

A Leaf from the Co-Presidents

The *Voice of the People* was loud and clear thanks to the *heads up* from our vigilant Public Policy Chair, Patricia Spence who alerted us to Silvicom's proposal to build a 70,000 square foot garage for their *hazmat* carrying trucks. The proposed site, at the corner of Highland and Poss in unincorporated Glen Ellyn was ludicrously inappropriate considering its proximity to homes, schools, the Great Western Trail as well as being in a FEMA designated flood zone and wetland. An earlier proposal from Silvicom was rejected over a year ago. We and many others wrote and called our DuPage County Board members. Silvicom ultimately withdrew their proposal on January 2. As Margaret Mead said, *Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed people to change the world. In fact, it is the only thing that ever has.*

Our January Branch Meeting speaker, Mary Virginia Orna, PhD, showed us another area where a struggle continues. Only 3.76% of the Nobel Laureates in Chemistry were women. It is not as some might suggest that there were no worthy candidates. *Smithsonian Magazine* (January, 2023) noted that, *Women are far less likely to win major awards than their male peers regardless of the quantity and quality of their research.* Mary Sue has just ordered Dr. Orna's book, *March of the Pigments: Color History, Science and Impact*, and would be happy to share.

Please be aware of our local elections held on April 4. These elections are: College of DuPage for two six year terms; elementary and high school districts; libraries, park districts, and village boards. Find your district at dupagecounty.gov. Most of you are in Community Consolidated School Districts 41, 87, 88, and 89.

SAVE THE DATE, May 5 and 6 for the 2023 AAUW-IL 98th State Convention in Peoria. It is not too early to make reservations at the Embassy Suites by Hilton East Peoria Riverfront Hotel. Call 1-800-Embassy and use the code *AUW*. While in Peoria, be sure to visit the Peoria Riverfront Museum which offers a collection of fine art, a sculpture garden, and planetarium. Nearby is the Luthy Botanical Garden. Please see additional details on page six of this issue.

Mary Sue & Carolyn

Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	INFORMATION
Feb. 1	Branch Meeting	7:00 pm	Glen Ellyn Police Station Community Room, 65 South Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn and available via Zoom.
Feb. 3	AM Lit	9:30 am	Glen Ellyn Public Library, First Floor Meeting Room, 400 Duane St., Glen Ellyn.
Feb. 8	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	Ewa Bacon, 405 Front St., #305, Wheaton.
Feb. 10	Film Group	7:00 pm	Peggy Connolly, 1445 Brentwood Lane, Wheaton.
Feb. 16	Cultural Arts Buffalo Theater Ensemble Andy Wahol's <i>Tomato</i>	6:00 pm	Pre-Theater Gathering: Peggy Connolly, 1445 Brentwood Lane, Wheaton.
		8:00 pm	Curtain: McAninch Arts Center (MAC), College of DuPage, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn.
Feb. 20	PM Lit	7:00 pm	Susie Gullickson, 1510 Paula Ave., Wheaton.
Feb. 21	<i>Casablanca</i> (movie)	7:00 pm	Peggy Connolly, 1445 Brentwood Lane, Wheaton. <i>See Spice Routes article for details.</i>
Feb. 23	Spice Routes	6:00 pm	Peggy Connolly, 1445 Brentwood Lane, Wheaton.



Programs

Carolyn Oesterle
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February Branch Program and Business Meeting
7:00 pm, Wednesday, February 1
Glen Ellyn Police Station Community Room and Zoom
65 South Park Boulevard, Glen Ellyn

Topic: *Women and the Supreme Court*
Speaker: Julie Strauss, PhD



Julie Strauss is a popular lecturer whose passion is teaching adults. She specializes in American politics and covers diverse courses including, among others, the *Recent Presidential Elections*, the *First 100 Days of the Trump Administration*, *Major Supreme Court Decisions*, and the *Role of the Media in Politics*.

For over twenty years, Julie has conducted classes on contemporary political topics for a wide range of audiences: women's and men's groups, charitable organizations, congregations, retirement communities, and at several Road Scholar seminars. She is a fair and balanced speaker who brings academic expertise and real-world experience to her lectures. Julie motivates participants to think, question, and discuss the information she presents.

Julie received her PhD in American Politics from Northwestern University. Her dissertation examined the unique role women members of Congress have had on public policy. Prior to entering graduate school, Julie spent two years on Capitol Hill working for elected officials. She received her undergraduate degree in social science from Wesleyan University. She currently lives in Evanston with her husband and two children.

Gloria Sullivan, Former Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW Branch President
Jean Lindsey

A former Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW Branch President, Gloria Sullivan, passed away December 8, 2022. Gloria was not only Branch president from 1975-77, she was a very active member for many years and held a wide variety of Branch positions. As a good friend of Jackie DeFazio (former Branch, State and National President), Gloria was Jackie's campaign manager and organizer for many years. In addition to her service to our Branch, Gloria was an effective librarian, first at the Wheaton Public Library, Elmhurst Public Library and finally as a medical librarian at Central DuPage Hospital for 21 years. Gloria was involved in other civic organizations too. I remember Gloria as a warm, humorous, and intelligent member who contributed much to our Branch and to our community. As her obituary stated, *Gloria P. Sullivan truly lived her 90 years.*



Membership

Nancy Possinger
napossinger@gmail.com

New Member, Sheila Perry

It is our pleasure to welcome Sheila Perry to our Branch. Sheila was born in New York, received her undergraduate education at Wellesley College and lived in the Boston area for many years.

From 1983 to 1998, Sheila owned and led a consulting practice, supporting businesses in New England and throughout the country in human resource development, organizational development and management training. Her work involved the design and development of curriculum for developing team-based organizations.

In 1998, she retired to travel more extensively and pursue interests in the arts and in 19th and 20th century architecture and design. She was subsequently engaged as a consultant to Trinity Church in Boston for a \$53 million capital campaign. She was Director of National Programs for the Trinity Boston Preservation Trust and oversaw the Trust's government and private foundation development efforts. In May 2005 she began working with the North Bennet Street School in Boston and until 2015, held the position of Director, Foundation and Corporate Support. In 2015, she retired and moved first to Houston, Texas and then in September, 2021 to Wheaton to be closer to family.

She is an elected Fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society, where she was a member of the Board of Trustees and chaired the Strategic Planning, Development and Membership Committee and served on the Fellows and Facilities Committees. She coordinated the Boston portion of a recent Wellesley College reunion and is a former patron of Wellesley's Davis Art Museum. She was a long-time subscriber and supporter of many of Boston's cultural organizations. Welcome, Sheila!

Contact information for Sheila Perry

Address: 6 Wheaton Center, Apt. 303
Wheaton, IL 60187
Cell phone: 713-826-8436
Email: *sperry9930@aol.com*

To all members, please remember to send any changes to home address, email or telephone information
To Nancy Possinger, Membership VP, at *napossinger@gmail.com*

Nominating Committee, Slate of Nominees
Nancy Possinger, Chair, Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has finalized its Slate of Nominees. The following members have been nominated:

- Nancy Possinger and Karen Schulz, Co-Presidents, two-year term.
- Patty Mugavero and Jean Lindsey, Co-Program Vice Presidents, one-year term, completing the Programs function for the one-year unexpired term.
- Janet Miller, Secretary, two-year term.

An announcement of this slate will also be made at the February 1 Branch Meeting. Election will be held at the Annual Meeting on March 1. Nominations for Branch officers may also be made from the floor, provided that the written consent of the nominee has been obtained in advance.

As Chair of the Nominating Committee, my thanks go out to Sue Herrmann and Phyllis Fogel for all of their work in convening this slate.

Aging—Information and Resources (AIR) Study Group
DuPage County Senior Expo
Drury Lane Theater, Oakbrook Terrace
March 1, 2023, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Ewa Bacon

Our new study group, Aging—Information and Resources (AIR), wants to share with Branch members the many resources available to us. In this spirit, please note that the annual **DuPage County Senior Expo** will take place on March 1, 2023, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Drury Lane Theater in Oakbrook Terrace.

The following topics will be addressed at the Senior Expo:

Medicare, Assisted Living, Mobility Solutions, Veterans Benefits, Audiology, Senior Travel, Health Insurance, Home Care, Medical Equipment, Hospice Care, Financial Planning, Aging-in-Place, Home Improvements, Eye Care, and Physical Therapy. You will recognize that these are all topics we hope to explore further on a members-only website in coming months.

Please contact me at baconew@lewisu.edu if you have found interesting information that the AIR committee can use for our website.



Secretary

Jane Palmer

janefpalmer@icloud.com

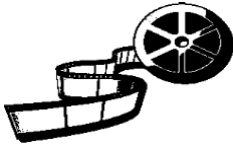
Board Meeting Update

The Board met on January 11. After the minutes of that meeting are approved by the Board at the February 8 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 no motions approved at that meeting other than to approve the November 9 minutes.

Next Board Meeting: 7:00 pm, February 8, 2023 at Ewa Bacon's home.

Our Branch Fundraising Activities



Book Sale

Marilyn Mauritz

marilynmauritz@gmail.com

Forest Glen Elementary School of Glen Ellyn will be the home for our 2023 Used Book Sale which will be held from June 7 to 21 for sorting and June 22 to 24 for the actual sale. As the organizer of this year's sale, I am hoping to meet with and tap the proven talents of those who have worked so successfully in the past and others willing to help. Let me know if you want to participate as we can use all talents and interests. Those willing will meet regularly every other week or so.

Hoping all will gather books with the similar specifications as our last great sale: General Fiction, Fiction Mysteries, Non-Fiction; Biography, Children, Young Adult and Better Books/Collectibles. Start double-bagging them for June sorting time.

Apparently, some members were good enough to contribute to the budget in lieu of books and all contributions will be appreciated. Checks should be made out to: *AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP*.

Any questions or issues, please be in touch and thanks ahead of time for your time, energy and good will.

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.

AAUW
Empowering Women Since 1881



AAUW-National

Please comment on and propose changes to the AAUW Bylaws and Public Policy Priorities—an opportunity that comes around every other year. AAUW's website will provide all the information you need for this important task. Comments can be submitted until Friday, January 27, at 5:00 pm ET.

Springfield-Update

The 103rd State Legislature was sworn in on January 11. AAUW-IL Public Policy leaders will urge us at some point this spring to contact our state senators and representatives about the legislation below that was pending but not discussed in the lame duck session.

- *Invest in Kids Act* (a voucher program that diverts money from public schools)
- *Sexual Health Education in Public Schools*

Raise Your Glass! Supported by AAUW-IL and passed by 102nd Illinois State Legislature

- *Protect Illinois Communities Act*
- *Paid Leave for Workers Act*
- *Patient and Provider Protection Act (PAPPA)*

DuPage County Consolidated Election Calendar

Early voting for the April 4 Consolidated Election begins February 23.
<https://www.dupagecounty.gov/earlyvoting/>

Save this link for finding future march activities:

<https://action.womensmarch.com/local> You do not want to miss the parade when our reproductive rights are restored, and the 28th Amendment is in place (ERA).

2023 AAUW-IL, 98th State Convention
Friday evening thru Saturday, May 5 to 6, 2023
Embassy Suites by Hilton. East Peoria Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center
100 Conference Center Dr, East Peoria, IL 61611

Following on the heels of our very successful face to face AAUW- IL convention in 2022, plan to join AAUW friends and colleagues from around the state at the 2023 AAUW-IL Convention in East Peoria.

The rooms at the Embassy Suites are truly a suite with a separate bedroom, a foldout sofa in the front room, and a shared bath in between. Very conducive to bringing a friend to the conference! We are lucky enough to have secured 2022 prices which include access to meeting rooms and other support for the convention.

You can reserve your room today at the following link: *Reserve Room Now* or you may call: 1-800-EMBASSY and use the code *AUW* (*this is correct, 3-digit code*). Please reserve your room and watch for meeting registration and agenda details coming later in the *Connection* newsletter and on the AAUW-IL website. You do not want to miss this annual meeting where together we advance the AAUW mission. Reach out to Becky Glimco or Peg Gallagher AAUW-IL Programs at auwilprograms@gmail.com for questions.



Things have been pretty quiet lately in the AAUW Online (virtual) office but they are about to gear up. Most importantly, the 2023 Book Sale dates have been announced and posted on both our home page and the Used Book Sale page. Plans are in the works to regularly promote the sale in the coming months through Facebook, both on our Book Sale page and our Branch page. Please share and like and add a comment to keep the buzz going.

Also in the works:

- Ewa Bacon and Tracy Kline are working on a new website page for the AIR Study Group where the AIR group can post their findings. Their reports on various topics will be password-protected (available to members only) to avoid trolling from the public. No date has yet been set for publication but as they say, *Watch this space!*
- Marilyn Mayer Wiedemann, our Historian/Archivist, has been reviewing some of the Branch's historical files and hopes to provide us with some reports and pictures that we can add to the website's *About Us* page to give the public an overview of the history of the Branch. We accomplished a lot over the past 65 years. Let us not lose that history!
- Another book list update is pending. PM Non-Fiction recently selected six new books for the upcoming year. They will be added to the PM Non-Fiction page and the integrated Book Group list as soon as the Glen Ellyn Public Library confirms their availability.

Reminder:

- The password for the *Members Only* page is *twigs*. That is where you will find the *Member Contact List*.

AAUW Online Team:

Contact Patricia Spence at pspence101@aol.com to share pictures of members enjoying Branch activities. She will also use the Branch Facebook page to keep us up to date on Public Policy issues. Tracy Kline at trakli@msn.com continues to keep our website home page fresh with news of upcoming Branch activities. Contact Jane Palmer at janejpalmer@icloud.com if you have questions about accessing our online Member Contact List or if you have other ideas to enhance the Branch's online presence. Any changes in your email address, telephone number or address should go to Nancy Possinger at napossinger@gmail.com.



Diversity In Our Own Backyard

Nabeela Syed, a 23-year-old Palatine native will become the first Indian-American woman and one of the first Muslims to be elected to the Illinois General Assembly. She lives in Inverness and will represent Illinois State House District 51 (Daily Herald, December 23, 2022).

Martina Smith, first Black superintendent of the Algonquin-based Community Unit District 300 which serves nearly 20,000 students in 26 schools and includes Kane, McHenry, Cook and DeKalb counties (Daily Herald, December 23, 2022).

Reverend Paula E. Clark, consecrated as the first Black female bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, was seated at St. James Cathedral in Chicago. The diocese serves churches across the Chicago area and suburbs (Daily Herald, December 23, 2022).



Highlights of the Branch from the 1980's

1980

- Mother's Day ERA march in downtown Chicago joining thousands of women from many organizations, all dressed in white. 90,000 women in total.
- Branch 25th Anniversary Celebration. Edith Back, early Branch President and author/activist awarded Life Membership.

1981

- Chicago Area Council of AAUW supports bringing Lake Michigan water to suburbs.
- Judy Langford Carter, daughter-in-law of Jimmy Carter, addresses Branch on ERA.

1981-83

- AAUW Study topics: *Taking Hold of Technology* and *Money Talks*

1982

- *60 Seconds with a Technology Sister* presented at each Branch meeting.

1982-83

- Branch receives an Educational Foundation Program grant to write and publish *Facing Divorce: A Practical Guide to Financial, Legal, and Emotional Survival*. Member/Editor Judy Baxter awarded College of DuPage Adade Wheeler Award for outstanding project development. Local experts in law, social work, finance consulted for content and advice. Publication placed in local libraries and wherever requested.

1983

- Branch member/President Jackie DeFazio elected President of AAUW-IL, served two terms.
- Branch membership reaches 285.

1987

- Branch completes \$100,000 American Fellowship endowment through Book Sale profits. Starts the Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Research and Projects endowment in AAUW National Educational Foundation Funds.
- *Math Mentoring* and *Career Shadowing* projects begun in local middle schools by *Women's Work/Women's Worth Task Force* (second year of the AAUW two year study/action program.)

1989

- First Wheaton-Glen Ellyn American Fellowship awarded by AAUW National to support a woman scholar at the PhD level.
- Jackie DeFazio *Returning to Learning Scholarship* established to support a woman returning to college after a break for work, child rearing, finances, etc. Preference for COD enrollment.
- Gwendolyn Brooks, Poet Laureate of Illinois, speaker at Branch meeting for Martin Luther King Day. Other branches invited to attend.



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

Please join us on Friday, February 3 to discuss *The Reading List* by Sarah Adams. We will again meet at the Glen Ellyn Public Library, first floor meeting room at 9:30 am. Barbara Roos will lead us in the discussion of this novel which “is a lovely story of how a love of reading can transport us to other worlds and also bring us together (*Toronto Star*). It has also been described as *catnip to book groups craving a story to remind them why we read and how very important libraries and bookshops are* (*Library Journal*). The novel seems to be right up our alley!

Please email me if you plan on attending which will assist with room set up. Currently there are copies of the book available at the Glen Ellyn Public Library, second floor. What a wonderful service the library provides us. We do need a discussion leader for the March book. Please contact me if you will do so.

Looking Ahead: Our March 3 book is *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict Murray.

PM Lit

Susie Gullickson

gullish.1955@gmail.com

Between Two Kingdoms by Suleika Jaouad is a searing, deeply moving memoir of illness and recovery that traces one young woman’s journey from diagnosis to remission and ultimately, a road trip of healing and self-discovery.

We will meet at 7:00 pm on Monday, February 20 at Susie Gullickson’s home (1510 Paula Ave., Wheaton) to discuss this *New York Times* best seller. Susie will also be the discussion leader.

AM Non-Fiction

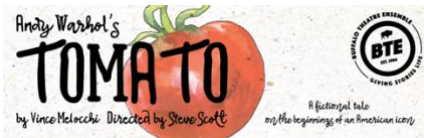
Sue Herrmann

sherrmann710@gmail.com

We meet on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at Mary Sue Brown’s home at 10:00 am. We will read *River of Gods: Genius, Courage, and Betrayal in the Search for the Source of the Nile* by Candice Millard. Jane Palmer will lead us in the discussion. Books will be available from the Glen Ellyn Public Library.



Buffalo Theater Ensemble (BTE) Andy Warhol's *Tomato*
McAninch Arts Center (MAC), College of DuPage
425 Fawell Boulevard, Glen Ellyn
Peggy Connolly



Join us Thursday, February 16 for wine and appetizers before the BTE performance of Andy Warhol's *Tomato*. BTE's play is a prequel to the opening this summer of an Andy Warhol exhibit of 94 works at the MAC. Andy Warhol's *Tomato* is a work of fiction based on actual events in Warhol's life. Pre-theatre gathering at Peggy's at 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm curtain at the MAC.

Please let Peggy know at connolly.peggy@gmail.com, if you plan to attend the pre-theater gathering.



We started off the awards season on the right foot! *Everything, Everywhere, All at Once*, *The Banshees of Inisherin*, and *The Fabelmans* all won awards at the Golden Globes and were nominated for Screen Actors Guild awards! The Oscar nominations come out on January 24. Perhaps we will select one of them for our February meeting. Keep your eye out and send me your suggestions.

Our February meeting, which will take place on Friday February 10 at 7:00 pm, will take place at Peggy Connolly's house. Thank you for volunteering Peggy! I also have a volunteer, Jean Lindsey (yay Jean!), for March. I still need a host for our meeting on Friday, April 14!



In anticipation of the 2023 Academy Awards scheduled to air on Sunday, March 12 (and with a nod to Film Group), we are choosing a cuisine based on an Academy Award Best Picture Winner. Earlier this year we voted on our favorite best film Oscar - and the winner was...*Casablanca*! *Casablanca* is set in Morocco, and the cuisine choice for our feast on Thursday, February 23, will be French and Moroccan. Please let Peggy know by February 16 what delicious fare you will bring to the feast.

Casablanca

If you have not had the pleasure of seeing the movie *Casablanca*, or would like to indulge yourself again, it will be shown Tuesday, February 21 at Peggy's home at 7:00pm.

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!