



APPLETON (WI) BRANCH

The Apple Branch

American Association of University Women

Appleton, Wisconsin

Volume 36 Number 6, January 2022

"But the great hunger, the greatest of all hungers, is the hunger for a meaningful life." – **Dr. Tererai Trent, author, professor, Oprah's favorite guest, 2001-02 AAUW International Fellow**

Jan 4	Travel Group—Oshkosh
Jan 4	Second Choice Books
Jan 5	Tech Savvy Meeting
Jan 6	Membership Committee & DEI Meeting
Jan 10	Zoom Art Class
Jan 11	Branch Meeting
Jan 19	Afternoon Literature
Jan 20	Afternoon Literature
Jan 24	Public Policy Meeting
Jan 25	Social Justice Meeting
Jan 26	AAUW Reads Discussion
Jan 26	Trivia Contest
Jan 27	AAUW Reads Discussion

When grandson Jack was about 5, he was wandering around a drug store with his dad when he spied a display of canes. "Look, dad! Dancing sticks!" Dancing sticks. Now that puts a whole new perspective on things, doesn't it? It got me thinking how perspective can really put a spin on how we live our lives. Sometimes we just need to dig deep, breathe and change our focus even if for just a moment. We need to find a way to bring meaning to our lives. We need to turn our canes into dancing sticks.

There are so many ways AAUW can redirect our thinking and provide us with opportunities that bring meaning to our lives. As the calendar year changes and we (again!) hope for a bit more "normalcy", we are reminded that for so many women, normal has not been easy. By being a part of AAUW, taking part in public policy actions, joining enlightening discussions and conversations, stepping up to leadership roles...we are actively engaging in this amazing organization. You've heard it before...but for 140 years AAUW has focused on economic security, education and advocacy. That translates into hundreds of published reports, countless new laws, and the support of thousands of scholars. And still going strong. Still dancing.

Sometimes when we are using those canes, literally and figuratively, we lose our momentum. We get stuck. We lose focus. We stumble. Make January, 2022 the start of your own new dance! Start by joining an AAUW Reads discussion! Say yes to a committee or volunteer for Tech Savvy! Mark your calendar to attend the virtual state convention! Become a Two-Minute Activist (aauw.org) and get regular alerts to take timely action on issues crucial to AAUW. By doing just one of these things, we can bring meaning to our lives. We can turn those canes to dancing sticks.

I can guarantee you will find your dance partner in our branch.

Becky O'Connor, past president

bandboc@gmail.com

Program News



MARK YOUR 2022 CALENDAR NOW!

January Program & Branch Meeting
Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 5:30 PM on ZOOM
“Microaggressions”

Presenter: Ozalle Toms
Assistant Vice Chancellor—Student Diversity,
Engagement, & Success—UW Whitewater

Ms. Toms will talk about how to recognize microaggressions and their harmful impact on people of color.

The discussion will be followed by the branch business meeting.

Watch for an email with the Zoom link a few days before the meeting.

Save the email because Judy cannot respond to last minute requests for the link while she is hosting the meeting.



Thank you - Gracias - Arigato - Danke - Merci

A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the December Holiday Brunch and fundraisers. Also a big thank you to all members and their guests who participated in the event. It was an enjoyable morning. The fundraising efforts, both on-line and at the brunch, brought in \$3,976.00 which has been designated for branch leadership opportunities.



Membership News

Happy Holidays to everyone! Let's hope for an amazing 2022. Thanks to all our great members for a wonderful 2021 and a special thank you and welcome to our new members.

A meeting is scheduled by Zoom for Thursday, January 6th at 6:30pm to include the Membership Committee and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion focus group. A Zoom link will be sent out along with an agenda. If you are interested in being a part of this meeting, please contact Mary Bechle by email to msnn3bs@yahoo.com or by phone to 563-235-3968.

Mary Bechle, Membership VP

Welcome to Our Newest Member!

Linda Kellett

We're so happy you've joined us!

Mary Bechle and Susie Jennings, Membership

AAUW Membership Committee encourages you to get your thinking caps on to partake in our first ever Zoom Trivia Contest on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. We suggest you contact other members to form teams of no more than 6 women. If you need help finding team members please let Mary Bechle or Susie Jennings know and we will help you. Each team should assign a captain and come up with their own unique name. The teams can meet together in person or remotely as we will have breakout rooms on Zoom. Please send your team names and participants to Susie Jennings no later than Monday, January 24th. We will send a Zoom invitation and further directions prior to the event.

Gloria L. Blackwell Named New AAUW Chief Executive Officer



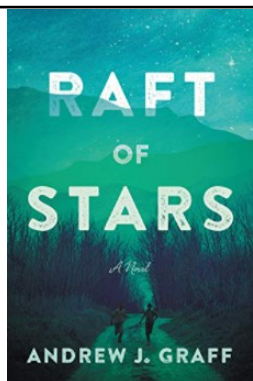
Gloria, in addition to her role as CEO, is also AAUW's main representative to the United Nations. Among her many accomplishments is her 15-year management of AAUW's highly esteemed fellowships and grants program—awarding more than \$70 million in funding to women scholars and programs in the U.S. and overseas.

Gloria has also been the driving force behind AAUW's signature programs, including its salary negotiation trainings, which have reached nearly 190,000 nationwide. She has worked on pay equity initiatives with public officials in Washington D.C., New York City, Boston and Pittsburgh, as well as with numerous other state and municipal partners. She also worked with the National Science Foundation to increase girls participation in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. Most notably, Gloria has significantly expanded the AAUW's outreach to girls and women of color.

Before joining AAUW in 2004 she was the director of Africa education programs at the Institute of International Education (IIE). She also managed fellowships programs during her decade at IIE and has held positions as a Peace Corps staff member and volunteer in Africa. She holds a master's degree in education and human development from the George Washington University, a bachelor's degree in international affairs from the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, and studied at the American University in Paris. Gloria is committed to supporting opportunities and empowerment for women and girls globally.

(Reprinted in its entirety from <https://www.aauw.org/about/leadership/gloria-l-blackwell/>)

We look forward to Ms. Blackwell's appearance at the Friday Evening Session of the AAUW WI State Conference!



Did you miss the Zoom chat with Andrew J. Graff, author of *Raft of Stars*? Just want to watch it again?

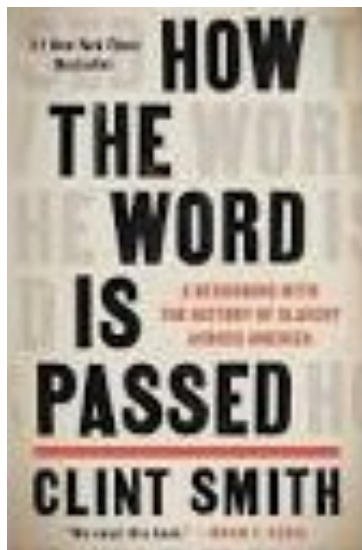
[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE ZOOM REPLAY](#)

You must enter the following password:

C^xK*\$2L

FIGHT FOR THE THINGS
THAT YOU CARE ABOUT,
BUT DO IT IN A WAY
THAT WILL LEAD
OTHERS TO JOIN YOU.
- RUTH BADER GINSBURG

AAUW READS IN JANUARY



AAUW Reads is a unique book group that includes **every member of our branch!** We have set our discussion group opportunities to share our thoughts about this work of non-fiction that “is a landmark of reflection and insight that offers a new understanding of the hopeful role that memory and history can play in making sense of our country and how it has come to be.”

We hope you have had a chance to read all or parts of this book. If you have not, there is still time! And we hope you attend a discussion even if you have not had a chance to finish the book! We can still learn from each other and share ideas!

Discussions will be on Zoom and you may attend either or both groups. The link will be sent out by email later. Mark your calendars for these dates and times:

Wednesday, January 26 at 1:00

Thursday, January 27 at 6:30

If you want more background and enjoy podcasts, you can find an interview with the author on Spotify and you can just use the free version of the app. Just search for **Brene Brown with Dr. Clint Smith on How the Word is Passed.**

A Message from your Book Sale Chairs!

After a very busy sale we have gone into hibernation until spring. If you have collected books, please keep them until further notice. You will hear from us when we are ready to start collecting for the 2022 sale.

We are planning to add a pick up chair to our book sale committee. If you think you might be interested in the position and would like to learn more about, please contact Stephanie Malaney.



Distribution Help Needed –Essay Contest and Tech Savvy

Packets of posters and other information need to be delivered in January.

These are the locations that still need someone to sign up for delivery:

Seymour Middle School and High School

Freedom Middle School and High School

Holy Spirit in Kimberly

Mt. Calvary Lutheran-Shepherd of the Valley in Kimberly

Contact J. Klimaszewski – 830-2919 – 1717 S. Rebecca Lane if you can do one or more of these distributions. Thanks!!

Urge Senate Action to Protect Voting Rights

Minority women are most targeted by the actions being taken to limit voting privileges. As a group of WI women, I believe we need to actively advocate for voting rights for all people and an end to barriers to participation. This is a press release from the State of Wisconsin Governor's office:

Gov. Evers, Sixteen Governors Urge Senate Action to Protect Voting Rights

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers today, together with 16 other governors, sent a letter to U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and U.S. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell expressing concern over threats to the nation's democracy and calling for action on federal legislation to protect voting rights and the right of every eligible voter to cast their ballot.

The letter specifically calls for the U.S. Senate to pass the Freedom to Vote Act and the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, two federal bills that would ensure fairness in our elections, end partisan gerrymandering, modernize voter registration, and fight back against voter suppression efforts in Wisconsin and across the country.

“Working to ensure every eligible voter has the right to cast their ballot shouldn’t be a partisan or political issue—it’s a fundamental part of our democracy and ensuring we continue to have free, safe, and secure elections,” said Gov. Evers. “Hundreds of bills have been introduced in states across our country by politicians trying to abuse their power to overturn or predetermine election results. Federal action is needed now more than ever to strengthen our democracy and ensure folks who are eligible to vote have free and fair access to the ballot box.”

The governors’ letter comes as states across the country are seeing elected officials abuse their power to make it harder for eligible voters to cast their ballots, attack election administrators and workers, and undermine election laws. In Wisconsin, Legislative Republicans have signaled they may pursue efforts to take over election administration after rewriting the laws only a few years ago, have attacked and disparaged election administrators, and have spread disinformation about the November 2020 election.

Earlier this year, Gov. Evers vetoed a set of legislation passed by Republicans in the Legislature that would have added unnecessary hurdles for eligible voters to cast their ballots, including specific provisions that would have made it more difficult for older voters and voters with disabilities to participate in elections. The legislation vetoed by the governor also included bills that would have limited absentee voting and restricted local officials’ ability to administer elections. Additionally, after Republicans in the Legislature last month passed legislative and congressional maps that the governor slammed as “gerrymandering 2.0” and that received “F” ratings from the Princeton Gerrymandering Project, Gov. Evers fulfilled his promise to veto gerrymandered maps sent to his desk. [Continued on next page]

The Freedom to Vote Act would:

- Stop gerrymandered election maps;
- Support continued election transparency;
- Push back against new voter suppression laws;
- Protect local election officials and poll workers from partisan attacks and harassment; and
- Establish standards for post-election audits.

The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act would:

- Restore the protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the federal government's ability to respond to discrimination at the polls;
- Update federal law in the wake of the Supreme Court decision in *Shelby v. Holder*;
- Modernize the formula used to determine where there are patterns of discrimination;
- Ensure last-minute changes to voting do not adversely affect voters; and
- Strengthen the federal government's ability to send federal observers to jurisdictions where elections are facing threats of discrimination.

A copy of the governor's letter can be found [here](#). The letter is jointly signed by 17 governors from Wisconsin, Michigan, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Minnesota, North Carolina, New Jersey, New Mexico, Nevada, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Washington.

CELEBRATING BREAKING BARRIERS April 22 & 23, 2022

SAVE THE DATES!

Mark your calendars for next spring's
AAUW-Wisconsin's Virtual State Convention!

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP:

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 25th at 6:30 pm via Zoom

To do before the meeting:

*Read Chapter 4 of ***The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together*** by Heather McGhee

*Sign Up (if not already done) and do the Week 6 & 7 Activities for the 2021 United Way Fox Cities Equity Challenge

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6388702/WI-Equity-Challenge-Fall21>

New members welcome to join us. Contact Judy at 920-729-9553 or judy@gwd.org to get on the contact list. Zoom link will get mailed a few days before the meeting.

AAUW Holiday Community Giving Project – Welcoming Afghani Families

Our Holiday Community Giving Project is to provide household setup needs for the incoming Afghani families to the Appleton area. We are working with Tami McLaughlin from World Relief Fox Cities, tmclaughlin@wr.org 770-377-1850.

Ways to contribute:

Housing – Do you know anyone who has a house or apartment to rent?

Find out if your church group is participating—or if they might be interested.

Volunteering: Friendship Partner, Transportation Assistant or Move-in Team—as well as helping newcomers learn English and learn to read through Fox Cities Literacy-- [991-9840](tel:991-9840). Cultural training is provided. (More information on Afghani culture: [WATCH HERE](#))

Donations--Check out the items that are/aren't accepted: Contact Kao **Nou Thao** - 920.966.3443 or check the donations page - <https://worldrelief.org/fox-valley/get-involved/donate/>

This is a list of what AAUW donations are going toward (*most wanted items). The prices are based on the Target gift list posted [HERE](#). The gift cards allow the families to purchase items they most need.

Donate online OR Checks made out to: **World Relief Fox Cities. Mail to J. Klimaszewski, 1717 S. Rebecca Lane, Appleton, 54915**

Twelve Days of Giving:

♪On the first day of giving, my community gave to me♪

1 - \$60 child car seat*

2 - \$50 Targett gift cards

3 - \$100 Target gift cards

4 - \$23 kitchen utensil sets*

5 - \$70 vacuum cleaners*



6 - \$10 plunger and toilet bowl cleaners

7 - \$10 brooms and dustpan

8- \$10 sets of mixing bowls

9 - \$10 sets of knives*

10 - \$10 alarm clocks

11 - \$10 laundry hampers

12 - \$10 cutting boards



**So far, our branch has raised \$1703.00!!!
Let's see if we can break \$2000.00!**

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATES

Add New Member to Your Directory:

Kellett, Linda

831 E. Pondview Ct., Appleton 54913

920-450-5570

lekelllett75@gmail.com

BS Business Administration,

Husson College

A note from Communications: Any notice sent out by AAUW Appleton that you are not interested in, just delete the email. DO NOT CLICK UNSUBSCRIBE. If you do, you will need to re-subscribe in order to continue receiving newsletters and other important notices.

AAUW ZOOM Art Class with Chris Scott

January AAUW Art Class: *Woven Watercolor Design*



When: Monday, January 10

Place: Chris Scott's ZOOM Session

Time: 12:30 pm

Theme: Woven Watercolor Design

Cost: Buy your own supplies.

You will need the following materials:

1 sheet 8"X10" Tagboard (your choice of color)

1 sheet 9X11 Watercolor paper

Watercolors (Basic colors Red, Yellow, Blue, Green, Orange, Purple)

½" brush and water container

Ruler, Protractor, Pencil, Eraser, Scissors or Paper Cutter,

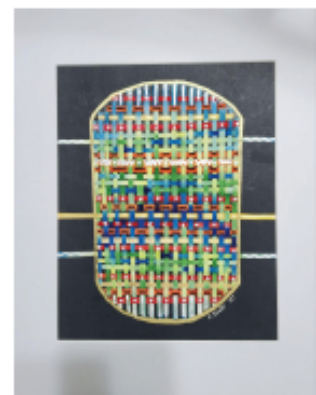
Clear Elmer's Glue, Paper Towels

Permanent Metallic Markers - (gold, silver, white and black)

No experience necessary...just come and have fun!

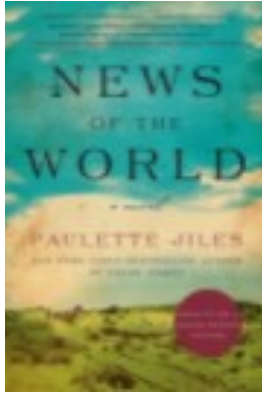
Please **RSVP** to Laurie Leonard RJLLAL@new.rr.com

by Monday, January 3. A ZOOM link will be sent out prior to class.



AFTERNOON LITERATURE

Our January Book and Movie: ***News of the World*** by Paulette Jiles



Read the book **and** watch the movie to compare.

Wednesday group will meet in person on January 19th 1:00 pm
at Grace Fuller's, 624 Black St., Kaukauna.

Attendance limited to 15. RSVP is a MUST!

Discussion Leader: Faye Binsfeld

Thursday group will meet via Zoom on January 20th 1:00 pm.

Discussion Leader: Marian Moberg

Contact Judy Goodnight (729-9553) or judy@gwd.org for more information
about the Afternoon Literature group.



SECOND CHOICE BOOK TALK

We are discussing

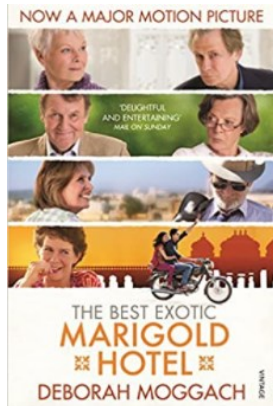
The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

by Deborah Moggach.

You can watch the movie as well.

Tuesday, January 4th at **1:00 pm** on Zoom.

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



Our February book will be

The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane

by Lisa See.

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



THURSDAY EVENING LITERATURE

Is on hiatus until April 2022.

Join us then in reading & discussing

Sunflower Sisters

By Martha Hall Kelly



We're keeping it local for January!

The AAUW Travel Group
Invites you to extend your Holiday Season
on January 4, 2022.

You are invited to join us for a
10 AM – 11 AM viewing of over a hundred Christmas Crèches
from around the world
at the Algoma Methodist Church in Oshkosh
followed by the
11:30 – 12:30 tour of the White Christmas Exhibition
at the Oshkosh Public Museum.
We will end with lunch at
The Roxy Supper Club.

Cost for the morning activities is \$15.

A Donation for your driver (suggested \$5) and Lunch (\$10-\$20)
are additional personal expenses.

Due to advanced ticket requirements and limited available drivers, reservations are limited to 8* people. Don't miss out - reserve your spot by calling Ruth at (920)202-3300 or emailing her at ranger1chc@gmail.com.

Deadline for registration is Dec. 20th.

After confirming your reservation, money will be due by Dec. 31st.

*If drivers are available as well as tickets for the museum, this number might be able to be increased.

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

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

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

Instagram: #aauwappleton

Make Your Reservation For the AAUW Trip to Shipshewana, Indiana

When: May 2-5, 2022

Who: Any interested member of AAUW-Appleton

Cost: Approximately \$350 per person includes 3 nights at our hotel with full breakfast daily, your share of money for gas, a half hour Amish buggy ride and dinner at an Amish home, and entrance to Menno HOF Center and the Gene Stratton-Porter Historical Site. Not included are 2 lunches and 2 dinners, meals traveling to and from Indiana, and personal expenses.

There is also an optional play – title and cost to be announced closer to departure.

Itinerary:

Monday, May 2nd – Depart Appleton 8 AM

Arrive at Farmstead Inn mid-afternoon

Tour Menno-HOF Mennonite Amish Information Center

Dinner at local restaurant

Tuesday, May 3rd –

Morning - ??? – Flea Market

Afternoon – Shopping (quilt shops, Amish grocery store, garden centers, furniture stores, bakeries, and more)

Buggy Ride

Amish Dinner in an Amish Home

Wednesday, May 4th

Travel to Rome, IN to visit home of Gene Stratton-Porter

Female author, naturalist, artist, filmmaker

Late afternoon option: Play (TBD – cost approximately \$30)

Thursday, May 5th

Leisurely departure for home

RESERVATIONS AND \$100 DEPOSIT DUE JANUARY 10, 2022

Mail to: Ruth Henschel

555 Ridgeview Circle #314

Appleton, WI 54911

Please let us know if you would be willing to drive. Thank you.

AAUW Appleton Branch Meeting
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Appleton
November 18, 2021

President - Joan Moeschberger welcomed everyone. The branch members in attendance approved the minutes of the October branch meeting.

Program - VP Sylvia Bull and Assistant VP Kathy Kuck discussed plans for the upcoming Holiday Brunch/Auction. It will be on Saturday, December 4. November 24th is the last day to sign up for the event. We can start browsing online auction items on November 24th. Details about the auction will be sent via Mailchimp. Our January meeting on Tuesday, January 11th, via Zoom, will be about *Disarming Racial Microaggressions* presented by Ms. Ozalle Toms.

Membership - VP Mary Bechle introduced guest April Savage and announced we have two new members: Mary Denoble and Merritt Jezwinski. Membership will hold a game night on Zoom for the branch on January 26, at 6:30 PM. A new member event will be held at the home of JaneAnne McCabe on December 1. New members have been recruited to act as greeters at future meetings. Mary Bechle also reported that there was a meeting with Timber Smith, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator for the City of Appleton. Mary, Susie Jennings, and Joan Moeschberger were in attendance.

Finance - Asst. VP Jackie Booher gave a financial report.

Communications – Judy Goodnight requested any pictures we might have of branch activities be sent to her for the brunch slide show she is creating.

Afternoon Literature and Second Choice Books – Judy Goodnight reminded members that the annual holiday luncheon for Afternoon Literature will be held this year on Wednesday, December 15th, at 11:30 AM. The luncheon will take place at Memorial Presbyterian Church. A sign up and pay envelope was circulated. Judy then announced that Second Choice Books would meet on December 2nd, at 1:00 PM. They will be discussing, *Silver Linings Playbook*, by Matthew Quick. Let Judy know if you are not a member of this group but would like to join. She will send a Zoom link to you.

Book Sale – Chair Mary Grace gave the final report for our 2021 Book Sale. Approximately \$32,000.00 was raised for local scholarships and a national fund. Thanks were given to all for this extraordinary sale.

Tech Savvy - Co Chair Stephanie Malaney discussed plans for the upcoming Tech Savvy. There are spaces available for anyone wishing to help with the event. There will be a Zoom meeting on November 29, at 2:30 PM for anyone interested in helping.

Bylaws and Policy - Chair Stephanie Malaney discussed our mission statement to advance gender equality for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. She then proposed a change in our book sale funds policy. The board made a motion (at their board meeting on November 9th) to send half of book sale proceeds to National AAUW to help the *Greatest Needs Fund*. Mary Bechle seconded the motion, and the motion passed following a brief discussion.

Stephanie Malaney then instructed members to sign up for the *2-Minute Activist*. The website is AAUW.org/act/ Members were encouraged to sign up at the meeting and watch for national and state opportunities to advocate for women and girls.

Public Policy – Jacqui Klimaszewski reminded us that Fair Maps continues to be an ongoing issue. She encouraged us to stay informed via the Fair Maps Coalition website. <https://www.fairmapswi.com>

State Convention - Representative Georgianne Bravick stated our upcoming virtual state convention on April 22nd and 23rd, 2022, is titled, *Celebrating Breaking Barriers*.

Continued on next page

Evening Literature - Chair Donna Cook said the next meeting will be on Thursday, December 9th. The group will be discussing, *West with Giraffes*, by Lynda Rutledge. The discussion leader will be Rachel Edwards & it will be at Joan Schneider's home. The next meeting will be in April of 2022.

AAUW Reads - Becky O'Connor said the dates for the virtual meetings to discuss our book (*How the Word Is Passed*, by Clint Smith) will be January 26 and 27. Everyone is encouraged to attend even if you have not read the book.

Nominations – Becky O'Connor told us that the nominations committee would be meeting to find candidates for Assistant Membership VP and Assistant Program VP. Please contact Becky to let her know of possible candidates. She encouraged us all to consider a leadership position.

Social Justice - Joan Moeschberger spoke for Leader Judy Goodnight and asked members to look for a Mailchimp notice that will include a Zoom link to the meeting on November 30th. The group is reading, *The Sum of Us*, by Heather McGhee.

Travel - Ruth Henschel encouraged us to contact her with any questions we may have about the upcoming trips in January and May.

Art – Chris Scott informed us that the December 16th class will be a marbled nail polish project. You can join this class via Zoom. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Leonard.

Bridge – Joan stated more subs are needed for our Bridge Groups. If interested, please contact Chris Calhoun or Trish Brehm.

The meeting was adjourned following a reminder of our next branch meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Sue Vannorsdall, Recording Secretary

AAUW Appleton Branch Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2021

The Grand Meridian, Appleton

Executive Board Reports

President - Joan Moeschberger welcomed members to our gathering. She stated our mission and told us that all funds raised through the 2021 on-line auction, today's bag drawing and live auction will be used to develop branch leadership. The use of these funds was decided by the board. The funds will assist members attending regional, state, and national conventions when they are in person again. Joan reminded us that attendance at these conventions will develop members' leadership abilities. She then spoke for Judy Goodnight and Mary Grace concerning the Afternoon Literature Luncheon on December 15th. A signup sheet was circulated for those wishing to attend. The price is \$8.00.

Program - Joan spoke for Program VP Sylvia Bull and asked membership to show appreciation to Sylvia for setting up the holiday brunch and on-line auction. Our next program will be on Tuesday, January 11th. We will meet via Zoom at 5:30 PM and hear about disarming racial microaggressions. Our program will be presented by Ms. Ozalle Toms. Membership was asked to watch for an email related to the program.

Membership -Joan spoke for Membership VP Mary Bechle and announced that we will be having a Trivia Game Gathering on January 26th, at 6:30 PM via Zoom. Membership will also be organizing a meeting for all committee members in January. We have a new member, Linda Kellett.

Finance -Joan gave the financial report for Finance VP Nancy Grube. As of November 30th, the balance in our scholarship checking account was \$5,028.00. The balance in our general checking account was \$48,570.00. On December 2nd, Mary Grace sent out the second semester scholarship checks.

Continued on next page

In December the book sale profit of \$16,000.00 plus individual donations to the scholarship fund of \$180.00 was transferred from the general checking account to the scholarship fund.

Standing Committees

Public Policy -Chair Jacqui Klimaszewski discussed our present plan to help Afghan Refugees. Members were encouraged to give financial help. A list of things needed for the refugees was distributed.

Tech Savvy – Co Chair Jacqui Klimaszewski stated that plans are continuing for our Tech Savvy event. We still need volunteers to help with the parent portion. Help will be needed to deliver posters and bookmarks.

Middle School Essay Contest –Jacqui Klimaszewski reported that essay contest information will be going out to schools. A location is needed for the event in March.

Communications –Joan made a request on behalf of Chair Judy Goodnight saying that ALL newsletter articles are due to Judy on or before December 15th.

Funds Development -Joan spoke for Funds Development Chair Mary Grace reporting that scholarship applications are available. Members were encouraged to take an application for possible candidates. Applications are always available on our website.

2022 Wisconsin State AAUW Convention -Joan spoke for our representative on the convention committee Georgianne Bravick saying that our virtual convention will be held on April 22 and 23, 2022. The theme is, *Celebrating Breaking Barriers*. Our own Susan McFadden will be presenting at the convention.

Interest Groups

Second Choice Books – Joan spoke for Leader Judy Goodnight. Judy will send out a Zoom link for the meeting via Mailchimp. All details about the next book and meeting time are in our newsletter.

AAUW Reads –Joan gave a reminder on behalf of Leader Becky O'Connor. Details will be sent out in the next newsletter of how to join in the discussions of *How the Word Is Passed* by Clint Smith. Discussions will happen on Wednesday, January 26th, at 1:00 PM, and Thursday, January 27th, at 6:30 PM.

Thursday Evening Literature –Joan reported for Leader Donna Cook. The December meeting of this book group will be held next Thursday, December 9th, at Joan Schneider's home. The next meeting for Evening Literature will be in April.

Social Justice Study Group – Joan reported for group leader, Judy Goodnight. Please refer to the newsletter for all details about the next meeting. A Zoom link to the meeting will be sent via Mailchimp.

Travel – Joan spoke for co-leaders Ruth Henschel and Connie Polley. Deadlines for the trip to Oshkosh in January and the May trip are near. Please refer to the newsletter for details.

Art Class – Joan presented information for Chris Scott and Laurie Leonard. There will be a December 16th class presented through Zoom. The next art class will be on January 10th, to create a woven wall hanging. Please refer to the newsletter for project details and materials needed. Sign up with Laurie Leonard through email.

There was no new business and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary,
Sue Vannorsdall

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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