

April 2018

Celebrating 93 Years of AAUW in Monmouth!

President's Letter

Geneen Gillen, co-president

At our May meeting, we will have the opportunity to vote online for three bylaw changes. Please read the following from National and go to their web page for further explanation.

The AAUW National Board of Directors has voted to put three proposals for bylaws amendments before the membership for a vote this spring. The board strongly supports the proposed amendments that we believe will help keep AAUW vital as an organization and enable us to increase our impact in advancing equity for women and girls.

The proposed amendments address creating three-year staggered board terms, opening board service to those outside of the AAUW membership, and eliminating the degree requirement for membership. While rationale and details for each proposed amendment can be found on the AAUW website, the overarching motivation for these changes at this time is to uphold and advance AAUW's mission and ensure optimal execution at the national board level.

The first two proposals would bring AAUW's board governance structure more in line with nationally accepted nonprofit best practices and the needs of the organization. The third proposal — to eliminate the degree requirement for membership — has come before the membership for vote a number of times. The board feels strongly that while the degree requirement made perfect sense at AAUW's inception, this requirement is now perceived by many as counter to our mission and limits our ability to build the capacity needed to increase our impact as an organization.

The board recognizes that we have not traditionally put proposals up for vote outside our AAUW National Election, but these proposed changes have been under consideration for several years by both the Governance Committee and the board, and we believe it is

important to move forward without delay to position the organization for greater growth.

If, after reading the explanation on the AAUW National website, you have questions, we will discuss them at the April meeting.

Speaking of the April meeting, I'm so excited about our program topic, *More than an Occupation: A Journey through the Nursing Profession!* Please invite a friend (and future member?) who might be interested in learning about the profession of nursing. Carolyn Schjelderup, AAUW-IL's District 3 Director, will be attending the meeting so I hope to see all of our members there! It is Tuesday, April 17, at Monmouth College's Center for Science and Business, Room 273 at 7:00.



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April Program April 17, 7 p.m.

More than an Occupation: A Journey Through the Nursing Profession

P. Joan Larsen

At 7:00 pm at Monmouth College Center for Science & Business, Room 273, Carrie Green BSN, RN will present "More than an Occupation: A Journey Through the Nursing Profession". She is currently employed at the Warren County Health Department as the Community Health Coordinator. She obtained her AA at Longview Community College in Kansas City, Mo, and her BSN as well as her MSN from Graceland University in Independence, MO. Carrie's current certifications include:

Certified Nursing Assistant, Certified Medical Technician, ACLS certification, Oncology Nursing Society Certification, WIC/Family Case Management Certification, and CPR/AED certified. Carrie and her family live in Monmouth

According to Carrie, "Healthcare in the United States is changing rapidly, especially in rural America. As healthcare costs continue to rise, there is an increased need to find ways to combat the out-of-pocket cost for patients. Starting from a health occupations class in high school and continuing on to get my Master of Science Degree in Nursing, I will become a family nurse practitioner by early next year. While working in our local health department, I have seen an increased need for alternative avenues for healthcare, and have furthered my education to aid in overall preventative health and wellness for Monmouth.

May Program Reminder

On May 21, we will share a potluck at the Social Hall of Faith Presbyterian at 6 p.m. Sharon Gilbert will provide a portrayal of Margaret Sanger as a Woman in History.

Public Policy *Jan DeYoung*

70th anniversary of Declaration of Human Rights

2018 Marks the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

In 1945, AAUW, under the direction of Virginia Gildersleeve, PhD, was among 40 organizations from 50 countries which created the United Nations just after World War II. One of the documents to be produced by the UN is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Chaired by former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt, the Declaration Committee worked with the UN Commission on the Status of Women. One of AAUW's representatives on the committee Dorothy Kenyon, JD, committed to ensure that the rights of women and girls were included in the Declaration.

Article 26 asserts that the education of women and girls is a right, not a privilege, in the process of bringing about equal rights. This belief is the guiding principal for AAUW's awarding \$3.7 million dollars in fellowships each year.

Article 23 addresses the right to work in an environment free from sexual harassment and gender-based violence. This principal is part of the basis for the recent Me, Too! Movement. It is also the foundation of CEDAW, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and VAWA, the Violence Against Women Act.

The Declaration also supports Equal Pay for Equal Work.

While the Declaration of Human Rights is not legally binding, it does empower organizations and governments to continue to work toward a more safe and equitable world.

AAUW is and has been at the forefront of the effort to bring about equality for women and girls. You can be proud to be a member of such an organization!

April 10 is Equal Pay Day! Keep up the pressure on your representatives to enact legislation which will promote equal pay, and support companies which are dedicated to equality!

ERA Update

Jan DeYoung

There are marches today (April 10, Pay Equity Day) in Springfield and Chicago to put the pressure on our state legislators to vote for the ERA. Here's the scoop:

SJRCA4 (Senate Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment 4) was placed on the calendar on October 18, 2017--again! In the past two months six more members of the General Assembly have signed on as co-sponsors. None of our local legislators has stepped up, unfortunately!

In order to pass, a Constitutional Amendment requires a 3/5 vote of each house. If passed, it does not need to be signed by the Governor. The General Assembly session is scheduled to conclude May 31st.

Only two more states need to ratify the ERA in order for it to be sent to Congress. Nevada ratified the amendment in 2017. If Illinois manages to get SJRCA4 passed in this session, that will leave one more state to send it to Congress. The "expiration date" is only in the preamble, not in the body of the amendment, and there is precedent for extending those dates in order to pass an amendment. If you would like more information, please look at ERAIllinois.org or other websites.

Your job? Call or email Senator **Jil Tracy**, 217-782-2479; email her at senatortracy@adams.net; or snail mail her at M103A Capitol Building, Springfield, IL 62706.

For Representative **Randy Frese**, the number is 217-782-8096; email is repfrese@adams.net; snail mail 225N Stratton Office Building, Springfield, IL 62706.

For Norine Hammond, 217-782-0416; 203-N Stratton Building, Springfield, IL 62706

rephammond@macomb.com. Let this be the year!
And let it be said that we did our part!



¡Adelante! Book Group

Geneen Gillen/ Alice Lawson
NEA Big Read

The April AAUW Book Club will be a part of the NEA Big Read held at the Warren County Library on April 19 at 6:30 p.m. [The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears](#) by Dinah Mengestu will be discussed. Copies are available at the library.

The Warren County Library is need of many clean plastic milk jugs for their Igloo project. If you have any milk jugs, rinse them clean and take them to the Warren County Library.



AAUW Film Group

April 24, 2018

Nancy Buban

This month, film group will meet on a different day, at a different time and location. In conjunction with the Media Mix Exhibit at the Buchanan Center for the Arts we will be viewing the film "Who Does She Think She Is?" Directed by Pamela Tanner Boll and written by Boll, Nancy Kennedy and Will Dunning, this 2008 film features five women artists. Women artists have long had to choose between their art and motherhood/family responsibilities. This film asks the questions, why does one have to choose and what does one have to sacrifice? One of our newest members to AAUW, Janis Wunderlich, a professor of Ceramics at Monmouth College, is one of the five featured artists. This film was shown last month at the Smithsonian Art Museum in Washington, D.C. so it is a real treat for us to have a free screening.

Film group will not have to crowd into my TV room, as we will be viewing the film at the **Buchanan Center for the Arts**. This will be on **Tuesday, April 24th at 7:00 pm**. We hope that others who do not attend film group will join us.



New Branch Member

Marilyn Van Ausdall, Membership VP

Please join me in welcoming Rebecca Eaton to our branch. Rebecca graduated from Monmouth College in 2015 with a BA in history. She has worked at the Warren County Public Library since September of that year, where she started as a “shelver.” In July 2017, Rebecca was named Adult Services Librarian at WCPL.

Rebecca is originally from Bluffdale, Illinois, just outside of Gladstone. She graduated from West Central High School in 2011, but spent most of her teenage and young adult years in Burlington, Iowa. Rebecca worked and lived in Burlington with her husband for a year while they attended Monmouth College. They now live in Monmouth with their two children, Alexander and Emma, ages 4 and 2, where they love to play at the park and hold dance parties in their kitchen. They are lovers of Broadway and classical music, so much so that Alexander frequently asks if he can listen to cello music. His favorite song to sing is "My name is Alexander Eaton," morphed, of course, from the song "Alexander Hamilton" from the Broadway soundtrack of Hamilton. ☺

In Rebecca’s free time--when she gets those rare moments away from her young children – she enjoys reading, listening and dancing to music of all genres, and playing tennis. These days, however, Rebecca says that she’s a total nerd who loves anime and video gaming with her husband, Benjamin. Welcome, Rebecca!



Time to Renew!

Marilyn Van Ausdall

I’m sure you’ll agree with what Kendra Davis and Christy Jones from National wrote in the April Membership Matters email that was sent to branch officers: “It’s clear from today’s headlines that women and girls need AAUW now more than ever before. Your membership, leadership, and volunteerism move the needle closer to equity.”

I was happy to see that many of you have already renewed online. For those of you who haven’t, the following steps explain the process:

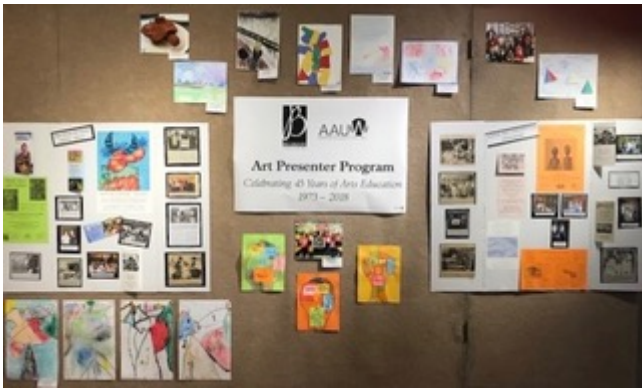
1. Click on Login at the top of the home page at aauw.org. If you’re a first-time user, click on Create Account. If you don’t have your member number, you can find it on the mailing label of your Outlook magazine, or you can look it up online by just entering your name, state, and zip code, OR ask me and I can look it up for you: 309-299-7822 or vanausdm@gmail.com.
2. Once you’re logged in, scroll down and click on Member Services Database at the bottom of the home page.
3. On the next page, click on Enter Member Services Database.
4. On the left-hand side, toward the bottom, click on Renew My Membership.
5. From there, you can print out a membership renewal notice and mail it in with a check, or you can just use a credit card to renew online.

Thank you for continuing to support AAUW!

45th Anniversary of the Art Presenter Program

Lila Blum

On March 14, 2018, at the OFTA meeting at Buchanan Center, the 45th anniversary of the Art Presenter Program was observed. The celebration took place during the annual Town & Country exhibition which features student art works from surrounding schools.



Two display boards at Buchanan Center celebrated the history of the AAUW Art Presenter Program, 1973 - 2013



Lila Blum presented, "The First 40 Years: The AAUW Art Presenter Program, 1973-2013"



Jonalyn Heaton, together with Amy McKenna, described the updating of the program, which has been under Buchanan Center management since 2013, to include the use of smart boards and the internet in the classrooms and the creation of the Art Presenter website where presenters and teachers can conveniently access schedules and program materials.



Community Program Note: *Kathy Lowe-Arthur*

The Warren County Historical Society is putting on a Magic Show at the museum on Saturday April 21, 2018 from 11-9. There is a cost for this program.



Sharon Gilbert and Carolyn Weber at a very cold School Safety March!



As a member of AAUW, you can take pride in the work you've made possible:

- **AAUW Work Smart is expanding to reach millions of women** from Massachusetts to California to help them negotiate for fair salaries.
- **270,000 messages went out to lawmakers last year** from AAUW members and supporters calling for stronger, safer laws for women and girls.
- **The gender pay gap will never be ignored again** thanks to AAUW's groundbreaking report *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap*.
- **You're standing with survivors in the critical #MeToo movement** by making sure AAUW is poised to defend women of all backgrounds from sexual harassment and assault through legal advocacy and public policy progress.
- **As a member, you're inspiring thousands** of up-and-coming women leaders on campus.

***Renew today and
move forward with us.
There's a whole world
of women and girls
relying on your support!***



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/>