

A Leaf from the Presidents

How could another year have passed so quickly? We can look back and see that, thanks to everyone's contributions, our Branch has grown substantially and has accomplished many good things. Now it's time to change calendars; to think about the New Year and all we want to accomplish. There is a space for every gift of time and talent. We reap what we sow...and we are cultivating continuously.

Thanks to Susan Levy-Creed and Marilyn Wiedemann we had an outstanding and accomplished EOF grant recipient as our Winter Banquet speaker. Blair Brettschneider founded an international refugee mentoring organization- aptly named GirlForward- that provides support to immigrant girls who need help integrating into American daily life. It's a beautiful, collaborative program advanced in part by an AAUW grant that funded an extension of Blair's service with AmeriCorps Vista. Blair's presentation made us mindful of our mission: to break through educational and cultural barriers and to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

AAUW's educational funding (supported in part through contributions from our Branch Book Sale) gives women like Blair the financial backing to realize their goals. The funds currently have an endowment of over \$135 million. Now, with the educational element in sound order, AAUW sharpens its focus to narrow the gender wage gap through its salary negotiation workshops, \$tart \$mart and Work \$mart. Our Fall Showcase speaker, AAUW Chief Strategy Officer Mark Hopkins, noted that the city of Boston has partnered with AAUW to bring Work \$mart workshops to **85,000 women**- at least half of Boston's working women- in the next five years. Work \$mart will help these women close the shortfall in wages that affects quality of life in working families and, ultimately, our country's future. On a local level, Susan Hoover, Anne Hanley, Lisa Cherry and Laura Desmarais are working with these programs as workshop facilitators.

AAUW's STEM program is another new initiative that seeks to positively and directly empower young girls to find traction in science, technology, engineering and math. Our own Fran Kravitz is running workshops in STEM at the Wheaton and Glen Ellyn libraries with partial support from our Branch. Her upcoming project will show students how to extract DNA from strawberries. Such a delight! Volunteers are needed to help make this program a success. Fran's article in this issue of *Twigs* has information about how you can help.

In the coming year we'll learn more about these exciting and well-developed programs. It will be new growth for our Branch and there is much to do. We hope you will find stimulation in these efforts *and* a little time to participate in them. The wind is changing...get your kite ready!

Kitty and Laura

PS- A very special thank you to Judy Sims ('04) for once again bringing the Branch together at our Winter Banquet. It was a wonderful celebration of friendship and purpose.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Time	Information
January 8	AM Lit	9:30 am	Peggy Connolly's
January 8	Film Group	8:00 pm	Kitty Johansson's
January 11	Book Sorting	10:30 am	Public Storage, 280 South Main Place, Carol Stream
January 18	PM Lit	7:00 pm	Kitty Johansson's
January 20	Memoir Circle	7:00 pm	Location is TBD.
January 21	Spice Routes	7:00 pm	Peggy Connolly's
January 27	Non-Fiction Lit	7:00 pm	Kitty Johansson's
January 30	Dare to Dream	8:00 am to 3:00 pm	College of DuPage, 425 22nd Street, Glen Ellyn
January 31	Cultural Arts Event	3:00 pm	Jessica Fellowes, <i>The World of Downton Abbey</i> at the MAC at College of DuPage
February 6	Cultural Arts Event	2:00 pm	<i>Beautiful, The Carol King Musical</i> at the Oriental Theatre, Chicago
February 13	STEM Event	10:00 am to 2:30 pm	Wheaton Public Library, 225 North Cross Street, Wheaton VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Membership

Lisa Cherry

lisacherryhome@aol.com

At our wonderful Winter Banquet, we recognized a table of eight members who joined our Branch in 2015 and extended a warm welcome to them!

Below, please read the last new member article from the Branch Class of 2015. Our Branch membership total is now 143!



Lynn Moore grew up in Tinley Park but has lived in Wheaton for the last 29 years. After receiving her BA in Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Lynn began her 33-year teaching career in high school English, then moved to special education and earned her MA in that specialty, also from the University of Illinois. She spent seven years teaching preschool special education and earned an MBA while living in Springfield. Working for the State Board of Education, Lynn coupled her teaching and business training and spent six years as Preschool Coordinator. She and her husband moved to the Chicago area where they raised a son (now 27) and Lynn worked as an administrator for SASSED. With her son grown, Lynn went back to the classroom in Naperville for 11 years before retiring. Lynn continues to tutor and has one high school student that she has worked with since he was in third grade! During ten years of retirement, Lynn has enjoyed 20 trips. In addition to travel she loves reading, especially the classics. Welcome, Lynn!



Book Sale

Rose Fitzpatrick
r_fitzp@earthlink.net

2016 Book Sorts

Monday, January 11
Tuesday, February 16
Monday, March 14
Monday, April 11

All sorts begin at 10:30 am.

Pickup volunteers, please be sure to alert Jean T. [(630) 337-7280 or vsq531@aol.com] or Stef [(630) 790-1843 or szvirin@gmail.com] if there is a large number of books you've dropped off in case an additional sorting needs to be scheduled.



Memoir Circle

Patricia Bernhold
pbernhold@hotmail.com

The Memoir Circle will meet on Wednesday, January 20 at 7:00 pm. The meeting place will be announced by January 17 to everyone on the mailing list. Feel free to add your name even though you might not be able to attend every meeting.



Film Group

Anne Hanley
ahanley@niu.edu

Our January meeting takes place on Friday, January 8 at the home of Kitty Johansson. The film selection will be announced the weekend before. Surely there will be some wonderful Oscar-worthy options! If you haven't been getting the announcements and would like to join us, please email me.



AM Lit

Kathy McCullough
kathymccull@gmail.com

Starting off the New Year on Friday, **January 8** at 9:30 am, Peggy Connolly will lead the discussion of *The Lieutenant* by Kate Grenville at her home. Jean Lindsey and Ruth Schumacher will serve as our co-hostesses. **Please note we do not meet on the first Friday of this month due to the holiday.**

From Peggy: "Daniel Rooke, a brilliant mathematician, astronomer and officer of the Royal Marines was sent with the first fleet of British prisoners bound for New South Wales (Australia). Isolated from his regiment in his primitive observatory, the introverted scientist developed friendships with several Aboriginal people. When ordered to execute the rough British justice intended to bring the natives of Australia under British rule, he was faced with acting against either his morality or his duty."

Looking ahead to February 5, we meet at the home of Jean Tufano to discuss *The Art Forger* by B.A. Shapiro. Stef Zvirin and Barb Rebro will co-hostess. Jane Moore will lead the discussion.

The Glen Ellyn Library obtains a small supply of the selected books a month before the discussion. Those who hold a card from another local library are also eligible to check out the books.

If you wish to be added to the email distribution list for updates, please contact me.



Non-Fiction Lit Group

Sue Balk and Pam Starr

suzannebalk@yahoo.com pstarr1965@gmail.com

Join the Non-Fiction readers on Wednesday, January 27 for a discussion of *Isabella, The Warrior Queen* by Kirstin Downy. The book is an engrossing biography of Isabella of Castile, the controversial Queen of Spain who sponsored Christopher Columbus's journey to the New World, established the Spanish Inquisition, and became one of the most influential female rulers in history. Isabella's story is told against a background where critical alliances are built between church and state and important people suddenly fall over dead after a sumptuous meal, poisoned by hidden rivals.

The discussion will be held at the warm and welcoming home of Kitty Johansson. Marilyn Wiedemann is providing treats, and Peggy Connolly is leading the discussion. The book has been reserved at the Glen Ellyn Public Library.



Cultural Arts

Kathleen McCullough and Ellen McGowan

kathymccull@gmail.com emcgowan123@sbcglobal.net

We look forward to starting out a new year of cultural arts events with the *Jessica Fellowes, The World of Downton Abbey* presentation at the MAC, College of DuPage on January 31. Prior to the presentation, there will be a pre-show discussion at 2:00 pm as well as English treats served in the lobby following the show.

We have sold out our block of seats for *Beautiful, The Carol King Musical* at the Oriental Theatre in Chicago for February 6, 2016.

If you wish to be on the Cultural Arts email distribution list for updated information, please contact Kathy. Any ideas for future events are welcome!



History and Cuisine of the Spice Routes

Peggy Connolly and Pat Kaczor

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

Our next culinary adventure takes us to the Japan. The Portuguese arrived (as in were shipwrecked) in Japan in 1543. Within a century the Dutch and British followed and tried to break Portuguese and Spanish control of the Asian spice trade. The Dutch (1609) and British (1613) East India companies established trading relations with the Japanese on the Japanese island of Dajima, an island artificially created by cutting a canal through a peninsula near Nagasaki. This relationship lasted until 1636, when the Tokugawa Shogunate's Act of Seclusion prohibited trade with Western nations. The trade ban lasted for the next 200 years.

Our dinner will be on Thursday, January 21 at Peggy's home. Please let Peggy know by January 14 what delicious Japanese dish you will share at the feast.

Upcoming on March 24: The Spice Routes and the Levant



PM Lit

Bonnie Wheaton

bonwheaton@aol.com

The next meeting of Wheaton/Glen Ellyn AAUW's PM Lit will be held on Monday, January 18 at 7:00 pm at the home of Kitty Johansson. The book under discussion will be *The Wright Brothers* by David McCullough. *The New York Times Book Review* called it "a story of timeless importance, told with uncommon empathy and fluency...A story, well told, about what might be the most astonishing feat mankind has ever accomplished...*The Wright Brothers* soars." Phyllis Fogel will lead the discussion.

Whatever holiday you celebrate this season, may it be filled with love, laughter and lots of books.



Vintage Illustration
from *The Publishers
Weekly*, 1922



Ever wonder what your STEM committee has been up to? The committee has been trying for months to get a STEM program into the Wheaton and Glen Ellyn libraries so that our Branch would have a monthly presence in the Wheaton-Glen Ellyn area. We have finally succeeded in both libraries. We will be at the Wheaton Public Library on Saturday, February 13 and we NEED volunteers. No science experience needed- just enthusiasm. Our experiment for the day is "DNA- Life's Blueprint" in which we will discuss what DNA is and extract it from strawberries. Please email me to volunteer and receive the final schedule and further information on the experiment.

We will have an exhibit table at the Glen Ellyn Public Library's STEM Fair on Saturday, March 19. This is a Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW Branch event being powered by The STEM Wizards, a NFP brainchild of Fran Kravitz and Karen Cochran. No volunteers are needed unless you want to come out and support two chemists. I did receive a request from the Glen Ellyn Library for a STEM program in May or June. I will send out a request for volunteers as soon as I have a date.

Finally, our Branch is participating in the Tech Savvy 2016 scheduled for Saturday, April 16 at Oakton Community College in Des Plaines. Tech Savvy is a full-day STEM program that offers middle school girls the opportunity to explore areas of science, technology, engineering and math along with savvy skills to get ready for college. I am one of the Tech Skills program co-chairs responsible for twelve different programs (Printing in 3D, Robotics, Create Your Own App, DNA-Life's Blueprint, Neuroscience, Roller Coaster Physics, Electric Cars, Paleontology, Build Your Dream House, Nanotechnology Solar Cells, Astronomy and Aeronautics). Tech Savvy is looking for additional volunteers to help on the day of the event. Please contact me if you are interested.

**Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF)****Susan Levy-Creed and Marilyn Weidemann**

susanlevycreed@gmail.com hillaryln@wowway.com

Our excellent December speaker, Blair Brettschneider, founder of GirlForward of Chicago, reminded us of how essential our EOF dollars can be in helping a determined woman help other young women. GirlForward mentors teenage immigrant girls in navigating their new country. AAUW grants help women like Blair accomplish great things. Your contributions to EOF through Book Sale book donations and work add up. This year, AAUW EOF is funding at the level of \$3 million for fellowships and grants worldwide.

Help our Branch continue this good work by donating books to our Sale. We need them more than ever. Thank you.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED****10:00 am – 2:30 pm****Saturday, February 13****Wheaton Public Library****No science experience needed- just enthusiasm**

Help our Branch educate the next generation of scientist at our latest STEM event. Our experiment for the day is "DNA- Life's Blueprint" in which we will discuss what DNA is and extract it from strawberries.

Please contact Fran Kravitz at fk1456@sbcglobal.net.

Branch Bylaws and Policy Handbook Update

The Branch is governed by bylaws and a policy handbook. These important guidelines define the Branch's relationship to AAUW, routine Branch operations, and compliance with our 501(c)(3) designation.

The Policy Handbook is reviewed every five years. This year's committee consisted of Suzanne Elger, Kitty Johansson, Lisa Cherry, Laura Desmarais, Jane Palmer and Karen Bondy. There was a nice mix of longtime members and newer ones. We will conduct a Branch vote to approve these changes at our Branch Annual Meeting in March. You will receive an all-Branch email prior to the February Branch meeting which will contain the final draft of these two documents and highlight changes. Major changes will be discussed at the February meeting prior to the vote at the March Annual meeting.

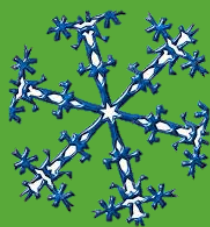
DARE TO DREAM



We are getting ready for our eighth annual Dare to Dream conference where we invite eighth grade Latina girls and moms for a day of encouragement and support for their efforts to graduate from high school and pursue college and careers. We need many volunteers both the day of the event and the week prior to the event.

The conference will be held at College of DuPage on Saturday, January 30, 2016 from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm.

Contact Suzanne Elger at selger@mac.com if you are interested in volunteering for this rewarding event. You can make a time commitment that suits your schedule for the week prior to January 30 or the day of the conference.



WINTER BANQUET



Rhonda Kelloway, LCSW, SEP
 Psychotherapy, Consultation, Mediation
 EMDR, Somatic Experiencing
 kelloway.lifecare@gmail.com
 www.lifecare-counseling.com

45 S. Park Boulevard, Suite 200
 Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
 Intake: 630.984.4896
 Direct: 630.984.5192

 **LifeCare**
 Counseling & Wellness


BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
 HomeServices
KoenigRubloff
 Realty Group

Kathy Van Teylingen
 "Where Trust is a Tradition"
 Cell (630) 973-0698
 kathyvan@koenigrubloff.com
 145 Danada Square East
 Wheaton, IL 60189

Healthy, beautiful skin
 James J. Herrmann, M.D.
 Kelle Berggren, M.D.
 Ted Conrad, M.D.

The Dermatology Institute
 199 Town Square | Wheaton
 630 871 6690 | dupagemedicalgroup.com

Belleza Skin Care Institute
 199 Town Square | Wheaton
 630 547 5000 | bellezaskincare.com

a member of
 DuPage Medical Group

The Meeting Company

We offer a fresh approach to
 Meetings/Trade Shows/Tours
 Let us attend to every detail.

Cindy Trennert-Lukens
 Karen Bondy
 Branch Members

TheMeetingCompany.com
 630.668.4567

urban trend
hair design

1945 gary avenue
 wheaton north commons
 wheaton, illinois
 60187

an
AVEDA
 salon

ph: 630.653.8844
 www.urbandtrendhairdesign.com


S|T|G
 SULLIVAN TAYLOR & GUMINA, P.C.

MAUREEN SULLIVAN TAYLOR | ATTORNEY AT LAW
Family Law, Mediator, Collaborative Law
 1749 S. Naperville Road, Suite 106 Wheaton, IL 60189
 630.665.7676 PH | 630.384.1149 FAX
 maureen@stglaw.com

HealthTrack *Your All-Inclusive Health,*
 SPORTS WELLNESS *Fitness and Tennis Club*

Free Group Fitness Classes • Lap Pool • Therapy Pool • Jacuzzis
 Basketball Court • Indoor Track • Cardio & Strength Training Equipment
 Locker Rooms with Amenities • Day Spa • Children's Activity Center

875 Roosevelt Road, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
 630-942-9600 • www.htsw.net

 **TECHVoo**

www.TechVoo.com
 support@TechVoo.com
 toll free: 844.TECH.V00

528 Duane Street
 Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
 630.793.9349

553 S. Spring Road
 Elmhurst, IL 60126
 630.359.3811

Mail 'n Stuff



435 Pennsylvania Avenue, Glen Ellyn

www.mailnstuff.com

630.469.8300

•PACK •SHIP •COPY



Just the Bookstore

A Smaller, Smarter Bookstore

Tim and Jane Stroh, Booksellers

475 Main Street, Glen Ellyn

Tel. (630) 469-2891

www.justthebookstore.com

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.