



# The Apple Branch

American Association of University Women

Appleton, Wisconsin

Volume 34, Number 6 December 2019



## APPLETON (WI) BRANCH

Nov 26	Social Issues Group
Dec 2	Second Choice Books
Dec 4	Nominating Committee
Dec 5	Travel Group—Pabst Mansion
Dec 7	AAUW Holiday Brunch
Dec 11	Public Policy Committee
Dec 12	Evening Books
Dec 13	Tech Savvy Planning Meeting
Dec 14	Centennial Celebration Brunch
Dec 17	New Member Tea
Dec 18	Afternoon Books Lunch
Jan 6	Second Choice Books
Jan 10	Tech Savvy Planning Meeting

*“When we do the best we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another.” – Helen Keller*

It is the book sale that can slash stereotypes that we are all prone to have. So “not judging a book by its cover” takes on even deeper meaning. The young man came in and stayed for a long time on that first day. He had a tee shirt that had some sort of skull type logo on it and the baggy pants that folks love to comment on. I lost track of him with all that day’s chaos...only to see him again later in the day when the crowd thinned out. *He must be looking for graphic novels or fantasy or some such, I thought.* Then I had a moment to talk with him. He collects the classics. He was looking for *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne. And as we hunted in various sections... we landed in Mary Ditter’s carefully tended area. And then he talked about the books he owns and has read...from Dickens to Melville, from Hawthorne to Tolstoy. This English major was thrilled to talk with him about these...and he was thrilled to be able to get more for his collection for a buck apiece. A miracle.

The effort of our branch for the book sale does bring about a miracle. When we picture the hot summer in the basement of Atlas sorting, the challenges we faced and the solutions we came up with on that infamous moving day, the boxes lifted and lugged, the carts pushed and a truck dented (ouch)...then picture how the room looked on opening day. A miracle.

But even more than that...the friendships that grow while working together, the new members that show up and work tirelessly, the community that comes and supports us, the gift of literacy to those who can only afford to spend a dollar on a book. A miracle.

I know there are great things yet to come with our AAUW branch because we are all doing our best. Whether it is advocacy through committee work, or Tech Savvy, or branch meetings, or being a 2 minute activist, or interest groups, or with us in spirit only...members are doing their best. Thank you, thank you. You are the miracle.

Becky O’Connor, President  
[bandboc@gmail.com](mailto:bandboc@gmail.com)

# AAUW : National Focus

As the 2020 presidential campaign gets underway, the power of women is on full display.

Maybe it's that there are so many women in the race — the largest number in history — or because the candidates are eager to earn our support. Whatever the reason, the issues that matter most to us are *finally* getting attention.

As a non-partisan organization, AAUW doesn't endorse specific candidates. But that doesn't mean we're not advocates for the policies that matter most to us. Indeed, we have a long history of championing policies that advance equality for women in education and the workplace.

So, in the months ahead, AAUW will be watching closely to see where candidates stand on these five issues:

**Equal Pay for Equal Work.** To close the stubborn wage gap, we need leaders who will pass the federal [Paycheck Fairness Act](#) and advocate for laws and policies that ensure women are not discriminated against at work.

**Investing in Education.** Education is the pathway for women and girls, but too many of our schools are falling short. We need to raise teacher pay, invest in [STEM education](#), protect [Title IX](#) and make education a top national priority.

**Reducing Student Debt.** Women hold two-thirds of the nation's \$1.46 trillion [educational debt](#). Policymakers should protect grant programs, champion tuition- and debt-free options and expand loan forgiveness programs.

**Strengthening Social Security.** Because of lower wages and time off from work, women collect about \$320 a month less than men do in Social Security benefits. Our lawmakers need to [address the retirement wage gap](#) women face.

**Implementing Paid Leave.** The U.S. is the only developed country without paid family and sick leave. Let's [adopt policies](#) to give workers paid time off for illness and caregiving.

You know how much is at stake in the next election. So, please, do what you've done in the past: Tune in, get involved, make your voices heard — and ensure that we harness the power of women to drive the national agenda.

With gratitude for all you do to guarantee a brighter future for women and girls,



Kimberly Churches  
Chief Executive Officer



## AAUW : Local Focus—What YOU Can Do

Sign up for Two Minute Activist Mobile alerts at

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/two-minute-activist-mobile/>

## Program News

# Holiday Brunch December 7, 2019

Reservations are now closed. We look forward to seeing you the morning of December 7th. It's not too late to donate items for our bag drawing or auctions! Please see the details below!



Our Holiday Brunch brings us together with wonderful friends, good food and fundraising!

Fundraising includes a silent auction, a live auction, and a bag drawing. These funds help defray costs for AAUW Conventions and Tech Savvy expenses. Members are asked to contribute items for the auctions and bag drawings. These contributions are voluntary!



**Live Auction Ideas:** Tickets to an event, stays in a hotel, new or slightly used furniture, special children's toys, autographed books, art items, large baskets, and restaurant gift certificates.



**Silent Auction Ideas:** Theme baskets of all types, jewelry, handmade items, services such as cooking or baking for others, and decorative items.



**Bag Drawing Ideas:** Bakery items, canned food, candy, ornaments, and notecards.

Don't be limited by the ideas list! Think about what you might wish to receive or give as a gift to a special friend.

Please plan to get your contributions to Joan Moeschberger by December 1st. The sooner the better!

Contribution options include the following:

Drop off items at Joan's home (312 E. Timberline Drive in north Appleton).

Give your items to Joan at the November 12th Branch Meeting

Call Joan at 209-7488 or email at [joanemoe@gmail.com](mailto:joanemoe@gmail.com) and she will pick up your item.



**Please Save the Date!**

**Mark your 2020 calendar for Thursday, January 16th**

**Our program will be *Introduction to Race Equity*, presented by the dynamic Tracey Robertson of FIT Oshkosh.**

**Plan now to join us at the Menasha (Elisha D. Smith) Public Library, 440 First Street in Menasha.**

**We will gather at 5:45 and our program will begin at 6:00.**



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### *New Member Holiday Open House*

Have some fun and get to know other new members!

When - Tuesday, December 17, 2019

Open House from 2:00 to 4:00

Where – JaneAnne McCabe’s home

W6419 Sonny Drive #10, Menasha

A BELIEVE sign is in front

RSVP: 382-0031 or email [jamforever2@yahoo.com](mailto:jamforever2@yahoo.com)

Dress – Ugly sweaters **may** be worn. A prize will be awarded.

*Hope to see you there!*

Nancy Havens,  
Membership VP





## 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Kick-Off Brunch

Join us for the 19th Amendment Centennial Kick-Off Brunch presented by the Fox Valley 19th Amendment Centennial Coalition

**Saturday December 14, 2019, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Kimberly-Clark Theater @ Fox Cities Performing Arts Center

400 W. College Ave., Appleton, WI

*Registration opens at 9:30; Program begins at 10:30*

*Please enter at the Valet entrance on Division St.*

### Program Highlights

Presentation of Making Democracy Work Awards

Presentation of Lifetime Achievement Award to Mary Ann Rossi

**Keynote Speaker – Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner, Ph.D.**

***“The Influence of Indigenous Women on Early Women Suffragists”***

Cost: \$5.00 per person

Brunch Buffet: Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, American Fries, Mini-muffins, Scones, Fresh Cut Fruit, Coffee & Juice

**Registration Deadline: Thursday, December 5th, 2019**

Registration available online at [www.lwvappleton.org](http://www.lwvappleton.org) or - send check payable to **League of Women Voters of Appleton** with registration form below to:

Irene Strohbeen, W6400 Firelane 8, Menasha, WI 54952

Questions: [ibstrohbeen@new.rr.com](mailto:ibstrohbeen@new.rr.com); 920-915-1209

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$5.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION FOR THE CENTENNIAL COALITION EFFORTS: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

AAUW Appleton is a member of the Fox Valley 19th Amendment Centennial Coalition.





IT'S A WRAP!

The 2019 Book Sale is in the books. Our sale was a huge success! We took in a record \$29,044.63. After expenses we will be able to award \$27,000 in scholarships from book sale profits. We did have some challenges in getting the books from the Atlas to the mall and had many more books than space. Despite this the actual sale went very smoothly. We appreciate all of the time and effort made by so many of our branch members before and during the sale weekends. We have an amazing branch!

If you have any suggestions for the 2020 sale, please e-mail your thoughts to one of the book sale chairs by December 1. We would love to hear from you!

Thank you for all of your support for our 2019 sale.



Found at the book sale - Christopher & Banks black sweater, size large. If this is yours, contact Judy Goodnight at [judy@gwd.org](mailto:judy@gwd.org) to claim it.



#### FOX VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE FOUNDATION DONOR APPRECIATION EVENT

Vicki Mulder and I represented AAUW recently by attending the FVTC Foundation Donor Appreciation Event on Thursday evening, November 7th. It was an interesting, informative and fulfilling experience with the members of the Foundation making it a point to talk with us and thank AAUW for our donation to FVTC.

We had free chair massages provided by students of the "Therapeutic massage" program and a delicious dinner prepared by the "Culinary Arts" and served by the "Hospitality Management" students.

After brief remarks by foundation members we participated in an impressive tour of the "Dental Hygiene" and "Triology Spa" (New cosmetology & esthetician programs of study).

We were amazed to learn about the variety of new programs of study and apprenticeships offered by the FVTC and by the students' dedication to their areas of study. The Health Science program for Dental Hygiene has a 2-3 year waiting list, with most of the other programs of study filling up quickly.

Money donated to FVTC by AAUW make a dramatic impact on communities by providing funds for many students to enter and complete their selected programs of study and they are very appreciative.

Let me know if you have any questions about this information. Thank you.

Kathleen McDonald



**Coming in 2020: A multi-state Convention!**

**Join us in East Moline, Illinois  
June 18-20, 2020**

**Confirmed speakers:**

**Kim Churches, Kendra Davis, Lisa Maatz, Denise Lieberman**

Pre-convention activities planned for June 17  
Hyatt Place, East Moline, IL (A new hotel overlooking the Mississippi River)



**2020 AAUW Wisconsin State Convention**

**April 17-18, 2020**

**Radisson Hotel La Crosse**

**200 Second Street S., 200 Harborview Plaza, La Crosse, WI, 54601**

**(608) 784-6680**

Go to <https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/files/2019/09/2020-state-convention-plan-July-2019.pdf>  
for more state convention information.

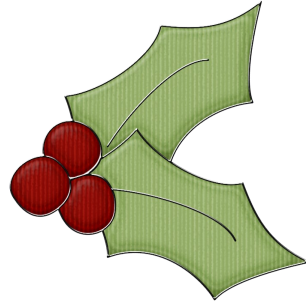
## AFTERNOON LITERATURE

**Annual Holiday Lunch at Heckrodt Nature Center**  
1305 Plank Road, Menasha

Wednesday, December 18th 11:30 AM

Book: ***Truck - A Love Story*** by Michael Perry

At the November book group you had an opportunity to sign up for the December 18 luncheon. If you did not attend one of the November book groups let Mary Grace know if you plan to join us in December. Contact her either by phone: 734-6379 or e-mail: [mcggs@aol.com](mailto:mcggs@aol.com) no later than December 16. If you wish to bring a salad, side dish, or dessert let Mary know when you RSVP. Not everyone needs to bring food!  
See you on the 18th!



BETWEEN THE  
*pages*  
OF A  
*book*  
IS A LOVELY PLACE TO BE

## SECOND CHOICE BOOK TALK AND LUNCH

We are reading ***Mr. Dickens and His Carol: A Novel*** by Samantha Silva and meeting at Judy Goodnight's, 1406 Fieldstone Court, Neenah, Monday, December 2nd at noon. Bring your own lunch and enjoy casual discussion of the book.  
**Space is limited so RSVPs are a must!** Call Judy at 729-9553 or email [judy@gwd.org](mailto:judy@gwd.org).

Monday, January 6th will be our next book talk.

The book will be ***Professor Chandra Follows His Bliss*** by Rajeev Balasubramanyam.



## EVENING LITERATURE

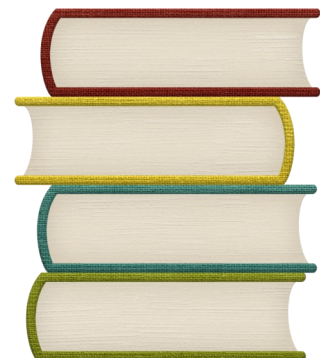
Date & Time: 6:30 pm on Thursday, December 12th

December book: ***The Story of Arthur Truluv***

Author: Elizabeth Berg

Host: Joan Schneider, 4723 Periwinkle Ct., Appleton

RSVP: [joandschneider@gmail.com](mailto:joandschneider@gmail.com) or 734-2009 by December 5th.





## Social Issues Study Group

Date and Time: Tuesday morning, November 26th 10:00 am

Host: Linda Buck, N7916 State Park Road, Sherwood

RSVP: Email buck1108@yahoo.com or call 213-6371.

Assignment:

Finish reading **White Fragility** by Robin DiAngelo

Next book starting in January: **How to Be an Anti-Racist** by Ibram X. Kendi

We're continuing our discussions of Racism in America. If you didn't join us last year, we're more than happy to have you join us now. Contact Judy Goodnight at 729-9553 or judy@gwd.org to get on the group mailing list. More info can be found on our website: <https://appleton-wi.aauw.net/what-we-do/groups/> Scroll down the page to Social Issues.



Saturday, March 14, 2020  
UWO-Fox Cities (1478 Midway Road, Menasha)  
A hands-on STEM workshop for girls in grades 6-9 to inspire girls in STEM careers

December 13th, 9:30 AM:

Next planning meeting at Concordia, 4351 W. College Ave #100,  
Enter from W. Lawrence Street.

Articles for the newsletter will continue to be due by the 15th of the month.

Example: Articles for January are due December 15th.

Send articles to Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org.

Website: <https://appleton-wi.aauw.net/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AAUWAppleton/>

American Mah Jongg is alive and well. If you are interested in playing, and you are currently not receiving the schedule please let Laurie Leonard (734-7455 or [rillal@new.rr.com](mailto:rillal@new.rr.com)) know. If you have never played and would like to learn this would be a good time to begin. Hope to hear from you soon.



## LEGISLATORS EARN GRADES, TOO!

Fox Cities Advocates for Public Education commends the public schools of the Fox Cities for their ongoing tradition of excellence. We also commend the dedicated educators and staff who provide the care and instruction needed for all children to become valued citizens of our communities.

Our public schools connect us to our communities and to each other, and are vital to a democratic society. Therefore, Wisconsin has traditionally prioritized the funding of public schools. Unfortunately, the 2019-21 budget failed to provide essential and much-needed resources for public schools. Fox Cities public school districts continue to face significant challenges: unpredictable and often insufficient state aid; frequently changing and often unfunded state mandates; and growing student needs that require increased investments.

Special education funding is one such area of concern. In this year's budget, the state reimbursement of special education costs was increased to 26% (from 25.3%). The meager increases do not keep pace with inflation, much less address ever-increasing student needs. To fill the shortfall, Fox Cities public school districts must continue to transfer funding from general education to cover these mandated services. "Robbing Peter to pay Paul" is not the way to fund public education.

	Shortfall and the Resulting Transfer of Funds		
	Prior to Budget	2019-20	2020-21
Appleton	\$ 24,769,758	\$ 24,567,904	\$ 23,414,454
Kaukauna	5,309,060	5,267,091	5,027,265
Kimberly	4,922,170	4,878,343	4,627,903
Little Chute	1,815,121	1,797,619	1,697,611
Menasha	6,000,442	5,943,715	5,619,562
Neenah	7,753,405	7,677,835	7,246,009

It is vital that lawmakers work with public school districts to ensure that all students thrive. Creating a complex system of 'accountability' that blames schools for things they cannot control does not result in student success. It is time to hold lawmakers accountable for the one thing they can control: **Their Vote!**

Wisconsin Public Education Network's Legislative Report Cards shine a light on the performances of our lawmakers, the majority of whom did not meet the high expectations required to ensure every child has an equal opportunity to succeed. **Seven out of eight Fox Cities legislators failed to meet expectations.** The report cards can be found at: <http://www.WisconsinNetwork.org/blog/report-cards>.

We expect the best from our students and our educators. We also expect the best from the lawmakers who represent them. We can and must do better for the 36,000 public school students in the Fox Cities.

###

Questions may be directed to:  
Jim Bowman, FCA4PE Coordinator, 920-731-3754  
Marcia Engen, 920-739-7887

[fca4pe@gmail.com](mailto:fca4pe@gmail.com)

<https://sites.google.com/view/fox-cities-advocates-4-pub-ed>

*We are a non-partisan advocacy group that seeks common ground in improving public education in the Fox Cities.*

## MINUTES—NOVEMBER BRANCH MEETING

### AAUW Appleton Branch Meeting, November, 12, 2019, Pillars Resource Center at St. Matthews Church

Welcome and call to order by President Becky O'Connor at 7:00 p.m. The minutes of the October Branch Meeting were published in the November newsletter and stand as published.

**Program** VP Joan Moeschberger: Holiday Brunch plans are coming together. So far, Paulette Laffin has 20 reservations. The deadline is November 20. Cheryl Reissmann has taken more reservations at this meeting and will forward to Paulette. We are asking for auction donations. Joan will pick up or you can drop off at her home. Friday is a planning meeting at her home at 1:00. Anyone is welcome to join this.

**Membership** VP Nancy Havens announced a "Coffee" for new members at JaneAnne McCabe's home on Tuesday, December 17 at 2:00.

**Finance:** October 31 Financial report will be included in the December newsletter.

**Public Policy:** Jacqui Klimaszewski has postcards for members to send to State Representatives and/or Senators regarding Family Medical Leave legislation. Selected books from book sale will be taken to Pillars (Adult and Family facility).

**Tech Savvy:** Jacqui Klimaszewski stated the planning committee met last Friday. We have Keynote Speakers from Lawrence University. Marketing committee has been busy – posters should be out by January meeting. There are still volunteer jobs available for Tech Savvy. The next meeting will be Friday, December 13. Jacqui will be sending out information. NOTE: to help you remember: The date of Tech Savvy is March 14 – also known as "Pi Day".

**Communications** – Judy Goodnight. Newsletter articles are due on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Nominating Committee** – Judy Goodnight. Committee needs two more members. Next meeting will be at Starbucks on West College Avenue at 1:00 pm on December 4th.

**Diversity Committee** (How do we have more diversity in our membership?) – Joan Schneider. The next meeting will be November 23.

**Funds Development** – Betsy Mintern thanked all who helped with the book sale. Over \$29,000 was raised and after expenses left \$27,000 for scholarships. We need to do a better job of sorting next year – throwing out more damaged books.

**State Public Policy update:** Stephanie Malaney. 60 people from across the state attended. Several speakers from other organizations shared similar positions as AAUW. Matt Rothschild from Democracy Campaign shared information on why voting matters. Wisconsin Alliance of Women's Health and Wisconsin Public Education Network speakers highlighted issues that impact women and girls with a focus on Wisconsin legislation.

**District 5 Update** – Judy Goodnight. District 5 consists of 8 branches. Four of the eight were represented. They discussed membership issues, leadership, marketing, and how to collaborate more between branches (travel, etc.)

League of Women Voters and AAUW cohosting the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment **Centennial Kick-Off Brunch** on Saturday, December 14 in the Kimberly-Clark Theater @ Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. Registration deadline is December 5. See LWV website for forms and more information.

**Social Issues** group meets at Linda Buck's on November 26. Discussions of Racism in America.

**Travel** - Kathleen McDonald. Milwaukee Day Tour scheduled for December 5. Lunch at Mader's Restaurant and a private tour of Pabst Mansion. See Branch newsletter for more information.

**Flag Day Parade** – Faye Binsfeld. As part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Celebration, Faye suggested we take part in the Appleton Day parade on June 13. More information will be provided.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by Mary Zanto, Secretary

## Member Outreach

Member Outreach is a way for our AAUW community to stay connected and reach out to members during significant times in their lives.



Laurie Leonard, AAUW member creates beautiful cards for occasions such as:

- ◆ Thinking of you
- ◆ Congratulations
- ◆ Get Well
- ◆ Illness

If you know a member who we should reach out to in this way, please contact JaneAnne McCabe [jamforever02@yahoo.com](mailto:jamforever02@yahoo.com)

### AAUW Appleton Branch Net Assets

10/31/19

#### NORTH SHORE BANK, GENERAL CHECKING #1472

Convention Fund	\$	9,826	
Beacon Fund		206	
General Fund		41,831	
		<hr/>	\$ 51,863

#### NORTH SHORE BANK, SCHOLARSHIP MONEY MKT #1907

Total Assets			6,606
Less: AAUW Nat'l & WI dues payable			<hr/> (201)

NET ASSETS

\$ 58,269

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

AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.



**Pam Ulness**

[pam@ulnesshealth.com](mailto:pam@ulnesshealth.com)

(920) 735-2852  
(800) 386-0876

214 N Superior St  
Appleton, WI 54911

[ulnesshealth.com](http://ulnesshealth.com)

The Apple Branch is a publication of the Appleton, Wisconsin Branch of AAUW, the American Association of University Women.

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