

October 2018

Celebrating 94 Years of AAUW in Monmouth!

Presidents' Report

*Geneen Gillen, co-president
(Reprinted, in case you missed it)*

I feel as though I should be writing, "Welcome Back", since this will be our second large group meeting of the year. I'm encouraging everyone to spread the word about our October 24th meeting with the program "The Future of Public Education: Local and National Initiatives to Address Rural Teacher Shortages". We will meet at the Monmouth College Center for Science and Business in room 100 at 7:00 pm to listen to the panel consisting of Gary Funk, Director of Rural Schools Collaborative, Toby Vallas, Director of Student Services for the Farmington Central School District, and Tammy La Prad, Asst. Professor of Monmouth College Education Studies Department. We are co-sponsoring the program with Monmouth College's Educational Studies Department. Judy Griffin, AAUW's Director of District 3, will be in attendance.

Thank you, thank you to the many people who have been working for AAUW during September! A large group of members registered Monmouth College students and faculty to vote in the November election. Another group met with Monmouth College education students to coordinate our GEMS program with girls at Central Intermediate School. I'm looking forward to updates from these groups on the progress they have made!

Marilyn Van Ausdall continues to keep our website full of information about our upcoming events. Please check the website for times and places to join in on all of our activities!



**One AAUW. One Mission.
One Fund.**

There are many pieces to AAUW, and each one drives the others to create the organization we know and love. Gifts to the AAUW Fund support all these focus areas and allow AAUW to create and expand our renowned research, mission-based programs, and advocacy initiatives that tackle challenges facing women and girls. See page 5 for further information.



We empower women. You can help.
www.aauw.org/give

Inside this issue

President's Report.....	page 1
One Fund	page 1
October Program	page 2
Public Policy	page 2
GEMS Group	page 3
Film Group.....	page 4
Book Group.....	page 5
AAUW Fund.....	page 5

AAUW October 24, Program

Michelle Holschuh Simmons

Panel on Rural Teacher Shortage

On Wednesday, October 24, 2018, at 7:00 PM in the Center for Science and Business Room 100,, Pattee Auditorium on the Monmouth College campus, we will have a panel discussion about the rural teacher shortage. Co-sponsored by the Monmouth Branch of AAUW and the Department of Educational Studies at Monmouth College, the title of the panel is "Future of Public Education Panel: Local and National Initiatives to Address Rural Teacher Shortages." Panelists will include Gary Funk from the Rural Schools Collaborative

(<http://ruralschoolscollaborative.org/profiles/gary-funk-sixteenth-section-llc>) to represent national initiatives, Toby Vallas from the Farmington School District to represent an administrator's perspective on the teacher shortage, branch member Tammy La Prad to explain the Monmouth College TARTANS program intended to recruit and retain teacher leaders in rural schools, and Kylee Payne to represent the student perspective in the TARTANS program. Michelle Holschuh Simmons will be moderating. This promises to be a stimulating discussion about a pressing local and national issue, and we hope to see you there! For questions about the event, please contact Michelle Holschuh Simmons at msimmons@monmouthcollege.edu.



Public Policy

Jan DeYoung

Voter Registration at Monmouth College

A big thank you to our team of deputy registrars, who registered a total of 67 new and transferred voters at our three events on the Monmouth College campus during September! Branch members who got students and new faculty member to sign on the dotted line were these: Lila Blum (2 sessions), Carol Bowman, Nancy Buban, Laura Hutchinson, Alice Lawson (3), Mary Osborne, Donna Sproston, Marilyn Van Ausdall, Carolyn Weber, and Ruth Wright. We were also able to answer many questions about absentee voting, early voting, where to vote in Monmouth, and whether there would be transportation to the polls available. It was interesting but discouraging to find that several students, mainly young men this time, turned us down flat! We were able to persuade a few, but some were determined not to participate in this important process!

Emma Hildebrand wrote a lovely article for the Monmouth College "Courier" about the importance of voting and included some good information which she gleaned from an interview and from our branch website, as well as a photo of Lila Blum promoting our table. Thank you, Emma!

Pictures from three registration days!



GEMS Programs

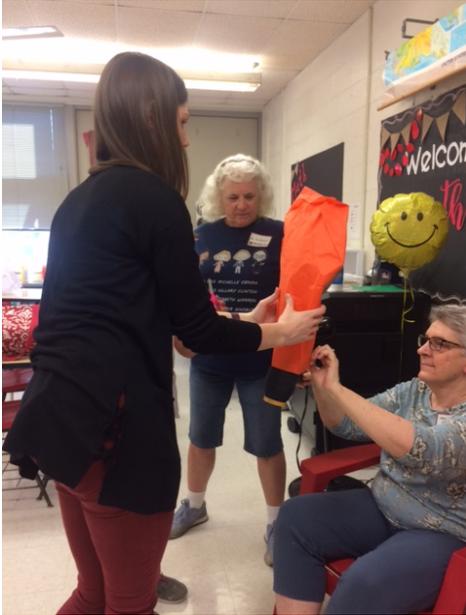
Jan DeYoung

GEMS Activities Continue at Central Intermediate School

Although we have a disappointing number of young participants (only four girls), all three age groups are enjoying the GEMS activities as a part of the after-school program at Central. In September we made hot air balloons, and in October we built towers using marshmallows and spaghetti. The four young girls are having fun engaging in the activities and interacting with the five college women and our members for about an hour the second Tuesday of each month during the fall semester.

AAUW branch members participating thus far, including new member and our leader, Tammy La Prad, who teaches the Elementary Science Methods class at the college, are Sarah Hall, Alice Lawson, Donna Sproston, Marilyn Van Ausdall, Jan DeYoung, and prospective member Denise Mann. Thank you to you all!

We have a full crew signed up for November 13 and December 11. If we are able to continue the collaboration in the spring semester with Social Studies and you'd like to join us, please let me know.



Treasurer's Report

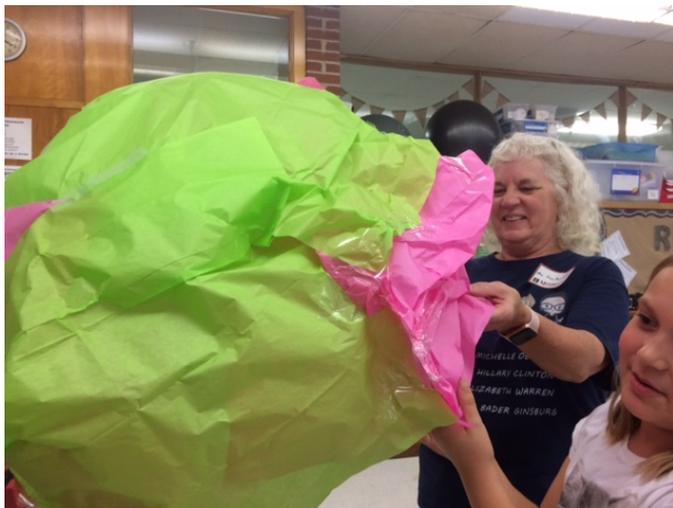
Shirley Daddona



Film Group

Nancy Buban
October 22, 2018

On Monday, October 22nd at 6:30, Film Group will view the 2017 film, "Woman Walks Ahead." This film, directed by Susanna White and written by Steven Knight, is a bio-pic based on true events. Catherine Weldon, an artist from New York, traveled to North Dakota in the 1880's to paint a portrait of Chief Sitting Bull. The United States Army is stationed around the Lakota reservation to undermine Native American claims to the land. The film is a bit over romanticized but still is an interesting look at history with which many of us may not be familiar. Popcorn will be popped at 207 S. 8th.





¡Adelante! Book Group

Jan DeYoung

Our Adelante! book group will meet on Monday, October 22 at 1:00 p.m. at Jan DeYoung’s home, 1101 East Broadway, to discuss Infiel by Ayaan Hirsi Ali. This fascinating book “traces the author’s geographical journey from Mogadishu to Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, and Kenya, and her desperate flight to the Netherlands to escape an arranged marriage.” The blurb on the back of the book says, “Ultimately a celebration of triumph over adversity, Hirsi Ali’s story tells how a bright little girl evolves out of dutiful obedience to become an outspoken, pioneering freedom fighter. As Western governments struggle to balance democratic ideas with religious pressures, no other book could be more timely or more significant.” Come join the discussion!



The AAUW Fund

Donna Sproston

What is the AAUW Fund? The AAUW Fund is the recipient of all our **unrestricted** contributions.

Aren’t my dues enough to sustain AAUW? Our dues pay only 30% of the funds necessary to support AAUW programming efforts, so branch and individual donations to the AAUW Fund are vital. Our national membership numbers have remained stable, but the cost of doing business continues to go up. That makes individual and corporate contributions an increasingly important part of the funding puzzle.

Can I still contribute to a specific fund such as LAF? Yes, there are funds for specific projects such as the Legal Advocacy Fund which helps with case support for sexual harassment lawsuits, but contributions earmarked for a specific fund are **restricted** and can

only be used for the designated fund. Contributions to the AAUW Fund are used where they are most needed.

Is my contribution tax deductible? Yes, it is tax deductible whether it is to the AAUW Fund or to any of the restricted funds.

How do I contribute? Go to www.aauw.org and click on the Donate button. It is very easy. There is also information on Legacy Circle for those members wishing to contribute through planned giving.

Does our branch raise funds for contributions? Our on-line Rada products promotion and our annual holiday brunch raise money, but our share of these branch efforts is not tax deductible.



A couple more pictures from Voter Registration!





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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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.

