in the old Sherman Hospital parking.)



Holiday Brunch

Join us for good food and fellowship at our annual Holiday Celebration.

(Voluntary monetary gifts will be donated to Ecker Center for Mental Health in Elgin.)

Calendar

December

- Dec 3 **Good Tastes Dining Group 10 AM**
Walker's Pancakes 847-882-1100
1300 N. Roselle, Schaumburg
- Dec 9 **Great Books 7 PM**
Gail Borden Library
Poetry Session- poems of Owen, Frost, Auden, Shakespeare and Keats
- Dec 12 **Morning Book Group 10 AM**
Hostess- Mary Navin
My Beloved World
Sonia Sotomayor
- Dec 14 **Branch Meeting 10 AM**
Holiday Brunch
Hostess- Patricia Harkin
- Dec 18 **Evening Book Group 7 PM**
Hostess- Mary Navin
The Feminine Mystique
Betty Friedan

January

- Jan 4 **Branch Meeting 11 AM**
Evangelical Covenant Church
1565 Larkin Ave., Elgin
Soup and Salad Luncheon

- Jan 9 **Morning Book Group** 10 AM
Hostess, Rachel Campbell
Girls of Atomic City
Denise Kieman
- Jan 13 **Great Books** 7 PM
Gail Borden Library
"The Chilean Earthquake"
(selection) – Heinrich Von Kleist
- Jan 20 **Newsletter Deadline**
February Issue
- Jan 21 **Evening Crafters** 7 PM
Hostess, Linda Rusenovich
Stamped Greeting Card
- Jan 22 **Evening Book Group** 7 PM
Hostess- Barbara Maring
The End of Ypur Life Book Club
Will Schwalbe
- Jan 28 **Reel Women/Real Women** 6 PM
Gail Borden Public Library
Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore

Connie Orbeta presented *The Art of Bookmaking Throughout History* on November 14. She brought books that she had made to demonstrate the history as well as talking about it. It was evident to the attendees that the books took a great deal of time to make and were beautiful examples of the craft. The program committee has a number of great programs planned for next year starting January 4 at the soup and salad luncheon. Rachel Campbell is putting together a panel of local entrepreneurial women that will be moderated by Patty Harkin. It is traditional to have a silent auction at the luncheon that benefits the Legal Advocacy Fund. Rachel Campbell and Jan Jones are working on this.

Also in January is the AAUWIL annual networking luncheon. A flyer is included in the newsletter telling more about this event with registration information. This is another excellent opportunity to hear about AAUW issues and network with women from other branches.

In addition to gaining new members for the branch, Becky Olson and her active membership committee introduce us to them through articles in the newsletter. There have also been introductions to our 50-year members. It is a great way to get to know them better. Another interesting feature of the newsletter this year has been the travelogues from members who have taken trips. I hope others will share their travels in future issues. Thank you to all who contribute articles.

There is much more for which to be thankful in this marvelous branch's members. For now Wilma Booth and I wish you happy holidays.

Presidents' Message

From Shirley May Byrnes, Co-President

It's the season to be thankful, and I am very thankful for the vital and growing organization that is the Elgin Area AAUW branch. We have a membership involved in their communities, programs that address AAUW goals, lots of groups to appeal to a variety of interests, and a great group of people to enjoy getting to know while participating in the activities. Thank you all!

Our next opportunity to visit and serve others is Saturday, December 14 at the branch holiday brunch. Patty Harkin is graciously opening her home at 1005 North Spring Street, and several members are preparing food for this event. As is our tradition, we will be collecting donations for a local charity. The board has designated the Ecker Mental Health Center as this year's recipient. I look forward to seeing you December 14th! Guests are welcome.

International Affairs

From Barbara Evans

Note: *This includes some of the items that would have been in the November newsletter had I sent the editors my final copy rather than a rough draft!*

The World Economic Forum's annual **Global Gender Gap Report** rated 136 countries on the basis of economic participation & opportunity, educational attainment, political empowerment and health & survival. The **top 10 best countries for women in 2013**, beginning with the best, follow: Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Philippines, Ireland, New Zealand,

Denmark, Switzerland and Nicaragua. Ranked 22nd last year, this year the U.S. slipped to 23rd.

Did you know that in Vatican City, women still can't vote? That in Yemen a woman is considered only half a witness when giving legal testimony? That in Saudi Arabia and Morocco, rape victims can be charged with crimes, such as leaving the house without a male companion, for being alone with an unrelated man or for getting pregnant afterwards? That in India women are exempted from safety rules that mandate motorcyclists wear helmets because it's important to "preserve women's carefully styled hair and make-up"?

The International Women's Media Foundation awarded its **2013 Courage in Journalism Award** to Nour Kelze, 25, a teacher turned photojournalist and stringer on the front lines of the Syrian revolution. To read more about her and listen to an interview with her, see iwmf.org/honoring-courage/2013-courage-in-journalism-awards/awardees/nour-kelze.aspx

UN Women has been supporting **Syrian refugee communities** across the region. One of its projects, the Women and Girls Oasis Centre established in a Jordanian refugee camp, offers these women employment opportunities through income generation and access to vocational training in skills of their choice, including tailoring and hairdressing, literacy, English and French language courses. In October, it held its first graduation ceremony for 30 women who studied running a hairdressing business. The graduates received the equipment needed to sustain their skills and start their own businesses. To read more about UN Women, created in 2010 by the United Nations General Assembly, see www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/about-un-women

C.A.R.E., another organization focused on helping women and girls worldwide, has created a website **Keep Girls in the Picture** to educate people about the importance of helping girls get a lifesaving education. For a number of examples of girls' education in action as well as to donate, see <http://www.care.org/work/features/girls-education> (*Only 10% of C.A.R.E.'s budget is allocated to support services and fundraising. Of the remaining 90%, 76% goes to ongoing programs and 24% to emergency aid to survivors of war and natural disasters, such as the typhoon that just struck the Philippines.*)

Now available at Gail Borden in print, a CD and as an electronic resource is the new autobiography ***I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban***. To donate to her education fund or just to sign up to get email updates about it, see www.malalafund.org/ (*It was C.A.R.E.'s opening of the first girls' school in Afghanistan that kindled the dreams of Malalai.*)

To be released in February of 2014 is the first of a series of Marvel Comics that introduce a **Muslim American Girl as Superhero**. Though it is really about "the universal experience of all American teenagers, feeling kind of isolated and finding what they are," it will be interesting to see the reaction to it. For more details about the strip, see www.nytimes.com/2013/11/06/books/marvel-comics-introducing-a-muslim-girl-superhero.html?_r=1&

January Branch Meeting

Saturday, January 4, 2014 – 11:00 a.m.

Evangelical Covenant Church, 1565 Larkin Avenue, Elgin
Soup and Salad Luncheon

“Women, Work, and the Will to Lead”

Thirty years after women became 50% of the college graduates, men still hold most leadership positions in government and industry. Women are still not heard equally in the decisions that most affect our lives. “Lean In”, a best seller book by Sheryl Sandberg, examines why women’s progress in achieving leadership roles has stalled, explains the root causes, and offers compelling, commonsense solutions that can empower women to achieve their full potential.

AAUW’s Patty Harkin will use this book as a format for discussion as she moderates a panel of business women who will discuss specific steps women can take to combine professional achievement with personal fulfillment and demonstrate how men can benefit by supporting women in the workplace and at home.

Our panel members will include:

Patty Harkin: moderator

Karen Jones, Anna Moeller and Betsy Kuln: panel members

Enrichment Suggestion: “Lean In” by Sheryl Sandberg

SILENT AUCTION

BENEFITS THE LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

Do you remember last year's silent auction? It was a tremendous success! We're going to try and repeat last year's success at our Soup and Salad Lunch on January 4. We're asking each of you to bring a item you'd like to donate or a service you'd be willing to provide to someone. Consider offering such tempting things as a ride to O'Hare, a coupon for a hand-knitted scarf in yarn of the bidder's choosing, baked goodies or a coupon for a tasty dish to be prepared at an agreed upon time. We have creative branch members who can come up with many unusual and enticing items. Remember, the items may be gently used, but, please, no white elephants! Whatever you bring, list what you'd like as a starting bid for it. Bring your checkbooks! The money raised will be donated to AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund.

AAUW- Chicago, Inc. Jane Addams Day Celebration

Date: Saturday, December 14th

Time: 2:00-3:30pm

Place: Hull House Museum
(800 S Halsted St)

Parking: Halsted & Taylor Street garage.

Cost: \$10- at the door

RSVP to Chicagoaauw@hotmail.com by Dec. 11th
chicago-il.aauw.net

Come and see a brief Historical re-enactment of the Pullman strike and hear Jane Addams herself address the strikers and George Pullman, followed by a brief history talk by Paul Durica. The event will conclude with song and lemonade and cookies.

REEL WOMEN for REAL WOMEN



Tues., Jan. 28: *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore*

Starring Ellen Burnstyn, Diane Ladd, Jodi Foster, Kris Kristofferson and Harvy Keitel

Now regarded as a classic, this 1974 film touches on themes popularized by the 1963 publication of Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystic*. Although she dreamed of becoming a singer, at age 35 Alice is a dutiful housewife and mother stuck in an abusive marriage. The death of her husband leaves her penniless, so with her young son, she starts out to California, where she plans to pursue her dream. Traveling from state to state, she works odd jobs and interacts with a variety of interesting characters. Wrote *New York Times'* reviewer Vincent Canby, the film "is a fine, moving, frequently hilarious tale of Alice's first lurching steps toward some kind of self-awareness and self-sufficiency."

The screenplay was nominated for an Oscar; Burnstyn won Best Actress for her portrayal of Alice; Ladd was nominated for Best Supporting Actress. But what is most remarkable in retrospect is that the film was directed by Martin Scorsese. —**Barbara Evans**

Note: This is the film group that our branch co-sponsors with Gail Borden Library, which is where the films are shown. Open to the public at no charge, show time is 6 pm; discussion follows. Food/drink may be brought into whichever room we're assigned for the evening.

LAF FUND RAISER From Rachel Campbell

Licenses plate holders are available to Elgin Branch Members for \$5.00. We will use the funds that we raise to help support LAF (the legal Advocacy Fund). The monies in this fund are used to support legal cases that fight discrimination. Discrimination can occur in many ways: unfair pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual assault and violation of Title IX.

Originally set up 32 years ago, LAF was designed to help

women in higher education who were denied advancement or tenure because of their gender. The Fund has been expanded to protect all individuals who have faced discrimination in many ways.

We are hoping that if our members use these license plate holders, we will call attention to AAUW and its mission to further equity.

If you would like to have one for your car, please call or email Rachel Campbell. I will help you install your new license plate holder. What a deal!

Save the Date Women's History Brunch

Saturday, March 15, 2014
Elgin Community College
Elgin Business Center Dining Room
10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Cost: \$15.00

We invite you join us for a program that features the music of women who helped ignite and propel social movements by touching hearts and making the political personal. Highlighted will be songs from the civil rights, environmental, suffrage and later women's movements.

Singing the music of such "song-tivists" as Joan Baez, Joni Mitchell, Odetta, Billie Holiday and Miriam Makeba will be classically trained soprano Risé Dawn Jones, who has performed in national and international recital venues as well as lent her voice to many charitable community events in the Elgin area. Accompanying her will be Margaret Brady and Murna Hansemann.

Register at ywcaelgin.org or send a check payable to YWCA Elgin at 220 E. Chicago St., Elgin, IL 60120.

Stipends are available at ywcaelgin.org. Educators, CPDUs will be available.

For further information, please contact the YWCA Elgin at 847.742.7930. All tickets are non-refundable.

Becoming a Brunch Patron

To honor the late Janet Poyner, who founded our area's women's history celebration, the committee is awarding brunch stipends to women 16 and older who could not otherwise afford to attend. To fund them, we need individual patrons. If you wish to be listed in the brunch program as one, please send a check for **\$25**, payable to YWCA Elgin, to the YWCA at 220 E. Chicago St., Elgin, IL 60120 by **Dec. 31, 2013**. Mark on the memo line "brunch patron." Note that a brunch ticket is *not* included in this contribution. —**Barbara Evans**

31st ANNUAL NETWORKING LUNCHEON

From Rachel Campbell

Mark your calendar for Saturday, January 18, 2014—the date of District Five's Annual Networking Luncheon. This year's speaker is Laura Caldwell, an attorney and mystery writer. Laura was one of the founders of Life After Innocence, a group at helping those who have been unjustly incarcerated. The attached flyer will provide more complete information about the speaker and the luncheon.

Please send your coupon with your menu selection and your check to me by December 31, 2013. I will, then, send them as a bundle to Donna Zimmerman, the registrar. My address is: 1198 Blackhawk Drive, Elgin, IL 60120.

We will carpool to Deerfield. I will be in touch with you if you want to go and make more precise arrangements. If you have further questions, please call me at 847-695-9024.

Laura Caldwell is a former civil trial attorney, now Distinguished Scholar in Residence at Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Director of Life After Innocence, published author of several novels and 1 nonfiction book.

Before beginning her writing career, Laura was a partner in a Chicago law firm, specializing in medical malpractice defense and entertainment law. In 2001 she joined Loyola University Chicago School of Law and has taught Advanced Litigation Writing and International Criminal Law among others.

Laura began her writing career in women's fiction and soon turned to mystery/thriller. Her first book, *Burning the Map* was voted as one of the best books the year by Barnes and Noble.com. Booklist declared "Caldwell is one of the most talented and inventive...writers around," after the release of *The Year of Living Famously* and *The Night I got Lucky*. The release of her trilogy in 2009 received critical acclaim and nominations for prestigious industry awards.

While researching her sixth novel, *The Rome Affair*, Caldwell was led to the criminal case of 19 year-old a young man charged with murder, sitting in a Cook County holding cell for nearly six years with no trial

date. After hearing about his case, Caldwell joined a renowned criminal defense attorney to defend him, ultimately proving his innocence and inspiring her first nonfiction book, *Long Way Home: A Young Man Lost in the System and the Two Women Who Found Him* (Free Press, Simon & Schuster).

She is published in over 22 countries and translated into more than 13 languages. Laura is also a freelance magazine writer and has been published in *Chicago Magazine*, *Woman's Own*, *The Young Lawyer*, *Lake Magazine*, *Australia Woman's Weekly*, *Shore Magazine* and others.

Inspired by Mosley's case and his challenges of rejoining society, Caldwell founded *Loyola's Life After Innocence* that assists wrongfully convicted individuals or other innocent persons affected by the criminal justice system in order to help them re-enter society and reclaim their lives.

AN OUT AND ABOUT EXCURSION

From Rachel Campbell

The Field Museum is featuring a new exhibit called **OPENING THE VAULTS: WONDERS OF THE 1893 WORLD'S FAIR**. The exhibit will provide visitors with a rare look at artifacts and specimens that helped launch the Field Museum and have rarely – or never been on display - since they amazed fairgoers over 100 years ago.

If branch members and their friends and family would like an opportunity to travel as a group to see the exhibit, I will be happy to plan such an event. In order to combat the winter blahs we could plan a trip in January or February. Some further information for you: we would take a train to the city, then board a bus to the museum, tour the exhibit and then have lunch. If members of the group preferred, we could have lunch at a restaurant other than at the museum.

Ticket prices for the Field Museum and exhibit are: \$25 for seniors and students, \$30.00 for adults. Before I plan further, would like to hear from members who would like to go and the dates that best suit them. If you would be interested in this

outing, please contact Rachel Campbell at 847-695-9024 or at snowylark@gmail.com. If there are enough of us interested, I will plan the outing and be sure we are on the road!

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Prepared by Becky Olson, Membership VP

At our November meeting, some member name tags had special stickers.



The stickers denote that they recruited new member(s) for our branch. That's how we grow and meet our mission to empower women. We continue our campaign of Every Member Get A Member. Our goal is to "Recruit and Renew" membership. Keep the referrals coming! "YOU ARE THE KEY" to a better future for women and girls!

We're still playing "catch up" with new member bios and pics since 2012. Meet some of these women in this issue. If perchance, a request for a submission has been neglected, please let any member of the committee know. Travelogues appear when rec'd.

The National branch roster corrections and additions should be accurate when listed on the website for (FY14) 2013-2014. It's easy to do! With your ID, you can make your name changes, update your address, email, & phone information on the national website.

Fifty (50) Year Applications were given to branch members with standing of 50 years in AAUW. There will be more about these women in coming newsletter issues and branch activities.

The Roster subcommittee will conclude the collection of roster sheets by December 2nd. Fay Kitchin has successfully launched this project and Sandra Schmulbach becomes the new chair of the Roster subcommittee. Submit rosters to: rso_8mpp@yahoo.com

The Membership Committee next meets sometime mid-end of January to discuss and plan for future happenings. Suggestions are always welcome for branch consideration.

THE BIG READ is over except for the completion of statistics and final reports to the National Endowment for the Arts. To recognize Elgin Area Branch involvement: Joan Berna and Miriam Lytle wrote the grant. Two other members, Julie Ford and Meg Still, gave considerable time and skills to the photo gallery and framed portraits of local Vietnam Veterans. Marti Jernberg helped make one of the Quilts of Valor given to each of the veterans. These members really are to be commended for their contributions. All AAUW members who participated *in any way* can be proud of their efforts to help launch a "One Community – One Book" for our geographic area. AAUW helped initiate a significant event with exceptional community support.

THANK YOU!

To learn more go to: <http://gailborden.info/bigread/>

MEET OUR MEMBERS

Phyllis Folarin was a teacher and School Administrator in School District U-46 until her retirement in 2005.



Dr. Phyllis E. Folarin works as Principal Consultant in her firm, **Achievement Solutions**, an Educational Consulting Service. She earned a Bachelor's Degree from Wilberforce University, Ohio, a Masters from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, and a Doctorate Degree in from the School Executive Leadership Program at the University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana.

Her community involvement includes: Trustee on the ECC Board from 1999 -2012 where she served two consecutive terms as Vice Chair and chair of the Board. She chaired several local and State committees and was appointed an Associate Member to the National Association of Community College Trustee's Diversity

Committee. She also served as a Board Member, Boys and Girls Club of Elgin, United Way of Elgin, member of School District U-46 African American Student Advisory Council; and Founder of the Black History Family Festival

She has received the following awards: The Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Education, YWCA Leader Luncheon Racial Justice Award, Elgin Community College's Lasting Impact Award.

Dr. Folarin resides in Elgin with her husband, Femi. They are the parents of three adult daughters.



Sandra Schmulbach, at age 6, walked into first grade and immediately fell in love with Mrs. Agles and the idea of teaching and learning. Before becoming a degreed teacher, she was a piano teacher. At age 14: her piano teacher decided she should do that, so she did for about 7 years! In the Illinois' last group of teachers who could begin teaching with an Associate Degree, she continued fulfilling the dream, Sandra, at age 19, became a Kindergarten teacher in the Belleville area. Teaching continued even now--she hasn't figured out how to retire! She was one of the 'original' teaching staff for the Illinois Gifted Program, serving as consultant with an Area Service Center, housed at McKendree College in Lebanon. She became Director of the Gifted Center for Northern Illinois in 1976, hosted by the Elgin School District. As a gifted consultant and later Director of School Improvement in a regional office, most of her responsibilities included: designing, organizing and implementing long term professional development programs; creating, designing, writing and delivering curriculum and graduate coursework for gifted education staff development; writing grants; chairing the Gifted Education 25th Anniversary Convention; being a founding member of Illinois Association for Gifted Children; implementing the state-wide Academic Talent

Search; implementing a field study program; taking students to study Archaeology in Colorado and history in England; overseeing the selection of the first class of students at the Illinois Math and Science Academy; and consulting with parents, students, teachers, administrative staff, legislators and anyone else interested in learning about learning. Today, she volunteers her time to read stories she has written to various classes and tutors individual students. The love affair with learning that began so long ago, continues every day. She reads for pleasure, travels and serves on the Board of Directors for her Homeowners' Association.

Sandra attended McKendree College from which she was awarded a BS degree; Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville to earn an MA in reading; Northern Illinois University to receive Administrative Certification. Additionally, she has over 30 hours in brain-based learning and gifted education (several of those courses being ones she wrote).

YWCA 2013 Leader Luncheon Nominees From Patricia Harkin

Carol Cowles and Janelle Walker at the luncheon:



Yearbook Updates

Mary Aydt

Nancy Lamia

Emily Navin

Pam Schneck

Message from Newsletter Editors

Newsletter deadline is January 20 for the February issue. Please submit all items as a Word document to all three editors.

Medina Gross- medinag@gmail.com

Jeanne Hebeisen- jeanne@mc.net

Beverly Lovett- lovett1988@comcast.net

Website

Website items go to Marcia Cameron-
mec515@sbcglobal.net They may be sent at any time.

A promotional flyer for Curves. The top half has a green background with white text: "Strengthening Women 30 Minutes at a Time!". Below this, on a white background, it says: "This pass entitles YOU to a FREE Tour, Fitness Assessment, and Workout PLUS an exciting first visit discount! Call TODAY! 847-622-9800". The bottom half has a purple background with white text: "Our convenient hours of operation are: Mon. - Thurs, 5:30 a.m. ~ 8:00 p.m. Fri. 5:30 a.m. ~ 7:00 p.m. Sat. 7:00 a.m. ~ noon Closed Sun." The Curves logo is in the bottom right corner. At the very bottom, in small text: "Curves is a registered trademark of Curves International, Inc. ©2009 Curves International, Inc."

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In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

AAUW is open to all graduates who hold an Associate or equivalent degree from a qualified educational institution.

AAUW's Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW's Value Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

AAUW's Educational Foundation

AAUW provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive social change.

AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund

AAUW invests in activities that prevent and combat sex discrimination and promote gender equity through support of litigation and educational programs.

About the Elgin Area Branch and AAUW Times

The Elgin Area Branch was organized in 1920 with 40 charter members.

AAUW Times is published nine times a year by the Elgin Area Branch of the American Association of Women.

Elgin Area Branch AAUW
c/o Karen Patterson
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