

A Leaf from the Co-Presidents

CONGRATULATIONS are in order to two of our members. Donna Jean Simon is running for Trustee of the Village of Glen Ellyn and Mary Sue Brown is running for Trustee of the Glen Ellyn Library. They were recruited by the Glen Ellyn Civic Betterment Party who interviews candidates and recommends them if they are qualified. This non-partisan group has been working in Glen Ellyn since 1931 to find qualified candidates to fill the village's elected offices. This year there were more candidates than positions available, so there was a local vote on December 3. Both Donna Jean and Mary Sue won the highest vote total for their positions. The regular election will be in April. Please vote if you are a resident of Glen Ellyn. There will also be elections for local school boards in April, so we need to be especially aware of who is running for these important positions. More information will be forthcoming as the elections draw near.

It was great to be together again for our Winter Banquet at Reserve 22. Many thanks to Karen Schulz who worked tirelessly with Angela at Reserve 22 on the menu, pricing and participants. The food was very good and the company even better. Thank you to Ellen McGowan for finding our speaker, Angel Bohannon, who did a great job on the topic: *Attending to Leadership Attention: School Leadership During COVID*. Angel is now writing her thesis on her research for this topic and was very knowledgeable and an excellent speaker. Karen Bondy and Nancy Possinger also were instrumental in making things run smoothly. Thanks to everyone who attended.

Mary Sue and I hope everyone had a great holiday season. We look forward to more exciting AAUW activities in 2023.

Mary Sue & Carolyn

Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	INFORMATION
Jan. 4	Branch Meeting	7:00 pm	ZOOM.
Jan. 6	AM Lit	9:30 am	Glen Ellyn Public Library, First Floor Meeting Room, 400 Duane St., Glen Ellyn.
Jan. 16	PM Lit	7:00 pm	Marie Corcoran, 31 Hawkins Circle, Wheaton.
Jan. 25	PM Non-Fiction	7:00 pm	Peggy Connolly, 1445 Brentwood Lane, Wheaton.



7:00 pm, Wednesday, January 4, 2023

Zoom Meeting Only

Topic: *Ladies in Waiting.....and Still Waiting for a Nobel Prize*

Speaker: Dr. Mary Virginia Orna, Ph.D

That there is a gender imbalance in the list of Nobel laureates is uncontested. There are many reasons for this situation, among which one may cite the very small pool of women scientists. While that may have been true in the past, the number of women who are active in scientific research has grown exponentially, and yet we had to wait until 2020 (!) for two women to join the other five women chemistry laureates (3.76% in the Nobel's 120-year history). This talk will highlight an outstanding group of women, some of whom were nominated unsuccessfully for the prize many times, and some who were never nominated at all, but perhaps should have been. While we will discuss only the tip of the iceberg, there will be many more references suggested for further research and reading.

Mary Virginia Orna, Ph.D., is Professor Emerita of Chemistry, College of New Rochelle, New York. Her academic specialties are in the areas of color chemistry and archaeological chemistry. She is an American Chemical Society (ACS) Councilor for the Division of the History of Chemistry and has served on numerous ACS committees over the past thirty years. Her more recent books include *The Chemical History of Color* (Springer, 2013) and *March of the Pigments* (Royal Society of Chemistry, 2022). She contributed two chapters to the book that inspired the present talk, *The Posthumous Nobel Prize in Chemistry, Volume 2, Ladies in Waiting for the Nobel Prize*, edited by Vera Mainz and Tom Strom (2018). She has written a review on *The Code Breaker* for the ACS Senior Chemists Newsletter that will appear later in 2023. She has nineteen other authored, co-authored or edited books on chemical education and history of chemistry to her credit. She is also the recipient of numerous chemical education and service awards, including New York State Professor of the Year and National Gold Medalist. In 1994 she served as a Fulbright Fellow in Israel. Her hobby is constructing crossword puzzles; she has contributed many of these to the *New York Times* and to many ACS publications as well.



Congratulations to Donna Jean Simon, AAUW- IL President, and to our Co-President, Mary Sue Brown, for winning candidacies, respectively, as Village Trustee and Library Trustee of the Glen Ellyn Civic Betterment Party. They advance to the DuPage County Consolidated Election of April 4, 2023.

At the urging of our Branch members and others, Representative Terra Costa Howard (IL Dist. 48) signed on to be a co-sponsor of House Joint Resolution 94. The bill *affirms* the 28th Amendment, which prohibits the United States or any state from denying or abridging equal rights under the law on the account of sex. Representative Costa Howard predicts the bill will re-emerge for a vote in the Spring. Illinois was the 37th state to ratify the amendment; Virginia the 38th. Efforts like HJR-94, if matched by other states, keep attention on the unresolved status of the ERA in the office of the National Archivist.



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 the AM Lit group on Friday, January 6, to discuss *Home Waters: A Chronicle of Family and a River* by John Maclean. Phyllis Fogel will lead the discussion at the Glen Ellyn Public Library at 9:30 am. Books are available at the Glen Ellyn Library, second floor.

PM Lit

Susie Gullickson

gullish.1955@gmail.com

We will start the New Year with Anthony Doerr's *Cloud Cuckoo Land* at 7:00 pm, Monday, January 16. *When everything is lost, it's our stories that survive. How do we weather the end of things? Cloud Cuckoo Land brings together an unforgettable cast of dreamers and outsiders from past, present and future to offer a vision of survival against all odds* (From Goodreads).

Laura Desmarais is the discussion leader and host is Marie Corcoran, 31 Hawkins Circle, Wheaton.

PM Non-Fiction

Ewa Bacon

baconew@lewisu.edu

We are meeting at 7:00 pm at the home of Peggy Connolly on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, to discuss Reza Aslan's book *God: A Human History*. Peggy will lead our discussion of this, the last book of our 2022 books. According to Aslan, *the innate desire to humanize God is hardwired in our brains, making it a central feature of nearly every religious tradition. There are consequences...*

As always, a copy of the book will be available at the Glen Ellyn Public Library. Please let Peggy know if you are planning to attend.

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

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*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!