

Wednesday, March 10: Tour Maple Street Chapel

Please plan to gather for refreshments at 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs room of the First Church of Lombard, and then walk over to the Maple Street Chapel for a tour and meeting. *Anyone arriving later than about 7:20pm should go directly to the Chapel.*

Maple Street Chapel celebrates its 140th Anniversary May 29, 2010. In celebration, Dr. Thomas Scott (as perhaps Josiah Reade himself) gives us a tour of the first church of Lombard, dedicated May 29, 1870. Not only was it the first church; its Chapel bell summoned the volunteer fire brigade and the south classroom became Northern Illinois' first free library, which ultimately developed into the Helen Plum Memorial Library. Lombard's first kindergarten gathered in the Chapel and Lincoln School graduated its first 8th grade class there. Before movies were available, it showed lantern slides and silent films. It also served as the first Village Hall.

In 1978 Maple Street Chapel was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The pews, wainscoting and wide plank flooring remain as it was back in 1870. In 1900 "beaded board" was added to cover the soot-covered walls above the wainscoting. Much of the woodcarving is unchanged, having been carved in Oberammergau, Germany. The American Gothic bat and board design, rare calico windows, numbered pews, and the simple elegance of the Chapel's sanctuary add to its importance as an historic site. In 2000 the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society was formed to maintain, preserve and promote the Chapel by providing community and broad-based educational, cultural, civic affairs and human services, social and charitable opportunities. Today more than 1,000 people annually visit the Chapel for concerts, weddings, baptisms, services, memorials, civic tours, occasional Village meetings and presentation of the Lilac Princesses. Today the Chapel is open for guided tours every 3rd Sunday from 2 – 4 pm.

We'll meet in the multi-purpose room, our usual meeting place, for social hour at 7 pm and move to the Chapel at 7:30 pm. It's a great time to bring friends and neighbors who've always wanted to see the Chapel. Following the tour, we'll gather in the pews as Tom plays the organ and takes questions, followed by our business meeting, but without the pot-bellied stove and gas lights.

*Doris Schertz and Betty Meyer, Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society Board
Gale Wiedman and Heidi Fraser, Program Co-Chairs*

Weds, Mar. 10
7pm

*Maple Street
Chapel Tour*

Begin at First Church
of Lombard
~ Upstairs ~



Maple Street Chapel - 1907

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 (EF) is the world's largest source of funding exclusively for graduate women. EF also funds the **Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF)** which works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

Branch Officers

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Co-Vice-Presidents/Program

Heidi Fraser

Gale Wiedman

Co -Vice-Presidents/Membership

Barb Madigan

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Secretary

Kristi Miller

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Newsletter, Web site

Leslie Sulla

Newsletter deadline: Material must be received by Leslie Sulla by the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Find more information about AAUW

our branch: www.aauw-il.org/lombard/

state: www.aauw-il.org

national: www.aauw.org

AAUW Member Helpline:

800/821-4364

helpline@aauw.org

President's Corner



Well it's time to think about and plan for our Aug 4 - Aug 7 **Book Sale** again! The contract with First Church has been signed and, as you may have heard, we have some important changes for this year:

- 1) We will be occupying the Church for a shorter period of time but all of the sort will be done upstairs in the Multi-Purpose Room, the same location as the sale. This, of course, eliminates the need to move all those heavy boxes of books from the lower level and all the way down the hall.
- 2) The sort dates will be July 21 through August 3. This amounts to fewer days but, by eliminating the need to move all the boxes, the sort should run much smoother and "move-in" will be partially accomplished day-by-day. In addition, we are saving a considerable sum in rent.
- 3) There will be two drop-off weekends — July 23-24 and July 30-31. While there are fewer drop-off dates, the barrels will be in the stores for the usual amount of time so that we still receive the books our friends and neighbors have been saving for us!

Book Sale sign-up sheets were passed around at the luncheon and almost everyone in attendance signed up to help with one or more of the many tasks needed to produce a successful Book Sale and raise the funds to provide our Return to Learning and local high school scholarships, as well as our support of the national Education Fund and Legal Advocacy Fund.

Please mark these dates on your calendar so you will be able to help with this, our greatest project all year. We are hoping that **all members** will contribute some time and effort to our Book Sale. Remember those old signs "Uncle Sam Needs You," well **the Lombard Area AAUW Book Sale Needs You!**

Speaking of the February luncheon, we hope you were able to be there to enjoy the delicious menu and the program by Dr. Craig Broeder and his wife, who spoke about his grueling 9,000 mile bicycle ride to increase awareness of Ovarian Cancer. Mrs. Broeder is a twenty-year survivor of this disease. His ambitious ride and fortitude in completing the plan in one hundred days was truly amazing. Dr. and Mrs. Broeder have established a foundation to raise funds for research.

Once again, let me remind you that the **AAUW Illinois 2010 convention** will be held in Lisle on Friday, April 30, and Saturday, May 1. The keynote speaker will be Linda Hallman, the executive director of AAUW in Washington. We don't usually have the opportunity to attend a state convention and hear such a keynote speaker this close to home.

Lastly, please join us for the March meeting, which begins with refreshments and social time at 7:00 and then continues as Dr. Thomas Scott serves as our docent for a tour of the Main Street Chapel, followed by a short business meeting. Hope to see you then.

Mary Ann Dion, President

Dare To Dream Conference Update

Atrevede a Sonar Educate! (Dare to Dream: Get Educated) is set to go on April 24, 2010 at Elmhurst College. This year we are planning for 200 eighth grade Latina girls and 140 moms.

On January 30th we held, with Elmhurst College, a very successful STEM Conference for 80 high school and middle school girls of all ethnic backgrounds, including Latinas and alumnae of our 2009 Dare to Dream Conference, who are interested in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) careers.

There are a number of ways Lombard AAUW members can help with this year's Dare to Dream Conference:

- Give us suggestions for businesses and organizations we can approach for freebies to put in the girls' bags;
- Donate money to the Conference (see the Donation Letter in last month's newsletter); and/or
- Donate your time on the day of the Conference, April 24th. Some of you have signed up already, and we will have the sign-up sheets at the March meeting.

Thanks in advance for your support of this very important Conference that has already impacted many Latina middle school girls and their mothers.

Kathy Brenniman, 630/627-5180, kfbrenn@aol.com

Doris Schertz, 630/629-2695, dcschertz@comcast.net

Dare to Dream Co-Chairs

Welcome New Board Members!

We voted for Membership and Secretary at our February 13 luncheon. Please welcome these vibrant women to their new positions on the board! Congratulations, and thank you for sharing your time with our branch.

Membership Co-VPs: Kristi Miller and Betsy Swinson

Secretary: Danielle Byron

Robert Crabbe

I am sad to report that Robert (Bob) Crabbe passed away February 7. The memorial will be on a later date. His wife, Marge, who passed away 2 years ago, was a vital member of our branch for over 50 years.

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Legal Advocacy Fund

As I watched the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics, I was reminded of AAUW's position on Title IX and the importance of participation in sports by women and girls. The following information is an excerpt from AAUW's position paper:

Title IX: Equity in School Athletics.

Women and Girls Benefit from Athletic Participation

AAUW believes that expansion of athletic opportunities for girls and women must continue at both the high school and college levels, because it is important not only for the participants themselves but for the benefit of the greater community as well. Studies repeatedly show:

- Girls thrive when they participate in sports and are less likely to get pregnant, drop out of school, do drugs, smoke, or develop mental illness.
- Girls who participate in sports develop a strong work ethic and good school habits. College graduation rates are significantly higher for female athletes (71 percent) than for female students in general (64 percent). Female high school athletes of all races and ethnicities tend to have higher grades and significantly higher graduation rates than non-athletes.
- Participation in sports teaches women important professional lessons that have lifelong influence. For example, 80 percent of women identified as key leaders in Fortune 500 companies participated in sports while growing up. Furthermore, 82 percent of executive businesswomen played sports, with the majority saying lessons learned on the playing field contributed to their success.
- Athletics offers many students a ticket to higher education, since the opportunity to play sports helps many middle and low-income students—who may otherwise be unable to attend college—gain access to higher education.
- Organized sports enhance the educational experience by providing opportunities for leadership, teamwork, and competition.
- Organized sports offer personal contacts with adult role models who can provide guidance and support, which are beneficial at both secondary and postsecondary levels.

More information about Title IX and the entire position paper is available at www.aauw.org.

Laurie Driscoll, Branch LAF Chair

Tax Time Reminder

While working on your income taxes, remember that \$46 of your 2009-2010 AAUW dues are tax-deductible!

Ruth Sweetser Honorary Fund

As many of you know, AAUW-IL Inc. established the Ruth Sweetser Honorary Fund to honor Ruth for her many years of exemplary service to AAUW on the local, state, and national level, particularly for her four years as AAUW President during a difficult time of transition for our organization. One of the AAUW programs that Ruth has helped to make very successful is NCCWSL (National Conference of College Women Student Leaders) that is held annually in the DC area to provide guidance and encouragement to young women college leaders.

I am extremely pleased to announce that the threshold amount of \$20,000 has been met, with a large percentage of that amount donated by Illinois AAUW members and the Illinois State Board. Because we have reached the amount set, Ruth will be honored in a number of very important ways at this year's NCCWSL Conference to be held at the University of Maryland June 3-5. The Ruth Sweetser Honorary Fund will be used to fund NCCWSL Conferences, including the cost of sending young women to the Conference.

I want to thank all of our branch members who contributed to Ruth's fund. We are still accepting contributions. Please make the check out to AAUW Funds, write Fund #4340 in the memo line, and send the check to me. You may also donate on line at www.aauw.org.

*Kathy Brenniman, Educational Foundation Director, AAUW-IL
kfbrenn@aol.com; 630/627-5180, 428 West Ethel, Lombard*

2010 Used Book Sale Dates

End of June - End of July: Barrel Pickups

Friday & Saturday, July 23-24, 30-31:
Dropoffs at Church

Wed., July 21 - Tuesday, Aug. 3:
Continual book sorting in upper room

Wed., Aug. 4 - Sat. Aug. 7: Our Used Book Sale at First Church of Lombard



Amendments to Branch Bylaws

Now that our Branch Bylaws have been changed to conform with the changes to the AAUW Bylaws that were approved at the AAUW Convention in St. Louis last June, we are reviewing and recommending changes to our Branch Bylaws to clarify and streamline them. The Bylaws Committee - Laurie Driscoll, Janet Miller, Pat Porep, Mary Ann Dion, and Chair Kathy Brenniman - are meeting to recommend changes.

These proposed bylaws will go to the Branch Board first and then to the whole membership at the May meeting. Copies of the proposed bylaws will be sent to all members two weeks before the May meeting. A two-thirds vote is necessary for passage.

Kathy Brenniman, Branch Bylaws Chair
630/627-5180, kfbrenn@aol.com



Six in the City - March 24 SWAN Movie in Chicago

Support Women Artists Now!
Six in the City Celebrates SWAN Day
Wednesday, March 24 - **Film Screening of Eileen Douglas' "My Grandfather's House"**
Harold Washington Library, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

We'll go by Metra (leave Lombard 5:04 pm; arrives Chicago 5:49 pm). Walk or taxi to the Library (Congress and State). Eat a bite afterward. Take Metra home (9:40 pm from Ogilvie station arrives Lombard 10:20 pm.)

E-mail Jan Gehrman if you can come
jan3102@comcast.net

"My Grandfather's House" is a personal documentary of Eileen Douglas' search to find her grandfather's house in Lithuania, the home he lived in and left behind in 1911 when he fled, at 16, from Kovno to America to escape the Tsar's Army. Four decades after his death, with only fragments to guide the way, the documentary is Douglas's attempt to lift the veil of darkness and discover "where it all began."

The documentary weaves together original film footage, family photographs, archival records, translations of old Yiddish letters, family reminiscences, interviews, conversations and music scored to evoke a vanished era. Eileen began her career as a reporter/anchor and became one of the country's first women news directors, before starting Douglas-Steinman Productions. The Library of Congress selected "My Grandfather's House" for a rare honor – inclusion in its motion picture division's permanent collection.

Interest Group Calendar

All Lombard Area AAUW members are welcome to attend any of these interest group programs.



Mystery Buffs (1st Wednesday)

Chair: Barbara Kozi

Mar 3: 7:00 pm. - Heidi Fraser
Books written by Julie Hyzy

Dining on a Dime (1st Monday)

Chair: Pat Porep

Mar 1: 6:30pm Rock Bottom Brewery,
Yorktown



Lit Wits (2nd Monday)

Chairs: Lisa Clark, Leslie Sulla, &
Heidi Koberstine

Mar 15: 7 pm

Anyways, Roosevelt Rd, Villa Park
Tran-Sister Radio or The Skeletons At the Feast or The Secrets of Eden
by Chris Bohjalian



Literature (3rd Friday)

Chair: Loretta Caputo

Mar 19: 1pm at Lois Hockman's

Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth
Strout



Six in the City (various)

Chair: Doris Schertz

March 24:

International SWAN Day!

My Grandfather's House at Harold
Washington Library. See details at left.

Women's Issues (3rd Tuesday)

Chairs: Marilyn Gustafson

Mar 16: 10am: at Lois Hockman's

Billie Jean concludes

"Unmentionables"

RSVP to Marilyn at 630/325-1475





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

www.aauw-il.org/lombard/
www.aauw-il.org

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



American Association of University Women
LOMBARD AREA BRANCH
BRANCH CALENDAR - FEBRUARY 2010

March

Mon, 3/1 - Dining on a Dime. 6:30pm: Rock Bottom Brewery, Yorktown

Weds, 3/3 - Mystery. 7p. Heidi F.'s

Mon, 3/8 - Lit Wits. 7p. Panera's, Glen Ellyn

Weds, 3/10 - 7p. General Meeting; First Church of Lombard

Mon, 3/15 - Board Meeting. 7pm. FOCUS, Lombard

Tues, 3/16 - Women's Issues. 10am. Lois's

Fri, 3/19 - Literature. 1pm. Lois's

Future

Sat, 4/24/10 - Latina Conference, Elmhurst College

4/30 - 5/1 - AAUW-Illinois State Convention, Hyatt Lisle, Lisle

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