

A Leaf from the Co-Presidents

Because Twigs appears each month like clockwork, we forget that, behind the scenes, Kathy McCullough puts it all together. From the initial reminder through checking back with writers, proofing, layout and delivery, our issues of Twigs magically appear month after month. An enormous *Thank You* to Kathy and her team.

We are experiencing the strength of women across the country. More than 70% of newly registered voters in Kansas were women. The pattern continued in Idaho, Wisconsin, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Alaska, Ohio, Missouri, and Colorado. Thank you to the Supreme Court of the United States; your decision galvanized us.

Dr. Steven Macek, a professor of communications and Department Chair of Communications and Media Studies at North Central College gave a provocative presentation *Citizens United, Dark Money and Gender Equity* on October 5 at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center. Dr. Macek showed the decline of women in the computing workforce from 1948 when half of the math department at Bell Labs were women to the present when only 26% of computer related jobs are held by women. Two key points were: (1) Gender equity must be specifically programmed into Artificial Intelligence and (2) Companies should be incentivized to hire women for technology positions.

As we approach Thanksgiving, we thank all of you for your friendship, support, hard work and esprit de corps that keep our Branch afloat. It is not too early to make plans for attending the 2023 AAUW-IL State Convention, Friday and Saturday, May 5 and 6, 2023 in Peoria. Go to the AAUW-IL website for more information and to register. The Branch has a Convention and Leadership Fund to help with expenses for members attending the convention. We should be able to fund the two Co-Presidents and four additional Board members. If you are on the Board and have not attended a State Convention before, you qualify for the Trio award where your expenses are split by the Branch, AAUW-IL and AAUW National. Please let us know if you are interested and we can help you apply.



Have a Happy Thanksgiving!!

Carolyn and Mary Sue

Upcoming Event

DATE	EVENT	TIME	INFORMATION
Nov. 2	Branch Meeting	7:00 pm	Glen Ellyn Police Department Community Room & Zoom. 65 South Park Boulevard, Glen Ellyn.
Nov. 4	AM Lit	9:30 am	Mary Sue Brown, 380 S. Milton Ave., Glen Ellyn.
Nov. 9	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	Patricia Spence, 192 East Rd., Glen Ellyn.
Nov. 11	Film Group	7:00 pm	Anne Hanley, 679 Forest Ave, Glen Ellyn.
Nov. 21	PM Lit	7:00 pm	Susie Gullickson, 1510 Paula Ave, Wheaton.
Nov. 30	PM Non-Fiction Note: New Date	7:00 pm	Marilyn Wiedemann, 373 Oak St., Glen Ellyn.
Dec. 1	Cultural Arts Buffalo Theater Ensemble <i>Season's Greetings</i>	6:00 pm 8:00 pm	Pre-Theater: Peggy Connolly, 1445 Brentwood Lane, Wheaton. Curtain: McAninch Arts Center, College of DuPage 425 Fawell Blvd, Glen Ellyn.
Dec. 10	Winter Luncheon Reservation Deadline 11/19	11:30 am	Reserve 22, Glen Ellyn Village Links, 485 Winchell Way, Glen Ellyn.



Programs

Carolyn Oesterle
csoesterle@gmail.com

November Branch Program and Business Meeting
7: 00 pm, Wednesday, November 2
Glen Ellyn Police Department Community Room and Zoom
65 South Park Boulevard, Glen Ellyn



Deanie Brown is an attorney living in Springfield, Illinois, where she serves as the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for the Illinois Supreme Court and the entire Judicial Branch. She has been an associate chancellor, chief of staff, and director of human resources and internal relations at universities in Chicago, Champaign, California, and New Orleans, and serves on several boards supporting equity, education, the community, and the arts.

Deanie's areas of expertise include nondiscrimination law, Title IX and sexual misconduct prevention and response, disabilities accommodations, and culturally competent conflict resolution. She earned a bachelor's degree with honors in the history of architecture and art from the University of Illinois at Chicago and her law degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she taught rhetoric and writing and was also coordinator of the Writer's Workshop at the African American Cultural Center. In addition to her law-related work in higher education, Deanie was a law clerk at a small firm in Chicago and at the Department of Labor in Washington, D.C.

Deanie is currently Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the AAUW Springfield Branch, and has also served as college and university relations director for the Branch and AAUW Illinois, and as 2018-2020 co-president of the Branch.



It is a Pleasure to Welcome Two New Members to Our Branch!

Susan Hoover

Susan is a 1966 graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature and Sociology. She is a Life Member of AAUW having joined in the late 1970's. And she needs no introduction to the organization since she has served in several branches during her moves around the country: in Hampton, Virginia; New London, Connecticut; Reno, Nevada; Rochester, New York; Naperville, IL; southern New Hampshire; and of course, Wheaton-Glen Ellyn.

Susan served as President of AAUW of Virginia in the late 1980's and also served as branch president in a number of the areas in which she lived. She has indicated that she will be joining the AM Lit book group as soon as she gets more settled since her last move.

As members of our Branch learned that Susan has re-joined, it is apparent that she has many friends in the Branch already. We are delighted to welcome Susan back to our Branch!

Pamela Johnson

Pamela Johnson is a 1974 graduate of the College of Literature Science and Arts from The University of Michigan, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications & Journalism. Pamela was mentored by one of the first women to receive tenure in the University's School of Communications. Pamela received her first summer internship to work for the Newburgh (NY) Evening News, working as a reporter and photographer where she learned about the news business, while gathering byline stories and having her photography published on a regular basis. After graduating, Pamela won a one-year internship as a general assignment reporter for the Minneapolis Tribune, now renamed the Star-Tribune. She spent a year working for the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder Newspapers, an African-American weekly publication, writing articles that appeared in the news, entertainment, environment, and arts sections. Upon her move back home to Chicago, Pamela taught second and third grade students at the Ray School in Hyde Park. After teaching at the National Teacher's Academy, and working as a Mathematics Editor for the McGraw-Hill Companies, Pamela worked at the University of Chicago in the University's Physical Sciences and Biological Sciences Divisions.

With her wide and varied background, she found her true interest in the Finance and Education fields. Pamela took a position in the Finance Section at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, which she counts as the most stimulating work that she had in her working career.

On a personal level Pamela has a strong interest in researching the roles of her mother and grandmother, Elsie Mae Freeman and Julia Elaine Freeman, African American women who worked as chemistry laboratory assistants in the Metallurgical Division in Chicago of Manhattan Project during World War II. Often overlooked, their history and others are now stored at the Atomic Heritage Foundation's National Museum of Nuclear Science and Science in New Mexico.

As a new student to the University of Chicago, Pamela looks forward to completing an MBA degree and continue in a career in financial management.

Regarding AAUW, Pamela is quite interested in Cultural Arts, Fundraising, Public Policy, and STEM. We warmly welcome Pamela to our Branch!

Contact information for both Susan and Pamela was posted in the October Twigs and can also be found in the Member Contact List on our website.



Secretary

Jane Palmer

jfpalmer@comcast.net

The Board met on October 12. After the minutes of that meeting are approved by the Board at the November 9 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 Branch change the name of its Branch Gender Equity Fund (previously the Educational Opportunities Fund) to the Opportunities Fund, so named because such funds are reserved for funding educational and other opportunities for women and girls. The motion was unanimously approved.
2. Policy Handbook Chair Palmer presented final changes to the 2022 update of the Policy Handbook. The motion to accept the final draft was unanimously approved.

Policy Handbook: Every five years or so, the Branch reviews the Policy Handbook and updates it as needed (most recent update was 2016). The Policy Handbook includes the Branch policies, guidelines and job descriptions that help the Branch operate consistently from year to year. The 2022 update added some new items, such as, the Zoom Policy and the LUNAFEST Fundraiser. It also removed some items that are no longer part of Branch activities, such as, the neighborhood assignments and the Eleanor Roosevelt and Legal Advocacy Funds. There were also many areas where wording was updated to reflect activities and responsibilities that are being handled electronically instead of by mail or distribution of paper copies. The Policy Handbook does not have the effect of Bylaws but is especially useful to officers, committee chairs and coordinators and to new members. It is available on the Members Only page of the website.



Historian

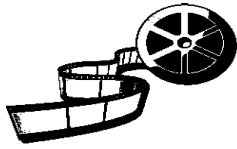
Marilyn Wiedemann

marilyn.mayer@gmail.com

This section will feature a few fun highlights from our Branch history since its founding.

- 1956: Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, with 15 members, granted its charter by AAUW.
- 1959: Two year study of the gifted child undertaken.
- 1962: First Book Sale at Wheaton Sidewalk Sale, \$350 donated to the Educational Foundation.
- 1966-1972: *Education Study Group* initiates tutoring program for elementary students.
- 1967: *Beleaguered Earth Study Group* founds DuPage Environmental Council. Branch President Marilyn Sanders founds AAUW Chicago Area Council.
- 1968: *Planning for People* seminar presented to increase awareness of the poor in DuPage County.
- 1970-73: Participated in compiling a county *Senior Citizen Services Directory*.
- 1971: *Herstory Study Group* founded by the Branch a year before the Association officially became involved in the Women's Movement.

Our Branch Fundraising Activities



LUNAFEST

Laura Desmarais

lkdesmarais@gmail.com

Special thanks to all who contributed to this fundraiser. Suzanne Gagner passed on her words of wisdom and experience. She was also the official ticket master. Karen Bondy solicited raffle donations from restaurants, did a great job creating a display for the raffle items and planned the decorations. Susan Scown, a new member, coordinated the catering and acted as our *LUNAFEST Master* overseeing the event to ensure all went well. The night of the festival found Kathy McCullough, Ruth Schumacher and Stephanie Zvirin assisting with the raffle; Carolyn Oesterle and Lisa Cherry selling raffle tickets; Karen Richardson and Marie Corcoran checking in patrons; and Carol Ginger passing out Luna Bars. We tried to spread the word as far as we could – Suzanne Gagner, Patricia Spence, Jane Palmer, Tracy Kline and Mary Mossman all contributed to this effort. **LUNAFEST 2022** would never have happened without this Branch support!!

Editor's Note: Due to *Twigs* deadline, **LUNAFEST 2022** financial report will appear in the December *Twigs* issue.

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.





Winter Luncheon
Saturday, December 10, 2022
Reserve 22 Restaurant
Village Links of Glen Ellyn
485 Winchell Way, Glen Ellyn, 60137

Come and enjoy a delicious lunch while visiting in person with your fellow Branch members and welcoming the newest members. Then, listen to our speaker telling us about how our donations have helped them to succeed.

11:30 am: **Conversation/Cocktails** *Drinks must be purchased from the Bartender in the dining room, **NOT** at the main Bar, to count towards meeting our minimum amount due for the luncheon.*

12:00 pm: **Plated Lunch followed by the speaker, TBD**

Cost: \$38.00 (inclusive for the meal)

Menu for Plated Lunch

Tomato Bisque Soup

Chicken Piccata with Angel Hair Pasta and Vegetables

OR

Penne Pasta with Asiago Cheese and Sun-Dried Tomatoes

Fresh Bread and Rolls

Chocolate Cake

Coffee/Tea/Iced Tea/ Soft Drinks

Reservation and Payment due by Saturday, November 19

Note: No extension to this deadline.

Please see Reservation Form and payment due to Karen Schulz on last page of this issue.



The October 7 AAUW Action Fund *Washington Update* provides vital election information, especially resources you can use to formulate questions to candidates. Please consult this report. If you no longer have it, I do and will forward.

Also, if you missed a candidate forum, please go to the League of Women Voters website at <https://www.lwvge.org> to access an archived copy and to make sure you do not miss any *live* upcoming forums.

November 8 General Election Reminder: 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. You have the best chance of researching candidates when you have ample time before November 8.



Reminder: The Member Contact List is available on the **Members Only** page of the Branch website. You can click on it for printing or downloading. Both the **Member Contact List** and the **Supplemental Member List** (college degrees) are updated monthly with new members' data and any changes in addresses, telephone numbers or emails. Please send changes in your contact information to our Membership Vice President, Nancy Possinger at napossinger@gmail.com.

Note: The **Members Only** page is password protected and only available to members. The password for the page is *twigs*.

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 **Member Contact Listings**.

New AAUW Study Group on Aging **Ewa Bacon**

At the September 2022 Board Meeting, we authorized the formation of a new Branch study group devoted to issues of aging. The purpose of this study group is to develop a useful resource for our Branch members on various aspects of aging. The variety and complexity of facilities and products aimed at both elderly Branch members and younger ones with aging relatives with specific needs is overwhelming. This study group will work to provide resources and definition of current terms dealing with elder law, physicians specializing in geriatrics, housing alternatives, home services and similar topics. We will use our AAUW website to share this information among our members.

If you would like to join this study group, please send an email to me at baconew@lewisu.edu. We will set up regular meetings to discuss these topics and to collect relevant information. However, you do not need to attend (another) meeting to participate: we are looking for information and your experiences.



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

Join us on November 4, when AM Lit meets to discuss Fredrik Backman's novel, *Anxious People*. It is a *humorous, compassionate, and wise novel which is an ingeniously constructed story about the enduring power of friendship, forgiveness and hope*. As usual, the meeting commences at 9:30 am. Ruth Schumacher will lead the discussion at Mary Sue Brown's home, 380 S. Milton Ave, Glen Ellyn. Please email Mary Sue if you plan to attend at msbrown750@comcast.net. Suzanne Gagner will supply the hospitality.

There are copies of this delightful novel at the Glen Ellyn Public Library, second floor.

Looking ahead: December 2, *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin, location to be determined.

PM Lit

Susie Gullickson

gullish.1955@gmail.com

Our November selection will be *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell. Set in Warwickshire in the 1580's, this is the little-known story behind Shakespeare's most enigmatic play, *Hamlet*. *Hamnet* is a luminous portrait of marriage, and at its heart the loss of a beloved child.

We will meet on Monday, November 21 at 7:00 pm at Susie Gullickson's home, 1510 Paula Ave, Wheaton. Lisa Cherry will be the discussion leader.

PM Non-Fiction

Ewa Bacon

baconew@lewisu.edu

PLEASE NOTE: there is a NEW DATE for our November meeting.

We are meeting on **November 30** at 7:00 pm at Marilyn Mayer Wiedemann's home to discuss Rebecca Donner's book, *All the Frequent Troubles of our Days: The True Story of the American Woman at the Heart of the German Resistance to Hitler*.

Rebecca Donner is the great-great-niece of Mildred Harnack. Harnack was an American graduate student in Berlin and witnessed the meteoric rise of the Nazi party early in the 1930s. She became active in resistance to the Nazis but her position became more perilous when World War II broke out in September, 1939. Harnack was seized and convicted to prison in 1942, but Hitler ordered her execution. Harnack's letter home to Milwaukee forms the basis of this enthralling and unusual story.



From Peggy Connolly:

**Buffalo Theater Ensemble Presents:
*Season's Greetings***

**425 Fawell Boulevard, Glen Ellyn
College of DuPage McAninch Arts Center (MAC)
Thursday, December 1**

Happy holidays are all alike; every dysfunctional holiday is dysfunctional in its own way (Thanks, Tolstoy). Neville and Belinda gather family and friends to celebrate the holidays. The traditional holiday mayhem begets disaster and hilarity - maybe even a murder. The chaos fittingly erupts with the discovery of a tryst under the Christmas Tree...after all, isn't being *laid in a manger* a very old Christmas tradition?

Pre-theatre wine and hors d'oeuvres: December 1 at Peggy Connolly's at 6:00 pm, then to the MAC for the 8:00 pm curtain to see *Seasons Greetings*. **Please RSVP to Peggy at connolly.peggy@gmail.com**

Ticket Purchase:

- Online: atthemac.org
- Mac Box Office: Tuesday-Saturday, 12 pm-6pm
- Phone: 630.942.4000



Our October meeting was chilly! We met in Adams Park, our last opportunity for an outdoor meeting, to discuss *Sir*. Our next meeting is on Friday, November 11. Please send me your suggestions for films! Our selection will go out the weekend before. I will host the meeting at my home but would love to have volunteer hosts for meetings throughout the year! Here are our dates: Saturday, December 10; Saturday, January 14; Friday, February 10; Saturday, March 11; and Friday April 14. Please check your calendars and write to me if you can host one of those meetings. Thank you in advance!



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!



Please cut & mail this form with your check to:

Karen Schulz
761 Glenbard Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Winter Luncheon Reservation Form **Deadline Saturday, November 19 (Note No Extensions)**

Checks Payable to: *AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP*

Name(s): _____

Number in Party ___ @ \$38.00 = _____



Select one entrée choice for each person:

Chicken Piccata

OR

Penne Pasta

Please contact Karen Schulz at okschulz@aol.com for special dietary need.