

A Leaf from the Co-Presidents

If the Branch Showcase Meeting on September 7 is any indication, this will be a terrific year. With attendance at 39 members and guests; the Interest Group clipboards full of signatures; and Nafia Khan's timely program about HOPE Fair Housing, we are well on our way. Thank you to Margaret McGrath, Patricia Spence, and Christine Carter for the terrific treats. Thanks to Fran Kravitz for continuing Zoom and technical support.

Laura Desmarais gave a preview of this year's LUNAFEST which will be held on October 15 at Center Stage Theater in Naperville. There will, of course, be fabulous hors d'oeuvres, wine to purchase and a raffle. *This year's films challenge our perceptions about the world and our place in it, spark conversations, strengthen connections, and inspire us to be better versions of ourselves.* See Laura's article for complete information. Buy your tickets soon. The seats go fast.

Nancy Possinger is the *Pied Piper of Hamlin* when it comes to attracting new members. She just keeps bringing them in. Our newest member, Pamela Johnson, was introduced by Nancy at the Branch Meeting. Welcome to all our new members. Nancy also updated the Membership Brochure and will hold a New Members Tea in October.

October is the month when the membership votes on the budget. During our September 7 Branch meeting, Treasurer Maureen Sheehan presented the proposed fiscal budget for the Fiscal Year Ending 2023. We will vote to approve the budget at the October Branch Meeting. A copy of the budget was attached to the All-Branch email for the September Branch Meeting. Check your email for a copy. If you need one or have questions, contact Maureen.

Challenges to library materials continue at our local public schools. While you can watch the local school board meetings online, you need to be present to make a statement. Most recently, Marilyn Mauritz spoke to defend the school's classroom books at the Community District 200 Board Meeting held at Hubble Middle School. Illinois school board elections will be held April 4, 2023. Please consider running.

THE BOOK SALE NEEDS YOU!! We are looking for a good humored soul to manage the next Used Book Sale. Benefits: eternal gratitude, camaraderie, and enormous satisfaction. Think about it!

And finally, please be kind.

Mary Sue and Carolyn

Upcoming Events

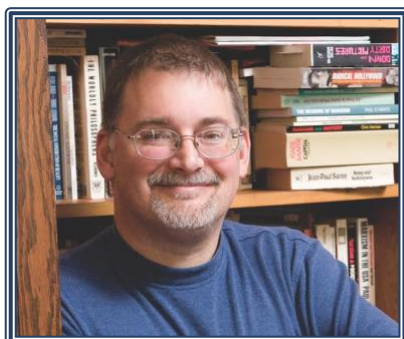
DATE	EVENT	TIME	INFORMATION
Oct. 5	Branch Meeting	7:00 pm	Glen Ellyn Civic Center, 535 Duane St., Glen Ellyn.
Oct. 7	AM Lit	9:30 am	Nancy Possinger, 26W070 MacArthur Lane, Carol Stream
Oct. 8	Film Group	6:00 or 7:00 pm	Time TBD depending on location. See article.
Oct. 12	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	Carolyn Oesterle, 645 Lake Road, Glen Ellyn & Zoom.
Oct. 15	LUNAFEST	5:00 pm to 8:30 pm	Center Stage Theater, 1665 Quincy Ave., Unit 131, Naperville.
Oct. 17	PM Lit	7:00 pm	Jean Lindsey, 1644 Orth Dr., Wheaton.
Oct. 26	AM Non-Fiction	10:00 am	Laura Desmarais, 1323 Shagbark Lane, Wheaton.



Programs

Carolyn Oesterle

csoesterle@gmail.com



October Branch Program and Business Meeting
7:00 pm, Wednesday, October 5, 2022
Glen Ellyn Civic Center and Zoom
535 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn

Citizens United, Dark Money and Gender Equity
Speaker: Steven Macek

Dr. Steve Macek is a Professor of Communication and Chair of the Department of Communication and Media Studies at North Central College in Illinois. There, he teaches courses on the First Amendment, journalism history, media policy, media criticism and urban studies. He serves on the editorial board of the journal *Communication and Democracy* and the steering committee of the Union for Democratic Communication.

Macek is the author of *Urban Nightmares: The Media, the Right and the Moral Panic over the City* (University of Minnesota Press, 2006), a critical analysis of media discourse about American cities, *urban problems* and the urban poor in the 1980s and 90s. He has published scholarly essays about Chicago's radical and alternative press. His op-eds, commentaries and articles on censorship, academic freedom, media regulation and politics have been published in a wide range of newspapers, magazines and websites. He is also a frequent contributor to *Project Censored*, including most recently, *State of the Free Press 2022* (Seven Stories Press, 2021).

Macek is currently working on two books, one about the right wing media's attack on colleges and universities, *Clickbaiting the Academy: The Conservative Campus Outrage Machine and What We Can Do to Combat It* (Routledge, forthcoming 2023), and the other, a volume about censorship worldwide, *Censorship, Digital Media and the Global Crackdown on Freedom of Expression* (Peter Lang, forthcoming 2023), co-edited with Robin Andersen and Nolan Higdon. In the future, he plans to publish a monograph about film censorship in the city of Chicago, a subject he has been researching for over a decade.

A longtime member of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), Macek is past-President of North Central's AAUP chapter and a member of the executive committee of the Illinois State Conference of the AAUP.



New Members

We are very pleased to welcome **Pamela Johnson** to our Branch. Pamela is new to us but has been an AAUW National member for some time. We will have Pamela's biography in the next issue of Twigs.

Pamela Johnson's contact information:

121 North Cross Street
Unit 229
Wheaton, IL 60187
Phone: 630.877.4842
Email: *eileenj@umich.edu*

We are also very excited that **Susan Hoover** will be re-joining us. Susan was a member of our Branch some years ago and now has moved back into the area! Susan's biography will be featured in the November Twigs.

Susan Hoover's contact information:

1702 Napoleon Drive
Naperville, IL 60565
Phone: 860.625.4448
Email: *susnhoover@aol.com*

New Member Gathering

We will hold our New Member Gathering on Thursday, October 20 at 7:00 pm at Nancy Possinger's home, 26W070 MacArthur Avenue, Carol Stream. This will be an opportunity for new members to meet with other recently joined members, hear from our leaders about our mission, vision and the various events, activities and interest groups that meet throughout the year! An invitation will be sent in the next week to members who have joined our Branch from January 2022 to the present.

Member Contact List Update (now on website)

- Christine Carter new phone number: 630.890.4212
- Phyllis Ruzicka new email: *ruzicka5@msn.com*
- Bonnie Wheaton new email: *bonniemwheaton@gmail.com*

Please send any changes in your contact information to Nancy Possinger at *napossinger@gmail.com*



Editor's Note:

The Branch no longer distributes a printed Directory. This position has been eliminated and information on the **Branch Online Directory** is located in the **AAUW Online** article by Jane Palmer.



The Branch Board met on September 14. After the minutes of that meeting are approved by the Board at the next Board Meeting, they will be available on the Branch Website Members Only web page. Details of topics discussed are described in the reports from officers and chairs elsewhere in this newsletter.

There were two motions approved at that meeting:

1. It was moved that the Acting Program Vice-President explore two possible venues (Civic Center and Glen Ellyn Historical Society) for the October 5 Branch Meeting, with preference given to the Civic Center, if the Branch can rent a microphone. The motion was unanimously approved.
2. Member Ewa Bacon proposed the formation of a new interest group. It was moved that the Board approve a one-year trial period for the proposed new interest group. The motion was unanimously approved.



The AAUW Online team has been busy this month supporting our two Fall fundraisers with website updates and Facebook postings. We also set up a Facebook *Event* for the LUNAFEST fundraiser. If you see this event in your feed, please check *interested*.

Online Directory: Last month, we added directory information to the **Members Only** page. (Note that this page is password protected and only available to members.) **The Member Contact List now resides there in a printable format.** It includes each member's address, telephone number and email address. A second list contains the other member information that we are used to seeing in the directory, such as, college/university degrees, membership date, and AAUW member number. General information from Part I of the printed directory is also available elsewhere on the website. For example, if you are looking to find out how to contact your legislators, a link will take you to the Public Policy page for that information. The Member Contact List will be updated monthly to add new members and any new addresses, emails or telephone numbers for current members.

Reminder: The password for the **Members Only** page is *twigs*.

Note: Please send changes in your contact information to our Membership VP, Nancy Possinger at npossinger@gmail.com.

AAUW Online Team: Contact Patricia Spence at pspence101@aol.com to share pictures of members enjoying Branch activities. She will also use the Facebook page to keep us posted on Public Policy issues. Tracy Kline at trakli@msn.com continues to keep our website up to date with news of upcoming Branch activities. Contact Jane Palmer if you have questions about our online directory information.

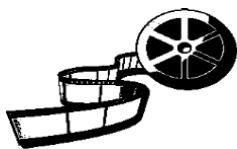
Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision: Equity for all.

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



Our Branch Fundraising Activities



LUNAFEST

Laura Desmarais

lkdesmarais@gmail.com

LUNAFEST

Saturday, October 15

5:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Center Stage Theater

1665 Quincy Ave. #131, Naperville, IL



Tickets are still available for our **Third Annual LUNAFEST Film Festival**. If you attended this event in the past, you know that not all fund raisers are work, work, work. This one is fun and entertaining!! It has received rave reviews from those who have previously attended. *This event is created to share. Invite family and friends! They will enjoy themselves. As a Branch, we need to reach out to others to make this event a success.*

If you are new to the Branch or haven't attended before, let us see what this is all about:

5:00 pm Doors open to a reception featuring an assortment of hors d'oeuvres and a beer and wine cash bar. There will be an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets. The theme this year is *Dining Well in Wheaton and Glen Ellyn*. We have great raffle prizes: cooking classes at Marche and gift cards from restaurants in Wheaton and Glen Ellyn. The highlight is a one of a kind necklace created by Branch Member, Winifred Creamer. Winifred's mermaid necklace is one of a kind, made from sea glass that has tumbled in the sea for years. It is a great raffle!!

6:00 pm Film Festival sponsored by LUNAFEST begins. There are eight shorts produced and directed by women for women. These are thought provoking and high caliber. They are meant to pack a punch as they hone in on a women's and/or world issue (not recommended for those under 13).

7:30 pm Time to announce raffle winners, discuss the movies, and enjoy coffee and dessert.

Invite family and friends. It is a fun evening out and you support the Branch's fundraising activities to boot.

Tickets: \$50.00 per person.

Purchase on-line **at <https://lunafest.eventive.org/schedule/62f3ae133a9cf40036592fc8>**

or

Send a check payable to **AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP to Suzanne Gagner, 27W228 Pin Oak Dr., Winfield, IL 60190**



Know Your Candidates:

Below is the latest information available to me on candidate forums/meet and greets for the November 8 General Election. What is the most expedient way to find out which candidate districts you are in? Call 630.407.5600, the Illinois State Board of Elections office. Do it now. You have the best chance of researching candidates when you have ample time before November 8.

Please note that all candidate events listed invite in person attendance. Also helpful is that all will be recorded and uploaded to the League of Women Voters (LWV) Glen Ellyn and other DuPage LWV websites.

Updates about date, time and location will be posted in the most time sensitive manner possible on our Branch FaceBook page, announced at Branch monthly meetings and/or posted to the Public Policy Interest Group.

October 6

Candidate Forum for Congressional District 3:

Hosts: LWV Glen Ellyn and Wheaton
Location: TBD
Time: 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Oct 11

Illinois House of Representatives District 42:

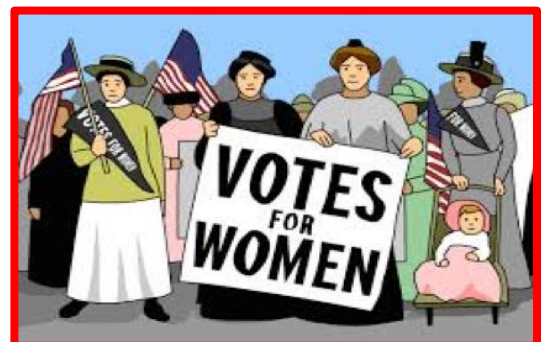
Host: LWV Glen Ellyn
Location: Glen Ellyn Historical Society
Time: 7:00 pm

October 23

Candidate Meet and Greet and Forums:

Hosts: LWV Glen Ellyn, Wheaton, Elmhurst, Roselle-Bloomingtondale
Location: Cantigny Park
Time: 12:00 pm Local, State and Federal Congressional Candidates meet and greet residents throughout the community.

12:30 pm to 5:30pm Candidate Forums:
DuPage County Board Chair
DuPage County Clerk
DuPage Treasurer
DuPage Forest Preserve President
Illinois State Supreme Court District 3





Our Branch Book Groups

Reading is the key that opens doors to many good things in life. Reading shaped my dreams, and more reading helped me make my dreams come true.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

AM Lit

Jean Lindsey

jeanlindsey15@comcast.net

On October 7 at 9:30 am, the AM Lit meeting will be held at Nancy Possinger's home, 26W070 MacArthur Lane, Carol Stream. *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus is a highly acclaimed best seller which tackles *feminism, resilience and rationalism in a fun and refreshing way*. The *New York Times* says, *it will make you wonder about all the real-life women born ahead of their time- women who were sidelined, ignored ...because they weren't as determined as Elizabeth Zott, she is a reminder of how far we've come, and also how far we still have to go*. Nancy Possinger will lead the discussion. Please let Nancy know if you plan to attend at *napossinger@gmail.com*. Copies of the novel are available at the Glen Ellyn Public Library until the supply runs out.

We will also spend some time discussing *One Two Three*, September's novel.

Looking ahead: on November 4, we will discuss *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman at Mary Sue Brown's home. Ruth Schumacher will lead the discussion.

PM Lit

Susie Gullickson

gullish.1955@gmail.com

Our October selection is *In Search of Snow* by Luis Alberto Urrea. He is an award-winning author of 13 books, including *The Devil's Highway*. This story is set in the hot Arizona desert of the late 1950's. *Goodreads* says: *This is an explosive coming-of-age adventure, full of hilarious episodes and still, poignant moments. Like a blue-collar Don Quixote, Mike McGurk (the protagonist), must blow up his windmills before he can set off to find the things he lacks, especially the snow that will temper the passion he has set aflame*.

We will meet at Jean Lindsey's home, 1644 Orth Drive, Wheaton on Monday, October 17 at 7:00 pm. Discussion leader to be determined.

AM Non-Fiction

Sue Herrmann

sherrmann710@gmail.com

We meet at 10:00 am on Wednesday, October 26 at Laura Desmarais' home. We will read *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How we can Prosper Together* by Heather McGee. Laura will lead us in the discussion. Books will be available from the Glen Ellyn Public Library. Due to the COVID-19 variant, we welcome vaccinated members only.



We kicked off the fall with the action film, *Spiderman: No Way Home* in our September meeting. Gorgeous weather allowed an al fresco meeting near Adams Park, probably our last opportunity for an outdoor meeting. (Shout out to Jean and Bob Lindsey who hosted us in their backyard over the summer, easily the most beautiful film group gathering ever). By October, the slate of fall films should be rolling out giving us a new set of offerings to watch and discuss. The film selection will go out the weekend before.

We will meet on Saturday October 8: either at 6:00 pm at Adams Park or at 7:00 pm in a member's home. I have houseguests that weekend, so would love it if someone was willing to host the meeting. I will attend! I just cannot host. If a group member can host, we will meet at their home. If no one can, we will meet outdoors. Let me know if you can host. And, as always, feel free to send in your suggestions for what to watch!



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!