

News from the Northwest

February, 2020



Newsletter of the Northwest Suburban Branch

***Our Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls
through research, education and advocacy.***

Our Vision: Equity for all.

There's A Lot Happening!

Will You Join Us?

Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.

Book Discussion

Panera, 39 S. Northwest Hwy., Park Ridge

As a group, we will discuss *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict. This is a fictionalized story of Hedy Lamar's interesting life. Marie Benedict writes about the beautiful movie star who escaped to the United States during World War II; she went on to invent a device capable of jamming torpedoes to go off course, and for this was posthumously inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Read the book ahead of time if you can, but don't stay away because you haven't had a chance to read it. You'll still enjoy the discussion. You can purchase lunch or a snack, as you wish, to enjoy while we talk.

Saturday, February 22, 2020 at 10:30 A.M.

African American Suffragists and the

Struggle for Representation

Des Plaines Library, 1501 Ellinwood, D.P.

In the short month of February, we have another very special program! We have partnered with the Des Plaines Public Library on a program presented by the great-granddaughter of Ida B. Wells, Michelle Duster. Even though the suffrage movement was focused on women gaining the right to vote, the battle was mostly fought separately along racial lines. White women shunned and marginalized African American women, which propelled them to form their own groups. Author, speaker and educator Michelle Duster explains the racial divisions of the suffrage movement and how the struggle for African American women to be included extends to today when it comes to documentation and commemorations of the movement. The library asks that we register for this event at <https://calendar.dppl.org/events>. You do not need to have a Des Plaines library card; just leave that space blank. If people wish, we can have lunch together after the program and talk about what we have heard. There should be plenty of food for thought!

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Happy February!

We have such an excellent assortment of programs coming up in the next couple of months. I am especially excited to hear from Michelle Duster about the complexities of the suffragist movement that have been little discussed, at least in white circles, until a new era of racism has caused us to do more digging into our unpleasant past. I hope to learn more about what happened 100 years ago and how it is relevant to where we are today.

AAUW IL is doing a Lobby Day trip to Springfield on March 19 to lobby for the Family Medical Leave Act, the Parental Notification Act, examining the requirements for Sex Education, and the status of the ERA and its legal challenges. I'm sure more information will be coming out soon, if you are interested let me know.

The NW Suburban board is having discussions about leadership and our future as a branch. It is time for me to step down as president after six years. We are not sure who will be taking up the president's role. Our Membership VP position is also to be elected. If you have any interest or want to talk about the future of our branch, our next board meeting is Sunday, March 29 at 2pm. The location is Fran Stott's home.

We are also looking for a new location for our Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 13. The Elks Club is no longer open for dinner on Wednesdays. If you have an idea, please let me know.

Lastly, there is a new exhibit at the Holocaust Museum in Skokie. It is called RGB and it will be there through August 16. Perhaps someone can organize a date to get us all to go!

I hope to see you soon. Invite a friend to our programs. Email me at cgrau8@gmail.com if you have questions or comments.

Cindy

. . . AND THERE'S MUCH MORE TO COME!

Saturday, March 14, 10:30 a.m., Des Plaines Library

We will once again partner with the Des Plaines Public Library, this time to show the film *Iron Jawed Angels*. This is a "must see" movie. Even if you've seen it before, you will be moved and disturbed by what you see. The struggle for suffrage was not easy.

Thursday, March 19, AAUW Lobby Day, all day

AAUW-IL is sponsoring a Lobby Day in Springfield. See the president's message above, and contact Cindy Grau for further information.

Saturday, March 21, 7th Chicagoland Tech Savvy Conference. Triton College, River Grove

Once again Triton College is sponsoring the conference and expects to host about 200 students and 100 parents. Volunteers are needed, both on the day of the conference and earlier to help prepare materials; for information and to volunteer, go to <http://www.triton.edu/> and click on [Volunteer Signup](#). Also, visit [TechSavvyWebsite](#) for the latest updates.

Saturday, April 18, Annual Fellows Lunch, Lambs Farm

This is a very special event where we can hear from AAUW scholars who are studying in the Chicago area. You will be so impressed by these special young women whom we, as AAUW members, support. See the attached flyer for information, and contact Cindy Grau if you would like to attend; we could carpool.

Wednesday, May 13, 6:00 p.m., Northwest Suburban Branch Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

Location of this meeting is yet to be determined; if you have suggestions, contact Cindy Grau.

Thursday-Saturday, June 18-20, AAUW Regional Convention, East Moline, Illinois

See the attached flyer for information about this special event being held in Illinois.



AAUW-IL District 5
 Educational Opportunities Fund
14th Annual Lunch with Fellows



11:00 a.m., Saturday, April 18, 2020

at Lambs Farm

Rte. 176 & I-294/Illinois Tollway Libertyville, IL
 60048

Honorees:

- **Faramalala Ravaorimanga, International Fellow, North Park Univ., Clinical Psychology**
- **Jennilee Wallace, Research Publication Grant, Rush University, Neuroimmunology**

MENU: Cup of Soup, Choice of Salad (Chicken Caesar/Chopped Chicken),
 Rolls & Butter, Dessert, Coffee/Tea/Soda

COST: **\$22**...includes tax & tip

DEADLINE: Reservations must be received by **April 11**

Make your reservation by sending this form (below) with a check for \$22 - payable to *Deerfield Area AAUW* - to Kay Madden, 425 Village Green, #304, Lincolnshire, IL 60069, to arrive no later than Saturday, April 11.

Questions: Contact Kay at 847-955-1708 or kaymadden@outlook.com

Bring a guest!

Hope to see you at this outstanding annual event!

 Full Name of Attendee: _____

AAUW Branch/Organization: _____

Menu Choice: _____



2020

Regional Convention

June 18-20, 2020

Hyatt House Hotel

East Moline, IL

Registration Opens Soon!

Confirmed plenary speakers—

- ♦ Kim Churches, Chief Executive Officer, AAUW;
- ♦ Kendra Davis, Senior Vice President Advancement & Partnerships, AAUW;
- ♦ Lisa Maatz, Former VP Government Relations, AAUW;
- ♦ Denise Lieberman, Director, Advancement Project's Power and Democracy Program;
- ♦ Dr. Angie Maxwell, Director of the Diane Blair Center of Southern Politics and Society, University of Arkansas;
- ♦ Michelle Duster, author and great-granddaughter of Ida B. Wells.

Early Bird Registration (before May 15) \$175

Regular Registration (after May 15) \$225

Includes lunch on Thursday & Friday, dinner on Thursday

Optional Riverboat Cruise Dinner \$50.95

Friday evening aboard the Celebration Belle

Register at <https://aauw-il.aauw.net/>

Convention Hotel

Hyatt House

111 Bend Blvd, E. Moline, IL 61244

Register at

<https://aauw-il.aauw.net/>

Double or King rooms are \$149, tax included and include a full breakfast.

Interesting Programming:

- ♦ Economic Security Panel
- ♦ ERA Passage in Illinois
- ♦ Celebration of 19th Amendment
- ♦ WorkSmart--bring your own device for the online workshop
- ♦ Town Hall with Kendra Davis
- ♦ Branch Program Sharing--bring your best ideas and take some home!
- ♦ Breakout sessions on Cyber Security, Running for Office, Title IX, Diversity & Inclusion, and more!

Catch up with old friends and meet new friends from 13 states—Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin!