

September 2017

*Celebrating 92 Years of AAUW in Monmouth!*

## Presidents' Report Peace

*Alice Lawson, co-president*

It's an ill wind that doesn't blow some good. The horrible activities in Charlottesville recently have awakened us all to the reality that Nazism, KKK, White Supremacists and all the other bottom feeders that are still out there. People of good faith are speaking out and I hope will continue to speak out and monitor the activities of these groups. We have freedom of speech, but that doesn't mean we can yell "fire" in a crowded theater and it doesn't mean we have to condone hate-mongering. From the Civil War to the present many good people in this world died fighting for freedom from oppression and many others died from that oppression. Let us never forget that.

As AAUW members we must call or write our legislators, local, state and federal, about issues that we either do or do not support. We must join local marches for Peace and we must let our young people see us standing up for what is right. They are our hope for the future.

Our first three AAUW meetings are dedicated to Peace in one way or another. In September we have Janna Deitz talking about women becoming more active as candidates for office. In October we have a panel who will discuss The Future of Education and in November we will have the veteran's perspective on combat and peace. I invite you all to participate in these interesting and edifying programs.

See you at the meetings.



## Presidents' Report *Geneen Gillen, co-president*

Getting the "word" out to others about our amazing AAUW organization is one of our prime goals this year! After scanning the AAUW Monmouth Area-IL Facebook page that Marilyn Van Ausdall has worked so tirelessly to keep current and interesting, I'm urging all members to view the page and share it on your own Facebook pages. Her latest post is about our upcoming September 20th program. Please invite a prospective member to come to the program! Remember both women and men may join AAUW. I hope to see all of our present and new members on September 20th at 7:00 p.m. at the Center for Science & Business, Room 273, Monmouth College!



## Monmouth Area (IL) Branch

### Inside this issue

President's Report .....	page 1
September Program .....	page 2
October Program .....	page 2
Public Policy .....	page 3
Treasurer's Report .....	page 3
Film Group .....	page 3
Book Group.....	page 4
Membership.....	page 4
Fall Conference.....	page 4
Meeting Minutes.....	page 5
Potluck pictures.....	page 6
Mission Statement .....	page 7

## AAUW September 20, 2017 Program

*Lila Blum*

### “We Can (Still) Do It: Women’s Activism and Candidacy Today”

Our branch member, Janna Deitz, Professor of Political Science and Director of Public Leadership & Outreach at Western Illinois University, explains, “Rosie the Riveter, iconic symbol of WWII, is an oft-cited historic expression of some answering the call to public service.

Might we be witnessing another call for women’s engagement today in public life? This talk will explore what we know about the current generation of women seeking elective office and public service. What compels women’s activism and candidacy today? What is needed for their success? We will discuss current research on this topic and profile women activists and candidates who exemplify these trends.”

In June, Janna hosted the second annual workshop for “Ready to Run Illinois,” a program designed to increase the number of women serving in public office by providing training for communication strategies, fundraising techniques, and identifying a clear purpose in running for office. The program, with 90 participants, was sold out one month prior to the event. (see [http://www.wiu.edu/news/newsrelease.php?release\\_id=14626](http://www.wiu.edu/news/newsrelease.php?release_id=14626)). Janna will provide an overview of this year’s “Ready to Run” as she describes the surge in women’s activism since the fall of 2016.

Janna’s research interests have been in congressional elections, legislative politics, women in politics, and campaign finance with a particular passion for the study of women’s underrepresentation in political office. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in political science at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, her Master of Public Affairs degree at Western Carolina University and her Ph.D. in political science from the University of Georgia.

Please join us on **Wednesday, September 20, in Room 272 of the Center for Science and Business at 7:00 p.m.** for a most enlightening presentation! (*See photo of Janna on page 6*)

## AAUW October 4, 2017 Program

*Jan DeYoung*

### The Future of Public Education

The program for our October meeting, to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 4, in Room 273 in the Monmouth College Center for Science and Business, is “The Future of Public Education.” We have four local educators from different aspects of education making up our panel, which will address such issues as school funding and other legislative issues, the Common Core and its effect on curriculum, ESSA, high stakes testing, STEM, Title IX, changing demographics, and charter schools/home schooling.

These women are our distinguished panel members:

Becky Ince, principal at Central Intermediate School and Monmouth-Roseville District Curriculum Coordinator. Becky is a graduate of Augustana College and has advanced degrees and certification from Western Illinois University. She taught and coached at Sherrard and Wethersfield before coming to Monmouth as a principal. Becky is “a passionate educator who is an advocate for all students.”

Tammy LaPrad, Assistant Professor of Educational Studies at Monmouth College, earned her BA at Michigan State and her MEd at the University of Virginia. She has an ESL endorsement and is currently completing an EdD at Western Illinois University. Her special interests are global education and school-community partnerships.

Denise Mann, science and math teacher in the Monmouth area, holds both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Western Illinois University. She is currently creating a new program supplementing science and math education in grades 4, 5, and 6 at Central Intermediate School. Denise loves teaching and building relationships with students.

Jodi Scott, Superintendent of Schools for Region 33, Henderson, Knox, Mercer, and Warren Counties. Her BS and two MS degrees are from Western Illinois University. She is currently a doctoral student at the University of Illinois. She has been a pre-K teacher and coordinator at West Central, moved into a consultant’s

position for the ROE, and was appointed Assistant Regional Superintendent in 2004, Regional Superintendent in 2007, and then was elected Regional Superintendent in the next election.

Providing the best possible education for all students is one of AAUW's highest priorities. This program promises to be informational and important to us.

Please come and bring a friend to this important meeting!

## **Public Policy** *Jan DeYoung* **School Finance Reform**

After a great deal of time and conflict, both houses of the Illinois General Assembly finally passed a school finance bill which was signed by Governor Rauner in mid-September.

The first revision in the state school aid formula in twenty years, this legislation provides \$350 million in new money, and it gives priority to school districts with poor property tax wealth.

As is true with all compromises, this bill has some good things and some bad things, depending upon your position.

Finally having a bill in place means that at least two delayed payments to school districts can finally be released. Jodi Scott will be able to give us more details at our October branch meeting. Be sure to be there to hear her and to ask questions!

One of the good things is that no school district will receive less in state funding than it got last year. The goal is to assist districts in achieving "adequacy" in education for their students, based on research on the districts' ability and effort to provide proper education for their students. Therefore, districts like Monmouth-Roseville and other districts in West Central Illinois, are expecting an increase in state aid payments.

One of the negatives, from our point of view, is \$75 million in tax credits to individuals and companies who donate up to \$1 million to help pay tuition for students to attend private schools. There is also a tax credit for families to help pay private school tuition. Although this is not a voucher plan, which the governor wanted and AAUW opposes, it is still a subsidy for private schools and can very easily widen the gap between wealthier and poorer students and their families.

Although the law does not provide relief from costly mandates, districts will have some flexibility in providing P.E. and outsourcing Driver Education.

Probably the best part of the bill is that funds will be released for much-needed state aid payments. It remains to be seen how quickly those checks arrive in superintendents' offices.

## **Treasurer's Report** *Shirley Daddona*

Checking \$602.60, Savings \$153.60, CD \$802.00

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## **Film Group** *Nancy Buban*



AAUW September 25, 2017 Film

On Monday, September, film group will view "Whistleblower," a 2010 film directed by Larysa Kondracki. The drama, based on the experiences of a police officer from Nebraska, is set in post-war Bosnia. Sent as a U.N. peacekeeper the main character uncovers a scandal involving human trafficking. We will meet at 6:30 at 207 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street. The corn will be popped.

AAUW October 23, 2017 Film is TBA at a later date.



## ¡Adelante! Book Group

*Marilyn Van Ausdall*

The book that will be discussed next is Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family by Amy Ellis Nutt, “The inspiring true story of a transgender girl, her identical twin brother, and an ordinary American family’s extraordinary journey to understand, nurture, and celebrate the uniqueness in us all, from the Pulitzer Prize–winning science reporter for *The Washington Post*.” [amazon.com] Becoming Nicole has garnered numerous awards: New York Times Bestseller, New York Times Notable Book, named one of the Ten Best Books of the Year by *People*, one of the Best Books of the Year by *Men’s Journal*, a Stonewall Honor Book in nonfiction, and finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for transgender nonfiction.

Book group will meet at Marilyn Van Ausdall’s home, 103 Lake Warren Dr, north of Monmouth, at 1:00 pm on Monday, October 16. If you would like to join us, and that time precludes you from doing so, let Marilyn know. The group is very flexible!



## Membership

*Marilyn Van Ausdall*

### Meet Our Newest Member

Please join me in welcoming Janis Mars Wunderlich, new art professor at Monmouth College. Perhaps some of you were able to meet Janis at our August kickoff potluck.

#### From the Monmouth College website:

“Considered to be a contemporary ceramic master, Janis Mars Wunderlich has been creating intricately

detailed ceramic sculpture for over 25 years while exhibiting extensively, teaching, and raising her 5 children. Her work has been included in hundreds of national and international publications and exhibitions, including CONFRONTATIONAL CLAY: THE ARTIST AS SOCIAL CRITIC, at the American Craft Museum in NY, NY, AMERICAN CONTEMPORARY CERAMICS, at the Taipei County Yingge Ceramics Museum, Taipei, Taiwan, and FORM AND IMAGINATION: WOMEN CERAMIC SCULPTORS, at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, CA. She is the recipient of multiple Virginia Groot Foundation, Ohio Arts Council, and Greater Columbus Arts Council Grants.”

According to Janis, the favorable faculty-to-student ratio at Monmouth College allows her to truly individualize classroom instruction, and to assist each student in creating meaningful and well-crafted works of art. According to Marilyn, Janis is already making her mark on the community art scene as a board member for the Buchanan Center for the Arts and as winner of the Ceramics Award at the current 64 Arts National Juried Exhibition at the BCA!

We’re so happy to have you in Monmouth, Janis! Welcome!



## AAUW Fall Conference

*Marilyn Van Ausdall*

Members from Districts 1, 2, and 3 will meet at the Lincoln Public Library in Springfield, 326 S. 7<sup>th</sup> St., on Saturday, October 14. The conference will be held in Carnegie Room North from 11 am – 3 pm. Attendees will hear from our state president, Sallie Miller. A panel of elected women officials will speak. Information about SB1 concerning school funding reform will be given and branches will share ideas for mission-based programs.

Here’s the information that was included in the state newsletter that should have hit your email Inbox on Aug. 30. (I used Method 1 below to sign up. Very slick.) Several of us branch members are already planning to attend. Come ride along and join the fun! It’s a great way to meet like-minded women from around the state.

**Registration Method 1:** Print out this page and complete the registration form. Scan it and save a copy, attach it to an email, and send it to the Carolyn Schjelderup, 11305 – 102<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Ct., Coal Valley, IL 61240. Then go to <https://aauw-il.aauw.net/district-conferences>, click on the PayPal button for the Southern 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 Carolyn Schjelderup (see above.)

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**REGISTRATION FOR SOUTHERN CONFERENCE**

**(October 14, 2017)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

There will be coffee available upon arrival, and lunch will be catered by Panera Bread featuring tea or lemonade and the ½ Sandwich, ½ Salad Box Lunch.

Please check your lunch choice:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Sierra Turkey + Classic Salad
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sierra Turkey + Caesar Salad
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ham & Swiss + Classic Salad
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ham & Swiss + Caesar Salad
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mediterranean Veggie + Classic Salad
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mediterranean Veggie + Caesar Salad



## Meeting Minutes

AAUW Meeting August 15, 2017

*P. Joan Larsen, Secretary*

AAUW Mission Statement:

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research

Members present: 19

Guests present: 4

Tammy LaPrad

Rebecca Eaton

Mary Osborne

Jamie Wunderlich

A potluck was enjoyed at the home of Kathy Lowe-Arthur.

Call to order at 6:53 pm by Alice Lawson, Co-President Moved and seconded to make corrections to minutes of last meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Shirley Daddona: Bank to be changed to F&M Bank in

Galesburg. Savings account: \$152.10; CD: \$802.00

Expenses: year book, Holt House

Liability Insurance \$530.10 paid

Motion moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report

Judy Diemer will be the new Treasurer

Membership Report: Marilyn VanAusdall – Membership information distributed

Members encouraged to join online.

Public Policy: Jan DeYoung – SB 1 information distributed and discussed.

AAUW Funds: Donna Sproston – Many grants available; variety of projects discussed.

Program Committee: Lila Blum – Program list for the year distributed. Some locations and Hostesses will be announced at a later date.

Book Group: Jan DeYoung/Nancy Buban - "A Man Called Ove" will be discussed at

1:00 pm, August 31, 2017. Book Group selections for the year distributed.

Film Group: Meets 4th Monday of the month. "Maudie" possibly coming

Discussion:

Licensing issues with the movie shown on Womens Equality Day

International Womens Day in March – be thinking of an activity

Peace Vigil – daily promotion of peace  
Fall Conference in Springfield on October 14, 2017  
2-Minute Activist discussed – go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) for  
more information  
Motion to adjourn – 7:52 pm.

## Pictures from the Kick-off Potluck



## In It for Life? Make It Official

Empower generations to come through your lifetime membership in AAUW! Join us or [upgrade your existing membership](#) today and receive a letter of recognition, a certificate, and a lapel pin that you can wear proudly knowing that you've put your values into action. Lifetime membership in AAUW is a one-time, fully tax-deductible gift of \$980. [Become a life member today!](#)



Janna Dietz

**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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