



**APPLETON (WI)  
BRANCH**



# The Apple Branch

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

Volume 38 Number 8 April 2024

## ***As they say in The South, "Oh my stars!"***

I must be honest, there are days that I hesitate to open my email. Don't we all wonder what surprises we might find there? However, I found a wonderful message in my "inbox" the other day. **Our branch is 1 of only 9 branches in the country who were granted "Five Star" status by National this year! \* \* \* \* \***

Although you might have heard this good news at our March Branch meeting, I had not received this official letter at that time. Just want all of you to read the news for yourselves:

*Dear AAUW Appleton, WI Branch,*

*On behalf of the staff and senior leadership at AAUW, I want to extend our sincere appreciation for your participation in the Fiscal Year '23 Branch Impact Survey. Your responses contributed significantly to our ongoing efforts to measure and celebrate the impactful work carried out by our branches across the country.*

*We are thrilled to inform you that, based on your responses, **the Appleton Branch has achieved an incredible Five Star Recognition!** This achievement is a testament to your dedication to advancing our mission, and we applaud your leadership and members for your outstanding contributions in the following categories: Advancement, Communications and External Relations, Programs, Public Policy and Research, and Governance and Sustainability.*

*Your Branch's accomplishments in these areas reflect your efforts in fostering positive change for women and girls within your community and beyond. We recognize that achieving a Five Star Recognition is no small feat and underscores your unwavering commitment to advancing gender equity. Please stay tuned for upcoming emails from us at AAUW on some of your additional benefits as a Five Star Branch, including your feature success story and more.*

*Once again, congratulations on your well-deserved recognition. We look forward to celebrating the continued success and growth of the AAUW Appleton, WI Branch in the coming years. Thank you for your commitment to the AAUW mission!*

*Best regards,*

*Tremayne A. Parquet*

*AAUW Deputy Director of Advancement*

We are a special group of women. If you are or have been one of those leaders in our Branch who've been on the forefront of continuing to move us forward in advancing equity for women and girls, **THANK YOU!**

If you have been a loyal member, not necessarily in a leadership position, but always ready to participate and share in the camaraderie of our Branch's mission, **THANK YOU!**

If you are new to our Branch and want to be more involved, please mention your interest to any one of us. I **THANK YOU** for having the desire and inspiration to step forward.

**Congratulations ladies! You really are "stars."**

*Chris Taylor, President*

[taylor.christine50@gmail.com](mailto:taylor.christine50@gmail.com)

Mar 26	Social Justice— AAUW Reads Chapter 3 (Eve)
Mar 28	Social Justice— AAUW Reads Chapter 3 (Aft)
Apr 2	WI Spring Election
Apr 3	AAUW Bylaws Voting Begins
Apr 3	Second Choice Books
Apr 9	Branch Program & Meeting
Apr 11	Evening Literature
Apr 17	Wed. Afternoon Literature
Apr 18	Thur. Afternoon Literature
Apr 23	Social Justice/ AAUW Reads
Apr 23	Board Meeting
Apr 25	Social Justice/ AAUW Reads
Apr 26- 27	AAUW State Con- vention
May 2	Second Choice Books
May 9	Evening Literature

## AAUW Appleton Program News

**Tuesday, April 9th**

Elisha D. Smith Public Library

440 First Street, Menasha

Gather at 6:15 pm., Program at 6:30 pm.

**Speaker: Lowell Louis**

**Religious Leader/Director, Congregation B'nai Israel, Oshkosh**

**Topic: Antisemitism**

Followed by branch business meeting and socializing

## SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 16th!

End of Year Celebration:

Honoring Scholarship Recipients, Member Anniversaries, Retiring & Incoming Officers

## Membership News

**AAUW Election: Open Up Membership? It's your vote. It's your choice.**

- **April 3** Voting opens. Look for your ballot in an email from Simply Voting.com. You will receive an email with your unique vote ID and voting instructions. If you don't receive it, you may want to check your spam file. **Remember to Vote!**
- **May 15** Online Voting ends at 11:00 am. May 15. Results will be announced online.

**Tech Savvy:** Thank you to all the members who helped make this year's Tech Savvy a huge success! Your willingness to volunteer is much appreciated!

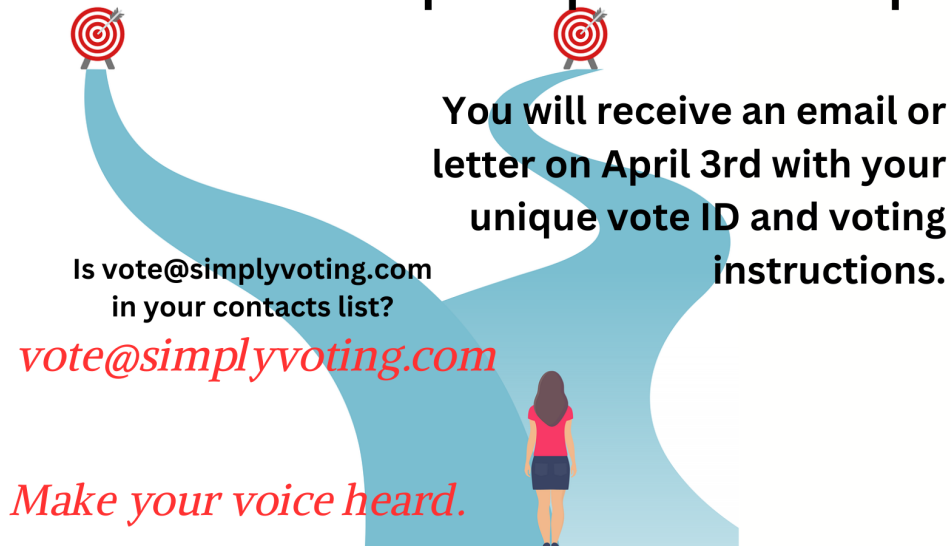
**Welcome Spring!**

**Your Membership VPs, Linda Buck, Jayne Heinrich**





## AAUW Election: Open Up Membership?



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Before you cast your vote, be sure to watch the webinar:

### [A Journey Through Time: The Evolution of AAUW.](#)

Learn about the many times the membership standards have changed over the years. Did you know that members originally had to have a Masters degree or higher? Did you know that famous women like Eleanor Roosevelt and Lily Ledbetter did not qualify for membership? Watch the recorded webinar at this link:

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

It's the February, 28, 2024 webinar.

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### **Our AAUW: Wisconsin State Convention is around the corner!!**

Reminder for those signing up for the State Convention in April:

The Appleton AAUW Branch offers a \$50 stipend as a partial reimbursement of the cost of registration to **any** member who attends.

([Complete information and registration link available here](#))

## Nominations Report: Incoming Officers Slate of Candidates



### Program Vice-President: Helene Iverson

This will be the second time that I have been Program Vice-President. I am also the chair of the Summer Mystery Book Club. I walked to college from my home in Madison, WI and became an elementary teacher. My husband Jerry and I ended up in Appleton when he accepted a full time job with Insurance Services. We are both retired and active volunteers with NAMI, the National Association on Mental Illness. I am also a volunteer with LEAVEN. Other things that fill my time are traveling, golfing and learning Spanish.

### Assistant Program Vice-President: Lisa Balster

I heard about AAUW and its Book Sale through friends of my mother, Rae Ann Balster. Many of them were involved in AAUW and always seemed to be having interesting conversations, fun trips to unique places, and involved in social justice issues. I joined the branch after volunteering and checking out one book sale readiness night during summer of 2023. Everyone was welcoming & I was impressed with the amount of scholarship money awarded to locally connected women. Since joining, I've attended many of the programs (Continued on next page.)



### Assistant Membership Vice President: Kathy O'Connor

After retiring from a career as a school psychologist, I was excited to begin volunteering with organizations sharing my passions. Joining the incredible women of AAUW, full of energy and creative ideas, and committed to a shared mission/vision was perfect for me! I have only begun exploring the available opportunities and am honored and excited to be asked to serve as the Assistant VP of Membership!

In addition to my involvement with AAUW, I enjoy volunteering at LEAVEN, traveling with friends and family, staying active with daily swims and frequent yoga, and - when I slow down in the evenings - reading!

Lisa Balster—continued: and meetings as well as a few book clubs meetings and a trip to Milwaukee. All activities were informative and well worth the time. The AAUW members were welcoming, the speakers were informative and I enjoyed conversations with many different people that broadened my perspective on a variety of issues. As an early childhood educator with an Elementary Education degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and being in the education field these many years, I feel supported by the organization already in working toward a more just and equitable environment for everyone in the community. I appreciate the group's efforts to stay informed and have an impact. I look forward to continuing my time with such a fine, hard working and kind group of people.

## Election of Officers will take place at the April Meeting.

### SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE: LAST CALL!

The April 15th deadline is fast approaching!

Women who will be Juniors or Seniors in college or graduate students are eligible. Applicants must have also graduated from a Fox Cities area high school or currently reside in the Fox Cities and have done so for at least 10 years.

Applications and eligibility requirements are available to download on our Appleton branch website or Facebook page, or by contacting Mary Grace for a paper copy at 920-915-6379 or [mcggs@aol.com](mailto:mcggs@aol.com). **Keep spreading the word via Facebook or simply talking to your friends and letting them know about these scholarship opportunities!**

Our branch website: <https://appleton-wi.aauw.net/>

Scholarship information: <https://appleton-wi.aauw.net/scholarships/>



Make an Impact!  
Join AAUW  
Legacy Circle

Leave a Lasting Legacy

Contact: Lucy Harvey [lois3545@aol.com](mailto:lois3545@aol.com); Bonnie Diehl [bdiehl81@gmail.com](mailto:bdiehl81@gmail.com)



**The next election is coming up on Tuesday, April 2nd.**

Are you registered to vote? Do you know your polling location? Have you moved recently and need to update your registration?

Make your vote count!

Just a reminder: If you're not going to be in town for elections, sign up for an absentee ballot.

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

We are providing the following information from the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin because often people arrive at the polls unaware of referendum questions and because LWV has a long, unblemished history of providing nonpartisan feedback on issues such as these. Read and vote as you choose.

## April 2 Constitutional Amendments

**State of Wisconsin Use of Private Funds in Election Administration Referendum - Question 1**

**Vote for one**

QUESTION 1: "Use of private funds in election administration. Shall section 7 (1) of article III of the constitution be created to provide that private donations and grants may not be applied for, accepted, expended, or used in connection with the conduct of any primary, election, or referendum?"

☐ Yes

☒ No

**State of Wisconsin Election Officials Referendum - Question 2**

**Vote for one**

QUESTION 2: "Election officials. Shall section 7 (2) of article III of the constitution be created to provide that only election officials designated by law may perform tasks in the conduct of primaries, elections, and referendums?"

☐ Yes

☒ No

**League of Women Voters of Wisconsin**  
March 12 at 12:57 PM · 🌐

❌ **VOTE NO Q1:** For our elections to run smoothly, election workers need to be able to do their jobs safely and securely. Limiting election funding deprives them from needed resources to safeguard our elections and ensure all Wisconsinites have equal opportunity to exercise their freedom to vote. We support fully-funded elections and that's why we're voting NO in April. #VoteNoWisconsin #FundOurElections

❌ **VOTE NO Q2:** Elections are a lot of work. Clerks rely on a whole host of outside experts, volunteers, and community members to make sure our elections are run smoothly and the results are accurate. A handful of politicians want to make the jobs of our election heroes even harder. 🗳️ That's why we're voting no this April! #VoteNoWisconsin

## SECOND CHOICE BOOKS

Our March book is ***The Wife Upstairs*** by Rachel Hawkins.  
We'll meet on **April 3rd at 1:00 pm**.

RSVP to Judy Goodnight at [judy@gwd.org](mailto:judy@gwd.org)

or 920.729.9553

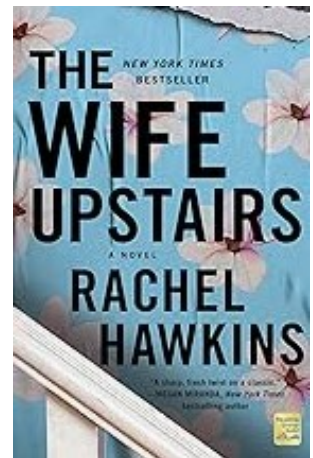
by April 1st to get the location.

**RSVPs are a must when we meet at restaurants!**

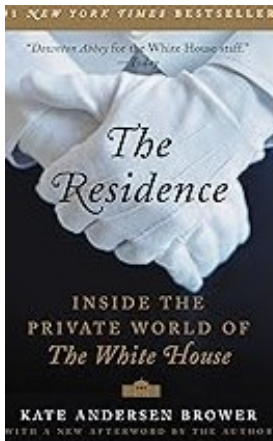
The May book will be ***Marmee*** by Sarah Miller.

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

Questions? Contact Judy Goodnight at [judy@gwd.org](mailto:judy@gwd.org).



READ



## AFTERNOON LITERATURE :

The April book is ***The Residence: Inside the Private World of the White House*** by Kate Anderson Brower.

Our April hosts are Betsy Mintern on Wednesday, 4/17 and Linda Buck on Thursday, 4/18. Check directory for contact info and remember to RSVP!

**IT'S TIME TO SEND IN NOMINATIONS FOR 2024-2025 BOOKS. EMAIL TITLE & AUTHOR TO JUDY@GWD.ORG BY 4/15. CHECK THAT ANY BOOK YOU SUGGEST IS READILY AVAILABLE VIA LOCAL LIBRARIES!**

## Evening Literature Group

Thursday, April 11th, 6:30 PM

Book: *Pachinko*, by Min Jin Lee

Discussion leader: Shirley Collins

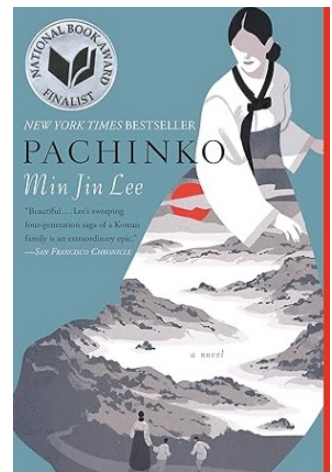
Hosted by: Allison Moeschberger

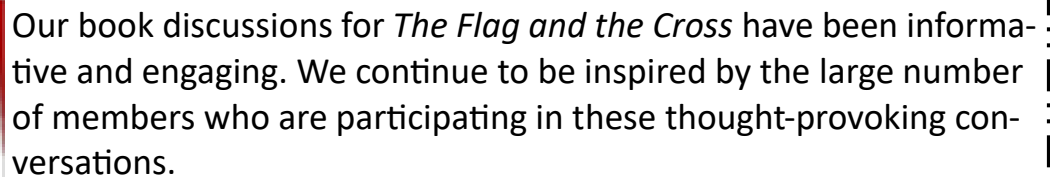
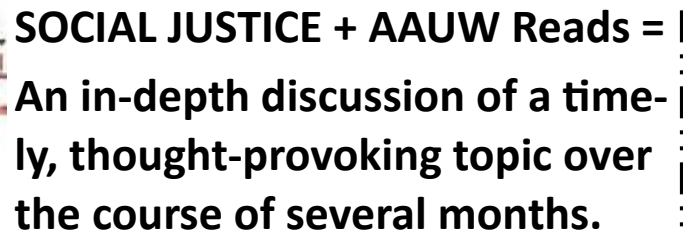
**Note:** We are meeting at Allison's office, not her home. The address is 2901 E Enterprise Avenue, #500, Appleton.

RSVP to Allison, by noon on the 10th, contact info is in the year-book/directory.

All members are welcome!

📖 Be thinking about book suggestions for the 2024-2025 reading cycle, and look in the May newsletter for information on when suggestions are due to Donna.





**We will be discussing chapter 3, “Freedom, Violence, Order”.**

**Tuesday, March 26 at 6:30 pm (RSVP to Becky O'Connor at [bandboc@gmail.com](mailto:bandboc@gmail.com))**

Mark your calendars for our final discussions (locations TBD):

Thursday, April 25 at 6:30 pm

Visit the Waniger School, a restored one-room country schoolhouse attended by famous alumna Grace Fuller, then have lunch at the Belgian Delight Restaurant, and finish the day at the Belgian History Center. Costs include a \$10 donation to the History Center, lunch on your own, & a donation to your driver. Group size is limited to 20. Call, text or email Grace Fuller at 920-766-5378 or [gracefuller22@gmail.com](mailto:gracefuller22@gmail.com) to register. More details as we get closer to June. **NOTE: The travel list is filling fast!**

Send articles to Judy Goodnight at [judy@gwd.org](mailto:judy@gwd.org).

Branch Meeting: March 5, 2024, 6:30PM

First Congregational UCC Church

51 members present

President Chris Taylor welcomed everyone. Paulette Stoltzman welcomed speaker Heather Chantelois-Kashal who spoke about Fox Valley Literacy.

Business Meeting: Ruth Henschel moved to accept the minutes from the February 8, 2024 Branch meeting. Donna Cook seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Finance Report: Jackie Booher reported that we have \$8,328.89 in the Leadership Development Account and \$14,369.82 in the General Fund. There is \$36,462.00 in the Scholarship Money Market Account.

Program Report. Paulette Stoltzman introduced the new Holiday Brunch Chairs, Jeanne Seitz, and Sue Taylor. We are still looking for a new place to hold the meeting. Suggestions are welcome.

The April 9, 2024 Branch Meeting will be held at the Menasha Public Library. The topic will be Antisemitism.

The May 16, 2024 End of the Year Celebration Branch Meeting will be held at the First United Methodist Church. We will be honoring scholarship Recipients, member anniversaries and retiring/incoming officers.

Membership Report: Linda Buck reported that National bylaws vote on membership requirements will be held online beginning April 2. Everyone is encouraged to vote.

Tech Savvy: Jacqueline Klimaszewski and Stephanie Malaney reported that Tech Savvy is happening on March 9, 2024 at UW-Oshkosh: Fox Valley. Currently, 60 girls and 30 parents are registered. There will be a volunteer orientation on Friday March 8, 2024.

Public Policy: Stephanie Malaney advised us to watch for Badger Briefs for the latest Public Policy issues and information from the state including resolutions.

Faye Binsfeld informed us about an International Women's Day art exhibit and panel discussion at the Trout Museum of Art on Friday, March 8th, 5:00 pm. Let Faye know if you would like to join a group of branch members who will be attending.

Judy Goodnight reported on the Wisconsin Constitutional Amendments which will be on the April ballot. The wording on the amendments is not clearly presented and the intent of these amendments is being questioned. Judy encouraged everyone to vote "NO" to both amendments.

Scholarships: Mary Grace reported that Judy and Mike Goodnight are making an annual \$1,000 donation to our Scholarship Fund. Jim Olson donated a \$6,000.00 scholarship in memory of Ellie. Applications for our scholarships are available in the newsletter and on our website. Scholarship applications are due April 15th.

Travel: Judy Goodnight talked about the June 27, 2024 trip to Door County. Information about the trip was in the March newsletter. The group size is limited to 20. Call, text or email Grace Fuller at 920-766-5378 or [gracefuller22@gmail.com](mailto:gracefuller22@gmail.com) to register.

Information about Book Groups and AAUW Reads will be in the newsletter. The Evening Literature Group is resuming after a two-month break. [Continued on next page]

March 5, 2024 Minutes continued

Nominations Committee: Joan Moeschberger announced the nominees for 2024-25 positions on the Board:  
Program Vice President: Helene Iverson  
Assistant Program Vice President: Lisa Balster  
Assistant Membership Vice President: Kathy O'Connor  
Elected candidates will be inducted at the May 16, 2024 Branch Meeting and their terms will begin on July 1, 2024.

New Business:

Our Branch has received a Five Star Branch Recognition.

The State Convention will be held on April 26-27, 2024 in Mt. Pleasant. Members who attend can receive a \$50 reimbursement.

The Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Collins  
Recording Secretary

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- Added Information for the Evening Literature Group:

May 9th—Book will be ***Beloved*** by Toni Morrison, Allison Moeschberger will still lead the discussion.

August 8th—Book will be ***A Fever in the Heartland*** by Timothy Egan, Donna Cook will still lead the discussion.

- ♦ Changes of address/phone number/email address? Report any changes to Judy Goodnight ASAP to ensure that your branch records stay up-to-date. Make sure you update your information in the national database as well.

Ways You Can Take Action With AAUW:

- 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/>

Appleton AAUW Income and Expense Statement  
July 1, 2023 to February 29, 2024

As of 2/29/2024

Budget  
2023 - 2024

**INCOME:**

		add'l 1145.50 received prior to 7/1/2023	
Membership Dues 2023-2024	870.00		2,100.00
Membership Dues 2024-2025	135.00		0.00
December 2023 Brunch Net Income	3,207.89		1,994.00
Advertisement	50.00		100.00
Interest	<u>\$1.97</u>		<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>4,264.86</u>	<u>4,194.00</u>

**EXPENSE:**

Membership/Recruiting	221.07		400.00
Financial Assistance (2)	0.00		144.00
Newsletter	0.00		0.00
Program	331.00		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	56.89		300.00
Finance Expense	61.62		300.00
General Expense	0.00		100.00
Women's Action Coalition	0.00		200.00
Fox Valley Reads	0.00		200.00
Tech Savvy Sponsorship	71.76		500.00
Special Events	0.00		300.00
Diversity	<u>0.00</u>		<u>50.00</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>		<u>1,390.53</u>	<u>4,194.00</u>

**Revenue Less Expenses** 2,874.33

Checkbook Balances as of 2/29/2024

<b>General Checking Account</b>	
Leadership Development	8,328.89
General Fund	<u>14,369.82</u>
<b>Total Checking Account</b>	<u>22,698.71</u>

**Scholarship Money Market Account\*** **\$36,462.00**

\*Includes \$4.36 in monthly interest

**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.

**Branch President:**

Christine Taylor

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**Membership VP:**

Linda Buck

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**Newsletter Editor:**

Judy Goodnight

[judy@gwd.org](mailto: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](mailto:jamforever02@yahoo.com)

### Michael Goodnight and Associates, LLC



**Michael L. Goodnight & Judy Goodnight**

**Owner**

1406 Fieldstone Court

Neenah, WI 54956

Phone: 920.558.9626

E-mail: [Mike@michaelgoodnight.com](mailto:Mike@michaelgoodnight.com)

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

**WOMEN'S**

**ACTION**

**COALITION**

OF THE FOX VALLEY

ADVOCATING FOR WOMEN'S EQUALITY