



Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP

Twigs

wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net

January, 2015

A Leaf from the President

Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face.

Victor Hugo

The beginning of this year's winter cold is reminding me of last winter. It came and never left! I am feeling the need to develop a protective shield against the cold. I liked this quote. A shield of laughter, family, good friends and cheer will get us through. I might put it on my fridge next to the TWIGS calendar.

Speaking of the calendar, we have lots of activities scheduled this New Year. I look forward to seeing everyone and getting to know our new members. Feel free to let me know if there is something you would like the Branch to offer.

Happy New Year!!!

Laura

lkdesmarais@gmail.com

Changing Perspectives in Women's Healthcare



Have you wondered why some doctors recommend annual mammograms while others recommend biennial mammograms? Ask three doctors about hormone replacement therapy and you are likely to hear three different answers and three different rationales for those answers. Our January speaker, Dr. Kathleen Goss, Senior Science Writer and Director of Strategic Partnerships at the University of Chicago, will present her perspective on the care and prevention of women's cancers such as breast, ovarian and cervical cancer.

Dr. Goss has been active in cancer research for many years. Her work focuses on the molecular events that drive breast and colorectal cancer. She spent ten years at the University of Cincinnati as a post doctorate/assistant professor and six years as an assistant professor at the University of Chicago. For the last eighteen months, Dr. Goss has been a senior science writer for the University of Chicago. She has a passion for teaching and science outreach and advocacy.

Come join us for a lively, informative and interesting discussion on changing perspectives in women's health care, a topic that is regularly featured on the front page.

Wednesday, January 7

7:00 pm

7:00 pm Social 7:15 pm Business Meeting 7:45 pm Program
Glen Ellyn Civic Center Betty Clayton Room
535 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn

Co-Program Vice
Presidents:

Suzanne Elger
Sue Herrmann

selger@mac.com
sherrmann710@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

| Date | Event | Time | Information |
|--------|--|----------|---|
| Jan 7 | General Meeting | 7:00 pm | Glen Ellyn Civic Center, 535 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn |
| Jan 9 | AM Lit | 9:30 am | Peggy Connolly's |
| Jan 9 | Film Group | TBD | Ewa Bacon's |
| Jan 14 | Board Meeting | 7:00 pm | Kitty Johansson's |
| Jan 19 | PM Lit | 7:00 pm | Kitty Johansson's |
| Jan 21 | Book Sorting | 10:30 am | Public Storage, 111 Bridge Street, Wheaton |
| Jan 21 | Memoir Circle | 7:00 pm | Sandy Lopata's |
| Jan 28 | Non-Fiction Lit | 7:00 pm | Ewa Bacon's |
| Feb 12 | Spice Routes | 7:00 pm | Peggy Connolly's |
| May 18 | Spring Banquet and New Officer Installation | 6:00 pm | <i>Save the Date</i> |



Membership

Lisa Cherry and Kitty Johansson

lisacherryhome@aol.com kathrynj@herpersgmbh.com

We feel so fortunate to have closed out 2014 with a lovely holiday dinner that included a celebration of 23 new members. Many new members have become actively involved in our Branch and we want to thank them for the skills and enthusiasm they bring to our circle!



Some of our newest members at the holiday dinner

Please read about the following new member.

Mary Mehaffey is an Atlanta native transplanted to the prairie of Illinois for the past 16 years via her career in Ophthalmology (in the same practice as Carolyn Oesterle). Mary's initial schooling began with a bachelor's degree in Engineering from Georgia Tech after which she worked for Generation Planning, an electrical power company, working with the mixes of coal, hydroelectric and nuclear power for the state of Georgia. At age 29, Mary decided to follow her heart, switch gears, and enter the State Medical College of Georgia to pursue a degree in medicine. She continued her medical training in Iowa where her husband was also completing his training. She finished with a specialization in Ophthalmology at Mayo Clinic. Her husband is now a pathologist at Central DuPage Hospital.

Mary's mother and father were graduates from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern, so she comes from a family of accomplished, pioneering women. She and her husband have two teenaged children, a boy and a girl. She is a passionate rose gardener and loves to read.



Member Records and Directory

Jane Palmer

jfpalmer@comcast.net

The Spring Banquet and installation of officers will be **Monday, May 18**, a change from the Directory.



Book Sale

Rose Fitzpatrick

r_fitzp@earthlink.net

Many thanks to all those who have helped with the December sorting. Upcoming dates for book sorts are noted below. All are Wednesdays at 10:30 am. Interim sort dates will be scheduled if needed.

January 21 February 18 March 18

At the writing of this article, we are far short of last year's collection. We'd appreciate everyone contuing to keep an eye out for collection opportunities. Let me know if you need flyers to distribute or help to coordinate a collection at your work, gym or local store. Thanks!

| Do you... | Please contact... | | |
|--|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Want to help with a book sort? | Stef Zvirin | 630-790-1843 | szvirin@gmail.com |
| Want to drop off books at the locker? | OR | | |
| Need flyers or help coordinating a collection? | Jean Tufano | 630-377-7280 | vsq531@aol.com |
| Need to make arrangements for a large pick-up? | Judy Sims ('04) | 630-790-1093 | judsims@hotmail.com |



AM Lit

Kathy McCullough

kathymccull@gmail.com

On Friday, January 9, we meet to discuss *The Leopard* by Giuseppe di Lampedusa at the home of Peggy Connolly. Jean Lindsey and Jan Austin are our co-hostesses. Laura Desmarais will serve as discussion leader.

"Set in the 1860s, Lampedusa tells the spellbinding story of a decadent, dying Sicilian aristocracy threatened by the approaching forces of democracy and revolution. The dramatic sweep and richness of observation, the seamless intertwining of public and private worlds, and the grasp of human frailty imbue *The Leopard* with its particular melancholy beauty and power, and place it among the greatest historical novels of our time."

Looking ahead to February 6, we will discuss *A Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman, led by Susan Hoover, at the home of Kitty Johannsson. Our co-hostess will be Lola Denson. A second co-hostess is welcome.

A limited supply of books is on reserve at the Glen Ellyn Library. Those who hold a card from another local library are eligible to check out the books.

Please contact me if you wish to be added to my email distribution list for notices of upcoming meetings.



Film Group

Anne Hanley

ahanley@mindspring.com

The Oscar race heats up! January will be prime time for contenders, including *Still Alice*, *Unbroken*, *Selma*, *The Imitation Game* and others. We will decide which movie we will see and discuss right after the New Year. In the meantime, save the date!

Our January meeting will be on Friday January 9 at the home of Ewa Bacon.



Non-Fiction Lit Group

Margaret McGrath
margmcgrath@yahoo.com

Mark your 2015 calendar for Wednesday, January 28 to discuss *My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel* by Ari Shavit at Ewa Bacon's home. This is an important and powerful look at Israel by an Israeli moderate, Ari Shavit, a columnist for the center-left Israeli daily *Haaretz*. The following summary is copied from *Booklist*: "Unlike some on the Israeli Left, the author isn't an anti-Zionist provocateur. Rather, he is a fervently patriotic Israeli with an abiding love for his nation's history and the best of its traditions and institutions. So his honest and sometimes brutally frank portrait of his homeland's past and its present dilemmas is especially poignant. Shavit's narrative is strongest when he utilizes the stories of individual Israelis to paint a rich tableau based on personal experiences. What emerges isn't necessarily optimistic. He regards the current peace process as a dead end, since no Palestinian leader or government can guarantee an agreement that offers the necessary security for Israel. Yet his own military experience on the West Bank has convinced him that control over Palestinians is poisonous and cannot be sustained. Finally, he makes clear that Iran truly is an existential threat that must, somehow, be neutralized. This is a masterful portrait of contemporary Israel."

Please join us for discussion about this fascinating and provocative book. All are welcome. Email or call Margaret if you need a ride or have any questions.



PM Lit

Bonnie Wheaton
bonwheaton@aol.com

"Many people, myself among them, feel better at the mere sight of a book."
Jane Smiley, *Thirteen Ways of Looking at the Novel*

Our next meeting will be held at the home of Kitty Johansson at 7:00 pm on January 19. Our book is *The Maid's Version*, by Daniel Woodrell. It's only 192 pages. The Glen Ellyn Public Library will have copies on reserve for us. Plot summary: "Alma DeGeer Dunahew, the mother of three young boys, works as the maid for a prominent citizen and his family in West Table, Missouri. Her husband is mostly absent, and, in 1929, her scandalous, beloved younger sister is one of the 42 killed in an explosion at the local dance hall. Who is to blame? Mobsters from St. Louis? The embittered local gypsies? The preacher who railed against the loose morals of the waltzing couples? Or could it have been a colossal accident?" Please join us for a lively discussion!



The Library
Elizabeth Shippen
Green



Cultural Arts

Helen Shafton and Ellen McGowan
helen.shafton@gmail.com emcgowan123@sbcglobal.net

Thank you to all who completed our survey at the November meeting. If you were unable to attend and would like to submit one, please complete the survey at the end of this edition of Twigs. Thanks.

Anyone interested in seeing *The Book of Mormon* (winner of 9 Tony awards!) at the Bank of America Theatre, February 25th-May 17th? If so, please contact to Ellen or Helen (emails above) and we can put together a group outing.

Daniel Levitin will present "Your Brain on Music" on Tuesday, April 14, at The MAC. We will organize a block of tickets for all interested. For more info about it, go to <http://www.atthemac.org/events/daniel-levitin-brain-music-lecture-series/>. Please email Ellen at the address above to let her know if you are interested. So far we have 11 people.



History and Cuisine of the Spice Routes

Peggy Connolly and Pat Kaczor

connolly.peggy@gmail.com patk3872@gmail.com

Italy was a power in the spice trade from ancient times. We will explore the cuisine and spices of Italy when we meet February 12. Please let Peggy know at least a week in advance (February 5) if you will be coming, and what delicious treat you'll be sharing.

Our third meeting will be April 16, with the theme of the Spice Routes and Indonesia.



Memoir Circle

Patricia Bernhold

pbernhold@hotmail.com

The Memoir Circle will greet the New Year on Wednesday, January 21, at 7:00 pm at Sandy Lopota's home.

Reminders will be emailed on January 18. If you are not on the current list and want to be notified of meetings, please email me at the address above.



Legal Advocacy Fund

Phyllis Fogel

prfogel@live.com

Case Eligibility

Case support decisions are made by the LAF Committee. The LAF Committee requires cases to meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for case support:

- 1) Be filed in state or federal court, preferably at the appellate level - we rarely take up cases that have just been filed.
- 2) Address sex discrimination in the workplace or academia, including topics like unfair pay, tenure or promotion denial, pregnancy discrimination, Title IX violations, and sexual harassment or sexual assault.
- 3) Have the potential to set or reinforce precedent for future cases on gender discrimination.
- 4) Request support to advance the legal case. We do not reimburse personal expenditures.
- 5) Have litigants who are willing to engage in Branch visits and make appropriate public appearances with AAUW.
- 6) Allow AAUW to publicize support for the case internally and externally, including in the media, on the website, and in electronic and print communications.



Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF)

Susan Levy-Creed

susanlevycreed@gmail.com

Educational Funding and Awards

The Board approved a \$5,000 donation to the Lois List American Fellowship at the November Board meeting. This donation represents part of the proceeds from the 2014 Book Sale. We also provided \$4,000 in scholarships for local high school students who will attend the College of DuPage.

The Lois List American Fellowship was started in 2003 by the North Shore Branch (Lake Forest, Illinois) in Lois' memory for her devotion to AAUW. She was a member of AAUW for 50 years and served the North Shore Branch in every capacity. She remained active in AAUW until her death at age 86.

The North Shore Branch was composed of older women and has disbanded. Lois' daughter is a member of a Texas AAUW branch and has been contributing to this fellowship annually. AAUW of Illinois encouraged Branches to contribute to this fund. There is an outstanding balance of \$80,000.

AAUW is one of the world's largest sources of funding for scholarships for women. It is providing more than \$3.7 million in funding for more than 244 fellowships and grants for the 2014-2015 academic year. Fellowship and grant recipients perform research in a wide range of disciplines and work to improve their schools and communities. Branch contributions provide opportunities to improve the quality of life and tackle the educational and social barriers facing women worldwide. This is one way AAUW breaks through barriers so all women have a fair chance.



Copies of Our February Annual Book Selection Available Now

On February 4, Glennette Turner will be leading
our all-Branch discussion of the book

The Hairstons:
An American Family in Black and White
by Henry Wiencek

Four Branch copies of the book are circulating
among members. Please contact Suzanne Elger at
selger@mac.com to request one.

On January 7, the book will be available at the
Glen Ellyn Public Library under the label of AAUW.

CULTURAL ARTS SURVEY

In order to schedule events that interest our members, we need your thoughts and opinions. Any ideas or comments for us? Please feel free to add them.

Please send your completed survey to Ellen McGowan at either address below. Thank you so much!

Via copy and paste: emcgowan123@sbcglobal.net

Via US mail: 529 Hevern Drive, Wheaton, IL 60189

Name _____

Email _____

Events of Interest to You (Rank 1 being most interested, 6 being least interested)

_____ Visual Arts (like art galleries)

_____ Music/Concerts

_____ Literature (book signings/discussions)

_____ Drama/Theater

_____ Dance

_____ Lecture

Preferred Times (Rank 1 being most preferred, 8 being least preferred)

_____ Monday-Thursday Daytime

_____ Monday-Thursday Evening

_____ Friday Daytime

_____ Friday Evening

_____ Saturday Daytime

_____ Saturday Evening

_____ Sunday Daytime

_____ Sunday Evening

Preferred Location (Rank 1 being most preferred, 3 being least preferred)

_____ Western Suburbs

_____ Other Suburbs

_____ City of Chicago

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What is AAUW?

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Mission: | AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. |
| Membership: | 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, class or disability. Membership is not by invitation. |
| Legal Advocacy Fund: | AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination. |
| 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. |