



---

## AAUW CONNECTION MORTON, ILLINOIS BRANCH *April 2014*

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

**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.

Association website: <http://aauw.org>

Illinois state website: [www.aauw-il.org](http://www.aauw-il.org)

Morton Branch AAUW website: <http://morton-il.aauw.net/>

Editor: Judy Griffin, email: [grifjns@frontier.com](mailto:grifjns@frontier.com)

---

### **PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE:**

Hello Ladies!

Welcome Spring!

Your AAUW board members have been busy! Please read their reports.

What do you think about having a Meet and Greet this year?

How about selling our old jewelry and purses to raise money to buy AAUW pavers for Arts in the Park and the Downtown Plaza?

Many thanks to our workers at the Winter Fine Arts Concert and readers to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students.

Please consider going to the spring state conference at Pheasant Run on May 3<sup>rd</sup> with Sharon Farney, who will be sharing her expertise on a membership panel. Let her know if you would like more information.

Looking forward to our Wine/Cheese & Book Review Program at Lynne's lovely home. Don't feel like you need to have read the books to come.

Take care,  
Patti Erwin  
President

### **Local news**

#### **Program**

April Branch Meeting: April 8, 2014

Location: Home of Lynne Walters  
126 Maple Ridge Drive

Time: 7:00 PM

## Program: **WINE, CHEESE, AND BOOKS**

The program for the April meeting will be a review of 2 books. The book, the Aviator's Wife, will be reviewed by Lora Kober. Susan Scott will do a review of Behind the Beautiful Forevers. If you've read these books, you'll be able to add your observations to the discussion. If you haven't read them, the discussion may prompt you to read the books at a later point in time. I encourage you join us for a stimulating discussion along with some tasty wine and delicious cheese.

Diane Pflederer  
Program Vice President

Message from Inaam, last month's presenter:

I copied the links of the movie, which tackles sexual harassment in Egypt and I also recommend if someone is interested in the political situation to help vision the bigger picture, to watch a documentary entitled 'The Square' it's available on Netflix.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DEkdGHLvEPw>

The English subtitled can be turned on from the 'cc' button on the bottom right-side of the screen.

Inaam

## **Lunch Bunch**

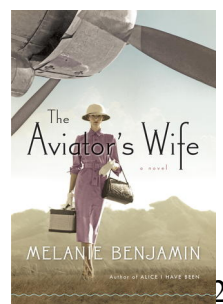
WASHINGTON IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!! Have you been hearing that slogan on TV commercials? Well, let's support our neighbor in need by having our next lunch at Madison's on the Square on Wed, April 16. The address is 106 Walnut, Washington. It's located on the square behind the florist. This tearoom was formerly owned by the same owner as the Mackinaw Depot. You will see similarities in the menu and they also feature the "Trio" that the Depot is famous for. Call or email Sharon if you can attend this fun luncheon and support Washington at the same time. You might even want to do some shopping while you're there. We'll eat at 11:45 am and work out a carpool arrangement with those that are attending.

Sharon Farney

## **Book Review**

Sue Roth has selected the following two books for our reading pleasure:

**The Aviator's Wife** by Melanie Benjamin is a historical fiction story about Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh.



For much of her life, Anne Morrow, the shy daughter of the U.S. ambassador to Mexico, has stood in the shadows of those around her, including her millionaire father and vibrant older sister, who often steals the spotlight. Then Anne, a college senior with hidden literary aspirations, travels to Mexico City to spend Christmas with her family. There she meets Colonel Charles Lindbergh, fresh off his celebrated 1927 solo flight across the Atlantic. Enthralled by Charles's assurance and fame, Anne is certain the celebrated aviator has scarcely noticed her. But she is wrong. You'll have to read the book to learn more.

The other book is narrative nonfiction, called **Behind the Beautiful Forevers**, by Pulitzer Prize winner Katherine Boo. With intelligence, humor, and deep insight into what connects human beings to one another in an era of tumultuous change, the reader is carried headlong into one of the twenty-first century's hidden worlds, and into the lives of people impossible to forget. It's a book about Annawadi, a makeshift settlement in Mumbai, India.

**BGBG** will meet at Lynne Walters" on **April 2<sup>nd</sup>**, 126 Maple Ridge Drive at 7 PM. The book to be discussed is Life after Life by Kate Atkinson. Please let Lynne know ASAP if you are attending. Her **new** email address is: [danlynne1968@yahoo.com](mailto:danlynne1968@yahoo.com)

## **Community**

### **AAUW Funds:**

Concessions at Bertha Frank in March brought in \$244.40. One hundred dollars went into our checking account for expenses and \$144.40 went into the Grant fund.

### **2014 RELAY FOR LIFE**

There is going to be a Morton Relay for Life. It will be held on May 31, 2014 from 3:00 PM-10:00 PM at the Apostolic Church on Jefferson in Morton. AAUW has a team and we still need more team members. You can go to [www.relayforlife.org/morton](http://www.relayforlife.org/morton) to register. Our team name is AAUW (American Association of University Women) Morton IL Branch .I will be attending a Relay for Life meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM before our AAUW April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, so I will share with you more information that evening. Consider becoming a team member for a good cause.

Linda Young

## **Education**

### **Grant**

Laura Fuoss Memorial Grant applications are available at the Morton Library and due on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Committee members are Roberta Beutel, Diane Pflederer, Becky Walker and Judy Griffin.

## **Membership**

The following is a message from the national AAUW

**AAUW Members and Volunteers, We Salute You!**

Everyday, we ask you—our members and volunteers—to make an effort to empower women and girls. Not only do you do this, but you do it well. From leading our national board, to planning state and national conventions, holding fundraisers, and pulling off powerful local programming, you do so much to help realize AAUW's mission, and we cannot thank you enough.

With that in mind, AAUW's national staff have designated the last week of March as Member and Volunteer Appreciation Week. While we couldn't possibly cram all our thanks into one week, we want to make sure you know how much we appreciate all you do to empower women and to make AAUW the powerful community it is.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

--AAUW national staff

**2014 AAUW IL, Inc. State Convention**

**Friday-Saturday, May 2-3, 2014**

**Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL**

Consider attending the AAUW state convention this year. It's a great way to learn about the function of our state offices and obtain training in various topics. The main events are on Saturday. The general day looks like this:

8:00 Breakfast Buffet

9:00 Opening session-Andrea Danis, IL State President

9:15 Mark Hopkins, Chief Strategy Officer AAUW

10:15 Awards and Business

11:00 Equal Rights Amendment

11:40 Changing the Toy Equation

12:15 Luncheon

1:45- 4:00 Breakout Sessions

The choices for breakout sessions are:

GirlForward

Investing in Young Women

Public Policy 101

Responsible Fundraising

Multiplying your Membership

Responsible Fundraising

Check out the spring issue of the AAUW-IL Link for all of the details and explanations of events.

Sharon Farney will be attending the convention. The deadline to register is April 14 so there's still time for you to sign up, too. It's a worthwhile experience so please consider.

Sharon has been asked by Rachel Campbell, state co-membership chair, to be part of a panel discussion during the "Multiplying your Membership" breakout session at the convention. Our Morton branch has seen a 23% increase in membership from 2011 to

2014. Because of our great success, Sharon was asked to participate and share what we have been doing as a branch and give ideas to other branches.

Sharon Farney  
Membership Chair

Dues of \$68 are due June 1<sup>st</sup>. Please bring your dues to the APRIL or May meeting to give to Mary Venden.

**Jan update:**

Mar 29, 2014

Hi,

As many of you know we are in Arizona for a two week stay. The weather is certainly warmer here than in the Midwest, and we sure are enjoying a change in scenery after a long winter. Jan tolerated the plane trip quite well and the trip was made much easier by considerate airport and car rental personnel.

Jan started her second session of oral chemo on Thursday (she is on two weeks and off on the third). After this session she will have another scan to evaluate the effectiveness of the new chemo. Following the assessment we will continue to move onward a day at a time. We appreciate the support you continue to provide. Thank you for your thoughts, love, and prayers. Please continue to pray, first prayers of Thanksgiving for all of our blessings, and secondly for the effectiveness of the chemo and Jan's healing.

Have a Happy and Blessed Easter.

Faith, Hope and Love,  
Chuck and Jan

**Public Policy Report**

April 8<sup>th</sup> is Equal Pay Day. AAUW urges its members to tell their representatives to support legislation that would expand federal contracting opportunities for women-owned small businesses. Enabling women to grow their businesses will empower many women to become their own bosses, who are more likely to pay fairly and provide better benefits. AAUW has released the 2014 THE SIMPLE TRUTH ABOUT THE GENDER PAY GAP! This handy guide has updated statistics about the pay gap by race and education levels and details about how the pay gap increases as women get older.

Check out the study online.

**Side note:** Wondering why the pay gap still persists today? New analysis by the Institute for Women's Policy Research show that stagnant wages for women over decades has prevented the gap from closing! (Who knew? HA!HA!)

Lynda Hootman  
Public Policy

Corresponding secretary,  
Judy Griffin