

December 2018

Celebrating 94 Years of AAUW in Monmouth!

AAUW Turns 137 **November 28** *Marilyn Van Ausdall*

On November 28, 1881, Marion Talbot, then a recent graduate from Boston University, and Ellen Swallow Richards, the first woman graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, invited 15 alumnae from eight colleges to a meeting in Boston. Discouraged by the lack of opportunities available to them, the women discussed how they would join together to help other women attend college and to assist those who had already graduated.

At the November 28 meeting, one graduate from each of the eight represented colleges was chosen for a committee to move toward the next step. So a few weeks later, on January 14, 1882, 65 women college graduates met and officially formed the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, the predecessor to AAUW, to "unite in practical educational work."

AAUW has accomplished much in the last 137 years. Here's to at least 137 more!



December Brunch *Michelle Simmons-Holschuh*

Our Christmas Brunch this year is Saturday, Dec. 1, at 9:30 AM at the Holt House, 402 E. 1st Ave. in Monmouth. This is a great opportunity before the holiday rush to visit with old friends, make new ones, and enjoy delicious food.

The cost will be \$10, with all proceeds going to support AAUW's work. More information about the AAUW fundraising efforts can be found at <https://ww2.aauw.org/donate-gifts/>. Table decorations made by branch member Donna Sproston will also be sold to raise funds for AAUW, so bring your checkbook!

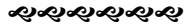
This is a perfect time to invite guests to come and learn more about AAUW, too. Please let Michelle Holschuh Simmons know by Tuesday, Nov. 27 if you're able to attend the brunch and how many guests you might be bringing. Michelle can be reached at michelle.h.simmons@gmail.com.

We hope to see you on December 1st!



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Public Policy

Jan De Young

HB4163, the Equal Pay Wage History Act was placed on the House calendar for the Fall Veto Session this week. Please call Randy Frese (217-782-8096 or repfrese@adams.net); or Norine Hammond (217-782-0416 or rephammond@macomb.com); whichever is your representative, and Jil Tracy, our senator, (217-782-2479 or senatortracy@adams.net), to urge them to vote to override Governor Rauner's veto. As of last spring, none of our representatives was in favor of the override, but we need to keep letting them know that we are following this bill and expect them to support equal pay. The requirement to reveal past salaries negatively affects women disproportionately when they apply for jobs because of the cumulative effect of wage discrimination.

Amy Walter will speak at Monmouth College

Don't forget to go to the Wells Theatre to hear Amy Walter, of the Cook Report and Politics Monday on PBS, Tuesday, November 27 at 7:00 p.m. According to the news release, she will "dissect and deconstruct the meaning of the recent midterm elections." Her appearance is a real coup for Monmouth College!



Individual Contributions to AAUW

Donna Sproston

AAUW encourages all branches and members to designate contributions to the AAUW Fund, a general fund for unrestricted gifts to be used when and where they are needed. Members may give to AAUW at aauw.org, and the gift is tax deductible. There are options for an unrestricted gift or a menu of restricted funds from which to choose.

Members may also choose to support AAUW's lobbying effort through our on-line Action Fund. However, it is not tax deductible.



Monmouth Area Branch Contributions to AAUW

Donna Sproston

The branch makes an annual contribution to AAUW, raising funds with our holiday brunch and our Rada cutlery sales. This collective contribution is not tax deductible. Because AAUW has requested consideration of unrestricted gifts, the profits from this year's brunch will be sent to the AAUW Fund. Traditionally our brunch contribution has been designated for the Legal Advocacy Fund. However, LAF is currently well-funded.



Legal Advocacy Fund at Work

Donna Sproston

LAF provides financial assistance for case support (not legal fees) and moral support through the filing of amicus briefs in cases involving gender discrimination. One current case involves four young women who were sexually assaulted while students at Michigan State University. The case addresses the failure of the university to follow Title IX guidelines. Another case addresses the interpretation of the Equal Pay Act of 1963 (EPA). Two female physicians working in the emergency department at a veterans' facility in Little Rock, AR, had their salary frozen while male colleagues in the same department received wage increases. Details of these and the many cases LAF has supported through the years can be found at aauw.org.



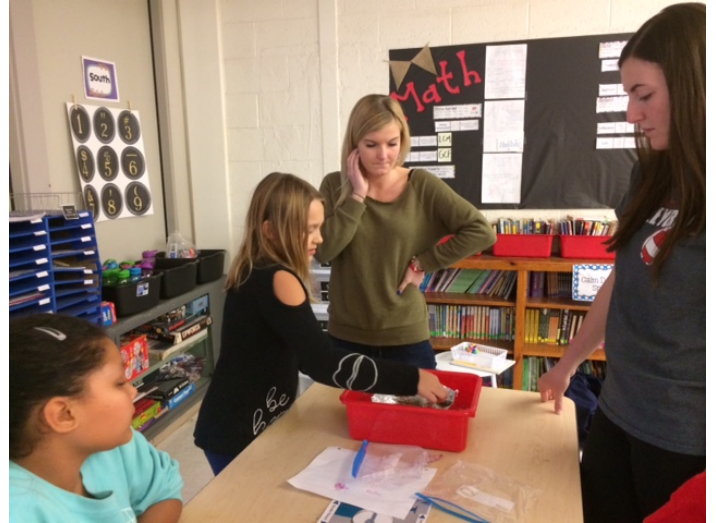
GEMS Workshops, continued

Jan De Young

Four branch members enjoyed working with the intermediate school girls and the college women on Tuesday, November 13 to construct and test the floating capacity of small boats. The girls engaged enthusiastically with this activity, as you can see in the photographs.

Our final workshop will be held on Tuesday, December 11. Branch members who are signed up are Vicki Gladfelter, Geneen Gillen, Denise Mann, Donna Sproston, Marilyn Van Ausdall, and Jan DeYoung. Since the college women will be taking final exams that day, it's a good thing that we have a full team of branch members. Donna Sproston has selected the activities and will lead the stations, focusing on probability.

We thank Tammy LaPrad for the opportunity to participate in this tri-level experience! It's been fun and productive for all three age groups!



Treasurer's Report

(See previous newsletter.)



¡Adelante! Book Group

Jan DeYoung

Discussion regarding Free Food for Millionaires, originally our January selection, was postponed due to weather. Stay tuned!



Membership Matters

Marilyn Van Ausdall

Giving Tuesday

November 27

Remember AAUW on November 27, too! "The AAUW Fund is a general fund for unrestricted gifts, which are used when and where they are most needed. This prevents overfunded and underfunded areas that keep AAUW from reaching our full mission potential. By donating to the AAUW Fund, you are helping incubate and grow our highly successful, community-based, mission-driven programs, such as Tech Trek and Tech Savvy, Start Smart and Work Smart, the Legal Advocacy Fund, the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, research, and other initiatives."

You can donate online by going to <https://ww2.aauw.org/donate-gift-new/>. Entering your member number makes for a faster checkout. Contact Marilyn if you don't know your member number: mvanausd@nova1net.com. Just as with the money we send in from our Rada fundraiser, our branch will receive credit for your donation when you use your member number when donating. Thank you!



RADA!

This is the time of year when we make the big push to sell Rada Cutlery. It's our one major fundraiser of the year, and we really need everyone to take part. Several members took catalogs at our meeting last Monday, and I hope the catalogs got circulated at Thanksgiving gatherings and are continuing to be shown to friends and relatives. Catalog orders can be given to me at the brunch on Saturday. Since Rada is located next door to us in Waverly, Iowa, we'll have the ordered items in our hands very quickly. Rada products make wonderful Christmas gifts!

Ordering online is easy, too. Just click on this link and your order automatically helps our branch:
<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=859058.6fd90c>

Please help us in this fundraiser!



A Big Thank You to Rebecca!

About sixteen members enjoyed a fine presentation on library services at Warren County Library on Monday night, November 19. Rebecca Eaton, one of our own branch members, shared some websites and other resources to enhance our library experiences. She also explained how Libby works for access to ebooks. We thank her and wish her well in her new position in the library at Carl Sandburg College. We will miss her smiling face at WCPL, however!



Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision

Equity for all.

Values

Nonpartisan.

Fact-based.

Integrity.

Inclusion and Intersectionality.

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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