



The Apple Branch

American Association of University Women

Appleton, Wisconsin

Volume 35, Number 8, February 2021



“As AAUW members, we all embrace our vision of equity for all, and we hold our values close to our hearts and minds.” – Kimberly Churches, Chief Executive Officer, AAUW

APPLETON (WI) BRANCH

There are events in history that we remember forever. We remember the date, the year, the time of day, where we were at the moment it happened. And we remember the horror of it all.

Feb 4	Second Choice Books
Feb 9	Valentine’s Social
Feb 13	Branch Meeting
Feb 15	Art Class
Feb 15	Public Policy Meeting
Feb 15	Newsletter Articles Due
Feb 16	Primary Election
Feb 17	Wednesday Afternoon Books
Feb 18	Thursday Afternoon Books
Feb 23	Social Justice Group
Feb 23	Budget & Board Meeting
Mar 3	Second Choice Books

6th grade, Mrs. Werner telling us to pray for our country after the president died. 11/22/1963
At my childhood home with a small radio broadcasting our civil rights icon had been shot. 4/4/1968

In the hallway of Johnston School when the gym teacher said the towers had fallen. 9/11/2001
In the grocery store self-checkout when the man with the flag mask behind me joyously received the news from a woman on speaker phone that the assault on the nation’s capital had begun. 1/6/2021

We now have another image that will be forever in our mental hard drive. The enraged mob, the costumed maniacs, the flags used as weapons, the fallen barricades, the broken windows, hateful chants, representatives cowering, our national symbol of democracy under siege. Horror.

Finding silver linings in all this is not easy. But we will find them in the days to come. There will be moments and there will be people who keep us motivated, keep us hopeful, give us joy. We will look to leaders and we will be leaders. We are reminded by Kim Churches that “AAUW is proud to join in solidarity with leading gender justice and equity organizations in a statement demanding that President Trump and his enablers be held accountable for their actions.” This is a bold statement from a non-partisan organization. And it makes us realize that what happened went far beyond political parties. It shook the core of our democracy. As a result, AAUW spoke out with more than twenty other women’s organizations to make this statement. A statement that reflects “a community of multi-racial, multi-generational, differently-classed gender justice leaders who represent women, girls and gender non-conforming people from every corner of this nation”.

Speaking up for our shared vision of equity for all defines AAUW. We focus on issues that affect women, social justice, education, Title IX, equal pay, student debt, and more. We need to keep our voices out there in our community, in our state, in our nation. “We are tenacious and trailblazing – advocating for women and girls since 1881 and into the future.” That’s what it says on our website. That’s what we will keep saying. And recent events will only make us stronger.

Hiking this trail together.

Becky O’Connor, past president
bandboc@gmail.com

Program News

Join us on Zoom for our February Meeting:

Wisconsin Task Force on Racial Disparities

Speakers: Representative Jim Steineke & Representative Sheila Stubbs

Saturday, February 13, 2021 9:30 AM

AAUW Appleton has been focusing on Social Justice with reading/discussion groups of our branch read, *Just Mercy* and the January and February meeting topics. Here is some background information you can use to prepare for your participation in the meeting.

TOPIC: Task Force on Racial Disparities

With Rep. [Jim Steineke](#) (R-Kaukauna) and Rep. [Shelia Stubbs](#) (D-Madison)

In September 2020, after taking up no bills during a special session called by the governor, Wisconsin Assembly Speaker Robin Vos created the Task Force on Racial Disparities. The 32-member task force is responsible for crafting recommendations surrounding racial disparities, educational opportunities, public safety and police policies and standards in Wisconsin. One subcommittee will focus on law enforcement policies and procedures while the other will examine education and economic development.

Task Force Members:

<https://wasb.org/assembly-speaker-vos-announces-task-force-membership/>

Inequity in Education

<https://www.tmj4.com/news/local-news/state-lawmakers-addressing-inequity-in-education-and-economy>

Wisconsin Professional Police Association <https://wppa.com/>

In an effort to contribute to the public dialogue that surrounds policing in a productive way that can lead to meaningful reform, the WPPA put out a comprehensive series of detailed proposals on September 2, 2020, designed to strengthen the law enforcement profession and the relationships between our officers and the communities they serve.

There will be an opportunity for questions after Representatives Stubbs and Steineke speak.

SAVE THE DATE

Our March meeting will be Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 6:30 PM On Zoom.

Program: 13th Annual Middle School Essay Contest Recognition

Essays are to honor influential women in STEM.

MISSED THE JANUARY MEETING? WATCH IT NOW.

Recordings of the previous month's meeting will be available up to the day before the next branch meeting.

Click on the link below and then **TYPE** in the passcode: **Df4*!Ae2** Do not copy & paste.

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/kJwxn0k1eEX8a6x-BQWZ0V9KfDizceNRLu9hRq5G321r9L_OmNC2xLMI5Kua_u5a.U796F_KEYd88akNn

Dr. Smith, our January speaker, graciously shared his email, smithj@lawrence.edu, if you have any further questions about the topic of gendered racism.

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. **All participants' microphones will be muted upon entry to the meeting.**
- ◆ All members will be admitted to the meeting about 3-5 minutes before we start. Any special instructions will be given at that time.
- ◆ **Meetings will start promptly at the time listed. Please be courteous and be on time!**

MEMBERSHIP NEWS



CALLING ALL AAUW VALENTINES!

THAT'S YOU!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR ANOTHER

ZIPPY ZOOM SOCIAL IN FEBRUARY!


WE'D LOVE  TO SEE YOU!

ZOOM DETAILS

- Tuesday, **February 9**, 2021
- 6:30 PM
- Please email me, Georgianne B., for the link!! gmbra@aol.com

AAUW'S FIVE STAR PROGRAM

We are a Five Star Branch!

Current status for AAUW Branch: WI4001-Appleton 

Focus Area	Goals Confirmed	Review Goals Submit Updates
Programs	★	
Advancement	★	
Communications & External Relations	★	
Public Policy & Research	★	
Governance & Sustainability	★	

Our branch has received Five Star National recognition. This recognition is a result of your engagement, your time, and your talents. We can each take pride in this accomplishment!

Special thanks to Fanny Behrens for researching, organizing, and submitting our accomplishments.

The requirements for each of the Five Star focus areas are detailed below.

You will also see a copy of the letter we received to announce our status on the next page.

Gratefully, Joan Moeschberger, Branch President

Programs

Host 2-4 strategic plan related programs that are open to the public in FY2021.

Advancement

\$30 per member gift raised for Greatest Needs.

Increase Greatest Needs giving in the last calendar year by 25%.

Retain 90% or more of our branch membership and submit annual dues by September 30.

Increase the Legacy Circle Members in our branch by 10%.

Communications and External Relations

All our existing websites and social media presences include an Economic Security Focus and AAUW Work Smart online.

Public Policy and Research

Conduct an annual meeting with U.S. Representatives and/or state legislators around a strategic plan area of focus.

Ensure a branch public policy chair is appointed who collaborates with the state public policy chair.

Host at least one event where Action Network sign-ups are collected or promote the Action Network on our website

Governance and Sustainability

Website details how our branch's programs align with AAUW national's strategic plan areas.

Branch board has a succession plan to ensure new ideas and perspectives.



Influential Women STEM Essay Contest 2021

AAUW-Appleton would like to invite Fox Valley students in grades 6-8 to participate in an essay contest called **Influential Women...Then and Now**. This initiative recognizes March as Women's History Month. The contest has a STEM focus and students are asked to write about a woman who made a difference in science, technology, engineering, and math and tell why the woman is significant to them.

The contest guidelines, along with the link to the online application, are listed below. School administrators will be sent the application with guidelines along with a public address announcement, newsletter announcement and posters. We hope are asking them to distribute the information to the appropriate classroom teachers, the media center, etc. and encourage students to participate.

All entries are due **by February 26, 2021**. Cash prizes will be awarded and a reception for the winners will be held virtually the evening of March 16th. More information about the contest can be obtained by calling 830-2919.

Contest Guidelines:

- All students in grades 6-8
- Typed essay on a Woman in History with a STEM focus. Tell us why you selected the woman. What is the personal impact of her STEM contribution?
- Essays should be no more than 700 words and should include bibliography or sources. Essays will go through a check for plagiarism.
- Essays longer than 700 words or essays without bibliography or sources will not be considered for the contest.
 - Submit entries by **completing the online submission form at <https://appleton-wi.aauw.net/essay-contest/>**



This will be sent to school administrators in January. We are asking members to follow up by contacting teachers that you may have a connection with asking them if they have received this information.

Thank you!



AAUW WISCONSIN 2021 STATE CONVENTION

The 2021 AAUW-WI Convention committee has been working, and we are getting excited about how the convention is shaping up. Watch for details in the next issue of *Badger Briefs*. We also have a website available with more information being added as we get it. You can visit the site now.

<https://aauwwistateconvention.com/> or

<https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/2020/10/24/save-the-date-annual-state-convention-april-23-24-2021/>

Registration will begin on March 1. You will be able to register for the sessions you would like to attend on the site. This is your chance to attend all or part of convention for free. No registration costs, or travel and lodging costs. That means you might need to bid on some of the items that branches will be putting in the online auction. More details on that soon. We are hoping to make this a convention with the largest attendance ever. "See" you there!

Jessica Michna created "Women Who Dared" for the 100th anniversary of 19th Amendment. Cristabel and Emmeline Pankhurst, Susan B. Anthony, Emma Davisson, Elisabeth Cady Stanton; some names you may recognize, others you may not. Jessica will be presenting on Saturday afternoon. Don't miss it.



Wisconsin Primary Election

February 16th

For election information, check

<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>



**STATE SUPERINTENDENT
CANDIDATE FORUM**

January 7, 2021 **7:00 pm**

WISCONSIN PUBLIC EDUCATION NETWORK
co-sponsored by **LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WISCONSIN

Go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94_HXyCVTS8&feature=youtu.be to watch the candidate forum to learn about the large number of candidates running for the position of State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Equal Pay Day denotes how far into the new year women must work to be paid what men were paid the previous year. Started by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996, the goal was to raise awareness about the gender wage gap. Since then, other Equal Pay Days have been added to the calendar to denote that mothers and most women of color face a wider-than-average gap and need to work even longer to catch up to men's earnings.

Asian-American Women's Equal Pay Day is February 11. Asian-American women are paid 90 cents for every dollar paid to white men.

AAUW has developed a free program to learn to successfully advocate for yourself – and help close the pay gap for women everywhere. Through Work Smart Online you can research your target salary, highlight your accomplishments and find the right words – and the confidence – to negotiate for better benefits and pay. You can sign up for an online course which takes less than two hours to complete and can be done at your own pace.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/salary/>





Book Sale Update

Our book sale sorting site at the Kaukauna library will now be open every Tuesday morning from 9 until noon for you to bring books. Plan to park in the lower lot on the south side of the library and enter through the lower level library entrance. Please call either Betsy Mintern (823-9218) or Shirley Schloemer (843-8888) if you have questions or plan to bring books.

Scholarships 2021

Thanks to the success of our holiday brunch auction and the generosity of our members we will be offering scholarships for the 2021-2022 academic year. Women who will be Juniors or Seniors in college or attending graduate school are invited to apply. They must have graduated from a greater Fox Cities area high school or have lived in the Fox Cities for at least 10 years. Applications and complete information on eligibility and how to apply can be found on our website. **The deadline for applying is April 15, 2021.**

Please spread the word about our scholarship program. There will be posts about our scholarships on Facebook. When you see a post, please like and share it. If you have questions or would like an application mailed to you or to a student, please contact me by phone (920-734-639) or e-mail mcggs@aol.com. We are looking forward to again being able to assist deserving women on their academic journeys!

If you would like to make any donation to the scholarship fund for this year, you can make out a check to AAUW Appleton and put scholarship fund on the memo line. Mail checks to Laurie Leonard, 4009 Crosscreek Circle, Appleton WI 54913. All donations for this year's scholarships must be received by Laurie by April 1st. Our scholarship recipients will be very grateful.

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

Articles for the March newsletter are due February 15th.
Send articles to Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org.

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

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

Instagram: #aauwappleton

Social Justice Group

Date and Time: Tuesday , **February 23rd at 10:00 am**, link will be sent in a separate email just to group members. We will finish our discussion of *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson and begin planning for future meetings.

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.

Thank you to everyone who attended one of the discussion groups for our **AAUW Reads** book, *Just Mercy*. It fit so well with the themes of our programming and certainly sparked much discussion. Thank you also to our discussion leaders—Grace Fuller, Becky O'Connor, and Judy Goodnight.

AFTERNOON LITERATURE

February Book: *The Woman Who Smashed Codes* by Jason Fagone.
Wednesday, February 17th at 1:00 pm -or-
Thursday, February 18th at 1:00 pm.

Zoom link will be sent out to Afternoon Lit group members via Mailchimp.
Be sure to save the email to access the link.

If you're not currently a member of the group but would be interested in attending, contact Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org or call 729-9553.



SECOND CHOICE BOOK TALK

We are discussing *There, There* by Tommy Orange.
Thursday, February 4th at 1:00 pm.

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

On deck for Wednesday, March 3rd is
Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng.

EVENING LITERATURE

Evening Literature is on hiatus until April, 2021.

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

Zoom Art Class with Chris Scott

When: Monday, February 15th

Time: 12:30

Where: Your home

Topic: Oil Pastels: Flowers.

*You will need: an 11X14 White (or any light color) construction paper, oil pastels, stumps/tortillons, pencil, eraser, hair dryer and paper towels.

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

RSVP to Laurie Leonard at rjllal@new.rr.com by February 8th if you are interested.

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

The next Zoom Art Class Date will be Wednesday, March 10th.

Our topic will be: Painting on Glass. More information will be in the next newsletter.



IT'S AAUW'S ART CONTEST TIME!

Calling all AAUW Artists:

It's that time of year again! AAUW's 12th annual art contest opens January 6, and your work could be among the winning entries.

To enter, [submit your photography or a digital photo](#) of your painting, drawing, sculpture, collage or other form of art through the AAUW website. All entries are accepted, but we encourage you to look through your portfolio for works that speak to AAUW's mission.

AAUW members will select their favorite entries via ranked-choice voting. Winning entries will be featured on a collection of notecards sent to members in the spring. The back of the cards will include the winning artist's biography, a fact about AAUW and a highlight of their local branch affiliation when applicable.

This year's winners could include someone from your branch or state, so spread the word through your member communications!

For more information on submitting artwork or to see last year's art gallery, please visit the [AAUW Art Contest page](#).

We hope to see your work in this year's contest!

Best,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tremayne A. Parquet'.

Tremayne A. Parquet,
Deputy Director of Advancement & Partnerships

AAUW Appleton Branch Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2021 at 6:30 PM via ZOOM

President Joan Moeschberger welcomed 55 members and reminded everyone that AAUW advances equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. President Joan introduced our Program VP, Donna Cook, who in turn introduced our speaker for the evening, Dr. Jesus Smith. Dr. Smith is an Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies at Lawrence University in Appleton and spoke to our membership about gender and racism.

President Joan then called the meeting to order. The December minutes were approved as published. Joan explained that our Appleton branch has achieved 5 Star status at the national level. The 5 areas of focus are Programs, Advancement, Communications and External Relations, Public Policy and Research, and Governance and Sustainability. Members were encouraged to participate in AAUW National's art contest.

Program VP Donna Cook reviewed our December virtual auction results and thanked her committee. She also thanked all members for their participation and donations to help make the auction successful. The next branch meeting will be virtual on Saturday, February 13, 2021, at 9:30 AM. The program will be on Racial Disparity and Police Reform.

Membership VP Georgianne Bravick talked about the New Year's Day virtual gathering of members. She showed pictures of those attending the gathering.

Finance VP Kathleen Gagnow gave the December 2020 financial report. We gave \$2000 (\$1000 each) for 2 scholarships. We received \$5700 from the auction that will go into the Scholarship Fund for 2021. December 2020 expenses were \$265 and were auction related. We received \$125 for the Ellie Olson Memorial Fund.

Past President Becky O'Connor reminded everyone of our *Just Mercy* virtual discussion dates. They are: January 14, at 6:30 PM, January 20, at 2 PM, and January 21, at 1 PM. Zoom links will be sent to all members.

Public Policy Jacqui Klimaszewski discussed a Martin Luther King Day program on January 18, at 6PM. A virtual link was given if members are interested in attending. There will be a primary election on February 16, 2021. Up for election will be the State Superintendent of Schools. A link was given to listen to a recording of the candidate forum. An advisory committee will meet in January 2021 to discuss the possibility of a statue of Vel Phillips, the first black Wisconsin Secretary of State, going up at the Capitol in Madison. Jacqui next talked about a Fair Maps referendum that will be on the April 6th ballot. Helene Iverson's husband is on the Fair Maps committee if anyone has any questions about this. Finally, Jacqui discussed the *Influential Women Then and Now* essay contest for students in grades 6-8. The deadline to enter is February 26. A website was given for contest details. Jacqui showed our membership some inspirational words and sayings to help us through these difficult times.

Funds Development chair Mary Grace said we have >\$10,000 in our Scholarship Fund for 2021. We will be giving 2 FVTC scholarships and several university scholarships this year. April 15th is the deadline for submitting a scholarship entry.

(Minutes continued on next page)

Book Sale chair Mary Grace announced that donated books may be dropped off Tuesday, January 12, from 9:00 to 11:30AM, at the Kaukauna Library. If you have questions call Betsy Mintern or Shirley Schloemer.

Afternoon Literature chair Judy Goodnight invited all members to join in on one of the discussion groups for *Just Mercy*. A ZOOM link will be sent to everyone.

Second Choice Books chair Judy Goodnight said they will be discussing *There There* by Tommy Orange on Thursday, February 4. Call or email Judy for a ZOOM link if interested in joining the meeting.

Social Justice Group chair Judy Goodnight reminded us that they will finish their discussion of *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson on Tuesday, January 26, at 10 AM. They will also be planning future meetings. Contact Judy, or see our *Apple Branch* newsletter for more information.

Art Class chair Chris Scott said our next art class will be Tuesday, January 12, at 12:30 PM. It will be virtual and it will be an acrylic painting of sailboats. Chris listed the supplies needed. The next class will be Monday, February 15th. Members will be using oil pastels to create paintings of flowers. More information on this will be in the next newsletter.

New Business President Joan reminded everyone that the next branch meeting will be Saturday, February 13, at 9:30 AM on ZOOM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Wunderlich

Recording Secretary

FINANCE REPORT—AAUW APPLETON

01/03/21

Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2020

	Dec 31, 20
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
General checking - Northshore	
Beacon Fund	206
Convention Fund	5,511
General checking - Northshore - Oth...	15,979
Total General checking - Northshore	21,696
Scholarship checking	5,069
Total Checking/Savings	26,765
Total Current Assets	26,765
TOTAL ASSETS	26,765
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Net Assets - Restricted (Schol)	10,876
Net Assets - Unrestricted	17,147
Net Income	-1,258
Total Equity	26,765
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	26,765

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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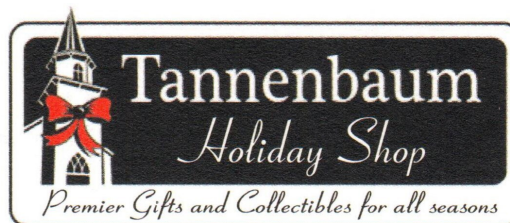
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