

# AAUW TIMES



**Elgin Area Branch  
1920-2009**



*Working for 89 years to promote equity for all women and girls,  
Life-long education and positive social change*

May 2010

American Association of University Women

Vol. 15, No. 4

## May Branch Meeting

**Thursday, May 6, 6:30 PM**

**Villa Olivia  
1491 W. Lake St, Bartlett**

### Celebrate AAUW

Join us at our annual spring banquet for an evening of socializing with friends and celebrating our accomplishments of the past year. We will honor our Educational Opportunities named grant winners and introduce our local scholarship winner.

Menu choices for the evening will be Chicken Florentine with fruit cup, country salad, green beans almandine, twice baked potatoes, and raspberry sherbet. A second choice would be Pasta Primavera, fruit cup, country salad, green beans almandine, and raspberry sherbet. Coffee, tea, or iced tea are included. Cash bar is available. The cost of \$23 includes tax and gratuity. Reservations can be made by calling Muriel Fenzel at 847-428-6397 or Lynn Harper at 847-695-9378 by **April 28**. Hope you can join us. You may join us for the program only about 7:30 pm.

## Calendar

- April 30-May 1 **AAUW IL State Convention**  
Hyatt Lisle
- May 3 **Branch Board Meeting 7 PM**  
Mary Navin, Hostess
- May 5 **Memoir Group 1 PM**  
Barb Chase, hostess
- May 6 **Annual Meeting 6:30 PM**
- May 10 **Great Books 7 PM**  
Gail Borden Library  
*Life From Scum*, Lynn Margulis
- May 11 **Morning Book Group 10 AM**  
Libby Hoeft, Hostess  
Select books
- May 13 **YWCA Leader Luncheon**  
Libby Hoeft, nominee
- May 18 **Garage Sale Drop-Off, 3-6 PM**  
Bring tables early  
Jean Jederman, hostess
- May 19-20 **Garage Sale Set-Up, 10-6**
- May 20 **Summer Newsletter Deadline**
- May 21-22 **Garage Sale**

- May 24      **20's and 30's Book Club**, 7 PM  
Gail Borden Library  
*Balzac and the Little Chinese*  
*Seamstress* Dai Siejie
- May 25      **Reel Women** 6 PM  
Gail Borden Library  
*Precious*
- May 26      **Current Literature**  
Judy Kaulfuss, Hostess  
Select books
- May 27      **Evening Crafters** 7 PM  
Liz Engman, hostess  
Friendship Cross Stitch
- June 8       **Branch meeting potluck** with  
20's and 30's book group  
Lord's Park
- June 12     **Garden Walk**
- June 15     **Deadline for Payment of Branch  
Dues**
- July 5       **Board Meeting Potluck** 6:30 PM  
Bonnie Hill, hostess

## President's Message

How wonderful it is to see the tulips and daffodils, the leaves beginning to bud on the trees, and to look forward to good things happening in AAUW.

Several members will be attending the State Convention at the Hyatt Hotel in Lisle on April 30 and May 1. I am sure they will be returning aglow with enthusiasm and new ideas to make our group better than ever.

We celebrate the accomplishments of our organization for the past year, and honor our EO named grantaward winners on Thursday, May 6 at Villa Olivia. Be sure that you have your reservations to our social chairs for this dinner meeting. As a special bonus, Dr. Dale Lonis, CEO of the Elgin Symphony Orchestra, has made buy one-get one

ticket coupons available to AAUW members for the June 11-13 concerts. They will be available at the May meeting.

We always look forward to the YWCA Leader Luncheon. I am honored to be the nominee from AAUW this year and hope to see some of you there to celebrate this event, which honors all women and the work that they do.

A new event this year is a picnic on June 8. We have invited the 20's and 30's book group to join us for this event at Lord's Park. Come sample everyone's best dish as we enjoy a potluck supper.

I hope that all of you have signed up to help with the Garden Walk on June 12 from 9 to 3. The location in the historic district of Elgin should be a wonderful chance to walk around our lovely city as we enjoy the work of our local gardeners.

Jan and I will be working to fill all of the committee positions for the next year. Please consider how you can help this great organization continue to serve. Volunteers are always welcome!

Libby Hoelt, also on behalf of Jan Jones.

## April Branch Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Libby Hoelt at 7:15 pm. She thanked Lynn Harper and Muriel Fenzel for their handling of arrangements for the evening.

Minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer -- Shirley May Byrnes presented the Treasurer's report. It was filed for audit.

Program -- Rachel Campbell said the May meeting will be at Villa Olivia. Muriel and Lynn said they could take reservations this evening. The information will also be printed in the newsletter.

Membership – Medina announced for Jo Ann Armenta, Membership Chair, that current membership is 89. Dues are still \$72. It was decided by the Board that there would be no free membership drawing this year.

Dale Mindell Adams' husband had surgery for pancreatic cancer.

Educational Opportunities – Mary Navin said there will be seven gardens in this year's walk. Suzanne Massion, noted Elgin artist, will be painting in one of the gardens. Other artists will be displaying at the Elgin Public Museum. Becky Shorter and Sue Peterson secured the artists. Marge Fox had originally suggested we use the Museum as a place to display the art and as a bathroom stop. Peg Caughlin said there would be "Plenaire" taking place – painting in the gardens.

By-laws – Barbara Wahl, By-laws Chair, said there is a possibility of a small change needed in our by-laws. She will check into it.

Website – Marcia Cameron, in charge of the branch website, suggested members check it out.

Women's Issues – Judy Mavros wrote up the nomination for Libby Hoeft for a YW Leadership Award for Volunteer/ Community Service. Members are invited to come to the luncheon to support Libby. Jessica Doyle, First Lady of Wisconsin, will be the speaker.

Announcements – Morning Book Group will be meeting at Nancy Klemm's instead of Rachel Campbell's. Jan Jones said if we send in our reservations as a group for the State Convention we will get a discount. Marcia Cameron made a plea for used towels for the Crisis Center. They could even have holes. She is also looking for detergent.

New Business – Libby listed upcoming events: State Convention, April 30 - May 1; YW Leader Luncheon, May 13; Branch picnic with 20's and 30's Group, June 8; Garden Walk, June 12; and Elgin 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, July 3. Libby requested volunteers who might be interested in participating in the parade.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanne Hebeisen, Co-Recording Secretary

## Dues are Due

By Jo Ann Armenta, V.P. for Membership

Annual dues: \$72 (\$46 of Association dues is tax deductible)

Lifetime members: \$23 (local/state dues are not tax deductible)

Student members: \$25

Honorary members: FREE

Make check payable to AAUW Elgin Area Branch.

We will be accepting dues at the May Annual Meeting. Otherwise, please mail your dues before June 15 to AAUW, c/o Jo Ann Armenta, 770 Pine Street, Elgin 60123.

## Garage Sale May 21 and 22



Spring is approaching and with spring comes "GARAGE SALE." Jean Jederman has graciously consented to have our garage sale again at her Wing Street corner. The garage sale will be the third week of May-- Friday May 21, and Saturday May 22. Drop off will be Tuesday May 18 from 3-6 pm. **Please bring your tables early.** Set up will be Wednesday 10-6 and Thursday 10-5. We need workers Friday from 8-3 and Saturday 8-2. We also need drivers to take the leftovers to Goodwill on Saturday afternoon.

How can we not take advantage of such a great fund- raiser for AAUW, plus the days of

fellowship which also occur. Sign up sheets will be circulating, so please try to be generous with your time and treasures. Call Mary if you didn't get the opportunity to sign up--Mary Navin and Mary Aydt

## **Reel Women May 25**

*Precious: Based on the Novel by Sapphire*

Starring Gabourey Sidibe, nominated for the Academy Awards' Best Actress, and Mo'Nique, who won for Best Supporting Actress, this is the story of a 16-year-old African American girl who is pregnant for the second time by her father. Yet as bleak as her life may seem (and as difficult to watch as it may be at times), Precious' life is changed for the better when she joins a special school.

## **June 22: The Blind Side**

This film is the remarkable true story of Michael Oher, a homeless African-American youngster from a broken home. Michael was taken in by a wealthy white family who helped him fulfill his potential as a person and as an athlete. He worked hard on the field and in the classroom and became an All-American in college and was picked in the first round of the 2009 NFL Draft, changing his life and the lives of the loving family who were there to watch him succeed. Sandra Bullock received both the Golden Globe and the Academy Award for Best Actress for her role as the mother and the driving force behind Michael's success.

## **Garden Walk June 12**

Save Saturday June 12 for another glorious Garden Walk. Elgin east side city gardens will be featured and we will need many helpers to represent AAUW. This is a wonderful opportunity to see lovely gardens in an historic setting, plus visit the Elgin Public Museum in Lord's Park which will be the site for a mini art show. Sign-up sheets for hostesses will be circulating. Please be generous with your time.

The garden owners are excited to participate in our Walk. Ticket books will be ready by May 1 and will be available at the banquet on May 6 and at the Green Expo at the Centre on May 8. The ticket books will have coupons for discounts at gardening businesses.--Mary Navin

## **Countherhistory**

No, the heading is not a typographical error; rather, CountHerHistory is the one-word name of Barbara Jean Zeitz's monthly column on the AAUW-IL website. Although she has been featuring a woman each month since 2003, it has only been since Katherine and I ended our term as co-presidents that AAUW-IL has given her stories a prominent place on its website.

Katherine and I would especially encourage all to visit [www.aauw-il.org](http://www.aauw-il.org) to read her March column on journalist Nellie Bly, whose life we heard about first hand on Saturday via Lynn Rymarz's fascinating living-history presentation to the Huntley branch. And though it is now out of print, Gail Borden Public Library does have Brooke Kroeger's *Nellie Bly: Daredevil, Reporter, Feminist*, which is considered the definitive biography of her. —Barbara Evans

## **YWCA Leader Luncheon**

AAUW has the privilege of nominating Libby Hoeft for the volunteer/communityservice award for this year's YWCA Leader Luncheon on May 13 at the Seville in Streamwood. We would like to have a good showing in support of Libby. Tickets are \$50. Deadline for reservations is Wednesday May 5. Call Medina (847 695-1316) if you would like to attend. --Judy Mavros

## **Shirley Simon**

As most of you know, long-time member Shirley Simon is moving to Milwaukee to be closer to her family. Medina is compiling a booklet of branch members' memories to be presented to Shirley. Please send your memories or comments to Medina ([medinag@gmail.com](mailto:medinag@gmail.com)) as a Word document. If you don't have computer access, you can mail them to Medina. Deadline is June 15.

## **Message from Newsletter Editors**

The deadline for the summer newsletter is May 20.

**Be sure to always submit items as a Word  
Document to all three editors:**

Medina Gross – [medinag@gmail.com](mailto:medinag@gmail.com)

Jeanne Hebeisen – [jeanne@mc.net](mailto:jeanne@mc.net)

Linda Youngren – [lindayoungren@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lindayoungren@sbcglobal.net)

## **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.

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.

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