

August 2017

Celebrating 92 Years of AAUW in Monmouth!

Presidents' Report

Alice Lawson & Geneen Gillen, co-presidents

Welcome to the AAUW Monmouth Area Branch 2017-2018 year! We are looking forward to our meetings because our program committee has been working hard to develop a variety of topics. There will be a panel discussion concerning public education, a program concerning the struggles and successes in nursing, a tour of the Monmouth YMCA to learn about healthy lifestyles for women, topics concerning Veterans Voices and a program about women in politics. These will be presented by community leaders and our own knowledgeable members.

To quote the AAUW magazine *Outlook*, "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research." The Monmouth Area branch will continue this goal by having the G.E.M.S. workshops and by sponsoring the Best of Show award in the Buchanan Center for the Arts Town and Country Art Show. Our Public Policy person, Jan DeYoung, will be keeping us up-to-date on the various state and national political topics.

Of course, we also have time to be social and get to know our members with a Kickoff Potluck, a Holiday Brunch, an End of the Year Potluck, Book Club, and Film Group.

We hope to see everyone at 6:00 pm on August 15th for the Kickoff Potluck at Kathy Lowe- Arthur's house, 405 N. 10th, Monmouth. Bring a prospective member and a dish to pass!



AAUW August 15, 2017 Program

Lila Blum
Kickoff Potluck

Please join us for our kickoff meeting on **Tuesday, August 15, at 6:00 p.m. at the the home of Kathy Lowe-Arthur, 405 North 10th St. in Monmouth.** This will be a potluck dinner so please bring a dish to share. Table service and drinks will be provided.

We'll hear from our new co-presidents, Geneen Gillen and Alice Lawson, as we start the new year and catch up on AAUW news. Our branch members have been busy preparing a roster of interesting and varied programs for the '17-18 year which we'll share with you.

Is there a date you can serve as a hostess? We'll need hostesses for the following events: Monday, November 20, 2017 at Buchanan Center, and Saturday, December 2, 2017 (the Holiday Brunch) at Holt House.

We'll look forward to seeing you on the 15th. Please bring a guest!



Inside this issue

President's Report	page 1
August Program.....	page 1
Public Policy	page 2
Treasurer's Report	page 2
Film Group	page 2
Book Group.....	page 3
Membership.....	page 3
Meeting Minutes.....	page 4
Mission Statement	page 4

Public Policy

Jan DeYoung

Women's Equality Day

This year Women's Equality Day will be celebrated on Saturday, August 26th. The date commemorates the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920, permitting women to vote legally in national elections for the first time. AAUW will be celebrating this 97th anniversary at the Newseum in Washington, D.C. Check the AAUW website for more information on this event.

However, as important as this Amendment is, we should remember that it did not give voting rights to all American women. State laws and racial discrimination continued to make it difficult, if not impossible, for women of color to participate. In 1956 Native American women finally gained the franchise. African American women were generally excluded until civil rights legislation in the 1960's made sure that they were able to vote, along with their husbands, brothers, fathers, and sons.

And in recent elections many people, including women and people of color and the poor, have found themselves locked out of the process through the proliferation of voter ID laws and other restrictions, such as making it more difficult to register, reducing hours of opening of polls and fewer opportunities to vote early or absentee. Other obstructions include strict photo ID requirements and difficulty in restoring voting rights to people with previous criminal convictions. In many cases, these restrictions affect women disproportionately.

Although voter fraud is very rare, fourteen states imposed new voting restrictions in 2016: Alabama, Alaska, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin! Many more changes are in the works. We need to stay vigilant to protect the rights that women and others gained after long years of hard work!



Women's Equality Day Display

Treasurer's Report

Shirley Daddona

Checking \$696.10 savings \$53.60 I will give a more detailed report at the meeting on Aug. 15.



Film Group

Nancy Buban

AAUW Film Group 2017-2018

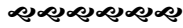
The Branch's Film Group will begin our eleventh year. We have viewed some excellent films throughout these years and hope to continue to do so.

The purpose of this group is to support films made by female screenwriters and/or directors, since women are statistically under-represented in creative positions in Hollywood. Monmouth Area AAUW members are proud to be supporters of WITASWAN, "an informal alliance of women who use their power as consumers to increase opportunities for women artists."

Films are watched the fourth Monday of the month from September through May. The film is always

announced in the **Initiative**, and a reminder is sent a few days before the film.

Please join us in viewing the films at 207 South Eighth Street. Starting in September the corn will be popped.



¡Adelante! Book Group

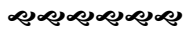
Jan DeYoung

A Man Called Ove by Frederik Backman

Thursday, August 31st at 1:00

Jan DeYoung's house 1101 E. Broadway

Check it out through Warren County Library online or in person or borrow it from another AAUW member! Geneen Gillen will loan her copy.



Membership

Marilyn Van Ausdall

Meet Our Newest Member

Hayley Hawthorne

Please join me in welcoming Hayley Hawthorne, who joined our branch in March. Hayley and her husband, Josh, moved to Monmouth just over a year ago and both teach at Monmouth College in the Communication Studies Department. Hayley qualifies to teach courses in political communication, communication theory, group and professional communication, argumentation, rhetoric, debate, persuasion, and gender & sexuality studies. For a few years in the mid 2000's, Hayley worked on political campaigns in CA, MA, and D.C.

Hayley earned her BA in political science at San Diego

State University, where she was on the policy debate team. She earned her MA in communication at San Francisco State University, and her PhD in communication, and graduate minor in women & gender studies, at University of Missouri-Columbia, where she also met Josh.

Last fall, Hayley spoke to a group of Monmouth College students and faculty who were gathered to watch the Sept. 26 Presidential Debate. Hayley's topic was presidential debates of the past. During her talk, Hayley predicted that this debate would draw the most viewers of any so far, which it did! During an interview with Barry McNamara at the college regarding her pre-debate presentation, Hayley said that everyone benefits from media literacy. "Media literacy is a core component of communication," she said. "We have an obligation to study that. How as faculty members can we teach it better? Even non-communication scholars need to improve their media literacy to be better citizens of a democratic society."

In honor of their son Cole's first birthday, Hayley and Josh organized a diaper drive for Jamieson Center in Monmouth, collecting more than 2000 diapers, as well as monetary donations, toilet paper, and baby wipes. According to Hayley, "...we want to build a tradition around his birthday of giving back to the community, and we look forward to his involvement in this tradition as he gets older."

Originally from Northern California, Hayley enjoys cooking, bodyboarding, snowboarding, camping, hiking, and traveling. Besides Cole, Hayley and her husband are parents of a now 2-month-old baby.

I'm sure you will agree with me that we are SO lucky to have Hayley and her family in our community. Welcome, Hayley!



Meeting Minutes

AAUW Meeting May 15, 2017

Geneen Gillen

A potluck was held at the Warren County History Museum before the final meeting of the 2016-2017 year.

President Jan DeYoung introduced the speaker for the evening, Kellen Hinrichsen, director of the Warren County History Museum. He spoke on the topic of Famous Women with Connections to Warren County.

President DeYoung called the meeting to order. She said that the minutes were in the Initiative and asked for additions or corrections. She thanked Geneen Gillen and Sharon Gilbert for their ongoing work.

Jan handed out directions for renewing our AAUW memberships online. She encouraged everyone to either renew online or send a \$68 check to Shirley Daddona at 453 ½ N. Pleasant Ave, Galesburg, IL 61401.

Jan encouraged everyone to vote for the National slate of AAUW officers online by going to our website.

The local slate of officers was read. They are co-presidents: Alice Lawson, Geneen Gillen; secretary: Joan Larson; co-vice president of membership: Marilyn VanAusdall, Sue VanKirk. Donna Sproston moved that the slate be accepted and Sharon Gilbert seconded. The motion passed.

Book Club- Geneen Gillen announced that the Book Club will meet on May 23rd at 1:00 at Jan DeYoung's house. The book Commonwealth will be discussed.

Film Group- Lila Blum announced that the movie *Whistle Blower* will be shown at 6:30 at Nancy Buban's house on May22.

Jan DeYoung announced that the executive board will meet on May 16 to discuss possible programs for next year. She asked the membership for program ideas.

Co-President Donna Sproston announced that branch member Janna Dietz's Ready to Run Illinois Workshop is sold out.

The members thanked Jan and Donna for their leadership for the past two years.

Geneen Gillen moved that the meeting be adjourned and Shirley Daddona seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

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

AAUW-Illinois Web site:

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

Monmouth Branch Web site:

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

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