

AAUW TIMES



**Elgin Area Branch
1920-2009**



*Working for 89 years to promote equity for all women and girls,
Life-long education and positive social change*

November, 2009

American Association of University Women

Vol. 14, No. 8

No November Branch Meeting

**But reserve Saturday, December 12,
at 10:00 AM for our holiday
celebration at the Elgin Area
Historical Society**

Calendar

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Nov. 1 | AAUW Theatre 4:30 PM
Jeanne Hebeisen, Hostess
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> |
| Nov. 2 | Board Meeting , 7 PM
Medina Gross, Hostess |
| Nov. 9 | Elgin Great Books 7 PM
Gail Borden Public Library
<i>Frankenstein</i> , Mary Shelly |
| Nov. 12 | Morning Book Group 10 AM
Sara Anderson, Hostess
<i>The Guernsey Literary and Potato
Peel Pie Society</i> , Shaffer & Barrows |

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Nov. 14 | AAUW Theatre 8PM
Medina Gross, Hostess
<i>Broken Eggs</i> |
| Nov. 18 | Memoir Writing Group 2PM
Gareth Sitz, Hostess |
| Nov. 18 | Current Literature 7 PM
Muriel Fenzel, Hostess
<i>Last Night at the Lobster</i> , O’Nan |
| Nov. 19 | Evening Crafters 7:30 PM
<i>Christmas Nativity Pillow</i>
Jelayne Ewers, Hostess |
| Nov. 22 | Femmeprov Noon – 8:30 PM
Highland Ave. Church of the Brethren
Gareth Sitz, Hostess |
| Nov. 23 | 20’s & 30’s Book Club 7 PM
Gail Borden Public Library
<i>She’s Come Undone</i> , Wally Lamb |
| Nov. 24 | Reel Women 6 PM
Gail Borden Library
<i>Revolutionary Road</i> |

Presidents' Message

Greetings on the second sunny, rain free, normal temperature day of October. That may be a bit of an exaggeration, but not much. Since our last newsletter, much has been happening in our branch. Hope you were able to attend the general meeting with poet, Laura Van Prooyen, a Career Development Recipient for the Educational Foundation as we were able to see the fruits of our labors from our many garage sales.

The Memoir Writing group seems to be off to a great start and would welcome any one else interested in pursuing some memory-jogging. The actual writing is done when time permits after the meetings in the peace and quiet of your own home.

Our Evening Book Group that meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month –except November- was treated to a WONDERFUL CELEBRATION of the forty-plus years of existence at the Elgin Historical Society by Sara Ellen Anderson. The group started in the fall of 1967 as part of a two-year study group on 'Testing Values in a Changing Society'. This group was led by Betty Medearis.

What a nice fund-raiser the Huntley Branch had at Randall Oaks Golf Club with both Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt sharing memories to celebrate Eleanor's 125th birthday. Several from our branch attended and had a wonderful evening.

Be sure to attend November study groups as there is NO branch meeting in November.

We are also invited to celebrate Jane Addams at a special event December 6th, 2009 sponsored by the AAUW-IL. There are a limited number of reservations available, so don't delay.

Jan Jones also on behalf of Libby Hoefl

Memoir Writing Group

The Memoir Writing Group will meet on November 18 at 2:00 PM at my house, 653 Park Street, in Elgin. Interested people should email me at garethsitz@sbcglobal.net or call me at 847-695-6719 for details about our group and what's entailed.

Gareth Sitz

AAUW Theatre Group

On Sunday, Nov. 1, we will be going to see *Romeo and Juliet*. Shakespeare's timeless story of love and passion gets a new look in Janus Theatre's all-female production. Fast-paced and intense, this version of the play promises to shed new light on this classic love story.

We will meet at 4:30 pm at the home of Jeanne Hebeisen, 602 Prospect, Elgin. The director, Sean Hargadon, will speak to us at 5 pm, followed by a potluck dinner. The performance begins at 7 pm and will end with a question and answer period with the cast.

The performance will be at Elgin Art Showcase, 164 Division Street in downtown Elgin. Please let Medina (medinag@gmail.com or 847 695-1316) know by Oct 28 if you will be able to attend and what you plan to bring. More information about the show is available at janustheatre.wordpress.com.

The next play we will be going to see is *Broken Eggs* by the Cuban playwright Eduardo Machado running in the Second Space Theatre at ECC from November 6-22. We will be going on Sunday, November 14, at 8 pm. Since this follows so closely to *Romeo and Juliet*, we will not do a potluck, but if you want to get together afterwards at the Colonial Café or another nearby restaurant, I am open for that.

It's 1979 and Cuban-born Lizette Marquez is about to marry a nice Jewish boy in an opulent ceremony at Woodland Hills Country Club. While she and her extended family enjoy and over-indulge in the fruits of material success, they cling to fantasies of a pre-Castro society, unable to feel truly at home in their adopted country. Machado's "strong comic voice" yields "bright observations" (*New York Times*) on family, tradition, and history.

Tickets are \$11 adults/ \$9 students and seniors and may be ordered online at Elgin.edu for a fee, or by calling or emailing Medina by Nov 10. If enough people are interested, I will ask for a talk-back with the actors after the show.

Medina Gross

Congratulations to Libby!

Congratulations to Libby Hoefl who has been named one of US Congresswoman Melissa Bean's "winning women of 2009." Libby has contributed enormously to her profession and to every organization with which she has been affiliated. It is wonderful that she will be one of eight women honored at a special reception on November 9.

Libby, your fellow AAUW members are proud of you!

Reel Women/Real Women

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD

Nov. 24 6 PM

Although a feel-good movie it definitely is not, *Revolutionary Road*, based on Richard Yates' highly acclaimed 1961 novel of the same name, is one well-worth seeing, for it recreates the malaise felt by many a woman in the affluent suburbs of the 1950s. Soon-to-be-thirty April (Kate Winslet), however, believes moving to Paris, France, is the solution, and her husband (Leonardo DiCaprio), who hates his job, seems willing to go along with her plans. As will become increasingly apparent throughout the film, however, this is "less an anti-suburban" story than one about people who blame their unhappiness on the suburbs.

Barbara Evans

Women Graduates USA

Because AAUW is no longer affiliated with the International Federation of University Women (IFUW), WG-USA, **an online organization**, has been formed by AAUW members to continue the international partnership. Recognized by IFUW as a national affiliate, WG-USA just held an annual general meeting in Long Beach. Among the issues they are currently monitoring are the following: Equality and Human Rights; Girls & Education; Women: Peace and War; Women and Technology; Violence & Human Trafficking. More information may be found at www.wg-usa.org.

Barbara Evans

Evening Crafters

The evening crafters will be meeting on November 19, 2009 at 7:00 to prepare for the Christmas holiday by making a Nativity Pillow. We will be meeting at Jelayne Ewers' home. She lives at 13426 Dakota Fields in Huntley.

To make the pillow you will need:

- One 14" pillow form
- Cotton homespun fabrics: ½ yd of blue stripe and 1/8 yd of brown plaid
- Felt scraps of gold, flesh, turquoise, light blue, brown, white and pink or red
- 7/16" pink or red button; 1/16" brown button; and ½" gold button
- Black pearl cotton #8
- Yellow embroidery floss
- Brown sewing thread
- Fiberfill stuffing
- Fabric glue
- Sewing and embroidery needles
- Straight pins

If you have questions, call Jelayne Ewers at 847-515-1145. Hope to see you there. As always you can bring your own project or just come for fellowship and dessert.

Jelayne Ewers

AAUW Travel Program

AAUW member and owner of one of AAUW's newest partners, Ann Hite of TravelSmart Partners, has created Learn & Explore, a new international travel program for fellow AAUW members. This travel series has been designed to expand knowledge and understanding of women in other areas of the world and of the issues that are important to them. Each tour will focus on exploring the customs and culture of the region, with an emphasis on current and historical barriers faced by women and the creative ways women have broken through those barriers. The first tour in this travel series, **Vietnam and Cambodia**, will be hosted by AAUW President Carolyn Garfein and goes from February 19 through March 7, 2010. Reservations must be made by December 18, 2009. For more information as well as to make reservations, go to www.travelsmartpartners.com/aauw or call **1-800-670-6984**.

Barbara Evans

Femmeprov

A workshop in improvisational theatre for women

Sunday, November 22

Noon - 8:30 PM

Performance at 7 PM open to the public
Highland Avenue Church of the Brethren

783 West Highland Avenue, Elgin

Given by Gareth Mann Sitz, MA in Theatre Arts
and Yvonne Alton

Sponsored by Elgin Area Branch of the American
Association of University Women and Independent
Players

Lunch catered by The Red Bar Winery

Cost of \$30 will cover lunch, snacks, and a
Femmeprov Tee Shirt(Register by November 10 to
make sure your tee shirt will be ordered for you. We
will wear these in our final performance with jeans or
slacks. Checks should be made out to Elgin Area
Branch AAUW. Late registrations will be accepted,
but your shirt might not be your preferred size)

\$20 if you have a shirt!

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

e-mail address _____

Tee Shirt Size S M L XL. XXL, XXXL

Please send this information to Gareth Sitz, 653 Park
Street, Elgin, Illinois 60120.

For more information: garethsitz@sbcglobal.net or 847-
695-6719.

Gareth Sitz

Save the Date...

The Jane Addams Commemorative Holiday will be
celebrated on December 6, 2009, at Bowen Park,
1917 N. Sheridan Road, Waukegan, IL. This is the
site of the summer camp that Jane Addams ran for
children from the city of Chicago. Lilac Cottage
where Jane Addams lived during the summer and the
Historical Farm House will be open for tours from 9
AM to 3 PM. A Buffet Lunch is scheduled at the Jane
Addams Center at 11:30 AM. The program will be
presented by Ellen Frew of the Waukegan Historical
Society and Ty Rohrer, Director of the Waukegan

History Museum. Come and help AAUW-IL
celebrate Jane Addams at a unique and lively
location. Join us at camp for a festive holiday
celebration of the life and work of Jane Addams.

Linda Henning Cohen
AAUW-IL President

27th Annual Networking Luncheon

Please mark your calendars for District Five's 27th
Annual Networking Luncheon to be held on January
23rd, 2010 at the Deerfield Hyatt at 11.30am.

The speaker will be State Representative Barbara
Flynn Currie of the 25th District. In 1997, she became
the first woman Majority Leader in the history of the
Illinois General Assembly. As the second ranking
House official, her accomplishments include
sponsorship of the Illinois Earned Income Tax Credit
Act, Illinois Freedom of Information Act and using a
bipartisan approach to problem solving in Illinois.
She is a strong advocate for working families,
disadvantaged children, the elderly and the
environment. She has worked successfully to prohibit
workplace sexual harassment and to improve access
to state contracts for women and minority owned
businesses. Barbara has won numerous honors from
organizations such as Illinois Hospitals Association
and the AFL-CIO. She is a graduate of the University
of Chicago and she and her late husband David
Currie, a law professor at the University of Chicago
have two children and four grandchildren.

The cost of the luncheon is \$35 (reduced from last
year) and includes a choice of salmon, chicken or
vegetarian with salad or pasta. Please watch
upcoming newsletters for further details.

Medina Gross

Northeast Neighborhood Association

The Northeast Neighborhood Association of Elgin is looking for docents for their Holiday House Tour. The event is Saturday, December 12, from noon to 5 pm. The tour will feature five homes in the downtown neighborhood: two lofts, a model home at River Park Place (just north of the casino), and two condos at Fountain Square on 50 South Grove Ave. We have two shifts to choose from, noon to 2:30 pm and 2:30 to 5 pm. Each docent works one shift and can tour the other homes for free during the other shift. Contact Medina if you can help.

Please note that our AAUW holiday party will be on the same date at 10 am at the Elgin Area Historical Society.

Reminder

Free trees will be available in the Rotunda of Gail Borden on Saturday, October 24, at 9:30 AM to celebrate Elgin Climate Action Day.

Jeanne Hebeisen

guest pass

Visit a Curves location and learn how you can change your life

:30

minutes at a time.

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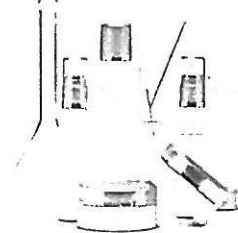


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In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

AAUW is open to all graduates who hold an Associate or equivalent degree from a qualified educational institution.

AAUW's Mission Statement

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

AAUW's 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.

AAUW's Educational Foundation

AAUW provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive social change.

AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund

AAUW invests in activities that prevent and combat sex discrimination and promote gender equity through support of litigation and educational programs.

About the Elgin Area Branch and AAUW Times

The Elgin Area Branch was organized in 1920 with 40 charter members.

AAUW Times is published nine times a year by the Elgin Area Branch of the American Association of University Women.

Elgin Area Branch AAUW
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