

# You're invited!

**Annual Luncheon—Saturday, February 14**

**Pearl Gannon, Miss Wheelchair Illinois**

**PROGRAM**

**No program  
in January.**

**When:** Sat, Feb 14, 11:30am

**Where :** Lexington Square—555 Foxworth, Lombard

**Meal Choices:** Grilled Salmon with Lemon Sauce, Roast Top Sirloin of Beef, Au Jus, or Chicken Kiev. The meal includes soup, salad, dessert, coffee, soft drinks, and wine. If anyone has dietary issues, a vegetarian meal will be available.

**Price:** \$22

Our speaker is Pearl Gannon--- Miss Wheelchair of Illinois 2014. She is a former Lombard resident.

Questions? Sandy Henry (630-495-3978)

*See RSVP form on last page.*

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW Funds is the world's largest source of funding exclusively for graduate women. The Funds also work to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.



## Remembering Bebe Mosillo

August 1, 1937 - December 4, 2014

*Read some of our memories inside*





## In Memoriam—Bebe Mosillo

Always eager to promote science, Bebe showed me how to make a compass using a magnet, needle, and water. She also gave me many items (such as a popular tuning fork) to use at the elementary school Science Night. I marveled at Bebe's engineering mind.

She found humor in nearly any situation and kept me smiling. She frankly admitted she'd read the end of the mystery first—allowing her to pick out clues to the criminal's identity and to know that the protagonist survived. And, she loved wolves! *Leslie Sulla*

Bebe said what she said and said what she meant, which is what I adore about her...she never seemed to shy away from being the one to talk about the elephant in the room...and I think we all cheered (and sometimes breathed a sigh of relief) when she did so. *Karla Bullett*

Bebe has been a blessing to all who knew her—her energy, cheerfulness and clever abilities were a delightful quality. She will be missed by all of us. *Marilyn Gustafson*

I considered Bebe a friend and admired her greatly. Twice, on behalf of the branch nominating committee, I asked her to be branch president. She replied, "Oh Kathy, I don't do that. I just do little things." She did so many "little" things that we will need several of us to replace her. I loved serving on the scholarship committee with her. She would sit and listen to the rest of us talk and then put it all in perspective. To say I will miss her is an understatement. *Kathy Brenniman*

We had Bebe in the bookstore on Saturday, October 11th for our Science Triumphs event. At first, she was reluctant to come and speak because she didn't think she had anything valuable to say. She spoke on the evolution of telephones, stringing yarn between cans and having kids talk to each other, creating a network of "phones" with the "main operator switchboard". She also brought along her "purse telephone".....a relic from the 70's that was a red "patent leather" purse with a phone built in.....dial on the front and handset on the top. She told us it used to work but that years in her damp basement had gummed up the works. When a quick internet search yielded another such purse valued at \$300, she vowed to go home and try to clean it up and get it working. She was knowledgeable, warm and funny and added so much to that day. The kids loved her, of course!

Carolyn, the owner of the bookstore, talks about how parents tend to celebrate the "firsts" of their children but we never know when something is going to be the "last". That day of our science event was the last time I saw Bebe. I am so grateful to have that memory and glad that I followed up with an email telling her how much we appreciated her. She was one of those people whose actions ripple through the lives of others, just as each of you creates ripples as well, impacting the lives of others more than you may know. I so enjoy being a part of mystery buffs and love you all for your curiosity, sense of humor, broad knowledge base, ability to tell a good story, and the support you have shown me over the past few years as I've struggled through very difficult circumstances. Thank you. *Lisa Clark*

I didn't know Bebe well, but she just seemed like such a presence to me, such a vibrant person. I never got a chance to work directly with her, but would have liked to. When I was new in the branch and was considering a board position, Bebe said to me, "If you'd like to know which co-chairs are good to work with, just ask me. I'm keeping a list!" I don't think I took her up on it, but what that said to me was Bebe took AAUW seriously enough to want to see volunteers doing a good job and enjoying doing it. There were several times she helped me with something, like bringing signs for the annual luncheon and putting them out at the venue. I remember her coming to me after I accepted the nomination for Program Co-Chair. She offered a piece of advice. Bebe suggested I always keep a "just in case" program activity in the trunk of my car, just in case a speaker did not show up as planned. She said that had saved her in the past. What a great idea! She also offered to send me (and she did) copies of past programs from her archive of past yearbooks. It was interesting and helpful to see what programs the branch had before I was a member. Thank you, Bebe! I will miss you. *Diane Dassow*

There are so many memories of Bebe that stand out to me, but any one of them would include her quick response of offering to help in any way she could. Whether it was related to AAUW activities or a personal situation, you always knew she would be there with her usual good humor and generous spirit. We will all miss her because she is so special to so many of us. *Janet Miller*

I joined the Lombard branch of AAUW in 1978. Two of the first women who welcomed me were Bebe Mosillo and Anita Dickson. Eventually I came to know more wonderful AAUW members, but Bebe and I bonded over our love of reading mystery stories. We always enjoyed comparing notes on our favorite books and authors. Over the next few years, I had several positions on the board, and grew to know Bebe better from the "Chicken Coop" Book Sale Years. Bebe and I talked about starting a Mystery Book Interest Group. We presented our idea to the Board. There was hesitation, since the idea of a Mystery Group seemed too "frivolous", and not "intellectual" enough. Eventually the idea was accepted. Our early members included Lois Hockman, Billie Jean Shapotkin and Virginia Haldeman. Soon after we began, I found out I was pregnant with twins (at age 39). I came for a mystery meeting and Bebe had planned an impromptu baby shower. There were many "twin" items, including Doublemint gum. Needless to say, life was different with three active little girls. My board activity slowed down, especially when I went back to working full time, but I always came to Mystery meetings. Thirty years later, I called Bebe to tell her that my husband was in the hospital, and that I couldn't make the Mystery meeting. She told me I must come. I arrived late, and found that Bebe and the other wonderful Mystery ladies had planned a celebration of my recent retirement. This was how Bebe was. She was thoughtful, kind and supremely helpful. She was a wonderful listener, and was always eager to help, and sympathetic but honest in her observations.

Here are some examples of Bebe's personal philosophy that I recall frequently: "I am too old to spend time with people I don't like." "I can decide if I like a person by asking myself if I would want them as a next door neighbor." "Why should I pay restaurant prices for pasta when I can make a whole pot of spaghetti for a dollar." (The same was true for restaurant eggs.) "I don't like being the boss, I like fixing things and solving problems." "You have to remember that these ladies are all strong leaders. That's what we want in AAUW, but sometimes they can be a challenge to work with." Bebe died while we were returning from our latest trip to Arizona visiting our three daughters. I had so much to tell her about our trip. We shopped at The Poisoned Pen Mystery Bookstore in Scottsdale. I found two newer books by Arizona author Spencer Quinn. Bebe loved his books narrated by "Chet the Dog." I was going to share them with her. Bebe didn't really enjoy live hippos, mainly because they drooled a lot. She did nevertheless contribute to my collection, including some unique and funny ones. So many things remind of Bebe: Mystery Group meetings, reading the Chet books, hanging my hippo ornaments on the tree, and anything about AAUW. I sincerely hope Bebe knew how important she was to me and to all of us. I loved her dearly and will miss her always. *Mary Ann Schlacks*

*So many books, so little time.* Bebe was a champion at reading books. I love reading fiction, but choosing the next title to read always leaves me feeling confused and anxious. There are so many good books to read, and more published every year. The AAUW book clubs offered me a solution: read what's chosen by the group. And I love my LitWits book group. But the Lombard branch also offered me a new reading lure: mystery fiction. This was a literary genre that had eluded me. Now I have expert mystery readers recommend my mystery choices. These women are an insightful marvel to me. They have been reading mysteries as a book group for thirty-plus years. Bebe was a founding member of the Mystery Buffs book group.

I remember the night that she talked about how she would choose her next books to read. She went to the library and simply selected a length of books arranged alphabetically on the shelf. To put it bluntly, Bebe blew my mind that evening. How perfect! A stack of books from which you would read an author, perhaps dislike the story, and return those books to the library unread and with no harm, or you might find a fabulous story by an author you would have never known. To me, Bebe's method of book selection was exquisite logic. But I never actually tested her method. There were enough book group selections to keep me busy reading. The week Bebe died, I went to the Lisle Library and walked up to the end of the mystery fiction shelves, reached down and put between my hands nine or ten mystery novels by authors whose names begin with the letter "Z." I'm reading those books right now with Bebe in mind. I'll work backward through the alphabet and maybe, just maybe, I'll meet Bebe again somewhere in the middle. *Kathryn Tecza*

Bebe...What can I say? That my heart is broken goes without saying, and that I don't know how I'll continue without her guidance, advice, and, most of all, her friendship.

One of the first things I did when I joined the Lombard Branch was to join Mystery Buffs, which had been started by Bebe and Mary Ann Schlacks several years earlier. I was already a huge mystery fan, so this was right up my alley. This was in 1987, and it remains one of my favorite Branch activities and the members are all close friends.

Bebe, though, was special...she was always **there**. No matter what was needed, you could count on Bebe to have your back. I can't tell you how often she has rescued me from one disaster or another...filling in as a hostess, making phone calls, delivering things to members, to say nothing of advice, sympathy, and a shoulder to cry on.

It's been a month, and I still find it difficult to believe that she is gone. How will we do the book sale without her maps and her energy? Who will do next year's yearbook? Who will make me laugh instead of cry when I'm down? I deeply appreciate all of you who have already stepped up to fill some of the gaps. She leaves very big shoes! *Barb Kozi*

## Branch Calendar—January 2015

Mon, Jan. 12 7 pm	<b>Lit Wits</b> <u>The President's Hat</u> by Antoine Laurain	Anyways Restaurant 5 E Roosevelt, Oakbrook Terrace
Fri, Jan. 16 1 pm	<b>Literature</b> <u>One Summer: America 1927</u> by Bill Bryson	Loretta's
Mon, Jan. 19 7 pm	<b>Board Meeting</b>	COP Center—Yorktown
Tues, Jan. 20 1 pm	<b>Life Writing</b>	Lexington 555 Foxworth, Lombard
Thurs, Jan. 22 7 pm	<b>Mystery Buffs</b> Books by Charles Todd (First book: <u>A Test of Wills</u> )	Barb K's

No general program in January.  
See you at our February 14 luncheon!



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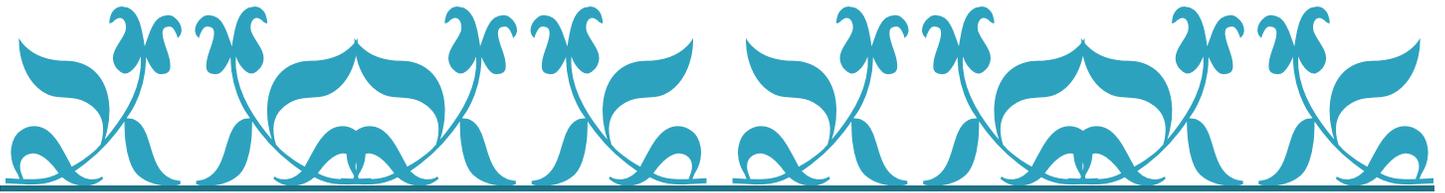
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# *Lombard AAUW Annual Luncheon*

**Saturday, February 14**

**11:30am**

*Pearl Gannon, Miss Wheelchair Illinois*

**Lexington Square  
555 Foxworth Blvd  
Lombard**

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Guests are welcome to our luncheon!

Please send this portion to Sandy Henry with \$22 (per meal) made payable to *Lombard Area AAUW*.

**Sandy Henry**

**2S601 Lloyd Ave, Lombard 60148**

> Name: \_\_\_\_\_

> Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

> Meal choice (see descriptions on page 1):

Salmon       Beef       Chicken       Vegetarian

