

# AAUW TIMES

**Elgin Area Branch  
1920-2018**



*Working for 97 years to promote equity for all women and girls,  
Life-long education and positive social change*

October 2018

American Association of University Women

Vol. 24 No. 2

## AAUW's Mission Statement

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

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

**Elgin Historical Society, 360 Park Street  
Tuesday October 9, 7 pm**

## Women in Law Enforcement

A panel featuring Elgin Police Chief Ana Lalley and other female officers.

In August 2018, Anna Z. Lalley became Elgin's second female police chief, and the second of only two female police chiefs in major Illinois cities. Despite a dearth of women at the

top, the "Boys In Blue" are seeing more women join law enforcement units across the country.

Find out how Chief Lalley and her sister officers of the Elgin Police Department are transforming their profession in this lively, informal panel presentation.



Note: Illinois' two female chiefs both serve in Kane County; the other is Chief Kristen Ziman of the Aurora PD.

## Calendar

- Oct. 2 Garage Sale drop off 3-6 pm  
Hostess: Nancy Gardner
- Oct. 3-5 Garage Sale
- Oct. 3 Current Movie Discussion Group 4:30 pm  
**Olive Garden, West Dundee – New location**  
*The Wife and Bel Canto*
- Oct. 8 Great Books 7 pm  
Gail Borden Public Library  
"Philosophy and Knowledge", Bertrand Russell
- Oct. 9 General Meeting
- Oct. 11 Morning Book Group 9:30 am  
Hostess: Joan Berna  
*The Stars Are Fire*, Anita Shreve
- Oct. 15 Knitting/Crocheting Group 1 pm  
Hostess: Muriel Fenzel
- Oct. 20 Deadline for November newsletter
- Oct. 23 Reel Women/Real Women 6 pm  
Gail Borden Public Library  
*RBG*, a documentary
- Oct. 24 Evening Book Group 7 pm  
Hostess: Anne Marblestone  
*I Was Told to Come Alone*, Souad Mekhennet
- Oct. 25 Women & Culture 7 pm  
Hostess: Patty Harkin  
"The Rhetorical Agency of Hilda Satt Polacheck"  
By Bridget K. O'Rourke, Professor of English at  
Elmhurst College

## **Presidents' Report**

### **From Libby Hoeft**

By now you should all have received your copy of the yearbook. Many thanks to all who contributed information and to Marti Jernberg for her many years of putting it all together in a great format. It was a difficult decision for the board to go to the expense of printing the yearbook, but the Membership Committee felt that it would be of service for new members and for maintaining present members. Please use the yearbook to find your areas of interest and avail yourself of the many opportunities which are contained within it.

The year is off to a good start with our September 11 meeting. It allowed us to recall the importance of getting out the vote so that our goal of empowering women can be furthered. The next meeting on October 9, with female officers from the Elgin Police Department and others, should provide us with an understanding about additional ways in which women are being empowered.

The fall garage sale will take place October 2-5, led by Patty Harkin. This is a major fund raiser for our branch. All donations are appreciated. If you haven't signed up to work yet, please contact Patty.

The Fall Conference will take place on October 6 at the IIT Rice campus in Wheaton. If you would like to attend, please be sure to register.

It is good to be back in the swing of our fall offerings. Our many and varied interest groups are going strong. In the words of former member Mabel Rice, who moved to Ohio, "The Elgin AAUW group is such a strong and vibrant organization." Let's all help to keep it that way!

## **Branch Meeting Minutes**

### **September 13**

Rachel Campbell, Co-President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at Zion Lutheran Church, welcoming all who were in attendance. She thanked Judy Mavros who organized the food, and Marlene Daubert, who arranged the venue.

The minutes had been printed in the Summer Newsletter, and were approved as written and read.

Linda Knight, Treasurer, explained that the board had gone over the Budget and approved it to be presented to the membership. It was sent out by email. The membership accepted it by unanimous vote and it was filed for audit.

Programs Co-Chair, Tish Calhamer, announced that the next Branch meeting would be held October 9<sup>th</sup> at the Elgin Historical Society. The program will be about Women in Law Enforcement.

Rosemary Dyson, Membership Co-Chair, asked the two guests to stand and introduce themselves. She added that our Branch now has 125 members.

Rachel reminded us of the District 5 Meeting that will take place at the IIT Campus in Wheaton, Illinois on October 6<sup>th</sup>. She suggested car-pooling for the event.

Jan Jones, Garden Walk Co-chair, thanked all the volunteers who helped with the Garden Walk this summer. There were 220 people who attended and we made \$3500 to be used for National and local scholarships.

The Centennial Committee will meet October 10<sup>th</sup>, at Joan Berna's at 6:30 pm. Suggestions from members for activities we can have to help celebrate our anniversary are welcome. Call Julie Ford or Sue Schulz.

Rachel thanked Marti Jernberg for her work on the Yearbook. She does a great job every year.

Garage Sale Chair, Patty Harkin, announced that the next Garage Sale will be October 2nd (a Tuesday) through October 5th (Friday), at Nancy Gardner's home on Walnut St. Sign up to help and save your unwanted items to be sold at our sale.

Rachel mentioned that Katherine Jablonoski and Liola Carey of the Audit Committee had done the audit earlier this summer and everything was in order.

The next Diversity Program will be September 25 at Gail Borden Library. Members will be helping those who come to register to vote get their papers in order and answer questions they may have. Shifts are 3-5 pm and 5-7 pm. Judy Fishburn has agreed to be another AAUW representative to the Elgin Hispanic Network. Our members will also be helping with the Centro Gala, and MLK in January.

International Relations Chair, Ruth Bradburn, has volunteered to also be head of the Befrienders. She is looking for members who will mentor our newest members and help them navigate the many groups and activities we offer.

Local Scholarship Chair, Carol Wieg, has the scholarship application forms for this year available now. If you know of a young woman who has attended college long enough to have 19 credit hours and a strong GPA, please give her an application.

Newsletter Editor, Jeanne Hebeisen, asked us to support the ads in the newsletter by suggesting to local merchants that they advertise with us.

Public Policy Chair, Shirley May Byrnes, announced there would be a program at the YWCA on Saturday, September 15 from 9-3 encouraging women to run for office. She suggested that those with strong feelings about the appointment of the next Supreme Court Judge should contact their senator or representative and make their voices known.

Judy Mavros, Social Coordinator for the evening, thanked everyone who brought food.

The meeting was adjourned by Rachel Campbell at 6:55 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Juanita Brook

## **Membership *Still Matters*** **A Long History of Accomplishment** **From Rosemary Dyson**

The Elgin Area Branch AAUW continues to work toward full equality for women in education and the workplace. As we invite new members into our branch and our national organization we can feel a real sense of accomplishment about what has been achieved so far in the areas of education, training and economic security. I encourage all branch members to tell potential members about how much AAUW has accomplished so far and what we intend achieving in the future.

### **Education and Training**

Since 1888, AAUW's fellowships and grants program has awarded more than \$115 million to more than 13,000 women and nonprofit organizations in more than 140 countries — making it a leading source of funding exclusively for graduate women.

Support for education has ranged from helping to raise funds to buy a gram of radium for Marie Curie's research, to establishing the Coretta Scott King Fund following the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., to promoting civil rights and the study of racial understanding and peace

Since the 1880s, AAUW has been improving education for women. AAUW held colleges and universities accountable for admitting and advancing women at a time when few had the opportunity to pursue higher education. Our survey *Campus 1970: Where Do Women Stand?* helped lead to the creation of Title IX. Now that women graduates outnumber men, we tackle ongoing barriers, bias, and harassment women face on campus; the fact that women lack professional and leadership opportunities; and that women still incur two-thirds of the nation's student debt and graduate to a gender pay gap.

### **Economic Security**

Starting 122 years ago, AAUW has published reports documenting the gender pay gap and has fought for fair pay and professional advancement opportunities for women. The organization was at the forefront of pushing for equal pay policies — including the landmark Women's Equal Pay Act of 1945, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Family Medical Leave Act in 1993, the Lilly

Ledbetter Equal Pay Act of 2009, and other policies and practices that support the ability of women to thrive in the workplace.

AAUW is still leading the fight to pass legislation across the states and for the federal Paycheck Fairness Act to close remaining loopholes and the gender pay gap. In 1962, AAUW established the College Faculty Program to support women college graduates to retrain for positions as university faculty and administrators. AAUW continues to support programs for women at different phases of their careers, including those returning to the workforce in all fields and making career changes.

In 2018, we launched an initiative to train 10 million women in salary negotiations by 2022, and to continue to advocate for fair pay laws and changes in employer practices to aim to achieve pay equity by 2030.

## **Meet and Greet** **From Muriel Fenzel**

**Lydia Gillus**



Lydia received her B.S. degree from the University of Michigan, followed by her MBA from Loyola University. She worked at Sprint as a Systems Engineer in Cincinnati, OH for four years, before moving to Chicago as a Solutions Design Engineer for the next fourteen years.

Lydia's love of working with youth led her to form a non-profit: "STEM SAVVY" to expose students to STEM careers through hands-on activities in camps and workshops.

This new career also led Lydia to AAUW. While attending a STEM conference, she heard about AAUW's work in STEM. Sue Schulz encouraged her to join our organization here in Elgin after Lydia found an AAUW Elgin Branch pamphlet at Gail Borden Library,

She has been volunteering with NSBF (National Society of Black Engineers) and SWE (Society of Women Engineers) since moving to Chicago eighteen years ago. She helps youth understand careers in engineering, the college application process and how they can become successful engineers.

She loves movies, reading and sports. She is a season ticket holder for the WNBA team, the Chicago Sky. She follows her alma mater's Michigan football, U.S. Women's soccer and some tennis. She is married with two sports-loving children,

requiring her to fill her schedule with soccer and basketball practices and games.

Lydia, as our new STEM Chairperson, is scheduled in November for our Elgin AAUW Branch Meeting. She will lead us in a hands-on STEM project group activity. She will also share with us her passion for STEM.

## **Public Policy**

### **From Shirley May Byrnes**

**Supreme Court Nomination:** The confirmation hearings have concluded, but the Senate has not yet voted on Judge Brett Kavanaugh's nomination to the Supreme Court. As a reminder, AAUW opposes his confirmation because a review of his available record has made clear that Judge Kavanaugh holds positions that are fundamentally at odds with AAUW's mission. My article in the September's newsletter provides you with further information on AAUW's objections. You are encouraged to continue to urge Senators not to confirm him. The senators serving the Elgin Area are listed with their contact information on page 21 of our Yearbook.

**Advocacy and Get Out the Vote:** Rep. Anna Moeller and Councilwoman Tish Powell gave us tips for contacting officials at the state and local level at the September 13 program. Anna said to tell a story (give an emotional reason for your request), be truthful, try to come with a solution to the problem, and contact your legislators even when you know they support an issue. Elected officials hear plenty from those opposing a bill, but they also need to hear from those who support it. Tish supported that tip by stating we need to contact council members and the mayor when we are for an issue, not just when we are against. Their emails and phone numbers are listed on the city website, so use them. In Elgin, council members represent all city residents, not just a certain sector. Tish also stated that threats don't get you anywhere.

Anna mentioned that women have to work ten years longer than men to earn the same amount. She urged us to call the Governor and urge him to sign **HB4163**, the Equal Pay Act-Wage History, which passed both houses, as it did last year when he vetoed it. Unfortunately, he vetoed it again on September 21. Now if you call him at 312-817-2121, tell him how disappointed you are in his action. Anna will probably bring it to the veto session in November.

**Get Out the Vote:** In the second part of the program, Anna and Tish addressed the importance of getting out the vote in November and at all elections. Anna gave the results of a survey that showed the top successful strategies. Starting at the top: peer pressure creating accountability, TV ads, door knocking, robocalls (we groaned to disagree), text message the day before the election, volunteers/phone banking, candidate forums, and newspaper endorsements. Tish gave ways to get involved with a candidate as a volunteer: work at phone bank, walk door to door, work at fundraisers, talk to your friends and

co-workers, host a neighborhood coffee with the candidate, post a yard sign, send friend-to-friend cards, and promote your candidate on social media.

**Voter Registration:** AAUW has promoted and worked on getting people registered to vote. Now we need to get them to the polls. One of the handouts at the AAUW/LWV, GBPLD/Centro event on September 25 lists reasons voting matters. The list includes healthcare, climate change, immigration, gun rights, union rights, tax reform, women's rights, education, reproductive rights, student loan debt, and others. If a person cares about, or complains about, any of these issues, they need to vote!

**Candidate Forums:** The LWV of Elgin Area candidate forum on Thursday, October 4 at the Gail Borden Library (GBPLD) features candidates for the Kane County Clerk, Kane County Sheriff, and the Kane County Board 19. The Thursday, October 11 forum features candidates for IL State House 43rd District and the 6th District and Judge 16th Circuit Court. There is an opportunity to meet and visit with the candidates at 6 pm. The forums will begin at 6:30, moderated by me. The forum on Tuesday, October 2 is at the Rakow Senior Center in West Dundee and features candidates for IL Senate 33rd District and Judge 16th Circuit Court. The Tuesday, October 9 forum in West Dundee features candidates for Kane County Sheriff and Clerk. as well as Kane County Board 21 and 23. These start at 7 pm. A change in the LWV rules this year will allow state and local candidates, but not federal candidates, to speak and answer questions whether or not their opponent attends.

**IL Veto Session Dates:** Tuesday, November 13-15, Tuesday, November 27-29. During this period, both houses will vote on overriding the governor's vetoes of bills that the senators and representatives wish to enact.

**State of the State 2018:** Susan Scott, AAUW-IL Public Policy Co-Chair sent the following information. The League of Women Voters celebrated women in Illinois politics on Saturday, September 29 at the Arlington International Racecourse (2200 W Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights). The evening's keynote speaker was former Illinois Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon. Panelists included former state Sen. Karen McConnaughay, retired state Rep. Elizabeth Coulson, and Village of Deerfield Mayor Harriet Rosenthal. League member and former state Rep. Elaine Nekritz moderated the event. Dinner, cocktails and a behind-the-scenes tour of Arlington International Racetrack were all on tap during the event.

**Chicago for CEDAW:** Susan Scott, AAUW-IL Public Policy Co-Chair also sent information from the Advocacy Director for the United Nations Association of Greater Chicago which is launching an initiative called Chicago CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women) that will include a month of action from late Sept. to late Oct. leading up to UN Day on Oct. 24th.

CEDAW is known as the international bill of rights for women and is a comprehensive treaty that addresses issues like education inequality, employment discrimination, health care choices, political participation, equal rights, gender discrimination, economic and social protections, equal access to opportunities, rights in marriage and home life, and human trafficking. In 1979, the UN adopted it. Since then, 189 states and countries have ratified it, only six have not, including the United States (joining Iran, Somalia, Sudan, Tonga, and The Vatican).

In the US, an initiative was started called Cities for CEDAW ([citiesforcedaw.org/](http://citiesforcedaw.org/)) with the objective of leading campaigns in various cities across the country to sign or pass resolutions advocating for the US to ratify CEDAW and/or implementing it in their city, which many city governments have successfully done. Here's some more info on CEDAW: [citiesforcedaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/CEDAW\\_2-Pager\\_15-March-2018.pdf](http://citiesforcedaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/CEDAW_2-Pager_15-March-2018.pdf). Chicago for CEDAW is working with the goal to have Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel sign a resolution at their UN Day event on Oct. 24 in support of CEDAW.

## Reel Women for Real Women

From Barbara Evans



Tuesday, Oct. 23  
RBG, a documentary

At the age of 84, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has developed a breathtaking legal legacy while becoming an unexpected pop culture icon. RBG is a revelatory documentary exploring her exceptional life and career and in doing so, gives viewers a deep and multi-layered sense of the times in which she has lived and the cultural forces she has had to struggle against to achieve what she has.



Because RBG is not covered by Gail Borden Library's public performance licenses, Reel Women would like to thank Elgin Area AAUW, State Representative Anna Moeller, Elgin Township Supervisor Franklin Ramirez and Kim Gilmore for providing the financing so that we could show this not-to-be-missed documentary.

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

## Women and Culture

From Sue Schulz

On October 25 at 7 pm, Bridget K. O'Rourke, Professor of English at Elmhurst College will present "The Rhetorical Agency of Hilda Satt Polacheck." Hilda's family emigrated from Poland to Chicago in 1892. She was a writer and activist. We will learn about her American life and the Hull-House community, her friendship with Jane Addams, her support of civil rights, women suffrage and her experiences as a writer for the WPA. Hostess and organizer is Patty Harkin.

## Garage Sale

From Patty Harkin

It's time to declutter and donate!

Our branch's Fall Garage Sale will be held October 2-5 at Nancy Gardner's home, 969 South Street, Elgin. **PLEASE**

**note that this year's sale will take place from Tuesday to Friday (not Wednesday to Saturday).**



Drop off: Tuesday, October 2, from 3-6 PM.

Sorting and pricing: Wednesday from 9 AM until darkness falls.

Selling: Thursday (9 AM-4 PM)

and Friday (9 AM- noon).

Cleanup: Friday (noon-3 PM).

We still need volunteers! Our greatest need is for sorters and pricers on Wednesday October 3.

As always, we need donations of items to sell. Costume jewelry is always a big seller at our Fall sale, when tweens and teens stop by on their way home from school. Houseware, kitchen items and sports equipment are also popular. Halloween and other holiday decorations are also big sellers. Warm winter clothing is always needed. (Our leftovers are sent to various charities, NOT landfills).

Even if you're not up for sorting and sales, could you lend us supplies, e.g., collapsible lightweight tables, clothing racks and/or laundry racks for display, and/or tarps to cover the tables at night? Just mark them with your name and we'll return them. Do you have, or have access to, a truck or large SUV for pickups and transport of donations and equipment?

Each year, the proceeds from our fall and spring garage sales help to fund scholarships for local women and contribute to the AAUW Educational Foundation. Your gifts of objects, time and energy, therefore, help young women to experience the education that has made us the persons we are.

## Movie Group

From Rachel Campbell



Last month the Movie Group learned that the Colonial Restaurant where we had been holding our discussions closed. That meant we had to find another location. We decided that we would try a couple of places before we made a final decision. In October the group will meet at the **OLIVE GARDEN** near the Springhill Mall.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month, so our next get-together will be **Wednesday, October 3, starting at 4:30 p.m.** There is a small room off the main dining area where we can meet. We usually order our dinner and then discuss the movie.

The movies we will discuss in October are ***THE WIFE*** and ***BEL CANTO***. We are an informal group and invite all AAUW members to attend. We have learned there are many opinions and critiques about the movies we discuss. None of us are experts or critics; we just like movies! Join us!

## District 4 & 5 Meeting

From Rachel Campbell

**The Northern District meeting** is scheduled for **Saturday, October 6**. It will meet at ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY RICE CAMPUS in Wheaton. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the State Organization, what it is, what it is doing and its accomplishments. It's also, an opportunity to meet members from other AAUW Branches in our area. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and end at 1:00 p.m. A buffet breakfast with protein and fruits will be offered, as well as coffee, tea and juices. The cost is \$25, and a portion of that will be paid by our branch.

Go to the State website ([aauw-il.aauw.net](http://aauw-il.aauw.net)) and click on Fall Link for details and information as to how to submit payment and the registration

All branch members are invited to attend. The group that attends will carpool. If you are interested in attending, please call me (847-695-9024) or email ([snowylark@gmail.com](mailto:snowylark@gmail.com)) for further details.

**Editor note – Deadline for reservations is Monday, October 1, so, it is suggested you call for reservations (Sue Stauffer 847-985-5560), or make them online. Go to website listed above.**

### 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.