



APPLETON (WI) BRANCH

Nov 7	Board Meeting
Nov 9	Evening Literature
Nov 15	Wednesday Afternoon Literature
Nov 16	Thursday Afternoon Literature
Nov 23	Thanksgiving
Nov 28	Social Justice—AAUW Reads Intro Session
Nov 30	Native Women's Equal Pay Day
Dec 2	Holiday Brunch
Dec 6	Second Choice Books
Dec 10	New Member Holiday Get Together
Dec 14	Evening Literature
Dec 20	Afternoon Literature
Jan 1	Happy New Year!



The Apple Branch

American Association of University Women Appleton, Wisconsin
Serving the Greater Fox Cities Area

Volume 38 Number 4 December 2023

Hello again everyone!

I quote our very own esteemed AAUW-Appleton member/past-president, Becky O'Connor, who proclaimed at the Book Sale Celebration Luncheon "We are the best branch in the country!" No argument there.

An amazing 86th Annual Book Sale proves Becky's point. So where do we go from here?

Let's consider Margaret Mead's wisdom: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed. It is the only thing that ever has."

I'd say we are that kind of group. Let's continue to take Margaret's advice and work toward the kind of changes that AAUW's mission instructs- "advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy."

Mead's call can be answered by purposely paying attention to issues discussed in our Appleton newsletter, the *Badger Briefs*, and *Li'l Badger*. Educating ourselves in AAUW's mission and the current events that relate to that mission is a key ingredient in the process of change. I've said it before, but taking some time to browse through the AAUW national website is an education in itself. This sampling of the topics and research, as each pertains to gender equity, can be perused at aauw.org:

- Removing bias from education
- Fair pay & economic equity
- Reproductive rights
- Human Trafficking
- LGBTQ+ rights
- School vouchers
- Retirement security
- Workplace harassment
- College debt



And, yet another quote that speaks volumes: "Success is best when it's shared." (Howard Schultz) Perhaps there are certain equity topics that move you to participate on a committee or simply make suggestions to Board members regarding issues of interest. Committee chairs are always looking for members to help with Branch programs, Membership tasks, Public Policy efforts, Tech Savvy planning and participation, as well as leadership on the Board. Join the party however you can.

One last pearl of wisdom: "Sticks in a bundle are unbreakable."
(Kenyan Proverb)

Sounds like a bundle of joy to me.

Chris Taylor, President

taylor.christine50@gmail.com

Holiday Brunch



You are invited to attend our annual Holiday Brunch
On Saturday, December 2nd, 2023
At the Grand Meridian, 2621 N. Oneida St., Appleton



Gather with your AAUW friends beginning at 8:30 am
Brunch will be served at 9:30 am

Menu: Breakfast Sandwich (Scrambled egg, cheese, and sausage on a croissant) along with
American Fries, Fresh Fruit, Juice, and Coffee
Cost \$18.00 per person

Guests are welcome! Include their names when you send your payment.
Also include any dietary restrictions with your reservation.

Send checks made out to AAUW Appleton to Paulette Stoltzmann, 124 Regent Place, Neenah WI 54956.
All checks need to be received by November 20, 2023!

Holiday Brunch Fundraiser



Our Holiday Brunch brings us together each year to spend time with our friends and guests, to share a meal, and to raise funds for our Appleton Branch.

We are asking members to donate items for the Brunch auctions. We will have three categories: Silent auction, Live auction, and Bag drawings.

Past auction collections have included: event tickets, overnight getaways, artwork, themed baskets, restaurant gift certificates, handmade items, services, and decorative items.

Bag drawing items have been baked goods, candy, puzzles, ornaments, notecards, and small decorative objects.

Think about gifts you would like to receive. Also consider having your interest group donate a basket or item as a team.

Items should be delivered to either Paulette Stoltzmann (124 Regent Place, Neenah) or Linda Kellett (831 Pondview Ct., Appleton).

ALL ITEMS ARE NEEDED BY NOVEMBER 21, 2023, PLEASE!



Membership News

Coming in December: The Membership Committee is hosting a holiday get together for our new members on Sunday, December 10 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Invitations with more details will be mailed out in mid-November. Watch your mail! We look forward to getting to know our new members better and to answer any questions they may have about AAUW!

New Member: Welcome to our newest member, Kathryn “Katie” Stam. Katie, we look forward to your involvement in AAUW. Current members, be sure to introduce yourself to Katie at the Branch Meetings so she can get to know you!

Your Membership VPs,
Linda Buck, Jayne Heinrich

Program News for 2024

Plan to join us for our first branch meeting in 2024!

Date: Tuesday, January 9th

Time: 6:30 pm

Place: ZOOM meeting (Link will be sent out in early January.)

Topic: Chris Ebert of AAUW Northwoods will be talking to us about Native American Nations of Wisconsin and Land Acknowledgments.

Communications Update

Add to your directory:

Stam, Katie (Nathan)

1325 Whispering Pines Lane, Neenah 54956

608.358.8139 khooge4@hotmail.com

BS-Nursing UW-Madison 2002

MS-Nurse Midwifery Marquette University 2009

Certified Nurse Midwife/APNP

Articles for the January newsletter are due December 15th.

Send articles to Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org.

We Did It! Our Book Sale is a Wrap!

Congratulations to all of us on a very successful book sale. We took in \$45,000 and after expenses will have a profit of approximately \$41,000. This is a record! We had an amazing number of branch members who worked hard to make this happen. See the statistics below shared by Becky O Connor for a re-cap of our sale!

Book Sale 2023 by the numbers

12 – months of planning the book sale
86 – years of an AAUW-Appleton branch book sale
50 – years Betty has worked the book sale
50 – years Betty has saved boxes from year to year for her chapter books
2000 – boxes of books collected and sorted
896 – number of Advil consumed due to collecting and sorting
4 – number of phone numbers on the bookmark
632 – number of messages left about picking up books on those phone numbers
632 – number of times the book pick-up person hoped Laurie had already picked up the books
2548 – number of books dropped off the day before the book sale
2548 – eye rolls Donna and Shirley did when the books were dropped off the day before the book sale
78 – times Betsy lied and said “We appreciate your donation” when books were dropped off the day before the book sale.
432 – books Missy checked for vintage value
432 – times Missy sneezed due to checking books for vintage value
134 - times Glen heard his name called out
102 – times Mike heard his name called out
236 – times Glen and Mike realized it was not Betsy and Judy calling out their names so technically they could ignore it.
24 – times Trish thought about changing the name “Binge on Books” to “Actually We are Sick of Books”
875 – books sorted with the name Malaney on them. Again.
2 – dogs who came to the book sale
4 – times giant trays of Lou Chicquette’s homemade scones appeared in the back room
30 - child craft children’s encyclopedias donated to the book sale
30 – child craft children’s encyclopedias left untouched at the end of the sale
133 – tables rented for the book sale
127 – tables requested next year for the children’s department
3 - times we witnessed Mary and Ruth dancing on the back room table after counting the day’s total sales
59 – times overheard that Chris was an incredible, hardworking branch president
97 – members who came to work on the book sale
164 – women who make up the Appleton Branch of AAUW also known as the best branch in the country
45,000 – dollars earned for scholarships and advocacy through the determination and hard work of all of us and the incredible leadership of the book sale committee
50,000 – times we encouraged, supported, cheered, laughed, and lifted each other up during this amazing effort. We do make a difference in the lives of women.

"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life? "

-Mary Oliver, "The Summer Day"

Our branch does a great deal of good.

We support each other and the women of our community and state.

Through our national organization, we support women nationally and world-wide.

The good we do and the change we make requires all of us to roll up our sleeves and get involved.

As we prepare a slate of officers for 2024-2025, please consider a position on your branch board. Our leadership positions allow you to learn, grow, and share your many talents.

Talk the positions over with a current or past leader and then contact me to let me know you are interested and ready to contribute.

Joan Moeschberger, Nominating Chair

joanemoe@gmail.com



Check out the developing website for the Women's Action Coalition. And be sure to look for (and like and follow) the coalition's Facebook page as well!

<https://womensactioncoalition.org/>

Ethnic and Elegant Interest Group

This is your chance to sign up for Ethnic and Elegant. We are a dinner group that meets for three dinners scheduled between January and summer. It is set up for couples...which could mean a spouse, a friend or another member. The menus are set for you and recipes are provided. There is a host and all couples bring portions of the menu. You host once only. I will be making the schedule in December so RSVP soon. Call if you have any questions.

Nancy Samson at 920.857.5322 or samsonnancy47@gmail.com.



SECOND CHOICE BOOKS

Our December book is ***No Two Persons*** by Erica Bauermeister.

We'll meet on **December 6th at 1:00 pm .**

(Note: date change from directory)

RSVP to Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org

or 920.729.9553

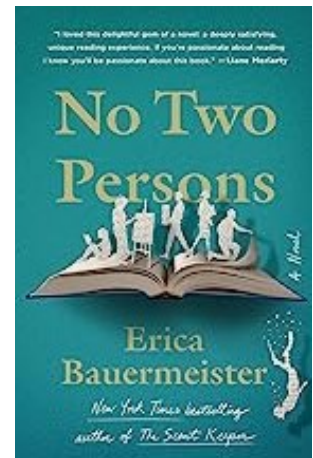
by December 1 to get the location.

RSVPs are a must when we meet at restaurants!

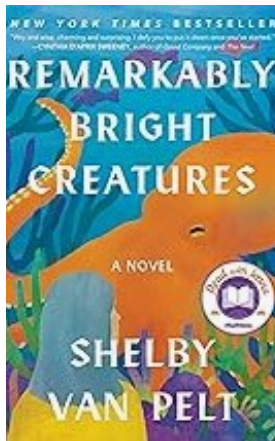
The January book will be ***The Paris Apartment*** by Lucy Foley.

Second Choice Books is open to all members of the branch.

Questions? Contact Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org.



READ



AFTERNOON LITERATURE

Our December book is ***Remarkably Bright Creatures*** by Shelby Van Pelt.

RSVP by signing up at the November book groups

or by contacting Mary Grace.

Contact info in your directory.

Questions? Contact Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org.

Evening Literature News

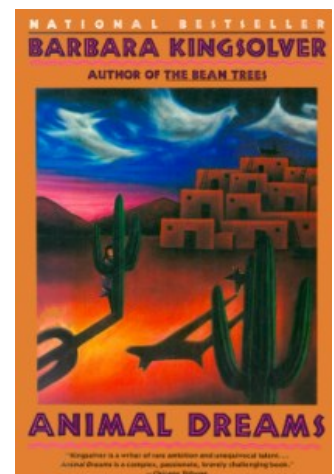
All Members are welcome!

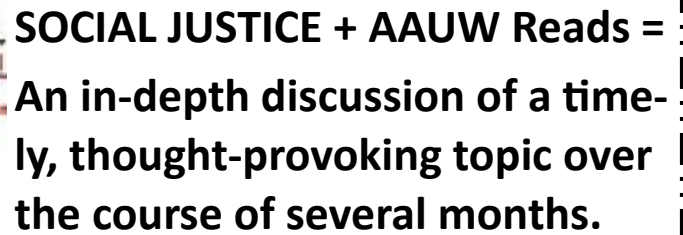
Our December book is ***Animal Dreams*** by Barbara Kingsolver.

Join us for our discussion on Thursday, December 14th, at 6:30 PM. Our discussion leader will be Grace Fuller.

Joan Schneider will be hosting at her home, 4723 Periwinkle Court in Appleton.

Please RSVP to Joan or Donna on or before Tuesday, December 12th; contact info is in the yearbook.





- Sign up for the Two Minute Activist at <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>
- Go to the AAUW Policy Center and educate yourself on AAUW's Public Policy Priorities <https://www.aauw.org/act/policy-center/>
- Check out the AAUW Advocacy Toolkit <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/advocacy-toolkit/>

November 4, 2023 AAUW Branch Meeting
Wilder's Bistro
47 Members Present

President Chris Taylor welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced special guests, Maggie Winz, State Board President, and her husband. The meeting was preceded by a presentation from Outagamie Public Health and the Aging and Disability Resource Center.

There was a motion to accept the minutes as corrected from the 10/05/2023 Branch Meeting. Motion made by Connie Polley and seconded by Donna Cook. Motion passed.

V.P. Finance Jackie Booher reported that there weren't a lot of expenses in the last month, but the balance in the checking account is \$61,470.63.

V.P. Program Paulette Stoltzmann reported on our December 2 Holiday Brunch. It will be at the Grand Meridian and will include silent auctions, live auctions and bag drawings. Please get all donations to Paulette by November 21. More information will be in the Newsletter.
The January and February Meetings will be via Zoom.

V.P. Membership Linda Buck introduced our newest member, Katie Stam. She also mentioned that there will be a "New Member Gathering" on Dec. 10th, 1-3pm at Jane Anne McCabe's home.

Book Sale: Mary Grace reported that 97 members participated in our book sale and we raised over \$45,000.00. After all expenses are finalized we should have a profit of \$41,000.00. 65 percent will go towards scholarships and 35 percent will go to National AAUW. The Book Sale Group will meet next Monday for an evaluation. Please share thoughts with the Booksale Chairs.

Public Policy: Jacqui Klimaszewski suggested everyone check out the website www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/. AAUW is focusing on voting, fair maps and women's health. Stay informed with "Badger Briefs" and "Little Badger."

Tech Savvy report from Stephanie Malaney and Jacqui Klimaszewski: There are postcards to distribute to children and teachers. We are hoping to increase attendance. Volunteers are needed to write grants, help with public relations, and serve as ambassadors to schools. We also need business contacts and suggestions for presenters, as well as adult program ideas. Please get any information to the committee by the first week of December.

Women's Action Coalition: Becky O'Connor called our attention to the Facebook Page and website for this coalition.

(Continued on the next page)

Minutes of the November 4, 2023 Branch Meeting Continued)

Book Groups report from Donna Cook and Judy Goodnight. News about books and locations from our Afternoon and Evening Literature Groups and the Second Choice Books & December Book Group Luncheon at Heckrodt can be found in our Branch Directory and in the Newsletter.

Social Justice/AAUW Reads report from Judy Goodnight: We will start our discussion of *The Flag and the Cross* by Philip S. Gorski and Samuel Perry on Tuesday, November 28th from 6:30-8:00. We will meet at this location: The Neenah Public Library Room 203 (on the second floor). We will read the *Forward and Introduction* for this session.

Travel: There are no trips planned at present. There will be a trip to Door County in May.

Ethnic & Elegant: Nancy Samson reported that this group will start up in January. Information will be in the next newsletter.

Mah Jongg/Bridge: Sylvia Bull reported that we need new members and hostesses so we can resume Mah Jongg. The bridge group meets monthly on the second Thursday. If interested, you can contact Trish Brehm to put your name on the sub list.

New Business: Chris Taylor reported there is an opportunity to purchase AAUW themed items at this website: cafepress.com/aauwwisconsin

Maggie Winz spoke briefly. She said our branch “knocks it out of the park.” She hopes to see members of our branch at the April 26-27, 2024 State Convention. She reported 8 people from Wisconsin recently attended the 16 State Regional Conference in St. Louis. She encouraged everyone to go to the two minute activist to support the passage of the 28th Amendment (ERA).

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shirley Collins
Recording Secretary

Appleton AAUW Income and Expense Statement
July 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023

As of 10/31/2023

Budget
2023 - 2024

INCOME:

		add'l 1145.50 received prior to 7/1/2023	
Membership Dues 2023-2024	795.00		2,100.00
Membership Dues 2024-2025	0.00		0.00
December 2023 Brunch Income	0.00		1,994.00
Advertisement	0.00		100.00
Interest	<u>\$0.82</u>		<u>0.00</u>
Total Income		<u>795.82</u>	<u>4,194.00</u>

EXPENSE:

Membership/Recruiting	86.97		400.00
Financial Assistance (2)	0.00		144.00
Newsletter	0.00		0.00
Program	110.00		800.00
Yearbook	360.69		300.00
Insurance	287.50		300.00
Public Policy	0.00		150.00
Historian's Expense	0.00		150.00
President Expense	41.18		300.00
Finance Expense	0.00		300.00
General Expense	0.00		100.00
Woman's Action Coalition	0.00		200.00
Fox Valley Reads	0.00		200.00
Tech Savvy Sponsorship	0.00		500.00
Special Events	0.00		300.00
Diversity	<u>0.00</u>		<u>50.00</u>
Total Expense		<u>886.34</u>	<u>4,194.00</u>

Revenue Less Expenses (90.52)

Checkbook Balances as of 10/31/23

General Checking Account	
Leadership Development	5,121.00
General Fund	<u>55,926.63</u>
Total Checking Account	<u>61,047.63</u>

Scholarship Money Market Account* 13,156.68

*Includes \$1.73 in monthly interest

2023 Book Sale Expenses

Prior to 7/1/2023	168.09
Current fiscal year	3,786.25
(Detailed expenses in January)	
2023 Book Sale Income	
\$44,139.06	

AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

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

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Christine Taylor

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920-636-8153

Membership VP:

Linda Buck

buck1108@yahoo.com

920-213-6371

Newsletter Editor:

Judy Goodnight

judy@gwd.org

920-729-9553

Member Outreach

Member Outreach is a way for our AAUW community to stay connected and reach out to members during significant times in their lives.



Laurie Leonard, AAUW member creates beautiful cards for occasions such as:

- ♦ Thinking of you
- ♦ Congratulations
- ♦ Get Well
- ♦ Illness

If you know a member who we should reach out to in this way, please contact JaneAnne McCabe jamforever02@yahoo.com

Michael Goodnight and Associates, LLC



1406 Fieldstone Court
Neenah, WI 54956

Phone: 920.558.9626

E-mail: Mike@michaelgoodnight.com

Michael L. Goodnight & Judy Goodnight

Owner

Audio, Video, Photo, & Slide Converting to Digital Files — PC Computer Support

WOMEN'S

ACTION

COALITION

OF THE FOX VALLEY

ADVOCATING FOR WOMEN'S EQUALITY