

October 2016

*Celebrating 92 Years of AAUW in Monmouth!*

## Presidents' Report

*Jan DeYoung co-president*

### Voter Turnout in Presidential Elections

Monmouth Branch of AAUW did our bit in attempting to improve voter turnout in Warren County. Although we didn't get the numbers we had in previous years, we did manage to get about 25 people registered at Monmouth College, including one new faculty member and a 50-year-old volunteer who has never voted. Since Tina Conard, County Clerk, and her staff have been available at the college every Tuesday since September and will continue through November 1<sup>st</sup>, it is not surprising that we didn't attract a large number at the Volunteer Fair, though we did get a picture and a mention in the Review-Atlas. We snagged only three people at Jamieson Center, two of them college students, when we attended their pumpkin painting event. Still, the contact with Jamieson Center and director Nancy Mowen, could lead to a productive relationship in other ways. Mr. Melton at Monmouth-Roseville High School did not respond to my call or email, offering to come to the school and register seniors.

AAUW is working hard to improve voter turnout, which is dismal in America. In 2012, in spite of \$6 Billion spent on campaigns and eight million more eligible voters, turnout actually FELL from 62.3% in 2008 to 57.5% in 2012, lower than the 60.4% in 2004 but higher than 200's 54.2%. In 2008, there were 131 million voters who turned out; in 2012, only 126 million Americans voted. 93 million eligible voters did not vote in 2012! Turnout increased in only two states, Iowa and Louisiana. Compare this with Belgium, with an 87% turnout, Turkey at 84.3, or Sweden, at 82.6%. It should be noted that voting is compulsory in both Belgium and Turkey.

It is also interesting to note who votes. According to Policy.mic, of those who earn more than \$150,000, turnout is 52%, compared with 25% of those earning

less than \$10,000. Of people between the ages of 18 and 24 earning less than \$24,000, turnout was 12%! People over 65, earning more than \$150,000, voted at a 65% level. And yet young people who don't vote are in favor of increasing government services and spending, spending on the poor, guaranteeing jobs and a standard of living, and a reduction of inequality. Only 22% of voters over 65 support such programs.

I know all of you will vote, but maybe you want to make a phone call or send an email to someone in the Millennial age group and urge her/him to vote!



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## **AAUW October 19, 2016 Program**

*P. Joan Larsen*

### **Trends in Women's Health**

Jenna Link is a graduate of Culver Stockton College with a BS in Biology and Psychology. After teaching for Quincy Public Schools, she started her career in public health with both Henderson and Mercer County Health Departments working in Environmental Health and Emergency Preparedness. In 2007, she was given the opportunity to become the administrator for the Warren County Health Department where she has spent the last ten years developing programs that address many of the community's public health needs. In addition to her public health roles, Jenna is an IEPA certified water operator for the villages of Oquawka and Gladstone where she ensures water quality and compliance with drinking water standards. In recent months, she has started teaching indoor cycling at the Warren County YMCA.

Jenna remains engaged with the community by serving on boards for Galesburg Hospital Ambulance Service, Warren County YMCA, Western Illinois Fatality Review Team, and Warren Achievement Center Human Rights Committee.

In her free time, Jenna enjoys spending time with her family, reading, gardening, exercising and volunteering at Rainbow Riders.



## **Public Policy**

*Lila Blum*

This is a news release submitted to local papers which reports our recent program on sexual harassment with the Monmouth College Title IX Coordinator. We have since seen this issue explode in the national news during the presidential campaign. Women are speaking out and, at last, more people are becoming educated on this topic.

### **NEWS RELEASE NEWS RELEASE**

### **NEWS RELEASE**

**October 5, 2016**

**Monmouth Area Branch AAUW**

**Lila Blum, Program Co-Chair**

**Stephanie Kincaid, Title IX Coordinator, presented "What's it all About? What Monmouth College is Doing About Discrimination and Sexual Harassment, On and Off Campus" in a program sponsored by the Monmouth Area Branch AAUW held on September 26, 2016 on the Monmouth campus.**

**Kincaid outlined the college's comprehensive plan to adhere to Title IX guidelines which involves establishing procedures for reporting crimes, guaranteeing victims' enhanced rights, and maintaining standards for conducting proceedings with the victim or "reporter" and the "respondent."**

**The Monmouth plan also includes providing community-wide prevention education programs for students, faculty, and staff. In this regard, the college seeks to create an atmosphere of respect in which friends protect friends, particularly in social situations where an individual might not exercise the best judgment. In the case of students who suffer sexual assault, the program emphasizes no victim-blaming. The campus education program, which is on-going, extends to residence halls, sororities, fraternities, athletes, coaches, faculty, and staff.**

AAUW statistics reveal that one in five women students will experience rape or sexual assault while in college. Sexual assault prevention is a high priority on the Monmouth College campus. For more information about Monmouth College's sexual assault policies, visit the Monmouth College website at [www.monmouthcollege.edu](http://www.monmouthcollege.edu) and type "sexual assault" in the search box.

## Treasurer's Report

Shirley Daddona

No change since last month.



## Film Group

Nancy Buban  
October 24, 2016

Film group will meet at 207 S. Eighth on Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, to view "Suffragette." Directed by Sarah Gavron and written by Abi Morgan, this film shows a fictional adaptation of the Suffragette movement in the UK in the years 1912 and 1913. Full women's suffrage was not achieved in the UK until 1928. The corn will be popped so please join us at 6:30.



## ¡Adelante! Book Group

Jan DeYoung

On Monday, October 17th, at 1:00, book group will be discussing "Brain on Fire: My Month of Madness," by

Susannah Cahalan, at Geneen Gillen's home, 161 210th Avenue.

Here's what Amazon.com says about the book: "In a swift and breathtaking narrative, Susannah tells the astonishing true story of her descent into madness, her family's inspiring faith in her, and the lifesaving diagnosis that nearly didn't happen. "A fascinating look at the disease that...could have cost this vibrant, vital young woman her life" (*People*), *Brain on Fire* is an unforgettable exploration of memory and identity, faith and love, and a profoundly compelling tale of survival and perseverance that is destined to become a classic."

We'd love to have you join us!



## Membership

Susan Van Kirk

So many issues we read, talk, and hear about are occurring right now in the media. Helping girls with our GEMS program is coming up, more and more stories about sexual abuse on college campuses are in the news, and—no—I'm not even going to mention the political debates. (Pretend I didn't mention them.) We are right on the cutting edge with programs we sponsor, talks we attend, and actions that help get new voters registered around town.

When I consider the ideas above and the ways we can make a difference, I think we have a lot to offer women and girls in our area. If you know someone who isn't in our AAUW chapter, but who might be interested in these kinds of topics, please bring her along as a guest to one of our programs. We're always on the lookout for new members, and we all need to make it happen!



## Condolences to Members...

Condolences to Kristyne Gilbert Bradford on the loss of her father and to Ruth Wright on the loss of her brother.

## Meet our newest Member, Kristyne Gilbert Bradford

*Marilyn Van Ausdall*

I'm extremely pleased to announce that Kristyne Gilbert Bradford, Executive Director of Buchanan Center for the Arts, has joined our branch! Kristyne lived for 11 years in Cameron, Illinois, before leaving for college and beyond. Her first teaching experience was in an outdoor school in Hellshire, Jamaica. She says that she has lived, worked and studied throughout the U.S., always curious and excited to learn and explore the next creative opportunity. She attributes her love for travel, exploration, and love of learning to her father, who spent many of the first years of his young adult life traveling, through his military service and his work.

Kristyne have been an artist and photographer for 20 years and served as an executive director for a non-profit, marketing director for several corporations, an arts educator, and an English instructor for Western Illinois University, prior to accepting and serving as the Executive Director for the Buchanan Center for the Arts since January 2015. She is also currently a lecturer at Monmouth College for the Theatre Department's Arts Management program.

Kristyne received her Bachelor's Degree at Monmouth College and her graduate degree in English at Western Illinois University. She is a graduate of the Illinois Governmental Internship Program, Leadership Greater Galesburg, a recipient of Knox County's Progressive Woman Award, Teacher of the Year for the English Graduate Program at Western Illinois University, and most recently served as the Advisory Editor of the 25th Anniversary of the Monmouth College Coil.

Kristyne has two children. Kelcey works and resides in Minneapolis. Kyle attends college and resides in Dahinda. She also says that she has an amazing yellow lab, Princess Grace Louise, who has been her wonderful companion for the last seven years.

We are so lucky to have Kristyne become part of our branch. Welcome, Kristyne!

## RADA FUNDRAISER

*Jan DeYoung*

Some of you have asked if we will sell RADA Cutlery again this year. The answer is Yes! This year we encourage you to order online for delivery directly to your home (delivery is pretty quick), but have catalogs available at the October meeting for those of you who prefer to look through a catalog, even if you order online. We will collect orders at the October meeting from those of you who prefer to order through the branch. Those orders will be ready for pickup at the November meeting. By the way, we really need someone to step up to handle these orders! It's pretty much a one-time commitment, collecting and placing orders, and sorting them when they arrive. If this is something you can do, please contact Marilyn or Jan.

We make a very good commission on RADA items, and it's an easy way to get a head start on your holiday shopping. In addition to the cutlery, the recipe books, and premixed bread, dip, and soup packages are also very popular. All RADA products make excellent gifts!



## Program Notes

*Lila Blum, Program Co-Chair*

**Wednesday, October 19, 2016 "Trends in Women's Health; Warren County Public Health Department,"** presentation by Jenna Link, Administrator, Warren County Public Health Department at the Warren County Health Dept., 240 South Main Street, Monmouth, IL at 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, November 5, 2016 "GEMS" Workshop (Girls in Excelling in Math and Science)** at Warren County Public Library, 60 Public Square, Monmouth, IL, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**Monday, November 21, 2016 "Political Compromise and Policy Change After the 2016 Election: the**

**Incentives for and the Limits to All-or-Nothing Politics,**” presentation by Janna Deitz, Professor of Political Science, Western Illinois University at the Center for Science & Business, Room 273, Monmouth College at 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, December 3, 2016      Holiday Brunch** at Holt House, 402 East First Ave., Monmouth, IL., 9:30 a.m.

**Tuesday, December 13, 2016      Talk & Book Signing for “Marry In Haste,” Endurance Series** with author Susan Van Kirk at the Warren County Public Library, 60 Public Square, Monmouth, IL, 6:30 p.m.



**Meeting Minutes**  
**AAUW Meeting Sept.26, 2016**  
*Geneen Gillen*

Marilyn Van Ausdall welcomed 19 members and 2 guests to the meeting held at the Center for Science and Business at Monmouth College. She introduced Kristyne Gilbert Bradford as our new member.

Geneen Gillen introduced the speaker for our program, Prevention of Harassment & Intolerance at Monmouth College. Stephanie Kinkaid, Title IX Coordinator of Monmouth College, discussed the policies and procedures of Monmouth College concerning sexual assault, harassment, stalking, sexual misconduct, and discrimination.

A short meeting followed the program. The minutes and treasurer’s reports are in the Initiative. Email Sharon Gilbert if you are not receiving the Initiative. The deadline for information for the October issue is Friday, October 14.

Condolences were extended to Ruth Wright on the loss of her brother.

Marilyn Van Ausdall thanked Donna Sproston, Lila Blum, Alice Lawson, Joanie Larsen, and Sarah Hall for their help with Voter Registration. 25 new voters were registered at Monmouth College and 3 at Jamieson Center.

RADA catalogs were distributed. Marilyn asked that orders be returned to her by October 19<sup>th</sup>. She asked for volunteers to help place and distribute orders for the branch.

Book Group will be held at Geneen Gillen’s house, 161 210<sup>th</sup> Ave., Monmouth at 1:00. The book to be discussed is Brain On Fire by Susannah Cahalan.

Film Group will be October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at Nancy Buban’s house, 208 S. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Monmouth. The film, *Suffragettes*.

The AAUW Fall Conference is in Springfield, October 15<sup>th</sup>. Marilyn Van Ausdall, Jan DeYoung, and Donna Sproston are attending. Anyone else interested in going should find the registration form in the Link or online.

The GEMS Workshop at Warren County Public Library will be held Saturday, Nov. 5, 9:30-11:30. Flyers will go out this week to 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls at Monmouth/Roseville, United, and ICS. It's limited to 24 girls. AAUW volunteers are needed for the six stations.

Directories for 2016-2017 were handed out to members.

The meeting was adjourned.



November 1 is Latina Equal Pay Day: Latinas and Hispanic women earn 54 cents versus non-Hispanic white men.



**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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