

# AAUW TIMES

Elgin Area Branch  
1920-2016



*Working for 95 years to promote equity for all women and girls,  
Life-long education and positive social change*

March 2016

American Association of University Women

Vol. 21, No. 6

Website – [elginarea-il.aauw.net](http://elginarea-il.aauw.net)

Email Address – [aauw.membership.elginarea@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.membership.elginarea@gmail.com)

## General Meeting

**Sunday, March 20, 2:00 p.m.**  
**Gail Borden Library**  
**270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin**

**Vivian Maier:**

**Buried Treasure and the Nanny Photographer**

A dramatic book review by Jenny Riddle

\*\*\*\*\*Reservations are required. Guests can register at [www.gailborden.info/register](http://www.gailborden.info/register), by calling 847-429-4597, or in person at the library.\*\*\*\*\*



As those who have attended many of the Elgin Donors' Club annual fundraisers know, Jenny Riddle's dramatic book reviews are not to be missed. Her "Buried Treasure and the Nanny

Basing her performance on the well-researched book *Vivian Maier: Out of the Shadows*, Riddle assumes the persona of Maier and relates the story of her life. And what a fascinating tale she has to tell, for while Maier was earning a living working as a nanny and caregiver, she was also continually taking photographs of her young charges and their world and of New York City's and Chicago's see-it-all streets. Intensely private, however, she did not share her pictures with others. Often, because money was tight, she did not even develop her rolls of film.

It was only because one of the storage lockers in which she stashed her photographs, negatives and film was auctioned off that her work was finally brought to the public eye and has earned her posthumous acclaim as a master of street photography.

Maier is described by those who knew her as unconventional, gutsy and compassionate, and Jenny Riddle brings out all those qualities in her performance. So mesmerizing is she, for example, when she tells of her life as a nanny to three boys in a Chicago North Shore suburb that it is not surprising to learn that when Maier was old and penniless, they paid for a small apartment for her and cared for her until her death in 2009.

*Note:* Gail Borden Library does not have a copy of the book on which Riddle based her performance, but it does have *Eye to Eye: Photographs by Vivian Maier*, a collection compiled by Richard Cahan and Michael Williams of some of the over 100,000 photographs Maier took during her lifetime.

This event is being co-sponsored by Elgin Area AAUW, Gail Borden Public Library, the League of Women Voters of the Elgin Area and YWCA Elgin.

## Calendar

- Mar. 2 **Current Movie Discussion** 4:30 pm  
The Race  
Colonial Restaurant, McLean Blvd.
- Mar. 5 **Diversity Salon #1** 2:00 pm  
Hostess: Sue Schulz
- Mar. 7 **Board Meeting** 7:00 pm  
Hostess: Patty Harkin  
Co-Hostess: Rosemary Dyson
- Mar. 9 **Good Tastes** 5:00 pm  
Preservation Grill and Wine Bar  
513 South St., Geneva 630-208-1588

- Mar. 10 **Morning Book Group** 9:30 am  
Hostess: Sharon LeCount  
*The Nightingale*, Kristin Hannah
- Mar. 10 **Crafters Group** 9:30 am  
Hostess: Linda Rusenovich  
Jewelry Project
- Mar. 12 **Women's History Month Brunch** 10 – 12:30  
ECC Business Center
- Mar. 14 **Great Books** 7:00 pm  
Gail Borden Public Library  
*Othello*, Shakespeare
- Mar. 20 **Branch Meeting** 2:00 pm  
Gail Borden Library  
Open to Public
- Mar. 20 **April Newsletter Deadline**
- Mar. 21 **Knitting/Crocheting Group** 1-3 pm  
Hostess: Juanita Brook  
Knit hats or your current project
- Mar. 22 **Reel Women for Real Women** 6:00 pm  
Gail Borden Public Library  
*Far from the Madding Crowd*
- Mar. 23 **Evening Book Group** 7:00 pm  
Hostess: Muriel Fenzel  
*Open Secret*, Stella Rimington

### Non-Branch Calendar

- April 9 **Scholars' Brunch**, Lambs Farm
- Apr. 12 **Equal Pay Rally**, Daley Plaza, Chicago
- Apr. 29-30 **State Convention**  
Roosevelt University, Schaumburg
- June 3-4 **Midwest Ten State AAUW Biennial Conference**  
Great Wolf Lodge, Kansas City, Kansas  
Noon Friday to Saturday late afternoon

## Co-Presidents' Message

From Jeanne Hebeisen

We should be proud of all the AAUW's initiatives. Two of them are of immediate value to all women. The first one is the **STARTSMART Workshop**. It is meant to help college students start off their working careers on the right foot. According to AAUW's research, women one year out of college are paid only 82% of what their male counterparts receive. By using the skills taught in this workshop, they are prepared to –

- negotiate salary and narrow gap early
- improve lifelong earning potential
- articulate one's value
- build confidence in negotiation style
- sharpen budgeting skills

The other one is **WORKSMART**. This one (still in development – may be done by now) is for working women. It teaches women to evaluate, negotiate and articulate their worth in the job market. This is an interactive workshop where facilitators lead discussions on the gender pay gap and its personal effects through role-playing. Anyone striving for a promotion, asking for a raise or negotiating a new salary can benefit from this workshop.

AAUW provides training for workshop facilitators. If you think you would like to be a facilitator, contact Susan Hoover at [susanhoover@aol.com](mailto:susanhoover@aol.com).

Another initiative is the Two-Minute Activist. Are you one? Notice that word **Two-Minute**. Even the busiest member would have that much time to register her/his support of an AAUW issue. The national office creates the message. You can either Submit it as sent, or add a sentence or more of your own. It's suggested that if you do have the time or desire to do so, you add your comment(s) at the front of the message, as that will carry more weight than starting out with the "form" message. Next time someone from AAUW-IL or the Association visits our branch, wouldn't it be great to see a sea of hands go up when asked how many are Two-Minute Activists – instead of a sea of puzzled looks!

Go to [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org). Click on Get Involved. Click on #1 (Take action online). Click on Take Action. Go to Become a Two Minute Activist.

Although our April branch meeting (a trip to Fermilab) is on the same day as the Scholars Lunch at Lambs Farm, if you are planning on attending the Scholars Lunch and need the details, email me, and I will forward their flier to you.

One last thing, I urge you to attend Sue Schulz's salons (details below). We do want to keep our branch a vital one.

## Diversity Salons

From Sue Schulz

**Note from the Editors:** We're re-running Sue's article about the upcoming Salons because, as Jeanne states above, we'd really like you to attend and share your thoughts to help us grow as a Branch.

In our September newsletter our Membership Committee stated that our branch's priority goal ".....is to build our membership.

While retaining our current membership, we must also engage younger members. We attract members in civil and that benefit us all.



While retaining our current membership, we must also engage younger members. We attract members in civil and that benefit us all.

We would like to attract the 40-50 year old woman who has an interest in our community of women who will be immediately active. We also want to continue to attract women of all ethnicities, ages, young and older, who are committed to the goals of AAUW."

To make this goal a reality and a true priority for all our members, we would like to invite you to participate in conversations that are meant to build and assess our branch. As a branch, we have few opportunities to gather together and address the issues facing us and how to accomplish this priority goal.

Therefore, we will be having informal get-togethers that we are calling *salons*. A "*salon*" is a gathering of people who come together to discuss and increase knowledge through conversation. We will be discussing our branch culture and strengths, our branch alignment with AAUW missions and what we need to do to improve, attract and gain new membership.

Each of you have contributed to the branch in different ways, some over many years. You hold the historical knowledge and experience that create the culture and mission of the branch. The life of the branch will continue only if we reach out to new members. These salons are intended to help us assess our branch and develop an action plan for reaching out into the community to build membership.

To have a healthy branch that reflects the mission of AAUW and our community, it is important that all of our members' voices are heard. So please join us. By sharing your views you will be an integral part of creating and ensuring our future.

## Reel Women/Real Women

From Barbara Evans



Coming Attraction  
Tuesday, March 22 - 6 pm  
Gail Borden Library

*Far from the Madding Crowd*  
(2015) PG-13

Starring Carey Mulligan, Prunella Ransome, Tom Sturridge, Michael Sheen & Matthias Schoenaerts

This is the fourth film version of Thomas Hardy's 1894 novel: the first was a 1915 silent picture, another a 1998 television drama. The one many may have seen, however, is the 1967 motion picture starring Julie Christie. Although it received critical acclaim, many critics have noted their preference for Carey Mulligan's portrayal of Hardy's heroine in this most recent version.

And all critics have rained superlatives down on its cinematography. As one critic wrote, "This is a painterly film. Every image rich, colors vibrant, landscapes captivatingly photographed— what registers at every turn is a vibrant sense of time and place." That it was filmed on location in rural England where the novel is set should delight those who love the novel. That it is a generally faithful adaptation of the novel will please them as well.

Reducing the novel/film to the bare bones of its plot, critic Katherine Monk wrote, "Before there was the Bachelorette, there was Bathsheba Everdene." And it is true that Hardy's *Madding Crowd* heroine has attracted three different suitors: a sheep herder, a dashing Cavalry sergeant and a mature bachelor whose prosperous farm adjoins the farm Bathsheba inherits.

But that Suzanne Collins chose Katriss Everdeen as the name for the heroine of *The Hunger Games* was no accident and is a not so subtle clue that Hardy's heroine is not the Bachelorette. Hardy was a writer of many tough-minded, resourceful female characters whose independence of mind set them at odds with the patriarchal codes of the Victorian era. Bathsheba—a plucky, willful, beautiful young woman—not only sees no compelling reason to settle down with a man she doesn't love but also decides to manage the farm she

inherits herself.

Hardy's timeless story of Bathsheba's choices and passions explores the nature of relationships and love as well as the ability to overcome hardships— far more meaty fare than "The Bachelorette" can ever offer.

*Open to the public, Reel Women meets at Gail Borden Library at 6 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month except December. You are welcome to bring food and drink into the movie. Discussion follows the show.*

**Tues., April 26: Brooklyn (2015)**

## **Minutes of January 23, 2016 Meeting**

Co-President, Jeanne Hebeisen started our Branch Meeting at 11:00 at St Hugh Episcopal Church, Elgin. She asked everyone to enjoy the soup and salad buffet.

At 11:50 Gareth Sitz introduced our speaker, Ruth Sweetser, former AAUW National President. The program focused on Pay Equity.

Co President, Jeanne Hebeisen started our business meeting at 1:15 by thanking the Co social chairs and the members who brought dishes.

The minutes from our November 12, 2015 meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer, Linda Youngren, reported we have a balance on hand of \$10121, with \$,3163 in uncommitted funds. The Treasurer's Report was approved as emailed and will be filed for audit.

Co- Membership Chair, Rosemary Dyson said we have 110 members.

Co-Program Chair, Patti Harkin, reminded us our February 25 meeting will be at the Second Baptist Church entitled, Race, Culture and Women.

Membership Chair, Becky Olson, also said we have 110 members but currently no affiliate members.

Co-Presidents' Report, was given by Jeanne Hebeisen. The Networking Luncheon will be next Saturday. The Fellows lunch at Lambs Farm is the same day as our meeting at Fermi Lab. She thanked Patti Harkin for her extra efforts in letting our members know where to find additional information on Pay Equity. She received a notice from our Illinois State President to watch for the 'Link' our state emailed newsletter at the end of Feb.

Becky Olson gave a touching memorial for Joan Hayashida

### **Committee Reports**

Diversity Chair, Sue Schulz, was out of town so Rosemary Dyson reported that a core group had met to organize a series of salons to address who we are, look at diversity and how we can appropriately reach out to diverse groups. Articles will be in the newsletter.

EO Funds-Co Chair, Katherine Jablonowski said it was still too early to talk about another garage sale.

### **Old Business**

Public Policy-Linda Knight read part of a thank you note from the Ecker Center for our individual contributions of \$625.

### **New Business**

Awards Committee, Chair, Anne Marblestone said their first meeting will be Feb 4, at 9:00am at Jeanne Hebeisen's home.

On behalf of the Stem committee, Medina Gross, asked for volunteers.

Linda Youngren said there would be information in the newsletter for where to send donations for Joan Hayashida memorial.

Jennifer Ford let the members know the correct dates for the League of Women Voters Candidates Forum, the dates are March 5 and 12.

Legal Advocacy Chair, Rachel Campbell, announced the close of the silent auction.

Adjourned at 1:45.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Hill, Secretary

## **A Note from Linda Youngren**

At our January Lunch Meeting we raised \$214.50 for LAF and \$195.25 in luncheon fees for the general fund.

### **Public Policy From Linda Knight**

The death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia could have a significant effect on cases involving women's issues presently pending before the Supreme Court or likely to be granted certiorari. One case of particular interest is Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt, which is scheduled for argument on March 2. This is a 5th Circuit case out of Texas that involves TRAP laws. I talked a little about TRAP laws in the November

newsletter. TRAP stands for Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers. These laws target medical providers and limiting patient access to providers, and are passed under the guise of protecting women's health, even though the provisions generally do nothing to increase the standard of care.

The issues before the Court in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* are: 1) Whether, when applying the "undue burden" standard of *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, a court errs by refusing to consider whether and to what extent laws that restrict abortion for the stated purpose of promoting health actually serve the government's (in this case Texas) interest in promoting health; and 2) Whether the 5th Circuit erred in concluding that this standard permits Texas to enforce, in nearly all circumstances, laws that would cause a significant reduction in the availability of abortions services while failing to advance the state's interest in promoting health, or any other valid interest.

Justice Scalia has been described as the intellectual anchor for the Court's conservative wing, and his death will affect not only this case, but many others as well. Until a new justice is nominated by the President and affirmed by the Senate, there will likely be a 4-4 tie in many cases. If that happens, the lower court's ruling will stand, but will not set precedent, so the same issues could come before the Supreme Court in the future.

## **International Women's Issues**

**From Juanita Brook**

Simeon Tagel of the *Global Post* reported today that Colombia, S.A., has finally passed a law to prosecute anyone using any kind of chemical agent to physically harm another person. The penalty for this crime will be 12 years in prison. But if the victim is permanently disfigured, the sentence will be up to 50 years.

Throwing acid, usually a man throwing acid at a woman, is not as prevalent in Colombia as in some other countries, such as Nepal, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Uganda. (Recently the Taliban have used this method to discourage young women from attending school in Afghanistan and Pakistan.) But in Colombia about 100 women a year are disfigured by angry husbands or boyfriends.

In 2013, a construction worker resented it when industrial inspector, Elizabeth Ruales, 38, told him to use proper safety methods. In response, he threw a bucket of acid at her, burning her face, neck, arms and legs. He was eventually given an 18 month suspended sentence.

With this new law signed by President Juan Manuel Santos on Monday, the sentence will be much more severe. One small step... Hopefully other countries will follow by using legislation to discourage this barbaric practice.

## **Knitting/Crocheting Group**

**From Kathy Turnquist**



Our March meeting will be on Monday, March 21 from 1-3 pm at the home of Juanita Brook. The group has decided to knit hats for charity and members are asked to bring left over yarn they have so we can mix and match them to make even more hats. Feel free to also bring a project you are currently working on. All members are welcome to attend.



## **Nominating Committee**

**From Libby Hoeft**

Here are the members who have agreed to serve as our officers for 2016-2017.

Co-Presidents: Muriel Fenzel and Juanita Brook  
Vice-Presidents Program: Patty Harkin and Gareth Sitz  
Treasurer: Linda Knight  
Corresponding Secretary: Karen Patterson

Nominating Committee 2017

Lynn Harper  
Kathy Turnquist  
Chris Saletta  
Jane Lawson  
Florence Osdick  
Anne Marblestone

Alternates: Barb Wahl and TBD

## **Women's History Month Brunch**

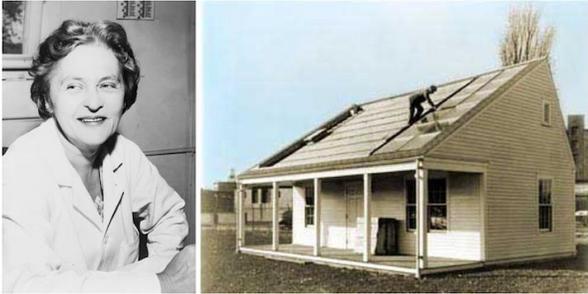
**From Barbara Evans**

The 2016 **Women's History Month Brunch** will be held from 10 to 12:30 on **Saturday, March 12**, at the Business Center dining room at Elgin Community College. Featured will be museum curator Elizabeth Carlson's talk, "The Rise and Fall of Women's Underwear." Reservations can be made online at [ywcaelgin.org/WHB16](http://ywcaelgin.org/WHB16) or by check payable to YWCA Elgin, 220 E. Chicago St., Elgin, IL 60120. Registration deadline is March 4, 2016. Contact the YWCA Elgin at 847.742.7930 with question

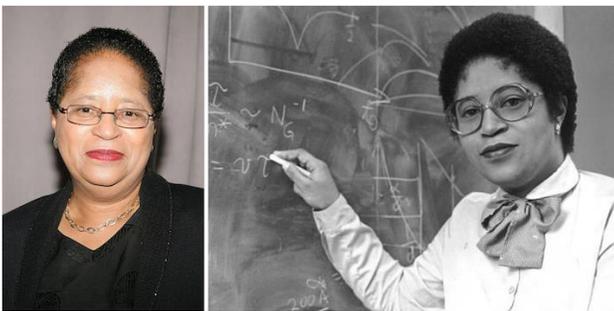
## Some Reasons to Support STEM

From Becky Olson

found a bug (moth) causing problems with her computer. Dr. Hopper is a legend in the computer industry!



Solar heating for residential housing was invented by Dr Maria Telkes in 1947. Dr. Telkes was a Psychiatrist in addition to being a Solar-Power Pioneer.



Some of the Telecommunication Technology developed by Dr. Shirley Jackson includes portable fax, touch tone telephone, solar cells, fiber optic cables, and the technology behind caller ID and call waiting.



Dr. Grace Murray Hopper was a computer scientist that invented COBOL, the first user-friendly business computer software system in the 1940's. She was also a rear admiral in the U.S. navy and the first person to use the term "bug" in reference to a glitch in a computer system when she literally

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.

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.

## **About the Elgin Area Branch and AAUW Times**