

Highlights of the Branch from the 1970's.

1970-73—Participated in compiling a county Senior Citizen Services Directory

1971—Herstory Study Group founded by branch a year before the Association officially became involved in the Women's Movement.

1972—"We the People" Study Group (In those days AAUW had study groups in which the first year was study; the second year an action project). Branch compiled "Nuts and Bolts; A Citizens Guide to Local Government" for distribution to branch members and area residents.

1973-74—Developed a Speakers' Bureau for ERA with Glen Ellyn League of Women Voters and DuPage NOW. Volunteers made presentations at organizations throughout the community.

1973ff—"Crisis in Education" study led to branch members volunteering as school board observers at elementary, high school, and COD; Community coffees held with School Board members; Branch position papers on school consolidation and appointed State Boards of Ed; Branch initiates mentoring and tutoring programs.

1973ff—60 Seconds with a Sister, a one minute profile designed to acquaint branch members with notable women is presented at each branch meeting.

1974-75—Sex Role Stereotyping Study Group—Study of local elementary readers. Action project: textbook selection guides prepared for school districts.

1975-76—Bicentennial Project: compiled achievements of women of DuPage County. Action: Provided curriculum units for all local elementary schools.

1977—Branch Membership Directory lists members under their own names instead of that of their husbands (Mrs. Tom Balk became Sue Balk).

1979—"Politics of Food" study group compiles and distributes 1400 pamphlets on preschool nutrition and snack/treats in Wheaton and Glen Ellyn.

1979-80—"At Ease with ERA" program presented by branch members to local community groups.

Branch participated in the Mother's Day March for ERA in Chicago on May 12, taking the Northwestern, dressing in white, and picking up other AAUW members at each RR station.

90,000 women dressed in white marched -down Michigan Avenue, and in Grant Park heard Betty Friedan, Gloria Steinem, Bella Abzug, Jean Stapleton, Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne, and Mary Grefe, President of AAUW, who described herself as a mother, grandmother, and traditional Republican. Speaking for members "from California to Massachusetts, from Minnesota to Louisiana" she told the cheering crowd that "we brought peanut butter sandwiches to Chicago because we are not going to spend any money in Illinois until Illinois ratifies ERA!"

(On May 10, the IL GOP voted down supporting ERA and sent Phyllis Schlafly as an alternate to the Republican National Convention.)