



**AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP**

***wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net***

# Twigs

**December 2017**

## **A Leaf from the Co-Presidents**

We have all accomplished a great deal since the Branch Kick Off meeting in September! Let me recap all of our activities and accomplishments.

Thanks to Maureen Sheehan, who did an outstanding job publishing our Membership Directory. And hats off to Margaret McGrath and members who raised \$1,245 for the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.

Carolyn Oesterle, Nancy Possinger and Marilyn Wiedemann organized a special book drive in Glen Ellyn in October. As of this edition they have collected, sorted and organized over 140 boxes of books.

Donna Jean Simon and Janet Arden have presented outstanding speakers for our Branch meetings, as well as organizing our hospitality committee for refreshments at Branch meetings.

Thanks to the efforts of Kitty Johansson and Karen Schultz our membership is now at 136 and rising! Please remember that all of us are responsible to bring in new members.

Our literature groups are thriving under the able leadership of LaVonne Ruoff, Phyllis Fogel, Ewa Bacon and yours truly!

Public Policy, under the direction of Patricia Spence, is actively working on the 2017-19 AAUW Action Priorities. Laura Desmarais is cementing a relationship with College of DuPage to help them start an AAUW College/University Association.

Marilyn Wiedemann and Susan Levy-Creed are keeping us up to date on Educational Opportunity Funds (EOF) and have arranged for Rosemary Guzman, winner of two of our AAUW scholarships, to speak to us at the winter banquet.

And of course, Anne Hanley, who is keeping us going to the movies and discussing them at Film Group, while Peggy Connolly and Pat Kaczor are keeping us fed at the Spice Routes dinners. And of course, Suzanne Gagner, who is bringing culture into our lives.

And great thanks to Jane Palmer and Patricia Spence for keeping our website and social media sites humming along. And of course, Carolyn Oesterle for keeping our finances straight. Also, hats off to Patricia Bernhold for taking our minutes at board meetings.

Last, but not least, Gail Davis and Debbie Ness are planning our winter banquet. Be sure to make your reservation.

*Sue*

## **Winter Banquet**

### **Fellowship Speaker,**

**Rosemary Guzman, PhD, current postdoctoral researcher at University of Chicago and recipient of our two Branch Fellowships for 2017-2018, will trace her journey through the world of higher mathematics as a woman, a professor, a mother and a STEM mentor.**

**Wednesday, December 6**

**6:00 pm Social**

**6:45 pm Dinner/Speaker  
Reservations required, details  
in this issue.**

**Reserve 22  
Village Links of Glen Ellyn  
485 Winchell Way  
Glen Ellyn**

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**EOF Chairs**

**Susan Levy-Creed and Marilyn Wiedemann**

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time	Information
December 1	AM Lit	9:30 am	Laura Desmarais's
December 6	Winter Banquet	6:00 pm	Reserve 22, Village Links, 485 Winchell Way, Glen Ellyn
December 9	Film Group	7:00 pm	Sue Herrmann's
December 20	AM Non-Fiction	10:00 am	LaVonne Ruoff's
January 5	AM Lit	9:30 am	Nancy Possinger's
January 7	Cultural Arts	2:00 pm	42 <sup>nd</sup> Street, Drury Lane, Oak Brook
January 15	PM Lit	7:00 pm	Kitty Johansson's

### Winter Banquet Speaker Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF) Co-Chairs Susan Levy-Creed and Marilyn Wiedemann

Our winter banquet speaker is Rosemary Guzman, PhD, a current postdoctoral researcher at the University of Chicago and recipient of our two Branch American Fellowships for 2017-2018. She defines herself as a "hyperbolic 3-manifolds and low-dimensional topologist," which she will clarify for us in fascinating terms and adds "it is an exciting time in hyperbolic manifolds!" She will trace her journey through the world of higher mathematics as a woman, a professor, a mother and a STEM mentor.



#### Membership

**Kitty Johansson and Karen Schulz**

*kathrynj@herpersgmbh.com okschulz@aol.com*

We have two more new members bringing us to 136! It's a great time of year to join and to enjoy the Fall activities: Showcase Branch meeting, the Eleanor Roosevelt Walk, film and book groups, book collecting for the Book Sale, and the winter banquet when we are treated to a speaker who has received Book Sale money (possibly OURS!) for academic research or projects. When recruiting new members, please refer them to our website: [wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net](http://wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net) where there is a full description of our activities and a membership form to download.

**Grace Greenberg** grew up in southern Illinois-near St. Louis and earned a BA in Communication Disorders from St. Louis University followed by an MA in Speech Pathology from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. She also has an MBA in Business and Management Information Systems from Dominican University. Her first job was in the Oak Park school system followed by a launch of her own boutique business in Naperville. She sold the boutique and went back to education at Krejci Academy "Little Friends" where she worked in special education, including autistic students. Grace was eventually recruited by Glen Ellyn's District 41 for special education. Nowadays she does some consulting with special cases. Grace is a "people person," likes to read, bike and travel.

**Tracy Kline** hails from Warrensburg in southern Illinois and received her BS from Illinois State University in Special Education, followed by an MA in Educational Administration from University of Illinois-Urbana. The family moved to Hillside and Tracy began her career at Proviso Public School System where she became Special Education Department Chair until 2001. During this time they moved to Oak Park where she joined AAUW. In 1991 they moved to Glen Ellyn, seeking a more spacious garden and a home by the DuPage River. She became Special Education Chair at Glenbard East High School retiring in 2017. The Klines have two children: son Zachary, a veterinarian of exotic animals in Canada, and Chelsea, a student of Public Health at University of Minnesota. Tracy likes to read, exercise, enjoys movies, retirement and looks forward to AAUW.



## **Member Records and Directory**

**Maureen Sheehan and Karen Schulz**

*maureenjsheehan@aol.com okschulz@aol.com*

Please add the following updates to your directory :

### **New Members:**

**Greenberg, Grace**

*speechtherapygrg@aol.com*

**(630) 853-3538**

BA            Communication Disorders  
MA            Speech Pathology  
MBA          Business/MIS

St. Louis Univ..  
Southern IL Univ.  
Dominican Univ.

**AAUW No.:**

**AAUW Mbr. Date:**

**Neighborhood:** S Glen Ellyn (7)

**Kline, Tracy**

*trakli@MSN.com*

**(630) 706-0871**

BS            Special Education  
MA            Educational Administration

IL State Univ.  
Univ. of IL (Urbana).

**AAUW No.:**

**AAUW Mbr. Date:**

**Neighborhood:** C Glen Ellyn (6)



## **Treasury**

**Carolyn Oesterle**

*coesterle@gmail.com*

Please remember to use *AmazonSmile* when making purchases for all your holiday needs and click on AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch NFP so we can continue with our donations from Amazon. You need to log onto *AmazonSmile* instead of *Amazon* and then follow the prompts. Please see additional information at the end of this issue. Thanks and enjoy the holiday season!



## **Book Sale**

**Carolyn Oesterle and Nancy Possinger**

*csoesterle@gmail.com nap101547@ameritech.net*

The October Book Drive was a great success bringing in at least 56 boxes of books that have all been sorted and stored in our book locker. A huge thanks to the many helpers including Marilyn Wiedemann (who did a yeoman's job of picking up and sorting), Nancy Possinger, Kitty Johansson, Ewa Bacon, Sue Langguth, Jane Palmer, Margaret McGrath, Elaine Nissen, Nancy Daly, Laura Desmarais, Jan Radil and more. We also have had large donations from Ursula and Werner Ulrich, and Ewa and John Bacon. Keep up the good work and your eyes out for used books.



## Film Group

Anne Hanley

ahanley@mindspring.com

December's Film Group meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Saturday, December 9, at the home of Sue Herrmann. By then, the weather outside will be chilly enough to make the warm dark movie theater especially inviting. Check your email for the film selection the weekend before the meeting. Looking ahead, our January meeting will be on the second Friday, January 12, at my home. I am still looking for volunteers to host the February, April and May meetings, so please look at your calendars and contact me if you can host. I also encourage you to volunteer to lead the discussion! Finally, 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, Friday, December 1, at Laura Desmarais's. Co-hostesses are Susan Levy-Creed and Suzanne Gagner. Laura Desmarais will lead the discussion of Lisa Ko's *The Leavers*. This intriguing novel follows the life of Deming Guo and his mother, Polly, an undocumented Chinese immigrant. Ko exquisitely captures the feelings of Deming and Polly. The novel received the 2016 PEN/Bellwether prize for fiction, awarded by Barbara Kingsolver for a novel that addresses issues of social justice. Copies of the book should be available at the Glen Ellyn Public Library.

On Friday, January 5, 2018, we will discuss Fanny Flagg's *The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion*. We will meet at Nancy Possinger's, where Jean Lindsey will lead our discussion. Join us for spirited analyses of these novels.



## PM Lit

Phyllis

Fogel

prfogel@live.com

PM Lit does not meet in December. On Monday, January 15, 7:00 pm, we meet at Kitty Johansson's home to discuss *The Signature of All Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert. Booklist says, "Gilbert, in supreme command of her material, effortlessly invokes the questing spirit of the nineteenth century, when amateur explorers, naturalists, and enthusiasts were making major contributions to progress. Beautifully written and imbued with a reverence for science and for learning, this is a must read."

The discussion leader will be announced at a later date. Please let Kitty know if you are coming. Multiple copies of the book are reserved for us at the Glen Ellyn Public Library on the second floor. For those who like to read ahead our next two books are *Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austin and *Hillbilly Elegy* by J. D. Vance. Everyone is welcome to attend one, all, or any meetings.

***We don't need a list of rights and wrongs, tables of dos and don'ts: we need books, time, and silence.***

***Thou Shalt Not is soon forgotten, but Once Upon a Time lasts forever.*** Phillip Pullman



## **AM Non-Fiction**

**Sue Herrmann**

*sherrmann710@gmail.com*

Hello to all AM Non-Fiction book group members.

We will meet on December 20th 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 Subjects*, by Mary Wollstonecraft. LaVonne will be our discussion leader and Kitty Johansson will be bringing treats.

The Glen Ellyn Public Library has set books aside for us early in the month that the book is read. Please be sure to call the hostess each meeting to tell her if you are coming. Check our Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW website for a list of the books for 2018.

See you December 20!



## **Cultural Arts**

**Suzanne Gagner**

*petalpower1@yahoo.com*

The following two group events are being planned, and we are looking for more attendees. Sign up sheets will be at the December meeting, but feel free to contact me with your interest at an earlier time.

**42ND STREET** - Sunday, January 7 at 2:00 pm, Drury Lane in Oak Brook.

The ticket price is \$64.00 or \$58.00 for a group of 15. At this time, I have only 11 interested parties. Since I will need to work on the reservations for this January performance in December, please let me know if you are interested in attending as soon as possible.

**WOMEN IN JEOPARDY** - Sunday, February 18, at 3:00 pm, Mayslake Peabody Estate, Oak Brook.

The ticket price will be \$39.60 because we have a group in excess of 10.

A little about the play: "When your best friend is dating a serial killer... do you tell her if she seems happy? *Thelma and Louise* meet *The First Wives Club* in this biting comedy. Divorcees Mary, Jo, and Liz are best friends, always looking out for each other." Playwright, Wendy MacLeod is the author of *The House of Yes* (Miramax Films starring Parker Posey) and *Schoolgirl Figure* (World Premiere at The Goodman) and *Things Being What They Are* (Steppenwolf).

Tickets are purchased Independently for the following events:

**BUFFALO THEATRE ENSEMBLE** - Tickets at the McAninch Art Center (COD) box office. Tues.-Sun. 12-6 p.m.

630-942-4000. Peggy Connolly hosts a pre-show party.

February 1, *Time Stands Still*, Sarah, a photo journalist is injured by a roadside bomb in Iraq.

**WHEATON DRAMA** - Playhouse 111, 111 N. Hale, Wheaton.

Tickets at [www.wheatondrama.org](http://www.wheatondrama.org) or call 630-260-1820.

November 17 to December 10, *Sense and Sensibility*

December 14 to 17, *The Cinnamon Bear*

January 19 to February 11, 2018, *Sex In The Title*



**Spotlight on AAUW 2017-2019 Action Priorities:** Priorities 4, 5, 6 that support Public Policy regarding education are:

- Vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights pertaining to education
- Increased support for and access to affordable higher education for women and disadvantaged populations
- Increased support for programs that break through barriers for women and girls in STEM fields

See complete list of Biennial Action Priorities at <http://www.aauw.org/resources/principles-and-priorities>.

**AAUW National Update- Pay Equity Setback:** The Office of Management and Budget is halting the implementation of the revised Employer Information Report salary data collection. The EIR would enable the federal government to identify gender and racial pay gaps. This termination is a loss for workers who rely on data to address the gender pay gap in their workplaces and a loss for employers who are making every effort to preemptively correct pay imbalances internally without outside intervention.

**AAUW-IL Legislative Update for 100<sup>th</sup> General Assembly:** During the fall veto override session, Governor Rauner's vetoes of AAUW- supported **SB 1351** (Student Loan Bill of Rights) and **HB 2977**(Cursive Writing) were overturned. **HB 4108**, the attempt to repeal the AAUW supported and passed, **HB 40** (protection for reproductive rights and insurance), did not progress. Other AAUW bills of interest that did not pass were **SB 1657** (Gun Dealer Licensing); **HB 2462** (Pay Equity), veto overturned in House but not enough votes in Senate); **SJRCA4** (Equal Rights Amendment), picked up more sponsors but no further action was taken; **HB 3211** (allows SNAP Benefits at state universities), bill is considered dead; and **SB 1353** (increases funds for residents of community assistance centers), veto stands.



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.

Success in an AAUW-supported case, Burhans v. Yale! In 2012, Susan Burhans Landino filed suit against Yale alleging sex discrimination and unlawful retaliation under Title IX and other laws. Burhans had been working at Yale, since 1999, as a communications specialist, and served the university as a security education coordinator. She claims she was discriminated against by Yale, and eventually terminated after years of attempting to help survivors of sexual assault on campus and alert Yale to potential Title IX violations.

The funds to support these cases come directly from the generous contributions of AAUW members. In our Branch, each member contributes \$5 per year.



Your AAUW Online team has been working hard to keep our website and our Facebook pages current. You can help by sending us pictures of AAUW meetings and other activities such as book sorting. Just send your pictures to both of us and we will post them.

Website pictures – Many of the pictures currently on our website are more than a couple years old. If you are an Interest group leader, please take a picture of members participating in your next meeting. It doesn't have to be a formal group picture – you can also send snapshots of small groups of members in discussion or enjoying treats. So easy when we all have cameras on our phones! I will post them on your Interest group's page or maybe use it in the home page banner in the next update.

Facebook pictures – If you are a Facebook member, you can post a picture directly to either the Branch Facebook page or the Book Sale Facebook page with a brief comment, such as, "AM Lit members discuss *News of the World* or "Members enjoying another Spice Routes menu." As for the Book Sale page, we have many customers (non-members) who follow our page. If you are sorting books, take a picture of some of those mysteries or cookbooks to build excitement for the sale. Or, bring your dog or cat to the book locker and make a video – maybe a cat or dog video will make the book sale go viral (just kidding)!

Finally, let us know if you spot anything that we may have overlooked while updating the website or if there are any strange comments on our Facebook pages. Our Facebook pages are "moderated" which means that we can delete inappropriate comments or even block someone from posting on our pages.



**Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF)**

**Susan Levy-Creed and Marilyn Wiedemann**

*susanlevycreed@gmail.com      hillarlyn@wowway.com*

December is a special time for the branch EOF. It is the time we get to hear from one of the recipients of our fellowships or grants. Maybe this is a good time to clarify what those constitute.

American Fellowships: Women pursuing full-time study to complete dissertations, conduct postdoctoral research full-time, or prepare research for publication for eight consecutive weeks. \$6000-\$30,000.

Career Development Grants: Women pursuing a certificate or degree to advance their careers, change careers, or reenter the workforce and whose bachelor's degree was received at least five years before the award period. \$2,000-\$12,000.

Selected Professions Fellowships: Women pursuing full-time study in a master's or professional degree program in which women are underrepresented, including STEM, law, business, and medicine. \$5,000-\$18,000.

Community Action Grants: Individuals, AAUW branches and states and nonprofit organizations to fund innovative programs or non-degree research projects that promote education and equity for girls. One year grant--\$2,000-\$7,000, two year grant--\$5,000-\$10,000.



**Dare to Dream Needs Volunteers This Year  
College of DuPage, January 13, 2018**

Dare to Dream is a mother-daughter conference for Latina middle school women. It was established to introduce the value of continued education to local Latina middle school girls and their mothers. It was the brainchild of the Elmhurst AAUW Branch. Elmhurst reached out to Wheaton-Glen Ellyn, Downers Grove and Lombard Branches for support. It has been incredibly successful. There were over 100 girls at the first conference in 2009 and included seven school districts. Currently it is held in the Belushi Performance Hall at the McAninch Arts Center at College of DuPage, and fills every seat with almost 800 girls, moms, teachers and volunteers. The conference itself is only one day in the lives of these girls—a powerful day with lingering effects.

This year Dare to Dream is scheduled during COD's winter break. It has relied on student volunteers since moving to the COD campus. Dare to Dream committee is reaching out to all Branches for volunteer support this year.

If interested contact Laura Desmarais, [lkdesmarais@gmail.com](mailto:lkdesmarais@gmail.com) for additional information.



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# Annual Winter Banquet

**Wednesday, December 6, 2017**

**Enjoy the season with your  
fellow Branch members. This evening  
is always an AAUW highlight!**

**Reserve 22  
Village Links of Glen Ellyn  
485 Winchell Way, Glen Ellyn**

**6:00 pm Conversation and Cocktails  
(cash bar)  
6:45 pm Dinner**

**After dinner speaker, Rosemary Guzman, PhD**

**Dinner Options (Salad and Dessert Included):**

***Chicken Piccata \$34.00*  
*Sesame Ginger Salmon \$41.30***

**Reservation and payment due November 24**

**\*\*Look for the reservation and entree selection form on the next page\*\***





## Reservation Form for Winter Banquet

### Winter Banquet Reservation Form RSVP by November 24

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ # in party \_\_\_\_\_

Choose one:

Chicken Piccata \$34.00 \_\_\_\_\_

or

Sesame Ginger Salmon \$41.30 \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like a vegetarian meal,  
please contact Debbie Ness at 734-604-3878 or [Debbie.ness49@gmail.com](mailto:Debbie.ness49@gmail.com)

*Please return this form and check payable to AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP  
by November 24*

*Mail to Debbie Ness*

### 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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