



# The Apple Branch

American Association of University Women

Appleton, Wisconsin

Volume 35, Number 4, October 2020

*“Action is the antidote to despair.” – Joan Baez, American folk singer and activist*



What. The. Heck.

## APPLETON (WI) BRANCH

Oct 1	Second Choice Books
Oct 6	Book Sorting
Oct 8	Evening Literature
Oct 13	Book Sorting
Oct 15	Newsletter Articles Due
Oct 15	Afternoon Books — Thurs.
Oct 15	Branch Meeting
Oct 19	Art Class
Oct 20	Book Sorting
Oct 21	Afternoon Books—Wed.
Oct 27	Book Sorting
Oct 27	Social Issues
Nov 4	Second Choice Books

Could anything more possibly occur in 2020? If this year had been a movie we would have walked out of the theater saying it was entertaining but totally *not* believable. From the coronavirus pandemic to deadly wildfires, mystery drones and murder hornets, an impeachment trial for a president and Kanye hoping to be president, quarantines in place and science questioned, professional sports leading the way for social change, a wall at the border and a wall of moms, our branch’s 84<sup>th</sup> annual book sale dates reexamined and our annual auction online for the first time, and...we still have 3 months to go. A feeling of despair might be lurking if not outright enveloping. With this backdrop of unprecedented (yes, I also am sick of that word) events, can any good possibly happen? Is there a way out of despair? There is. It is **action**.

**Action.** Denouncing and exposing racism after the death of George Floyd, saying the names we should have spoken all along...Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Trayvon Martin, Emmett Till...

**Action.** Reading and educating ourselves...*Just Mercy, The Warmth of Other Suns, The Late Homecomer, How To Be An Anti-Racist*...and thinking honestly and humbly about our own biases.

**Action.** Helping sort books and participating in our online auction, knowing “To educate girls is to reduce poverty.” (Kofi Annan)

**Action.** Writing our representatives about climate change, equal pay and economic equity, paid leave and health care, public education, the Equal Rights Amendment, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

**Action. Going to the AAUW website (aauw.org) and clicking the tab ACTION. Be a two minute activist.**

**Action.** Helping someone else learn how to register, how to apply for an absentee ballot, how to use the *myvote.wi.gov* website, how to be safe at the polls. Share voting information and share your voice on issues so critical to our organization.

**Action. VOTE!**

Mary Church Terrell (1863-1954), who after the age of 80 continued to participate in picket lines protesting segregation, became the first black member of AAUW. When despair starts to creep into my head, I think of her words: *“And so, lifting as we climb, onward and upward we go, struggling and striving, and hoping the buds and blossoms of our desires will burst into glorious fruition ere long.”*

Onward and upward we go, friends!

Becky O’Connor, Past President

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

## Program News

Join us on Zoom for our October meeting!

Our speaker will be Melissa Ludin, formerly with EXPO (Ex-incarcerated People Organizing), now with the Wisconsin chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

As a formerly incarcerated woman, Melissa has an unrelenting passion for criminal justice reform and reentry peer support. Now, some 12 years after her release, she is the ACLU Regional Organizer in the Campaign for Smart Justice. Her efforts are focused on reducing the US jail and prison population by a significant number and combating racial disparities in the criminal justice system. She will speak to us on "The Incarceration of Women."

Date: Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Time: 6:30 PM

Business meeting to follow

## SAVE THE DATE

November Branch Meeting

Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 6:30 PM

Meet Jessie Jack Hooper, one of Wisconsin's early and influential suffragists, as portrayed by Helen Bannon Baurecht. Helen's appearance is sponsored by the Fox Valley 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Coalition.



Important Reminder!

AAUW is a *nonpartisan* organization that promotes equity for women and girls. It is always good to remind ourselves of this. At any AAUW sponsored events, from book sale work to branch meetings and interest groups, we do not name or endorse particular politicians or candidates. From our national website: "We have a long *herstory* of creating social change through public policy efforts. Our work has always been *political* but has never been *partisan*." The advocacy we do as an organization is based on issues relating to our mission, and these are outlined in our Public Policy Priorities.

# 2020 Holiday Auction

Get ready for a new and memorable experience as we hold our annual Holiday auction online! We have had to postpone our October book sale, so all proceeds will support local scholarships. Plan to shop often and bid generously!

Here are some details:

- No tickets, no bag drawings, and no live auction

Monetary donations in lieu of bidding will be welcome. (Think of what you've spent at the brunch in previous years and donate accordingly.)

Suggested auction items (use your imaginations!):

- Themed baskets, from individuals or perhaps as a joint effort by special interest groups (mahjongg; bridge; art class; book groups)
- Gift certificates or gift cards (for example a ½ pound of an AAUW member's favorite homemade candy; or 3 hours of cleaning; or a basket of baked goods from a local bakery)
- Bottles of wine
- Larger items, like pottery or other art, quilts
- Jewelry



Please no perishable items!

Estimated timeline:

**By 11/13:** All items to Chris Taylor for photographing and uploading to auction site

**11/23:** Site available for browsing

**11/27:** (Black Friday!) Bidding opens

**12/2 (Midnight):** Bidding closes

**12/3-4:** Winning bidders determined and notified

**12/5:** Results will be announced at branch meeting on Zoom. Although we can't join each other for brunch, Zoom in with your coffee and favorite brunch delicacies!

As in past years, we will need the help of some holiday "elves" to assist with pick up of items, delivery to winning bidders, collecting checks in payment, and possibly other tasks we haven't thought of yet.

Our next auction meeting is Wednesday, 9/23, at 1:30 PM on Zoom. If interested in attending, please let Donna Cook or Sylvia Bull know, so you can receive a Zoom invite.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

AAUW-Appleton would like to extend a warm welcome to Lynne Phillips. Sound familiar!? That's because she's Judy Phillips' daughter! And she has grown up helping her mom with various tasks related to the book sale, anxiously awaiting the day when she herself, could become a member.

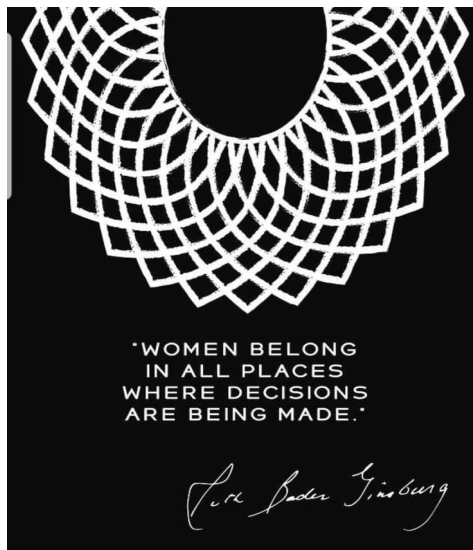
Well, Lynne has relocated to her home town (most recently from the Chicago area) and has achieved that goal. It's official! Lynne is gung ho to get involved in many of our various activities in her spare time. She is currently working some pretty long hours while she continues to seek employment in her field as a Museum Professional.

It's great to see your whole face, Lynne! (We were masked at our outdoor get together!)

Welcome, Lynne! It's awesome to finally have you aboard!



Branch members recently enjoying a socially-distanced outdoor gathering in Erb Park.



*Remembering Justice  
Ruth Bader Ginsburg—  
May her memory be a  
blessing to us all.*

# Communications Update

Remember to send all changes to your contact info to [judy@gwd.org](mailto:judy@gwd.org).

## **ADD OR CORRECT THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR DIRECTORY:**

New member information:

**Lynne Phillips**  
**2609 S. East St**  
**Appleton 54915**  
**[lynnemariephillips@gmail.com](mailto:lynnemariephillips@gmail.com)**  
**Cell: 920-470-1752**

Returning Member Information:

**Ellen Koski**  
**532 Wildwood Dr**  
**Kaukauna 54130**  
**[orch0011@gmail.com](mailto:orch0011@gmail.com)**  
**920-716-6544**

Change of Address:

**Carol Burns**  
**488 W. Highland Park Ave. #1408**  
**Appleton 54911**

## **BOOK SALE UPDATE:**

Although we have postponed the 2020 book sale we are still collecting and sorting books.

### **BOOK SORTING:**

We are meeting every Tuesday morning at our new sorting site in the basement of the Kaukauna library from 9:00 am until 12 noon. Our new space is much larger and well ventilated. It is possible to practice social distancing. If you feel comfortable, please consider joining us. Plan to wear your mask.

### **DROPPING OFF BOOKS:**

There are 2 options for bringing books to our sorting site.

\*. Bring them during the Tuesday morning sorting time.

\* Contact one of the sorting chairs to set up a time to meet one of them at the library to drop off the books. Call Betsy Mintern (832-9218), Christine Taylor (636-8153) or Shirley Schloemer (843-8888).

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING BOOKS AT ANY OTHER TIME OR DROP ANY BOOKS OUTSIDE OF OUR DOOR.**

**DIRECTIONS FOR ENTERING THE LIBRARY SORTING SITE:** Park in the lower lot in the back of the library. Enter through the lower level door off this lot. Go straight ahead to the end of hall and turn left. Our room will be on the right.

Please call any of the book sale chairs with any questions. We are all listed in your yearbook.  
Your book sale committee





HERVOICEHERVOTEOURVICTORY.COM

Check out the latest, virtual event, *Nevertheless, We Progress!*

***Nevertheless, We Progress! Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Rights***

The Fox Valley 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Coalition produced this high-energy video in honor of the amendment's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on August 26, 2020 for Women's Equality Day.

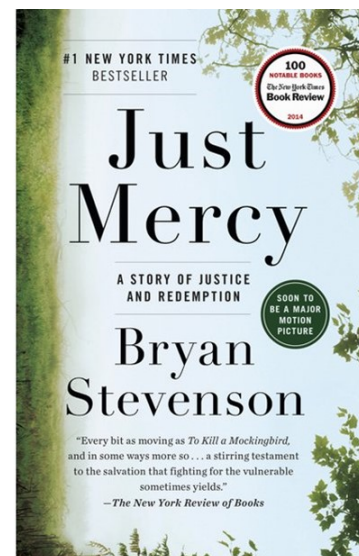
Copy & paste this link to watch the video featuring AAUW Appleton's Becky O'Connor or just go to [hervoicervoteourvictory.com](https://hervoicervoteourvictory.com).

<https://youtu.be/aQxAzK8zvSc>

## Announcing...

Our first *AAUW Reads* book pick for the start of our 2020-2021 year!

We encourage all members to read this book and learn together. We will stay connected by reading, sharing ideas, and advocating together.



The Mah Jongg group has been playing online. If you would like more information about how to join the online play, contact Mary Zanto at [mzanto5747@gmail.com](mailto:mzanto5747@gmail.com) or call 920-540-3960.

Articles for the November newsletter are due October 15th. Send articles to Judy Goodnight at [judy@gwd.org](mailto:judy@gwd.org).

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

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

Instagram: #aauwappleton

Do you have your voting plan in place?

Check with your family and friends and make sure they have a plan to vote.

## MY VOTING PLAN CHECKLIST

- I confirmed my registration is up to date
- I have identification if I need it
- I researched my local races and ballot initiatives
- I encouraged my friends to make a voting plan
- I saved the Election Protection Hotline number (1-866-OUR-VOTE)
- I requested my mail-in ballot OR I found my polling place
- I mailed in my ballot OR made a plan to vote early OR on Election Day

**LET  
PEOPLE  
VOTE**

**ACLU**

### **Social Issues Study Group**

Date and Time: Tuesday afternoon, October 27th at 1:00 pm, link will be sent in a separate email just to Social Issues group members. We're reading Part Two of *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson.

**NOTE : New time so we don't interfere with Book Sorting.**

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](mailto: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.

## AFTERNOON LITERATURE

Afternoon Literature is Zooming along this year!

October Book: *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger

Wednesday group: 1:00 pm on October 21st

Thursday group: 1:00 pm on October 15th

Besides the book discussion, we'll also be talking about doing an auction gift basket from our group.

Zoom links will be sent via Mailchimp. **Be sure to save the email to access the link.** If you're new and want to join the group, contact Judy Goodnight at [judy@gwd.org](mailto:judy@gwd.org).



## SECOND CHOICE BOOK TALK

BETWEEN THE  
pages  
OF A  
book

IS A LOVELY PLACE TO BE

We are reading *The Tumbling Turner Sisters* by Juliette Fay and meeting via Zoom,

Thursday, October 1st at 1:00 pm.

RSVP to Judy at 729-9553 or email [judy@gwd.org](mailto:judy@gwd.org) so that you get the Zoom link.

Wednesday, November 4th will be the next book talk.  
The book will be *Marilla of Green Gables* by Sarah McCoy.

## EVENING LITERATURE

Evening Literature will continue to meet via Zoom until further notice.

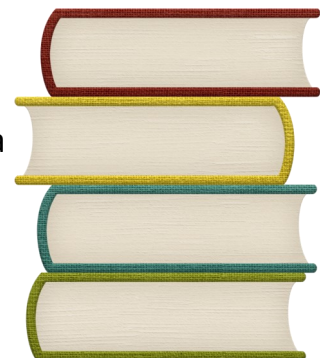
Thursday, October 8th at 6:30 pm

Book: *Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See

Discussion Leader Needed: If interested, contact Grace Fuller or JaneAnne McCabe - contact info listed below.

Joan Moeschberger will host the Zoom meeting & send out the link to group members a few days before the scheduled evening. If you're not a group member & want to join the discussion, call Joan at 920-209-7488 or [email joanemoe@gmail.com](mailto:joanemoe@gmail.com) to be placed on the list.

Questions? Contact JaneAnne McCabe ([jamforever02@yahoo.com](mailto:jamforever02@yahoo.com)) or Grace Fuller ([gracefuller22@gmail.com](mailto:gracefuller22@gmail.com)).





## **Zoom Art Class with Chris Scott**

Date: **October 19th**

Time: 12:30 pm

Where: your home

Topic: Glass Painting: A Vase

No prior skill is needed. Just come and have fun.

RSVP to Laurie Leonard at [rjllal@new.rr.com](mailto:rjllal@new.rr.com) by October 12th.

You will be sent the meeting number & password prior to class.

\*You will need: an old or new clear GLASS vase, acrylic paint in various colors (include at least 1 metallic in your color selection), Elmer's Clear Glue Gel, a tray to work on top of, 4-6 paper cups and stir sticks, masking tape.

Next Zoom Art Class will be November 16th. More details in the November newsletter.



### **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)

## **ETHNIC AND ELEGANT**

Due to COVID-19, Ethnic & Elegant will not be meeting, at least for the foreseeable future. We hope to reevaluate in the New Year. If you would like to become a member of Ethnic and Elegant, please email Nancy Samson at [samsonnancy47@gmail.com](mailto:samsonnancy47@gmail.com).

## AAUW Appleton Branch Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2020 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

President Joan Moeschberger welcomed 61 members and our speaker to the meeting.

Following the program by Penny Bernard Schaber, the president called the meeting to order.

**Minutes** of the May meeting were approved as published.

**President** Joan Moeschberger reminded members that our organization is non-partisan. She thanked Cheryl Reissmann for producing this year's directory and Becky O'Connor for designing and publishing bookmarks that summarize this year's programs. Joan also thanked all members who helped in delivering the directories to the entire membership. A reminder was given to membership of the August 26th video provided by the Fox Valley 19th Amendment Centennial Coalition.

**Program** VP Donna Cook announced the October 15<sup>th</sup> branch meeting program will be presented by Melissa Ludin, formerly of EXPO (Ex-incarcerated People Organizing) and now with the Wisconsin ACLU. Melissa will speak on women in incarceration. Donna reviewed the year's programs through February.

She announced that this year's holiday program would not include a brunch. The branch will be holding an on-line auction and the results of the auction will be announced at our virtual branch meeting on Saturday, December 5th. The auction planning meeting is September 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 1:30 PM. Contact Donna or Sylvia Bull for a Zoom invite.

The Social Issues group will be participating in the planning of the January and February branch meeting programs.

Donna encouraged all members to contact committee and interest group chairs if they wanted to know more about each group.

**Membership** VP Georgianne Bravick welcomed four new members. Mary Bechle, assistant VP Membership, invited everyone to join her at Erb Park for a get-together on September 23 at 11AM.

**Bylaws and Policy** Chair Stephanie Malaney made a motion that reads as follows:

To take \$5000 from the Convention Fund (\$10,511) and combine with the December brunch auction proceeds for local scholarships and to take \$5,000 from our General Account (\$16,000) to donate to the national AAUW Greatest Needs funds.

Stephanie explained the rationale. There was a discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

**Finance** VP Kathleen Gagnow explained the finance report from August 2020.

**Nominating** Chair Becky O'Connor will be forming a Nominating Committee and asked any interested members to contact her. She announced our AAUW Reads book for this year will be *Just Mercy*, by author Bryan Stevenson.

**Diversity** Chair Mary Bechle explained the goals of the Diversity Committee.

**Communications** Chair Judy Goodnight talked about possible problems with Gmail accounts. If you don't find your newsletter, please check under the promotions tab. Members changing their emails should notify Judy asap and call National AAUW at 202-785-7700. Judy reminded members to use Facebook accounts for Get Out the Vote Campaign.

**Public Policy** Chair Jacqui Klimaszewski encouraged people to get out the vote and gave examples of how to get involved including training available from LWV to witness ballots.

**Tech Savvy** Chairs Stephany Malaney and Jacqui Klimaszewski announced that Tech Savvy will tentatively be March 6 or March 13, 2021.

**Book Sale** committee chair Mary Grace said that sorting will be at the Kaukauna Public Library on Tuesday mornings from 9:00AM-noon. Drop off books then or to Betsy Mintern, Christine Taylor, or Shirley Schloemer.

**State AAUW President** Joan Schneider said the focus this year will be on communication between the individual branches and the State for the purpose of sharing ideas.

**Afternoon Literature and Second Choice Books** leader Judy Goodnight explained October book choices for both groups.

**Evening Literature** leader Grace Fuller announced the next book they would be discussing and invited anyone interested to contact her or co leader Jane Anne McCabe.

**Summer Mystery Book Group** leader Betty Pontius announced that the next book would be *Two if by Sea* by Jacquelyn Mitchard. This book will be discussed on June 16, 2021. A discussion leader is needed.

**Social Issues** leader Judy Goodnight spoke about the group. They will be reading and discussing *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson. The next scheduled meeting for this group is September 22.

**Ethnic and Elegant** leader Nancy Samson discussed how the group functions and encouraged anyone interested to contact her.

**Bridge** organizer Trish Brehm discussed the two groups, one headed by her and one headed by Chris Calhoun. Substitutes are needed for these groups. Trish stressed that these are groups that play for fun and they are easy going.

**Mah Jongg** player Sylvia Bull represented the leader of this group, Mary Zanto. Sylvia encouraged members to join the group. They are currently playing online at [realmahjongg.com](http://realmahjongg.com).

**Art Class** teacher Chris Scott discussed the next class in her yard on September 29. She will be offering virtual classes through the winter months.

There was a welcome to new member Lynne Phillips.

There was no new business.

The next Branch Meeting will be October 15 at 6:30PM. via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Wunderlich  
Recording Secretary

If you weren't able to attend the September meeting, you can view the recording of the meeting at this link: (Copy & paste into browser)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/BHYzdxDD7SGqIJFYdHZ9fmOX8JoSI-JVZkEpND3vMmU-S8biWGNmFNK4qpDE0coK.aCC8ZtayWtGpZsPM>

Passcode: !gy0k9\$? (Sorry—the recording started late - a few minutes into Penny's talk.)

# FINANCE REPORT

## American Assoc of University Women - Appleton Branch

09/10/20

Balance Sheet  
As of August 31, 2020

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	<u>Aug 31, 20</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
General checking - Northshore	
Beacon Fund	206
Convention Fund	10,511
General checking - Northshore - Oth...	<u>16,649</u>
Total General checking - Northshore	27,365
Scholarship checking	<u>2,068</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>29,434</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>29,434</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>29,434</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Due to AAUW National	236
Due to AAUW Wisconsin	<u>65</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>301</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>301</u>
Total Liabilities	301
Equity	
Net Assets - Restricted (Schol)	2,067
Opening Balance Equity	27,147
Net Income	<u>-81</u>
Total Equity	<u>29,133</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>29,434</u></b>

**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.

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

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