



The Apple Branch

American Association of University Women

Appleton, Wisconsin

Volume 35, Number 6, December 2020



APPLETON (WI) BRANCH

| | |
|--------|----------------------------|
| Nov 24 | Social Justice Meeting |
| Nov 27 | Auction Bidding Opens |
| Dec 2 | Bidding Closes |
| Dec 3 | Second Choice Books |
| Dec 5 | Branch Meeting |
| Dec 10 | Evening Literature |
| Dec 14 | Nominating Committee |
| Dec 15 | Newsletter Articles Due |
| Dec 16 | Afternoon Books |
| Dec 17 | Art Class |
| Dec 21 | Public Policy Meeting |
| Dec 22 | Social Justice (tentative) |
| Jan 6 | Second Choice Books |

"My mother would look at me and she'd say, 'Kamala, you may be the first to do many things, but make sure you are not the last.' That's why breaking those barriers is worth it. As much as anything else, it is also to create that path for those who will come after us." **Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris**

This moment in history transcends political party. This moment in history is one where we will always remember where we were when we heard the glass breaking. This moment in history will be etched in our collective memories as women, as a nation...when the daughter of immigrants, a child of African-American and South Asian-American heritage is the first. And it is up to us to be sure she is not the last.

The image circulating on social media is powerful. It shows Kamala Harris casting the shadow of Ruby Bridges. Ruby was the first. With her greatest ally...her mom...she walked into first grade with crowds screaming racist slurs as she became the first Black student at her all-white New Orleans school. The first, but not the last.

We stand on the shoulders of so many women who did something for the first time but were determined not to make it the last. And many of these women are in our lives every day. Our mothers, our daughters, our daughters-in-law, our teachers, our grandmothers, our AAUW friends. Their "firsts" may not have been on the scale of Kamala, but they somehow paved our way.

As we celebrated one of our own members, Ellie Olson, in a drive-by car party, I reflected on her impact on me. Her serenity, her grace, her wisdom, her kindness, her example of leadership. And it was her commitment to public policy, which really is the heart of AAUW, that created the path for me. I know I stand on her shoulders with my advocacy and my action. For me, she was the first.

Let's keep creating the path for those who come after us.

Becky O'Connor, Past President

bandboc@gmail.com



Program News



Join us for our Virtual Brunch!

Saturday, December 5th, 2020

9:30 AM on Zoom

Even though we can't be together for our traditional brunch and auction, we can still get together on Zoom and share some time together. Enjoy your favorite morning beverage and brunch treats at the same time!

We will share with you the results of our first virtual auction, followed by a lighthearted program and the business meeting. We will close with an inspirational video to help us welcome a promising new year.

Thursday, January 7, 2021

SAVE THE DATE

Our speaker will be Dr Jesus G Smith, assistant professor of Ethnic Studies at Lawrence University.

Note: The February meeting date is Saturday, February 13th, NOT the 11th, as listed in our Directory. Oops! Sorry!

Did you miss the November Meeting? Just want to listen to our speaker again?

Copy & paste this link into your browser and enter the password to watch the recording:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/hqPSVRobIE-EBWXhUjHtqohUovygDh6XwZtDIInhb7DsEAG9mCzKDT0fwN0dgxMb.cjS4tTTV4LDH3bN1>

Password: ?4ThDU%X

PROGRAM MEETING ZOOM ETIQUETTE

- ♦ The Waiting Room opens 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. You can enter & test your audio & video while you wait. **Then mute your microphone!**
- ♦ All members will be admitted to the meeting about 5 minutes before we start. Any special instructions will be given at that time.
- ♦ **Meetings will start promptly at the time listed.**
- ♦ **If you are late to the meeting, mute your microphone immediately!!!**

News From National AAUW

Thank You from AAUW CEO Kim Churches:

Dear AAUW Appleton Branch leaders and all Branch members,

Goodness, what a year 2020 has been and it is not over yet. With the election date now passed yet as we continue to work from home during this challenging COVID-19 era, I hope this note finds you and all your branch members safe and well.

I learned from our team that the AAUW Appleton Branch recently made a generous gift to our Greatest Needs Fund. Please share my personal thanks with all those whose passion for AAUW's mission made this gift possible.

Your Greatest Needs gift provides flexible support, which is especially important now as we've faced challenges on every front. Throughout this fraught election cycle, AAUW has marked the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act with an intense focus on supporting voting rights and getting out the vote. We are also working to ensure that other gains we've won won't be lost – in educational opportunity, economic security, leadership and every arena in which we work.

The pandemic has exacerbated and highlighted inequities that run deep and with your support we're meeting the moment. Just recently, I placed an op-ed in Newsweek about how COVID19 is so tough on working moms, and what policies and actions we can take towards economic recovery. But it's a long road ahead. I'm proud to report that your national staff is as hard at work and as motivated as we've ever been to secure equity for all women and girls.

Be safe this Thanksgiving season. Thank you, thank you, thank you – and I hope to “see” many of you on a Zoom AAUW webinar soon!

With gratitude,

Kim Churches

Kimberly Churches (she/her/hers)

Chief Executive Officer

AAUW

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Coming soon to our website:

- * Information on AAUW National's Finances
- * Link to Work Smart online training
- * Link to the Late Fall edition of AAUW Wisconsin's Badger Briefs

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

City Park Gathering in November with Connie Polley, Jeanne Seitz, Nancy Samson, Rachel Edwards, Nancy Graham, Mary Bechle, & Georgianne Bravick (photographer)



Be on the lookout for more opportunities to gather on Zoom and socialize this winter!

PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY

Holiday Meeting—Service Project



In the past we have collected books. This year, we are asking that you select an organization of your choice and donate **an adolescent literature book** (for an age-group that is typically overlooked). Please drop these off or send them directly to the organizations.

Possible locations to donate include:

- Neenah Public Library (by 11/30)
- Harbor House
- Salvation Army
- Pillars
- BABES
- Leaven (Gift Cards – gas, groceries)

BOOK SALE:

DROPPING OFF BOOKS:

Best Option for now, if at all possible, is keep books for the sale at your home.

If that is not possible, contact Betsy Mintern (832-9218), Christine Taylor (636-8153), or Shirley Schloemer (843-8888). If it is possible to access our room at the Kaukauna Library, they will set up a time to meet you there. If not, they will give you a list of porches where you can bring the books.

Watch for future updates as the situation changes. We are looking forward to the day when we can actively prepare for our next book sale!

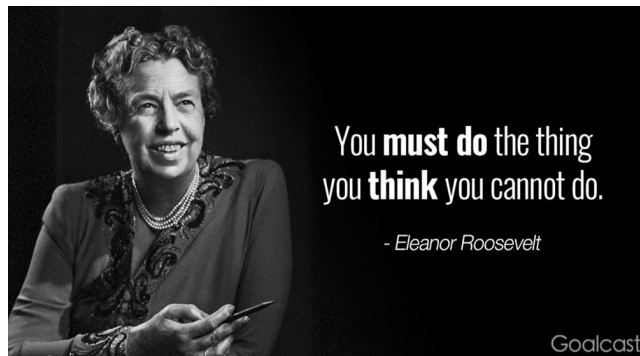
Your Book Sale Committee

Nominating Committee Update

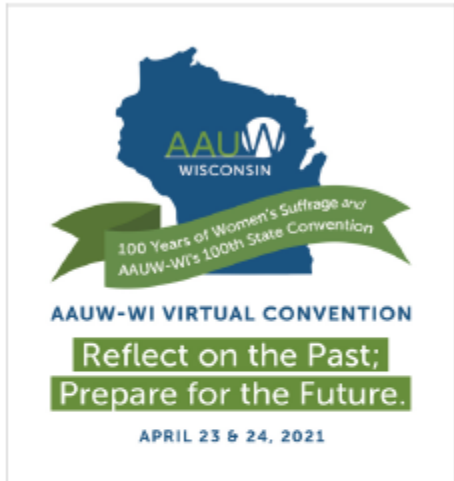
If you take a minute to think about our AAUW-Appleton branch, what comes to mind? Inspiring and informative branch meetings, actions for public policy advocacy, cozy literature groups sharing ideas about books, young girls inspired at Tech Savvy, membership gatherings to meet and greet old and new friends, games with fellow branch members, working the book sale to change the lives of women through scholarships...and more. We do have an impact on each other and our community.

So how does this organization hum along so smoothly? It is leaders. ***Leaders just like we all can be!*** If you are interested or know of someone you think would be a good fit for one of our elected board positions...please contact me and we will chat about what it means to be part of a great leadership team! We will be looking for **President-Elect** (current or past board member suggested), **Assistant VP of Program**, **Assistant VP of Membership**, and **Assistant VP of Finance**.

Becky O'Connor, Nominating Chair
bandboc@gmail.com



AAUW – WI Virtual Convention



Have you ever wondered what the AAUW Wisconsin State Convention was like, but didn't want to travel, or couldn't afford the expense? This is your year to experience the convention without the travel or expense. While a Zoom convention won't be quite the same, it will give you a taste of what an in-person convention is like. Save the dates, and plan on joining via Zoom for all or parts of the convention. There are some interesting speakers already booked, and plans continue to be firmed up for our virtual convention.

Friday April 23, 2021 (7-9)

Welcome, and presentation of Conversations between suffragists Carrie Chapman Catt and Jessie Jack Hooper

Saturday, April 24, 2021

9:30 – 10:45 Business meeting

11 – 12 **Featured Speaker:** Rep Sheilia Stubbs

12:10 – 2:00 Breakout sessions

2:00 – 3:00 Jessica Michna presents "Women Who Dared"

Social Justice Group

Date and Time: Tuesday afternoon, **November 24th at 10:00 am**, link will be sent in a separate email just to group members. We're reading Part Three of ***The Warmth of Other Suns*** by Isabel Wilkerson and also starting ***Just Mercy*** by Bryan Stevenson.

We're continuing our discussions of Racism in America. 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 Justice.

Articles for the January newsletter 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/>

Instagram: #aauwappleton

AFTERNOON LITERATURE

Afternoon Literature is Zooming along this year!

December Book: *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* by Robert Dugoni
One meeting time this month: December 16th at 1:00 pm.

Zoom link 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.



SECOND CHOICE BOOK TALK

We are discussing *Garden Spells* and *First Frost* by Sarah Addison Allen.

Thursday, December 3rd at 1:00 pm.

Don't worry! Both books are quick reads & related to each other.

RSVP to Judy at 729-9553 or email judy@gwd.org
so that you get the Zoom link.

On deck for Wednesday, January 6th is *Emma* by Jane Austen.

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

EVENING LITERATURE

Thursday, December 10 at 6:30 via Zoom

Book: *The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir* by Kao Kalia Yang

Discussion leader: Mary Lee Powell

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

This will be our last meeting for 2020. We will resume again in April of 2021, hopefully in person! That will be determined when the time is closer and whether or not the pandemic is sufficiently contained. In the meantime, here are the names of the other books suggested for this year that didn't make the current selection.

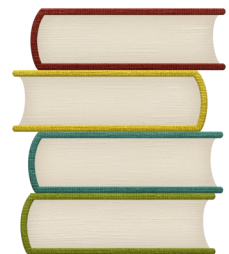
The Confession Club by Elizabeth Berg

The Power of Onlyness: Make Your Wild Ideas Enough to Dent the World by Nilofer Merchant

This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger

The Testament by John Grisham

Questions? Contact JaneAnne McCabe at jamforever02@yahoo.com or Grace Fuller at gracefuller22@gmail.com.



Zoom Art Class with Chris Scott

When: Thursday, December 17th

Time: 12:30

Where: Your home

Topic: Holiday/Winter-themed Design.



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

RSVP to Laurie Leonard at rjllal@new.rr.com by December 10th if you are interested.

*You will need: an 11X14 black piece of construction paper, Elmer's Clear Glue Gel, box of OIL Pastels, pencil, eraser, paper towels, hair dryer.

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

Next Zoom Class Date will be Tuesday, January 12th.

Class will be doing Acrylic Painting of sailboats.

February's class will be flowers done with oil pastels.



Communications Update

Remember to send all changes to your contact info to judy@gwd.org.

ADD THE FOLLOWING RETURNING MEMBER TO YOUR DIRECTORY:

Pamela Winek (Tom)

570 Plummers Harbor Rd, Neenah 54956

428-0768

pwinek04@aol.com

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



AAUW Appleton Branch Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2020 at 6:30PM via ZOOM

President Joan Moeschberger welcomed 89 women, which included our members, our speaker, and our speaker's guests. She also offered a special welcome to fellow members of the Fox Valley 19th Amendment Centennial Coalition who joined us. President Joan then introduced our Program VP Donna Cook, who introduced our speaker Dr. Helen Bannan, who did a portrayal of Jessie Jack Hooper, one of Wisconsin's early suffragists.

Following the program, the president called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the October meeting were approved as published.

President Joan reminded everyone that AAUW advances equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. She also reminded everyone of our AAUW Reads book, *Just Mercy*. Three discussion dates will be listed in our next newsletter. Also, a reminder was given that the newsletter is a great way to stay connected to AAUW Appleton Branch.

Program VP Donna Cook went over the final details of our holiday auction. Auction browsing starts November 23rd and bidding starts November 27th. There are now 53 baskets to bid on. Monetary donations will be accepted also. Mail all donations and checks to pay for baskets to Mary Grace. An email will be sent out soon explaining how to set up an account for the auction. Contact Sylvia Bull, Donna Cook or Mary Grace if you have any problems concerning the auction. Proceeds from the auction will go toward local scholarships. The next branch meeting will be virtual at 9:30 AM on December 5th. Results of the auction and a lighthearted program will be presented. President Joan thanked Donna Cook, Sylvia Bull and committee for their hard work on the auction.

Membership VP Georgianne Bravick thanked those that participated in the November 6th get-togethers held at City Park and on ZOOM. She shared pictures of the City Park event.

Finance VP Kathleen Gagnow went over the October 2020 finances. \$5500 is left in the Convention Fund and \$10,400 is left in the General Fund. There were program expenses totaling \$125 in October. The rest of the dues owed to National have been sent.

Nominations chair Becky O'Connor talked about stepping up to take on a leadership role within AAUW Appleton if called upon to do so. In conjunction with the 19th Amendment Coalition, AAUW will be reading, *The Woman's Hour*, by Elaine Weiss.

Public Policy chair Jacqui Klimaszewski explained that 2021 is a Wisconsin Budget Year and listed many listening sessions with a ZOOM link attached. For holiday giving, branch members are encouraged to give adolescent books or monetary donations to 6 different organizations that were listed. Jacqui discussed Fair Maps and redistricting concerns. Talking points were listed.

Funds Development chair Mary Grace reminded everyone that since there was no book sale in 2020 all money from the holiday auction will go to local scholarships. She will accept monetary donations also. Please make checks out to AAUW Appleton Branch with "Auction" on the memo line.

Book Sale chair Mary Grace said there is no sorting now because of COVID. Keep any book donations you have or contact Betsy Mintern, Chris Taylor, or Shirley Schloemer for other options.

Afternoon Literature and 2nd Choice books chair Judy Goodnight went over titles of books with dates and times for a ZOOM discussion. Contact Judy if interested to get a ZOOM link. More about this will be in the December newsletter also.

(Minutes continued on next page)

Evening Literature chair Grace Fuller stated their next meeting via ZOOM is December 10. Details will be in the December newsletter, including who to contact for the ZOOM link if interested.

Social Justice chair Judy Goodnight wanted everyone to note the new name of the group. If interested in attending the next meeting via ZOOM, contact Judy Goodnight for a ZOOM link. The group will be discussing, "The Warmth of Other Suns".

Art Class chair Chris Scott listed supplies needed for the next art class on December 17. Contact Laurie Leonard for a Zoom link if interested. January 12 will be the first art class of 2021.

New Business President Joan reminded everyone to shop at our online auction and bid high and often!

Next Branch meeting is December 5, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Wunderlich

Recording Secretary

FINANCE REPORT

9:19 AM

11/04/20

Accrual Basis

AAUW Appleton Branch Balance Sheet - Oct 2020 As of October 31, 2020

| | Oct 31, 20 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Checking/Savings | |
| General checking - Northshore | |
| Beacon Fund | 205.96 |
| Convention Fund | 5,510.93 |
| General Fund | 0.16 |
| General checking - Northshore - Other | 10,434.21 |
| Total General checking - Northshore | 16,151.26 |
| Scholarship checking | 7,068.80 |
| Total Checking/Savings | 23,220.06 |
| Total Current Assets | 23,220.06 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 23,220.06 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | |
| Equity | |
| Net Assets - Restricted (Schol) | 7,067.03 |
| Net Assets - Unrestricted | 17,146.91 |
| Net Income | -993.88 |
| Total Equity | 23,220.06 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 23,220.06 |

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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