



News By Degrees

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2024

President's Message



Welcome to a new year! I took this opportunity to reflect on the priority issues AAUW is working on.

Removing Bias from Education. Startling inequalities persist in American education. Gender, economics, race and ethnicity should not limit our opportunities.
Fighting for Fair Pay & Economic Equity. It's time to close the pay gap and for the work world to embrace diversity, equity and inclusion so we can all thrive.
Advancing Women in Leadership. Women make up more than half of college graduates and half of the labor force. But we're still not represented at the upper levels. We need equal representation.

How can our branch contribute to these goals? Of course, just being a member is a contribution. Fundraising to support scholarships, STEM programs, and AAUW research has a wide impact on women being able to finance higher education, consider higher paying careers in technology, and influence policy makers and legislators. Participating in our Pay Equity Day brings awareness to those locally about these issues as well. As you reflect on these priorities, how are you moved to further the conversation? Would you like to lead a fundraiser? Write a letter to the newspaper, a state representative or U.S. Senator? Host a pay equity event? Share the AAUW research with the school system to influence local education offerings? No matter the action, AAUW provides the information, and the Branch will support you. (continued page 2)

Upcoming Events

- *Orders for mums due Aug 15 (form attached)*
- *Flower pick up, September 13, Genevieve home*
- *Novel Approach, Sept. 16 at 1pm. ZOOM or F2F*
- *Lunch gathering, Sept 19, noon, Panera, N. Meacham*
- *Speaker & Discussion, Sept 19 7pm ZOOM*
- *Celebrating Women, Sept. 30 1pm, ZOOM*
- *General meeting & program, Oct. 16 6:30pm*
- *Program, Nov. 14, evening*
- *Brunch, Dec. 7*
- *Attachments: Novel Approach list; Flower order form*

Program: September Lunch & Evening



Let's have lunch at Panera (830 N Meacham Road) at noon on **Thursday, September 19** to catch up with each other and kick off our branch programs for 24/25. Hopefully the weather will cooperate as it has the past few years for a lovely get together on the patio.

The same day at 7:00 - 8:00 pm is our first general meeting via Zoom through Harper College, 10 Notable Women Artists presented by Jennifer Scavone



Jennifer will talk about some artists we already know of - Kahlo, O'Keefe, Grandma Moses. Others are less familiar - Gentileschi, Leyster, Albers - and the Guerilla Girls. We will hear about the fascinating lives of these and other groundbreaking women artists.

Note: We will be joined by members of the Elgin AAUW branch for the presentation and discussion following. A Zoom link will be sent at a later date for the presentation and another Zoom link for the discussion. The collaboration with the Elgin branch will be a great opportunity to meet some of our AAUW neighbors.
Lynn & Mary

President's Message (continued)

This program year is stacking up to be a really good one. Lynn and Mary have pulled together some fascinating programs. I will let them tell you all about it. Judy and Sue continue to lead our flower and Jewel fundraisers. The mum orders are due soon as is our first Jewel gift card order. Peg and Kathy are working on Celebrating Women content. Fran has done a great job organizing Novel Approach this year. (I am already diving into the list.) Barb's books were audited and were in great order at the time of the summer audit thanks to all of her ongoing efforts. Ken is engaged in following the policy issues and keeping us up to date. He has taken on another position as well. He is the co-chair on policy at State! We couldn't have a better person in that position.

Thank you to everyone's contributions, we will be furthering the priorities of this organization. Genevieve

Super-Sized Fall Mum Sale, Judy Stewart



Once again, our grower, Grassmid Greenhouse, is offering their fabulous large mum plants in 12 inch pots for us. They come in dark red, yellow, orange (bronze), purple, and white. The mums are \$18.50 each; or \$17.50 each, if you buy 3 or more. A copy of the order sheet is attached. Money earned will be used for our educational fund.

Orders and checks are due to Judy Lewis at 1640 Brittany Lane, Hoffman estates, IL 60192 by August 15th. Please make your check out to Schaumburg AAUW and keep a copy of your order to bring on pick-up day.

Pick-up day is on Friday, September 13th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Genevieve's house, 208 West Beech Drive in Schaumburg.

October General Meeting & Program, Mary & Lynn

In October, we will meet with State Senator Laura Murphy. Senator Murphy's district, which is the 28th district includes parts of Schaumburg and then east to Park Ridge. She will be sharing with us new business in the Senate and the House of Illinois. It is often difficult to keep up with the business of the Illinois legislature because it is not covered well in the press, so she will bring us up-to-date on all the happenings in the legislature. We will meet with her on October 16 from seven until eight. There will be a short business meeting before. Zoom meetings.

Public Policy, Ken

President Biden has had one of the most successful terms of any President relative to the passage of important legislation. His decision to withdraw from the presidential race and the subsequent emergence of Vice President Harris as the presumptive nominee has brought a new energy to the campaign. The fact that VP Harris could be our first female, first Southeast Asian and second Black American elected President is historic. While we are disturbed by the negative campaigning that is certain to come, we look forward to the coming campaign.

Elections are always important, but this one seems more critical than most for our future. There are sharp differences between the parties in their positions relative to DEI, reproductive health care, education and many other issues. It will be important for AAUW members to be knowledgeable and involved in the process.

We have an excellent resource from National. The [AAUW Action Fund](#) advances equity for women and girls through member activism and voter mobilization. It includes resources that will be updated as the election season progresses in the following areas.

- Voter Issue Guide
- Head to Head Voter Guides
- Congressional Voting Record
- How to Vote
- Become a Two-Minute Activist

Looking at Washington DC and Springfield legislative activity will be at a low level in the coming weeks. Congress is on their August recess and return September 9. There should be a flurry of activity when they return as all 12 Federal Budgets remain to be approved as well as the Farm Bill to includes feeding programs like WIC and SNAP. In Illinois the Assembly will be back for Veto Session beginning November 12.

There are many concerns, but one that we have talked about is the status of the new Title IX regulations that are designed to prevent sex-based discrimination in schools. As a result of lawsuits, enforcement of the new rules is now blocked in 21 states and along with hundreds of colleges and universities nationwide. It remains to be seen how this works out, but the elections are sure to have an impact.

One final note. I was appointed to the IL AAUW state board to serve as Co-chair of IL AAUW Public Policy along with Karen Kortsch of the Waukegan branch. We will be working to keep members across the state informed and active in the coming year.

Jewel Gift Card Fundraiser

Our summer is certainly going by quickly. I hope that it has been and continues to be a safe, enjoyable one for you. As we go into the month of August, it is almost time for our first Jewel Gift Card Fundraiser for the 2024-2025 branch year.

I would like to place our gift card order on **Monday, August 12th**. If you would like to be included in this order, please let me know the denominations that you would like to purchase. Amounts can be \$5 to \$250 per gift card.

Please send your payment to Barb. If paying by check, please make it payable to Schaumburg Area AAUW.

Thanks again for your continued support of this fundraiser. Every card purchase is important and very much appreciated.

Sue

The Jane Addams Branch invites you to ***"Truth, Trust, and Turnout: Navigating Elections, Civic Engagement, and Disinformation."***

Dr. Suzanne Chod, Professor of Political Science at North Central College in Naperville, will explore the relationship between political trust, polarization, and disinformation and its effects on elections and democracy. Specifically, she will offer details on the calculated use of disinformation to divide us further and erode democratic norms. Dr. Chod will also discuss how to spot and combat disinformation in the current election cycle and beyond.

All AAUW members and guests are invited to this Jane Addams branch Zoom program on **Tuesday, Sept. 17, at 7 pm**. Please register in advance. See July Connections or Peg's note in your email to register.

Editors Note: Dr. Chod spoke at the AAUWIL State Convention; she was a great speaker.

Celebrating Women: Fall Meetings

Celebrating the work, energy, power and artistry of women will continue for our branch in 2024 - 2025. In September, we plan to do a deep dive into our current Vice-President Kamala Harris, who is now the Democratic presumptive nominee for US President. More details to follow but mark your calendar, **Monday, September 30th** at 1pm as we zoom together.

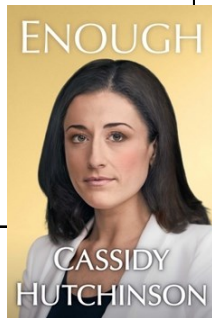
Co-chairs: Kathy Sickelsteel and Peg Gallagher

Novel Approach....*I hope everybody is having a wonderful summer. Our novel group will start back on Monday, September 16, at 1 o'clock pm. We will be meeting at Janet's house in person or on zoom and we will be discussing the book Enough by Cassidy Hutchinson. I hope to see some of you in person. Please let Janet know if you will be attending. Fran*

Enough by Cassidy Huchinson
September 16 at 1PM

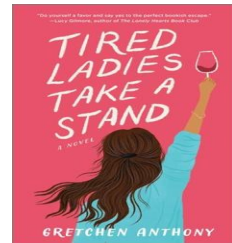
Cassidy Hutchison worked in the White House as special assistant to President Donald Trump, and his Chief of Staff, Mark Meadows. She came forward to become a pivotal witness in the House January 6 investigations. This is her memoir.

Please join us at Janet's on September 18 at 1 PM to discuss the book. Zoom will be available. Janetsimmons2748@gmail.com
 Janet

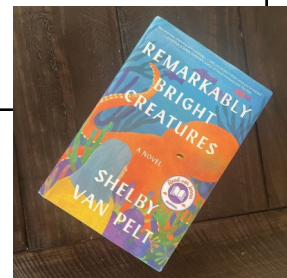


Other Fall Books:

Tired Ladies Take a Stand
 by Gretchen Anthony
October 14 at 1PM



Remarkably Bright Creatures
 by Shelby Van Pelt
November 11 at 1PM



Save the Dates for Fall Schaumburg Area AAUW Programs:

- September 19 Program (10 Notable Women Artists)
- October 16 General meeting & Program (State Senator Laura Murphy)
- November 14 Program (Important Women of the Columbian Exposition)
- December 7 Winter Brunch (tbd)

Novel Approach Booklist 2024-2025

Novel Group Booklist

Date	Title & Author	Discussion Leader
Sept. 16	Enough by Cassidy Hutchinson{NF}	Janet Hybrid/ Zoom
Oct. 14	Tired Ladies Take A Stand by Gretchen Anthony{F}	Barb Hybrid/Zoom
Nov. 11	Remarkable Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt{F}	Fran Hybrid/Zoom
2025		
Jan 20	The Women by Kristin Hannah{F}	Judy/Zoom
Feb 17	The Dinner by Herman Koch{F}	Genevieve/Zoom
March 17	The Ride of her Life by Elizabeth Letts{N}	Kathy /Zoom
April 21	Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom by Llyon Woo {B}	Peg/Zoom
May 19	Lady Tan's circle of Women by Lisa See{F}	Sue Hybrid/Z
June 9	TBA	

Spectacular Super-Sized Mums

- Celebrate Fall in style with Schaumburg AAUW.
- Mums make beautiful gifts for you, your family, and friends and raise money for scholarships.
- Send checks made out to Schaumburg AAUW with your order to Judy Lewis at 1640 Brittany Lane Hoffman Estates, IL 60192 by Aug.15th.
- Pick up is on Friday, September 13th from 11:00a-1:00p & 5:00p-7:00p . At Genevieve’s house, 208 West Beech Drive, Schaumburg.
- Phone: 847-513-3097 or 630-415-6543.

Our grower, Grassmid Greenhouse, is returning to offer their fabulous mum plants again. This beautiful mum arrives in a twelve inch pot. The price has been raised slightly due to an increase by the grower. The mums are \$18.50 each; or \$17.50 each, if you buy 3 or more. Orders and checks are due to Judy Lewis at 1640 Brittany Lane, Hoffman Estates, IL 60192 by August 15th. Please make your check out to Schaumburg AAUW.

These gorgeous mums are guaranteed to be healthy when you pick them up. They can be displayed in sun or part shade. Although not guaranteed to come back, some of them have in the past. Periodic watering will be necessary. The colors and sizes remain the same.

Send your order form and check made out to Schaumburg AAUW to Judy Lewis. Keep a copy for yourselves.

Plant Color Number of Total Cost

Dark Red

Yellow

Orange

Purple

White

Total Total cost



Deliveries are available – Check here if you would like yours delivered _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ **EMAIL ADDRESS** _____

Thank you for your support. Genevieve, Judy L., and Judy Stewart