

News from the Northwest

October, 2015



**Newsletter of the Northwest Suburban Branch
American Association of University Women**

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

WHO'S BEEN MESSING WITH MY FOOD?

Saturday, October 24

10:00 A.M.

Des Plaines Public Library

1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines

Goldilocks was only concerned about who had been eating her food, not about whether any changes had taken place. Today she might be wondering what had been done to it during its growth period before the bears reached it and before it got to her. She might be wondering about her food and GMOs.

Is GMO a term that's familiar to you? It's the acronym for genetically modified organisms. It may sound like some sort of science fiction, but this is scientific truth. Do you know why these modifications are made? Do you know what some critics say about health and the environmental consequences of GMOs? Do you know about standards regarding information dissemination in the U.S.?

On Saturday, October 24, we will learn about GMOs, a controversial subject, as they pertain to our food supply. Our speaker will be Barbara Kimicata. Ms. Kimicata spent over thirty years in business, and the stress caused by the pressures of her work led to multiple health problems. Feeling that she was not being adequately helped medically, she began studying her issues and found her path to good health through diet and exercise. Leaving her business career, she studied nutrition and is now an Integrative Nutrition Health Coach and volunteer for *Illinois Right to Know GMO*, and now leads the Northwest Suburban Chapter of that organization. She will speak about the subject of GMOs as they pertain to food and give us information on whether or not we should accept or choose to avoid them. The subject of GMOs is controversial. As well-informed consumers we should learn as much about it as we can.

Join your AAUW sisters at the Des Plaines Public Library at 10:00 a.m. on October 24th, and invite others to come, also, for this interesting and informative meeting.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I attended the AAUW-IL Northern Fall Conference this weekend. It was an informative event where branch leaders came together to learn more about new AAUW programs and to get ideas of how to be more effective at our mission. It was held at the Oakton Community College Campus which is so beautiful this time of year.

Thanks to Pili who manned our raffle table at the event. Our branch and the Glenview branch provided three baskets to raffle off for the Tech Savvy event being held on April 16 at Oakton. The baskets earned \$200 toward the cause.

We learned about new initiatives and heard lots of ideas for our branches. At a membership table we discussed “differentiated programming” for different age members. I have been thinking about how to engage younger women when their interests and needs are often very different from our typical member demographic. Perhaps they need their own forum which may differ from our usual meetings. We may be able to try some new programming ideas geared to them to see how they might interest new members

There is a female written, female directed movie coming out at the end of the month called *Suffragette*. It’s about the early suffragette period in England. Perhaps we can get a group together to see it. Let me know if you are interested.

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting in October.

Cindy

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

Many thanks to Pili Richardson who, as noted in the president’s message, “womaned” the raffle table at the AAUW meeting at Oakton College earlier this month. Not only did Pili work to sell raffle tickets, but she prepared the basket from our branch! The TechSavvy conference for girls that will be held at Oakton in April is something very special. You will be hearing more about it.

Our good friend Carolyn Baker has been experiencing health problems and has been at Lutheran General Hospital and at Aventerra (formerly St. Matthew’s) in Park Ridge for rehab. We send her our most heartfelt best wishes for recovery. She would certainly appreciate cards, which you can send to her regular address: Carolyn Baker, Belmont Village, 2200 Golf Rd., Glenview IL 60025.

NOTES FROM NATIONAL

AAUW has conducted a poll on which woman should be on the new ten-dollar bill. The top ten, with the top two representing over 50% of the votes, are: Barbara McClintock, Eleanor Roosevelt, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, Sacagawea, Amelia Earhart, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Abigail Adams. Representatives from AAUW will be meeting with the U.S. Treasurer and will share the results of the poll. (Who do *you* think should be pictured, if a woman is actually chosen?)

MEMBERSHIP

Every organization depends on its membership, and to gain members we must recruit! Each of us needs to be a recruiter. When you meet someone new, or if you’re talking with a friend, get to know her interests and invite her to be a part of AAUW. You know: Membership Begins with ME!

Northwest Suburban Branch, 2015-2016

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| Sunday, Dec. 13 2:00 p.m. | Holiday Gathering: A fundraising event for our projects Home of Irene Jinks |
| Saturday, Jan. 30 11:30 a.m. | District 5 Networking Luncheon Col. Jill Morgenthaler, author of <i>The Courage to Take Command</i> Deerfield Embassy Suites Hotel |
| Saturday, Feb. 20 10:00 a.m. | <i>The ABC's of Sex Education</i> , an educational project in Kenya to diminish the spread of HIV and AIDS Kathy Tate-Bradish, Exec. Director of the project Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines |
| Saturday, March 19 10:00 a.m. | <i>Finding Vivian Maier</i> , a film about the reclusive photographer Cosponsored with the Des Plaines Public Library Des Plaines Public Library |
| Saturday, April 9 10:30 a.m. | Scholars' Brunch sponsored by District 5 featuring recipients of AAUW grants and fellowships Lambs Farm, Libertyville |
| Saturday, April 16 9:00 a.m. | <i>Tech Savvy</i> Conference Cosponsored with Oakton Community College Oakton College, 1600 E. Golf Rd., Des Plaines |
| April 29-30 | AAUW, Illinois State Convention Roosevelt University, Schaumburg Campus |
| Thursday, May 12 6:00 p.m. | Branch Annual Meeting and Dinner Elks Club, 495 Lee St., Des Plaines |

Please enter the dates in your calendar now so that you can avoid conflicts! You will receive more specific information prior to each of the events and, when needed, a registration form.

Plan to attend our meetings and invite others to join you. Even if those you invite are not eligible to be members of AAUW, they might be interested in the programs. We will be happy to have them with us.