

### **A Leaf from the Co-Presidents**

Welcome back to another wonderful Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW year! We are back on the heels of another extremely successful Book Sale in June, our Program VPs have a brilliant lineup of speakers for us this year, and our Membership VPs will kick off the year with a New Member Orientation on October 9.

We have Heidi Fraser, a veteran Treasurer from her time as Treasurer in the Lombard branch, now taking over the Finance duties from our very beloved and knowledgeable Maureen Sheehan who has served as our Treasurer for the past four + years.

Marie Corcoran, another newer member to our Branch has replaced Sarah Allen as Co-Vice President of Membership serving along with Co-VP Susan Hagerty. Marie has jumped in and has been following up and signing up those who expressed an interest in Branch membership while at our book sale.

Our thanks go out to Sarah for her energetic role in helping to grow our membership this past year.

Janet Miller remains in her role as Secretary. Again, she is a veteran, having served as Secretary in the Lombard branch. Her experience in this function is indispensable to our Board.

Another new member taking up the helm as editor of Twigs is Susan Peters, who just joined our Branch this year! She takes over from Kathy McCullough who has done a terrific job with Twigs these last seven years! We are so grateful to Kathy for all her work these many years. Susan has hit the ground running and is a wonderful addition heading up this key role.

As for us, your Co-Presidents, our goal continues to be to make the most of our Branch for every one of you: to be sure we honor the mission of AAUW and to continue making our Branch relevant to our members, so that they can feel their part in fulfilling the mission. Along with that we strive to bring meaning and purpose, along with a sense of fun and engagement with our Branch! We are extremely fortunate year after year to have an involved membership that takes part in the Branch meetings and the many interest and study groups that we offer.

Here's to a fabulous AAUW year! Can't wait to see you all at our Branch meeting on September 4<sup>th</sup>! Come, enjoy a gelato and conversations with friends and then stay to hear an inspiring speaker!

In service with you,

***Nancy Possinger and Karen Schulz***

## Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	INFORMATION
Aug. 27	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	Jean Lindsey's Home 1644 Orth Dr Wheaton
Aug. 28	AM Non-Fiction	10:00 am	Jane Palmer's Home 1017 Wheaton Oaks Drive Wheaton
Sept. 3	Great Decisions Group #3	1:00 pm	Alison Hayes' Home 23W255 St. James Court Glen Ellyn
Sept 4	Branch Kick-Off Meeting	6:45 pm	Glen Ellyn Police Station 65 S. Park Blvd. Glen Ellyn
Sept. 5	Great Decisions Group #1	1:00 pm	Marie Corcoran's Home 31 Hawkins Circle Wheaton
Sept. 6	AM LIT	9:30 am	Glen Ellyn Public Library First Floor Meeting Rooms 400 Duane St., Glen Ellyn.
Sept. 12	BTE Pre-show Gathering	5:30 pm	Chez Peggy 1445 Brentwood Lane Wheaton
Sept 13	Film Group	7:00pm	Anne Hanley's Home 679 Forest Ave Glen Ellyn
Sept. 16	PM LIT	7:00 pm	TBD
Sept. 20	Fall Fundraising Walk	9:00 am	Hidden Lake Forest Preserve Butterfield Rd and Rte. 53 Downers Grove
Sept. 24	Board Meeting	7:00 pm	TBD
<b>Sept. 28</b>	<b>DuPage County Elections</b>	<b>Early Voting begins at DuPage Fairgrounds and First day Vote by Mail ballots are sent out.</b>	

## Welcome Back!

<b>Sept. 4<sup>th</sup></b> Glen Ellyn Police Station 65 S. Park Blvd. 6:45 pm	Co-Presidents Karen Schultz and Nancy Possinger and two AAUW Fellowship scholars	Join fellow Branch members as we celebrate our <a href="#">Kick-Off Meeting</a> . Enjoy a complementary dish of delicious gelato as we highlight what AAUW opportunities are available for you to experience. See what impact AAUW has in promoting women in higher education when two AAUW fellowship awardees share their educational pursuits.
<b>Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup></b> Glen Ellyn Police Station 65 S. Park Blvd 6:45 pm	Joel Jara Community Relations Coordinator. DuPage Health Coalition	<a href="#">DuPage Health Coalition</a> <b>Partners with Many Organizations to Provide Health Services for DuPage Low Income Residents</b> Joel Jara works with a partnership of physicians, hospitals and community organizations to aid those in need. This important service saves lives as it makes medical procedures available to DuPage residents who are unable to purchase health insurance.
<b>Nov. 6<sup>th</sup></b> Glen Ellyn Police Station 65 S. Park Blvd	Rita Brosnan Crisis Services Supervisor, DuPage Health Department	<b>What Services and Treatments does <a href="#">DuPage Health Department</a> offer for Residents with Mental Health Concerns?</b> Rita Brosnan will share information about the mental health concerns of county residents and the treatment options offered by the county Health Department.
<b>Jan. 8<sup>th</sup></b> ZOOM presentation 6:45 pm	Dr. Robert Bruno Professor and Director University of Illinois Urbana- Champaign	<a href="#">A New Perspective on Illinois' Population</a> Based on extensive research, Dr. Bruno has published a study which sheds new light on Illinois' migration patterns and economic status. He found much information which indicates that Illinois is healthier than the media reports.
<b>Feb. 5<sup>th</sup></b> Wheaton Public Library 225 N. Cross 6:45 pm	Clarence Goodman Historian/Musician	<a href="#">An Unfinished Journey: African American Music in Pivotal Decades</a> Musician, historian, radio personality, Mr. Goodman will present a multimedia concert featuring key songs and stories of the Black experience. Learn how disparate voices united during critical moments of societal change in this entertaining presentation.
<b>March 5<sup>th</sup></b> Location:TBA 6:45 pm	Dr. Suzanne Chod Professor of Political Science and Gender Studies North Central University	<a href="#">Title IX Evolution: Recent Amendments Have Made Significant Changes to IX</a> Dr. Chod will review how the changes in Title IX affect educational institutions and their handling of gender equity and sexual misconduct. She will highlight the implications for schools, students and educators.
<b>April 2<sup>nd</sup></b> Location: TBA 6:45 pm	Adam Kreuzer Lawyer, Board Delegate, Dark Skies International speaker	<a href="#">Dark Skies International</a> The goal of Dark Skies is to restore and protect the dark skies. Remember when you could see with your naked eye thousands of stars, the Milky Way, our galaxy, planets and the Man in the moon? Adam Kreuzer will enlighten us on how light pollution, has diminished our view of the sky, and what we can do to improve our night vision.



## Membership

Marie Corcoran & Susan Hagerty

[susanhagerty18@gmail.com](mailto:susanhagerty18@gmail.com) [mecorcoran31@gmail.com](mailto:mecorcoran31@gmail.com)

As a returning Co-VP for Membership 2024-2025, I would like to thank Sarah Allen for all her help and support over the past year. I also would like to welcome Marie Corcoran as she joins me for the next two years. We look forward to working in our chapter, which serves to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

**We were delighted to end the year on June 30, 2024, with 122 members!** That's up five members from last year. But we could not have done it without your assistance. Thank you everyone. Remember you can always bring a friend and perspective member to a meeting.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS For Any of Our Members Who Have Not Yet Renewed for This Year.** Hopefully you received a reminder email recently encouraging you to renew your AAUW membership dues for 2025. The easiest way is to send a Check in the Amount of \$101 (National \$72, AAUW IL \$10, Branch \$19) made out to AAUW WHEATON-GLEN-ELLYN BRANCH, NFP, to our Treasurer, Heidi Fraiser, 21W131 Flamingo Ln, Lombard, IL 60148-5239. Remember that your continued membership means everything to our organization and to the women and girls we support with scholarship and other gender equity initiatives.

**Member Contact List Update**— we do our best to stay current but realize the summer may have included some changes to your listing. If you have moved, changed email or phone numbers -- Please send any changes in your contact information to Sue Hagerty [susanhagerty18@gmail.com](mailto:susanhagerty18@gmail.com) or Marie Corcoran [mecorcoran31@gmail.com](mailto:mecorcoran31@gmail.com)

### **New Member Introductions**

**Susan Stack** is one of our newest members. A native of Metro Detroit, she attended Michigan State University where she studied telecommunications. Her skills led to a career in marketing and communications for health care and both local and county governments. She served as film commissioner for Oakland County and facilitated the production of over 60 films and television programs in Michigan over eight years. Her most notable projects include the films Batman v Superman and Real Steel. In her "free time," she earned a Masters in Humanities/Film Studies from Tiffin University in Ohio in 2018.

After graduation Susan followed her two daughters to Illinois, settling in Wheaton. She has raised two artists - one a jewelry maker and the other studying print making. Susan is currently an instructor at Harper College where she teaches Introduction to Film. She has also taught at Triton College, South College and Old Dominion University. In her self - described semi-retirement she reads, watches far too many films, follows her beloved Yankees and volunteers at the Glen Ellyn library. A lifelong book lover, her first exposure to AAUW was at the annual book sale in Livonia, Michigan. "You can never have too many books." Susan is eager to join our Wheaton-Glen Ellyn chapter.

**Welcome, Susan!** Susan's contact information: Email: [StackSusan@outlook.com](mailto:StackSusan@outlook.com)

### **New Member Gathering**

Please mark your calendars for **October 9<sup>th</sup>**.

We will meet at the home of Marie Corcoran, 31 Hawkins Circle, Glen Ellyn.

If you have joined the Branch within the last twelve months, we invite you to a wonderful opportunity to meet 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 and details will be sent in the next week to members who have joined our Branch from September 2023 to the present.



**Featuring the Year 2005-2006.** See how many of these lovely Branch ladies you can identify. And which one is retiring from her fantastic work on Twigs for the last 8 years?



Kick off at the Glen Ellyn Boathouse, September 2005. Jean Lindsey and ??



Cheryl Temple, Virginia Thompson, and Kathy McCullough at Cheryl's goodbye brunch, March 2006



Fredericka Meiners and Kathy McCullough enjoy the Kickoff



Pam Starr, Mary Mossman, Jan Radil at the brunch



Winifred Creamer, Ewa Bacon and Phyllis Ruzicka share good times at the May Banquet, 2006



Judy Sims, Barb Isom, and Phyllis Fogel help prepare the Civic Center Book Sale, May 2006





**Website:** As you know, the Branch has an active website at [www.wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net](http://www.wheatonglenellyn-il.aauw.net). It is a quick and accessible resource for information on upcoming Branch activities, fundraisers, board meeting minutes, financial reports and books chosen by our four book groups. The Branch website is our public face for Wheaton, Glen Ellyn, Lombard and neighboring communities and, especially, for prospective members. We don't want our Branch to be a "secret organization"!

**Members Only Page:** A few years ago, we became concerned about privacy of our members' data (specifically, email addresses, phone numbers and our members home addresses) and responded by setting up the password-protected "Members Only" page. Past Twigs newsletters are available there as well as our Member Contact Listing. Branch documents are available, such as, Bylaws, Policy Handbook, Board and Branch Meeting Minutes, Financial Reports and the Illinois State Tax Exemption Letter. Also, thanks to the hard work of the Aging Information Resources (AIR) Study Group, there are now lists of resources and service providers personally recommended by the Study Group.

**Annual Updates:** Every year in August, we review each page of the website to make sure its information stays current. For example, the reading lists for our four book groups are now up to date. You can help by letting us know if you spot anything that needs to be updated.

**Social Media:** We have two Facebook pages, the Book Sale page and the Branch page. The Book Sale page is active during our Book Sale donation drive and the Book Sale. The Branch page is active all year round. We publicize our Branch Meeting programs, Science Girls on the Go™ and other Branch activities. We also share updates received from national AAUW. You all have done a great job with your Facebook likes comments and shares. Keep it up!

**Do We Need to Extend our Reach?** From time to time, we have wondered if we should establish a presence on Instagram or Tik-Tok. Let us know if you would be willing to take on this project.

**Reminders:** The password for the Members Only page is twigs. (All lower case.) If you can't remember our long website name, just google "Wheaton AAUW" or "Glen Ellyn AAUW" and you are there! While you are there, set up a shortcut so you can easily return. For the iPhone or iPad, use Safari to open the website. Tap the bookmark icon (box with upward arrow), select "Add to Home Screen". A pop-up will show you the icon and allow you to edit the name. Click "Add" and you are done!

**AAUW Online Team:** Contact Patricia Spence at [pspence101@aol.com](mailto:pspence101@aol.com) to share pictures of members enjoying Branch activities. She will post them on our Branch Facebook page. Tracy Kline ([trakli@msn.com](mailto:trakli@msn.com)) continues to keep our website up to date with news on Branch activities and monthly updates to our Members Only page. Contact Jane Palmer at [janepalmer@icloud.com](mailto:janepalmer@icloud.com) if you have questions about the Member List which replaced our directory booklet. The Member List is reviewed monthly and updated as needed for new member information and any changes to emails, phone numbers, etc. Please review your personal info and send any corrections or updates to our Membership Co-VPs, Marie Corcoran or Susan Hagerty.

**Emails:** [mecorcoran31@gmail.com](mailto:mecorcoran31@gmail.com) and [susanhagerty18@gmail.com](mailto:susanhagerty18@gmail.com).



## Title IX – We Can't Lose the Progress We've Made

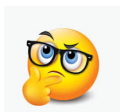
The Paris 2024 Olympics have shown the positive effects of Title IX and other efforts to achieve equity for women. Out of 10,500 athletes, 5,250 are women and 5,250 are men. This is the first time there has been full gender parity at the Olympics games.

More information about this is at [Paris 2024: The first Games to achieve full gender parity \(olympics.com\)](https://olympics.com).

Billie Jean King is quoted in an article on Ms Magazine online:

It's now over 50 years since Title IX was passed and its amazing how great U.S. women athletes are doing [at the Olympics]. Finally, hearts and minds are getting closer to matching the law. People are investing in women's sports as a business, not a charity. Billie Jean King (MS Magazine online 8/7/24)

The full article is available at [The Women's Basketball Team's Path to the Olympics Was Paved by Title IX - Ms. Magazine \(msmagazine.com\)](https://msmagazine.com)



Our Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW website has a tab for **AIR (Aging, Information and Resources)** which can help you with a list of **Home Services Providers**.

Need help with unexpected basement flood? Your garage door has malfunctioned? You need to install a ramp? Car trouble? Computer repair? There are about thirty services listed under *Home Services Providers* along with the name of the branch member who recommended it.

The **Health and Care Resources** lists more than 30 medical services from knee replacements to Parkinson's clinics as well as primary care providers. There are a total of five on-line lists which include **Transportation, Housing Information and End-of-Life issues**. Our Branch AIR Study Group compiled this resource to provide a service to the Branch as we inform each other about salient issues dealing with aging.

FYI: Please note that on October 7, 10 to 2pm, you can visit a Mobile DMV unit (call 630-858-2463 for an appointment) at the Glen Ellyn Main Street Recreation center. You can renew or get a driver's license, register a car, get a Real ID, sign up as an organ donor and register to vote.

Please consider commenting on our listings or adding home or medical services that you recommend.

Drop me a line at [baconew@lewisu.edu](mailto:baconew@lewisu.edu).

Ewa Bacon



## **Fall Fundraising Walk**

**Carolyn Oesterle**

[csoesterle@gmail.com](mailto:csoesterle@gmail.com)

Come to the Fall Fundraising Walk where we combine **Fun, Friendship, and Fundraising**. This year the walk will be Friday, September 20 at 9 AM at Hidden Lake Forest Preserve. Following the walk, we will have coffee and treats with an exciting game of Trivia by Patricia—complete with prizes.

Details:

**Where:** Hidden Lake Forest Preserve. Hidden Lake is in Downers Grove at the intersection of Butterfield Rd and Route 53. Enter from route 53 just south of Butterfield Road. Turn into the park and then left at the first intersection. Park in the lot at the end of the road. We will meet in the parking lot.

**What:** The walk is in two loops which total about 2.5 miles, or you can do just one loop. You can just join us for the trivia game at about 10:30 if you do not want to walk. We will use the nearby picnic shelter for the trivia game.

**When:** September 20th 9 AM rain or shine

**Bring:** raincoat, folding chair, sunhat, donation check

Contact me to register or if you have questions. If you do not wish to walk, you may still contribute by sending a check to me at 645 Lake Rd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137. Make the check payable to AAUW Wheaton-Glen Ellyn Branch, NFP. Donations are tax deductible.

See you September 20 for a Great Time  
Carolyn Oesterle  
630-649-4245



## **Opportunities Fund**

**Susan Levy-Creed & Karla Megow**

[susanlevycreed@gmail.com](mailto:susanlevycreed@gmail.com) [karla\\_megow@yahoo.com](mailto:karla_megow@yahoo.com)

On September 4<sup>th</sup>, at 6:45 pm, we will be meeting at the Glen Ellyn Police Station, to hear a presentation from one of our National Scholarship recipients. We have traditionally done this at our Winter Banquet, but it was decided to try something new, and have a recipient help us kick-off our new year. We hope to see many of you here and think that you will enjoy meeting this interesting young woman.

**Jelena Radovic-Fanta** is a 2018 AAUW Fellow. She is currently an Associate Professor at Governor's State University in Anthropology/Sociology. She is affiliated with the Gender and Sexuality Studies Program there. She was born in Chile and has done work there studying women working in the fruit export industry – mostly in grapes. She has done many other studies as well and we look forward to hearing what one of our scholarship recipients has to say.





## Great Decisions

**Peggy Connolly, Peggy McGrath, Carol Ginger, Alison Hayes**

[connolly.peggy@gmail.com](mailto:connolly.peggy@gmail.com), [cranston166@gmail.com](mailto:cranston166@gmail.com) [anydots@aol.com](mailto:anydots@aol.com) [sw1alihaz@comcast.net](mailto:sw1alihaz@comcast.net)

The Great Decisions topic for September is **Nato's Future**. Group #1 will meet September 5 at Marie Corcoran's home at 1:00 pm. Group #3 will meet September 3 at 1:00 pm at Alison Hayes' home.



## Cultural Arts

**Laura Desmarais & Patricia Spence**

[lkdesmarais@gmail.com](mailto:lkdesmarais@gmail.com) [pspence101@aol.com](mailto:pspence101@aol.com)

The Cultural Arts Committee Co-Chairs have chosen two events for our upcoming social season. Depending on time and availability, more will be planned.

If you have not joined Cultural Arts, please email both of us (emails above).

Join us for the Sunday, October 6, 2 PM, matinee performance of the Wheaton Drama comedy, **Moon Over Buffalo**, followed by an al fresco dinner- restaurant(s) TBD- adjacent to the theater.  
<https://wheatondrama.org/>

Our second planned event is on January 26, Sunday, 3PM, **The Elixir of Love**, a concert opera, by Gaetano Donizatti. The New Philharmonic, the resident orchestra of the College of DuPage, McAninch Arts Center, presents this romantic comedy.  
Dinner will follow (location: TBA). <https://atthemac.org/>

Tickets for both Wheaton Drama and the MAC are available now.

**Buffalo Theatre Ensemble's (BTE)** 2024-2025 season promises a year of witty and delightful theatre. We socialize at 5:30 Chez Peggy before heading to the College of DuPage MAC Performing Arts Center for the 7:30 performance.

Our first play will be *The Outsider*, on Thursday, September 12. If you haven't already purchased a season ticket, the other Thursday dates are November 21 for *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberly*, and *Native Gardens* on February 13

ALERT! Plays begin at 7:30, half an hour earlier than past years: our soiree will begin earlier, at 5:30. Please email Peggy if you'd like to be added to the BTE list: [connolly.peggy@gmail.com](mailto:connolly.peggy@gmail.com)



## Our Branch Book & Film 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

Donna Staples

[donnastaples5050@gmail.com](mailto:donnastaples5050@gmail.com)

We will meet on Friday, September 6th at 9:30 AM in the Glen Ellyn public library. Our selection will be **"Absolution"** by Alice McDermott. Patricia Spence will lead our discussion. This novel is a riveting account of women's lives on the margins of the Vietnam war. Please join us.

Next up on October 4: Tom Lake by Ann Patchett.

### PM Lit

Susie Gullickson

[gullish.1955@gmail.com](mailto:gullish.1955@gmail.com)

PM Lit will meet on Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 7PM to discuss **"The First Ladies"** by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. This is the story of two different, yet equally formidable, passionate and committed women – Eleanor Roosevelt and Mary McLeod Bethune. Together, their singular friendship helped form the foundation for the modern civil rights movement. Location and Discussion Leader will be shared by email closer to the date.

### AM Non-Fiction

Sue Herrmann

[sherrman710@gmail.com](mailto:sherrman710@gmail.com)

Our next meeting is on August 28<sup>th</sup> at Jane Palmer's home. We will be discussing **"Remembering America, A Voice from the Sixties"** by Dick Goodman.



### Film Group

Anne Hanley

[ahanley@mindspring.com](mailto:ahanley@mindspring.com)

**Welcome to Film Group 2024-25!** We are a group of film aficionados who meet monthly to discuss a movie we see during the week before. These meetings take place at 7 p.m. on the second Friday of every month in the homes of group members. I send out the film selection via email a week in advance. Discussions are open, wide ranging, and always interesting. Plus, your spouses and partners are most welcome to attend!

Our schedule for the remainder of 2024 is: Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, and Dec 13. In 2025 we will meet on Jan 10, Feb 14, Mar 14, Apr 11, and May 9.

Please consider hosting a gathering! If you are not on the distribution list and would like to join us, please contact me at [ahanley@mindspring.com](mailto:ahanley@mindspring.com)

Our first meeting will be on Friday September 13, 2024, at my home. We will gather at 7 for some socializing and will begin our film discussion immediately following.



## History and Cuisine of the Spice Routes.

**Peggy Connolly**

*connolly.peggy@gmail.com*

My fellow gourmands, in the voting for this year's Spice Routes, **FAME (I'M GONNA LIVE FOREVER)** received the most 1<sup>st</sup> place votes, so this year's dinners will be based on four categories of FAME.

- October 10** Iconic Dishes from Famous Books
- January 16** Eminent Dishes Named for Famous People
- March 6** Epochal Dishes from Famous Movies
- May 22** Signature Dishes from Famous Restaurants

Reservations will be accepted for the next dinner only after publication of the announcement in *Twigs*, so everyone has a chance at one of the coveted 24 places at the table. Once the October *Twigs* has been emailed, reserve a spot for the upcoming dinner ([connolly.peggy@gmail.com](mailto:connolly.peggy@gmail.com)). It's not necessary to know the specific dish you'll bring when you RSVP. Dinners are held at Peggy Connolly's home on Thursday evenings. If you are new to AAUW, these dinners are a great way to get to know new friends.

**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

<b>Editor:</b>	<b>Susan Peters (Brugh)</b>
<b>Proofreader:</b>	<b>Ruth Schumacher</b>
<b>AAUW Online:</b>	<b>Jane Palmer</b>
<b>Website Editor:</b>	<b>Tracy Kline</b>

## Wheaton-Glen Ellyn AAUW Branch Officers & Chairs 2024 -2025

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### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Book Sale Co-Chair **	<b>OPEN</b>	
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	Karen Schulz	<a href="mailto:karenjschulz@gmail.com">karenjschulz@gmail.com</a>

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	Peggy McGrath	<a href="mailto:anydots@aol.com">anydots@aol.com</a>
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