

November 2019

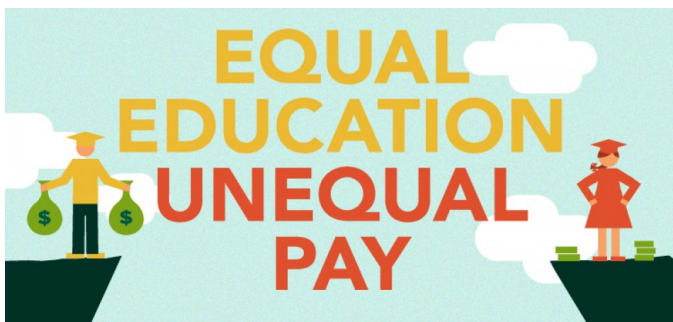
*Celebrating 95 Years of AAUW in Monmouth!*

## Presidents' Report

*Mary Osborne, president*

We have many milestones to celebrate in November. On the 4th, our branch turns ninety-five years old! I'm thankful for such women as Eva Louise Barr and Emma Gibson who worked tirelessly to help found our branch. November was also a momentous time for the entire organization, for the group which preceded AAUW held its first organizational meeting on November 28, 1881. We owe a great deal to our predecessors, but I am also grateful for the indefatigable spirit of our active members. There is much work ahead of us. For example, the gender pay gap remains unchanged. Women still make only 82 cents on the dollar compared to men, and based on historic rates, this gap will not close until 2093. Furthermore, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) will cease collecting salary data from employers after receiving a court order, hindering our efforts to study this problem.

It may not be an election year, but we can still educate ourselves on the presidential candidates and their stance on women's issues. Our next program is opportunity to do just that. Please join us on November 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Center for Science and Business Lecture Hall 273 to hear Professor Robin Johnson's presentation on elections and presidential candidates.



## December Brunch

*Donna Sproston*

Our annual holiday brunch on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m. at Holt House is our major branch fund raiser. Cost is \$10. There will be quilted candle mats for purchase too. All proceeds go to our branch donation. Guests are welcome. Let's pack Holt House.



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## **AAUW November 12, 2019 Program**

*Michelle Holschuh Simmons*  
**Robin Johnson**

Robin Johnson from the Political Science Department at Monmouth College will be speaking on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, at 7:00 PM at Monmouth College in the Center for Science and Business (CSB) room 273. The title of his talk will be "Iowa Caucuses 2020." As members of AAUW know, Robin is a knowledgeable and engaging speaker about politics in the Midwest. Please plan to be there, and bring a friend!

## **Supporting AAUW —AAUW Funds**

*Donna Sproston*

Thanks to Marilyn Van Ausdall's skillful maintenance of our branch webpage (Google AAUW Monmouth Area Branch!) it is very easy to order Rada products, all made in the USA. Marilyn has been distributing catalogs, but you can also follow the link in the banner of our web page and order directly from Rada's online catalog. Our branch has been ordering Rada products for well over twenty years, and it is an easy way to support the branch's annual contribution.

Our annual holiday branch on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m. at Holt House is our major branch fund raiser. Cost is \$10. There will be quilted candle mats for purchase too. All proceeds go to our branch donation. Guests are welcome. Let's pack Holt House.

Besides the various solicitation letters from AAUW throughout the year, there is a Donate button on the organization website [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). Our national dues cover only about 30% of our operating costs and donations are vital to the mission of AAUW. Members are encouraged to choose the "most needed" option, but there are choices for special grants and issues as well. Donations made directly to AAUW are tax deductible, but contributions through the branch are

not. The branch gets credit for the direct contributions our members make throughout the year.

If you prefer to support AAUW activism, the lobbying end, there is a link on the organization website to the AAUW Action Fund. Those donations are not tax deductible and are used to promote the Two-Minute Activist, the current Congressional voting records, as well as voter issues.

For updates on the various funds, including fellowships, grants, and the Legal Advocacy Fund, check out the website.



## **Public Policy**

*Jan De Young*

### *Voter Registration*

Our branch will partner with the Associated Students of Monmouth College twice this year in registering students, faculty, and staff members. The first opportunity will be on Thursday, November 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Stockdale Center on campus. We will need three or four AAUW branch members to work with student leaders to get as many students and others registered as possible before the spring rush! The second event will take place in January or February, prior to the Primary Elections. If you would like to help and have already received the deputy registrar training at the Warren County Court House, please let Jan DeYoung know. If you would like to help and have not been trained, just pop into Tina Conard's office on the second floor of the Court House and ask for a training (it might be nice to call first—734-4612). The process takes about five minutes!

A big thank you to Michelle Holschuh-Simmons for putting us into contact with Magdalynne Bruckner, the president of ASMC, and to Maggie for following through! This is another example of our branch's efforts to maximize opportunities for collaboration in promoting equity for women and girls.

## GEMS update

There will be no after-school GEMS activities at Central Intermediate School this Fall semester. Tammy La Prad is working on getting us set up to resume this valuable program for girls in Math, Science, and Engineering during the second semester. Stay tuned!



## Congratulations are in order!

Congratulations to Tammy La Prad for completing her work for her doctorate at Western Illinois University! Tammy will defend her dissertation on campus in the morning of November 22 and give a faculty colloquium at 3:15 in the Barnes Electronic Classroom at Hewes Library on the same afternoon! Well done, Tammy!



## Film Group Nancy Buban

AAUW film group November 25, 2019

The film for November is the documentary, *Maya Angelou: And Still I Rise*. The 2016 film is a tribute to the poet's legacy. It is a truly wonderful look at an amazing woman. Directors are Rita Coburn Whack and Bob Hercules. We will meet at 6:30 at 207 S. 8<sup>th</sup> on Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>. The turkey will not be baked but the corn will be popped.



## ¡Adelante! Book Group Jan DeYoung

Book Group will discuss Melinda Gates's [The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World](#) on Monday, November 18 at Jan DeYoung's house, 1101 East Broadway, at 3:15 p.m. In the book Melinda tells stories of some of the women she has met on her journeys around the world representing the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Although she is very wealthy, she exhibits empathy, a necessary quality in promoting acceptance on the way to diversity and equity. Although she is a devout Catholic, she is a great believer in contraception as "the greatest lifesaving, poverty-ending, women-empowered innovation ever created." In her travels Melinda has listened to women and learned the power of cooperation and collaboration in freeing women and children from the chains of ignorance and poverty and empowering them to seek to become their best selves. Please join us!



## From Our Local Author Susan Van Kirk

I thank everyone for their interest and encouragement in my "retirement career," writing mysteries.

My latest book, *A Death at Tippitt Pond*, is doing well, and I am planning to have three book signings in the next month or so. Two are local. I'll be at the Wordsmith Bookshoppe at 235 E. Main Street in Galesburg on **November 23** from 10-12 in the morning. If you haven't been to this new bookstore, please go. It is wonderful. If you have books of mine already and would like them signed, bring them along, and I'll sign those too.

On **December 7**, from 1-3 p.m. I'll be at the Warren County Public Library selling and signing books. This is a great pre-Christmas idea if you have readers on your Christmas list. No program, just sitting at a table ready and able to sign books!

Finally, if you have friends in the Champaign area, I'm going to be there at the Barnes and Noble on **November 17** from 1-3 pm. I'll be joining two other mystery writers, Connie Berry from Columbus, Ohio, and Molly MacRae from Champaign. Connie's books are set in Scotland and England, and Molly has several cozy series, one of them also set in Scotland.

In Monmouth, my books are available at the Warren County Public Library, the Buchanan Center, and the Gift Shop at OFS Holy Family. In Galesburg, they are available at the Galesburg Library and Wordsmith Bookshoppe.

As always, if you aren't sure of times and places, Google my name and my website will come up with the events. Susan Van Kirk



## **Buchanan Center for the Arts**

*Kristyne Gilbert*

### *Community Arts Access Grants*

Buchanan Center for the Arts is accepting grant proposals from local arts and nonprofit educational organizations. Grant funds are designated to support artists and nonprofit arts and educational organizations in Warren County. All eligible grant proposals are reviewed by a four-member peer panel. Community Arts Access grants are available for visual, musical, performing, literary, and inter-disciplinary arts projects that provide community-based programming. Projects or programs must make a concerted effort to serve diverse and under-represented populations. Eligible projects are those taking place between September 1, 2019 - August 31, 2020. Grant applications are available at the Buchanan Center for the Arts (BCA), 64 Public Square, Monmouth, or online at [bcaarts.org](http://bcaarts.org). Applications must be submitted to the BCA by Friday, December 6, 2019.

## **64 ARTS**

On view through December 13, 64 ARTS National Juried Exhibition features all mediums of artwork and artists from across the country. You won't want to miss this spectacular collection. See you in the gallery! Artist credit: Janis Wunderlich "Vulnerabilities" Mary Jane Twomey Best of Show 2019.

### *A Child's Christmas in Wales*

We're in rehearsal for our holiday co-production with Monmouth College, A Child's Christmas in Wales, and the cast is doing a wonderful job! Performance dates are November 21-24 at Wells Theater. Tickets are on sale now at the Buchanan Center for the Arts.

### *Clay Classes with Janis Mars Wunderlich*

5:30-7:30pm Wednesdays

Monmouth College Ceramics Lab

McMichael Academic Building

\$20 per session includes materials, instruction, and refreshments. This 10-week series is designed for participants 18 years or older and includes basic hand building, wheel work, and opportunities to explore working with clay. You may attend one or all classes. Class size is limited and registration is required. Call the BCA at 309-734-3033 to reserve your spot.

### *Old Friends Talk Art*

Join us for the final gallery talk of 2019 at 10am Wednesday, November 13, as we celebrate the 125th birthday of our founder, Grace Buchanan. The morning will be filled with music from our wonderfully talented Buchanan Community Chorus - Happy 30th the BCC too! This event is free and open to the public. See you in the gallery!

### *Holiday Open House*

It's that time of year again! Buchanan Center for the Arts is pleased to host our local artists for the annual Holiday Open House. This year's event is 3-7pm Friday, December 6 during Christmas on the Square. Meet local

artists, enjoy refreshments, purchase unique, handcrafted gifts this holiday season, and register for door prizes.

*Fused Glass with Judi Minor*

Fused Glass Snowman Ornament Class 11am Saturday, December 7. The fee is \$15 and includes instruction, materials, and refreshments. Class size is limited and registration is required. Students 18 years old and younger are FREE. Call 309-734-3033 to reserve your spot today.



**AAUW Trivia Night**  
*Lila Blum*

A small but lively group of branch members and guest, Chris Johnston, enjoyed Women’s Trivia Night at Market Alley Wines on Tuesday with two teams competing to answer questions selected by our President, Mary Osborne. It was great fun and a wonderful opportunity to sharpen our knowledge of women’s history. Many thanks to Mary for organizing this event and to Kristyne Gilbert and to Alice Lawson who served as judges.



**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](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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