



Reflect on the Past;

Prepare for the Future.

AAUW - WI Virtual Convention
April 23 & 24, 2021

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Welcome from the AAUW WI State President

Are you looking forward to this convention as much as I am!? I hope so. Isn't it compelling to hear about the great activities, speakers, etc.? But I confess, I am intrigued by the **Zoom Convention** format?! After having attended many AAUW conventions, I know this will be a new and interesting experience.



The flexibility and organization of the convention committee has created a great program designed around this theme: **Reflect on the Past; Prepare for the Future**. Some of the components of the 2020 convention which had to be cancelled can be found in this weekend's programs as we celebrate the suffragists. I remember reading extensively about the suffragists in my 20s and 30s. I would ask branch members to play cards with me during Women's History Month. I had a deck of cards with suffragists' pictures and information on the cards. We had fun and learned from the biographical information. (I also learned which branch member was destined to win. Every time!? Why is that?)

I am anxious to hear from **Sheila Stubbs**. Activism and racial equity seem to go hand in hand with AAUW. I know some of us want to see more activism. Others are reluctant. We can learn as we listen on Saturday. Maybe new ideas will motivate us. A Call to Action!

Don't you always look forward to the **breakout sessions**? The great thing about them this year is that the committee chose the topics totally based on the survey we sent out to our members. These are the things you want to hear about, talk about with others, and get more ideas. I have always appreciated being able to make those choices.

How appropriate is it to close the convention with "**Women Who Dared**"? We will meet interesting women. I have the feeling that everyone that attends the convention is a woman who dared. Just because some of us won't make the history books someday, doesn't mean we haven't dared. We dared to get an education, vote, organize a campaign, lead the PTA, raise children, not raise children, care for others, ask questions and expect answers!

Thank you for attending our convention and joining me in learning and finding new directions and motivation.

Joan D. Schneider, AAUW WI State President

Welcome to Convention from Julia Brown AAUW National Board Chair

March 12, 2021

Dear AAUW Wisconsin member,



Welcome to your virtual Convention, "Reflect on the Past; Prepare for the Future," and your 100th anniversary! I'm so pleased to see you forging ahead with AAUW's mission in spite of the Covid global pandemic and the events of the last year which underscore the increasing divisiveness at work in our country. Moreover, this past year has revealed the need to change so many things in our society, not the least of which relates to social injustice, employment and wage disparities along racial and gender lines and access to adequate health care. As society makes changes and adjustments in order to function properly and move efficiently into the future, so too do organizations, institutions and governments change to remain relevant, effective, efficient and most importantly fair to their respective constituencies and beneficiaries. This is a time when we need to raise our voices and join with other organizations for collective action working towards equal rights and equal justice.

As we reflect on last year's 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act—two critical milestones in giving women the right to vote—we must ensure that every voice is heard and every vote matters. We have big plans to achieve full equity for women and girls. As we continue to re-assess our strategic plan and determine the best path forward given the pandemic, we know one area of major focus will of necessity be economic security. That's because it is vital to women throughout their entire lives, whether they're going after their dreams in the classroom, paying off student loans, negotiating for a raise, or deciding when to retire. The events and conditions of the last year have made the absolute need for economic security even more critical to women.

In order to move forward in accomplishing our mission and vision we need every AAUW member to pull together for lasting change through advocacy, activism and funding the future. By raising money for AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund, you will be helping us address our greatest challenges as they arise. Whether our members mobilize to support fair-pay legislation or respond to threats to Title IX, Greatest Needs funds enable us to act quickly and effectively. I hope you'll reflect with pride on your role over the last 100 years in elevating and supporting women locally and nationally, and stay the course as you prepare for and forge your path into the future!

Yours in Sisterhood,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Julia T. Brown', is positioned above a faint, circular embossed seal.

Julia T. Brown, Esq. AAUW Board Chair

How to attend the Convention

Visit the web site aauwwistateconvention.com

Decide which sessions you would like to attend

Sign up

Print this page

Use the schedule on this page to keep track of what you have signed up for. When you receive your email invitations for each session, to be sent out closer to the convention, keep track of them by creating a folder in your email program and placing all invitations in that folder so that you don't lose track of the emails. Or.... Write down the meeting ID and the password for each session that you have chosen right on this schedule. You can do both too, whatever works for you and your knowledge of how to use Zoom.

Friday, April 23, 2021

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Welcome, and “The Suffrage Movement: A Remembrance”

Meeting ID _____ Passcode _____

9:30 p.m. – ??? Hospitality rooms (small group chat rooms to connect with old and new friends). Stay as long as you like.

Meeting ID _____ Passcode _____

Saturday, April 24, 2021

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Business meeting and Installation of Officers

Meeting ID _____ Passcode _____

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Shelia Stubbs

Meeting ID _____ Passcode _____

12:10 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Breakout sessions (sign up for one)

1. Ideas for programs that are mission driven
2. Membership: balancing goals, hopes, and realities in 2021-22
3. Interest group ideas, group outings/other social options: a sharing of ideas by members

Meeting ID _____ Passcode _____

1:10 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Breakout sessions (sign up for one)

1. Promotion of social diversity and justice
2. Climate change issues and action
3. Using social media for visibility and communication

Meeting ID _____ Passcode _____

2:10 p.m. – 3:15 “Women Who Dared” presented by Jessica Michna

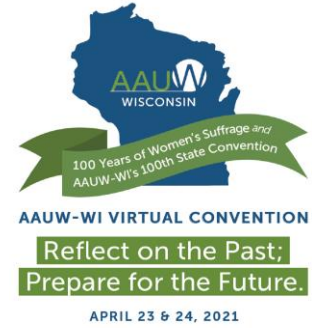
Meeting ID _____ Passcode _____

Write your Auction Password Here: _____

Friday, April 23, 2021

7-9:00 p.m.

Welcome to convention from Julia Brown, AAUW National Board Chairman, Wisconsin First Lady Kathy Evers, and AAUW-Wi President Joan Schneider. Recognition of past presidents and Legacy Circle members will also take place.



“AAUW-Preparing for the Future”: Julia T. Brown, Esq., AAUW National Board Chair



Julia Brown is a public administrator having served as both a City and County Manager and for various levels of government in Oklahoma, Washington, D.C., California and New Mexico, as well as in Corporate America.

Ms. Brown is a licensed attorney who graduated from Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma College of Law, where she was law class President. Julia also served both as an enlisted soldier and an Army Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) Officer, Julia retired as a Lieutenant Colonel, and Deputy Commander of the 75th Legal Support Organization.

She is the recipient of numerous awards and honors related to her work experience and community and civic volunteer efforts in addition to her extensive work with non-profit organizations in the areas of organizational formation and governance. Julia is a life member of AAUW and serves as the National Board Chairman. She also serves on the regional Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest Board; and is a life member of both Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and the National NAACP.

Welcome from Kathy Evers First Lady of Wisconsin

Kathy Evers was born and raised in Plymouth, Wisconsin and met her future husband in kindergarten. They had their first date at the junior prom and have been married for more than 40 years.

Kathy graduated from Plymouth High School and later received an associate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Fond du Lac. In a career spanning more than three decades, Kathy held IT management positions with private companies and provided computer software training and hardware technical support in Wisconsin public school districts, technical colleges, and in the private sector. She and the Governor lived and worked in various communities throughout Wisconsin including Tomah, Oakfield, Verona, Oshkosh, and Madison.

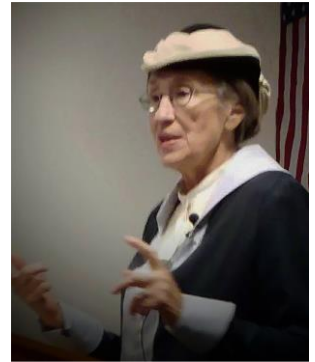
Throughout her long career, Kathy has worked with people of all ages in technical support, training and management roles. Now that Kathy is retired from that field, she is an avid pickleball player and yoga practitioner. She and the Governor have three adult children, all public-school graduates, and nine grandchildren.



“The Suffrage Movement: A Remembrance by Midwesterners Jessie Jack Hooper and Carrie Chapman Catt”

Performed respectively by AAUW members Helen Bannan, dual member of Oshkosh and Milwaukee, and Pam Thiel, a La Crosse member.

Carrie Chapman Catt, one of the most influential leaders of the national and international suffrage movement, worked tirelessly for 30 years before finally achieving the ratification of the 19th Amendment and then founded the League of Women Voters to help women develop their political skills. Jessie Jack Hooper, one of Catt’s loyal lieutenants and a leader in the Wisconsin Woman Suffrage Association, devoted her life to suffrage during the last decade of the struggle and helped Wisconsin become the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment.

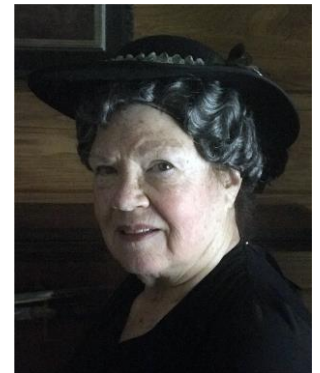


Helen Bannan portrays
Jessie Jack Hooper

Pam Thiel

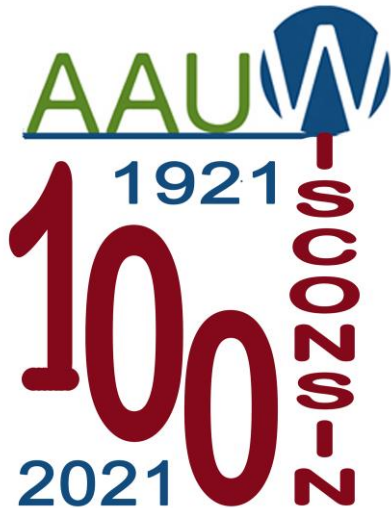
Pam Thiel has a long history with AAUW and is passionate about gender equity and GOTV (Get Out the Vote). She has held many AAUW positions of leadership: National Board member; Great Lakes Regional Director for Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio; Wisconsin State President; and La Crosse branch president.

Pam is retired and a certified River Rat awarded for her years of service as a biologist and manager with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on the Upper Mississippi River System. She enjoys making history come alive with her first-person portrayals of Carrie Chapman Catt, Eleanor Roosevelt, Lavina Goodell, and a one-woman show on Mary Todd Lincoln.



Pam Thiel portrays
Carrie Chapman Catt

A toast to 100 years of AAUW in Wisconsin



Helen Bannan

Helen Bannan has been a member of AAUW for 3 decades, including service as a co-president in the Oshkosh branch. She is now a dual member of the Oshkosh and Milwaukee branches.

Helen retired early as director of Women’s Studies and Associate Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in order to complete a biography of Oshkosh suffragist Jessie Jack Hooper. Between Sierra Club trips she and her husband lead, Helen is still working on the book, but in the meantime, she enjoys bringing Hooper to life in a different way.

9:30-???

Hospitality Rooms (small group chat rooms to connect with current and new friends)

Saturday, April 24, 2021

9:30 – 10:45 a.m.

Business Meeting and Installation of Officers

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Keynote Speaker: **Shelia Stubbs**

**Wisconsin State Legislator, Assembly
District 77**

**“Opportunities to Listen: A Conversation
with a Black Woman”**

Representative Shelia Stubbs was born in Camden, Arkansas, and moved to Beloit, Wisconsin, when she was five years old. Upon her graduation from Beloit Memorial High School, she obtained a BS in Criminal Justice Administration, a BA in Political Science, and a Masters in Science & Management. She went on to teach all of the courses offered for Criminal Justice at Mount Senario College, in Ladysmith, Wisconsin. She is an Alumnus of Delta Sigma Theta Inc. As a community of the Bridge/Lakepoint Neighborhood Association and is the Co-Founder of End Time Ministries International.



Shelia Stubbs has since represented her community at both the state and municipal level, working towards a more just and equitable Wisconsin. As Dane County Supervisor, Stubbs has prioritized implementing policies that actively combat racial injustice. Her work has helped implement crisis intervention teams and acknowledge racism for the public health crisis that it is. As a State Representative, Shelia Stubbs is currently Co-chair of the Speakers Taskforce on Racial Disparities and the Chair of the Wisconsin Legislative Black Caucus. She was the first Black person from Dane County to be elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly and is the first to serve as chair of the Wisconsin Legislative Black Caucus.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/legislators/assembly/1931>



12:00 – 12:10 Ten minute break

Get your own sandwich and beverage to enjoy as convention continues.

Get ready for breakout sessions.

12:10 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Breakout (3 small group) Sessions

1. Ideas For Programs That Are Mission Driven:

Lyn Hildebrand, State Program VP

Lyn Hildenbrand is a member of the Milwaukee & West Suburban branches of AAUW, currently serving on the State Board as Program Vice President. Previously she served as the State President. Lyn has over 30 years' experience working in and leading Milwaukee area non-profit agencies, contesting social justice, and advocating for equity. She is presently serving as the Executive Director of The Gathering of Southeast WI, where they provide over 60,000 hot home cooked meals annually to those who would otherwise go without.



She has served as a program manager at several agencies in Milwaukee where she was responsible for overseeing the achievement of larger organizational goals while coordinating efforts between different projects leading the overall program with strong attention to strategy, implementation, and delegation.

Lyn is an accomplished visionary executive with a demonstrated ability to deliver mission-critical results. She is knowledgeable, versatile, and adept in developing relationships and strategic alliances with a unique ability to interact with and motivate diverse populations to think globally and respond locally. Always leading with passion and enterprise.

2. Membership : Balancing Goals, Hopes and Realities in 2021-22

Christine Ebert, State Membership VP



In this Breakout Session we'll focus on strategies and "best practices" to attract, welcome and retain members. Of equal importance is the recognition that membership is "more than just a number" but *individual women with a wide variety of gifts for leadership, organization, and communication that must be encouraged through personal communication and mentorship*. Our ultimate goal must be "healthy branches" as measured by several criteria including dynamic membership.

Utilizing "best practices" and strategies from AAUW National, other states in our region, and our own WI branches, we'll create specific strategies to welcome and retain new members.

Chris Ebert currently serves on the AAUW-WI State Board as Membership VP and has served as District V coordinator. As a member of the Northwoods Branch since 2012, she served as Program VP, President-Elect and President from 2015-2019. "In these roles, I was always interested in growing the branch through expanded communication, relevant and excellent programs and community outreach." She is a retired mathematics professor from the University of Delaware.

3. Interest Groups, Outings, Social Options:

Joan Schneider, WI State President



When I joined AAUW in Janesville around 1980 I wasn't looking for interest groups or outings or social options. I wanted speakers and issues. After moving to Appleton I joined my first interest group: evening book group. Since then I have participated in numerous interest groups, have traveled to interesting destinations and learned some social customs. Friendships formed in interest groups are just a little different than at a meeting. Shared interests and experiences form strong bonds. Join me in a conversation about interest groups, travel, and social occasions.

1:10 p.m.– 2:00 p.m. Breakout (3 small groups) Sessions

1. Promotion of Social Diversity and Justice:

Dr. Laura Alwin and Whitney Townsend:

“The Unity Project: Building a Better Community Through Inclusion”

Laura Alwin is the founder of the Unity Project, a practicing licensed clinical psychologist, and an advertising veteran. She is originally from Chicago and is currently living in rural Wisconsin. A graduate of Adler University, an institution focused on social justice, Alwin is passionate about bringing people together in the community. With the help of many like-minded community members and businesses, she was able to bring to her community the first bilingual festival (now in its fourth year), the first Gay Pride event, and the first event geared at inviting the differently-abled from local group homes to dance with others in their community. Alwin is grateful every day for the support she receives from Fort Community Credit Union, Fort Hospital, Madison Area Technical College, and US Cellular. Without these organizations and their leadership, there would be no Unity Project. It was in the course of her clinical practice that she learned that beneath the natural beauty of rural Wisconsin and its endearing small-town ways, was an unsettling thread of racism.



Whitney Townsend volunteered with the Unity Project in 2019 as emcee for the Fort Fall Fiesta. In 2020, she co-chaired The Unity Project's School Partnership Committee. She was awarded a \$15,000 grant for the committee's diverse literacy project. A leader in her community with a passion for personal development and empowering others, she earned her BBA from UW-Whitewater in 2016 after four years of night classes and summer semesters. She values education and believes there is an opportunity to learn something new every day. A certified yoga teacher and holistic health coach, she weaves these two modalities into her work at Fort Community Credit Union where she is a branch manager, mortgage loan officer, and financial coach.

Born and raised in Fort Atkinson, Whitney values service to her community and is a member of the Rotary Club of Fort Atkinson and an executive board member for Badgerland After School Enrichment program. In 2015 she spearheaded the community-wide health fair “Eating Clean in 2015,” which featured the documentary *Fed Up* and offered education and healthy options to Jefferson County residents. In 2019 Whitney joined a team of volunteers to host a two-day meal packing event with Feed My Starving Children, packing 282,312 meals with the help of 1,084 volunteers. In 2020 Whitney and her husband Jose Mises, who immigrated from the Dominican Republic twenty years ago, donated building materials and school supplies to an elementary school in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The partnership with the school continues with support from the Rotary Club of Fort Atkinson.

2. Climate Change Issues and Action:

Katy Grogan, Citizen's Climate Lobby



Katy Grogan graduated from Lawrence University with a degree in Political Science. She completed a year of public policy studies at the University of Michigan's Institute of Public Policy Studies. She later earned a teaching degree and an MA in Curriculum and Instruction and went on to teach for 30 years, primarily in the Milton School District. Katy has been a climate activist for several years and now serves as Citizens' Climate Lobby Liaison to the First Congressional District of Wisconsin as well as the leader of the Janesville Chapter of CCL.

3. Using Social Media for Visibility and Communication:

Lidia Madrid and Mia Henry

Lidia Madrid is a Chicago-based designer and fourth-year student at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) in the Architecture, Interior Architecture, and Designed Objects (AIADO) department.

LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/lidmad/>



Mia Henry is a senior at School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is also an executive board member of NOMAS branch at SAIC. Mia is majoring in the Architecture department and is also a furniture designer and maker.



Lidia and Mia are members of the SAIC chapter of National Organization of Minority Architecture Students (NOMAS). NOMAS fosters communications and fellowship among minority architects, acts as a clearing house for information, and maintains a roster of practitioners. The mission of NOMAS, rooted in a rich legacy of activism, is to empower local chapters and membership to foster justice and equity in communities of color through outreach, community advocacy, professional development and design excellence.

NOMAS SAIC IG: @ nomassaic

2:00 p.m. – 2:10 p.m. Ten Minute Break

2:10 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

“Women Who Dared” presented by Jessica Michna

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. In this program, Jessica Michna appears as ...HERSELF! You will learn of these and other women (and men) who championed the cause of women’s suffrage in this country and overseas in the late 19th and early 20th century. You will learn of the protest jailings, victories, and defeats culminating with the signature of President Woodrow Wilson that would forever give women the right to vote.”



Originally from Pennsylvania, Jessica Michna developed a love of American history at an early age, visiting the many Revolutionary and Civil War sites. Jessica earned a BS in psychology from the UW system and worked ten years as a researcher and teaching assistant at the UW Parkside campus. Then after several years in the healthcare field Jessica decided to return to her two great loves: history and the theater. The result was the birth of her business; “First Impressions.” <https://www.historicalfirstimpressions.com> .

For twenty years Ms. Michna has used her remarkable acting and teaching skills to recreate notable women of history. She has been called “a National treasure” and has received the Presidential Service Center's Distinguished Service Award. Jessica portrays six Presidential First Ladies, ten notable women, two original fictitious characters; in addition she has released a program on woman's suffrage. Jessica has no plans to slow down. She is also presently developing a new program based on the wife of a Civil War general for debut in 2021. For 2022 she has a program in development based on the sister of famous siblings.

Jessica has been honored to perform at historical sites in Pennsylvania, Ohio, North Carolina and many other states. Among her most treasured memories are Valley Forge, Lincoln Boyhood site and the National Churchill Memorial.

AAUW Wisconsin State Convention Business Meeting

Board of Directors

Joan Schneider
President
Lyn Hildenbrand
Program VP
Maggie Winz
Leadership Development VP
Christine Ebert
Membership VP
Joyce Gregg
Finance VP
Jean Kreul
Fund Development VP
Jessica May
Website Manager
Fanny Behrens
Badger Briefs Editor
Stephanie Malaney
Public Policy Coordinator
Angela D. Sarni
College/University Coordinator
Kathe Bogdan
Administrative Services Coordinator
Faye Binsfeld
Nominations Chair
Connie Russell
Historian
Jeanne Tondryk
STEM coordinator
Mitzi Dearborn
Bylaws Chair
Ann Petersen
Resolutions Chair
Donna Anderson
Local Convention
Kleo Baruth Kritz
District 1
Carol Surges
District 2
Christine Steiner
District 3
Deb Thiel
District 4
Judy Goodnight
District 5

Agenda

Saturday, April 24, 2021

Call to Order and Welcome: Joan Schneider, State President

Quorum Report and Announcements: Parliamentarian

Adoption of Convention Rules and Agenda; Joan Schneider

Minutes 2019 Annual Meeting:

Reports of Officers and Committee Chairs

Leadership Vice President: Maggie Winz

Membership Vice President: Christine Ebert

Finance Vice President: Joyce Gregg

Funds Development Vice President: Jean Kreul

Public Policy Chair: Stephanie Malaney

Resolutions Chair: Ann Petersen

2020-2021 State Board Membership Appreciation Joan Schneider

Nominations: Faye Binsfeld

Election of Officers: Joan Schneider

Installation of Officers: Joan Schneider

Introduction of 2021-2022 State Officers: Joan Schneider

New Business: Joan Schneider

Call to 2022 Convention: District 5

Announcements and Adjournment: Joan Schneider

Feb. 14, 2021

AAUW-WI State Zoom Convention Rules

Registration:

- All members, visitors and guests will register to attend.
- Only members in good standing (membership paid for 2020-2021) will be able to take part in discussions and vote.

Privileges of the Floor:

- The annual business meeting shall be open to all members to offer motions, debate, and vote.
- Any member wishing to speak shall raise the zoom hand, wait to be recognized, state name.
- No member may speak longer than two minutes at a time without the consent of the assembly.
- Debate will alternate between pro and con views. A member may not speak in succession on the same view as the previous speaker unless there are no more opposing views.
- No member shall be allowed the privilege of the floor to speak a second time on the same subject as long as any other member who is entitled to speak desires the floor.
- Motions from the floor will be stated aloud after being recognized. The secretary will write down the motion and read it to the body. Then it can be acted upon.
- Voting results will be included in the minutes.
- Debate on any resolution or motion shall be limited to no more than ten minutes. If more time is needed, consent must be given by the majority of the assembly.
- Debate on the Public Policy Program shall be limited to no more than ten minutes per section.
- Debate on Bylaws proposals shall be limited to no more than 30 minutes.
- After being recognized amendments are made by using the following phrases: to amend by striking out, inserting; striking out and inserting; adding; or substituting.
- A member calling out "Question" will not be recognized. No single member has the right to close debate. If you wish to close debate, say "I move to close debate and call the question." A second is required.
- A motion to reconsider business already acted upon must be made prior to the end of the business meeting, and by a member who voted on the prevailing side. Rulings are made by the chair.
- A member may appeal a decision of the Chair. After a second is obtained, the motion shall be stated and voted upon. A majority is required to reverse the decision of the Chair.

AAUW of Wisconsin 99th Annual Business Meeting Minutes

**Delavan, Wisconsin
April 27, 2019**

Readers of the 99th Annual Business Meeting Minutes: Volunteers from each district who have agreed to read the minutes of today's (April 27, 2019) annual business meeting were announced **Call to Order & Welcome:** President Lyn Hildenbrand called the meeting to order at 8:33AM. She welcomed everyone to the AAUW of Wisconsin 99th annual convention and thanked convention co-chairs, Denise Anastasio and Gretchen McCarthy and the members of the planning committee. She challenged us to vote in AAUW national election, consider serving at the national level, use AAUW website to sign up for Work Smart, and make two new AAUW buddies at convention and keep in touch throughout the year. Her intent is to fine tune *Badger Briefs (BB)* & our website. She has formulated a draft calendar for the board.

(Message from AAUW video was delayed due to technical issues.) Hildenbrand reported that because of budget constraints Association did not send speakers to conventions this year. She suggested we use cost savings from emailing rather than mailing *BB* to invest in bringing in AAUW national speaker in future.

Introduction of Honored Guests: We were honored by the presence of six past AAUW of Wisconsin Presidents: Cheryl Anderson, Ann Gustafson, Joyce Hoffman, Stephanie Malaney, Dido Nash, and Betty Pontius,

Roll Call of the Branches: Administrative Services Coordinator Nancy L. Schulz announced the branches attending the convention include Appleton, Beaver Dam, Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, Fort Atkinson, Geneva Lake, Green Bay, Janesville, Kenosha, La Crosse, Lake Country, Milwaukee, Monona-Madison, Northwoods, Oconomowoc, Oshkosh, Racine, River Falls, Sheboygan, Tomah, Wausau, West Bend, and West Suburban-Milwaukee. We have 23 branches attending out of a total of 27 in the state. With a total of 1,068 members, we have 149 people attending convention. Hildenbrand declared a quorum.

Adoption of Convention Rules and Agenda: MOTION: to adopt the convention rules as printed (p. 16); (*all page references are to convention booklet*); made by Stephanie Malaney, Appleton and seconded by Kathy Salm, Appleton. Motion passed. **MOTION:** to adopt the business meeting agenda as printed (p. 15) made by Patricia Holt, Racine and seconded by Janet Nortrom, Milwaukee. Motion passed.

Minutes of the 98th Annual Business Meeting: The minutes of the 98th Annual Business Meeting held at convention in Milwaukee on April 21, 2018 have been read by a committee of five representatives, one from each district. **MOTION:** to adopt minutes as printed (pp. 17-20) made by Betty Pontius, Appleton and seconded by Christine Ebert, Northwoods. Motion passed.

District 1: Christine Ebert, Northwoods; no alternate; **District 2:** Janet Nortrom, Milwaukee; alternate: Kathe Bogdan, Milwaukee; **District 3:** Pat Anderson, Racine; alternate: Julie Anastasio, Racine; **District 4:** Mary Hayden, Eau Claire; alternate: Margot Bouchard, Eau Claire; **District 5:** Sara Ramaker, Green Bay; alternate: Lucy Harvey, Wausau

Reports from Officers and Committee Chairs

President: Lyn Hildenbrand reported on the following items: AAUW received \$500,000 grant from Coca Cola for Work Smart that puts the course online and allows anyone to take it without charge.

There will be no national convention for foreseeable future because convening them has become costly and prohibitive. Instead, national board is exploring holding conventions online and regionally. Big push at national is gaining corporate support to buttress our identity in the greater community or to gain better name recognition.

Hildenbrand shared that her goals as state president have been to publish *BB* electronically, complete the state strategic plan (copies on tables of “2019-2020 AAUW of Wisconsin Vision Priorities”), initiate the quarterly report system for board members, improve officer transitions, and visit at least 10 branches during her term (thus far she has visited 3).

Financial Report: Finance VP Joyce Gregg presented the third quarter financial report covering July 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019. **MOTION:** to accept financial report as printed (p.25) made by Janet Quail, Milwaukee and seconded by Stephanie Malaney, Appleton. Motion was approved.

Public Policy: Public Policy Coordinator Stephanie Malaney presented the public policy report (p. 26) including the “AAUW of Wisconsin Public Policy Statement for 2018-2020” (pp. 27- 28). She encouraged us to sign up for AAUW Two-Minute Activist. Malaney reported that the public policy counterparts had met Friday afternoon and set Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 9AM-3PM in Madison as a legislative day with a focus on “Get Out the Vote.”

Resolutions: Resolutions Chair Stephanie Malaney announced there were no new resolutions.

Video Message from AAUW: We viewed the 15-minute video message from our national office. Important points were: Take the on-line Work Smart and Start Smart (noted the \$500,000 grant from Coca Cola; support the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act; contribute to the “Greatest Needs Fund”; vote in the upcoming National Election (on-line voting open from April 1 - May 14, 2019).

Leadership: Leadership VP Joan Schneider reported (pp. 21-22) AAUW of Wisconsin offered three \$500 scholarships to this year’s National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) and noted the three recipients. The scholarship pays about half of the conference cost. Some branches also give money. Schneider recognized Betty McCleary of Northwoods Branch whose donation allowed us to offer the third scholarship this year.

Fund Development: Fund Development VP Mitzi Dearborn reported (p. 24) our 2019 convention fundraiser will raise money for both AAUW Start Smart and Work Smart. We offer four ways to raise funds: 23 silent auction items, sale of table centerpiece arrangements, sale of \$10 tote bags, and a donation box. The total Wisconsin state and branch giving for calendar year 2018 was \$79,085.41. Top branch for giving was Racine Branch with \$18,796. Dearborn thanked everyone for their purchases and contributions.

Program: Program VP Donna Weidman reported conventions were shortened from three days to two in 2012. During these years, attendance ranged from 100-156 but profits have remained similar. This year we lengthened convention slightly by beginning earlier on Friday PM. We also initiated accepting credit/debit card payments and it proved a success as 55 people used them. And the transaction information is useful in producing various lists and printing name tags. Publicity came this time by electronic version of *BB* and a paper invitation. Convention co-chairs sent email to registrants the week of convention offering tips and pointers. Our 2020 convention will be hosted by District 4 and held in La Crosse, on April 24-25. Since it will be the 100th anniversary of women winning the vote that may be part of the theme. In 2021 we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of AAUW of Wisconsin. District 1, which includes Madison, will host that year but Weidman envisions all of the state’s 5 districts participating on convention planning committee. Goal is to have all 27 branches at 100th anniversary.

Wisconsin was the first state to ratify the 19th amendment and Weidman reported there is currently an exhibit in the state capitol rotunda.

AAUW of WI Foundation Board: Stephanie Malaney reported the foundation is ready to go. She was instrumental in starting the 501(c)(3) as an incentive to donors to contribute funds to our cause as it offers donors a complete tax write-off. The funds do not need to be for Tech Savvy, possibly they could be used for NCCWSL scholarships or given as grants to other nonprofits. Racine Branch has its own. The new state foundation is a mechanism for other branches to solicit money for branch-designated projects.

District Meetings Reports from District Coordinators

District 1: Maggie Winz reported her district's 5 branches are small but mighty. Beaver Dam sponsors girls to go to Camp Badger STEM camp. Fort Atkinson plans a Tech Savvy for 2020 with UW Whitewater. Monona/Madison is mentoring student affiliates at UW Madison and is hosting a Start Smart.

District 2: Michelle Prosek was absent, but Lyn Hildenbrand reported on Milwaukee's 125th and Oconomowoc's 95th anniversaries.

District 3: Pat Ehler reported her District's 3 branches had fun putting together the convention and the collaboration will continue. The district has set up a committee to plan a joint activity day. Kenosha celebrates its 100th birthday.

District 4: Deb Thiel reported on her 5 branches in northwest corner of the state. Next year her district will host state convention in La Crosse.

District 5: Christine Ebert's district covers northeast Wisconsin's 9 branches. Judy Goodnight has agreed to be the new District 5 coordinator.

Legacy Circle: Ann Gustafson, River Falls, and member of the National Legacy Circle Team was not present to give her Legacy Circle Report due to leaving early because of the snow. She did host a 7:15AM breakfast for Legacy Circle members this morning.

Nominations: Nominating Committee Chair Kathy Salm thanked her committee and presented the proposed slate of officers:

President-Elect, Joan Schneider
Leadership VP, Maggie Winz
Membership VP, Christine Ebert

Election of Officers: Hildebrand called for confirmation of the slate of three officers. The slate was approved.

Nominating Committee: Chair Kathy Salm announced the members of the Nominating Committee for 2019-2020: Chair: Jean Kreul, Milwaukee; Alternate: Sharna Ahern, Geneva Lake; District 1: Leslie Brunzell; District 2: Carla Washington; District 3: Marlene Salley; District 4: Margot Bouchard; District 5: Faye Binsfeld

Lyn Hildebrand invited Dido Nash up to give a rousing argument claiming the nominating committee is the most important committee in our organization because it identifies leaders.

Membership Report/Awards: Membership VP Judy Goodnight reported on the overall decrease in state membership (provided in the chart with the explanatory description on p, 23). Goodnight noted that it had been a great pleasure to serve as Membership VP and offered to provide any further assistance through June 30th (when new officers assume their duties). Membership Awards are as follows:

I. Branches with less than 50 members:

First Place - Eau Claire +5

Second and Third Place tie - Beaver Dam and Tomah +3

II. Branches with 50 – 99 members

First Place - Sheboygan +15

Second Place - Milwaukee +7

Third Place - Ft. Atkinson +6

III. Branches with 100+ members

First Place - West Suburban Milwaukee +29

Second Place - Appleton +15

Third Place - Geneva Lake +13

Annual business meeting recessed at 10:15AM and resumed at 10:30AM.

2018-2019 State Board Member Appreciation: Hildebrand called up to the front of the room to recognize and thank elected and appointed state board members who served during 2018-2019:

Elected Officers

Lyn Hildenbrand, President

Joyce Gregg, Finance VP

Donna Weidman, Program VP

Judy Goodnight, Membership VP

Joan Schneider, Leadership VP

Mitzi Dearborn, Fund Development VP

Appointed Board Members

Nancy L. Schulz, Administrative Services
Coord

Tamara Morgan, Communication Coord.
/BB Ed.

Maggie Winz, District 1 Coordinator

Michelle Prosek, District 2 Coordinator

Pat Ehlert, District 3 Coordinator

Christine Ebert, District 5 Coordinator

Christine Yeager, IT Coordinator

Stephanie Malaney, Public Policy
Coordinator

Shirley Ann Metcalf, College/Univ.
Coordinator

Jeanne Tondryk, STEM Coordinator

Angela D. Sarni, Bylaws Chair
Connie Russell, Historian

Gretchen McCarthy, Local Convention
Co- Chair

Denise Anastasio, Local Convention
Co-Chair

Stephanie Malaney, Resolutions Chair

Kathy Salm, Nominating Committee Chair

Installation of Officers: Lyn Hildenbrand installed the three newly elected officers.

Introduction of 2019-2020 State Board Members: Lyn Hildenbrand introduced the new state board:

Elected Officers

President Lyn Hildenbrand,

Vice-President Joan Schneider

Finance VP Joyce Gregg,

Program VP Donna Weidman,

Membership VP Christine Ebert,

Leadership VP Maggie Winz

Fund Development VP Mitzi Dearborn,

Appointed Board Members

College/University Coordinator - open

STEM Coordinator Jeanne Tondryk

Bylaws Chair Angela D. Sarni

Historian Connie Russell

Local Convention Arrangements

Chair - open

Administrative Services Coord. Shirley

Ann Metcalf,

Communication Coord. /BB Editor Tamara
Morgan

District 1 Coordinator Kleo Baruth Kritz

District 2 Coordinator Carol Surges

District 3 Coordinator Pat Ehlert,

District 4 Coordinator Deb Thiel

District 5 Coordinator Judy Goodnight,

IT Coordinator Jessica May

Public Policy Coordinator

Stephanie Malaney

Resolutions Chair - open

Nominating Committee Chair Jean Kreul

Annual business meeting recessed at 10:45AM and resumed at 3:30PM.

New Business

Fund Development Announcements: Mitzi Dearborn announced that at this convention we raised \$4,330 through donations and sales of baskets, centerpieces, and totes. The money will go to the AAUW national initiatives Start Smart/Work Smart.

Call to 2020 Convention: La Crosse Branch President Jan Ericksen (current convention committee chair) invited us to the next state convention. On behalf of host district, District 4, she invited us to La Crosse for the 100th state convention to be held April 24-25, 2020.

Announcements & Adjournment: Lyn Hildenbrand renewed her challenge for us to vote in AAUW national elections, use website to sign up for Work Smart, and keep in touch throughout the year with two new people we met at this convention. She also asked us to focus on counterparts as they are key to our improving our state association and urged us to reach out over the year between conventions to share best practices.

MOTION: motion to adjourn annual business meeting made by Cindi Larsen, Racine and seconded by Carla Washington, Milwaukee. Motion approved.

3:45PM adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Schulz, Administrative Services Coordinator 2018-2019

Wisconsin Women Leaders of the 1920s



Jessie Jack Hooper (1865-1935), like many in Wisconsin's suffrage movement, was active in women's clubs, which eventually motivated her to become a leader in school reform and public health campaigns. She realized that male government officials had no interest in what she had to say because she couldn't vote, so Hooper began turning her attention to a campaign to grant women voting rights.

She frequently left her Oshkosh home to promote suffrage in Washington, D.C., and pressured governors in western states to ratify the 19th Amendment. As a Democrat, she ran against incumbent U.S. Sen. Robert La Follette Sr. in 1922, losing handily. But the campaign inspired Hooper to become a peace activist. Hooper was the first president of the Wisconsin League of Women Voters.

Leadership Development

Maggie Winz, Leadership VP

In a Year of No, AAUW said YES!

2020 has been a year of many challenges. But your AAUW is moving forward with ambitious goals and positive attitude, because AAUW members said “Yes!”

Yes to continuing branch meetings and book groups,
via Zoom-- something that most of us had never used before.
Yes to voting online for branch and state officer positions.
Yes to approving budgets and awarding scholarships.
Yes to finding alternatives to our traditional book sales to raise scholarship money.
Yes to hosting virtual STEM events for middle and high school students.
Yes to celebrating the 19th Amendment with car parades and virtual events.



AAUW is saying Yes to our future leaders with our NCCWSL Scholarship:

This year NCCWSL (National Conference of College Women Student Leaders) will be online due to the pandemic.

AAUW-Wisconsin is offering twelve (12) scholarships for college women to attend this year.

The virtual conference will be held May 25 & 26, 2021.

For more information go to NCCWSL.org.

Each branch has the opportunity to nominate one woman from their community, currently enrolled in an accredited technical, 2-year, or 4-year college.

Nominations for the state scholarships are due March 15, 2021.

Each scholarship will be \$125 to cover the cost of registration.

Scholarship recipients will be announced soon after March 15.

Have you been doing some major house cleaning during this pandemic stay at home time? So has the state board:

Many branch and state board members have said Yes to:

- * Bringing our state bylaws in alignment with the state policy sheet.
- *Identifying important public policy issues that our state is facing.
- *Creating a tool to help bring branches into closer alignment with state and national goals
- *Nominating members to fill upcoming board positions.
- *Planning an outstanding virtual convention for April 2021.
- *Staying in touch via our Badger Briefs newsletter.

****And so much more!**

Wisconsin Women Leaders of the 1920s

Carrie Chapman Catt (1859-1947) Born in Ripon, WI, Carrie was a key figure in passing the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. She also founded the League of Women Voters. She continued her activism for the rest of her life.



Chris Ebert, Membership VP

**Chart I: Membership Report for AAUW Wisconsin
May, 2019 – February 28, 2021**

Branch	Total Members	Regular Members (including renewals)	Life Time Members	New Members 2019 & 2020
Appleton	138	128	10	9
Beaver Dam	37	35	2	1
Chippewa Falls	25	24	1	0
Eau Claire	39	35	4	3
Fond du Lac	29	26	3	0
Fort Atkinson	53	50	3	1
Geneva Lake	93	92	1	12
Green Bay	51	47	4	11
Janesville	51	43	8	6
Kenosha	38	35	3	7
La Crosse	75	69	6	5
Lake Country	10	9	1	0
Milwaukee	60	52	8	10
Monona-Madison	67	58	9	7
Northwoods	48	47	1	6
Oconomowoc	1	1	4	0
Oshkosh	46	32	14	5
Racine	195	177	18	11
River Falls	53	48	5	11
Sheboygan	91	72	19	7
Tomah	19	18	1	4
Watertown	39	38	1	5
Wausau	34	29	5	6
West Bend	20	16	4	0
West Suburban Milwaukee	192	174	18	24
Total	1508	1355	153	151

In this report, we'll examine two charts with respect to New Members for 2019 & 2020 (both years included given the challenges of Covid-19) and Retention Rates based on Membership Totals (as of February 28*) in 2019, 2020, 2021 and comparing 2019 to 2020, 2020-2021 and 2019-2021.

Analysis

We can initially sort the branches by greatest number of new members:

1. West-Suburban Milwaukee 24
2. Geneva Lake 12
3. Green Bay, Racine, River Falls 11
4. Milwaukee 10
5. Appleton 9
6. Monona-Madison, Kenosha, Sheboygan 7
7. Janesville, Northwoods and Wausau 6

We can also examine the percentage of new members to the total. In this case, four branches with fewer members have made significant strides. Both Green Bay and River Falls had approximately a 21% increase with 11 new members each compared to their respective totals of 51 and 53. Also Kenosha and Wausau had increases of 15.8% and 17.6% respectively compared to their totals of 38 and 34.

From the report in the Fall of 2020, in which we examined the current branch membership totals and the number that needed to renew, every branch except three declined – Chippewa Falls, Lake Country and Wausau and the River Falls branch increased. The differences ranged from a high of 21 to just 1 as indicated by the following table.

Range of Membership Decline	# of Branches
14-21	4
5-12	7
0-4	12
	Total = 23

It certainly “stands to reason,” that the largest branches experienced the larger declines which can most likely be attributed to several factors. However, the good news is the small decline experienced by the majority of our branches. In general, we can commend all of our branches for their efforts to recruit and welcome new members (especially in this very difficult time of the Covid-19 Pandemic and meetings via Zoom) and to continue and promote the excellent work of AAUW in Wisconsin and nationally.

Chart II: Retention Rate for Membership Report AAUW Wisconsin February 2019, 2020, 2021

In this chart (see next page) it is important to note that in very few exceptions, the Retention Rates in all the yearly comparisons remained well above 85%. This truly attests to the fact that membership has remained dynamic and robust.

With only two exceptions, all branches’ Rate of Retention between 2019 and 2020 were well above 90%. From 2020 to 2021, we observe membership declines and yet the Retention Rates are almost all still well above 85% and 5 branches had Retention Rates equal to or greater than 100%.

I also included the membership comparison values between 2019 and 2021. This is an important comparison because it represents the time when branch activities were “normal” and “today” when we have been meeting via Zoom for approximately one year. Even given these challenges, we still see that almost all branches have a Retention Rate greater than or equal to 85%.

Again, we should graciously commend and offer our support to all of our branches for maintaining and increasing membership in these very challenging times as all continue to promote the excellent work of AAUW in Wisconsin and nationally.

Branch	2/1/2019	2/1/2020	Rate 19-20	2/1/2021	Rate 20-21	Rate 19-21
Appleton	164	156	95.12	138	88.5	84.2
Beaver Dam	48	45	93.7	37	82.2	77.1
Chippewa Falls	27	25	92.6	25	100.0	92.5
Eau Claire	43	39	90.7	39	100.0	90.7
Fond du Lac	32	31	96.9	29	93.5	90.6
Fort Atkinson	59	56	94.9	53	94.6	89.8
Geneva Lake	105	107	101.9	93	86.9	88.6
Green Bay	50	58	116.0	51	87.9	102.0
Janesville	57	56	98.2	51	91.07	89.5
Kenosha	33	44	133.3	38	86.4	115.0
La Crosse	85	82	96.5	75	91.4	88.2
Lake Country	9	10	111.1	10	100.0	111.1
Milwaukee	70	74	106.0	60	81.1	85.7
Monona-Madison	70	68	97.1	67	98.5	95.7
Northwoods	54	56	103.7	48	85.7	88.9
Oconomowoc	21	17	80.9	1	n/a	n/a
Oshkosh	44	48	109.0	46	95.8	104.5
Racine	217	217	100.0	195	89.9	89.9
River Falls	51	48	94.1	53	110.4	103.9
Sheboygan	94	97	103.2	91	93.8	96.8
Tomah	21	22	104.8	19	86.4	90.5
Watertown	39	41	105.12	39	95.12	100.0
Wausau	36	30	83.33	34	113.33	94.44
West Bend	23	21	91.3	20	95.2	86.9
West Suburban-Milwaukee	204	209	102.5	192	91.9	94.1
Total	1656	1657	100.0	1508	91.0	91.06

AAUW WI Foundation Inc. 501(c) 3

Stephanie Malaney, Board President

The Foundation was established so branches could apply for donations from corporations and other donors that are 100% tax deductible. Originally the Foundation was started to raise money for Tech Savvy but is available for all Wisconsin branches. The AAUW WI Foundation cannot be legally connected to the AAUW WI so it is its own identity governed by a separate board and Bylaws.

Each branch who chooses to use the Foundation would have their own line-item account within the AAUW WI Foundation. To comply with the laws governing a 501 (c)3, branches can have the Foundation pay bills directly for event expenses or request a reimbursement for expenses. Funds deposited in the account cannot be moved back and forth between other branch accounts.

Wisconsin Women Leaders of the 1920s

Olympia Brown (1835-1926) is credited with being the first female ordained minister in the U.S. Voting in Racine in 1887, the first year women could vote in WI, she filed suit when her ballot was thrown out. Brown gave hundreds of speeches supporting women's suffrage and was a leader of the Wisconsin Suffrage Association.



Joyce Gregg, AAUW-WI Finance VP

AAUW-WI Quarter 2 Finance Report FY21			
July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020			
Summary	Year to Date Through Quarter 1		
	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue			
Dues	\$8,268.00	\$20,000.00	-\$11,732.00
Events (Convention-net)		3,000.00	-3,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	252.56	4,000.00	-3,747.44
Total Revenue	\$8,520.56	\$27,000.00	-\$18,479.44
Expenses			
Program and Action		\$600.00	\$600.00
Membership	9.70	250.00	240.30
Communications and Visibility		1,500.00	1,500.00
AAUW Funds		4,000.00	4,000.00
Leadership Development		2,500.00	2,500.00
Board Administration	512.69	1,500.00	987.31
Events	114.70	6,650.00	6,535.30
Mileage, Meals, Lodging		10,000.00	10,000.00
Total Expenses	\$637.09	\$27,000.00	\$26,362.91
Net Income/(Loss)	\$7,883.47		
	July 1, 2020	31-Dec-20	Inc.(Dec.)
AAUW-WI Checking	\$37,043.12	\$44,926.03	\$7,882.91
AAUW-WI Money Market	\$10,014.69	\$10,015.25	
AAUW-WI CD	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	
WI Convention Checking	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Totals	\$63,057.81	\$70,941.28	\$7,883.47
<i>Submitted by Joyce Gregg, AAUW-WI Finance VP, on December 31, 2020</i>			
Quarter 3 report will be available at the end of March.			

Wisconsin Women Leaders of the 1920s

Theodora Winton Youmans (1863-1932), was born in Ashippun, WI. Theodora was an American journalist, editor and woman's suffrage activist. Working for the *Waukesha Freeman*, she was a pioneer in her field. Youmans was a community leader and a member of various boards and committees. She was the "suffrage writer" at the *Freeman*. Working with Carrie Chapman Catt and many others, the 19th amendment passed in 1919. Youmans became the first president of the Wisconsin chapter of the League of Women Voters in 1920. Two years later she ran for state senate as a Republican but lost.



Jean Kreul, Fund Development VP

Development is Fund-amental

Two funds are part of AAUW's Five Star Program offering State and Branch organizations recognition for meeting certain requirements, one of which is Advancement. Meeting the criteria for increases in the funds would earn a star.



Legacy Circle

Have you considered joining the Legacy Circle? There is no minimum gift requirement to join and the benefits are many. Legacy Circle members make a planned gift to AAUW designated from their will, estate, or trust. The benefits of joining:

- Planned gifts afford you flexibility to provide for your family and support AAUW.
- Certain planned gifts may reduce estate or capital gains taxes.
- Planned gifts need not affect your cash flow during your lifetime.
- Certain types of planned gifts allow you to support AAUW while also providing income for the rest of your life — or a fixed income for a loved one.

Knowing that your legacy gift will sustain AAUW's programs for years to come is the ultimate benefit!

Greatest Needs

AAUW describes the use of this fund as allowing, "AAUW to respond rapidly, in our communications and advocacy, to critical issues affecting women as they emerge." Having this fund available allows AAUW to respond to threats to Title IX or the dawn of a social justice movement like #MeToo. Donations not restricted to fellowships or specific projects provide dollars to pivot as the national dialogue shifts. Additionally, Greatest Needs supports AAUW's groundbreaking research and effective advocacy work to pass fair-pay laws and other key equity legislation. Giving to Greatest Needs ensures AAUW's continued visibility, relevance and sustainability.



Wisconsin Women Leaders of the 1920s

Ada James (1876-1952), a Richland Center native was active in the suffrage movement forming a club while still in high school. She later joined the Wisconsin Suffrage Association and was appointed vice president. On the day Wisconsin became the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment, James enlisted her father, a former state senator who sponsored the 1912 referendum, to speed to Washington, D.C. to deliver the paperwork to the State Department.

AAUW Auction Thursday, April 22 8:00 a.m. to Tuesday, April 27 8:00 p.m.

AAUW WI has held a fund-raising event in support of AAUW National at convention for many years. Fund raising events have included the following: 100+ entries to bid on, to each District offering a “basket” for which raffle tickets could be purchased, to t-shirts sold - all to raise funds. This year, we are doing a Virtual Auction to raise funds for AAUW’s Greatest Needs Fund.

AAUW has, since its founding in 1881, been the nation’s leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. This past year underscored the inequities that make the mission of AAUW relevant. The Greatest Needs Fund’s use ranges from developing and reporting on research that follows the gender pay gap to pivoting to respond to up-to-the-minute developments like the #METOO movement. This year, let’s show our support for the Greatest Needs Fund.

How to use the Auction site:

Visit the convention website: [AAUW Auction – AAUW WI \(aauwwistateconvention.com\)](http://aauwwistateconvention.com)

You will need to set up an account on the Auction website:

- 1) Click on the Auction link on the top right side of the Convention Website, then click on the blue Join Us Over at the Auction box.
- 2) Click on Login on the top right-hand side of the 32 Auction web page.
- 3) Look for *Create an account now* to the right of the Login box in the center of the screen.
- 4) Complete the information on the screen. When finished, the I Am Not a Robot box will have a check mark. Please remember your password!
- 5) You will receive an email to complete your registration. Read it and click on *Yes, finish my account*.
- 6) You will be taken back to 32 Auctions.
- 7) To log out, find the word Account at the top right-hand side of the page; use the drop-down arrow to find *Logout*. Click on that word to logout of 32 Auctions.

To go back to the Auction, click on the Join the Auction link on the Convention web page and enter the requested information and click on Login. See step #7 to log out,

Wisconsin Women Leaders of the 1920s

Laura Ross Wolcott (1834-1915) was the first female physician in Wisconsin and first president of the Wisconsin Women’s Suffrage Association, expanding the group to chapters throughout the state. In 1869, Wolcott organized the first women’s suffrage convention in the state. She campaigned for the right of higher education for women, calling the segregated system at the University of Wisconsin one of the “petty ways in which girls can be defrauded of their rights to a thorough education by narrow, bigoted men.” She died in 1915, five years before all American women were granted the right to vote.



AAUW WI Public Policy

Stephanie Malaney, Coordinator

The AAUW WI Public Policy Committee has worked to filter through the many issues that are important to our members. In planning our work, the committee uses our AAUW WI Public Policy Statements and Resolutions passed at conventions along with AAUW Public Policy Priorities. By zeroing in on the issues the committee hopes to inform, to educate, and to activate our members.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/aauw-public-policy-priorities/>
<https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/policy/>

This year the committee spent the summer months planning two webinars for August. The August 25 webinar was on Fair Maps and Wisconsin Public Education. Carlene from Fair Maps Wisconsin shared how district maps are drawn and the bipartisan support efforts. Heather DuBois from Wisconsin Public Education Network talked about how vouchers for private education impacts public schools. The second webinar was titled *Being an Informed Voter and Getting Out the Vote*. For this webinar speakers Matt Rothschild from The Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, Debra Cronmiller from the Wisconsin League of Women Voters, and Robin Lucas from national AAUW shared their expertise. Matt spoke on how to differentiate between fake news and real facts, Debra talked on how to inform and encourage voting during the pandemic, and Robin had suggested ways to Get Out the Vote.

After the election, the committee prioritized our work on two issues at the state level. The committee decided to focus our attention on Fair Maps and the Wisconsin State Budget as it relates to women's health, education, student debt, and Title IX.

Current Work

Committee members are now refocused on Fair Maps. The way district lines are drawn can have a significant impact on how legislators respond to their voters and there is growing concerns about voter suppression. AAUW WI members can expect more information on how to be involved.

The committee is also supporting the efforts of some of our AAUW members serving on the Caregiving Task Force. <https://consortium.gws.wisc.edu/caregiving-task-force/>

And finally, we continue to support the Paycheck Fairness Act that AAUW hopes to see passed this year. AAUW has spearheaded this act for 22 years. Signing up for Two-Minute Activist helps members be informed to support the passage of Paycheck Fairness Act.

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

AAUW WI Public Policy Committee

This committee has been continually active since early summer. I want to thank the Public Policy Committee who have been working tirelessly. If you want to join the committee contact Stephanie Malaney, smalaney5@aol.com or (920) 740-9632.

AAUW-WI Public Policy Statement 2020-22

1. To preserve a strong system of public education promoting equity and diversity,

AAUW-WI advocates

- Vigorous enforcement of Title IX and other civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination at all levels of education from early childhood development through elementary, secondary, and post-secondary institutions
- Promotion of activities and education that teach critical thinking, tolerance, conflict resolution, and the value of diversity in our public schools
- Equitable and adequate funding to promote excellence and quality public education
- Rigorous state standards for entry into the teaching profession and recognition of a teaching license as the primary requirement for employment in public schools
- Education program to address equity issues
- Opposition to diversions of public funds to non-public elementary and secondary schools, e.g. tuition tax credits, vouchers, etc.
- Comprehensive and medically accurate health and human sexuality programs, research-based science, the arts, humanities, multicultural studies and world languages in elementary and secondary schools
- Increased level of participation for girls and young women in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in elementary and secondary schools
- Support for and access to higher education for women and disadvantaged populations

2. To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women,

AAUW-WI advocates

- Pay equity and fairness in compensation
- Affirmative action programs to improve racial, ethnic, and gender diversity
- Programs that empower women by providing them with education, training, and support for success in the work force, including non-traditional occupations
- Public assistance programs for women in poverty that improve access to education, career development, and earning potential
- Strengthening Wisconsin laws regarding victims' rights, sexual assault, domestic abuse, spousal impoverishment prevention, and sexual harassment through increased legislative efforts and improved enforcement
- Access to quality, affordable dependent care and adequate family and medical leave
- Improved economic security for all women across the lifespan

3. To guarantee equality, individual rights and social justice for a diverse society,

AAUW-WI advocates

- Promotion of gender fair opportunities, representation, and compensation at all levels of employment
- Increased voter education, voter registration, and candidate development
- Vigorous enforcement of voting rights
- Campaign finance reform that will promote equitable participation and representation
- Expansion of opportunities for women's participation at all levels of government
- Vigorous defense and expansion of civil and constitutional rights
- Preserving rights of individual choice in the determination of one's reproductive life
- Improved accessibility and affordability of quality mental and physical health care
- Improved research and treatment of women's health across the life span
- Support for programs that include adequate funding to prevent violence against women and to address the impact of violence against women
- Adoption of safe harbor laws to protect child victims of human trafficking from being prosecuted for something to which they cannot consent
- Promotes water cleanliness, supply, and access to all



Meet the Nominees for Wisconsin State Board Elected Positions

The nominating committee, comprised of representatives from each district and a past state president (needed for the years we elect a president elect), worked well together to find leaders for the next biennium. Nominees will be elected during the virtual state convention. I would like to thank these members of the committee for their time and dedication: Bobbi White, Terri Mitchell, Gretchen McCarthy, Ann Brice, Jane Doughty, and Betty Pontius. We are proud to introduce the candidates for elected positions. Terms will begin in July of this year.

Faye Binsfeld, Nominations Chair

Maggie Winz President Elect

(currently Leadership VP)

My name is Margaret Alice Winz, but please call me Maggie. I was born and raised in Washington, DC, and Greenbelt, Maryland, and have lived in Wisconsin since attending the UW-Madison for my BS degree and UW-Milwaukee for my MS. I'm now a proud member of "Packer Nation." I taught kindergarten for 33 years in Dousman, the same little town where we live. By the end of my career I was teaching "grand-students," aka children of my former students. I was honored to be the Wisconsin Elementary Teacher of the Year in 1992 and also was adjunct faculty at Carroll College School of Education in Waukesha for several years.



Retirement has been a gift. My husband Richard and I enjoy gardening and creative pursuits around our house: fishing, traveling, playing pickle ball, and doing volunteer work. Some of our most memorable volunteer experiences were doing hurricane relief in Mississippi after Katrina. We returned to the Gulf Coast for 10 years to do rebuilding. Richard and I enjoy being volunteer docents at Ten Chimneys in Genesee Depot, the home of actors Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne, and belonging to the Whitewater Optimist Club.

Among the many people who have inspired me are my Grandma Anna, who came to America at age 15, learned to read and write English, and became a US citizen in time to vote in 1920 when women gained the right to vote; my mother Rose, who went to college against her father's wishes and became a nurse; and my AAUW friends.

Belonging to AAUW Fort Atkinson has given me a sense of purpose and belonging that I cherish. I am inspired by the many women of AAUW and am grateful to serve this wonderful organization.



Deb Thiel Leadership Vice President
(currently Dist. 4 Coordinator)

I am Deborah (Deb) Thiel, presently serving AAUW as the Wisconsin District 4 Coordinator and Tomah Branch President. I joined AAUW due to its meaningful mission, encouraged by the example of the leaders in my Branch, their informative programs and community service.

I enjoyed Branch Meetings. I later found connection with the State network of AAUW particularly invigorating and enlightening; that all started while attending my first State Convention in Milwaukee. That convention was great by the way! While there I stumbled into the role of Nominating

Committee member. This turned out to be the best possible experience for me, through which I've had the opportunity to meet some of the most amazing women! Henceforth I decided to say "yes" to any sensible AAUW opportunity presenting itself. So here I am on the cusp of an opportunity to further our mission.

My intent as VP for Leadership is to continue to form a strong communication linkage with and through our 5 District Coordinators. They are the Central Nervous System of our State Organization. The better we connect our members here the stronger our impact.

I've concluded that in this day and age, of sometimes over-connection with the whole world, it is important to find YOUR People, those like-minded accomplished, bright, giving individuals who share the same enthusiasm and passion for improving the world and helping women and girls achieve optimal educational and economic equity. This is what I've found in AAUW.

We often hear we should "Be the Change we want to see." But how do we advance change? I asked Google. Answer: "If at least 25 percent of a community's population is committed to changing what is considered the social norm..., a shift will occur, and the majority will adopt the new behavior." The take away: While we may not be able to achieve anything alone, we can certainly accomplish the change we want to see together! So, here's to 2021 and the days ahead! Say yes. Many hands make little work and bring exceptional satisfaction and joy!

Carol Surges Membership Vice President
(currently Dist. 2 Coordinator)



I joined AAUW West Suburban-Milwaukee in July 2013 when I discovered AAUW's mission to advance equity to women and girls resonated with my personal beliefs. I became involved with branch activities immediately and before long I was chairing the branch Public Policy committee. In July 2015, I accepted the co-President role. I immediately worked to increase communication within the branch implementing regular e-blasts and monthly PowerPoints, assisting with the Facebook page, and more recently managing our Zoom-based meetings. Throughout the past seven or eight years, due to dedicated, creative and enthusiastic teamwork our branch membership has grown steadily.

At the state level, I worked actively on the 2018 State Convention and accepted the District Two coordinator position the following year. As the District Coordinator, I worked at building collaboration within the branches and communicating with them regularly on state and national activities. I look forward to using the same approaches to help build connections within the state's membership leaders. There are many talented membership chairs and VPs around Wisconsin and I want to support them, share their successes, and brainstorm solutions to the recruitment and retention challenges we are all facing.

On a personal level, I am a retired public-school librarian/media specialist. I've been married for 45 years and have two adult children – including a daughter who is also an AAUW member – and one grandbaby with a second one due in mid-April.

AAUW WI Committees 2020-2021

Convention Committee

Donna Anderson, Monona/Madison, chair; Kleo Baruth Kritz, Monona/Madison, District 1 coordinator; Mary Kahler, Beaver Dam; Kathy Marr, Fort Atkinson; Maggie Winz, Fort Atkinson; Diane Adams, Janesville; Pat Phillips, Janesville; Bobbi White, Monona/Madison; Jan Eriksen, La Crosse, Convention Chair 2020; Lyn Hildenbrand, State Program Vice President; Jean Kreul, Fund Development Vice President; Joan Schneider, State President; Ann Brice La Crosse, Tech Support.

Communication Coordination

Carol Surges, West Suburban-Milwaukee; Mary Messerlie, West Suburban-Milwaukee; Deb Thiel, Tomah; Jessica May, Milwaukee.

Strategic Plan Review

Maggie Winz, Fort Atkinson; Deb Thiel, Tomah.

Technology

Jessica May, Milwaukee; Mitzi Dearborn, West Suburban-Milwaukee; Connie Russell, Eau Claire; Deb Thiel, Tomah; Judy Goodnight, Appleton.

Bylaws, Policy Sheet, Job Description

Mitzi Dearborn, West Suburban-Milwaukee; Connie Polley, Appleton.

Nominating

Faye Binsfeld, Appleton, chair; Bobbi White, Monona/Madison; Terri Mitchell, West Suburban-Milwaukee; Gretchen McCarthy, Geneva Lake; Ann Brice, La Crosse; Jane Doughty, Appleton; Betty Pontius, Appleton, Past President.

Facebook

Jessica May, Milwaukee; Judy Goodnight, Appleton; Marlene Salley, Racine.

Public Policy

Stephanie Malaney, Appleton, chair; Andrea Waxman, Milwaukee; Susan Barbee, Racine; Carol Watson, Janesville; Bobbi White, Monona/Madison; Ann Brice, La Crosse; Brigid Heydt, Lake Country; Christine Ebert, Northwoods; Consuelo Lopez, Monona/Madison; Nancy DeCono, Watertown; Frankie Fuller, Fort Atkinson; Mary Hayden, Eau Claire; Jacqui Klimaszewski, Appleton; Janet Nortrom; Julie Konik, Sheboygan; Kathy Walson, Geneva Lake; Karen Urban, Racine; Barbara Peterson, River Falls; Margaret Tungseth, Racine; Mary Beth Petesch, Oshkosh; Ann King, Chippewa Falls; Marge Williams, West Suburban-Milwaukee; Nancy Arnold, Janesville; Patricia Markos, Pam Taylor, Northwoods; Rita Pachal, Wausau; Sharna Ahern, Geneva Lake; Sarah Harder, Deb Thiel, Tomah; Wanda Nelson, Monona/Madison; Judy Goodnight, Becky O'Connor, Appleton; Suzanne Hagen, River Falls; Alicia Johnson, Oshkosh; Jean Kreul, Milwaukee; Carole Salinas, Janesville; Jessica May, Milwaukee.

Joan Schneider Jan, 2021

AAUW PINS—A Way To Celebrate 100 Years Of Suffrage

We are celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's rights (1920-2020) at our convention this year since last year's convention was cancelled due to the pandemic. The 2020 Convention committee had 500 high quality enamel pins (one-inch diameter) created for the convention. There are no registration fees this year for Convention 2021. Consider making a donation to AAUW Wisconsin, and you will receive an AAUW pin in gratitude for each donation of at least \$10 (for example, one pin for a \$10 donation, two for \$20, three for \$30, etc.). The pins would make great gifts for your AAUW friends or for future speakers at your branch meetings!! Even if you can't attend the convention, you can still get a memorial pin! Send your check and the completed form to Jan Eriksen, 3503 Crown Blvd., La Crosse, WI 54601. Questions? Email: jperiksen@viterbo.edu.



AAUW Pin designed by Erica Koonmen, La Crosse AAUW Branch, and Tegan Jerde-Koonmen

COMMEMORATIVE AAUW-WI SUFFRAGE PINS

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Email _____

(We will only contact you if we have questions about your donation/pin request.)

Amount of check enclosed (made out to AAUW-WI) _____

Number of pins requested _____

Please send to: Jan Eriksen, 3503 Crown Blvd., La Crosse, WI 54601.



AAUW Wisconsin's Five Star Branches

Do you remember the first time you read the requirements for a Five Star Branch? Frankly, I was a little overwhelmed. Then I started taking a closer look at the requirements and our state and branches. Couldn't we already see that we were meeting some of the qualifications and others would only enrich AAUW WI? It was attainable! We needed to look at Programs, Advancement, Communications, Public Policy and Governance! Then national said they would give us a little extra time to accomplish this! That was it! The following branches have been recognized:

Five Stars: Appleton, Racine, River Falls

Three Stars: Janesville, Monona/Madison

I am sure those branches would answer your questions if you have any. I also have a great resource person that I would be happy to share with you if you contact me!

Joan Schneider

joandschneider@gmail.com

920.734.2009

Legacy Circle

Plan Wisely - for Today's Needs and for Tomorrow

How do you take care of the people and things that matter most to you – now and for the future?

Through careful planning, you can benefit your loved ones and your charitable interests while investing in equity for women and girls. Some reasons to create a plan include:



- Taking care of loved ones
- Memorializing someone you care about
- Advancing equity for women and girls through AAUW
- Increasing current income for you and/or others
- Passing more on to heirs with reduced taxes
- Reducing income tax
- Avoiding capital gains tax

As you consider what is important to you and how to reflect that in your legacy, we invite you to reach out to us. Our knowledgeable gift planning staff is available to assist with any questions you may have. You may also request a Legacy Circle brochure by calling or emailing AAUW's National Office. **You can make a difference in the lives of women and girls by joining the AAUW Legacy Circle.**

For assistance, contact Heather Miller, AAUW National's Director of Advancement, at: 202-785-7766 or by email, at millerh@aauw.org. **Ann Gustafson of the AAUW Legacy Circle Team is also available to assist you** and may be reached by email, at agus905@gmail.com.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR THE FUTURE

If you are considering including AAUW National in your estate plans, please accept our thanks. So often, wonderful and committed AAUW members make these gifts, but we are unable to thank them because we don't learn of their decision during their lifetime. We ask that you let us know so we may honor and celebrate you in the Legacy Circle. These gifts make a huge difference, and we are deeply grateful for your generosity.

Here is some suggested wording for your attorney: "After fulfilling all other specific provisions, I give, devise, and bequeath ____% of the residue [or \$_____ if a specific amount] to AAUW National, a District of Columbia charitable corporation [Tax ID #52-6037388] currently having offices located at 1310 L Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005."

Acknowledgements

2020 has been a year of new learning experiences for all of us with many of our AAUW branches mastering how to Zoom to connect with each other in our general meetings, book clubs, projects, and holiday events. So why not with our State Convention 2021?

This has been a challenge for District 1 but the creative and hard-working committee this year has been Zooming each month to put together a memorable convention. Since our meetings were always virtual, we have had the ability to include in our committee state officers from throughout Wisconsin with expertise in essential areas. As a result, a variety of these talented individuals from Appleton, La Crosse, and Milwaukee could all “visit” District 1 with their expertise within minutes rather than a two or three hour drive! Furthermore, we want to acknowledge the 2020 Convention Committee who did so much preliminary work we were not able to see in their 2020 convention but whose work helped us outline our 2021 virtual convention. Members from 10 of our 25 branches have been involved in indeed making this a statewide event in every sense of that word.

Convention Chair: Donna Anderson, Monona/Madison

District 1 Coordinator: Kleo Baruth Kritz, Monona/Madison

Mary Kahler, Beaver Dam

Kathy Marr and Maggie Winz, Fort Atkinson

Diane Adams and Pat Phillips, Janesville

Bobbi White, Monona/Madison

Joan Schneider, State President, Appleton

Ann Brice, Branch President, La Crosse

Jan Eriksen, Convention Chair 2020, La Crosse

Jean Kreul, State Fund Development VP, Milwaukee

Lyn Hildenbrand, State Program VP, Milwaukee



Special recognition needs to be given to the following committee members:

- Ann Brice, our technology coordinator, who generously volunteered her time to create the website—this is the first convention website Wisconsin has ever had--and who will administer the actual convention, making our first virtual convention possible
- Pat Phillips who volunteered her talents to be our technology assistant
- Diane Adams who creatively and colorfully designed our convention booklet
- Jean Kreul who is administering the State auction for the Greatest Needs Fund and her auction committee of Carole Salinas (Janesville), Carol Surges (West Suburban Milwaukee), and Jeanne Tondryk (Oshkosh)
- Jan Erikson who is in charge of the AAUW anniversary pins to celebrate 100 years of suffrage, which is a fund raiser for AAUW Wisconsin
- Mary Kahler, our dedicated secretary of our monthly committee meetings, whose accuracy and action list at end of the minutes, kept us on task

And special thanks to these individuals for their creative designs originally to be used in 2020:

- Andrea Schaffer, Eau Claire, for her poster of the past and present suffragists
- Tegan Jerde-Koonmen, graphic designer, for her logo of state of Wisconsin
- Erica Koonmen, La Crosse, and Tegan Jerde-Koonman for designing the AAUW pins