

AAUW TIMES

Elgin Area Branch

1920-2023

June-July-August 2023

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



JUNE

- June 5 **Diversity/Women in Culture Committee**, 1:00 pm
Hostess: Jennifer Ford
- June 7 **Current Discussion Movie Group**, 4:30 p.m.
The Grumpy Goat Tavern, Elgin
What's Love Got to Do With It (2022) and
Miss Meadows (2014)
- June 8 **Morning Book Group**, 9:30 a.m.
Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin
Firekeeper's Daughter, Angeline Boulley
- June 12 **Great Books**, 7:00 p.m.
Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin
Three short stories (*See yearbook*)
- June 22 **Women in Culture**, 1:00 p.m.
Hostess: Patty Harkin
Extraordinary Women in Science
- June 28 **Evening Book Group**, 7:00 p.m.
Hostess: Cynthia Maldonado
Band of Sisters, Lauren Willig



JULY

- July 10 **Branch Board Meeting/Potluck**, 6:00 p.m.
Hostess: Brooke Transue

- July 10 **Great Books**, 7:00 p.m.
Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin
Three essays by E.B. White (*See yearbook*)
- July 13 **Morning Book Group**, 9:30 a.m.
Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin
Freezing Order, Bill Browder
- July 26 **Evening Book Group**, 7:00 p.m.
Hostess: Patty Golden
Invisible Child, Andrea Elliot



AUGUST

- Aug. 2 **Current Movie Discussion Group**, 4:30 p.m.
TBA: Place and Movie
- Aug. 9. **National Book Lovers Day**
- Aug. 10 **Morning Book Group**, 9:30 a.m.
Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin
Maus: A Graphic Novel, Art Spiegelman
- Aug. 14 **Great Books**, 7:00 p.m.
Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin
Confessions of a Fallen Standard Bearer, Makine
- Aug. 23 **Evening Book Group**, 7:00 p.m.
Hostess: Barbara Evans
Diamonds and Deadlines, Betsy Prioleau
- TBA **Women in Culture**
- Aug. 26 **Women's Equality Day** (by order of Congress, to be celebrated annually on the day in 1920 that the 19th Amendment was certified)

CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

To be honest, Brooke and I accepted the co-presidency positions last year at this time with some reluctance. However, we quickly learned what an absolute pleasure it is to work with our fellow Elgin Branch AAUW members. Every committee and person in a leadership role have fulfilled their responsibilities beyond expectations. We are grateful for all of your tireless efforts on behalf of AAUW.

Barbara is not going to have enough space in this column for us to thank everyone individually, but we would like to especially acknowledge our retiring Board members, Donna Bolz, Barbara Maring and Nancy Gardner. Thank you for your service and many contributions.

Now it is time for congratulations, and we have many to give! Congratulations to our Branch award winners: Marlene Daubert, AAUW-IL Agent of Change; Jennifer Ford, YWCA Elgin's Marjorie Leonard Volunteer and Community Service Award; Patty Harkin, Susan B Anthony Award; Rita Shaw, Name Grant Award; and Linda Rock, our Elgin Image Award nominee. We are so proud of your accomplishments. And congratulations to our four scholarship recipients. We are so fortunate to be able to award FOUR scholarships this year.

Finally, we want to thank our Social Chairs, Judi Tepe and Jane Watson for organizing the excellent banquet we enjoyed this week. And we cannot conclude the year without recognizing the tremendous jobs by our communications team: Judi Tepe for distributing all of our Branch emails and Barbara Evans for her awesome newsletters.

As 2022-2023 comes to a close, we wish you all a relaxing and safe summer, but please be ready to roll up your sleeves to help us plan a terrific 2023-2024.

—Brooke and Linda

BRANCH OFFICERS FOR 2023-2024

Continuing in positions to which they were previously elected are the following:

Co-Presidents: Linda Youngren & Brooke Transue
1st Co-Vice President (Program): Mary Navin
2nd Co-Vice President (Membership): Ruth Bradburn
Treasurer: Sandy Kaptain
Membership Treasurer: Bonnie Hill **Corresponding Secretary:** Julie Jindra

Recommended by this year's Nominating Committee and approved by the Board, the following were unanimously elected at our May Awards Banquet:

1st Co-Vice President (Program): Jane Watson
2nd Co-Vice President (Membership): Cathy Malm
Recording Secretary: Jan Jones.



Top L-R: Linda, Brooke, Ruth, Mary, Sandy
Bottom L-R: Bonnie, Cathy, Julie, Jane
Not Pictured: Jan

NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2023-24 Volunteers Needed

Those on this year's Nominating Committee—Chair Jane Watson, Mary Ellen Barbezat, Linda Knight, Julie Jindra, Mary Navin, Sandy Kaptain, and Karen Paterson—are asking for six (only 6) volunteers to join Linda Knight and Barbara Evans on next year's. If you are willing to perform a role that is essential to the survival of our branch, please inform Jane Watson, whose contact information is at the end of this issue.

NOMINATIONS & AWARDS

In early February, members of the Awards Committee—Chair Julie Ford, Brooke Transue, Bonnie Hill, Rachel Campbell, Barbara Evans, Linda Youngren, Mary Navin and Ruth Bradburn—selected the nominees for and the recipients of 2023 awards. And how thrilled we all are that the nominees for awards not given by our branch were recipients of them.

AAUW-IL 2023 AGENT OF CHANGE Marlene Daubert



Since 1984 AAUW-IL has presented the Agent of Change Award annually to recognize an exceptional member who has served as a catalyst to bring about positive societal change. Marlene, co-president of our branch from 2019 to 2022, is only the fourth member of Elgin Area AAUW to receive it.

Those present at our May banquet heard Rosemary Dyson, who prepared the nomination, detail the reasons Marlene's award was well deserved. But in essence, it is for "leading AAUW Elgin Area to produce innovative, effective activities which brought growth and movement to the branch, and social and educational empowerment to women and girls in the community, despite a pandemic environment."

ELGIN IMAGE AWARD NOMINEE Linda Rock



Given all that Linda has done to educate Elginites about their rich history, the Awards Committee is certain that when the recipients of these awards are announced in the fall, she will be among them.

YWCA ELGIN'S MARJORIE LEONARD AWARD FOR VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE Jennifer Ford



Although four others were worthy contenders for this award, that Jennifer was announced as the recipient at the YWCA's annual Leader Luncheon surprised no one who knows her. As Patty Harkin, who prepared the nomination, noted, "Jennifer has devoted her life to community service as a volunteer, mentor, community builder and social activist."

BRANCH AWARDS



Rita Shaw



Patricia Harkin

RITA SHAW is the recipient of a Name Grant, meaning that our branch has sent a donation to AAUW national in her name. And for good reason— As she has for years in the community, in AAUW Rita "shows up" and enthusiastically becomes involved, be it at general meetings, on committees, in our interest groups or at fundraising events. Most recently she served as 2nd Vice President (Membership) Co-Chair.

PATRICIA HARKIN, the recipient of the Susan B. Anthony Award, is recognized for her tireless advocacy for women, with emphasis on equal pay, voting rights, Title IX, sexual harassment, gun safety and the passage of the ERA. Currently she is our Legal Advocacy/Public Policy Chair.

For those unable to attend our May Awards Banquet, the reasons these recipients received their awards are detailed in Part 3.