

AAUW TIMES

**Elgin Area Branch
1920-2020**



**Working for 100 years to promote equity for women and girls,
life-long education and positive social change**

June & July 2020

American Association of University Women

Vol. 25 No. 9

Mission Statement

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

Website – elginarea-il.aauw.net

Email Address – aauw.il.elgin@gmail.com

Calendar

**AAUW Movie Group, June 3, 4:30
Marlene Daubert**

Hi Everyone,

Thanks for your responses for the AAUW Movie Group. We will gather on Wednesday, June 3.

We will discuss the movie “**Olympic Dreams**,” which we had selected an earlier month, but it did not appear in Elgin. It can be found for a small fee on YouTube or Amazon Prime.

Feel free to bring your dinner if you like and we can connect and discuss the movie over a meal. Bring ideas for the next movie. I’ll send out the Zoom link as we get closer. If you haven’t used Zoom before, it is very easy to use with a smart-phone, iPad, or computer. You’ll see! I look forward to seeing everyone!

Stay well, Marlene

**100th Anniversary Picnic
(Virtual via Zoom), June 10, 5:30**



Zoom into Summer

Just as the early suffragettes were not daunted by seemingly impossible circumstances, neither shall our branch as we move to finalize summer picnic plans. It’s full speed ahead on

Wednesday, June 10 at 5:30, and this year we need not concern ourselves with the weather forecast.

Our event will take place on Zoom with details to follow. Picnickers will enjoy a historical presentation by our own Linda Rock, and we’ll be awarding scholarships to some deserving young ladies. There will be a trivia contest with some meaningful prizes, courtesy of Patty Harkin’s treasure chest. The 100 Year celebration continues!

**Women & Culture
Sue Schultz**

Please note the schedule for Women & Culture....all are Zoom meetings.

Please email me (sue.schulz@att.net) if you are interested in participating and want to receive the ZOOM invitation.

6/25, 1:00 W & C Seneca Falls and Women’s History Tour
7/23, 1:00 W & C 100th Anniversary Extraordinary Women of AAUW
8/27, 1:00 W & C TED Talk (TBA)

Thanks, Sue.

**100th Anniversary
Mary Navin, Julie Ford, Sue Schulz**

Greetings all,

2020 has been a very challenging year for the entire world. The virus and social distancing have changed our reality and how we **all** do things. But this will not deter our branch from celebrating our great accomplishment of celebrating our 100 years. Our perspective, timing, and how we do this may change from “*Looking Back Moving Forward*” to something like “*Stepping into the Second 100 Years*.”

We, as your chairs, feel very strongly that health and safety for our members and all in our community is our first priority.

Therefore, we will not cancel any of our planned events but put them on hold until we can come together to celebrate safely. We do not know the timing of how things will work out, but with that in mind, we will be projecting to the best of our ability, our hopes of when events will occur.

Below is a listing of already scheduled events for our 100th Anniversary celebrations, when they were to occur, and when we hope to reschedule them. Stay safe until we all come together again.

Original Date in 2020	Event	Projected Rescheduling
April 25	Day of Empowerment	Spring or Fall of 2021
May 20	100 th Celebratory Banquet Dinner	Spring or Fall of 2021
June 10	<i>Social Picnic-it will be social but via virtual.</i>	<i>This event will continue as a possible ZOOM meeting. Watch for details</i>
June 20	Garden Walk	Spring of 2021
Oct. 11	100 th Images of the Heartland Reception, Show & Sale	Spring or Fall of 2021
Nov. 13	100 th Women Artist through the Ages	For now, we are hoping this will go as scheduled. If a change has to occur, we will send a notification ASAP.

New Officers Marlene Daubert

The following officers for the 2020-2021 board were voted into their position via an online vote by our local AAUW branch. We welcome them into their new roles:

1st Vice-President (Programming): Co-chairs Patty Golden & Carol Blohm

Treasurer: Jean Bridges

Nominating Committee: Shirley May Byrnes, Rachel Campbell, Julie Jindra, Linda Knight, Linda Rock, Sue Schulz, and alternate Carol Wieg

We thank each of you for your willingness to take leadership in these areas.

We also thank the following for their work over the past year(s): Mary Navin, Julie Ford, and Sue Schulz as 1st Vice

Presidents (Programming); Linda Knight as Treasurer; and our Nominating Committee chaired by Barbara Evans.

Thank you for your work and dedication to AAUW.

Annual Dues Membership Committee

The Membership Committee thanks all who have renewed their memberships for the 2020-2021 year, but at the same time, we would like to ask those who have not submitted their dues to please send \$82 to:

Bonnie Hill
11N962 Orchard Lane
Elgin, IL 60124.

Your cooperation in renewing at this time would be greatly appreciated.

Co-President's Note Marlene Daubert

We continue to live into a new reality with COVID-19, at least for the next few months. Your AAUW leaders have taken some time to postpone many upcoming events for safety reasons, and we are now ready to move forward in what we **can** do. We know that communicating and seeing each other and connecting in other ways is healthy for us as social beings. Each of us have had to learn some new technology, which can be scary or exciting depending on your personality. We held our May board meeting via Zoom, with many members learning or having learned recently how to use Zoom, and it went very well.

This is a time of great opportunity to learn new skills and new ways to connect. We have a great opportunity to try new ways to continue to grow as women even when we can't leave our homes. We encourage you to work to find ways to connect with your friends, family, small groups, and meetings in which you are involved. Did you know anyone can get a Zoom account and host a Zoom meeting?

There is a 45-minute time limit for more than 2 people, but unlimited for 2 (visit <https://zoom.us/>). Google Meet now has an online meeting option for anyone with a Gmail account. Freeconferencecall.com gives free phone numbers for group meetings if phone calls are more comfortable for you.

We plan to move forward with our annual AAUW picnic on June 10 at 5:30 via Zoom. So, if you haven't tried it yet, or still learning, this will be a great opportunity for you to do this! For this virtual picnic, bring your meal and a glass of wine if you like. Enjoy a suffragette presentation by Linda Rock, plus much more! Details will be coming, but save the date!

On another note, our AAUW National Office has been busy at work continuing to fight for the rights of women and girls, focusing on family leave, equal pay, equality in education, and

stopping sexual harassment. A new website has been rolled out, which is easy to use. It is <https://www.aauw.org/>

We encourage you to check it out! There is so much to learn and ways to be empowered! On the website we learn that protections offered by Title IX have been rolled back by the current administration, making it much more difficult for student survivors of sexual harassment and assault to come forward.

You can read the recent editorial written by Kim Churches, our CEO that was recently published in Newsweek about this, or read about the effects of COVID-19 through a gender lens, or take the Work Smart & Start Smart Salary Negotiation course. So many options!

Don't waste this time. Use it to continue to grow, to learn, to connect, and to make a difference.

Yearbook Marti Jernberg

As Yearbook Editor, I would appreciate receiving all information from study group leaders, board members, and members by the end of July.

Everyone should send me the information via email with as little formatting as possible. The information can be in an attachment, shared with me via Google Docs (send me the link), or placed in the body of the email.

Study group leaders: please, look at your entry. If there are no changes, please send an email saying so. That way, I don't have to track you down.

Board members: please, look at the pages you are responsible for and send any changes. If you are new to the position and don't know what pages you have, I will be glad to let you know. Call or email.

Members: please, check your personal information. Let me know if anything has changed or is incorrect. I would prefer this in writing, rather over the phone, to ensure accuracy.

If anyone is unable to meet this deadline, please contact me beforehand and I will try to accommodate you. Thank you.

Legal Advocacy Patty Harkin

(Please note that the opinions that inevitably enter my account of this case are my own.)

This month I'm following **Jennifer Freyd v. University of Oregon**. This case focusses on "salary compression," a name for the process whereby, over a lengthy career at the same institution, women (or less frequently, some other traditionally underrepresented class) receive smaller raises than men who do the same job. Back in the 1960's when I started to teach,

the rationale was that whereas men have "families to support," women don't need as much money.

While few people now would hold that opinion—at least not publicly—its effects remain. Over many years, this difference can become substantial. This link will take you to the AAUW's super new website, where you'll find a clear *and brief* account of the case.
<https://www.aauw.org/resources/legal/laf/current-cases/>

Please take a moment to call it up. What I'll try to do here is provide context for understanding the issues (big and little) that it entails. In the process, I'll use gendered pronouns rather than the singular "they" to keep gender in focus for all of us.

Usually, raises in state-assisted institutions of higher learning involve a complicated top-down process. The state allocates a certain percentage increase of the University's total annual budget. Over many months, that increase trickles down (and gets whittled down) from the state to the chancellor to the deans and, finally, to the departments where a certain percent of that percentage is allocated to faculty salaries. In some cases, the unit head alone decides how much, or little, a faculty member will receive. In others, an elected or appointed committee weighs in.

Say, *for example*, a department head has 2% more than s/he had last year to pay her/his faculty. But that does not, of course, mean that she /he has to give everybody a 2% raise. Instead, she/he considers...

1. Publications/research:

Number of publications, length of articles and books, "quality" of journals or presses, number of times the faculty member's research is cited by other scholars, the "importance" of the research as determined by the unit head.

2. Teaching

Number of courses taught, number of students taught, number of graduate theses or dissertations directed, number of independent studies taught, success as measured by student evaluations, and peer evaluations.

3. Service on committees at the departmental college, university, national, and international levels.

It's fine to serve on the department hospitality committee, but it's a very big deal to serve on the International Association of Psychologists governing committee. Both activities take time. Not infrequently, kinds of service are gender related.

4. "Unit Head's discretion"

Professor A delivered triplets by caesarian section and her productivity dropped; professor B was the principal caregiver for his dying mother and traveled 8 hours each weekend to visit her; or Professor C was offered another job and it would cost a lot to replace him/her; the

department has is no bench depth in his/her field: no one who currently serves on the faculty is qualified to teach her/his courses, which are required for the undergraduate major.

If the 9th Circuit accepts **Freyd v University of Oregon**, what the jurists will have to decide is WHY (among all of the variables I list above and more) Jennifer Freyd makes \$18,000 per annum less than her closet analogue in HER department. I think this is a really good case. It wouldn't be as good if the comparable male were not in Freyd's department. Courts in Virginia have ruled that "the market" knows that engineers make more than French teachers and that people who can easily move to the private sector (like physicists) cost more to keep than people who (like historians) cannot move so easily.

Freyd and her "comparable" are both in the same department and have comparable publication records (or they wouldn't be full professors). Jennifer Freyd studies trauma so, especially now, in these "unprecedented" times, she could go to the private sector. She hasn't. Why not? Could it be that she *wants* to teach the children of the taxpayers of Oregon—that she likes her job. If so, should she be penalized for that?

What should the 9th Circuit do? What do you think it will do?

International Relations Ruth Bradburn

For the past two years, John and I have enrolled in a Great Decisions course at one of the Tucson libraries. This year one of the sessions was on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking. During the past two decades, the U.S. has spent billions of dollars on domestic and international anti-trafficking projects.

The definition for human trafficking in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign pamphlet is "Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain labor or commercial sex. Victims can be any age, race, ethnicity, gender, sex, or nationality, and they come from any socioeconomic background. Human trafficking happens across our communities, cities, suburbs, and rural areas. Human smuggling is the illegal movement of someone across a border while human trafficking is the illegal exploitation of a person." BlueCampaign@hq.dhs.gov or www.dhs.gov/bluecampaign.

The pamphlet put out by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for Victim Assistance states that "Freedom is one of the most important rights afforded to every human being. No one should be forced or coerced to act against their will." Human trafficking is against the law, and victims of this crime are one of the top priorities of FBI investigations. Victims are those forced to work against their will; those forced to work to pay a debt; forced to work or harm will come to them or their

family; pressured into prostitution; or their passport, birth certificate, or ID card is taken to control their movements.

Human trafficking not only includes sex trafficking, but also labor trafficking, such as construction, agriculture, nail salons, or housekeeping. What are some signs that someone may be a victim? A victim may be a person in poor health with the inability to get care or has visible bruises, scars, burns, or tattoos that could be branding marks. The person may have a lot of cash, hotel room keys, false ID, or multiple forms of ID. The person may show fear, anxiety, depression, or not know their address and allows others to speak for them and has a distrust of authorities. Because of the mistrust, the FBI works closely with victim specialists. These specialists help provide resources for both U.S. citizens and nonlegal residents. The resources include food, shelter and clothing, medical care, interpreter services, legal/immigration assistance, transportation, childcare, health insurance, education, and employment.

There is a 24/7 National Human Trafficking Hotline to call: (888) 373-7888 or text "HELP" or "INFO" to 233733. A website for victim assistance is www.fbi.gov/stats-services/victim_assistance or call 202-324-3000. For a list of companies that use slave labor, go to YouTube/companies that use slave labor.

Public Policy Report Shirley May Byrnes

Rollback of Title IX Protections:

- AAUW Statement on Rollback of Title IX Protections released that day (May 6, 2020); <https://www.aauw.org/resources/news/media/press-releases/aauw-statement-on-rolling-back-title-ix-protections/>
- CEO Kim Church's op-ed in Newsweek, "The Trump Administration's New Title IX Rules are an Attack on Students—and #MeToo" (May 11, 2020); <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-administrations-new-title-ix-rules-are-attack-students-metoo-opinion-1503216>
- AAUW Action Network alert below and linked, calling for cosponsorship and support of the Gender Equity in Education Act (May 13, 2020); <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/geea>
- Note: the full rules may be found online (an unpublished PDF may be downloaded, expected to become an official copy on May 19, 2020); <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/05/19/2020-10512/nondiscrimination-on-the-basis-of-sex-in-education-programs-or-activities-receiving-federal>

Patsy T. Mink and Louise M. Slaughter Gender Equity in Education Act (GEEA): On May 15, AAUW sent out an

Action Network about Title IX. Recently, the Department of Education issued a long-anticipated but extremely harmful rule designed to substantially weaken Title IX, rolling back important protections for student survivors of sexual harassment and assault. AAUW has vigorously opposed this change for more than a year, but Secretary of Education, Betsy Voss, chose a global pandemic as the time to finalize it.

The Patsy T. Mink and Louise M. Slaughter Gender Equity in Education Act (GEEA) would help to reduce and prevent sex discrimination in all areas of education by supporting the vital, on-the-ground work of Title IX coordinators through additional resources, training, and technical assistance. It would also authorize competitive grants to K-12 schools, colleges, local educational agencies, or states to support their gender equity work. AAUW requests that you **urge your members of Congress to build on the legacy of Title IX by cosponsoring GEEA.**

Family and Medical Insurance Act (FAMILY) (H.R. 1185/S.463): Before, during, and after a pandemic, we all need access to paid leave, and the FAMILY Act (H.R. 1185/S. 463) would do that. This legislation would create a national paid leave insurance program, providing wage replacement and protections from retaliation to workers. On May 7, AAUW sent a Call to Action urging members to **contact their members of Congress and let them know that women and families cannot afford to wait any longer for a comprehensive, inclusive paid family and medical leave program. Urge them to support and co-sponsor the FAMILY Act (H.R. 1185/S. 463).**

Vote by Mail: Oregon, Utah, Colorado, Hawaii, and Washington conduct elections entirely by mail. Sen. Tammy Duckworth joined her colleagues in urging Congressional Leadership to include an additional \$3.6 billion in election system funding in the next COVID-19 relief legislation to help state and local governments expand vote-by-mail options, expand early voting, and enhance election security. This critical funding would also help states bolster in-person voting operations and poll worker training to make sure that appropriate precautions and social distancing practices are in place to protect individuals who must physically visit a polling place to cast a ballot.

Sen. Dick Durbin is an original cosponsor of the *Natural Disaster and Emergency Ballot Act (S.3529)*. This bill, introduced by Senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, would expand early in-person voting and no-excuse absentee vote-by-mail to all states. It also would require states to publish a contingency plan to enable Americans to vote during national emergencies and allow Americans to, if necessary, print their own ballots—similar to how Americans overseas currently vote. This bill also would provide the necessary funding to states and local jurisdictions that administer elections to implement these changes.

United States Postal Service (USPS): The United States Postal Service is at risk of running out of money by June and even collapsing entirely. Millions of Americans rely on the USPS to get what they need—that means everything from

prescription drugs, Social Security benefits, care packages from loved ones, news, bills, and mail ballots so they can vote safely from their home. That’s why we must make sure the USPS is functioning through this crisis — and through the November election to keep voters safe while still exercising their right to vote, especially as vote-by-mail programs are expanded in other states. The U.S. House included funding in their proposed next COVID-19 relief bill.

I have shared with my Congressional delegates my concern with the lack of additional funding for the USPS. If this service is not available for the November election, how will mail-in ballots be delivered? If the service is privatized, I fear the expense of mailing a ballot could be quite high and thus disenfranchise a number of people participating in the election.

Judicial Nominations: There is an effort to delay consideration of federal judicial nominations for lifetime appointments by the Senate. Sen. Duckworth reported that during a recent Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearing, judicial nominees John Bush and Damien Schiff represented yet another example of controversial Trump nominees who demonstrated overtly prejudiced views and lack of professional judgment through their online blog postings. Both nominees published posts that revealed an inclination towards extreme partisanship and inflammatory rhetoric against women, same-sex couples, and elected officials. Sen. Mitch McConnell is pushing for their confirmation now that the Senate is in session.

Lower Drug Costs Now Act (HR3): The *AARP Bulletin*, May 2020, p. 8, reports that “In December, the U.S. House of Representatives passed HR3. This legislation would direct Medicare to negotiate with drug companies on the price of some medicines, cap annual out-of-pocket costs for Medicare Part D enrollees, and use the savings from those provisions to add basic dental, visual and hearing coverage to the benefits mandated for original Medicare. The Senate has yet to act on it.”

Illinois General Assembly: The legislators have been called back to Springfield. They will be debating the budget which is supposed to be passed by May 31 as well as discussing other bills.

IL Fair Maps Amendment (HJRCA14/SJRCA18), May 3 was the deadline for the Fair Maps Amendment to be placed on the November 3, 2020, General Election ballot. Since the legislature was not in session due to the COVID-19, it will not appear on the ballot. An April 20 LWV call for action gave the following reason for why this matters.

An article in the May 5 *Daily Herald* by Elena Ferrarin states, “District boundaries at the federal and state level are redrawn every 10 years to account for population changes as per the U.S. census. In Illinois, redistricting is done by the General Assembly in partisan ways....” To change that, the General Assembly could pass legislation to establish an independent advisory commission that would draw maps for approval by

state legislators. The article gives other possible legislative options.

SB1966: This Illinois bill requires:

- Fingerprints as part of a Firearm Owner ID (FOID) card application;
- Universal background checks on ALL gun sales, and;
- Renewals of FOID cards every 5 years—as opposed to every 10 years, as the law stands now.

A priority is on passing SB1966, commonly called the “Fix the FOID” or BIO (Ban Illegal Ownership) Bill, which has been proposed by Senator Julie Morrison to prevent occurrences like that at the Henry Pratt Manufacturing Company on Feb 15, 2019. It passed the House in 2019.

Senate President Don Harmon as well as Governor JB Pritzker support this bill. However, with the limited time the legislature is meeting this session and with the COVID-19 issues as a priority, we face an uphill battle in passing this bill this session. But that should not stop our advocacy for SB1966.

Elgin Green Groups350.org

Sandy Kaptain, Chair, EGG350.org

Elgin Green Groups350.org continues to meet during the pandemic, altho' we meet via zoom rather than at Hawthorne Hill Nature Center. Same day, 3rd Monday, 6:30-8 PM. We are still sharing green solution ideas for the climate crisis and in addition focusing on regenerative agriculture as a means to add a solution to the climate crisis.

As you all know or have heard, the scientists are sounding more alarms, and extreme weather is showing increased urgency for action. While the Sierra Club is working on getting CEJA passed, the Clean Energy Jobs Act, as a follow-up and continuation of the highly successful FEJA, Future Energy Jobs Act, we are adding information about helping Nature draw down the CO2 in the atmosphere by gardening with natives to enable nature to do what it does 'naturally'.

Join us! Email me for zoom info or join a local group of your choosing and be a part of the solution--for the next generation! Take care, be safe and GO GREENER!

Newsletter Editors

Newsletter deadline for the **August** issue is **July 20**. Please submit all items as a **Word** document to **both** editors.

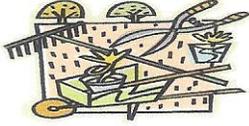
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Website items may be sent at any time to:

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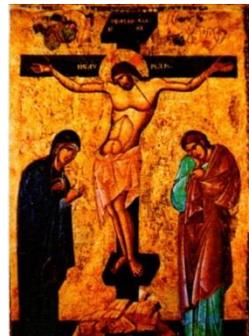


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In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

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

AAUW's 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 University Women.