



American Association of University Women

LOMBARD, IL AREA BRANCH

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March 2007

March Program: Birthing Babies in the 1890's



"Birthing Babies in the 1890's." Pat Walton, domestic arts specialist from Kline Creek Farm in Winfield and a former president of the Wheaton/Glen Ellyn AAUW Branch, will show slides and share anecdotes about the life of farm women in DuPage County.

**Weds, March 14
7 p.m.**

First United Methodist Church
Main & Maple, Lombard

Birthing Babies

Six in the City: Saturday, March 31, 2007

A MOVIE EVENT!

Meet Felicia Middlebrooks, Director/Producer of ***Somebody's Child: The Redemption of Rwanda*** at Landmark's Century Center Theatre on Clark & Diversey in Chicago.

Join AAUW-IL and WITASWAN for an exciting Women's History Month program on Saturday, March 31, 2007. Meet Felicia Middlebrooks, 29-year veteran journalist and CBS Radio Anchor/WBBM Newsradio 780 since 1984 and Director/Producer of *Somebody's Child: The Redemption of Rwanda*.

Returning from a riveting trip to Rwanda in Spring 2004, Felicia received accolades for her groundbreaking special reports on the 10th Anniversary of the aftermath of the 1994 genocide in which a million people were slaughtered. She made her first documentary film *Somebody's Child*, recording her experiences. Felicia will provide a personal introduction to *Somebody's Child*, show her film, and take questions from the audience.

Under the banner of WITASWAN (Women in the Audience Supporting Women Artists Now), five Illinois organizations are collaborating on this exciting Women's History Month program, the 3rd in WITASWAN's annual series of events celebrating Women's History Month.

- American Association of University Women-Illinois
- Association for Women Journalists
- International Women Associates
- Illinois Woman's Press Association
- Women in Film/Chicago

For more information and reservation forms, go to: www.films42.com/witaswan.asp.

Advance reservations postmarked by March 23 are \$15 person or \$10 for seniors/students, or \$20 at the door, based on space available.

Mail your reservation form and check to Barb Spiegel, AAUW-IL, 7438 N. Artesian Ave. #1N, Chicago, IL 60645.

RSVP to Doris (630) 629-2695 or dcschertz@comcast.net so we can carpool. Bring friends and colleagues for a great diverse turnout.

9:00 am - Leave by car from Doris's. RSVP if coming and if you can drive.

10:00 am - Arrive Landmark's Century Center Theatre on Clark & Diversey in Chicago.

10:15 am to 12:15 pm: Shop the indoor mall. Eat at the food court.

12:30 pm - Felicia's introduction, film screening and audience questions.

3:00 pm - Leave by car - arrive home by 4 pm.



Doris Schertz, (630) 629-2695

Mission Statement

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

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 associates or higher degree from an accredited institution of higher education.

AAUW's Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research & self-development of women and to foster equity & positive societal change.

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

Branch Officers

**** Change the "-AT-" to @ for real e-mail address ****

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Laurie Driscoll 213-0797
laurdris-at-att.net

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Mary Ann Dion... 353-0149
mdion-at-worldnet.att.net

Newsletter

Leslie Sullla
relsulla-at-comcast.net

Board Meetings

See branch calendar on last page for date/location

Newsletter deadline: Material must be received by Leslie Sullla by the 3rd Friday of the month.

President's Greeting

Dear Members,

2007 is showing signs of being a **positive year for women**. With Nancy Pelosi elected the first woman Speaker of the US House of Representative, a viable woman candidate who believes in equity running for U.S. president, and the hallowed halls of Harvard University having a woman president, progress is being made in our attempts to achieve equity for women and girls.

As a stark contrast, our March meeting will focus on how things were for women over a hundred years ago, particularly when it came to "Birthing Babies in the 1890's." Pat Walton, domestic arts specialist from Kline Creek Farm in Winfield and a former president of the Wheaton/Glen Ellyn AAUW Branch, will show slides and share anecdotes about the life of farm women in DuPage County.



Congratulations to our newly elected Branch officers for 2007-2009 – Loretta Caputo, president, Kathryn Tecza and Betsy Swinson, co-vice presidents for program, and Leslie Sullla, treasurer. At the February 19 branch board meeting, the board approved the appointment of Pat Porep as the secretary to replace Loretta next year. Our branch will be well represented at the state and national AAUW conventions this year. We have elected four delegates, Doris Schertz, Pat Porep, Loretta Caputo and Mary Ann Dion and one alternate, Kathy Brenniman, to represent the Lombard Area Branch at the AAUW-Illinois, Inc. Convention in Bloomington April 27-28. As a past state president, Ruth Sweetser is also a delegate. We also have three delegates to the Association Convention to be held June 28-July 2 in Phoenix – Kathy Brenniman, Loretta Caputo and Mary Ann Dion. I am sorry to have to miss this convention (I will be in Philadelphia as a delegate to the National Education Association Representative Assembly that same week), as it is our very own Ruth Sweetser who will be presiding over the convention.

I hope to see you at the March meeting, Wednesday, March 14 with coffee served at 7:00 PM, the program at 7:30 and a short business meeting following the program.

Laurie Driscoll, President
laurdris@att.net



because
equity
is
still
an
issue



Charting AAUW Bylaws Changes

There's a handy reference chart outlining the proposed bylaws changes to be voted on at the June AAUW convention. Find it by clicking on "Strategic Process" on the home page of www.aauw.org, then clicking "Overview of Proposed Bylaws Changes Chart." The actual web address for the chart is: http://www.aauw.org/member_center/leader_corner/documents/strategicP_proposedBylawsChart.pdf

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AAUW Applauds Harvard's Appointment of Faust

Washington, D.C. – The American Association of University Women applauds Harvard University's appointment of Drew Gilpin Faust as its first female president.



"AAUW has been advocating on behalf of women for 125 years by working to remove educational and professional barriers and we applaud Harvard's decision and extend our congratulations to Dr. Faust," said AAUW President Ruth Sweetser. "After former president Summers' controversial comments about 'innate differences' between the sexes, there was a heightened awareness of the need for changed attitudes about women in higher education and the appointment of Dr. Faust indicates that awareness was not only raised, but resulted in positive action."

In 2006, just 23 percent of college presidents were women, according to the American Council on Education. While that percentage has increased from 9.5 percent in 1986, it is clear that women are still underrepresented in this realm of academia.

"All too often universities fall prisoner to conventions and even stereotypical ideas about leadership that unnecessarily limit their options - and which put female candidates at a disadvantage," Sweetser said. "Today, Harvard notably broke with the tradition of only male presidents and made strides to break the glass ceiling in yet another career field where women are historically underrepresented. AAUW is confident they will be the better for it."

(From www.aauw.org)



Dues News

Members joining between Jan. 1 and March 15 pay only \$22.50 for their Association dues. Total membership fee would be \$46.50 including association, state, and Lombard Area dues.

Beginning March 15, new members will pay \$71 total for a 15-month AAUW membership through June 2008.

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Used Book Sale 2007

It's official.....

The location for the Used Book Sale 2007 is the **First Church of Lombard** at the southwest corner of Main Street and Maple. We will be using the multipurpose area that faces Maple St. We will also have use of the kitchen area and a storage room for the books as they are collected. The storage room has plenty of space for any pre-sorting done prior to moving into the sale area.



This location is highly visible and has the possibility of bringing in foot traffic from around the area. A drawback to the facility is that storage is on one level and the sale area on another. This means we must be extra careful about weeding out books that will not be included in the sale area prior to moving things around.

Collection of books for the sale will begin on June 25-July 31. Barrels will go out for five weeks, including the week of sorting. Drop off dates at the church will be announced prior to June 25. Dates will be similar to those used last year. (Friday evening, Saturday morning)

Sorting will be done July 24 – July 31. Sale days are August 1-4 (pre-sale August 1 and the bag sale on August 4). The usual sign up grids will be available for volunteers at our regular branch meetings and callers will also be arranging the schedule of helpers.

Most of the key chairpersons are in place. There are still a few gaps to fill including callers to set up the volunteer schedule, confirmed chair/chairs for the move out, and someone to be lead the drop off days at the church.

The relationship with First Church has been very positive during our discussions and signing of a contract. If both sides are pleased with the book sale experience this year, this location could become the ongoing site for us in future years to come.

Please support our fundraising efforts by being generous with your volunteer time. Your help is very important to us and we need you!

Janet Miller and Sue Meadows, book sale co-chairs.



Agape Ringers: A Lombard Concert



The Agape Ringers, an outstanding bell choir, will perform in Lombard at the First United Methodist Church, 155 S. Main Street on Palm Sunday, April 1, 2007 at 4 PM. Tickets are \$12.00 and are available at the church office (630)627-5180. Kathy Brenniman

Loyalty Award and Branch Pride Recognition

Each year AAUW-IL invites its 60 branches to nominate one member for the Loyalty Award in recognition of long time contributions to the branch and to AAUW ideals. AAUW-IL also invites each branch to submit a summary of a special project that the branch has done.

This year **our branch nominee for the Loyalty Award is Kathy Brenniman**, a branch member since 1974. She has held several positions on the branch board, including president. She is a recipient of AAUW's Career Development Grant which she received in her first year of law school. As payback, she served 6 years on AAUW's Career Development Panel (2 as chair) and 4 years on the Educational Foundation Board as a director-at-large. She currently serves on the branch board as Co-membership VP, Legal Advocacy Fund Chair, and Bylaws Chair. She has also mentored Jennifer Wilken, currently serving on the EF Board and running for Development VP of that board at this year's Association Convention.

The special project submitted this year for **Pride Recognition is the Branch Book Sale**. Last year's sale was truly phenomenal considering we did not find an adequate space until mid-June for the August sale. Because of the smaller space, we had to make many adjustments. The main planning committee consisted of almost 20 people, and a large percentage of our members helped us gross an unbelievable **\$10,789.05** at that location. We netted **\$8,802.55** and sent **\$5,300** to AAUW's Educational Foundation. The remainder was awarded to local scholarship recipients.

Doris Schertz



LAF Update



Big news from the Legal Advocacy Fund! One of AAUW's funded plaintiffs was awarded \$725,000 in a discrimination suit settlement with the University of California – Davis. Michael Burch, former coach of the UC-Davis men's wrestling team, reached a final agreement with the UC Regents on January 19th after a nearly four-year struggle with the school system. When he outwardly supported the right of women to participate in wrestling, he was fired. He filed suit in 2003 for Title IX violations. The settlement awards him \$725,000 for damages and attorney fees, but does not result in his reinstatement. He is currently teaching and coaching in Rhode Island. More details are available on the AAUW website at www.aauw.org.

Our branch has sent our contribution to the LAF. Individuals may send contributions to: Legal Advocacy Fund, AAUW, 111 16th Street, Washington, DC, 20036

Kathy Brenniman, Legal Advocacy Fund Chair

New Member Corner



We are pleased to announce that two new members, recruited by Kathryn Tecza, joined our branch at the February luncheon. (Cynthia's and Helen's addresses and phone numbers will be e-mailed separately to our branch members.)

Cynthia Gong – a floral designer whose botanical illustrations are displayed at the Morton Arboretum. She lives in Riverside. B.A. Art, UCLA

Helen Tartakoff – a corporate paralegal for 20 years. Helen resides in Lombard. B.S. Developmental Biology, Syracuse University M.S. Developmental Biology, NYU

Kathryn Tecza is now a member of the AAUW Hall of Fame (see membership area of the AAUW website at www.aauw.org) for bringing in at least one new member. So, everyone, let's match her efforts and increase our membership, now at 67 and growing!.

Doris Schertz and Kathleen Brenniman
Co-Vice Presidents, Membership



Write-in Candidate: Lombard Library Board Election 4/17

Gary Brenniman, husband of branch member Kathy Brenniman, is a write-in candidate for a four-year term as a Lombard Library Board trustee. Previously, Gary served two years on the Library Board and one year on the Village of Lombard Environmental Concerns Committee. He has been asked to run as a write-in candidate for a the four-year trustee position for which there are no slated candidates. Gary spent two years on active duty in the Army Medical Service Corps and retired after 30 years as a professor of Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

When voting for a write-in candidate, the voter must mark or darken the box **AND** write in the name of the candidate on the line provided at the end of the list of candidates. For example:

Scout Finch _____

If you have any questions about Gary's candidacy, e-mail him at grbrenn@aol.com

Kathy Brenniman

Interest Group Calendar

All Lombard Area AAUW members are welcome to attend any of these interest group programs. Have an idea for a new interest group? Bring your idea to the board.



Mystery Buffs (1st Wednesday)
Chair: Barbara Kozi, 620-0352
Mar 7, 7 pm at Mary Ann Mrazek's
Book: Gumshoe Awards
(multiple books)

Cinema (2nd Monday)
Theme: "Two Thumbs Up Cinema"
Chair: Loretta Caputo, 932-0224
Mar 12, 7:15pm at Mary Ann Dion's
Flags of Our Fathers



Women's Issues (3rd Tuesday)
Chairs: Carol Schuh, 629-8817,
and Marilyn Gustafson, 325-1475
Mar 20, 10am at Mary Ann Grady's
Program: TBA
As always, guests are welcome!

Literature (3rd Friday)
Chair: Loretta Caputo, 932-0224
Mar 16, 1 pm at Marilyn Gustafson's
Book: Morning on Horseback
by David McCullough



Sweet Story of Success:

Rachel Spencer (Jan Gehrman and Doris Schertz's cousin's daughter) had a book-signing at Barnes & Noble in Chicago and Naperville for her first book Au Paris, memoirs of her experiences as an au pair in Paris. Rachel is 25 years old, a graduate of the University of Arkansas, and a writer for the Houston Chronicle. Most Barnes & Noble stores carry it in paperback.

Doris and Jan

AAUW-IL, Inc
Lombard Area Branch
126 S. Chase Ave.
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Mission Statement

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

Need Information?

Lombard Area Web Site:
www.aauw-il.org/lombard/

State Web Site:
www.aauw-il.org

AAUW Member Helpline:
800/821-4364
helpline@aauw.org
www.aauw.org

Congressional Action Line:
202/785-7786

Lombard Area Branch American Association of University Women

Branch Calendar

March

March 7 - Mystery Buffs, 7 pm; Mary Ann Mrazek's
March 12 - Cinema, 7:15pm; Mary Ann Dion's
March 14 - General program, 7 pm, First United Methodist Church: "Babies and Birthing 1890's"
March 16 - Literature, 1 pm; Marilyn Gustafson's
March 19 - Board meeting, 6:45 pm, Loretta Caputo's
March 20 - Women's Issues, 10am; Mary Ann Grady's

Future

April 21 - Branch program, 9 am; First United Methodist Church: "Lombard Women Taking Care of Business"
April 16 - Board meeting, 6:45 pm, Mary Ann Dion's
April 27 - 28 - AAUW Illinois State Convention, Bloomington

June 29 - July 2, 2007 - AAUW National Convention, Phoenix



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