



Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP

wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net

Twigs

December 2019

A Leaf from the Co-Presidents

Hard to believe we are just a few weeks away from our Winter Banquet and the opportunity it offers for food, friendship, and celebrating an AAUW Career Development Grant winner. If you have not made your reservation for this annual event, please do so soon (and if you're sitting on the fence — jump off and join us!). What better way to kick-start the holiday season than with AAUW friends. The reservation deadline has been extended to Monday, November 25.

A note of thanks to all of you who have made the start of this program year — and our tenure as co-presidents — so engaging. Your friendship, ideas, energy and willingness to take on tasks new and old has warmed our hearts and made our job so much easier.

Best wishes for a Joyous Holiday and a Happy New Year!

Donna Jean & Janet



Annual Winter Banquet

Speaker:

Naeema Torres, MFA

AAUW Educational
Opportunities Fund
2018 Career Development
Grant Winner

Career Update & Award
Winning Thesis Film

6:00 pm, Wednesday,
December 4

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

EOF Chair:
Susan Levy-Creed

Winter Banquet Chairs:
Deb Ness
Frankie Robinson

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time	Information
Dec. 4	Annual Winter Banquet	6:00 pm	Reserve 22 Restaurant, Village Links, 485 Winchell Way, Glen Ellyn. Buffet Reservation Deadline Extended to Monday, Nov. 25.
Dec. 6	AM Lit	9:30 am	Mary Mossman's.
Dec. 14	Film Group	7:00 pm	Diane Serb's.
Dec. 18	AM Non Fiction	10:00 am	Elaine Nissen's.



Annual Winter Banquet, Wednesday, December 4 Educational Opportunities Fund Chairperson: Susan Levy-Creed

We will have the opportunity at our Winter Banquet to hear Naeema Torres update us on her progress. Since so many of us were so impressed with her last year, the Board decided to ask her back. We will learn of her progress, finishing her degree, and her career moves. We will also be able to see her award-winning thesis film focusing on the legacy of the largest slave rebellion in United States history. She is a delightful speaker and person. I hope many of you will be in attendance to enjoy her presentation.

After the holidays, we will be in touch with high school counselors, pending Board decisions on some potential local scholarship changes. Happy Holidays!

Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision: Equity for all.

Values: Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality.





Membership

Karen Schulz

okschulz@aol.com

The Winter Banquet coming up on Wednesday, December 4, is a wonderful evening to introduce a potential member to all that we are and all that we have to offer! They will experience the warmth and camaraderie in the room and hear from a speaker who has benefited from an AAUW fellowship or grant. Anyone who signs up that evening will join at the discounted rate of \$58.50. So, please do invite a guest! We will have a special table for all the members who joined in 2018-2019 and will celebrate with a photo. We look forward to visiting with you and meeting your guests at this delightful affair.



Treasury

Elaine Nissen

nissen.elaine@comcast.net

Please take a moment to read the thank you note at the end of this issue from the Glen Ellyn Historical Society for our April donation to assist with flood repair.

Please remember *AmazonSmile* when purchasing for your holiday needs. Log onto *AmazonSmile* rather than *Amazon* and follow the prompts. Click on *AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch NFP* so your purchase will be counted towards a donation to our Branch. Thanks, and enjoy the holiday season!

Holiday Shopping Alert!

Support AmazonSmile. You Shop. Amazon Donates.

**AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch NFP
can increase its AmazonSmile donations by logging onto
*smile.amazon.com***

For more information, go to *smile.amazon.com/ch/47-2040577*

**Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile
purchases to AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch NFP**



Update Chicago: Saturday, January 18, 2020, Women's March Chicago, Grant Park, *womens121marchonchicago.org*
Women's March Chicago will host two marches in 2020 as voters gear up for the 2020 presidential election. The January march will coincide with the annual anniversary of the Women's March movement. The second march, October 10, 2020, is focused on voter education and the opportunity to vote early.

Update National: Observation by Kendra Davis, AAUW Senior Vice President, Advancement and Partnerships, at Northern Fall Conference.

A fast-growing, national organization that was formed in response to the *#MeToo* scandal is Time's Up. It is now very visible and active in the sexual harassment *space* and receiving substantial donations. Time's Up Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity, supports the Time's Up Legal Defense Fund and other charitable programmatic and advocacy initiatives. Time's Up is dedicated to ensuring safe, fair, and dignified work for women of all kinds by changing culture, companies and laws.

By contributing to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (#9910), membership provides AAUW with the kind of flexibility and rapid response that Time's Up is demonstrating, especially now when women's issues are receiving heightened national attention.



What's new on the website? First, the Book Sale warehouse information on the Members Only page has been updated with the new warehouse entry code and locker number. Be sure to check it out before you head over to Extra Space Storage in Glen Ellyn with your book donation or to help out at a sorting session. We also added the tax receipt for book donation in that same section for your easy access. Second, we added printable copies of the book lists for each of the four book groups. Look to the individual book group pages to access the PDF versions of the book lists. Finally, a new picture has been added to the About Us page (recent LAF fundraising walk).



December's Film Group will meet on Saturday, December 14 at 7:00 pm at the home of Diane Serb. Thanks to Susie Gullickson for hosting November's meeting and for Glennette Turner's wonderful comments about Harriet Tubman. It was one of our biggest gatherings ever, and a wonderful film and gathering. Who knows what we will see in December, but it will undoubtedly be a good one! I hope you can join us.

Our Branch Fundraising Activities



Book Sale

Ewa Bacon

baconew@lewisu.edu

The boxes of used books are coming! New tasks: we are now sorting those books into about eleven general categories to make the set-up of books easier when we move to the United Methodist Church for our sale starting, May 6, 2020. I will be sorting books at the locker (Extra Space Storage, 1N372 Main St., Glen Ellyn) on Tuesdays, at 10:00 am the first two weeks of December. Give me a call/text/email if you would like to get a refresher on the sorting procedure. Times will get more frequent as we start the new year. Check out our website for updates! Sorting is an exciting mystery tour: *Can we sell it? Is it collectible? Is that so old and shoddy that it's a 'dog?'* Join us!

LUNAFEST

Suzanne Gagner

petalpower1@yahoo.com

Our 2nd Annual **LUNAFEST** will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2020. We have contracted with The Center Stage Theater to once again host our 2020 event. Their enthusiastic staff, Chef Terrell's delicious cuisine and beverages, and ample parking make this an ideal event location.

For their **2020 LUNAFEST Film Festivals**, LUNA Corporation has put together a powerful program of seven films. The writers and producers of these short films are award-winning artists who do not shy away from the unique struggles of women.

To whet your appetite, the film titles this year are:

PURL, BALLET AFTER DARK, THERE YOU ARE,

XMAS CAKE-THIS AMERICAN SHELF-LIFE,

GAME, LADY PARTS, and HOW TO SWIM.

The Planning Committee will be soliciting sponsorships for this event. If you have a sponsor to suggest, please contact me. We will provide additional **LUNAFEST** information in future Twigs issues and at our monthly meetings.

If you would like to share a comment or suggestion regarding our **2020 LUNAFEST**, please email me.

Volunteers are seldom paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are PRICELESS!



Members who helped with the LAF walk (formerly the Eleanor Roosevelt Walk) had a great time on Saturday, October 26. Walkers included new members Dave Schlembach and Lillian Sorensen, as well as Sharon Garney, Patricia Spence, Ann Kryger, Jean Lindsey, Kathy McCullough, Glenna Thompson, Pat Kaczor, Sarah Allen, Karen Schulz, and Mary Sue Brown. Members who greeted the walkers and joined in treats were Marilyn Wiedemann, Kitty Johansson, Elaine Nissen and Ewa Bacon.

We will send the **\$1070.00** in proceeds restricted to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. Thank you to all who participated and/or donated.

Not only is Carolyn a former very competent Branch Treasurer and our very organized LAF Chair, she is an accomplished poetess!

The LAF Walk--A Smile with Treats
by Carolyn Oesterle

*At the Glen Ellyn Library gathered we all
On a Saturday morning this beautiful fall*

*The leaves were aflame as we made our way
Down the Prairie Path strewn with gravestones that day*

*We mingled and talked and before we knew it
We arrived at Shane's Deli and found that they blew it*

*They knew we were coming that Saturday morn
But closed anyway and did not bother to warn*

*So with AAUW style, we skipped not a beat
And hied to the Wheaton Library café for our treat*

*We called to alert others headed for Shane's
And settled into our seats --Shane's loss was our gain*

*The conversation was warm and the coffee delicious
Time flew as we nibbled at each of our dishes*

*At last time had come to head back from our meeting
Then we left to run into a Halloween party in Wheaton*

*The walk was a lively, amusing venture
Surprisingly full of smiles and adventure*

*LAF will receive more than a thousand we cheer
Boy I can't wait to do it again next year*

Annual Winter Banquet



Co-Chairs: Debbie Ness and Frankie Robinson

**Wednesday, December 4, 2019
Reserve 22 Restaurant
Village Links of Glen Ellyn
485 Winchell Way, Glen Ellyn**

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

Conversation/Cocktails: 6:00 pm (cocktail server available to take cash order for all spirits)
Buffet Dinner: 6:45 pm followed by speaker, Naeema Torres
Cost: \$42.00 (includes tax & gratuity)

Buffet Dinner Service to include:

*Sesame Ginger Salmon
Chicken Piccata with Lemon Butter Caper Sauce
Penne Pasta with Marinara Sauce*

*Seasonal Grilled Italian Style Vegetables
Antipasto & Caesar Salads
Freshly Baked Bread*

*Ice Cream Sundae Bar
Coffee/Tea*

Reservation Deadline Extended to Monday, November 25.

Note: Please see reservation form on last page of issue.



Our Branch Book Groups

Books and doors are the same thing. You open them, and you go through into another world.
Jeanette Winterson

AM Lit

Jean Lindsey

jeanlindsey15@comcast.net

AM Lit will meet on Friday, December 6, to discuss the engaging debut novel *White Chrysanthemum* by Mary Lynn Bracht. Mary Mossman is hosting the meeting; Laura Desmarais is our discussion leader; and Patricia Spence and Kathy McCullough are the co-hostesses. As usual, we will gather at 9:30 am.

White Chrysanthemum is inspired by the heartbreaking history of Japanese occupied Korea. The novel follows two sisters who take different paths in their attempt to survive World War II.

PM Lit

Phyllis Fogel

prfogel@live.com

PM Lit takes the busy month of December off. We resume on Monday evening, January 20, 2020, with *Educated* by Tara Westover. It is a memoir of her life being raised by a fundamentalist family in rural Idaho and going to school for the first time at age 17. Susie Gullickson is the discussion leader and hostess. In February, we are reading *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult.

AM Non-Fiction

Sue Herrmann

sherrmann710@gmail.com

Our next meeting will be December 18 at 10:00 am at Elaine Nissen's home. We will discuss *Henry Ford and the Jews* by Neil Baldwin. Carolyn Oesterle will be our discussion leader and Laura Desmarais will provide treats. Be sure to let Elaine know if you plan to attend. Hope you can come.

Please Note: The Glen Ellyn Public Library reserves multiple copies of our books on the second floor. Those who hold a current library card from another local library are also eligible to check out the books.

Message from Kimberly Churches, AAUW Chief Executive Officer



As the 2020 presidential campaign gets underway, the power of women is on full display.

Maybe it's that there are so many women in the race — the largest number in history — or because the candidates are eager to earn our support. Whatever the reason, the issues that matter most to us are *finally* getting attention.

As a non-partisan organization, AAUW doesn't endorse specific candidates. But that doesn't mean we're not advocates for the policies that matter most to us. Indeed, we have a long history of championing policies that advance equality for women in education and the workplace.

So, in the months ahead, AAUW will be watching closely to see where candidates stand on these five issues:

1. **Equal Pay for Equal Work.** To close the stubborn wage gap, we need leaders who will pass the federal *Paycheck Fairness Act* and advocate for laws and policies that ensure women are not discriminated against at work.
2. **Investing in Education.** Education is the pathway for women and girls, but too many of our schools are falling short. We need to raise teacher pay, invest in **STEM education**, protect Title IX and make education a top national priority.
3. **Reducing Student Debt.** Women hold two-thirds of the nation's \$1.46 trillion **educational debt**. Policymakers should protect grant programs, champion tuition and debt-free options and expand loan forgiveness programs.
4. **Strengthening Social Security.** Because of lower wages and time off from work, women collect about \$320 a month less than men do in Social Security benefits. Our lawmakers need to **address the retirement wage gap** women face.
5. **Implementing Paid Leave.** The U.S. is the only developed country without paid family and sick leave. Let's **adopt policies** to give workers paid time off for illness and caregiving.

You know how much is at stake in the next election. So, please, do what you've done in the past: Tune in, get involved, make your voices heard — and ensure that we harness the power of women to drive the national agenda.

With gratitude for all you do to guarantee a brighter future for women and girls,

Kimberly Churches



September 26, 2019

Elaine Nissen, Treasurer
AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch
2s763 Lakeside Dr.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Dear Elaine:

When I first walked into a flooded History Center in the early morning hours of March 22nd, wading through the water and mud in my boots, it was hard to imagine that there would be a silver lining. But the outpouring of support from the community has been so touching. Personally, as someone who moved here four years ago, I have been honored to call Glen Ellyn home. But the heartwarming response to the challenges faced by the Glen Ellyn Historical Society has brought tears to my eyes on numerous occasions these past few weeks.

Your generous donation of \$75.00 means so much. It is hard to put into words. Glen Ellyn is known as a community of volunteers. Those from Glen Ellyn and our surrounding communities have been so kind, donating time, money, physical labor, supplies, expertise, sharing storage space – even food for workers. Whether people enjoy Glen Ellyn now or hold a connection to this Village through their past, they continue to love and support this amazing community.

The Historical Society has quite a path ahead. But it is a journey we are taking with many friends and supporters. And you know that no journey taken in such great company can feel long, even if the path is winding.

Many thanks again for your encouragement and your generous donation. It does indeed take a Village. And that Village's name is Glen Ellyn.

With deep appreciation,

Karen Hall

Karen Hall
Executive Director

*Elaine, we are very grateful to
The AAUW for your generosity.
Thank you!*

Thank you for your generous April 15, 2019 donation of \$75.00 for flood recovery.

The Glen Ellyn Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization and you may want to retain this letter for your tax records. It is understood that you received no payment, goods or services from the Society in consideration of your gift and your gift will not be placed in a donor advised fund or supporting organization.



**December 4 Annual Winter Buffet Banquet Reservation Form
Reservation Deadline Extended to Monday, November 25**

Name: _____ \$42.00 (includes tax & gratuity).

Please return this reservation form and check made payable to:
AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP
to:
Debbie Ness, 917 Webster Ave., Wheaton, IL 60187

Any questions, please contact Debbie Ness at 734-604-3878 or debbie.ness49@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE: RESERVATIONS AND CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25.



The Twigs Team

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*Editor's Note: It takes a team to get Twigs out to all of you.
I would like to acknowledge and thank these members that make it all possible.*