



The Chicago Edition

October 2009

Volume 72, Number 2

CHICAGO BRANCH NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER MEETING

Leading the Way – District Fall Conference 2009

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” - John Quincy Adams

Most of us don't think of ourselves as born leaders, yet we assume leadership roles all the time. It takes leadership skills to organize a family vacation, coordinate a project at work, or get a group of friends together for lunch. Leaders make things happen. Without leadership, nothing gets done.

AAUW relies on its members to accept leadership responsibilities at all levels. Whether you are an interest group chair, a branch president, a state officer or an Association committee member, your leadership skills are important. AAUW goals cannot be achieved without you.

The Fall District Conference will focus on sharpening our leadership skills. The program will cover four leadership topics. Each segment will feature a short, formal presentation (15 to 20 minutes) followed by a question and discussion period. The conferences will also offer up-to-date information on the many exciting things AAUW is doing at the local, state and national levels. Please consider inviting a guest along!

Oakton Community College

1600 E. Golf Road
Des Plaines, IL 60016
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Cost: \$21 includes registration and breakfast.

Oct. 17, 2009	<i>Districts 4 & 5 Oakton Community College</i>
8:30 – 9:00	Registration and breakfast
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome, announcements and introductions
9:15 – 9:45	The New AAUW Report from Association Convention By-laws Changes New Giving Procedures
9:45 – 10:15	“Leading the Way” Leadership – What’s In It for Me? 9:45 – 10:15 Event Planning 10:15 – 11:00
11:00 – 11:15	Break, Networking, Shopping
11:15 – 12:30	“Leading the Way” Recruiting Volunteers 11:15 – 12:00 Running an Effective Meeting 12:00 – 12:25
12:25 – 12:30	Wrap Up, Thank You and Evaluations

Presenters

“Leading the Way” presenters at the Districts 4 & 5 Fall Conference will include:

- **Cindy Trennert-Lukens**, professional event planner and president of The Meeting Company
- **Mary Ellen Smyth**, past president of AAUW Educational Foundation
- **Connie Baker**, president of the Elmhurst Branch and organizer of the Latina Conference
- **Linda Henning-Cohen**, president of AAUW-IL

Directions

Via Tri-State Tollway (I-294):

From North: Exit at Golf Road. Turn left at the end of the exit ramp. Turn right at the traffic light (Golf Road). Turn right at the first traffic light (College Drive).

From South: Take the Dempster West exit. Turn right on Rand Road (Route 12) to River Road (Route 45). Take River Road north to Golf Road. Turn right on Golf to first traffic light (College Drive) and turn left.

Via the Kennedy Expressway:

Take the Kennedy Expressway to the tri-State Tollway (I-294 to Milwaukee). Exit at Dempster West and Follow the directions (from South) above.

Parking

Park in Lot D. Go in the entrance for that lot. Turn right. There will be stairs or an elevator. Go down. You will find the **Business Conference Dining Room** as you exit the elevator or at the bottom of the stairs.

Send registration form and check by **Oct. 10** to:

Harriett Lindstrom
3812 Patty Berg Court
Woodridge, IL 60517
hlindstrom@aol.com (630) 416-7903

REGISTRATION FORM

Cut off this Registration Form and send with **\$21** check payable to AAUW-IL, Inc. to the district director listed above.

Name_____

Address_____

City/State/Zip_____

Phone (_____) _____ E-mail_____

Indicate your AAUW membership status:

AAUW Branch Member_____ Member-at-Large_____ Non-Member_____

Branch_____ Branch position_____

Are you a new AAUW member (joined within last 12 months)? Yes___ No___

Does your branch need display space for fundraising project/sales?

Yes___ No___

Meeting/Activities Dates and Topics

October 17, 2009	District 4& 5 Fall Conference at Oakton Community College
November 14, 2009	Jan Fitsimmons with ASC program at DePaul University
December 5, 2009	Holiday Tea – Russian Tea Time
December 6, 2009	Jane Addams Day event in Waukegan
December 12, 2009	Holiday potluck and speaker
January 9 , 2010	Educational Foundation Fellows meeting



President's Message

Thank you to everyone that attended our fall kick-off meeting on Sat. Sept. 12th at Bar Louie Restaurant. We had a fantastic turn-out of 30 members and guests. Those in attendance learned from our speaker, Barbara Dwyer, what their personality “shape” is. Also we learned that all “shapes” are needed to effectively run an organization or business team. I hope everyone took away something that can be used in their personal or professional lift. I know I did.

Please take a few minutes and read thru this newsletter or visit our website, www.aauw-il.org/chicago. Also check out the newly updated national website www.aauw.org. Various members have been working very hard planning a variety of activities and events for you to participate in. Also we are open to starting new interests groups, based on the interests of our members. Please let me know if you have any ideas for new groups or ways to partner with other organizations you are already involved in. Also we are always looking for more members to participate in planning events, participating on committees, and helping with meetings. Please let us know if you are interested.

Also do not forget to mail in your membership renewal or your new membership. We are working on the membership directory and want to make sure you are included. The directory will be mailed out in October. Our goal for branch membership is 100 members for the 2009-2010 year. We want you to be included in this number. Thank you to everyone who has submitted their membership dues. Also thank you for Bettye Ruth Grande Pre for making reminder renewal phone calls over the summer. Her help is much appreciated.

Hope you are planning to attend the October 17th fall district 4 & 5 conference at Oakton Community College in Des Plaines. It looks like a great morning focusing on leadership in AAUW and in your personal and/or professional life.

Breaking thru Barriers

Lori Switzer

Branch President and Newsletter Editor



Thank You

Thank you to everyone who attended the fall kick-off meeting. It was a great luncheon with a great group of members and guests. Thank you to Karen Antine for organizing the luncheon and Barbara Spiegel for inviting our speaker and handling the reservations. Also thank you to Barbara Spiegel for arranging the party favors for the meeting. Thank you to members who brought guests. Thank you to Barbara Thomas and Pamela Sanner for helping with greeting guests at the meeting. We also had two guests join at the meeting.

The Chicago Edition by Lori Switzer

Is there something you want to see in the newsletter? It is your newsletter. Articles for the Nov. Chicago Edition newsletter are due October 15th. Thanks -Lori Switzer
ChicagoAAUW@hotmail.com



GEMS Workshop

Chicago branch is planning a *GEMS-Great Experiences in Math and Science* workshop for February or March 2010 and are looking for volunteers to help plan the event as well as work the day of the event. **GEMS** is a career conference for all middle school students in grades 6-8 and their parents/guardians. Students will participate in the morning-long program designed to encourage young girls to take an interest in math, science and engineering. Professionals will be presenting their careers emphasizing mathematics, science & technology. Although women make up about 50 percent of the general work force in the U.S., they only represent 9 percent of workers in the science and engineering community said the conference was started to inspire girls to continue studies in the fields of math, science and technology. Contact Pat Newton-Curran if you are interested in being on the planning committee. Newton@iit.edu



Mission: The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for individuals seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Legal Advocacy Fund Update

LAF works to combat sex discrimination through community and campus outreach programs, a resource library and online advocacy tools, and various research reports. In collaboration with the Public Policy and Government Relations department, LAF seeks amicus curiae opportunities in cases of discrimination that disadvantage women in the workplace. LAF is also transitioning toward supporting landmark sex discrimination cases that have the potential to make a difference for all women.

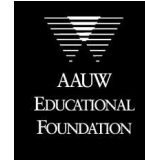
Case Update

Four years ago, AAUW supported teacher and coach [Roderick Jackson](#) when his [retaliation case went before the U.S. Supreme Court](#). Now his case is, finally, officially over. Jackson sued his employer, the Board of Education in Birmingham, Alabama, after he was fired for complaining about the unequal funding, facilities, and equipment of his girls' basketball team compared to the boys' basketball team. In 2005, the Supreme Court, in a precedent-setting ruling, said that Title IX protects teachers that are retaliated against for challenging sex discrimination against students. Jackson therefore had the right to sue under Title IX for the retaliation he experienced.

After the ruling, Jackson's case returned to district court, where he would have had to prove that the retaliatory discrimination did occur, but the parties opted to settle instead. Part of the terms of the agreement required the Board of Education to take necessary steps to provide female athletes with facilities comparable to those used by male athletes, to appoint a Title IX coordinator at the school, and to adopt a Title IX compliance policy and grievance procedure.

In 2008, Jackson filed court papers alleging that he was still being retaliated against and that the school was not adequately fulfilling the settlement agreement. On September 3, 2009, the U.S. District Court ruled that the Birmingham Board of Education complied with the original settlement agreement, formally ending the eight-year-old case. Jackson has spoken on numerous occasions at AAUW meetings where members have appreciated his heroism and dedication to equity.

If you want to make a donation, please send a check made out to AAUW-LAF to Barbara Spiegel 7438 N. Artesian Ave. 1st Floor, Chicago, 60645. Donations are tax-deductible.



AAUW Educational Foundation

The American Association of University Women Educational Foundation has a long and distinguished history of advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and around the globe. One of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women, AAUW is providing more than \$3 million in funding for more than 200 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations in the 2009-10 academic year. Due to the longstanding, generous contributions of AAUW members, a broader community of women continues to gain access to educational and economic opportunities — breaking through barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Fellowship and grant recipients perform research in a wide range of disciplines and work to improve their schools and communities. Their intellect, dedication, imagination, and effort promise to forge new paths in scholarship, improve the quality of life for all, and tackle the educational and social barriers facing women in the United States and around the globe.

Please mark your calendar for the January 9, 2010 Educational Foundation fellows luncheon and meeting. The Chicago branch invites area EF fellowship recipients to share their stories and how the fellowship will help them reach their educational goals.

If you would like to make a donation, please send a check made out to AAUW-EF to Mary Ellen Smyth 3200 N. Lake Shore Dr.#502, Chicago, IL 60657. Donations are tax-deductible.



WITASWAN Movie Club

The WITASWAN Movie Club will meet the 1st Sunday of the month, October through May. The first meeting is **October 4th** and we will see *Capitalism: A Love Story*. Location will follow closer to meeting date. Please RSVP by Oct 2nd to Megan Moser if you are able to attend. meganmoser@hotmail.com



Book Club Please feel free to join the Book Club at anytime.

October 26 *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

November 23 *Red Leather Diary: Reclaiming a Life Through the Pages of a Lost Journal* by Lily Koppel

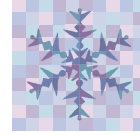
January 25 *Sin in the Second City: Madams, Ministers, Playboys and the Battle for America's Soul* by Karen Abbott

The Book Club of Chicago, Illinois Branch Inc. of the American Association of University Women is free and open to the public and meets on the fourth Monday of the month (except December and May) from 7:00-9:00 pm at the Conrad Sulzer Library, 4455 N. Lincoln Ave.



Ethnic Dining

Come join ethnic dining for a taste of Spain on **Tuesday, October 20th** at 6:30pm at Eivissa Chicago pintxos, tapas & sangria restaurant. Located at 1531 North Wells 312-654-9500 www.eivissachicago.com. Public transportation or valet parking \$12-. We will order off of the menu. (Tax and tip not included) RSVP by Sunday, Oct. 18th to Nina Whitsel at ninawhitsel@rcn.com



Annual Holiday Tea

When: **Saturday, December 5, 2009**

Where: Russian Tea Time Restaurant, 77 East Adams St, Chicago 60603

Time: 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. <http://www.russianteatime.com/>

Cost: \$30 for Full Tea Service (includes taxes and gratuities)

Parking: Area parking lots or public transportation.

RSVP: by **November 1, 2009**

Please send your check made out to "AAUW" and name, address, email, and phone to:

Pat Graunke, 880 N. Lake Shore Drive, 3C, Chicago, IL 60611

Any questions, contact Pat Graunke patriciagraunke@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE- December 6, 2009

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. A registration form is on the state website, www.aauw-il.org

Community Service Projects needed

The Chicago Branch would like to do monthly community outreach projects but we need some suggestions. We are looking for branch members to suggest different community service projects or organizations that are in alignment with our mission. The organization could need our time, money, or donations. The branch will mix up where the giving is done around the Chicago community. The branch will also continue with a food pantry donation. Please contact Carrie Bauer if you have suggestions. carrie.marie.bauer@gmail.com

AAUW-IL Ruth Sweetser Honorarium Fund

The AAUW-IL State Board has established an honorarium in Ruth Sweetser's name entitled **AAUW Illinois Ruth Sweetser Honorarium Fund** as a tribute to Ruth's impressive service to AAUW. All donations will go toward the 2010 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in Washington DC. To donate to Ruth's honorarium, please mail your check to Kathleen Brenniman 428 W Ethel, Lombard IL 60148 Checks should be written to **LTI and Fund #4340** must be written in the memo line on the check. Deadline is April 1, 2010.

Meeting locations needed

Do you know of a great location to hold a branch meeting? The program planning committee is looking for locations to hold our branch meetings for the coming year. We are looking for private party rooms, classrooms or conference rooms at local area colleges, universities, churches, or libraries that would be available for a low cost or no cost. Please contact Barbara Spiegel or Lori Switzer at chicagoauw@hotmail.com. Thank you in advance for your suggestions.

Branch Banner Project

A Branch Banner was created for the State Convention several years ago. A Milwaukee artist designed the needlepoint panels for the banner and Branch members did the needlework. However, the white background on each panel was never completed. If you can needlepoint and are interested in helping us complete this project, contact Barbara Spiegel at spiegelba@gmail.com. The banner will be displayed at upcoming Branch meetings.

Smart Women Smart Money Conference – October 15th

State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias will host a financial literacy conference for women in the Chicago area on **Thursday, October 15** at the UIC Forum, 725 W. Roosevelt Road in Chicago. The theme for the 2009 Smart Women Smart Money conferences is “**From Surviving to Thriving.**”

McDonald’s USA Executive Vice President Jan Fields will be the opening speaker, sharing what she has learned during her 30-year ascent from fast food crew member in Dayton, Ohio, to the first woman Chief Operating Officer at McDonald’s USA.

The luncheon speaker will be Dr. Tahira Hira, a consumer finance professor and executive assistant to the president of Iowa State University. During the breakout sessions, Shundrawn Thomas, senior vice president at Northern Trust, will be back by popular demand to present an update on the economy. Other morning sessions will cover such topics as stretching your dollars, financial planning, education and changing careers, investments, and going back to school and making career changes.

In addition to a full schedule of morning breakout sessions, this year’s Smart Women Smart Money conference is being expanded into the afternoon so that those who can stay can learn even more about how to manage their money wisely -- from understanding your credit scores to avoiding financial scams, and using the computer as a financial tool.

Smart Women Smart Money conferences, now in their ninth year, present a unique opportunity for women to learn about current financial issues, network with other women, and showcase their businesses and organizations. The SWSM conference is presented by Dollars and Sense Inc., a nonprofit organization. Certified Illinois teachers may earn one (1) CPDU for attending.

Check-in will begin at 8:00 a.m., and the Smart Women Smart Money conference will follow from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. The conference is free but pre-registration is required. Register online at www.treasurer.il.gov under the Smart Women Smart Money link. Group registrations are encouraged (10 guests/table). Please contact Pat Newton-Curran if you would like to sit at the AAUW table.



Mission Statement of AAUW: *AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.*

Value Promise: *By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.*

Vision Statement: *AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.*

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 membership is open to any graduate who holds an associate or equivalent degree from a qualified educational institution or a baccalaureate of higher degree from an accredited institution of higher education.

The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Important Dates

October 17, 2009 AAUW-IL Fall District 4 & 5 Conference Oakton Community College
April 30 – May 1, 2010 AAUW-IL State Convention, Lisle, IL Hyatt Lisle
June 16-19, 2011 AAUW National Convention, Washington D.C., Renaissance Hotel

AAUW National website: www.aauw.org

AAUW-IL website: www.aauw-il.org

Chicago branch website: www.aauw-il.org/chicago

For more information, contact us: chicagoaauw@hotmail.com

Join the Chicago branch on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=16337662299&ref=mf>



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Address correction requested

Chicago, IL branch was founded in 1889. This is our 120th year!

