



AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP
wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net

Twigs

October 2017

A Leaf from the Co-Presidents

Our Showcase meeting on September 6 was a great beginning to our program year! Co-President Lisa Cherry and I welcomed everyone back from our lovely, but short, summer break and expressed our gratitude that the Branch is ready for an exciting and successful year.

Our keynote speaker, Andi Danis, past AAUW Illinois President and member of the Gender Equity Fund of Illinois Speaker's Bureau, reported on the AAUW 2016 research on *Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership*. I think it is safe to say that we were all shocked at the statistics she presented showing how women are being held back in achieving leadership position.

Well, our Branch is going to start doing something about this terrible trend! We are hoping that many of our Branch members will consider attending the AAUW-IL Northern Fall Conference on Saturday, October 21, at the IIT Rice Campus in Wheaton where many leadership opportunities will be discussed. Be sure to go to aauw-il.aauw.net and click on the Fall 2017 *LINK* for more details.

We hope everyone has an opportunity to walk or run at the Eleanor Roosevelt Walk-Run event on October 7. A big thank you to Margaret McGrath for spearheading this important annual event.

Hopefully, everyone will attend our October Branch meeting to hear our speaker discuss the misconceptions concerning Islam when she speaks on *Behind the Veil: Women's Role in Islam*.

Lastly, be sure to pick up your new 2017-18 Membership Directory. Contact Maureen Sheehan for more information on how to get it.

Sue

October Branch Meeting

Behind the Veil: Women's Role in Islam

Sadia G. Covert, Esq.
Executive Director UCARE,
presents us with the opportunity
to get beyond misconceptions
about Islam, women and the
Muslim American community.

Wednesday, October 4

7:00 pm Social
7:15 pm Program
8:15 pm Business Meeting

Glen Ellyn History Center
800 N Main St.

***Note: New Location**

Program Vice Presidents:
Janet Arden and Donna Jean Simon

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time	Information
October 4	Branch Meeting	7:00 pm	Glen Ellyn History Center, 800 N Main St., Glen Ellyn
October 6	AM Lit	9:30 am	Jean Tufano's
October 7	Eleanor Roosevelt Walk/Run/Ride	9:00 am	Prairie Path from Glen Ellyn to Wheaton Shane's Deli, 201 W Wesley St., Wheaton
October 11	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	Marilyn Wiedemann's
October 14	Film Group	7:00 pm	Marilyn Wiedemann's
October 16	PM Lit	7:00 pm	Susan Levy-Creed's
October 21	AAUW-IL Northern Fall Conference	9:00 am to 12:00 pm	Illinois Institute of Technology, Rice Campus 201 E Loop Rd, Wheaton
October 25	AM Non-Fiction	10:00 am	Elaine Nissen's
November 3	AM Lit	9:30 am	Laura Desmarais's
December 6	Holiday Dinner	6:00 pm	Reserve 22, Village Links, 485 Winchell Way, Glen Ellyn

October Branch Program

Co-VP Programs: Janet Arden and Donna Jean Simon

Behind the Veil: Women's Roles in Islam is presented by Sadia G. Covert, Esq., Executive Director of UCARE, an organization founded to bring communities together through understanding Islam in its historical, cultural, and literary background. This highly recommended program will give us an opportunity to get beyond misconceptions about Islam, women, and the Muslim American community. UCARE is the only centralized organization in Illinois that brings comprehensive diversity training and seminars, in Islamic cultural awareness, to the public.



Membership

Kitty Johansson and Karen Schulz

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This year's Fall Showcase meeting yet again provided a fine opportunity for new and prospective members to learn about AAUW's mission through its programs and activities. Beginning with past State President Andi Danis' informative speech on *Barriers and Bias – The Status of Women in Leadership* and continued with presentations by our Branch's Interest Group Chairs, members were reminded of AAUW's mission to empower women and girls through national, state and local engagement and lifelong learning. Consider the satisfaction of advancing and enhancing women's issues through our considerable support of scholarship and research. Please continue to invite interested women to join in and experience all we stand for and all we have to offer. Remember that our special discounted dues rate of \$53.50 is available to all who join at any one of our public events!



Book Sale

Carolyn Oesterle and Nancy Possinger
csoesterle@gmail.com nap101547@ameritech.net

We are planning a book drive from October 9-29, in Glen Ellyn. Members are needed to distribute flyers and pick up books. The drop-off locations will be the two RE/MAX offices, the Jewel and Trader Joe's on Roosevelt Rd, and Health Track. Call Carolyn or Nancy to help. GO BOOK SALE!



Film Group

Anne Hanley
ahanley@mindspring.com

October's Film Group meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Saturday, October 14. at the home of Marilyn Wiedemann. We are alternating between second Fridays and second Saturdays this year. Looking ahead, our November meeting will be on the second Friday, November 10, at the home of Susie Gullickson, and our December meeting will be on the second Saturday, December 9. (I am still looking for a volunteer to host the December meeting so please look at your calendars and contact me if you can host.) Check your emails for the film selection the weekend before each meeting! If you are not on the distribution list and would like to join us, please contact me.



AM Lit

A. LaVonne Ruoff
LRuoff@UIC.edu

We meet at 9:30 am on Friday, October 6, at Jean Tufano's. Co-hostesses are Jean Lindsey and Stephanie Zvirin. LaVonne Ruoff will lead the discussion of Carol Rifka Brunt's *Tell the Wolves I'm Home*, a *New York Times* best seller. *Booklist* praised this as a "transcendent book peopled by characters who will live in the readers' imaginations long after the last page is turned."

We meet at 9:30 am, on Friday, November 3, at Laura Desmarais's home. Co-hostesses are Donna Staples and Allene Harding. Suzanne Gagner will lead the discussion of Paulette Jiles's *News of the World*. Jiles vividly describes Jefferson Kyle Kidd's journey through northern Texas after the Civil War, reading the news to small audiences to support himself. Accompanying him is Johanna, a 10-year-old orphan, whom he tries to "civilize" before delivering her to family in San Antonio.



PM Lit will meet Monday, October 16, to discuss *The Leavers* by Lisa Ko. *The Leavers* is the winner of the 2016 Pen/Bellwether Prize for Fiction, awarded by Barbara Kingsolver, for a novel that addresses issues of social justice. One morning Deming Guo's mother, Polly, an undocumented Chinese immigrant, goes to her job at a nail salon and never comes home. Please join us at 7:00 pm at the home of Susan Levy-Creed and let her know you are coming. Laura Desmarais will lead the discussion. In September we read *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles that we greatly enjoyed.

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies" said Jojen, "the man who never reads lives only one."
George R. R. Martin, *A Dance with Dragons (A Song of Ice and Fire #5)*.

AM Non-FictionSue Herrmann
sherrmann710@gmail.com

Hello to all AM Non-Fiction book group members. We have an exciting year of reading planned this coming year. The October meeting will be Wednesday, October 25, at 10:00 am. Please note that the AM group will meet every other month on the 4th Wednesdays. We will be reading *Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World*, by Andrea Wulf. We will meet at Elaine Nissen's home. Phyllis Fogel will be the discussion leader and Laura Desmarais will provide treats.

We meet again December 20, at 10:00 am at the home of LaVonne Ruoff to discuss *A Vindication of the Rights of Women with Strictures on Political and Moral Subject*, by Mary Wollstonecraft. LaVonne will be our discussion leader and Kitty Johansson will be bringing treats.

The Glen Ellyn Library has agreed to set books aside for us early in the month. Our books should be available early in the month the book is read. Please be sure to call the hostess each meeting to tell her if you are coming. Be sure to check our Wheaton-Glen Ellyn website for a list of the books for 2018. I am looking forward to spending another year with all of you discussing our excellent books!

Cultural ArtsSuzanne Gagner
petalpower1@yahoo.com

At the September Showcase meeting we presented six events for your consideration. Only the *Willie Pickens/Peter Lerner Continuation Trio* on October 12th at the Mayslake Peabody Estate is a set date. Since this is coming in October and we did not have enough signers to create a group event, please contact Mayslake at 630-206-9566 for individual ticket information.

The five events for your consideration at the October 4 Branch meeting are: Palmer House Hilton - Tour and Lunch, Newberry Research Library tour, *42nd Street* at Drury Lane, *Women in Jeopardy* by First Folio, and *Cabaret* at Paramount Arts Center. Sign up for the events that interest you. After we see what additional interest the events have, we will contact each venue and determine a date, cost, and group size requirements. I am creating one Cultural Arts email group and will send event information to everyone. Please remember that, based on interest, events can be added or subtracted from our schedule.



What drives our AAUW legislative advocacy on the national, state and local level? The 2017-2019 Public Policy Priorities:

- Support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity
- Achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women;
- Guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society.

Legislative Advocacy, Springfield: Gov. Rauner signed into law three house bills strongly supported by AAUW-IL lobbying: **HB 2663** (early childhood programs receiving grants from the SBOE cannot expel children); **HB 3215** (requires schools to provide free hygiene products in school bathrooms); **HB457** (Task Force on Women at Risk must be appointed 60 days after bill enactment). Unfortunately, **HB 2462** (job applicant cannot be asked about work history) was vetoed. And this insight comes from a trusted source at the state office: Because of the likelihood that **HB 40** (overturning Roe vs. Wade will not affect Illinois) will be vetoed, bill sponsors did not allow it to advance to the Governor's desk. In the interim proponents are assessing if they have the votes to override the veto. A motion to reconsider the bill could go on until the current General Assembly (the 100th) ends January, 2019.

Title IX Advocacy, Washington: Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos, announced recently that the Department of Education would be reviewing Title IX regulations and guidance. Later in press interviews she confirmed that the Department intends to rescind a 2011 *Dear Colleague* letter on Title IX and sexual violence, taking the first step toward rolling back the progress made toward preventing and ending discrimination in our schools. DeVos' speech noted many situations in which schools have failed to adhere to the law. *AAUW believes the appropriate response to this assertion is to enforce Title IX, not to undermine it.* (Excerpt from the *AAUW Washington Update*, September 8).

Mark Your Calendar: The next election will be the March 20, 2018, primary for nominations of Governor/Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, Representatives to Congress – all 18 districts, and members of the state Senate and General Assembly, as well as judges and county officials. See future *Twigs* and *Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW FB* alerts about candidate forums.



The Legal Advocacy fund (LAF) provides financial and organizational support for a select number of sex discrimination cases in the workplace and academia that have the potential to provide significant protection for all women. We have been following several cases in this space. LAF has been supporting the Rizo v. Fresno County Office of Education case. Aileen Rizo is a math consultant for the Fresno County Office of Education. She filed suit under the equal pay and gender discrimination laws after discovering that her male colleague who had less experience was hired at a higher pay rate. The employer used the employee's prior salary history as a basis for his starting salary. In April 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit handed down an unfavorable decision in Rizo's case. AAUW continues to support her as she decides her next step.



Walk, Run, Ride

Join us on Saturday, October 7, for our Branch fundraiser to support the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Eleanor Roosevelt Fund. We will walk the Prairie Path from Glen Ellyn to Wheaton.

The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Award biennially honors an individual, project, organization or institution for outstanding contributions to education and equity for women and girls. The goals of the award, established in 1989, are to remove barriers to women's and girls' participation in education, to promote the value of diversity and cross cultural communication and to develop greater understanding of the ways women think, learn, work, and play. The award can be given for a broad range of activities including classroom teaching, education and research, and legal and legislative work in equality for women and girls. The award focuses on education but recipients need not be and educator.

2017 Award Recipient: *SurvJustice, Inc.*

Introduced at the 2017 AAUW National Convention in Washington, D.C., *SurvJustice* is a national nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., that increases the prospect of justice for all survivors through effective legal assistance. *SurvJustice* enforces victim rights and holds both perpetrators and enablers of sexual violence accountable in campus, criminal, and civil systems. Founded in 2014, by Laura L. Dunn, it remains the only national organization that provides legal assistance to survivors in campus hearings across the United States. *SurvJustice* also provides policy advocacy and institutional trainings services to communities that seek to better prevent and address campus sexual violence. By working on these fronts, *SurvJustice* decreases the prevalence of campus sexual violence through the United States.

Last year our Branch raised \$1245. It truly is a fun morning and a great way to network with the AAUW members. As an added plus, we pass by the farmers market. Mark your calendar and join us. We'll meet at the parking lot of the Glen Ellyn Public Library and walk to downtown Wheaton on the Prairie Path.

Registration	8:45 am
Step Off	9:00 am
Start	Glen Ellyn Public Library, west side. Use Metra parking lot by Prairie Path
Route	Prairie Path from Glen Ellyn to Wheaton
End	Downtown Wheaton, Shane's Deli, 201 W Wesley St.
Distance	2.9 miles (most are done in no time!)
Transport	Provided, if desired, back to Glen Ellyn start point
Reward	Coffee and snacks at the end at Shane's Deli.

*****Please see tear-off registration form at back of *Twigs******



AAUW has a strong online presence nationally on *AAUW.org*. Many of you have used *AAUW.org* to pay your dues or make a tax-deductible gift. But did you know that if you log in, you can access our member roster? If you are on the go, need a member's address but don't have your directory, go to *AAUW.org* and login. If you have not yet set up an account, just provide some identifying information and click "remember me" so that you can easily return.

The Branch also has an active website at *wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net*. It is a quick and accessible resource for information on upcoming Branch meetings, books chosen by our four book groups and how to access the Book Sale storage locker. The password for the Members Only page is *twigs* (all lower case). If you can't remember our long website name, just Google "Wheaton AAUW" or "Glen Ellyn AAUW" and you are there! While you are there, set up a shortcut so you can easily return. For the iPhone or iPad, use Safari to open the website. Tap the bookmark icon (box with upward arrow), select "Add to Home Screen." A pop-up will show you the icon and allow you to edit the name. Click "Add" and you are done! Next month, we will feature the Branch's Facebook pages.



Save the Date for Our Annual Holiday Dinner

Gail Davis and Deb Ness are excited to inform you that the Holiday Dinner has been scheduled.

Date/Time: 6:00 pm, Wednesday, December 6

LOCATION: Reserve 22 Restaurant at the Village Links of Glen Ellyn
485 Winchell Way, Glen Ellyn 60137

We are really looking forward to seeing you at the party!

Please contact Deb Ness at (734) 604-3878 with questions regarding this wonderful event.

*****Menu details to follow in next month's *Twigs*.*****

Tear off Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Walk/Run/Ride

Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Walk/Run/Ride on October 7

If you cannot make it but would like to contribute, please mail check.

Return to: Margaret McGrath, 377 Turner Ave., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
Checks payable to: **AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch NFP** (memo: *Eleanor Roosevelt Fund*)

Name: _____

___ I wish to participate in the walk/run/ride.

___ I will not participate, but let me contribute to the fund by sponsoring a fellow member, donation included.

___ I will be an end of route cheerleader to join you for rolls and coffee in Wheaton around 9:45 am and will help reserve some "chat" tables.



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.



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