

October 2013

*Celebrating 90 Years of AAUW in Monmouth!*

## President's Report

*Marilyn Van Ausdall*

The new wage gap numbers were released by the U.S. Census Bureau last month and, unfortunately, the 23-cent gap remains, basically staying about the same since 2002. That means that a woman working full time, year round still typically takes home 77 cents for every dollar a man takes home. The gap is even worse for women of color. Compared to only White men's earnings, African American women earn 68% as much and Hispanic women earn 59%. White women earn 81% and Asian American women earn 88%.

There are those who argue that the difference is due merely to individual career choices. According to Rachel Wallace, AAUW's strategic communications associate, this is not true. "When you account for all measurable decisions that might influence a person's paycheck — college, major, occupation, industry, work hours, you name it — the wage gap is still there."

AAUW conducted a study last year, looking at the earnings of women and men just one year out of college, a time when few women or men are making choices about having children, taking care of elderly parents, or working fewer hours. Taking into account all of the factors that have been shown to affect pay, the report found that women are paid an unexplained 6.6% less than men doing the exact same work. [Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earnings of Women and Men One Year after College Graduation](#) may be downloaded at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

According to the report, 6.6 percent of an average man's earnings one year out of college comes to just over \$2,800. That amount of money could buy nearly a year's worth of groceries, more than 750 gallons of gas, or 1400 tall Starbucks coffees! Research shows that women are likely to be paid less just because they're women.

**What You Can Do To Help:** For two years, the U.S.

Department of Labor has been saying it will develop a new tool to collect information on salaries, wages, and other benefits for employees of federal contractors. This tool is essential to giving workers and employers the information they need to end pay discrimination, and it will give the Department of Labor the information it needs to make sure companies that are receiving our tax dollars are following the law. Use AAUW's Two-Minute Activist feature to urge the Department of Labor to speed up its work on this data collection tool today by clicking [here](#). (Control and click to follow link)



Lily Ledbetter

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**AAUW October 24, 2013 Program  
5 pm  
Olivia's, 112 South First Street, Monmouth**

*From the speaker:  
Branch President Marilyn Van Ausdall*

What is AAUW? What does the organization do? Why would anyone consider joining?

If someone asks you any of those questions, do you have a response? I didn't have a good one for many years. I was content to attend the few meetings scheduled for the year, enjoy the interesting programs, and to visit with some people I didn't get an opportunity to see often. It wasn't until I started attending some fall conferences and state conventions that I started getting an idea of what AAUW was really all about.

Our Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, meeting at 5:00 PM at 112 S. 1<sup>st</sup> in Monmouth, will again be another Cocktails and Conversations event. I'll be hitting the high points of the national website, including how memberships can easily be renewed online. I'll also be showing how present members can direct prospective members to an application on our own branch website.

Some short videos will be shown documenting AAUW's work for equal pay, AAUW's 125 years of awarding fellowships and grants, and AAUW's efforts in promoting careers in the STEM fields for young women.

This would be a perfect meeting for bringing guests. New members will again be able to join that evening for the special Share the Future discounted rate of \$39 since the event is open to the public. Guests will get the big picture about AAUW, and present members will learn things, too. It isn't necessary to purchase food or drink, so please don't stay away because of that issue. Your president would GREATLY appreciate your support that night!



**District #3 meeting - AAUW-IL**

*Shirley Daddona, District Director*

**NOVEMBER 2, 2013  
11 a.m.-2.00 p.m.**

**The Packinghouse Restaurant, Galesburg**

Let's have a good turnout from the Branch. Lunch is from the menu—no other charge. Please let me know by the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>. I encourage you to come and meet members from the other branches in the district --- Morton, Ottawa, Pekin, Peoria, and Rock Island-Moline.

Our state president, Andi Danis, will be present and will have lots of information for us. Call me at 309-342-2794 or [sdaddona814@gmail.com](mailto:sdaddona814@gmail.com) to make a reservation.

**Program Opportunity  
November 7, 7 p.m.**

**"What's the Deal with the Veil?"**

For those of you who haven't heard it, or for those who would like to hear her presentation again (and perhaps bring a friend), Farhat Haq will be giving her "What's the Deal with the Veil" talk as part of the Muslim Journeys-American Stories program on Thursday, November 7, at 7:00 p.m in the electronic classroom in the lower level of Hewes Library on the Monmouth College campus. Farhat has given this program at one of our branch meetings as well as at an AAUW-Illinois state meeting. It's a very illuminating discussion and perhaps a new perspective on modern Muslim women who have chosen to wear the veil not as a symbol of oppression, but as a statement of their own individuality.



## Public Policy

Jan DeYoung

Here is an interesting blog entry from one of our interns in Washington. It raises an issue I'd never even considered: the connection between huge sporting events like the Super Bowl and human trafficking. It was written by one of our interns in Washington, D.C. And how wonderful that AAUW members in New Jersey are doing something about it!

In the last paragraph, you can learn how YOU can take action, too! The link probably won't work, but you can log on to AAUW.org to make your voice heard.

October 8, 2013

AAUW members nationwide are leading efforts to fight human trafficking by starting petitions for legislative action, raising awareness, and working to prevent sex trafficking during the 2014 Super Bowl.

Human trafficking **disproportionately affects** women and children. The Bureau of Justice Statistics **estimates** that 40 percent of all human trafficking incidents opened for investigation in the United States involve sex trafficking of a child. The bureau also reports that at least 80 percent of these child victims are U.S. citizens.

Possible child prostitution at the 2014 Super Bowl prompted AAUW of New Jersey to act. The state organization has **joined** with other members of the New Jersey Coalition against Human Trafficking to train hotel employees to watch for sex trafficking when the state sees an influx of visitors coming to attend the Super Bowl in Secaucus, New Jersey, in February. Twenty AAUW of New Jersey volunteers were trained on child prostitution and trafficking in September and will lead the coalition's efforts in northern New Jersey.

Also in New Jersey, which already has some of the nation's strongest anti-human trafficking **laws**, AAUW members have created a **petition** to encourage the same level of protection through a federal law. In Pennsylvania, AAUW members have started a **petition** to urge the state legislature to act, since Pennsylvania is one of only two states without a sex trafficking law.

Both New Jersey's and Pennsylvania's efforts are part of the 2013–14 Public Policy Impact Grant program, which

awards grants to states for policy work around priority issues. AAUW of Michigan has also chosen to work on human trafficking through an Impact Grant, and other states, including Maryland, have focused on human trafficking at recent state conventions.



Photo courtesy of [www.blogactionday.org](http://www.blogactionday.org)

Though our efforts to combat human trafficking are growing, the focus is nothing new for AAUW members, whose grassroots efforts led to human trafficking first **becoming** a priority in AAUW's member-approved 2011–13 Public Policy Program. Members again approved human trafficking as part of the **2013–15 Public Policy Program**, which includes the following language:

AAUW believes that global interdependence requires national and international policies against human trafficking and that promote peace, justice, human rights, sustainable development, and mutual security for all people.

In accordance with this focus, AAUW helped pass a **bipartisan reauthorization** of the Violence Against Women Act that **included** human trafficking provisions.

AAUW also supports the bipartisan **End Sex Trafficking Act**, which will help eliminate sex-trafficking organizations by targeting those who purchase sexual acts and by making certain that the law's language clearly states these criminals should be prosecuted as human traffickers.

One year after President Barack Obama **pledged** that the United States would lead the fight against human trafficking, AAUW members are certainly doing their part. **Take action** with us now.

*This post was written by AAUW Public Policy Intern Katie Cole.*



## Film Group *Nancy Buban*

Film group will meet at 7p.m. on Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, to view the 2010 film, *Conviction*.

Starring Hilary Swank and Sam Rockwell, it is based on the true story of Betty Anne Waters who for 18 years tries to gather evidence to overturn her brother Kenny's murder conviction. Convinced of his innocence, Betty receives her GED and attends law school when she gets no satisfaction from local authorities. It is an emotional look at the bond between siblings and the struggle to find the truth. Once again viewing is at 207 S. 8<sup>th</sup> and corn will be popped.

## ¡Adelante! Book Group *Jan DeYoung*

Book group will meet on Wednesday, October 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at Amy Zesbaugh's to discuss Flight Behavior by Barbara Kingsolver. Here's what Amazon's Mari Malcolm has to say about this book:

**Amazon Best Books of the Month, November 2012:** In what may be the first novel to realistically imagine the near-term impact of "global weirding," Barbara Kingsolver sets her latest story in rural Appalachia. In fictional Feathertown, Tennessee, Dellarobia Turnbow--on the run from her stifling life--charges up the mountain above her husband's family farm and stumbles onto a "valley of fire" filled with millions of monarch butterflies. This vision is deemed miraculous by the town's parishioners, then the international media. But when Ovid, a scientist who studies monarch behavior, sets up a lab on the Turnbow farm, he learns that the butterflies' presence signals systemic disorder--and Dellarobia's in-laws' logging plans won't help. Readers who bristle at politics made personal may be turned off by the strength of Kingsolver's convictions, but she never reduces her characters to mouthpieces, giving equal weight to climate science and human need,

to forces both biological and biblical. Her concept of family encompasses all living beings, however ephemeral, and *Flight Behavior* gracefully, urgently contributes to the dialogue of survival on this swiftly tilting planet. --*Mari Malcolm*

Flight Behavior is available at both Warren County Library and Galesburg Public Library, as well as in e-book form.



On Monday, November 18th we will meet at Alice Lawson's to discuss The Girls of Atomic City by Denise Kiernan. This book is currently available at Hewes Library and at Galesburg Public Library and as an e-book. It will soon be available at Warren County Library as well.

Our fourth book will be *My Beloved World* by Sonja Sottomayer. We will set a date for discussing this autobiography at our October branch meeting or at the October book group meeting.

We have lively discussions and good treats, and we are looking for new members to join us.



## Membership *Marilyn Van Ausdall*

### Welcome New Members!

Thanks so much to those who brought guests to our September meeting at Market Alley Wines. Bringing someone new to one of our meetings is the best way to introduce AAUW to her and gives her (or him!) a chance to hear from you what our 132-year-old organization is all about. Our October meeting at Olivia's on the 24<sup>th</sup> at

5:00 will be another Cocktails and Conversation event. Any guests who join that evening will again be offered the special Share the Future discounted rate of \$39. Contact information for all of our members, including those listed below, can be found on our branch website.

**Stacy Cordery** actually joined before our first meeting, but she was responsible for bringing one of our guests who joined that night! Stacy was busy recording a spot for C-SPAN in D.C. when I contacted her for a bio for our September newsletter, so we agreed to put it off until this month. Stacy earned her PhD from the University of Texas, and is Chair of the History Department at Monmouth College. She describes herself as an historical biographer, and a wonderful one she is, proven by her books about Theodore Roosevelt, Alice Roosevelt Longworth, and most recently Juliette Gordon Low. Stacy has done some wonderful programs for our branch, and now we're thrilled to have her as a member.

**Christine Myers** was Stacy's guest in September. Christine is a visiting assistant professor in the History Department at Monmouth College. She has been at M.C. since last year, and also worked there for one semester in 2001. After receiving a B.A. at Cornell College, her M.A. was issued jointly by Central Michigan University and the University of Strathclyde in Scotland. Her PhD is from the University of Strathclyde. Her book, University Coeducation in the Victorian Era: Inclusion in the United States and the United Kingdom, was published in 2010, and is an expansion of her PhD research on the admission of women to state-supported male universities. Great to have you, Christine!

**Bridget Draxler**, invited by Jan DeYoung, started working in the English Department at Monmouth College two years ago. She is Coordinator of Communication Across the Curriculum, in which capacity she is in charge of the Writing Center. Bridget loves to travel, which might explain why, after earning her B.A. in English at St. Olaf College, she studied for her M.A. at the University of York in England, returning to the states for her PhD in 18<sup>th</sup> Century British Literature from the University of Iowa. So glad you chose to join us, Bridget!

My friend for over 30 years, **Vicki Gladfelter**, was our first new member to join at the September meeting, thanks to the impressive list of our programs for the year provided to her by our own Lila Blum. Vicki earned her B.S. at Illinois State and recently retired after 34 years in elementary education with the Aledo School District (her home town schools) and concluding with the Mercer County School District after consolidation with Westmer. Mercer County's great loss to education is our substantial gain. Welcome, Vicki!

Also joining our branch again is **Peggy Watson**. Stay tuned for more information about Peggy in our November newsletter.

## The F Word (that would be Fundraising...)

*Marilyn Van Ausdall*

You'll see at our October meeting what other AAUW branches are doing for women and girls in their communities. I hope we'll have some time to begin discussing new possibilities for our branch, but first we need Funds! You'll no doubt be receiving information about our annual RADA fundraiser, but only a few of our members seem to participate in this. It would be great if every member attempted to sell at least one item to at least one person. Every little bit helps.

On Saturday, November 23, a few of us will be working a table our branch has reserved at the VFW in Monmouth for the Warren County Home Extension annual Craft Fair. We will be selling beautiful, hand-crafted jewelry made by women in the Acholi Quarter of Uganda who have been displaced from their homes due to Joseph Kony's LRA (Lord's Resistance Army.)

It would be wonderful if all branch members could stop by and/or spread the word to others about the event. This is a new fundraiser for us, but more importantly, all purchases will help provide education to both these women and their children and assist them in establishing business opportunities to promote

economic stability and sustainability. Please put November 23<sup>rd</sup> on your calendars!

I also recently came across a fundraising idea involving Farmer's Almanac products. As with the Ugandan jewelry, we would be able to keep 40% of our sales. Here is a link describing products available for sale: [http://www.almanac.com/sites/new.almanac.com/files/2013\\_fall\\_fund-raising-booklet\\_3mb.pdf](http://www.almanac.com/sites/new.almanac.com/files/2013_fall_fund-raising-booklet_3mb.pdf). Would some of you be more interested in selling any of these things if not the RADA products? (New members can check out <http://www.radacutlery.com> for comparison purposes.)

I'm also open to any other fundraising ideas!



## Finance Report

*Shirley Daddona*

Checking      \$367.68 (\$467.68-\$100.00)

The liability insurance for the year has been paid --- \$228.00

NEW MEMBERS ---- We have 4 new members from the September meeting.



## Missing!

Do you have any Monmouth AAUW files stashed away in a closet or your attic, perhaps from a time when you served as branch president, secretary, or treasurer? We are looking for old minutes, treasurer's reports, agendas, articles, membership/program booklets, and things like that.

If you can find any of these artifacts in your home, please let Jan or Marilyn know. One of us will happily pick up these treasures and get them out of your way. It is important for us to preserve our branch's history, and we are missing some important documentation. We'd be thrilled to fill in some of the gaps!

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

**Association Web site:** [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

**AAUW-Illinois Web site:**

<http://aauw-il.aauw.net/>

**Monmouth Branch Web site:**

<http://monmoutharea-il.aauw.net/>

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