

Women Heroes of WW II

Exploring the untold stories of heroic women from the US and Europe in WWII

Course #	20SWH
Format:	Seminar
Moderator(s):	Joan Wofford
Date and Time:	Tuesday morning, 9:30-11:30 10 weeks, starting Feb. 25, 2020
Location:	Lathrop Northampton Community Room
Maximum number of participants:	16
Auditors accepted:	Yes, up to 2

Purpose: The purpose of the seminar is to identify and describe the roles played by some women in World War Two--roles which have not received the sort of attention one would expect of such heroism. We will also seek common themes behind their heroism.

Description: Partly because many were spies whose accomplishments were secret and not supposed to be celebrated and partly because they were females operating unconventionally in a dangerous role, many of the exploits of these extraordinary women have gone unexplored except in works directed toward young women. This seminar will seek to identify and then explore and compare their stories. Additionally, it will explore the reasons for the curious focus on young readers as opposed to an adult audience.

Role of participants: Participants will be asked to review the available literature and select a female hero whose story they will present. They will also seek common themes about reasons for their extraordinary heroism.

Resources: We will use as a reference *Women Heroes of World War II* by Kathryn J. Atwood, Chicago Review Press, 2001, but there is no reason for everyone to buy it. A few copies (which I will supply) should be sufficient. A reading list will be supplied in the seminar together with sample copies of the most important volumes.

About the Moderator: Joan Wofford has moderated 2 seminars a year for the past 12 years on a wide range of topics.