



Lombard Area Branch (IL)

50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Vol. 50 No. 2

October 2008

October Program: Challenges Faced by Latina Women

Join us for an outstanding meeting! **Dr. Lourdes Ferrer**, educational researcher and consultant, will speak on "Challenges Faced by Latina Women in DuPage County". Dr. Ferrer will discuss education and job issues as well as strategies being used to address these problems.

Dr. Ferrer grew up in a disadvantaged family in Puerto Rico where she quickly learned that the way out of poverty was through education. This understanding led her to complete her undergraduate degree in mathematics and begin teaching. She left Puerto Rico in 1979 to do community development work in Guatemala and then on to a Master's Degree with a focus on Research, Evaluation and Measurement.

Dr. Ferrer moved to the U.S. in 1990 where she had to overcome financial, linguistic and cultural barriers to pursue the American Dream. She completed her Ed. D in Leadership and worked for Palm Beach County developing programs to meet the "No Child Left Behind" requirements. Today, Lourdes is a Hispanic Academic Achievement and Parental Involvement Specialist who assists schools and districts in their efforts to close the achievement gap. She is a passionate speaker and advocate for all minority children and their parents as they navigate their way through the educational process.

Three local branches (Downers Grove, Elmhurst and Wheaton-Glen Ellyn), our co-sponsors for the "Atrevete a Sonar: Educate" - "Dare to Dream: Get Educated" conference we're hosting at Elmhurst College on April 4, will be joining us for this October meeting. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about the purpose and program for the conference as well as hearing a speaker on the cutting edge of progress in education.

Betsy Swinson and Pat Porep,
Program co-vice presidents



Dr Lourdes Ferrer

Weds, Oct. 8

7p: Meet & Greet
7:30p: Dr. Lourdes Ferrer

First Church of Lombard
- Upstairs -

AAUW Gains Special Consultative Status with U.N. Council

(reprinted from AAUW's Washington Update e-mail, 9/10/08)

WASHINGTON – AAUW has gained special consultative status at the United Nations with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), which initiates reports, makes recommendations, and promotes respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. For many years, AAUW has had a U.N. representative attending select meetings and monitoring issues affecting women and girls. The new designation allows AAUW to participate in international conferences, sign on to NGO statements, and share AAUW's expertise.

"We closely follow a variety of international issues ranging from girls' education to women's economic security to human rights to women in peacekeeping," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. "This new status will strengthen AAUW's presence globally and provide us with greater opportunities to engage in U.N.-related activities and initiatives that break through barriers for women and girls."

AAUW has a proud history in global affairs that includes awarding more than 2,200 international fellowships to women from more than 130 countries and partnering with leading international humanitarian organizations on initiatives to empower women.

Next year, AAUW will actively advocate for women at the 53rd session of the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, which will focus on the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS.

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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Loretta Caputo

Co-Vice-Presidents/Program

Pat Porep

Betsy Swinson

Co -Vice-Presidents/Membership

Barb Madigan

Lynn Berndt

Secretary

Kristi Miller

Treasurer, Newsletter, Web site

Leslie Sulla

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

Find more information about AAUW

www.aauw-il.org/lombard/

www.aauw-il.org

www.aauw.org

AAUW Member Helpline:

800/821-4364

helpline@aauw.org

President's Greeting



Greetings! What a wonderful beginning to our new year. We started out with a delicious supper – I love potlucks – and then had a wonderful presentation by Judge Bonnie Wheaton in which she informed us of how the number of female lawyers and judges has grown, but they still face unequal pay in equal numbers with other professions. Very interesting presentation.

We had the book sale report, and there will be a pizza party/followup meeting on Oct. 2nd at FOCUS for chairs and volunteers, hosted by Kathy and Deb. (details on page 5.)

We have 2 new members introduced by Lynn Berndt and we had a number of guests there, so a good time was had by all.

Both our branch and the national organization are working on revisions of the by-laws and Kathy Brennum will present some proposed changes for our branch at a future meeting.

Bebe Mosillo had the yearbooks ready for us and if you weren't there, it will be mailed to you.

Heidi Koberstine, our Ways and Means co-chair, is working on some new fundraising ideas and will tell us more later. Also we have wonderful new programs in the works which are listed in your yearbook.

For example, did you know that next year will be our 50th anniversary? Betsy is planning to go all out to celebrate in May with a FEAST, so we have something to look forward to. Details later.

For October, we will be meeting with the Elmhurst branch, Wheaton/ Glen Ellyn, and Downers Grove which we will host at First Church, and we will learn all about the Dare to Dream – Get Educated conference that we are all working on. It should be a very productive and informative meeting. Hope to see you all there.

Loretta Caputo, President

AAUW District Conference: Sat, Nov. 8

Plan now for the November 8 conference "Breaking Through Barriers" at the College of DuPage. As usual, this is a combined conference for Districts 4 & 5, and will include presentations, round table discussions, and EF/LAF shopping.

Saturday, Nov 8: 8:30am - 12:30pm (Includes breakfast!)

Registration and \$20 are due by October 27.

College of DuPage, 425 Fawell Blvd, Glen Ellyn

The room will be the Jack H. Turner conference center, 2800 Student Resource Center, 2nd Floor, use parking lot F.

The registration form & conference schedule can be found at in your fall Link (not delivered yet as of this newsletter writing), and at http://www.aauw-il.org/PDFs/fall_conf_08.pdf

2008-2009 Scholarship Thank You

Our branch received this thank you note from Kathryn Argentine, the recipient of our Glenbard East High School scholarship.

"Thank you so much for your generous scholarship. It will greatly aid me at Monmouth College. Your generosity just shows that people can help each other, even if they don't know them. Thank you again. I hope to be a great teacher some day, and with the education you are helping me receive at Monmouth I know I will help our future children. Thank you."

These heartfelt thanks bring home the reason we work hard all summer preparing for our successful book sale. Thank you to everyone who helped this year. Let's not forget a huge round of applause to our fearless leaders Kathryn Tecza and Deb Dynako!



Six in the City: Lincoln Square: Sat, 10/25

Old Town School of Folk Music: Noon Performance
Lincoln Square Neighborhood Tour and Lunch

Six in the City visits the Old Town School of Folk and Lincoln Square on Sat. October 25. We'll visit the Old Town School of Folk building, Different Strummer Shop, the legendary Merz Apothecary, and enjoy a student graduation performance from 12:00-1:00 pm.

Member Lisa Clark will lead the tour – from the Gallimaufry Gallery, Eclecticity, Laurie's Planet of Sound, public art, including a Maypole and Bavarian mural and Louis Sullivan's last building, the Krause Music Building, ending with lunch at Chicago Brauhaus (a family-owned German restaurant which has been in operation for three generations and sometimes features live music).

When Lisa heads back for her Women's Rock Ensemble class at 2:30, that's when we head back to Lombard. Sign up on the clipboard at the AAUW Sept. or Oct. meeting. Bring a friend. Carpool from Doris' at 10 am! Indicate if you can drive and how many your car can take.

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Membership Matters

Please welcome **Nancy Kerr**, Lombard, winner of the free membership drawing at the September Potluck Meeting. Nancy chatted with Leslie Sulla and Kathy Brenniman for years about AAUW and she has ARRIVED! Nancy has indeed shown us at the potluck that sock wear is important when working with children in the library. Nancy is our 75th member this year! Leslie Weis, Oakbrook, Marti Henning, Glen Ellyn joined us that evening as fabulous guests of Kathy Brenniman. Also, Gail Baker, sister to the very well known Carol Schuh, joined us from New Mexico. Bios will be added as I get them.



I read a quote at the beginning of the meeting from Women Who Run With the Wolves by Clarissa Pinkola Estes, Ph.D., to help members get in the mood and to share stories with each other about their journeys in education up until now. Stories of paths thought to go one way and twisted another, paths thought to be certain and turned out unknown. High peaks where

things move quickly forward, low valleys where one barely seems to inch any which way. Many were surprised at how much they did not *know* about the people they've *known* for years. My point in doing this was and is that new members need to know us and we need to know them. We are an organization but we are also woman struggling with our confidence, self respect, and intuition and we need to help each other as best we can, or what is it all for?

I apologize for the vexatious 3-letter word in this quote but I repeat it with love and admiration.

"I once dreamt I was telling stories and felt some one patting my foot in encouragement. I looked down and saw that I was standing on the shoulders of an old woman who was steadying my ankles and smiling up at me. I said to her, 'No, no, come stand on *my* shoulders for you are old and I am young.' [This is where I apologized for that nasty 3 letter word- old- remember the quote says it, not me] 'No, no,' she insisted, 'this is the way it is supposed to be.' I saw that she stood on the shoulders of a woman far older than she, who stood on the shoulders of a woman even older, who stood on the shoulders of a woman in robes, who stood on the shoulders of another soul, who stood on the shoulders...I believed the old dream-woman about the way it was supposed to be. The nurture for telling stories comes from those who have gone before. Telling or hearing stories draws its power from a towering column of humanity joined one to the other across time and space, elaborately dressed in the rags and robes or nakedness of their time, and filled to the bursting with life still being lived. If there is a single source of story and the numen of story this long chain of humans is it."

continued next column

Branch Bylaws Amendment: To be Voted Oct. 8

Recently a few individuals have expressed an interest in joining our branch. Although they are very supportive of AAUW's mission and want to get involved in branch activities, they are not eligible to join because they currently do not have an associate's or equivalent degree. Therefore, after thorough discussion by our branch board, the following amendment to the Branch Bylaws is presented for your approval at the October 8 meeting. The change will permit individuals who do not qualify for full AAUW membership (State and Association) to join our branch and participate in branch and interest group activities. A discussion of the proposed bylaws change will be held at the meeting where any questions will be answered and comments heard. Other Illinois branches have made a similar change to their Bylaws.

The motion is as follows:

Move to amend the Lombard Area AAUW Bylaws, Article V. Membership, by adding the following new Section 6:

Sec. 6 Community Members.

Any individual who does not qualify for full AAUW membership may join the Lombard Area Branch as a Community Member, paying \$30.00 dollars in branch dues annually. Community Members may attend branch meetings, participate in branch activities, belong to Branch Interest Groups, vote on branch issues, receive and be listed in the branch yearbook, and receive the branch newsletter. Community Members may not serve on the Branch Board or represent the branch at AAUW conventions as a delegate.

Passage of the proposed amendment requires a 2/3 vote of all those at the business meeting on October 8 following the joint branch meeting. The Branch Board voted unanimously to support the proposed amendment.

Kathy Brenniman
Bylaws and Policy Chair
(kfbrenn@aol.com; 630/627-5180)

Membership Matters, cont.

If I don't hear of stories being told I will make you girls actually stand on each other's shoulders in a big ol' column- to which I say -Good Luck and Ben Gay!

Lynn Berndt (berndtmark@Comcast.net) (630-629-1068)
Barb Madigan (bmm60148@Comcast.net)(630-6208938)
Co-Vice Presidents, Membership

Operating Budget: To be Voted Oct. 8

Each fall we must vote to accept our branch's operating budget. The following is the proposed budget for this fiscal year of 2008-2009. We'll discuss and vote on the operating budget on Wednesday, October 8.

Proposed Operating Budget 2008 - 2009

	2007-08 Actual	Proposed 2008-2009
INCOME		
Balance Forward		3350
Advertising	400	400
Dues	1265	994
Interest Inc	16	10
Ways and Means	114	300
<i>Total Income</i>		<u>1704</u>
TOTAL	<u>1,795</u>	5,054
EXPENSES		
By-Laws	0	0
Contributions	100	100
Delegate Expense-Natl <i>(carries over 2 years for 2009 natl convention)</i>	0	1200
Delegate Expense-State	120	120
Insurance	125	150
Membership	29	50
Misc	0	25
Newsletter	513	450
Officer Expense	10	60
Programs	285	400
Public Policy	0	10
Rent	90	120
Social & Hospitality	73	140
Yearbook	103	100
<i>Total Expenses</i>	1,449	<u>2,925</u>
Balance Forward		<u>2,129</u>
TOTAL		5,054

You can also find this budget on page 10 of your yearbook. If you have questions, call me.

We will wait to vote on the Proposed Philanthropic Budget until after the October 2 book sale wrapup meeting/celebration.

Leslie Sulla
Branch Treasurer

Support the National Women's History Museum

Although women constitute a majority of the population, their lives,



achievements, and contributions are often underrepresented in museums in the U.S. Recognition of the achievements made by American women will promote a better understanding of our history and culture for all. The **National Women's History Museum**, a nonpartisan, nonprofit educational institution dedicated to preserving, interpreting, and celebrating the diverse historic contributions of women and integrating this rich heritage fully into our nation's history, needs congressional action to allow them to purchase federal land for a permanent museum near the National Mall in Washington, D.C. In this year of women breaking through historical barriers, urge your representative to support legislation to make this dream a reality.

In 1999, the President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in American History called for a women's history museum in Washington, D.C. and cited the efforts of the NWHM toward that goal. While several previous attempts have been made to this end, a permanent museum to celebrate women's role in history still does not exist in our nation's Capital. On July 17, 2008, Reps. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) and Deborah Pryce (R-OH) introduced **H.R. 6548** to allow the NWHM to purchase land across from the National Mall at fair market value for the purpose of building such a museum.

AAUW strongly supports H.R. 6548 and is a proud member of the NWHM Coalition, a group of national women's professional and service organizations committed to supporting the NWHM mission. In a year when many women have made history, we recognize the importance of remembering how far we have come and honoring the women who have played an integral part in getting us here.

Take Action!

To **urge your representative to cosponsor and support H.R. 6548** to give the National Women's History Museum a permanent home, click on the "Take Action" link in the upper right corner or copy and paste the following URL into your Internet browser. Then follow the instructions to send your message. <http://capwiz.com/aauw/issues/alert/?alertid=11912561&type=CO>

For a virtual stroll through 125 years of AAUW's history, visit the AAUW online museum.

Washington Updates from AAUW, September 2008

No Evidence to Support Effectiveness of Abstinence-Only Programs

Abstinence-only sex education programs, which have received \$1.5 billion in government funding, have again been widely discredited as ineffective and inaccurate by a major review. The National Sexuality Research Center published a [review by Douglas B. Kirby](#) comparing the effectiveness of abstinence-only and comprehensive sex education programs, based on various studies conducted on programs through the states. The review found that abstinence-only programs do not delay the initiation of sex or reduce the amount of unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections in youth. Also, many abstinence-only programs misinform students about the effectiveness of condoms and contraceptive options, either by over-exaggeration or inaccurate facts. Comprehensive sexuality education programs, however, were found to be much more effective.

AAUW supports the right of every woman to obtain medically accurate information about and access to safe and comprehensive reproductive health services. AAUW opposes federally funded programs that limit young people's information and choices by promoting only abstinence. Read more about AAUW's position on federally funded abstinence-only programs.

Title IX Violation Ruled in California College

The U.S. Department of Education's [Office for Civil Rights](#) found that San Diego Mesa College violated portions of Title IX, the AP reported. Some of the "identified disparities," including the scheduling of games, use of locker rooms, use of practice and competitive facilities, and availability of medical and training facilities, were found to be "more than negligible and collectively established a violation of Title IX." The allegations were brought by a former women's basketball coach and her domestic partner, a former assistant. Other allegations brought by the coaches, such as a failure to provide proper equipment and supplies, the opportunity to receive coaching, the assignment and compensation of coaches, and the availability of support services, were rejected by the OCR. Mesa College has agreed to rectify the violations and make necessary changes and improvements.

Visit the [LAF's Resource Library](#) for information and resources for students, coaches, administrators, and others concerned about equitable opportunities in college athletics.

Women Play Sports in Higher Numbers but Do Not Coach or Manage in Higher Numbers

[USA Today](#) has reported that since 1973, when Billie Jean King's defeat of Bobby Riggs in a "battle of the sexes" tennis match set women on the path of becoming great athletic competitors even against male opponents, women have made great strides in athletics. Title IX has led to a significant number of women athletes since it was passed in 1972. Even though great female athletes are all around today such as Venus and Serena Williams and Danica Patrick we have yet to see a huge increase of women athletic directors or coaches at major universities. Currently the percentage of female athletic directors at Division I colleges and universities is 4.2 percent compared to 33.7 percent at Division III universities.

AAUW strongly supports Title IX and opposes any efforts that would weaken its effectiveness or undermine its enforcement. AAUW believes that expansion of athletic opportunities for girls and women must continue at both the high school and college levels. Read AAUW's position paper on equity in school athletics.



The AAUW Value Promise:

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks
through educational and economic barriers
so all women have a fair chance.

Book Sale Wrap-Up and Celebration

Join Kathryn and Deb to discuss the 2008 book sale and to enjoy some pizza! Bring your comments and suggestions for the next book sale. Chairs, please bring your book sale reports if you haven't turned them in yet.

When: Thursday, **Oct 2, 7:30 pm**

Where: Focus (Cove Plaza, 22nd Street, next to Brooster's Chicken)

RSVP: Kathryn Tecza at 630/971-0661, kathyinlisle@comcast.net

Reuseable Cloth Eleanor Bags for Sale

They first caught your eye at our book sale. You admired the amount of books and groceries and important items they can hold. Don't despair if you haven't gotten your very own Eleanor bag yet -- they are still available.



For the reasonable price of \$3, you can stylishly advertise our branch while carrying large amounts of food, books, or supplies to your next meeting. They make terrific gifts for the ecologically-minded persons on your list.

The bags will be available at our general meetings, OR you can pick one (or more) up at my house! Get 'em while they're hot...

Leslie Sulla



New Interest Group: Evening Literature

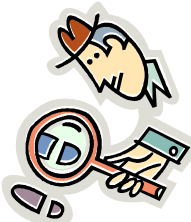
Join the NEW evening literature group at our first meeting Monday, October 13th at 7:00 p.m. at Lombard's Helen Plum Library, 110 W. Maple, in the Board Room. Please come prepared to say a few words about a book you've read recently that has really stuck with you. Be sure to know the author and title to share.

We'll have snacks and plan the direction of our new interest group -- including choosing a name for our interest group!

Lisa Clark, Heidi Koberstine, Leslie Sulla
Co-chairs

Interest Group Calendar

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



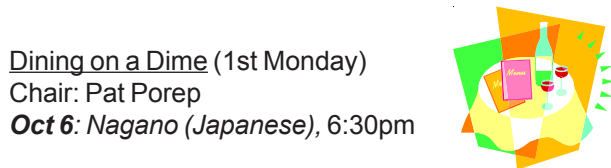
Mystery Buffs (1st Wednesday)

Chair: Barbara Kozi

Theme: Chicago mystery writers

Oct 1: *Mary Ann Mrazek's, 7 pm*

Author: David Ellis (from Downers Grove)



Dining on a Dime (1st Monday)

Chair: Pat Porep

Oct 6: *Nagano (Japanese), 6:30pm*



Evening Literature (2nd Monday)

Chairs: Lisa Clark, Leslie Sulla, & Heidi Koberstine

Oct 13: *Lombard Library, 7pm*

We'll plan the direction of this new group. See article to the left.

Literature (3rd Friday)

Chair: Loretta Caputo

Oct 17: *Carol Schuh's, 1 pm*

Water for Elephants

by Sara Gruen



Six in the City (various)

Chair: Doris Schertz

Sat, Oct 25: Old Town School of Folk Music and Lincoln Square
See article on page 3.

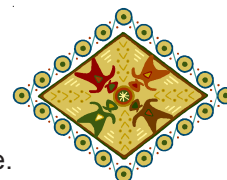
Women's Issues (3rd Tuesday)

Chairs: Marilyn Gustafson & Carol Schuh

Oct 21: *Carol Schuh's, 10 am*

Program: China, by Therese Xie.

She spent most of her life in China and wrote a political history titled "The Victimized"



Cinema (2nd Monday)

Oct 13: This group has disbanded, but Loretta would like to go out to movies.

Call Loretta at 932-0224 for movie and theater.





Mission Statement

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

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American Association of University Women

LOMBARD AREA BRANCH

BRANCH CALENDAR - OCTOBER 2008

October

- Oct 1** - Mystery Buffs, 7pm; Mary Ann Mrazek's
- Oct 2** - Book Sale Wrapup/Celebration, 7:30pm; at Focus
- Oct 6** - Dining on a Dime, 6:30pm; *Nagano*, Lombard
- Oct 8**- General Program: Meet & Greet 7pm, Program: 7:30pm
First Church of Lombard, UPSTAIRS
- Oct 13** - Cinema, Call Loretta for theater and movie
- Oct 13** - Evening Lit, 7pm; Lombard library
- Oct 17** - Literature, 1 pm; Carol Schuh's
- Oct 20** - AAUW board meeting; 6:45pm; at FOCUS
- Oct 21** - Women's Issues; 10 am; Carol Schuh's
- Oct 25** - Six in the City, 10 am; Lincoln Square (see pg. 3)

Future

- Nov 7 - ELECTION DAY**
- Nov 8** - District 4 & 5 Fall Conference 8:30am - 12:30pm;
College of DuPage *Find registration form at www.aauw-il.org*
- Nov 15** - General Program: 9am, Murals of Chicago, First
Church of Lombard, UPSTAIRS



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