

Twigs
Summer 2022

A Leaf from the Co-Presidents

A big THANK YOU to Lisa, Donna Jean and Laura for a terrific 97th Annual AAUW Illinois State Convention. Our Branch was well represented with Frankie Robinson, Susie Gullickson, Suzanne Gagner, Kathy McCullough, Nancy Possinger, Jean Lindsey, Patricia Spence, Maureen Sheehan, Marilyn Mauritz, Karen Bondy, Laurie Driscoll, Heidi Koberstine (new member), Ruth Schumacher, Mary Sue Brown and Carolyn Oesterle attending in addition to our three State Board members. Friday, May 6th we all met for a great dinner and Zoom presentation by Gloria Blackwell. It was wonderful to be Together Again!

Dinner was followed by a documentary film called *The Queen of Basketball*. Lucy Harris starred telling her own amazing story as one of the best women basketball players of all time. She attended Delta State University in Mississippi, leading her team to three straight National titles from 1975-1977 and then led the US women to a silver medal at the 1976 Olympics. She is the only women ever drafted into the NBA, but chose to play with the Houston Angels instead and is in the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Saturday was kicked off by Julie Strauss with a fascinating discussion of the negative effect social media is having on our democracy. She ended the discussion with ideas for limiting the negative impacts of social media by requiring more accountability, requiring reporting of money spent on political ads, banning micro-targeted ads, requiring the sharing of algorithms with academic research institutions for study, eliminating bots, and limiting share functions.

Next, we had a panel discussing *Theory to Reality: Diversity and Inclusion*. The speakers were from local colleges and several would make excellent Branch program speakers.

After lunch we had a session on Branch development. This was led by branch members from Naperville and Elgin who discussed outreach that had worked for their branches. One of our take-aways was to form alliances with other local organizations with similar missions to ours.

The last speaker represented the American Library Association and spoke about *the Challenges to Intellectual Freedom*. Libraries are under attack from radicals—from demanding the banning of books to librarians actually being arrested for doing their jobs. The goal appears to be disruption of the public libraries to drive away librarians and take control of library boards. We need to support our public libraries, as access to correct information has never been more critical.

Summer is almost here. We are planning to walk in the Glen Ellyn Fourth of July parade again—after all, we already have the signs. Details will be in emails as the parade nears. It was great fun last year with everyone enjoying the activity and a very enthusiastic crowd. It also helps spread our name in the community.

Have a great summer everyone!!

Carolyn and Mary Sue

Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	INFORMATION
June 1-22	Book Sale Book Collection, Sort, Set Up	Various	Briar Glen Elementary School, 1800 Briarcliffe Blvd., Wheaton.
June 3	AM Lit Book Selection & Potluck	9:30 am	Phyllis Fogel, 1126 Edgewood Ave., Lombard.
June 8	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	Carolyn Oesterle, 645 Lake Rd., Glen Ellyn.
June 10	Film Group	7:00 pm	Anne Hanley, 679 Forest, Glen Ellyn.
June 20	PM Lit Book Selection & Potluck	6:00 pm	Bonnie Wheaton, 1203 Harrison St., Wheaton.
June 23, 24, 25	Used Book Sale	9:00 am-8:00 pm 9:00 am-Noon	Briar Glen Elementary School, 1800 Briarcliffe Blvd., Wheaton.
June 25	Book Sale Clean Up	Noon	Briar Glen Elementary School, 1800 Briarcliffe Blvd., Wheaton.
June 29	AM Non-Fiction Book Selection	10:00 am	Peggy Connolly, 1445 Brentwood Lane, Wheaton.
July 4	Glen Ellyn Fourth of July Parade	12 Noon	Arrive at Carolyn Oesterle home, 645 Lake Rd., Glen Ellyn at 10:00 am. Leave for parade at 11:00 am.
July 8	AM Lit	9:30 am	Wheaton Public Library, Basement Room 2C, 225 N Cross St., Wheaton.
July 9	Film Group	6:00 pm	Patio between Wheaton Public Library and Adams Park.
July 13	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	TBD
July 18	PM Lit	7:00 pm	Carole Yesensky, 756 Lenox Rd., Glen Ellyn.
July 27	PM Non-Fiction	7:00 pm	Jean Lindsey, 1644 Orth, Drive, Wheaton.
Aug. 5	AM Lit	9:30 am	Wheaton Public Library, Basement Room 2C, 225 N Cross St., Wheaton.
Aug. 10	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	TBD
Aug. 12	Film Group	6:00 pm	Patio between Wheaton Public Library and Adams Park.
Aug. 15	PM Lit	7:00 pm	TBD
Aug. 24	AM Non-Fiction	10:00 am	Sue Herrmann, 403 Wyndemere Circle, Wheaton.



Membership

Jean Lindsey & Nancy Possinger

jeanlindsey15@comcast.net napossinger@gmail.com

We are very pleased to announce that Heidi Koberstine, a member of the Lombard Branch of AAUW, has joined our branch this month. Heidi, who was district director 10 years ago, has a Bachelor of Arts in French and Secondary Education from Hope College. She works in IT at Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois in Chicago.

Heidi's contact information is

1961 Windward Lane
Hanover Park, IL 60133
Cell phone number is 630.309.6424
Email address: heidi.koberstine@sbcglobal.net

We are very happy to welcome Heidi to our Branch!



Treasury

Maureen Sheehan

maureenjsheehan@aol.com

National AAUW has developed the new Community Hub website to the point where individual members may renew membership for Fiscal Year 2023 online. All members need to set up a new username and password to use the National AAUW website. Renewal through the website is paid using a credit or debit card following these steps:

1. Open the National AAUW website which is *aauw.org*.
2. At the top find the *membership* option and click on it.
3. You will land on the *Getting Started* page which has tutorials for using the new site.
4. Click on the *Logging In* tutorial to see how to set up your account.
5. After your account is set up, click on the *Managing Your Membership* tutorial for instructions to *Renew Your Membership* on-line.

Membership Renewal may still be done by check made out to **AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn NFP** for \$96 (National \$67 + AAUW IL \$10 + Branch \$19). Please be aware that there may be a delay in processing your check because the section of the Community Hub for bulk renewals (i.e., Treasurer entering payment information for multiple members) is still being tweaked. Any checks that are sent to me will not be cashed until I am able to successfully complete the membership renewal process for the respective member. I will let you know if there is a significant delay. Please give me a call at 630.926.1147 if you have any questions or would like assistance with renewing your membership.



Public Policy

Patricia Spence

pspence101@aol.com

Voting in the June 28 Primary:

Scroll down the Glen Ellyn League of Women Voters' website homepage <https://www.lwvge.org/> for information about upcoming candidate forums and access to new federal and state district maps. Did you miss a forum? The website will guide you to *YouTube* replays of candidate forums.

ERA Now:

See the video of A.J. Conroy's timely presentation at the AAUW-IL State Convention:

www.eraillinois.org/update.html



AAUW Higher Education Incentive Award

May is the month all college-bound high school seniors committed to the college of their choice. AAUW is once again pleased to announce that we will award \$1500 to four selected females. The AAUW Higher Education Incentive Award is given to a graduating high school female student enrolling at College of DuPage (COD) for the fall 2022 semester.

Student selection criteria included:

- Be a citizen of College of DuPage college district.
- Have the academic potential and desire to attain a Bachelor's Degree.
- Might have been a work-based student while in high school and be planning to continue that job while attending COD.
- May not have met criteria for other scholarships due to work or family obligations in high school.

Thank you to the high school counselors who were responsible for selecting the awardees. The following students will receive our award for the fall 2022 semester at College of DuPage.

Wheaton North: Samantha Johnston

Samantha plans to become a licensed psychiatrist with professional EMT/medical training. After two years at COD, she plans to transfer to National Louis University. She would love to work in a hospital psychiatric or emergency unit in the future.

Wheaton Warrenville South: Mayra Orzuna

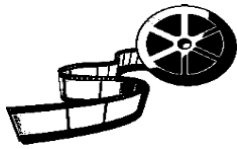
Mayra was originally going to attend University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) but changed to COD for her Associate Degree. Once completed, she will transfer to UIC to pursue a Nursing degree.

Glenbard South: Ariana Anderson, no additional information on her at this time.

Glenbard West: Gwen Slomka

Gwen attended the Early Childhood Education Program her junior and senior years at the Technology Center of DuPage (TCD). She was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society, participated four years on the softball team and worked as a cashier/customer service at a grocery store for two years. Inspired by TCD to work with children and make a difference in their world, Gwen will transfer to another college after COD to major in Education and Psychology.

Our Branch Fundraising Activities



Book Sale

Suzanne Gagner & Susie Gullickson

petalppower1@yahoo.com gullish.1955@gmail.com

The Sale is On!

The Book Sale Committee and our many volunteers are in full swing picking up books and beverage flats. The Yard Sale and Flyer campaigns have been planned, with signs and flyers due to be installed the week of June 6.

Here is what we need now:

More Books: As of May 6 we had 4,000 books collected; we are well on our way to our 8,000 book count objective! A copy of the sale flyer is attached at the end of the issue. Please forward this flyer to family, friends and neighbors. The flyer serves as a **Save the Date** notice and includes information for our Book Drop-Off locations.

Yard Signs: We are using all new yard signs this year. During the week of June 6, 50 signs will be strategically placed at locations with good visibility and traffic. Nancy Possinger has developed a master placement list; there are a few signs left which we would like to install in Glen Ellyn or Lombard. If you or someone you know has a prominent location in these areas and is willing to have a yard sign. please contact Nancy at napossinger@gmail.com or 630.682.4003.

Sorting and Sale Day Workers in June: *Sign Up Genius* was emailed to you the week of May 16. Please use this tool to sign up for work shifts during book sorting and set up (June 1-22) and the sale dates (June 23, 24 and 25).

Extra Help with Saturday Clean Up: Discovery Books will pick up unsold books at Noon on June 25. They have indicated that due to staffing problems, there will be just the driver to help us with the loading of books. We need some "BRAWN" to help with this task. Please solicit the help of family (husbands, sons, grandsons?), friends/neighbors (teenagers?) so we have adequate help.

Sponsorship and Supplies: In addition to time and volunteers, fundraisers take money. Your sponsorship dollars will help defray the costs of the sale. We also need bottled water for the volunteers and to sell at the sale. If you can donate a pack or two of water, please bring it to Briar Glen School after June 1.

All sponsors will be acknowledged at the sale site. Checks should be made out to: **AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP**. Please put **AAUW Book Sale** in the memo line on the check and mail it to Maureen Sheehan, 227 Orchard Lane, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-6580. If you donate water, please make sure we have your name.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to a fun and successful sale!

Fundraising continues on next page

Fundraising continued . . .

LUNAFEST

Laura Desmarais

lkdesmarais@gmail.com

**LUNAFEST
October 15, 2022**

Mark your calendars to save the date now. This will be the third year our Branch has contracted with LUNAFEST to use as a Branch fundraiser. LUNAFEST, sponsored by LUNA (Yes, the Luna Bar Company), has developed a traveling film festival celebrating, showcasing, and championing women. The film festival consists of eight powerful short films directed by women.

This is a festive time. We will have appetizers, wine, and a raffle. We need volunteers! We need to spread the word and get the community involved. Contact Laura if you are interested. This is a great way to get involved with the Branch.



Film Group

Anne Hanley

ahanley@mindspring.com

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." So began last summer's TWIGS announcement for Film Group. Now we have Omicron's many offspring causing rising cases and renewed caution.

We will meet either in my home or in the patio space between Adams Park and the Wheaton Public Library. The schedule for summer will **be Friday June 10, Saturday July 19, and Friday August 12**. The times depend on the location, so keep an eye out for my email confirmations. As always, feel free to contact me with suggestions!



Our Branch Book Groups

AM Lit

Jean Lindsey

jeanlindsey15@comcast.net

Summertime and the living is easy and AM Lit is all about living easy!

On Friday, June 3, we will hold our popular annual book selection and potluck at Phyllis Fogel's home at 9:30 am. Thank you, Phyllis! Please RSVP to Phyllis and bring an appetizer, salad or dessert. At the printing of this issue, the deadline has passed to recommend books. Be sure to attend to select the books for 2022-2023!

Because of the Fourth of July holiday, we will meet on the second Friday, July 8, to discuss *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro led by Kathy McCullough. We will meet at the Wheaton Public Library at 9:30 am, Basement Room 2C. We will also meet Friday, August 5 at the same time and location to discuss a novel selected at our June book selection luncheon. I will email members on my mailing list the books selected. Hope to see you June 3, July 8 and August 5.

PM Lit

Susie Gullickson

gullish.1955@gmail.com

June is our Book Selection Potluck event for the 2022-2023 year. We will meet on June 20 at 6:00 pm at Bonnie Wheaton's home, 1203 Harrison St., Wheaton. Please bring a dish to share.

We need your book selection ideas, with a short description of the book. Please send your suggestions to me by Monday, June 13 so I have adequate time to compile the list. The list will be emailed to you in advance of our meeting to allow you time to review the options. We will vote for 11 books during the meeting.

The selection for the July 18 meeting is *The Dearly Beloved* by Cara Wall. Patricia Bernhold will be the discussion leader and Carole Yesensky will host at her home, 756 Lenox Rd., Glen Ellyn.

Selection, location and discussion leader for our August 15 meeting will be communicated by email at a later date.

AM Non-Fiction

Sue Herrmann

sherrmann710@gmail.com

Please Note: Due to the conflicting dates with the Used Book sale, our June meeting is rescheduled to June 29.

We will meet at Peggy Connolly's home at 10:00 am to select our books for 2022-2023. Please email or text Peggy if you are able to come. Please email your book suggestions to me by June 20; include the title, author, number of pages, and a very brief summary of the book (no more than two sentences).

We will meet August 24 at 10:00 am at my home to discuss *Waking Up Blind: Lawsuits over Eye Surgery* by Tom Harbin. Carolyn Oesterle will be our discussion leader. Due to the COVID-19 variants, we welcome vaccinated members only.

PM Non-Fiction

Ewa Bacon

baconew@lewisu.edu

We are meeting at Jean Lindsey's home ((1644 Orth, Wheaton) at 7:00 pm on July 27 to discuss Nancy Marie Brown's *The Real Valkyrie: The Hidden History of Viking Warrior Women*. Our discussion leader will be Marilyn Mayer Wiedemann.

In 2017, DNA tests revealed to the collective shock of many scholars that a Viking warrior in a high-status grave in Birke, Sweden was actually a woman. Brown's book weaves together archeology, history, and literature to imagine her life and times, showing that Viking women had more power and agency than historians have imagined. Rather than holding household keys, Viking women in history, law, saga, poetry, and myth carry weapons.

Book Sale



2022 Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW BOOK SALE

Briar Glen Elementary School

1800 Briarcliff Blvd., Wheaton

June 23 9 AM - 8 PM

June 24 9 AM - 8 PM

June 25 9 AM - Noon

Book Sale proceeds benefit the Scholarship fund.

Please DONATE books for our sale !!

May 1 - 31 Donation sites

Wheaton Sports Center, 1000 West Prairie Ave., Wheaton

Health Track, 875 East Roosevelt Rd., Glen Ellyn

Wheaton Park District, 1777 South Blanchard St., Wheaton

June 1 - 17 (M - F) 10 AM - 2 PM Donation site

Briar Glen Elementary School, 1800 Briarcliff Blvd., Wheaton

FICTION: Popular fiction, sci-fi, romance, mystery & classics

NON-FICTION: History, politics, biographies & autobiographies

YOUNG ADULT

CHILDRENS



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

Branch Member Activities



AAUW-IL State Convention, May 6, 2022



Women's March, *Bans Off Our Bodies*
Geneva, Illinois
May 14, 2022

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.



The Twigs Team

Editor:	Kathleen McCullough
Proofreader:	Ruth Schumacher
AAUW Online:	Jane Palmer
Website Editor:	Tracy Kline

*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.*

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