

## AAUW History—TWIGS—November 2022

Twigs—November, 2022—Historian

Historian.....Marilyn Mayer Wiedemann

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. Sally Dow elected President. Monthly general meetings and round table discussion groups were held in homes.

1957-58—First directory, listed 37 members. Three study groups: Education, Social Studies, the Arts.

1958—Membership 55. Monthly news sheet started. New study groups added: Social and Economic Issues, International Relations, Mass Media.

1959—Two year study of the gifted child undertaken, bibliography developed.

1960—Meetings held in the Glen Ellyn Community House, then Wheaton Memorial Park Building. May banquet at Danby House. Several branch programs each year were presented by members as an outgrowth of study group research.

1962—First sidewalk Book Sale, April 1962, Wheaton, one Saturday. \$350 donated to Fellowship programs. Book Sale continues yearly in Wheaton.

1963—Added a second VP for Membership with a working committee. Increased membership from 60 to 145 in that year. 40-50 new members each year replace those moving away or dropping out.

1963—Association Restructuring provides 4 biennium topics based on grass roots suggestions. First year for study. Second for action. Sitter services provided at meetings.

1965—Branch supports establishment of a Junior College for DuPage County. Membership now 100.

1966-1972—Education Study Group initiates Tutoring program for elementary students. Grew from 3 volunteers to 50 over its 6 years of operation.

1967—“Beleaguered Earth” Study Group founds DuPage Environmental Council.

1968—Book Sale was added in Glen Ellyn. (In 1973 Sale moves to Glen Ellyn Civic Center combining both community sidewalk sales, allowing indoor weather protection, night sale hours, and successful presale for which admission was charged.)

1968—“Planning for People” seminar presented to increase awareness of the poor in DuPage County. Joint sponsorship with DuPage branches and local civic organizations.

1969—AAUW Chicago Area Council formed with branch President Marilyn Sanders as convener. Joint production of DuPage County Handbook for Senior Citizens and The Cracker Barrel Workshop for Women Power in Politics.