



Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP

wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net

Twigs

Summer 2021

A Leaf from the Co-Presidents

It is with much gratitude and some sadness that we write this last letter of our term. It has been an honor, a privilege, and a pleasure to have worked with you all over the last two years. It was certainly a different term of office than we planned for or expected. It is thanks to all who worked together so that we as a Branch could survive this very strange year. We do have some special thanks to those we want to acknowledge for their contributions to the Branch.

To Frankie Robinson, VP of Programs, who found engaging and educational speakers that made being on Zoom worthwhile.

To Tracy Kline, Secretary, who under many challenging situations, kept us on track and provided detailed accurate minutes, even when everyone tried to speak at once (before we learned how to Zoom better).

To Jean Lindsey and Nancy Possinger, VPs of Membership, who worked valiantly to communicate with members despite the challenges and nominated an outstanding slate of incoming officers.

To Maureen Sheehan, Treasurer, who came into her role in the midst of a Branch loss, and took up her responsibilities willingly and ably and guided us forward.

To Susan Levy-Creed, EOF Chair, who continued to find worthy scholarship recipients through ongoing communications with our schools even when no one was sure what the coming opportunities would be.

To Ewa Bacon, Carolyn Oesterle, and Suzanne Gagner, fundraisers extraordinaire, who rolled up their sleeves and found a way to continue our fundraising efforts even when all seemed lost and came up with creative choices that resulted in positive outcomes for the Branch.

To Patricia Spence, Public Policy Chair, who with energy and enthusiasm, took on her role to keep us informed about legislative and national issues during a time when things were changing constantly.

To Fran Kravitz, STEM Chair, who used her knowledge and experience to create Science Girls on the Go when we couldn't hold STEM classes in person.

To Kathy McCullough, Twigs Editor, who corralled the monthly news to provide Branch information to members.

To Jane Palmer, Website & Social Media Chair, who maintained our face to the community and kept us on track with her knowledge and experience of policies and procedures.

To Karen Bondy, who always made sure those All-Branch emails got out in a timely way.

To Book Group and Film Group Chairs, Sue Herrmann, Jean Lindsey, Ewa Bacon, Susie Gullickson, and Anne Hanley, who despite the challenges of Zoom, kept members interested, engaged, and educated.

And last, but not least, to all the members who share the mission and vision of AAUW and appreciate spending time with like-minded people who are friends, colleagues, and inspirations.

Janet & Donna Jean

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time	Information
June 4	AM Lit Book Selection	9:30 am	Peggy Connolly, 1445 Brentwood Lane, Wheaton.
June 9	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	TBD.
June 11	Film Group	6:00 pm	Patio between Wheaton Public Library & Adams Park, Wheaton.
June 21	PM Lit Book Selection/PotLuck	6:00 pm	Bonnie Wheaton, 1203 E Harrison St, Wheaton.
June 23	AM Non-Fiction Book Selection	10:00 am	Peggy Connolly, 1445 Brentwood Lane, Wheaton.
July 4	Glen Ellyn 4 th of July Parade	10:30 am to Noon	Lake Road to Lake Ellyn Park, Glen Ellyn.
July 17	Film Group	6:00 pm	Patio between Wheaton Public Library & Adams Park, Wheaton.
July 19	PM Lit	7:00 pm	TBD.
August 13	Film Group	6:00 pm	Patio between Wheaton Public Library and Adams Park, Wheaton.
Aug. 16	PM Lit	7:00 pm	TBD.



Membership

Jean Lindsey & Nancy Possinger

Jeanlindsey15@comcast.net napossinger@gmail.com

We are very pleased this month to welcome Marilyn Mauritz as a new member to the Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch. While Marilyn is new to our Branch, she is not new to AAUW, having just moved this month from St. Paul, Minnesota to Glen Ellyn. Marilyn holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Michigan and a Master of Arts in Library Science from Emporia State University.

Please add Marilyn's contact information to your Directory:

890 Smith Street
 Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
 Cell phone: 651-297-8542
 Email: marilynmauritz@gmail.com

Please update your Directory and email databases for:

- **Suzanne Balk:** email correction, suzannebalk@yahoo.com
- **Marcia Eubanks:** new contact information:
 Address: 2 Wheaton Center, Apt. 612, Wheaton, IL 60187
 Home phone: None
 Cell phone: 630-309-1929
 Email remains the same: eubanksm@yahoo.com

In Memoriam

We are sorry this month to announce the passing in April of Mary Jane Marsh, Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW Branch member since 1983. She was a member for more than 38 years and passed away at the age of 99. A contribution to the AAUW National Education and Training for Women Fund has been made in her honor.



Changes to Your Contact Information for 2021-2022 Branch Directory

The 2021-2022 Branch Directory will be published around August 20 so requests to change your contact information must be received no later than August 10. This includes changes to street address, email address, phone numbers and/or elimination of phone numbers no longer in use. Please forward any changes to me by August 10 with the email subject line **Directory Change Request**.

Volunteer(s) Needed to Manage Directory

Producing the Branch Directory requires technical skill and experience with both Excel and Word. I would be happy to mentor some volunteers into this process during August when pulling the 2021-2022 Directory together. The most complex part of the process is merging the Excel member data into a Word document. The Word document then requires manual formatting which is less complex. The document needs to be ready to go to print by August 25. The busy time of year for Directory development is August as the Branch likes to distribute the new Directory at the September meeting to minimize mailing expenses. Please call me at 630.926.1147 if you are interested in participating in this process.



DUES RENEWAL 2021-2022

Thank you to our Branch members who have already renewed AAUW membership for the coming year.

If you have not yet renewed this is the process:

1. A second electronic invoice will be sent to the email account we have on record for you in late May. The email will come from memberinfo@aauw.org.
2. The **e-renewal letter from memberinfo@aauw.org** is personalized to you so **please do not forward your message** to anyone else because it is specific to you.
3. If you have NOT renewed yet and do NOT see an email from memberinfo@aauw.org by June 1 arrive in your Inbox, **please search your Spam and Junk folders**.
4. To complete your Renewal, **click on the secured personalized link in the message**. You have a choice to either (a) pay online with a credit or debit card, or (b) print the form and mail a check to Maureen Sheehan, 227 Orchard Lane, Glen Ellyn IL 60137.

Please use whichever method you prefer. I renewed using the link to pay by credit card and it took less than a minute, but a check sent to me also works. Please call 630.926.1147 or email me if you have not received the memberinfo@aauw.org message by June 1 or if you have trouble renewing online.

REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS FOR 2020-2021 EXPENSES

The end of fiscal year 2020-2021 is approaching. Please submit any check requests for expenses to me by June 10 at the latest. The 2020-2021 revenue and expenses will be used to generate a preliminary 2021-2022 budget for the annual budget meeting. **Reimbursement requests should be mailed or dropped off to Maureen Sheehan, 227 Orchard Lane, Glen Ellyn IL 60137 no later than June 10.**

Branch Member Recognition
Dr. Anne Hanley
2021 Board of Trustees Professorship
Northern Illinois University

We have recently learned that our Branch member Dr. Anne Hanley was named 2021 Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees Professorship, a very prestigious recognition. The professorship is the top university honor reserved for faculty members who demonstrate excellence in all facets of teaching, service, leadership and research or artistry.

Many of us in the Branch know Anne as a participant at Branch meetings and fundraisers, small groups and always willing to share recent research with our Branch members. She is the author of two books with a third in progress, and has been recognized as a leader for improving the climate for women on campus. Read the article in the link from *NIU Today*.

<https://www.niutoday.info/2021/04/14/anne-hanley-named-2021-board-of-trustees-professor/>



Congratulations Anne!
We Are So Proud of You!

Celebrate the Fourth with AAUW!
Fun and Exciting New Event for our Branch
Glen Ellyn Fourth of July Parade
Carolyn Oesterle



We are planning an AAUW Branch walk in the Glen Ellyn Fourth of July parade. We hope to have twenty members walking and also plan to have a convertible for some people to ride in. The event runs from 10:30 am to Noon on July 4, starts on Lake Rd and ends in Lake Ellyn Park. We hope to stay in the park for about thirty minutes afterward if there is any interest from the community. I would like to have us carry our banner and some signs that show the AAUW mission, activities and community action. We could all wear AAUW T-shirts, or if that does not work, we can wear white. I think this is an exciting and fun way to show our community involvement and entice new members since we cannot have the Book Sale or a presence at the summer festivals. We each will have to sign a liability waiver like we did on the fundraising walk. Please call me at 630.469.9382 or email to csoesterle@gmail.com if you can make it. I need to have the number of members that are walking by June 21.

Our Branch Fundraising Activities



Booksale

Ewa Bacon

baconew@lewisu.edu

We are all bitterly aware that we have had to cancel both the 2020 and 2021 Used Book Sales, one of our major scholarship fundraisers. In an effort to salvage funds, our Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch AAUW Board agreed to a novel scheme, the ***Pretend It's a Book Sale*** virtual event. We formed a sub-committee to investigate our options. We are not asking Branch members for contributions.

Karen Bondy and Jane Palmer write: *We emailed more than 200 loyal customers of the past AAUW Used Book Sales, asking them for support during these times so that we can continue to offer four local high school girls a scholarship to attend College of DuPage. Requests went out in mid-May. We will report responses in the next issue of Twigs.* If you know anyone outside of AAUW who could be a potential donor, please share email information with Karen (bondykj@aol.com) or Jane (jfpalmer@comcast.net).

Carolyn Oesterle writes: *I have exciting news for ***Pretend It's a Book Sale***. We have been able to develop a partnership with the Bookstore of Glen Ellyn. Mary Sue Brown and I approached Shannon Burgess and Gail Dickson about helping with our events. We are now able to send a 'Thank You Bookstore' coupon for 20% off one item to donors. This is a great way to say thank you and it should encourage our bibliophiles to patronize our local book store. Win-Win!*

Looking at the future I am not optimistic that we will ever see the *old* Used Book Sale restored. There was already significant reluctance to launch the 2020 sale in the format of collecting books for a year with a one-week intense sale in May. But we have suffered more than the loss of a fundraiser we developed over fifty years. We have lost an opportunity to serve our community; we have lost an opportunity for the community to see our mission and our values. That annual flyer announcing the sale gave us an identity which Wheaton and Glen Ellyn residents responded to with their support. We need to find that replacement which brings us recognition and the opportunity to serve. Keep thinking! Bring up ideas! Perhaps a pop-up book sale (collect a month; sell in one weekend); participation in community summer sales (once they are restarted)? Post pandemic reality: we need to renew and reinvent. Thank you for all who helped the 2020 and 2021 efforts and who helped organize the ***Pretend It's a Book Sale***.

Fundraising Activities continued on next page.

**Team LUNA wishes you a wonderful summer with normal activities
like movies, concerts, restaurant dining and HUGS!**

**Meanwhile we will be busy preparing for
LUNAFEST 2021
September 10, 7:00 pm**

The **2021 LUNAFEST** Traveling Film Festival is scheduled for Friday, September 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. This will be a virtual event and will be available to you for a 48 hour period ending on Sunday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m.

LUNA Corporation offered the **2020 LUNAFEST** in a virtual format. This was successful for many nonprofit organizations, and LUNA decided to use this format again in 2021. The virtual film festival will be available to you to watch on your computer like a webinar. If you have Apple TV, AirPlay, Roku, or Chromecast, you can stream the festival onto your television.

The **LUNAFEST** committee is discussing ways to retain the raffle prizes and refreshments that made our 2019 event such fun. For people in the area this could include small viewing parties. We will also encourage people to host a **LUNAFEST** viewing for family and friends.

Please watch Twigs for more information as our planning continues. We will also be using All-Branch emails, Facebook, and our website to promote this major fundraiser.

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.





Our Branch Book Groups

One benefit of summer is that each day we had more light to read by. Jeanette Wells, author *The Glass Castle*

AM Lit

Jean Lindsey

jeanlindsey15@comcast.net

AM Lit will meet all summer and starting in June, in person! We are meeting on June 4 at Peggy Connolly's home to select our next year's novels. Then on July 2, we will discuss *The Nix* by Nathan Hill and on August 6, a novel selected on June 4. Location and discussion leader to be determined; look for AM Lit emails for more information.

It will be so good to be together again!

PM Lit

Susie Gullickson

gullish.1955@gmail.com

We will gather on Monday, June 21, 6:00 pm at Bonnie Wheaton's home. This will be our 2021-2022 Book Selection Potluck Meeting – bring a dish to share. Please send your book suggestions to Susie by June 11, so a list can be compiled and distributed in advance of our meeting.

PM Lit will continue to meet through the summer, with meetings at 7:00 pm on July 19 and August 16. Book selections and meeting locations to be determined, and will be communicated by email.

AM Non-Fiction

Sue Herrmann

sherrmann710@gmail.com

We will select our books for 2021-2022 at our June 23 meeting at Peggy Connolly's home at 10:00 am.

******Please Note:** We request that only fully vaccinated people come to the meeting. Also, please bring your own snack and beverage. Our hostess, Peggy Connolly, still has family members visiting her home who might not be vaccinated.

Please send your book nominations to me by June 1 via email. I will organize the titles and send everyone a copy of the list. We will select five books.

********If you are not vaccinated and would like to participate in selecting the books, I will send you both the nomination and voting guides. Please return the voting guide to me by June 20.

PM Non-Fiction

Ewa Bacon

baconew@lewisu.edu

Our reading selection for July 28 is the lively and amazing story of *The King of Confidence: A Tale of Utopian Dreamers, Frontier Schemers, True Believers, False Prophets, and the Murder of an American Monarch* by Miles Harvey. We have read books in the past with overblown and exaggerated subtitles. Not this one! It is all true. The discussion leader for this summer extravaganza is Marilyn Mayer Wiedemann. While it is most likely that this will be an in-person meeting, please look to your email about July 20 for a site and a co-hostess.

Look forward to our September 22 reading of Joshua Kimmerer's *Braiding Sweetgrass* (Kitty Johannsen, leader) as well as our November 17 reading of Janice Nimura's book *The Doctors Blackwell* (Phyllis Fogel, leader).



It is that time of year again. We have four scholarship recipients, one from each of our feeder high schools, each with unique reasons why they were chosen to receive our \$2000 scholarship to assist them as they begin their post- high school academic career.



Oliver Michelle Nakanjako
Glenbard West High School
Glen Ellyn, Illinois

From her counselor: *Oliver is my student, and although we just met this year, I feel I know her well. She helped me draft this brief biography. Oliver was born in Uganda and came to the United States at the age of thirteen. She started her education at Larson Middle School in Elgin, then attended Streamwood High School for three years until she moved to Glenbard West High School. As a student here, Oliver has been a hard worker and an outstanding self-advocate. Her goal is to begin her studies at College of DuPage in their pre-nursing program and then to transfer to a four year university. Oliver lives with her mother and two younger siblings. Dad is still in Uganda, waiting for his opportunity to come to the United States. Mom is employed as a caregiver and works long hours, so Oliver takes on many home responsibilities. For example, Oliver agreed to remote classes this semester to stay home and care for her younger brother which allowed her sister, Esther, to attend in-person schooling. Oliver's grades have remained solid and she stayed engaged in all her classes. While she has not been at Glenbard West High School long, Oliver quickly developed many strong relationships with students and staff. She cares about others and she loves to learn. She will make an excellent nurse one day!*

In case you're wondering, her name at birth was Michelle, but mom always called her Oliver, because she liked the name! During their immigration process, her family changed her papers to reflect the name Oliver. She is so upbeat and positive, taking everything in stride; I loved hearing her share this story!

Kaitlyn Chassidy Vine
Wheaton North High School
Wheaton, Illinois

From the counselor: *I nominated Kaitlyn for this award because she is one of the hardest working students I have. School is challenging, but she exhibits hard work, dedication and tenacity on a daily basis. Teachers love having her in class and how she seeks help when needed. She comes to help sessions, having attempted everything she can independently and has specific questions which makes the time productive. She has great potential and the money from this scholarship will benefit her greatly as she pursues her career in law enforcement.*



From the student: *My plan is to work in law enforcement and be able to make changes in that field for good and to have people look up to cops in a better light and to feel safe around them.*

Note: EOF continued next page



Madeline Hertz
Wheaton-Warrenville South High School
Wheaton, Illinois

From her counselor: *Maggie is a student who has overcome many obstacles in her life. For starters, Maggie is a student with a learning disability who has an IEP with goals both in fluency and comprehension. Although her learning disability has been challenging, she has not let it become an obstacle that she couldn't face. Throughout her high school career, she has maintained a C or better in all courses. She is part of the TCD Nursing Assistant program and earned Student of the Month for February. She is a student who is reliable and responsible even when situations arise. She is creative and flexible with good problem-solving skills and is a good self-advocate who has developed a great support network because of her honesty and integrity.*

From the student: *I plan to attend College of DuPage in the fall and get my General Education courses done in the first semester. I will then apply and hopefully be accepted to start my nursing career second semester. After I finish my two years and have my Associate Degree Nursing (ADN, I plan to go on to get my Bachelor of Science Nursing (BSN). I also hope to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) in a few months and then work somewhere in the medical field while continuing in school. When I become a Registered Nurse, I would love to work in Labor and Delivery full time.*

Editor's Note: TCD is Technology Center of DuPage and aligns with the College of DuPage CNA program awarding college credits. The student can eventually articulate into the ADN program at College of DuPage and continue on to a local university BSN program.

Miriam Sudhir
Glenbard South High School
Wheaton, Illinois

From the scholarship counselor: *Miriam plans on attending College of DuPage in the fall. She plans on majoring in accounting and then plans to transfer to a four-year university. Miriam was chosen by the committee based on her involvement in school, her strong character, and her financial need. Her counselor wanted the committee to know that Miriam's mom recently suffered from a terrible burn accident. Miriam has been taught to change her mom's burn dressings and has become more and more responsible at home. She is a mature young lady. In the midst of all this, she has managed to maintain her grades, negotiate deadlines with me, and apply for scholarships. This speaks to her maturity and character. High praise came from her teachers, counselor and the Yearbook Club sponsor.*





Springfield: Current Bills Supported by AAUW-IL

Each of the following six is working its way through the General Assembly. May 31 is end of session. I will reach out to the Public Policy Interest Group and report on our Branch FaceBook page if the AAUW-IL Public Policy Directors request us to contact our elected officials in support of these bills. Any bill can be revived in emergency summer session or during Fall, 2021 veto session.

- HB 1797/ SB 2190, Repeal of Parental Notice of Abortion (PNA)
- HB 1736/ SB 647 REACH Act (Responsible Education for Adolescent and Children Health Act)
- HB 3223 Ensuring Success in Schools Law
- HB 3071-HFA1 Healthy Youth Act
- HR 220 Equal Pay Day Resolution
- HB 74 Paid Family Leave Act in Illinois

Also, **State Senator Suzy Glowiak Hilton (District 24)** is one of twenty-eight co-sponsors of the Block Illegal Gun Ownership and Fix the FOID (BIO) Bill. It would require fingerprinting to get or renew a FOID card — the documentation required in Illinois to possess ammunition or firearms; require background checks on all gun transfers; and make improvements to the system that shares information about who is qualified to carry a gun. Finally, the bill would make it easier for law enforcement and court officials to enforce current gun safety laws. *AAUW recognizes that gun violence is a public health crisis.*

Washington, D.C.

- **AAUW Webinar Public Policy Talks: Advancing Priorities in the First 100 Days and Beyond** (Hosted by Kate Nielson, Senior Director of Public Policy, Legal Advocacy, & Research). The program is an assessment of the Biden administration in terms of how well it is doing so far, to advance AAUW public policy priorities. On the whole, the proposals and actions for COVID relief, economic security and education are viewed as advancing AAUW goals. Of special note is a mandate to complete a review of the Title IX regulations done by the last administration with the possibility of amending them.
- Bills before the 117th Congress that AAUW wants passed are Paycheck Fairness and the ERA; as well as Raise the Minimum Wage; Family Leave; Equality; HRI; Healthy Families; and Stem Opportunities.
- AAUW provided research and other sources to House members about the Paycheck Fairness Act. Kate Nielson regularly meets with the Gender Policy Council and provided materials on paid family leave.





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.

As you know, the Branch also has an active website at wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net. It is a quick and accessible resource for information on upcoming Branch or book group meetings, board meeting minutes, financial reports and books chosen by our four book groups. The password for the **Members Only** page is **twigs**. 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!



Welcome, summer! We are vaccinated, the region is opening up, and there is hope. What a wonderful development after a long and difficult year. Here's to continued progress toward normalcy. In the meantime, we will return to open-air in-person film group meetings, which were quite successful last summer. We will meet in the patio space between Adams Park and the Wheaton Public Library, and will return to alternating between second Fridays and second Saturdays. The schedule for summer will be Friday, June 11, Saturday, July 17, and Friday, August 13, gathering at 6:00 pm. The July meeting is on the third Saturday, not the second, due to Wheaton Bandshell Concerts the second weekend.

Our selection for our first summer meeting, Friday, June 11, is *Another Round*, winner of the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. It is available on *Hulu*. You can also watch it through your public library's streaming service, *Kanopy*. You just need to create an account with your library card.

As for July and August, feel free to contact me with suggestions!

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

A JOB WELL DONE

By Carolyn Oesterle

*Donna Jean and Janet have had a good run
From twenty-nineteen to twenty-twenty-one.
Good Presidents both they took up the call
To discuss National's mission for one and for all.
The three mission pillars were presented and stressed
As we sat in small groups to discuss what was best.
We now have these pillars to guide our sight
Research, Advocacy and Education will win our fight.*

*They began some new things and it sure was neat
To have Robert's Rules of Order all on one sheet.
But after less than a year, our lives were all changed
With COVID 19 as the cause of our pain.*

*With no book sale, no banquets and no LunaFest,
They needed to help with the Branch's unrest.
They found ZOOM as the answer and did their best
To keep up with our meetings and passed the test.
ZOOM meetings went well, there is no dispute
Once we all found the easiest way to unmute.*

*Now they both move along to great new events
With Donna Jean to become our State President.
So our thanks to you both, but please don't go away
We may need you as presidents again some day.*

**THANK YOU FROM THE ENTIRE
AAUW WHEATON-GLEN ELLYN BRANCH!**

The Twigs Team

Editor:	Kathleen McCullough
Proofreader:	Ruth Schumacher
AAUW Online:	Jane Palmer

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