



HIGHLIGHTS

AAUW AURORA AREA BRANCH
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

FALL 2019

Branch Website
<http://aurora-il.aauw.net>

Branch EMAIL
aauwaurorail@gmail.com

National Website
www.aauw.org

Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision: Equity for all.

**Values: Nonpartisan.
Fact-based.
Integrity.
Inclusion and
Intersectionality.**

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Comments from Tracey's World

Here it is, nearly fall again!

I have absolutely enjoyed this summer, and I hope you have too. Our branch has been on a hiatus in programming, as it always does over the summer, but that does not mean we have been inactive as a branch. In June board members met and at the meeting it was announced that one of our newest members, Lisa Wolancevich, offered to take on the role of Programs Chair. Be sure to check out the upcoming programming she and the program planning committee has put together and show your support and attend the programs. It was also noted at the board meeting that Nicole Benziger is taking over the role of Branch Historian along with her current position of Communications V.P. Thanks to Nicole for taking on more responsibility and to Susan Boehme for being the previous archives keeper. In July our study groups, Movie Group and Books by Night (which now has a new name, Bookin' it to Lunch) met for their planning sessions. I encourage you to check out the books and movies they have selected, and participate when you can. Andi Danis, Pat Daughterty, and Nicole Benziger facilitated the online Work Smart program at the Aurora Public Library the end of July. The program was well received by participants and the library has said it would be willing to host another event with us in the future. Speaking of Work Smart, I hope you all have registered to take the online program. Even if you are retired, you should take the program and see the amazing work AAUW is doing to achieve equal pay for women. I have taken it, and the content is amazing. You can register at www.salary.aauw.org

The 100th Anniversary committee has also been meeting over the summer and working on the details for our upcoming celebration on September 21, 2019. You should have received your invitations in the mail, be sure to RSVP as soon as possible. Branch yearbooks will be handed out that day. I look forward to seeing you at the 100th Anniversary celebration and encourage you to make AAUW a priority and commit to being an active member.

Tracey Sherman-Falcon
President

2019—2020 Programs



Saturday, September 21, 2019

\$40 per person

Spouses welcome

11:30 AM Check-in, 12 Noon Luncheon

Aurora Country Club
1548 Prairie St, Aurora, IL 60506

**Our Guest Speaker is Jennifer Urish,
AAUW-IL, Inc. State President**

The menu:

Tomato Bisque Soup, Salad, Turkey Club Sandwich, Coffee/Tea, Cake, Cash Bar
Vegetarian/Vegan plate available for preorder.

Reservations due by September 13, 2019

Make checks payable to: AAUW Aurora Area Branch
Mail ALL checks to: Andi Danis, 24 Scarsdale Rd, Montgomery, IL 60538
(For questions, email danishouse@sbcglobal.net)

✂ Detach and return -----

____ Yes, I/We will attend. Enclosed is a check for ____ reservations @ \$40.00 per person, total \$ _____

Name(s) of Guest(s) _____

____ I would like ____ Vegetarian/Vegan plate(s) option.

Name _____

Phone # _____

Address _____

City, zip _____

____ Sorry, I am unable to attend. Enclosed is \$ _____ (tax deductible)

Evites will be sent out for monthly branch programs to all members. Study group hosts and committee chairs can check the evites at any time for reservation updates. Also, be sure to click "Message from host" for more details about events, including registration fees.

2019—2020 Programs - Continued

October 17, 2019 5:30 pm -7:30 pm

Location: Millhurst Ale House,
2075 Marketview Drive, Yorkville

Cost: Off Menu - Speaker: Becky Bielfuss
Teen Parent Connection



November 21, 2019 5:30 pm—7:30 pm

Location: Historic Kendall County Courthouse
110 west Madison Street, Yorkville

Cost : Chili / Spaghetti dinner—Celebrate the
100th Anniversary of Women Winning the
Vote: Travel with Andi D. and Elaine R. to
Seneca Falls and Women's History Sites in
NY and MA"

December 7, 2019 1:00 pm -3:00 pm

Location: Historic Kendall County Court House
110 West Madison Street , Yorkville

Cost : Gingerbread House Decorating and
Ornament Exchange/ Limit 20 Participants

February—Opt in Opt Out Month

February 6, 2020 6:30 pm—8:00 pm

Location : Mind and Body
3535 East New York Street Suite 216
Aurora 60503

Cost : Free (Max 10 Participants)

February 29, 2010 11:00 am-12:00 pm

Brunch at the little Traveler
The Little Traveler Atrium Cafe
404 s 3rd Street Geneva

Cost : \$ 8.95

Month : March TBA

Speaker: Emily Burd Thomas who has spoke in
front of the United Nations representing the non-
profit Dignified Children International.

Time: TBA

Location : TBA

April 23, 2020 5:00 pm—6:30 pm

A Woman of No Importance Book Discussion

Location : Sugar Grove Library:

125 Municipal Drive, Sugar Grove

Optional Dinner Out After Program

May 2, 2020 10:00 am -1:00 pm

Annual Meeting—AAUW Fellowship Speakers
Kennedy Point Restaurant 2

245 Kennedy point Road, Bristol

Cost : \$13.95 Beverages Not Included



AAUW Aurora Area Virtuosity

Generosity
changes everything

The Aurora Area Branch will be having a **Virtual Fund Raiser** this year. Because our 100th Anniversary will be celebrated in September and our branch fundraiser is normally held in early November, the Board decided to have a “non-event” fundraiser in November where you can just sit back, relax and mail in a check. Watch your mailbox in late October for an invitation!

Money collected will be sent to National in Washington, DC to support one or more of the following:

AAUW GREATEST NEEDS FUND: AAUW will utilize your donation where it’s needed most.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND (4450) includes;

- Fellowships & grants
- Public Policy
- Research

ECONOMIC SECURITY FUND (4449) includes:

- Start Smart
- Work Smart
- Legal Advocacy Fund

LEADERSHIP FUND (4452) includes:

- NCCWSL
- Empower
- Campus Action Projects

Submitted by

Pat Daugherty

Virtual Fund Raiser



Study Groups

AAUW Movie Study Group Films are shown on the 2nd Monday of the month, with the pot-luck at 6:15 and film at 7:00. Addresses of each host are in the Yearbook and will be sent with the Evite

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <i>I, Tonya</i>
2017 R Rated | August 12, 2019
2 hrs. | Sandy Hipp, Host
Docudrama & Dark Comedy |
| Competitive ice skater Tonya Harding rises among the ranks of the U. S. Figure Skating Champions, but her future as a skater is thrown into doubt when her ex-husband and his friend disastrously intervene against her main competitor, Nancy Kerrigan. The film is told with a touch of off-beat humor, sympathy for Tonya, and questions about what really happened with the two “crazies” who tried to put her on top.
Stars: Margot Robbie and Allison Janney Director: Craig Gillespie | | |
| <i>Mary, Queen of Scots</i>
2018 R Rated | September 9, 2019
2 hrs. 4 mins. | Denise Curts-Lueth
History, Biography, & Drama |
| Mary Stuart’s attempt to overthrow her cousin Elizabeth I, Queen of England, finds her condemned to years of imprisonment before facing her execution ordered by her own queen/cousin. This battle of wills between two of history’s strongest and most fascinating women holds this movie together against an absolutely authentic backdrop of historical sites including Holy Rood itself, the castle of Queen Mary on the cliffs of Scotland.
Stars: Saoirse Ronan and Margot Robbie Director: Josie Rourke | | |
| <i>Can You Ever Forgive Me?</i>
2018 R Rated | October 14, 2019
1 hr. 46 mins. | Penny Cameron
Biog., Crime Story, & Dark Comedy |
| When writer Lee Israel finds herself out of step with current tastes in literature and under a deep depression, she looks for a way to use her art form to survive—deceptively. She is greatly successful in her exploits, which lead to finally including her fine friend to assist in her crimes. Melissa McCarthy received an AA nomination for this challenging role.
Stars: Melissa McCarthy and Richard E. Grant Director: Marielle Heller Writer: Nicole Holofcener | | |
| <i>Grandma</i>
2015 R Rated | November 11, 2019
1 hr. 19 mins. | Joy Bowling
Comedy & Drama |
| A teenager facing an unplanned pregnancy seeks help from her acerbic grandmother, a woman who is long estranged from her daughter. Lily Tomlin adds heart, humor, and soul to this role, her best since <i>Nashville</i> .
Stars: Lily Tomlin, Julia Garner, and Marcia Gay Harden Writer and Director: Paul Weitz | | |
| <i>Bend It Like Beckham</i>
2002 PG 13 Rated | December 9, 2019
1 hr. 52 mins. | Kael Thompson
Comedy, Drama, & Romance |
| The daughter of an orthodox Sikh family rebels against her parents’ traditionalism. This was Keira Knightley’s break-out role as uses her athletic skills to compete on a “football” team. Her desire is to learn to “bend it like Beckham,” the great soccer player. The film also stars Parminder Nagra & Johnathan Rhys Meyers. Writer & director: Gurinder Chadha | | |
| <i>Bessie</i>
2015 NR | January 13, 2020
1 hr. 55 mins. | Linda Seyler
Drama & Music |
| Queen Latifah stars, in this HBO films presentation, as legendary blues singer Bessie Smith who rose to fame in the 20s and 30s. The film focuses on her transformation from a struggling young singer into the “Empress of the Blues.” The film is directed by Dee Rees, who also co-wrote the screenplay. The film “showcases a gutsy, soul-and-flesh baring performance” by the Queen. | | |
| <i>Poms</i>
2019 PG 13 Rated | February 10, 2020
1 hr. 31 mins. | May Keenen
Comedy & Drama |
| <i>Poms</i> is a comedy about a group of women who form a cheer leading squad at their retirement community, proving that you are never too old to “bring it.” The film is based on a true story.
Stars: Diane Keaton, Jacki Weaver, Celia Weston & a whole cast of great women characters
Writers: Shane Atkinson & Zara Hayes Director: Zara Hayes | | |

(Continued)

Study Groups—Movie Group Continued

Captain Marvel

2019 PG 13 Rated

March 9, 2020

2 hrs. 5 mins.

Pat Daugherty

Fantasy & Science-fiction

Captain Marvel is a 2019 American superhero film based on the Marvel Comics' Carol Danvers. Produced by Marvel Studios, distributed by Walt Disney Studios, and set in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU). Brie Larson stars as Carol Danvers. The film also stars Samuel Jackson, Annette Bening, Jude Law, and a huge all-star cast. Set in 1995, the story follows Danvers as she becomes Captain Marvel. Earth is caught in the center of a galactic conflict between two alien civilizations.

Writers: Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck, with Geneva Robertson-Dworet

Director: Anna Boden.

***Top Secret Rosies: Female Computers of WW II* April 13J**

2010 NR

1hr.

Jerre Henriksen

History & War, Non-fiction

Top Secret Rosies: The Female Computers of WWII is a 2010 PBS documentary film directed by LeAnn Erickson. The film is focused on recognizing the contributions of women during WWII who served as human computers, six of whom went on to program one of the earliest computers, the ENIAC.

Director: LeAnn Erickson

The Hate U Give

2018 PG 13 Rated

May 11, 2020

2 hrs. 13 mins.

Joy Bowling

Drama & Crime

Lead character Starr Carter witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Now, facing pressure from all sides of the community, Starr must find her voice and stand up for what's right. Starr is constantly switching between two worlds—the poor, mostly black neighborhood where she lives and the wealthy, mostly white prep school that she attends, but the uneasy balance between these worlds is soon shattered. *The Hate U Give* is based on the 2017 young adult novel of the same name by Angie Thomas.

Writer: Angie Thomas (the novel); Screenplay: Angie Thomas

Director: George Tillman Jr.

The Wife

2017 NC 17 Rated

June 8, 2020

1 hr. 41mins.

Elaine Ross

Drama

Joan and Joe remain complements after nearly 40 years of marriage. Where Joe is casual, Joan is elegant. Where Joe is vain, Joan is self-effacing. And where Joe enjoys his very public role as the great American novelist, Joan pours her considerable intellect, grace, charm and diplomacy into the private role of a great man's wife. As Joe is about to be awarded the Nobel Prize for his acclaimed and prolific body of work, Joan starts to think about the shared compromises, secrets and betrayals.

Writer: Meg Wolitzer

Director: Björn Runge

Awards: Golden Globe Award for Best Actress – Motion Picture – Drama

Nominations: Academy Award for Best Actress

July 13

Denise Curts-Lueth

Planning Mtg. for 2020-21

Sources for these descriptions are Independent Movie Data Base, Google Search, and V. E. Ross.



BOOKIN' IT TO LUNCH!

2019-2020

Fourth Thursday at 11:30 a.m. (unless otherwise stated)

SEPTEMBER 26 Salsa Verde 107 N. Batavia Ave., Batavia
The Good Immigrant, by Nikesh Shukla & Chimene Suleyman, Eds.
For Hispanic Heritage Month

OCTOBER 17*: Oak Street Restaurant & Bar 945 Oak St., North Aurora
No Visible Bruises, by Rachel Louise Snyder For Domestic Violence Awareness Month
*This is the 3rd Thursday due to scheduling conflicts

NOVEMBER 21*: The Turf Room 1033 Kilbery Lane, North Aurora
The Hello Girls, by Elizabeth Cobbs For Veterans Appreciation Month
*This is the 3rd Thursday due to Thanksgiving

DECEMBER: NO MEETING

JANUARY 23: Panera Bread 154 W. Wilson St., Batavia
Becoming, by Michelle Obama For National Mentoring Month

FEBRUARY 27: Pal Joey's 2030 Main St., Batavia
An American Summer, by Alex Kotlowitz For Black History Month

MARCH 26: Two Brothers Roundhouse 205 N. Broadway, Aurora
Life Undercover: Coming of Age in the CIA, by Amaryllis Fox
For Women's History Month

APRIL 23 – 5:00 p.m. Sugar Grove Library 125 Municipal Drive, Sugar Grove
A Woman of No Importance, by Sonia Purnell

This will be an all-branch program with the option to go to dinner afterwards

MAY 28: Arline Hoban's House Refreshments TBA
The Collected Schizophrenias: Essays, by Esme Weijun Wang
For Mental Health Awareness Month

JUNE 25: Arline Hoban's House Refreshments TBA
They Called Us Enemy, by George Takei

JULY 23: The Holmstad Town Center 700 W. Fabian Pkwy, Batavia
PLANNING SESSION

AUGUST 27: The Spartan House 1032 Prairie St., Aurora
The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World

Questions: Contact Andi Danis at danishouse@sbcglobal.net



Renew your commitment to AAUW. Meet our state officers.
Reconnect with old friends and make new ones.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!

NORTHERN CONFERENCE

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Saturday, October 19

Illinois Institute of Technology Rice Campus
201 E. Loop Rd, Wheaton

- Kendra Davis, SVP of Advancement and Partnership, from AAUW National
- How AAUW helped a fellowship recipient
- Opportunity to network and learn about new initiatives

Registration Method 1: Print out this page and complete the appropriate form below. Scan it and save a copy, attach it to an email, and send it to the conference organizer listed on the form. Then go to <https://aauw-il.aauw.net/district-conferences>, click on the PayPal button for your conference, and pay online.

Registration Method 2: Print out this page, fill out the appropriate conference form and mail it with a check made out to AAUW-IL to the appropriate conference organizer.

REGISTRATION FOR NORTHERN CONFERENCE October 19, 2019

Name _____ Branch _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

A buffet breakfast with protein and fruit will be offered as well as coffee, tea and juices. Doors open at 8.30 AM, with a program start of 9.30 AM, so there will be an opportunity to network and meet and greet other branch members.

Kendra Davis, Senior VP of Advancement and Partnerships from the National AAUW office is scheduled to speak. We celebrate major branch anniversaries for Chicago, Inc – 130 years, and Aurora – 100 years -- as well as Rockford 90 years, Downers Grove – 70 years, and Lombard and Arlington Heights – 60 years. And we will hear from one of our recent Community Action Grant recipients, Dr. Elizabeth Hopwood, Acting Director of Loyola University, Chicago, Center for Textual Studies and Digital Humanities (AAUW Community Action Grant was funded by D4/D5 branches to support Loyola's Girl Who Code Chapter). Cost is \$25. Mail this form and a check (**make check payable to AAUW-IL**) to Sue Stauffer, 1031 Seaview Court, Schaumburg, IL 60193 (847-985-5560) by October 12 or email form to staufferrw@sbcglobal.net. Then go to <https://aauw-il.aauw.net/district-conferences>, click on the PayPal button for your conference and pay online. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Donna Jean at djsimon@questillc.com (630-248-2213) or Jo-An at jtakamoto@gmail.com (847-727-5158).

Public Policy Report

Just a Few Comments on Issues of Public Policy

The summer months have not been very active regarding legislative initiatives on the Illinois or National levels. Legislative reports are sparse up to September, but there are a few things to celebrate and some for which we must continue our activism and support:

Illinois

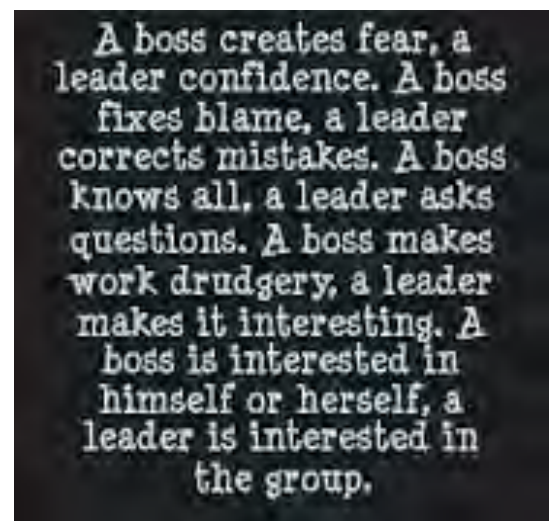
As you know, the **Reproductive Health Act** (SB2495) passed out of both the House and Senate and was signed into law by Governor Pritzker. The law is now clear in Illinois: decisions about reproductive health care are between patients, their family members, doctors, and other health care providers.

Now we must continue our activism to help in the Passing the SB 1594 **Parent Notice of Abortions—Repeal**. This initiative is strongly supported by AAUW, but is still languishing in committee and did not pass in the General Assembly before its summer adjournment. Let's continue to send our support via the **Two-Minute Activist** site and via calls and emails to our legislators.

The **Equal Pay Wage History bill** (HB 834) passed both the House and Senate after years of efforts for its passage. Illinois successfully updated its law so that now there is a ban on using a person's salary history in the hiring process. This history was a way that employers could use past pay history that would further widen the pay gap that often exists for women.

Ensuring Success in School (SB 449) has passed in both the Senate and House Education Committees, but needs a full vote now on the House floor. Those who voted "yes" on the Equal Pay Wage History bill are expected to vote "yes" on this bill when it comes up. The bill addresses issues that affect students who are pregnant or who have been victims of gender-based violence by enhancing their school safety. It also takes the courts out of the processes of addressing excused absences, student confidentiality, and school transfers of students.

Here is something I heard yesterday on NPR: Governor Pritzker signed the **bi-partisan bill that will extend insurance coverage for mammogram tests**. The issue was that insurance companies were not required to cover more than the initial test itself; now companies must also cover follow-up mammograms and other tests that relate to breast health. Look for further information on this new law in Illinois.



Washington, DC

The news is not so encouraging on the national level. While the House continues to pass legislation that would further issues of paycheck fairness, closing the wage gap, voting rights, STEM education for girls, Black Women's Equal Pay, and more, none of these, so far, has passed through the Senate, and probably will not pass or be signed into law. Still, AAUW always informs you through "**AAUW Washington Update**" on the issues being worked on and ways you can be heard. AAUW also has expressed its grave concern about the rollbacks concerning **Title IX under Betsy DeVos and the Department of Education**. Try to read the statement from Kimberly Churches on the national website entitled "**AAUW Responds to Department of Education Title IX Announcement**" to learn more on this issue. Also, posted on the website are the biennial priorities of AAUW, entitled "**AAUW Public Policy Priorities**," that were adopted in May 2019. The document is long but highly informative regarding the directions that our organization wants to take in the near future.

There are many legislative initiatives we still need to keep following through emails and websites. Try to always read the **In the Statehouse** and the **Washington Update** postings, and use the **AAUW Action Network** and the **Two-Minute Activist Tool** to take action when you can. Let's all try to stay informed and active when we gear up for the fall and for the work that lies ahead in furthering equity for women and girls.

V. Elaine Ross, Public Policy Chair



AAUW Branch Minutes

Minutes for AAUW Board Meeting of January 26, 2019 at 9:00 a. m. Harris Bank, Orchard Road

In attendance: Tracey Sherman-Falcon, Nicole Benziger, Valerie Burd, Andi Danis, Pat Daugherty, Jerre Henriksen, Vicki Petersen, Elaine Ross, Kathy Schultz

The meeting was called to order by President Tracy Sherman-Falcon at 9:10 a. m.

Minutes from the previous meeting of October 27 were read and corrected (Vicki Petersen was listed as present, but then (later) as absent), and were approved as corrected. Andi D. made the motion; Jerre H. seconded it.

Programs: Chair Valerie B. reviewed the progress for the Chili Supper of February 20 and the needs for the speaker. Vicki P. mentioned a new digital program, "Sign-up Genius," which might be used for future reservations; some drawbacks for this method of responding, however, were noted. Valerie B. mentioned a possible speaker for a program next year, Ann Moore of the Changing Children's World Foundation. Valerie said she will invite her to come to our Chili Supper. The April program was discussed briefly. Valerie noted that the program, "What You Can Do for Our Environment," will be presented in conjunction with Green Connect of Yorkville, a Chamber of Commerce member. Ticket price will be \$20.00, with a free lunch for the two presenters. Tracey S-F mentioned a possible presenter for next year whom she met through the Latina Mastery Institute. Her topic would be "Do You Have Enough Time?" Finally, it was approved (by acclimation) that a stipend of \$25.00 be given to the three presenters (AAUW Scholarship speakers for the May meeting).

Membership: Kathy S. said that she did not have an "official" report. She did, however, give the total of our current membership, 37; Mae Smith is a new member; Lisa Wolancevich and her daughter may become members; and there may be one other new member whom Kathy has suggested.

Communications: Nicole B. reported that she is updating our Branch's website and working on a logo for the 100th Anniversary Celebration. Tracey S-F suggested that we take a photo at our events *before* the event begins so that we manage to get all attendees in the photo (some people leave early or just disperse). Nicole said that we have 54 members on our public Facebook page and 18 on the private page.

Treasurer: Andi D. reported that our general balance is \$2,623.03.

Assistant Treasurer: Vicki P. reported that the balance in our EF and LAF funds is \$944.28. The named-gift contribution for the AAUW funds will be made in honor of Valerie Burd for all her efforts and successes in programs and securing donations from businesses .

Newsletter Editor: The Spring Newsletter will be out just before our April 19 Branch meeting. The deadline for submissions will be **March 22!**

AAUW Funds: Pat D. reported on the Bunco Fundraiser event in November, and Tracey explored what we might do to get more members to attend such events.

AAUW Branch Minutes —Continued

Public Policy: Elaine R. did not have a formal report but discussed several issues of concern (still!) to our Branch and AAUW Organization. She focused on the restrictions now in effect in certain states regarding reproductive rights or now in litigation in the courts, especially the proposed lifting of even more strictures on employers' requirement to cover birth control access. She shared a special section of the *NYT* on how women are increasingly being arrested, tried, and imprisoned on spurious charges resulting from their pregnancies, stillbirths, deliveries, or gestational periods. Nicole B. mentioned an event, Giving Tuesday, sponsored by the YMCA, saying that perhaps we, as a branch, could piggyback upon this. Tracey S-F told everyone about an event to occur in Springfield on May 15, sponsored by Planned Parenthood on May 15, which will be a Lobbying Day concerning women's reproductive rights.

Social Chair: Joy B's report was submitted in advance online.

The positions to be filled for the upcoming term are Programs, Membership, and Treasurer. Valerie volunteered to take VP for Membership; Andi said she would continue as Treasurer; that left only VP for Programs. The committee from last year was Penny C., Jerre H., and Elaine R., so they continue this year to put forward nominations. Elaine asked for ideas about nominees from the Board. The slate of nominees must be presented to the Board in April and in the spring newsletter for the branch, to be voted on at the general May meeting.

Study Groups: Andi D. updated everyone on Books by Night, and Elaine updated everyone on Movie Study Group. Andi strongly stated that everyone should read *The Woman Who Smashed Codes* by Jason Fagone.

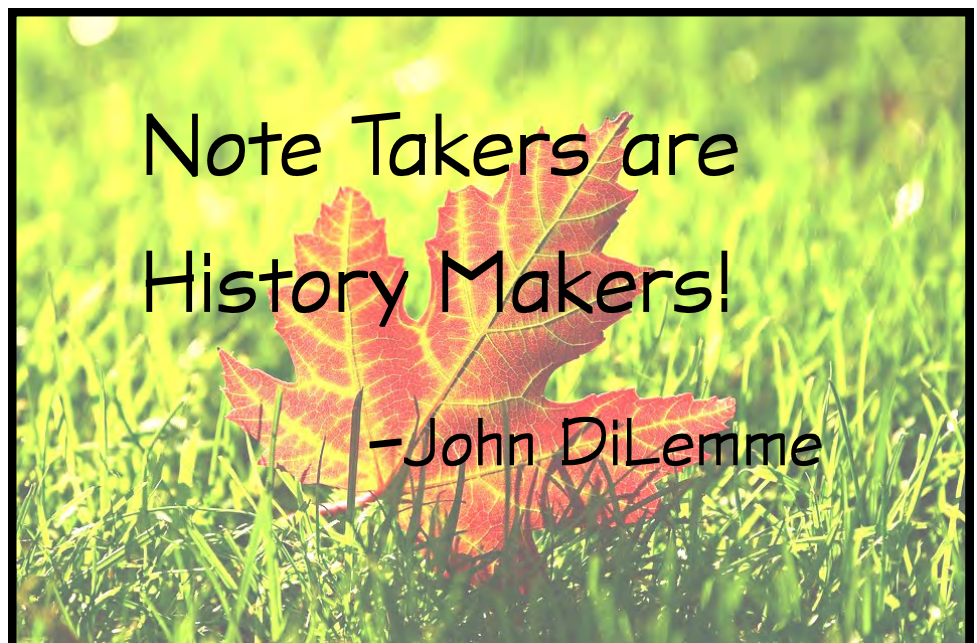
100th Anniversary Celebration: Andi brought everyone up to date re/ what is next in the planning for the event to take place on September 21. The next meeting is set for 2/7 at Colonial at 9:00 a. m.

Lunafest: Tracey gave a rundown about the upcoming Lunafest events in the area. A discussion took place about our Branch's participating in the Oswego event to be on 2/9/19 from 3-6:00 p. m. One-half of the proceeds go to Breast Cancer research and treatment and one-half to the sponsoring organization. Tracey will send out an email alerting everyone to the event.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Ross, Secretary



AAUW Branch Minutes —Continued

Minutes for AAUW Board Meeting of March 9, 2019 at 9:00 a. m.

In attendance: Nicole Benziger, Andi Danis, Pat Daughtery, Jerre Henriksn, Vicki Petersen, Tracey Sherman-Falcon, and V. Elaine Ross

The meeting was called to order by President Tracey S.-F. at 9:13 a. m. Meetings from the previous meeting of January 26 were read and approved (Andi D. and Nicole B.) as written.

Programs: Jerre H. reported for Valerie B. The event for Saturday, 3/16/19 at the GAR building in Aurora, “Women of World War II: On the Front Lines and the Home Front,” was discussed. The question of whether it would be worthwhile for our branch to pay the membership fee to join a Chamber of Commerce was explored. Yorkville’s fee is \$100.00, but Aurora is no doubt higher. It was decided that Andi D. will investigate the costs and benefits. Tracey will handle the refreshments for the 3/16 meeting. It was asked whether we can have a membership table at the March 16 meeting, and everyone thought we could. It was also discussed as to how the promotion for this event had been handled; the GAR members do not seem to be promoting us as part of the event.

Two of the three speakers for our May 11 meeting have confirmed.

Membership: Tracey S.-F., reporting for Kathy S., discussed taking the online Work Smart program. She said that we should go the site and register for it. Fliers will be available on this at our next meeting. Andi D. said that the Gender Equity Fund Board (State) had met and that it is encouraging us to take this training program. It was suggested that we could have a computer room in a place that all can share to take the training, perhaps at the main Library. Tracey will reach out to Krista D. at the Library. This event must take place before August; maybe this can be in June or even at the March or April meeting. Nicole, Andi, and Pat will work on this.

Communications: Nicole B. updated us on what she has done for our upcoming 100th Anniversary Celebration. She will have our front page up on the website by 5/15 and other pages perhaps. The event will also be promoted with posts on Facebook. Nicole mentioned that no word has come yet about the winners of the Art contest.

Treasurer: Andi D. gave us the good news that the IRS has finally solidified our status as “tax exempt.” We were reinstated retroactively to 11/15/2012. Now that we have a tax-exempt number, giving us independent status from our affiliate, we can use it for direct tax exemptions for members and events. Andi D. will send directly the \$25.00 memorial gift for Mary Bernard, and she will also ask to have her removed from membership in the state directory. Tracey will send the memorial report for the State Convention booklet. Pat suggested that we put an item in our next newsletter about Mary B.

The balance reported (Treasurer’s Account) was \$2,623.03.

Assistant Treasurer: Vicki P. reported that there has been no change since her last report; the balance for EF and LAF is \$944.28.

Newsletter: Jerre H. is staying with the date stated in our last meeting, March 22, as the deadline for items for the spring newsletter.

(Continued)

AAUW Branch Minutes—Continued

AAUW Funds: Pat D. said she is concerned about what we can do for our next fundraiser (in the fall of 2019). After much discussion, we decided that we will “let up on ourselves” since we are having the 100th Anniversary Celebration also in the fall. Instead of an event, we will just have a Virtual Fundraiser. The idea was mentioned that we could piggyback on Giving Tuesday for this “fundraiser.” Other ideas were explored: a Birthday Fundraiser through FB or an Amazon Smile Account, which is easy to set up, according to Nicole B. Further work will be done on how to do this virtual “fundraiser.”

Public Policy: Elaine R. will follow up on asking branch members to show their support for HB 2495, the Illinois Reproductive Health Act, and SB 1594, Repeal of the Illinois Parental Notice of Abortion Act. She will send an emailed letter as well as ask for members to use an emailed template for a letter to their newspaper editor to express their support for these bills. A long discussion followed on today’s political scene.

Tracey S.-F. inquired about how we will handle the logistics of the upcoming Lobby Day in Springfield on 5/15. For example, there is a limit on the number of those who can go.

Social Chair: Joy B. submitted her report ahead of the meeting since she could not attend.

Nominations: Elaine R. reported on her difficulty in getting anyone to agree to be nominated for VP for Programs. A long discussion followed. Elaine will send an email, through Jerre H., that will explain that we may not have a VP for Programs for the coming year. Ways to have programs without a VP were discussed. We agreed that we will drop the Chili Supper (attendance and participation for the last one were a disappointment); we could also drop an event for the Christmas Holidays; we could have the Book and Movie groups do one program each; and, as a last idea, Elaine suggested that she and Andi could do one program as a travelogue covering their upcoming Seneca Falls and Women’s History Trip with the Rockford Branch. Also, the first and last meetings of the year are already somewhat determined as general meetings.

Tracey discussed her frustrations with the activism of our branch members, giving examples of those who do not even engage with the Two-Minute Activist or Witness Slips for legislation. Tracey will forward information she has received on Operation Equity.

The upcoming book for Books By Night was announced and the upcoming movie for Movie Study Group, *First Women* by K. A. Brower and *Megan Leavey*, respectively.

Andi D. announced that the next meeting on the 100th Anniversary Celebration will be April 25 at Colonial in the a. m.

Andi D. announced details about the upcoming Mutual Ground Gala on April 26.

The meeting was adjourned at about 11:05 a. m.

Respectfully submitted,
V. Elaine Ross, Secretary



AAUW Branch Minutes—Continued

Minutes for AAUW Board Meeting of June 29, 2019 at 9:00 a. m.

Harris Bank, Orchard Road

In attendance: Tracey Sherman-Falcon, Pat Daugherty, Andi Danis, Valerie Burd, Elaine Ross, Kathy Schultz, Vicki Petersen, Joy Bowling, and Jerre Henriksen

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by the president at 9:10 a. m.

The minutes from March 9, 2019 were reviewed and approved as corrected (Tracey moved and Andi seconded).

Programs: Valerie gave background information on our two incoming members, Johanna Byrum and Lisa Wolancevich. She said that Lisa is willing to be our VP of Programs for the upcoming year. Since she will not be elected, Tracey will appoint her as Chair of Programs. All members concurred with this decision.

Tracey asked for her contact information, and said she will be in touch with Lisa and “get the ball rolling.”

Valerie may have three more incoming members. (Note: Valerie will be the VP for Membership in the new fiscal year.)

Membership: Kathy Schultz had no report as such. Valerie stated her hope that every current member will bring in one new member next year. Kathy said that she believes a “better procedure is needed for coordination between the Treasurer and the Membership VP.” She explained some of the issues that she has seen.

Tracey mentioned that bookmarks are needed for the upcoming July 31 event (Start Smart tutorial) at the Santorum Library.

Communications: Nicole Benziger’s report was posted on our FB page. She will be posting “Fun Facts” weekly in preparation for our upcoming 100th Anniversary Party. It was mentioned that we can post our events for free on the sites, Tell Me Something Good and the Yorkville Chamber of Commerce. (Note: I do not know who mentioned this.)

Tracey stated that Nicole Benziger will be our new Historian/Archivist in the upcoming term.

Treasurer’s report: Andi gave her report (attached) and stated that “we are doing well.” Her report was not final, of course, as dues continue to come in. She will present a proposed budget at our August meeting.

Andi gave an update on members who have paid dues; at this time, 17 renewals, 2 new members, 5 life members. Several will still pay.

Andi also reviewed all of the issues she has had with the bank in getting an AAUW Branch debit card that we are now required to use for submitting money electronically to national.

(Continued)

AAUW Branch Minutes—Continued

Assistant Treasurer's report: Vicki gave her report (attached). She has one deposit still to make.

An audit will take place, as required, with Jerre taking the lead and Valerie assisting her.

Newsletter: As editor, Jerre led the discussion regarding what dates will work for our submissions and how many issues we will have. **August 26 is the deadline** to get items to Jerre so that the newsletter goes out before September 21 (our first fall event). Jerre said she will also do the postcard mailing again this year with all our programs and dates, the reservation policy, and other information.

AAUW Funds: Pat asked some questions about how we handle the Virtual Fundraiser that we plan to be our one-time fundraiser for funds to EF/LAF. Pat said we will have a mailing, so to speak, an "invitation," that will ask to have money sent to Vicki. Joy had an idea that we can send a tea bag with the "invite envelope." Everyone liked this suggestion. These should be sent out by November 1.

Public Policy: Elaine gave her summary of the actions she has taken for furthering Public Policy issues: filling out Witness Slips herself, sending out directions to the branch on how to do these, publishing a Letter to the Editor on the Illinois Reproductive Health Act, and generally sending emails when they are pertinent for all members. Much discussion followed on the many issues of the day, with a general sense of discouragement about all the forces that seem to impede implementation of the mission of our organization.

Social Chair: Joy had sent her report out to all ahead of the meeting (attached). She mentioned that all upcoming birthdays will be recognized.

Yearbook: Pat reviewed what needs to be updated in the booklet, with several members mentioning various items.

Historian/Archivist: This is mentioned earlier in the minutes (out order).

Study Groups: Andi reviewed what is coming up for Books by Night and Elaine reviewed what is coming up for Movie Study Group: July 24 will be the planning session for Book Group at the Holmstad, and July 8 will be the planning session for Movie Group at Pat's home.

100th Anniversary Party: Andi gave an update on all the planning by the committee. Joy also stated that she is an election judge and can therefore register voters at the Anniversary Party if anyone wants to sign up with her. This could be announced at the event.

Start Smart: Andi said that the Library can handle the advertising for this Branch event.

Nominations: Tracey said that she will not take another term as President and that the committee needs to be thinking about this fact. We will need to appoint a new Nominating Committee since the current committee (Elaine, Jerre, and Penny) has served for two years. This is out of the normal rotation since the committee is to coincide with the term of the president, which cannot now happen. Joy said she would like to be on the new committee; we will need others to be appointed.

Board Meetings for the upcoming year were set: 8/10, 11/2, 1/11, 3/14, and 6/6.

Tracey adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a. m.

Respectfully submitted,

V. Elaine Ross, Secretary

AAUW Branch Treasurer Report/Dues

AAUW Aurora Area Branch

2018-2019

Budget vs. Actual

<u>6/30/2019</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Carryover from 2017-18	\$2191.34	\$2191.34
Projected Additional Income:		
Dues from 35 Member @\$21	\$ 735.00	\$ 651.00
TOTAL AVAILABLE REVENUE	<u>\$2926.34</u>	<u>\$2842.34</u>
Projected Expenses:		
Conventions/Conferences	\$ 500.00	
Memorials: 2@\$25	\$ 50.00	
Membership Committee	\$ 100.00	
Programs	\$ 300.00	\$ 306.91
100 th Anniversary Celebration	\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00
Printing: Yearbooks, Newsletters	\$ 100.00	\$ 69.10
President's Expenses	\$ 75.00	
Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 75.00	\$ 21.07
Social Chair	\$ 50.00	\$ 11.00
Insurance: Yearly Liability	\$ 200.00	
Board Reserve Fund	\$ 976.34	
TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES:	<u>\$2926.34</u>	<u>\$ 843.08</u>

Respectfully Submitted

Andi Danis, Treasurer



AAUW Branch Treasurer Report/Dues/Continued

AAUW Aurora Area Branch

2019-2020

Proposed Budget

Carryover from 2018-19	\$2080.26
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Projected Additional Income:

Dues from 35 Members @ \$21	\$ 735.00
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TOTAL AVAILABLE REVENUE:	\$2815.26
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Projected Expenses:

Conventions/Conferences	\$ 400.00
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Memorials: 2@\$25	\$ 50.00
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Membership Committee	\$ 200.00
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Programs	\$ 600.00
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100 th Anniversary Celebration	\$ 300.00
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Printing: Yearbooks, Newsletters	\$ 100.00
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President's Expenses	\$ 75.00
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Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 75.00
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Social Chair	\$ 50.00
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Insurance: Yearly Liability	\$ 200.00
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Board Reserve Fund	\$ 765.26
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TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES:	\$2815.26
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AAUW Branch Treasurer Report/Dues/Continued

American Association of University Women Aurora Area Branch

Audit for Period July 1st, 2018 through June 30th, 2019

Completed August 7, 2019

Treasurer's Account

The treasurer's account was found to be in good order, with a balance of \$2,223.26.

Bank Statement July 7th, 2019 \$2,458.26

Outstanding Checks:

#197 \$185.00 – AHT Insurance

#198 \$25.00 = Aelena Kadovic (Speaker)

Payment in Transit:

\$25.00 AAUW Funds Mary Bernard Memorial

Account Balance: \$2,223.26

Assistant Treasurer's Account

The assistant treasurer's account was found to be in good order, with a balance of \$944.28.

Bank Statement July 31, 2019 \$969.28

Outstanding Check:

#2011 \$25.00 AAUW Funds – Mary Bernard Memorial

Account Balance: \$944.28

Valerie Burd

Jane Hennrich



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Membership Renewal Form

For Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020



Annual membership dues are **\$ 90**

National: \$ 59*

State: \$ 10

Branch: \$ 21

Total Dues: \$ 90

For those who are prepaid Life Members of the Association, dues will be **\$ 31**
(\$ 10 for State and \$ 21 for Branch)

Please check Membership Status:

☐ Annual (\$ 90) –Correct status for Most members

☐ Association Life (\$ 31)—status of only a few members who prepaid in the late 1980's

Contribution to AAUW's Mission: \$ _____

Fund designated for your contribution: _____

Total Amount: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to **AAUW Aurora Area Branch**

Mail To:

Andrea Danis

24 Scarsdale Rd

Montgomery, IL 60538-2517

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____

CELL _____

E-MAIL _____

Please select communication preference:

___ I prefer to receive newsletters and reminders via email. (This is the most cost effective for the branch.)

___ I prefer to be reminded of meetings via email.

___ I prefer to receive newsletters via regular mail.

___ I prefer to be reminded of meetings with a phone call.

*AAUW National Individual Membership dues are \$59:

\$56 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution, and \$3 is not (because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities).

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 130 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

Stay Connected with the AAUW Aurora Area Branch

Not on Facebook? We still have our branch website at www.aurora-il.aauw.net. The homepage features announcements, latest branch news and upcoming events. There also are sections that explain the AAUW and our branch, how to become a member, branch activities and a newsletter archive.

Remember to take and share photos at branch programs, study groups and events. These photos are posted on both Facebook and the branch website. It is best to send those photos to our branch email address at aauwaurorail@gmail.com so they do not get buried in my personal email account. Whenever possible include who is in the photo from left to right and a sentence or two explaining where the photo.



Please email Joy Bowling, joybowling@att.net with your birth month and date.

Reservation Policy— AAUW Aurora Area Branch

Our branch uses evites to manage reservations for branch events. Evites will be sent out for study groups, committee meetings and monthly branch programs to all members. Study group hosts and committee chairs can check the evites at any time for reservation updates. Also, be sure to click “Message from host” for more details about events, including registration fees.

Please be sure to update evites with your RSVP. Social Chair Joy Bowling will be making follow up phone calls to members who have not RSVP'd to monthly programs. Reservations for a meal are binding. No-shows and those canceling less than 48 hours in advance are still responsible for payment. A prompt mailing of your check to our Treasurer, Andi Danis, will be appreciated.

Board Meetings/Membership

Branch Board Meetings : Saturdays @ 9:00 a.m..

Harris Bank on Orchard Rd/Indian Trail, Aurora

November 2, 2019

January 11, 2020

March 14, 2020

June 6, 2020

President

Tracey Sherman-Falcon

Program

Lisa Wolancevich

Treasurer

Andi Danis

Assistant Treasurer

Vicki Petersen

Co-Vice President, Membership

Val Burd

Communications Vice President

Nicole Benziger

Secretary

Elaine Ross

AAUW Funds

Pat Daugherty

Newsletter Editor

Jerre Henriksen

Social Chair

Joy Bowling

SAVE THE DATE

AAUW Regional Convention
June 18-19, 2020
Hyatt House East Moline/Quad Cities
