

**Volume 62, Number 3  
Spring 2019**

**PLAN TO ATTEND THE AAUW-IL STATE CONVENTION  
MAY 3-4  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
"Moving Forward"**

We are thrilled to have AAUW CEO Kim Churches join us at Convention. Come meet Kim on Friday night and hear her speak on "Beyond Aspirations: Advancing Equity for Women & Girls" and join us for a reception after the talk.



Saturday speakers include Betsy Dirksen Londrigan: "Running for Congress in Illinois's 13th District: A Meaningful Campaign"



LAF Plaintiff Dr. Zoe Spencer: "I Am Worth More"





The meeting is always interesting and fun – More information and the registration form can be found in the AAUW-IL spring newsletter [https://aauw-il.aauw.net/files/2019/03/link\\_spring2019.pdf](https://aauw-il.aauw.net/files/2019/03/link_spring2019.pdf)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINES: Early Bird – Submitted or postmarked before April 12, 2019.**

**General Deadline: Submitted or postmarked by April 25, 2019.**

**Questions? Contact Laura Desmarais, Co-VP for Programs, at [lkdesmarais@gmail.com](mailto:lkdesmarais@gmail.com) or 630-854-2730, or Sue Stauffer at [staufferrw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:staufferrw@sbcglobal.net) or 847-985-5560.**



**SAVE THE DATE**

### **May 15th SPRINGFIELD DAY**

Plans are underway for AAUW members, along with other women's advocacy groups, to meet in Springfield at the Capitol on MAY 15th to advocate for equity for women and girls. Mark your calendar now! SPRINGFIELD DAY will begin around 10 am with AAUW-IL's legislative consultant, Jenni Perdue, educating attendees on the Illinois State legislative process. Attendees will also learn the "lay of the land" before heading out to meet with representatives. Armed with talking points and leaving behind materials regarding Public Policy issues that are important to AAUW, our message to our legislators will be on point and consistent. Depending on the legislative session that is happening on May 15th, AAUW-IL attendees may even get to sit together in the gallery and be recognized by the Speaker! After advocating at the Capitol, members will regroup for a late lunch together at a nearby cafe before returning home. SPRINGFIELD DAY is generating a lot of excitement among AAUW-IL members. Details will be finalized soon, and you can sign up at the State Convention.

### **Branch Annual Meeting**

At the upcoming (April 15) Board meeting, the plans will be finalized for our annual meeting. Please watch your emails for information on the date, time, and location, and plan to be with us.



## BRANCH MEMBER NEWS

Long-time member **Bernadine Evans Stake**, 92, died February 23, 2019. Her obituary, which appeared in the *News-Gazette*, outlined the full life she lived as a family and community member. A celebration of life will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Saturday, April 20, at 1:00 p.m. Rev. Florence Caplow will be the Pastor, and Matthew Gladden will be the Pianist. A reception will follow at the Channing Murray Foundation, at 1209 W. Oregon in Urbana, at 3:00 p.m.

At this year's inaugural Seventy Over 70 event that recognized seventy outstanding individuals in our community, we are proud to congratulate two of our Branch members for being honored – **Betty Van Es** and **Helen Satterthwaite**. The profiles of these two can be found along with the those of the other recipients in the April 5 *News-Gazette*.

## BRANCH EVENT NEWS

There were several recent interesting and engaging events in which branch members participated in the planning and/or attended. Thanks to those who participated and submitted pictures and information for inclusion in this newsletter.

### NCCWSL

In 2018, the Branch provided support to Libby Haywood to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) held at the University of Maryland-College Park. Libby's article about her experience concluded with these remarks:

"I am thankful for the opportunity to hone my leadership skills and build my network in person and online. NCCWSL opened my eyes to the vast community of women leading the charge to transform their communities. It was encouraging and empowering experience that I would recommend for all women."

For the 2019 NCCWSL conference, our Branch is helping support the participation of a UIUC undergraduate student (Claire Ang), who is a Molecular and Cellular Biology major. She is recognized as a student leader in MCB and The School of MCB is cosponsoring with our Branch to provide a \$1200 scholarship for Claire to attend this year's conference, which takes place at the University of Maryland from May 29 – June 1, 2019. In her application, Ms. Ang had this to say:

"I will celebrate the multiplicity of women's accomplishments and learn what I can do to further them. I will develop an understanding of my own position and responsibilities as a woman in STEM. I will work to diversify representation in all fields."



## Title IX Program

On Saturday, April 6, our spring program was held at Ko-Fusion in Champaign. Participants had the pleasure of hearing from two staff members at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Danielle Morrison, JD, PhD, Title IX and Disability Coordinator at UIUC and Sarah Colome, Director of the Women's Resource Center. They spoke on Title IX and its current status given recent changes.



More information about Title IX can be found at <https://wecare.illinois.edu/titleix/>

## Equal Pay Day

At the April 6 program, Branch President Laura Keller provided information on Equal Pay Day 2019 – a reminder of the importance of the AAUW mission to promote pay equity! Laura's comments are included here:

### Equal Pay Day 2019

*Equal Pay Day, the day the average woman's pay in the U.S. catches up with the average man's pay from the previous year, was April 2 this year. That's eight days better than last year when it was April 10, but at this rate of increase, it will take until 2059 to bridge the paycheck gap between the sexes.*

*The pay gap is often expressed in contrast to a man's earned dollar. Viewed that way, the average American woman earns 80 cents to each dollar earned by the average man. That's the percentage used to calculate Equal Pay Day each year. Broken down intersectionally, however, most subgroups of women do worse. Although Asian-American women's rate stands at 85 cents, that reflects their, on average, higher education level. White women's rate is 77 cents. Black women's Equal Pay Day is August 22 with a*



*rate of 61 cents. Native American women earn 58 cents with equal pay achieved on September 23, and Hispanic women take almost the entire year to achieve parity on November 20 with a rate of 53 cents.*

*Over a year's time pay disparity costs women \$10,169 on average. Over a lifetime, that adds up to a lot of money lost.*

*What has been done to address the problem? The Equal Pay Act of 1963 made pay differentials based on gender illegal but there were many problems with implementation. Many women were unaware that their pay was less than a man's in the same job, and by the time they became aware of that difference, it was too late under the law to do anything about it. The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 addressed some of the problems by changing the requirement that a claimant file within 180 days from the first unequal paycheck to allowing filing within 180 days from each unequal paycheck.*

*More is needed. The Paycheck Fairness Act just passed in the House in March and will now come before the Senate. It closes more loopholes in the original act by increasing penalties for employers who discriminate, directing federal agencies to collect and distribute data on pay discrimination, and barring retaliation against women who seek information on pay disparity. Of course, passage of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution would codify equality under the law. AAUW supports these changes and lobbies Congress for their passage.*

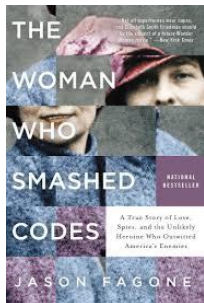
## Branch Special Interest Groups

### Adelante Book Discussion

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 6:30 to 8 pm

Sattherthwaite Conference Rm, Urbana Free Library

Contact Sallie Miller [millersallie@hotmail.com](mailto:millersallie@hotmail.com) or Laura Keller [kellerla@comcast.net](mailto:kellerla@comcast.net)



On April 17 the group will discuss ***The Woman Who Smashed Codes: A True Story of Love, Spies, and the Unlikely Heroine Who Outwitted America's Enemies*** by Jason Fagone. A bestseller and NPR pick in Best Books of 2017, this book unveils America's codebreaking history through the life of Elizabeth Smith Friedman whose work spanned from WWI to the Cold War.

May book - ***Becoming*** by Michelle Obama.  
June book - ***The Other Einstein: A Novel*** by Marie Benedict.  
July book - ***To Siri with Love: A Mother, Her Autistic Son, and the Kindness of Machines*** by Judith Newman  
August book - ***The Bookseller of Kabul*** by Asne Seierstad.

### Drama Group

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 3 pm (April and May)  
Contact Cesaria Lancaster [fwclancaster@yahoo.com](mailto:fwclancaster@yahoo.com) or 217  
384-7798 or Betty Cook, 815-686-2262 or  
[blcook22@frontier.com](mailto:blcook22@frontier.com)

### Drinks & Dialogue

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 6 to 8 pm  
Sun Singer, Champaign  
Contact Gail Tittle [gatittle@gmail.com](mailto:gatittle@gmail.com)

### Great Decisions

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 6:30 to 8:00 pm  
home of Carol Veit, 604 W. Stoughton, Apt. 22, Urbana.  
Contact Carol Veit, 217-552-1486, [carol\\_veit@yahoo.com](mailto:carol_veit@yahoo.com)

Great Decisions discussions utilize a DVD and written materials from the Foreign Policy Association on issues of international interest. Books are available for purchase.

## 2018-2019 Board

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## News from AAUW (<http://www.aauw.org/>)

Below is partial text from a recent email sent to members urging us to vote in the 2019 AAUW National Election. The email included the information to permit online voting (member number and PIN) – Please exercise your right to vote!

# AAUW NATIONAL ELECTION VOTE 2019

Your voice and your vote are vital to AAUW's future. That's why it is so important for you to participate in the 2019 AAUW National Election to elect members to our board of directors and set AAUW's Public Policy Priorities. Online voting is now open and will close on May 14 at 6:00 p.m. ET.

We have ambitious work to do towards our mission as we seek to expand AAUW's Work Smart salary negotiation program, support key legislation and partner with employers to implement fair-pay practices. Your vote will determine the board leaders who will guide AAUW as we seek to achieve equity for women and girls.

This year, you'll also be voting on amendments to our 2019–21 Public Policy Priorities, providing the framework for the advocacy work we do at the local, state and national levels.

We encourage you to vote online to ensure your ballot will be received and counted immediately. The deadline to request paper ballots is April 12, and all paper ballots must be postmarked by April 26. You can find more information about the [candidates for the AAUW Board of Directors](#) and the [2019–2021 Public Policy Priorities](#) on the AAUW website.

If you have questions, feel free to contact us at [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) or 800.326.2289, Monday–Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET.

We are grateful for all you do, and I encourage you to vote today. AAUW's future is in your hands.

Thank you for standing with us,



**Champaign-Urbana Branch  
Illinois 4012**

Please send news items, comments or corrections to: Deborah Richie, editor