

AAUW TIMES

Elgin Area Branch

1920-2023

December 2022 - January 2023
Email: aauw.il.elgin@gmail.com

Vol. 27, No. 3
Website: elginarea-il.aauw.net



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



HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 10, 2022

12:00 Noon

Elgin Country Club

Weld Road, Elgin

Invitations to join in the celebration of the holidays with fellow AAUW members and guests were sent out in early November. For those yet to respond, a copy is attached. Note that RSVPs with menu choices and checks must be sent to Jane Watson by November 30. Women on the Brink will be the recipient of our holiday donations on this day. If writing a check, write it to that organization.

Other December 2022 Meetings

- Dec. 7 **Current Movie Discussion Group** 4:30 p.m.
Olive Garden, West Dundee
She Said and *Call Jane*
- Dec. 8 **Morning Book Group** 9:30 a.m.
Gail Borden Public Library
The Third Daughter, Talia Carner
- Dec. 12 **Great Books** 7:00 p.m.
Gail Borden Public Library
Four Quartets, T.S. Eliot
- Dec. 21 **Evening Book Group** 7:00 p.m. Zoom
Lost and Found: A Memoir, Kathryn Schulz



TITLE IX at 50:

Equity, Equality and Confidence

Saturday, January 21, 2023

1:00 p.m. Zoom

A panel (participants TBA) will discuss Title IX through the 50 years of its history (1972-2022) with attention to how the legislation has not only codified equal representation for women but also has fostered confident leaders.

Other January 2023 Meetings

- Jan. 4 **Current Movie Discussion Group** 4:30 p.m.
Olive Garden, West Dundee
Movie(s) TBA
- Jan. 9 **Elgin Area AAUW Board Meeting** Zoom
- Jan. 9 **Great Books** 7:00 p.m.
Gail Borden Public Library
"A Letter Concerning Toleration," John Locke
- Jan. 12 **Morning Book Group** 9:30 a.m.
Gail Borden Public Library
All That She Carried, Tyra Miles
- Jan. 25 **Evening Book Group** 7:00 p.m. Zoom
The Woman They Could Not Silence, Kate Moore

Save the Date

Friday-Saturday, **May 5-6, 2023** is AAUW-IL's 98th State Convention. As was last year's, it will be held at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria.

CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

from Linda Youngren

As we approach the end of 2022, we feel the energy and fine work of our members. A big thank you for the informative Branch meeting featuring Erin Ramirez on November 7.

We look forward to a lovely holiday luncheon on Saturday, December 10. The Board has selected Women on the Brink as the charity to receive our holiday donations at this event. And remember that valet parking is included in the price of your lunch. We also look toward our January 21 Branch meeting, which will be a Zoom on the current status of Title IX as we mark the 50th anniversary of this important legislation.

At our November 14 Board meeting, we approved joining the Elgin Hispanic Network as a way to better communicate and network with these potential members. Jennifer Ford will be reaching out to AAUW members who wish to join her periodically at the Network's monthly luncheons. We also voted to co-sponsor a *How to Run for Public Office* workshop to be held in January in collaboration with the League of Women Voters of the Elgin Area and the Elgin YWCA.

And speaking of running for public office— We extend our congratulations to Anna Moeller on her re-election this November to the Illinois General Assembly. We are proud of you, Anna, and so happy that you are part of AAUW.

In the midst of all these good things, our work this month is overshadowed by the passing of our beloved Jeanne Hebeisen. Her life touched us all. Her commitment to the important issues in our community and her sparkling personality will always be with us. A tribute to her will be given at our holiday luncheon, and a remembrance gathering at her home is being planned for this spring.

Jeanne's family has designated AAUW as one of the recipients of her memorial donations. Subsequently, the Board approved establishing a memorial scholarship in her name. If you wish to honor Jeanne by contributing to it, please make your check out to Elgin Area AAUW with Jeanne's name on the memo line. Then send it to Sandy Kaptain, 749 Scott Dr., Elgin, 60123.

We are thankful for all our members do to make ours a vibrant branch and wish all a lovely holiday season,

Brooke and Linda

DIVERSITY & WOMEN IN CULTURE

from Jennifer Ford



Pictured are our branch members who attended Centro de Informacion's September Gala to help celebrate its 50th anniversary and show support for its mission.



On October 20, AAUW, the League of Women Voters, Elgin YWCA and Gail Borden Public Library presented a panel, Elgin's Children in Poverty: Focus on Education. Women On The Brink's purpose was to educate the public and challenge the audience to volunteer, donate, and vote. The stories of how poverty and the pandemic affected children's ability to learn are alarming, but the entire Elgin community is dedicated to working on this issue.

No Women in Culture program has been scheduled for January. Instead members are encouraged to attend the Title IX program.

MEMBERSHIP

from Barbara Maring & Ruth Bradburn

Thanks to assistance from the Membership Committee and several members, our branch is continuing to grow. Dale Anderson, Cathy Malm, Loni Mecum and Barbara Evans made follow up phone calls to prospective members as well as renewal reminders to current ones. Due to their diligence, the Elgin Branch has 94 members, among them our newest one, Jeanne Adu-Brako. We want to thank our entire branch for helping us to continue to thrive.

If you have not received your copy of the 2022-23 AAUW branch yearbook or if you are not receiving the bi-monthly newsletter, contact Barbara Maring.

CURRENT MOVIE GROUP

from Peggie Caughlin

Though the Netflix documentary *Descendant* was highly recommended, we opted to discuss the following two movies at our December 7th meeting. Please plan to join us.

Currently being shown in local theaters, *She Said* is about *New York Times* journalists who published a report that exposed Harvey Weinstein's sexual abuse allegations, which resulted in the launching pad for the #Me Too Movement.

Call Jane tells the story of a woman whose life is threatened by a pregnancy at a time in America when women could not get legal abortions. Jane meets a group of women who risk everything to help give people like her a choice. Their underground network provided access to safe abortions in the Chicago area. To view this film, you will have to investigate streaming opportunities as it is no longer being shown in area theaters.

NEW WEBSITE EDITORS WANTED

from Marcia Cameron

Nancy and I are looking for a new editor or maybe two partners working together to keep this important branch resource up to date. Use your technology skills and be as creative as you like. You determine how much time you wish to devote to the website. And we are waiting to help you get started.

A COMMUNITY SOLAR REMINDER

from Sandy "Greeniac" Kaptain

I hope you all have thought about contacting the City of Elgin for community solar, for at community solar farms the electricity is "green" or renewable—no fossil fuels!

Sadly, the climate clock is ticking. We are at a 1.0° C increase worldwide. Although this may seem small, the need to keep the increase at 1.5 or less to avoid more serious climate problems is crucial, or more fires, hurricanes, droughts and floods will result!

You can contact any community solar company for 10% savings. If in Elgin, you can get 20% off. This makes your electricity renewable!

We love our neighbors everywhere when we do whatever we can to decrease the problems that come with increased temperatures. Do we love enough? Let's go greener!

NEWSLETTER

The Elgin Area Branch of the American Association of University Women publishes the following issues of *The AAUW Times*: September; October-November; December-January; February-March; April-May; June-July-August.

January 20 is the deadline for items for the Feb./Mar. 2023 issue. Please submit them as **Word documents** to Barbara Evans.

The Elgin Area branch of AAUW was organized in 1920 with 40 charter members.

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.
