

## **GUIDELINES & QUESTIONS FOR WHEATON BOOK CLUB**

### **Reading preferences:**

- What types of books will we read.?
- Should we focus on specific topics, or genres?
- Books' relevant to League activities-necessary, or not?

### **Selection process:**

- How will we choose which books to read?
- Person recommending book has to have read it in order to consider it for the book club.
- Where/how will we get the books?
- Will books be chosen by vote of those at meeting?
- How will votes work: simple majority. hostess gets to pick the book. volunteer member-leader gets to pick
- How far ahead will we plan.

### **General:**

- Allow a minimum of one month to read the book
- Aim for 8-12 regular participants?

### **Meeting logistics**

- Where will we meet? Member home, library room, other
- Who is willing to host?
- Will we meet at one place, or rotate locations.
- How often? Even months/odd months, every 3 months?
- How long will meetings last?
- Will refreshments be provided, and by whom?
- Time structure for the meeting: Socialize for ½ hour, then discuss for 1 to 1.5 hours?
- What days and times for the meetings?

### **Discussion ideas and Facilitating Discussions:**

- How will each discussion be lead?
- How will we designate a leader?
- Who is responsible for providing author information and giving an introduction to the group's discussion?
- Each person should formulate three questions and/or three specific passages to discuss
- Discuss language, narrative voice, character development, plot development, author's vision/intent, mood and setting.
- Read passages out loud to hear the voices and the language; this can be illuminating.
- Formulate questions that do not have 'yes' or 'no' answers. Accumulate possible answers to questions concerning characters' behavior motivation.
- Are there discussion ground rules?
- Can members who haven't read the book attend?
- Will guest speakers be invited?

### **Book availability:**

- Is it in paperback?
- How many local (DuPage) library copies are available,
- How much is it on-Amazon?

### **Should we do a book exchange once a year?**