



Lombard Area Branch (IL)

50 YEARS STRONG!

Vol. 51 No. 1

September 2009

Wednesday, September 9: Health Care Reform: How it Effects Women

Marti has been speaking on "Women and Health Care Reform" since 2006, when she keynoted at the AAUW Great Lakes convention. She is a life member of AAUW and has also spoken at national convention. Aside from speaking and advocacy, her passions are travel and dancing Argentine tango.

Marti Sladek is a "recovering litigator", who according to her profile has heard many folks state, "You do not seem like a lawyer!" Well, she is not your typical lawyer, and takes those words as a compliment. Marti attended law school in her 40's and owns a practice concentrating on employment issues.

Pot Luck details: A new AAUW year is starting and we will be celebrating with a Pot Luck on Wednesday, September 9 at the First Church of Lombard. Please come, carrying food, to the upstairs meeting room at 6:30pm.

If your last name begins with A - R, bring a salad or hot dish, and if S - Z, please bring a dessert. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Gale Wiedman, Heidi Fraser, Program Co-chairs

Weds, Sept. 9

**6:30 pm: Potluck
and Program**

First Church of
Lombard
~ Upstairs ~

**We will vote on these budgets at our
September 9 meeting.**

Proposed Philanthropic Budget

	Actual 2008-2009	Proposed 2009-2010
Beginning Balance	\$4,000	\$3,385
INCOME		
Book Sale Income	13,170	11,000
Interest	50	-
<i>Total Income</i>	<i>13,220</i>	<i>11,000</i>
TOTAL INC	<u>17,220</u>	<u>\$14,385</u>
EXPENSES		
Book Sale Expense	4,375	3,150
Insurance	-	-
LAF (@ \$5/member)	400	335
EF Committee	200	165
Sub-Total, Expenses	4,975	3,650
Scholarships-Local (40%)	3,500	3,415
Scholarships-EF (60%)	5,550	5,120
Total Scholarships	9,050	8,535
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<i>14,025</i>	<i><u>12,185</u></i>
Balance Forward		2,200
TOTAL EXP		<u>\$14,385</u>

Proposed Operating Budget

	Actual 2008-2009	Proposed 2009-2010
Beginning Balance	\$ 2,300	\$ 1,985
INCOME		
Advertising	300	400
Dues	666	938
Interest Income	2	-
Ways and Means	349	420
<i>Total Income</i>	<i>1,317</i>	<i>1,758</i>
TOTAL INC	3,617	<u>\$3,743</u>
EXPENSES		
By-Laws	-	10
Contributions	-	100
Delegate Expense-Natl	1,199	500
Delegate Expense-State	45	60
Insurance	125	125
Membership	-	50
Misc	25	15
Newsletter	419	400
Officer Expenses	25	45
Programs	399	400
Public Policy	-	-
Rent	120	105
Social & Hospitality	140	140
Yearbook	119	120
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<i>2,616</i>	<i><u>2,070</u></i>
Balance Forward	1,001	1,673
TOTAL EXP	\$ 3,617	<u>\$3,743</u>

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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Mary Ann Dion

Co-Vice-Presidents/Program

Heidi Fraser

Gale Wiedman

Co -Vice-Presidents/Membership

Barb Madigan

Diane Dassow

Secretary

Kristi Miller

Treasurer

Cathy Bussa

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

www.aauw-il.org/lombard/

www.aauw-il.org

www.aauw.org

AAUW Member Helpline:

800/821-4364

helpline@aauw.org

President's Corner



The new slate of officers and board members have been hard at work planning for the coming year of programs and activities. We hope you will be pleased with the interesting and thought-provoking programs planned by Gale Wiedman and Heidi Fraser, our new Co-Vice Presidents—Program. In particular, please plan to be in attendance at the

September meeting to hear Marti Sladek, a local attorney and co-president of the Downers Grove Area Branch of AAUW, who will try to help us understand how the proposed health care reform affects women. No matter what your position is on this controversial issue, the presentation is timely and the discussion will be lively. Guests are always welcome and your friends and neighbors may be interested in this subject. Please talk to them about this opportunity and invite them to join us.

Lisa Clark has agreed to be Publicity Chair for the current term but she would appreciate having a co-chair as she travels for business from time to time and would appreciate a partner. The demands of this job are light but the rewards are great—the gratitude of many and the success of our meetings and activities. If you have any interest in this subject, please speak to Lisa or to me.

Our annual Book Sale was a success as usual but, considering the difficult economy this year, we netted a bit less than last year. However, we can still offer our High School Graduate and Return to Learning Scholarships. Heartfelt thanks are extended to all who donated books, gathered or sorted them, made telephone calls, and/or worked the sale. Without all of these efforts (and some members spent innumerable hours), it would have been impossible to raise the necessary funds to help women further their education.

We hope to see each of you at our September 9 meeting at 7 pm. A few members have kept us wondering, so if you still need to remit your dues, please see our new Treasurer, Cathy Bussa. Check out our various interest groups and the book lists for our three literature groups. Take advantage of old and new friendships and old and new activities. Get involved!

Mary Ann Dion, President (630/353-0149)

In Memoriam: Gay Starrak



Long-time AAUW member Gay Starrak died August 10. Gay lived in Lombard for 40 years and joined our branch in 1983. She wrote a weekly column called "Calling All Cooks." Another weekly food column of hers was nationally distributed. She also wrote and directed a daily 15-minute radio program for the National Livestock and Meat Board.

Gay was a member of many professional organizations including American Women in Radio and Television, the International Microwave Power Institute, Women in Communications, and the American Meat Science Association. Gay enjoyed writing, traveling, playing bridge and volunteering.

Our branch will remember Gay with a memorial to the AAUW Educational Foundation.

Ways and Means: It's a New Year

Thanks to everyone for your commitment of time and money last year! We added \$349 to our operating budget last year, and this year we have an even bigger challenge. We are hoping to raise \$420, which will require everyone's help. There will be Shop N Share fundraisers, opportunities for eating at restaurants that donate back to our group, and hopefully participation in at least one Carson's Days event. And, of course, another shopping opportunity at Saret Charities before Christmas. I am also seeking new ideas for fundraising and I am sure some of you have ideas, so please share them with me!

Our first **Jewel Shop & Share will be September 28-30**. The coupons will be distributed at our Sept. 9 program, and will be available soon on our web site (www.aauw-il.org/lombard).

Heidi Koberstine, Ways and Means Chair

Latina Conference: April 24, 2010

Save the Date for Saturday, April 24, 2010, for the 2nd Annual Dare To Dream Conference for Young Latinas, to be held at Elmhurst College.

The goal is to encourage 7th and 8th grade Latina girls to achieve their potential by staying in school, graduating and daring to dream of college and careers. AAUW branches involved are Lombard, Elmhurst, Downers Grove, Wheaton/Glen Ellyn, and Naperville. The Lombard Area Board recently voted to support the conference once again with a \$500 donation from our special fund. Thank you so much for your support. If you have ideas to make it even better, we'd be happy to hear your recommendations.

*Kathy Brenniman, 630/627-5180, kfbrenn@aol.com;
Doris Schertz, 630/629-2695, dcschertz@comcast.net
Latina Conference Co-chairs*



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Eric D. Bergsten, D.V.M.	Thomas J. Welsh, D.V.M., Ph.D.



Used Book Sale 2009

Once again we have come through a successful book sale and are tired but happy! We grossed \$10,931 and netted \$7,855 (rounded off). There are still a few bills to pay, but they are small and exact figures will be available soon. Many thanks to the majority of members who worked long and hard to make our sale a success.



We certainly had a lot of books donated by the community for the sale with many unsold, as always, donated to the Great American Garage Sale that they hold in August to benefit other DuPage charities. We thank all those who contributed books to our sale. We thank First Church for being so supportive of our sale. Our thanks also to the many Lombard stores who helped us out whether with publicity, grocery carts, boxes and trays, or just for agreeing to have one of our barrels in their stores.

Thanks for the teens, boy scouts, husbands, who gave freely of their time and muscles to work in many capacities. Dealers came as always to get in on the bargains. We are so grateful for the enormous support of our community.

Your coordinators and chairs met as a group on Friday, the 14th of Aug. to discuss the sale in general and give input and feedback on how to make it better next year. Our thanks again to all of our members who participated in our main fundraiser that donates money for scholarships to women and girls. As always, we welcome any of your comments and suggestions for next year's sale.

Your 2009 Book Sale Coordinators: Kathy Brenniman, Loretta Caputo, Barb Madigan and Doris Schertz

Straight from the Students

Enjoy some quotes from the middle school students who attended April's Dare to Dream Latina Conference. They responded to "One thing I learned from this panel is..."

- ◆ Pick something that you really enjoy doing, because you will always be proud of yourself.
- ◆ Life is hard, everyone knows, so no matter how bad the past was, just keep moving forward.
- ◆ Every woman, no matter what race, is beautiful inside and out, and strong and independent.
- ◆ Dream whatever you want and achieve it. Stay in school and get an education.
- ◆ Try all the time, no matter what happens. Help others that help me or need my help.

AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF)

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

LAF works to combat sex discrimination through community and campus outreach programs, a resource library and online advocacy tools, and various research reports. In collaboration with the Public Policy and Government Relations department, LAF seeks *amicus curiae* opportunities in workplace sex discrimination cases. LAF also provides support to workplace sex discrimination cases that have the potential to make a difference for all women.

AAUW National Convention

Lilly Ledbetter, the face of pay equity, joined AAUW members for the entire 2009 AAUW National Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, where she raised more than \$5,000 for the Legal Advocacy Fund by spending hours giving autographs. Not only did she sign hundreds of copies of the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* article about her life and the national convention, she also signed everything else members brought to her—from AAUW magazines to napkins. It was wonderful for members to get to know her personally and to learn of her commitment to AAUW, in particular to our work to protect women in the workplace.

Amicus Briefs

New Ruling: On June 29, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a 5–4 opinion in favor of the firefighters in *Ricci v. DeStefano*. AAUW joined the National Women's Law Center, in conjunction with the National Partnership for Women and Families, in signing an amicus brief in support of the city of New Haven, Connecticut. The case involved a firefighter promotion test that the city feared had a disparate impact on minority firefighters, so no promotions were made. A group of 20 white firefighters and one Hispanic firefighter sued New Haven for violating their Title VII employment rights. Read more on [AAUW Dialog](#).

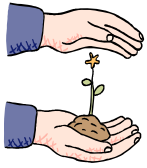
New Case: Also on June 29, AAUW joined the National Partnership for Women and Families and the National Employment Lawyer's Association on an amicus brief for *Reeves v. C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc.*, in support of plaintiff Ingrid Reeves. Reeves experienced daily instances of sexual harassment at C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., where she was only one of two female employees at a branch in Birmingham, Alabama. Reeves complained several times about the harassment, but her grievances were ignored. She filed suit against her employer for hostile work environment sexual harassment under Title VII. The district court granted summary judgment to the employer, but the 11th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals will rehear the case following a panel decision that reversed summary judgment.

Online: For the latest LAF news, visit the AAUW website at www.aauw.org/advocacy/laf.

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to LAF to help balance the scales of justice for women.

Laurie Driscoll, LAF Chair

Membership Matters



Some time this fall, we hope to provide each member with a new set of personalized AAUW **business cards**. What are these for, you ask? You might pin one to your bulletin board as a reminder to mention AAUW to a friend when she calls. You might carry them in your purse or briefcase and give one to someone you meet in the course of your day, as you tell her about AAUW and invite her to a program. You might even use one as a bookmark and leave it in a library book when you return it!

If anyone else can suggest ways of using these cards to help develop interest in AAUW, please share them with us and we will pass them on in a future newsletter. If you run out of these business cards, let us know and we'll be happy to replenish them.

We would love to enlist the help of a couple of **friendly, outgoing** members at each meeting to help greet visitors and introduce them to others. Just step up to the Membership table and let us know you are available.

We'll see you at the meetings! **Bring a friend**. When you do bring a guest, please be sure to have her stop by the Membership table and add her name to the guest list.

Barb Madigan: bmm60148@comcast.net; 630/620-8938
Diane Dassow: ddassow@comcast.net, 630/932-1523
Membership Co-Vice-Presidents



Six in the City - Geneva

Our first fall outing is to Geneva by train on Friday, September 25. Geneva's "Historic buildings and pristine tree-lined streets offer an escape from the bustle of everyday life. Specialty shops tucked away in architectural gems that were once homes, outstanding restaurants and service-oriented spas provide the perfect atmosphere to recharge." We'll board the 9:22a Metra from Lombard (south side of the tracks going west), and arrives in Geneva at 10:08. We'll visit The Little Traveler and branch out from there. Restaurants abound, so you can eat what tickles your fancy.

We'll return on the 3:37p train which arrives in Lombard at 4:04 pm. Seniors ride free with passes. Sign up on the Six in the City/Suburbs clipboard at the September 9th AAUW meeting or contact Doris Schertz (630-629-2695), dcschertz@comcast.net.

It's free, except for lunch and shopping, so sign up and join us!

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

Sept 2: 7:00 pm. Plan the year!
Mary Ann Mrazek's

Dining on a Dime (1st Monday)

Chair: Pat Porep

Oct 5 : 6:30pm

Buffalo Wild Wings: Branch FUNdraiser



Lit Wits (2nd Monday)

Chairs: Lisa Clark, Leslie Sulla, & Heidi Koberstine

Sept 14: 7 pm

Anyways, Roosevelt Rd, Villa Park

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel

Pie Society by Mary Ann Schaffer and Annie Barrows



Literature (3rd Friday)

Chair: Loretta Caputo

Sept 18: 1 pm at Loretta's

Better by Atul Gawande



Six in the City (various)

Chair: Doris Schertz

Sept 25: Train trip to Geneva

See details to the left.

Women's Issues (3rd Tuesday)

Chairs: Marilyn Gustafson & Carol Schuh

Sept 15: 10 am at Marilyn's

Program on Afghanistan, followed by light lunch at Marilyn's.

RSVP to Marilyn at 630/325-1475





Mission Statement

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

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



American Association of University Women
LOMBARD AREA BRANCH
BRANCH CALENDAR – SEPTEMBER 2009

September

Weds, 9/2 - Mystery. 7p. Mary Ann M's.

Weds, 9/9 - General Program. 6:30p. Health Care Reform. First Church of Lombard. Potluck precedes the program!

Mon, 9/14 - Lit Wits. 7p. Anyways Restaurant, Villa Park.

Tues, 9/15 - Women's Issues. 10 am. Afghanistan; Marilyn's

Fri, 9/18- Literature. 1p. Loretta's

Fri, 9/25 - Six in the City. Visit Geneva. See details on pg. 5.

Mon - Weds, 9/28-30: Jewel Shop and Share Days. Find coupons online (in September) at www.aauw-il.org/lombard

Future

Weds, 10/14- General Program, First Church of Lombard.

Sat, 10/17- Fall Conference for District 4 & 5. 8:30 am - 12:30 pm, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines

Sun. 12/6 - AAUW Jane Addams Celebration at Bowen Park, Waukegan (see www.aauw-il.org for details)

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



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