



**Come celebrate with us! This is our last formal meeting until Sept. 2019**

***What:*** Annual AAUW Chicago Inc Branch potluck

***When:*** Saturday, May 18th

***Time:*** 3:00pm-6:00pm

***Where:*** 435 West Erie Street 24<sup>th</sup> Floor Party Room

*Hosted by Lynda Korn-Cotton*

***Parking:*** street meter parking or paid lots

***Potluck:*** Everyone is asked to bring a savory  
or sweet hors d'oeuvre (no warming oven) or a dessert item

*Beverages-- water, wine, and coffee-- will be provided*

***RSVP:*** To Paula Perkins with what you are bringing by May 17<sup>th</sup> at

[p3perkins@gmail.com](mailto:p3perkins@gmail.com) or phone 773-525-1253

***Join us for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. During this year-end event, we will pay homage to all that made this year such a success. We will all look forward to summer and we will start planning for the 2019-2020 year. At this meeting, we will hold our branch election; hear about the state convention, member awards and recognition, and other AAUW business. Please come and help us celebrate another successful year for our branch. Thanks to all of our great members. Welcome to any new members and potential members.***



### President's Message

*The state convention is right around the corner, **Friday and Saturday May 3-4**, in Springfield. It's not too late to register. The Friday keynote speaker will be AAUW CEO Kim Churches. A key convention extra, sponsored by the Jane Addams Branch, will be a Friday afternoon set up from 1:30 to 5:00 pm to update Wikipedia entries on notable women of Illinois. AJ Conroy, our very own Wikipedian, will provide tutorials for the beginner. Bring your laptop and power cord. We'll have everything else you'll need. Please join your colleagues at this informative and fun convention.*

*Around **April 1, 2019**, you should have received an email message from AAUW Executive Kim Churches urging you to vote in the AAUW National Election to select members of the Board of Directors and to approve AAUW's Public Policy Priorities for the next biennium. I encourage you to vote online as soon as possible to ensure your ballot will be received before the **May 14<sup>th</sup>** deadline. Your voting ID is included in her email message. You can find more information about the candidates for the AAUW Board of Directors [ <https://www.aauw.org/board-candidates/> ] and the 2019–2021 Public Policy Priorities [ <https://www.aauw.org/policy-priority/public-policy-priorities/> ] on the AAUW website. I found the updates to the Public Policy Priorities to be well-coordinated with the Association's new strategic plan and to be right on target for where the Association needs to place its efforts on behalf of women's equality.*

*On **March 19**, I had the privilege of hosting a gathering at my home of Branch members for a discussion with two representatives from AAUW headquarters; Claudia Richards, AAUW Acting Director, Membership Experience and Erin Harkins-Medina, Director, Advancement. We had a wonderful discussion about a wide range of topics including the future of the Association and what we admire about AAUW and what we have some issues with. Claudia and Erin were very receptive to hearing our viewpoints. Thanks to Ann Tracy, Jackie Kirley, Barbara Harris, and Margaret Sullivan for participating.*

*While we have reached the end of our formal program year, I would like to urge all of you to join us on **Saturday, May 18**, for the Annual Branch Meeting, which will be a "pot-luck" gathering to talk about where we have been during the past year and where we want to go moving forward. Frankly, although we have worked hard to offer "mission-based" programs throughout the year, attendance by Branch members has not been very good. I know that weather this winter has been a problem for some members, but I think we need to have some serious discussion about the number and types of meetings we want to pursue next year. Bring your ideas to the Annual meeting and when we announce the dates of the summer planning meetings, please plan to attend one or both meetings. We need your input!*

*Ruth*

*President, AAUW Chicago Inc. Branch*

### ***Thank You***

Thank you to Branch President Ruth Holst for opening her home and hosting an evening with Claudia Richards, AAUW Acting Director, Membership Experience and Erin Harkins-Medina, Director, Advancement. Also thank you to the branch members who attended the event and asked questions regarding the issues AAUW is addressing.

Thank you to the members and guests who attended the Women's History Month program co-sponsored by the Hull-House Museum on March 21 with AAUW community action grantee Nadiah from HEART Women and Girls. Many thanks to Branch president Ruth Holst for organizing the event and working so closely with Hull-House for the program.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Equal Pay Day Rally in Daley Plaza. A Big thank you to branch member Barbara Yong for chairing the organization of the event. It was a successful day with the rally bringing together over 70 like minded organizations to promote equal pay for women.



AAUW members Ruth Holst, Barbara Yong, and Cindy

Grau at the recent Equal Pay Day Rally.

### ***Looking Ahead to Next Year***

We will begin planning our 2019-2020 year in June. Date and time will be determined. All branch members are invited to attend the planning meetings. We need your ideas and contacts to plan meetings and events that are of interest to all branch members. Please let us know if you have any great places for us to visit or party rooms that would be available for us to use for meetings. To RSVP, contact Paula Perkins at [p3perkins@gmail.com](mailto:p3perkins@gmail.com)



**Branch members Eleida Gomez and Gerry Oberman visiting Ida B. Wells gravesite on April 2 – Election Day. Board Member AJ Conroy also visited the site to leave flowers.**

**A New Branch Activity: Honor a Suffragist on Voting Day**

In preparation for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Woman's Suffrage in 2020, the National Women's History Project (NWHP) located in Santa Rosa, California has inaugurated the "Honor a Suffragist on Voting Day" project. AAUW-Chicago, Inc. will join with many other national women's organizations to help identify, locate the gravesite, and honor the suffragists in the Chicago area. Acting as an "Everyday Historian", Branch members are invited to join a committee which will meet in mid-March, 2019 to plan our efforts to contribute to this project. Once identified, our list will be added to a national registry for suffrage sites to ensure they are remembered and celebrated for years to come. Locally, we can decide to honor our suffragists by placing a flower or some other token on their gravesite as well as a sign labeled, "Here lies a Suffragist" so others will recognize their accomplishments. (Notes: the NWHP has already provided us with a list to work from and we have located the gravesites of the following: Jane Addams, Frances E. Willard, Louise de Koven Bowen, Julia Clifford Lathrop, and Kate F. O'Connor. A Biographical Dictionary titled, "Women Building Chicago 1790 – 1990" also contains an important index listing of suffrage activists for this project. Chicago has many organizations that can serve us as sources.)

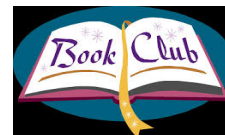
For more detailed information on this project and tips on how we might carry out our work, check out these websites:

- ❖ [nwHP.org](http://nwHP.org)
- ❖ <http://ncwhs.org/> (National Votes for Women Trail)
- ❖ [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) (also contains biographies)

Should you want to join the Branch Suffragists Committee, please email Eleida Gomez (Branch member) and Geraldine Oberman (National Member) at [amgglo@aol.com](mailto:amgglo@aol.com).

**AAUW-IL Lobby Day – Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**

AAUW-IL is partnering with Planned Parenthood for Lobby Day on May 15<sup>th</sup> in Springfield. Lobbyist and Chicago branch member Jenni Purdue. The day will begin around 10am with AAUW-IL's legislative consultant, Jenni Purdue, educating attendees on the Illinois State legislative process. Attendees will also learn the "lay of the land" before heading out to meet with representatives. Armed with talking points and materials regarding Public Policy issues that are important to AAUW, our message to our legislators will be on-point and consistent. Depending on the legislative session that is happening on May 15<sup>th</sup>, AAUW-IL attendees may even get to sit together in the gallery and be recognized by the Speaker! After advocating at the Capitol, members will regroup for a late lunch together at a nearby cafe before returning home. RSVP to Susan Scott [susscott1@yahoo.com](mailto:susscott1@yahoo.com) or Jenni Purdue [jpurdue@jandjlegislative.com](mailto:jpurdue@jandjlegislative.com)



**Daytime Book Club next meeting – April 17**

Do you like to read? If so, join us for a daytime book club that is on **Wednesday, April 17**. We will be meeting from 10:00am – noon at the Starbucks at 600 State Street (near state and Ohio). Our book is *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeman

**May 15:** *Educated* by Tara Westover Leader: Leslee Carver

**June 19:** *An American Marriage* by Tayari Jones Leader: Donna Zimmerman

**July 17:** *An Appetite for America* by Stephen Fried Leader: Kay Rosen

**August 21:** *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean Leader: Ruth Holst

Feel free to come even if you don't have time to read and bring some suggestions for future books. Looking forward to seeing all that are interested! If you have any questions or are interested please contact our book club chair, Leslee Carver [Leslee.carver@gmail.com](mailto:Leslee.carver@gmail.com)



**Evening Book Club** Please feel free to join the Evening Book Club anytime.

April 22 - *Earthly Remains* by Donna Leon

May 20 – *Flappers: Six Women of a Dangerous Generation* by Judith Mackrell

June 24 - *Educated* by Tara Westover

July 22- *Girls of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II* by Denise Kieman

**Join members of the book club at The Grafton Pub for dinner at 6:00pm before the discussion. 4530 N. Lincoln Ave (one block south of the library) [www.thegraffton.com](http://www.thegraffton.com)**

The Evening Book Club of Chicago, Illinois Branch Inc. of the American Association of University Women is free and open to the public and meets on the fourth Monday of the month (except December and May) from 7:00-9:00 pm at the Conrad Sulzer Library, 4455 N. Lincoln Ave.

***Join us for a new Book Club – HerStory Book Club – All are welcome – Wed. June 12***

The **HerStory Book Club** are reading books about women who have taken action. We'll be using the books suggested by The Action Book Club of The Little Free Library. Our second gathering will be **Wed. June 12**.

Next book will be *America's Women: 400 Years of Dolls, Drudges, Helpmates, and Heroines* by Gail Collins

August 14 (Wed) *Redefining Realness: My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love & So Much More* by Janet Mock

October 16 (Wed) *Make Trouble: Standing Up, Speaking Out, and Finding the Courage to Lead—My Life Story* by Cecile Richards and Lauren Peterson

The group will meet at the Book Cellar, 4736 North Lincoln, a short walk from the Brown Line from 6:30pm – 8:00pm. The upcoming meeting dates will be June 13, Aug. 14, Oct. 16.

We'd love to get the word out! Please let your friends, alumni group and community know. The book club will be a wonderful opportunity to introduce potential new members to AAUW. Any questions, please contact Bernadette Pawlik at [bernadette.dorman@gmail.com](mailto:bernadette.dorman@gmail.com)



## **2019-2020 Membership Drive**

We have started our 2019-2020 membership campaign. Attached to this newsletter, either on paper or by email, is the Chicago branch renewal form. We will use the information off of the form to put together the membership directory as well as update our branch membership information for National AAUW. Please pay by **June 15th** so we can forward everything to Nationals by the **June 30th** deadline. Thanks in advance.

The branch is again participating in the National Membership Payment Program (MPP). Through this program, first you would log on to <http://www.aauw.org/> and go to MEMBER CENTER then choose MEMBERSHIP SERVICE DATABASE (MSD) and login with your member number and password. Then you would be able to pay your dues online with a credit card. The association will forward your dues on to the state and branch level electronically. If members pay all their dues (branch, state, and national) ONLINE, then, immediately, they (and the branch finance officer) will receive electronic payment confirmation and will be able to see their dues payment and current membership status in their individual member profiles. Don't forget \$56- of your \$59- national dues is tax-deductible. (The other \$3- will be going toward lobbying efforts thus are not tax-deductible.)



The annual dues are **\$91-** for branch members (\$59- for the national association, \$22- for Chicago branch, and \$10- for state.) The Association Life members are **\$32-** (\$22- for Chicago branch and \$10- for state.) There is no increase to dues this year. If you have any questions, please contact Megan Moser at [meganmoser@hotmail.com](mailto:meganmoser@hotmail.com)



### ***Report of the Nominating Committee***

According to the Chicago Branch bylaws, VP programs, secretary, and two directors-at-large shall be elected in the odd numbered years. To follow is the proposed slate for the 2019-2021 term.

- **Vice or Co-Vice President of Programs: OPEN**
- Secretary: Barbara Harris
- Directors at Large: AJ Conroy and Barbara Spiegel

The proposed slate of nominees will be presented at the May Branch event. We have open nominations. Please let us know if you can help out. We can have co-officers as well. Nominations may be made from the floor at the time of the election, provided written consent of the nominee has been obtained. Nominating Committee, Megan Moser, Chair



### ***AAUW Branch Awards***

We would like to recognize the accomplishments of our branch. The awards will be presented at our annual meeting in May. Congratulations to All! - Lori Switzer

#### ***Outstanding Service to Chicago Branch***

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Special Appreciation Recognition | Megan Moser   |
| Exceptional Service Recognition  | Paula Perkins |

#### ***Membership Awards***

|                 |                                  |   |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>5 years</b>  | <b><i>Stephanie Blatt</i></b>    | <b><i>Eleida Gomez</i></b>                  |
|                 | <b><i>Pamela Mearsheimer</i></b> | <b><i>Margaret Oppenheimer-Sullivan</i></b> |
|                 | <b><i>Bernadette Pawlik</i></b>  | <b>15 years</b>                             |
|                 | <b><i>Paula Perkins</i></b>      | <b>20 years</b>                             |
|                 | <b><i>Mary Ellen Ziegler</i></b> | <b>25 years</b>                             |
| <b>10 years</b> | <b><i>Helen Elkiss</i></b>       | <b>35 years</b>                             |
|                 |                                  | <b><i>Dorthea Juul</i></b>                  |

#### ***Branch Financial Report***

Feb. 28, 2019 beginning balance \$2793.18

March speaker fee-\$300.00

March 31, 2019 ending balance \$2493.18

The membership renewal process has started and money will be coming into the account. A budget for next year is in the works. The balance of the Fidelity Account is \$10,908.42. The Fidelity account has me as a representative on the account. No checks are outstanding. -Megan Moser, branch treasurer

#### ***AAUW- IL – Make A Difference - AAUW-IL 95<sup>th</sup> State Convention May 3 – 4, 2019***

“Moving Forward” Crowne Plaza Springfield – Convention Center, 3000 S. Dirksen Parkway

More information online, <https://aauw-il.aauw.net/state-convention/>

**REGISTRATION DEADLINES:** General Deadline: Submitted or postmarked by April 25, 2019. Questions? Contact Laura Desmarais, Co-VP for Programs, at [lkdesmarais@gmail.com](mailto:lkdesmarais@gmail.com) or 630.854.2730, or Sue Stauffer at [staufferrw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:staufferrw@sbcglobal.net) or 847-985-5560

### ***Opportunity for First Time Convention Attendees***

Have you attended the State AAUW Convention before? If not, the TRIO program is here to help with expenses. Under this program approximately 1/3 of the total cost of attending a state convention will be paid by the AAUW-IL. This means that registration fees will be waived for a first time State Convention attendee (one from each branch). This is a great opportunity to participate in all of the great events in Springfield. The Chicago Branch also offers stipend funding which you may be eligible for. Members would assume the remaining third of the expenses. Please contact Lori Switzer [chicagoaauw@hotmail.com](mailto:chicagoaauw@hotmail.com) if you are interested in this funding. We will award this funding to one branch member or divide the funding at the discretion of the board.

If you are attending the state convention, please contact Ruth Holst. She is happy to coordinate car pools for members that are attending the state convention. [holstruth@gmail.com](mailto:holstruth@gmail.com) 224-610-9718 (Mobile)



### ***Give a Grad a free AAUW membership***

AAUW members can now give a recent grad—a friend, daughter, granddaughter, or niece—a free AAUW membership. At no cost to you or her! Expose her to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 100,000 members who believe in and advance equity and education. Expand her networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects. She will experience the rewards of working with and learning from successful AAUW mentors. Best of all, she will receive a **free one-year AAUW membership at no cost to you or her!** Only members can take advantage of this offer. Complete the online membership application now at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) Your grad will receive a one-year member-at-large membership—a \$59 value.



*Mission: The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for individuals seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.*

### ***Legal Advocacy Fund Update***

LAF works to combat sex discrimination through community and campus outreach programs, a resource library and online advocacy tools, and various research reports. In collaboration with the Public Policy and Government Relations department, LAF seeks amicus curiae opportunities in cases of discrimination that disadvantage women in the workplace. LAF is also transitioning toward supporting landmark sex discrimination cases that have the potential to make a difference for all women. **You may donate online if you are interested.** [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) Donations are **tax-deductible**.

### ***The Chicago Edition by Lori Switzer***

Is there something you want to see in the newsletter? It is your newsletter. Articles for the September/October Chicago Edition newsletter are due Aug 1st. Thanks -Lori Switzer 773/230-1063 or [ChicagoAAUW@hotmail.com](mailto:ChicagoAAUW@hotmail.com)



## Chicago, IL. Inc. Branch 2019-2020 Membership Form

The AAUW membership year begins July 1, 2019 and ends June 30, 2020. Annual membership dues are **\$91.00** (\$59.00 for Association, \$22.00 for Chicago Branch, and \$10.00 for AAUW – Illinois). For Association Life members, dues are **\$32.00** (\$22.00 for Chicago Branch and \$10.00 for AAUW – Illinois).

**Please check your type of Membership:**

☐ Annual \$91-      ☐ Association Life \$32-      ☐ Undergraduate Student Affiliate \$31.81

**Please make your check payable to AAUW Chicago Inc. Branch**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

First/Middle/Last \_\_\_\_\_ (spouse) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, IL Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date (Month/Date) \_\_\_\_\_ (Optional)

College/Universities attended \_\_\_\_\_

Degrees Earned \_\_\_\_\_

Major Field of Study \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check to volunteer to assist with these committees or branch activities**

\_\_\_\_\_ Board Position

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Communication

\_\_\_\_\_ Membership Committee

\_\_\_\_\_ GEMS conference

\_\_\_\_\_ Nominating Committee

\_\_\_\_\_ Community Service

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair of an Interest Group  
committee

\_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising Committee

\_\_\_\_\_ Program planning

\_\_\_\_\_ Website/facebook

\_\_\_\_\_ Public Policy/Legislative

\_\_\_\_\_ Contact me later

\_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TO:**

**MEGAN MOSER 4641 N PAULINA ST. APT 410 CHICAGO IL 60640**



To guarantee listing in the Chicago, Illinois Branch, Inc. Membership Directory, your renewal must be received by  
**Sunday, September 1, 2019.**

**Mission Statement of AAUW:** AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

**Value Promise:** By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.

**Vision Statement:** AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

*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 membership is open to any graduate who holds an associate or equivalent degree from a qualified educational institution or a baccalaureate of higher degree from an accredited institution of higher education.*

*AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.*

### **Important Dates**

**May 3-4, 2019**

**AAUW-IL Convention - Crowne Plaza – Springfield**

AAUW National website: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

AAUW-IL website: [www.aauw-il.org](http://www.aauw-il.org)

Chicago branch website: <http://chicago-il.aauw.net>

For more information, contact us: [chicagoaauw@hotmail.com](mailto:chicagoaauw@hotmail.com)

**Join the Chicago branch on Facebook:**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=16337662299&ref=mf>



Lori Switzer, editor  
AAUW Newsletter  
2541 Ridgeway Ave  
Evanston, IL 60201

*Address correction requested*

*Chicago, IL branch was founded in 1889. This is our 129th year!!*