



The Apple Branch

American Association of University Women

Appleton, Wisconsin

Serving the Greater Fox Cities Area

Volume 39 Number 2 October 2024



**APPLETON (WI)
BRANCH**

Sept 24	Book Sorting 9 am—noon
Sept 24	Social Justice Meeting
Sept 26	Book Sorting 6—8 pm
Oct 2	Book Sale Table Set— Up
Oct 2	Second Choice Books
Oct 3,4, 7-11, 14, 15	Book Sale Set-Up 9:00 am—8:00 pm
Oct 5,12,16	Book Sale Set-Up 9:00 am—4:00 pm
Oct 7	Art Class
Oct 8	BOOK SALE WORK NIGHT Supper & Branch Meeting 5:00 pm
Oct 16	Wed. Afternoon Literature
Oct 17	Thurs. Afternoon Literature
Oct. 17, 18, 19	BOOK SALE
Oct 22	Social Justice
Oct 23- 26	BOOK SALE
Oct 30- Nov 2	BOOK SALE

Book Sale! There are many ways that AAUW-Appleton stands out, but this event coming in October is one of the MOST outstanding. If you've been there, you know how huge yet so accessible it is. Signs everywhere, sorted, alphabetized, helpful AAUW members ready to find a title or a box so you can buy more. It's professional quality!

The list of people who create and deliver this gift to the community each year is long and varied. The Minterns guide us with steady calm leadership, always smiling and helpful no matter how many times they've given the same advice. Betty Pontius and her crew in Children's hold the land speed record for finding a desired book no matter who walks in the door. Stephanie Malaney has picked up (often off her own porch) more books than Amazon. Donna Cook, Chris Taylor, Mary Grace, Ruth Henschel, Laurie McCulloch, and Missy Boveroux seem to be everywhere at the same time, always smiling as they move those books, shelves, and the rest of us. And our publicity is always eye-catching and memorable due to Trish Brehm's cleverness. Does anyone know more than Judy Goodnight about fiction? That is a winning team, and we are fortunate to have their leadership.

But of course they can't do it alone. YOU are needed. Book Sale has been an excellent membership tool, so ask someone to join you and pitch in at your convenience as we near the opening date. Your efforts change the lives of our local scholarship winners. Our May meeting can bring tears to most of us as we listen to the stories of the women we've awarded not just money, but a vote of confidence with our scholarships. Remember ikigai? Life with purpose? Book Sale delivers. Every year.

I thought some notes I found in our records might be appropriate to share this month. The information comes from our 1972 Book Sale, and begins with, "We've come a long way, Ladies!"

- * The first book sale was held at 317 E College Ave. in December of 1936

- * The profit was \$175.00

- * Locally, we gave \$100 scholarships to area high school senior girls who would be attending Lawrence College. We submitted our nominees but the college made the selection.

- * Also locally, we gave loans to female students with preference to seniors at Lawrence. Those funds came from interest, and from the calling of bonds purchased by the branch. If funds were available, younger students at Lawrence could apply for loans as well. The branch managed the repayment process.

- * We always sent money to national for their fellowship programs. Those programs, which still operate today, go to women from around the globe as well as American women at graduate levels.

We're kind of a big deal. Don't miss it.

See you at the Sale, *Faye Binsfeld, President*

AAUW Appleton Program News



Thanks to all of you who came to our Fall Ex-Salad-Ganza. It was short, sweet, fun and we got you home in time for debate watching. Thank you to Judy Phillips and Susan McFadden for being my “helping hands”, to Lisa Balster for going above and beyond in the realm of cupcakes and welcome to the four new members who were there. It was a good mix of camaraderie, business and eating!



October 8 — Book Sale Work Night. Our official meeting time is at 5:00 at our Northland Mall sale site. Deadline for ordering a box lunch is September 26. See last month’s Apple Branch for details on ordering. Wear your work clothes and roll up your sleeves to help either before and/or after our meeting!



November 18— Branch Meeting

Time: 5:45 gather and chat, program starts at 6:00

Place: Neenah Public Library, Shattuck Room

Parking: Somewhat limited; carpooling is recommended

Topic: Carol Lenz, one of members , will be educating us on “How our State Budget is affecting K-12 Schools”.

Why are there so many school referendums in so many school districts? How is the budget created? Is Wisconsin doing a good job in funding our schools? Why or why not? How can we express our satisfaction or concerns?



December 7—Holiday Brunch

See details elsewhere in this Apple Branch edition.

Helene Iverson, VP Program & Lisa Balster, Assistant VP Program

AAUW Appleton Membership News

September Kick-off meeting: It was a well attended meeting with approximately 60 people attending. We had fun, got a lot of information, good food and we made it home for the debates. Four new members were there and all new members will have gold name tags. We hope you will extend them a welcome and get to know them better.

Directories: We will be bringing the directories to the work night on October 8th for those of you who haven't picked yours up yet. Let me know if you need other arrangements made.

Recruitment: Let us know if you have someone who may be interested in AAUW so that we can deliver a new member folder to them.

Jayne Heinrich, VP Membership & Kathy O'Connor, Assistant VP Membership

AAUW-Wisconsin Members,

Every election is important and AAUW members have a reputation for participating in informed voting. This year will be especially important as several of our issues are being attacked. We don't want to be partisan so we will talk only about issues among our friends.

Every vote on our issues will be important and we want you to speak to other like-minded individuals to encourage them to vote for issues like public education funding, health care for all, fair pay in the workplace and welcoming diversity and conversation among other topics.

The AAUW Public Policy Committee has put together a document which explains the AAUW statewide effort to vote for justice issues. We strongly encourage you to sign the Ambassador Pledge and take part in spreading the message. Speak up at your book clubs, with your neighbors and at your churches. These can be casual and pleasant conversations.

Attached is an explanation of how to go about this effort. We would like your feedback as you spread the word about this election.

Stephanie Malaney and Barbara Peterson
Co-Chairs Public Policy Committee (which includes several members from your branches)

YOU CAN BE AN ELECTION '24 AMBASSADOR

Are you concerned about who will be elected in November?

Are you concerned that your voice will be heard?

Are you unsure what more you can do?

Wisconsin AAUW has a new and simple program that will help!

We are introducing, effectively immediately an [ELECTION '24 AMBASSADOR PROGRAM](#) for all members, friends and family with a challenge pledge.

WHY BECOME AN ELECTION '24 AMBASSADOR?

Election '24 has been referred to as the most consequential election of the century. We simply cannot afford to be complacent at the local, state and especially national level.

WHAT IS AN ELECTION '24 AMBASSADOR?

The program uses the "power of one", a theory that one person's action can change the future.

WHAT IS AN AMBASSADOR CHALLENGE PLEDGE?

Your pledge to contact at least 10 people and get their commitment to vote!

WHAT IS THE GOAL?

GET OUT AN INFORMED VOTE!

(Continued on next page)

Create awareness about the critical importance of voting by sharing these websites with our friends and family.

HOW DOES THE ELECTION '24 AMBASSADOR PROGRAM WORK?

The website is a one-stop resource center:

<https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/election-2024-ambassador/>.

My Vote <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/> provides information on polling sites, what's on the ballot, voter registration, absentee voting and allows you to track your ballot once you have voted by mail.

Absentee ballots can be requested now; mailed to you when printed. Vote absentee in person after October 22nd. Election date: Tuesday, November 5th

Are your ballots safe and accurately recorded? <https://electionfactswi.com/>

[Wisconsin Voting Information \(vote411.org\)](http://vote411.org) is sponsored by the League of Women Voters. Voter information is updated regularly. You can find out what's on your ballot, who are the candidates, and even compare candidates' views on issues you care about. The site also provides information on early voting, election security, and more.

Here are topics for conversation with friends and family.

Keep it friendly and persuasive.

<https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2024/06/Its-My-Vote-2024-Voter-Issue-Guide-English.pdf>

Click here to pledge to be a '24 Election Ambassador now:

<https://forms.gle/x6YTd7xwSHgVUDif9>.

Stephanie Malaney & Barbara Peterson
Co-Chairs AAUW State Public Policy

AAUW-WI Li'l Badger Mailing

AAUW Appleton Public Policy

AAUW-Appleton Public Policy **IMPORTANT ELECTION INFORMATION!**

“AAUW is committed to open and fair elections that are broadly accessible to all voters, nonpartisan voter education efforts that will promote equitable political participation and representation in appointed and elected office, and expanding voting rights.”

This statement is clearly outlined in AAUW national policy. And it continues:

“Our democracy works when everyone can fully participate. Elected officials routinely make decisions about issues that directly impact all of us. From our paychecks to paid leave, access to reproductive health care and access to education, our lives are on the line – and our vote is our voice. To create real change, we must be part of the conversation, and the most powerful way for us to have our say is at the polls. Yet the right to vote has a long and tumultuous history. Protecting that right – the one that many fought long and hard for – continues today as ongoing efforts to suppress the right negates what it means to be a free democracy.”



With this in mind, a **NO VOTE** is being recommended by the League of Women Voter (our Women’s Action Coalition partner) and AAUW-WI on the referendum question on the NOVEMBER BALLOT. This nonpartisan issue has a direct effect on all and literally puts voting rights on the ballot. From the LWV study: ***“The change from “every” to “only” is a downgrade to all of our voting rights. The language changes our constitutional-ly protected voting rights from a guarantee for all citizens to a limitation that could be used to erode our voting rights. In fact lawmakers have already discussed this being a step on the path to further limit our right to vote, including by implementing a proof of citizenship requirement despite knowing that 1 in 10 US citizens don’t have the documents to prove their citizenship.”*** (Would we all need to bring birth certificates to the polls? Voters are busy...will they vote if they have to go to their safety deposit boxes and produce this document?)

For further information:

[https://ballotpedia.org/Wisconsin_Citizenship_Voting_Requirement_Amendment_\(2024\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Wisconsin_Citizenship_Voting_Requirement_Amendment_(2024))

<https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/november-2024-constitutional-amendment>

Becky O’Connor
Public Policy Chair

Strategic Planning keeps our branch focused on issues and activities that make us stronger. Every two years we review and revise to keep ourselves current and relevant. Your input is vital! Please review the questions in the What Do We Want the Next Two Years to Look Like? list. You may have thoughts about each item, perhaps some you'll leave blank, but do put your ideas down even if you think you don't know enough, or don't have experience to do so. Sometimes the best ideas come from someone looking in from the outside, or fresh to a group. This is Brainstorming, so let your thoughts roam and help us grow.

A collection box will be at Book Sale. You may sign your name or not, but I'm sure your contribution will be valuable. I know it will be appreciated.

Thank you for your help, Faye Binsfeld

What Do We Want the Next Two Years to Look Like?

Please jot your thoughts down for our next meeting.

What does AAUW Appleton do that is most important to you?

What might help our membership grow?

How can we encourage new leaders to step forward?

How can we be a vital part of the community?

What can we do to make AAUW membership more valuable to members?

What should we keep/ add,/ subtract from our current activities, offerings?

Random thoughts you would like to add?

JAZZ UP YOUR LIFE WITH BOOKS

2024 AAUW BOOK SALE

IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES

Book Sorting at Northland Mall

Tuesdays – 9 a.m. - noon & Thursdays - 6-8 p.m. thru Sept. 26

Sale Store Set Up – Oct. 2

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. to noon - Help set up tables at Northland Mall

Book Sale Work Night – Oct. 8 (Tuesday)

3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Supper and Branch Meeting at 5:00 –
Work times before and after supper meeting (Details in
October Newsletter)

Pre-Sale Work Times at Northland Mall

Oct. 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Oct. 5, 12, 16: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Come whenever and as often as you can.

Book Sale Shifts

Oct. 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, Nov. 1: 8:30-11:30, 11:30-
2:30, 2:30 - 5:00, 5:00-7:30

Oct. 19 & 26: 8:30-11:30, 11:30-2:30, 2:30-5:30

Nov. 2: 8:30-12:00, 12:00-3:30

Sign up on the chart at the Northland Mall, or contact
Mary Grace at 920-915-6379 or mcggs@aol.com.

Book Sale Celebration – Nov. 7 (Thursday)

11:30 a.m. – Fratello's Riverfront Restaurant

Note: Please remember to distribute your posters and bookmarks.

87th Annual AAUW Book Sale!

Jazz Up Your Life With Books



Hardcover • Paperback Books
Children's Books • Books on CD
Large Print Books • Sheet Music
CDs • DVDs • Puzzles • Games

booksalefinder.com

Profits for Scholarships

To contribute books
prior to the sale,
Please call:

920-284-7098 920-731-4693
920-540-7751 920-734-6750

Northland Mall
770 W. Northland Ave. - Appleton, WI

Oct. 17-19, 2024

Thursday & Fri 9am - 7pm
(Most books \$1-\$2)

Saturday 9am - 5pm
(Most books \$1-\$2)

Oct. 23-26, 2024

Wed., Thurs., & Fri. 9am - 7pm
(Most books \$1-\$2)

Saturday 9am - 5pm
(1/2 Price Day)

Oct. 30-Nov. 2, 2024

Wed. 9am - 7pm
(1/2 Price Day)

Thurs. & Fri. 9am - 7pm
(\$5/bag)

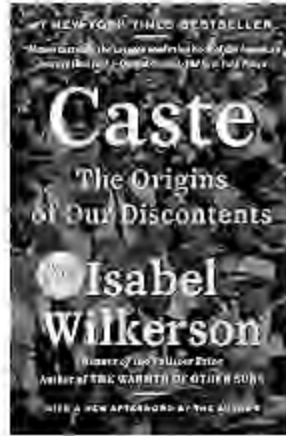
Sat. 9am - noon
(All Items Free)



empowering women since 1881
American Association of University Women

AAUW Reads! 2024-25

All are welcome to join any or all discussions!



Our AAUW Reads book discussions will begin in November. Watch the newsletter and/or email for exact dates and times. We realize it will depend on the dates, but if you are considering participating, please let Becky know at bandboc@gmail.com to help with our planning.

One date already set is Monday, November 18 at 1:00. There will be an additional session if you cannot make that one.

Reading Schedule:

November: Intro, Parts 1 and 2 (96 pages)

January: Part 3 (64 pages)

February: Part 4 (93 pages)

March: Part 5 (45 pages)

April: Parts 6 and 7, Epilogue (77 pages)

May: possible viewing of *Origin*, biographical drama film based on the life of Isabel Wilkerson

Becky O'Connor and Judy Goodnight

SECOND CHOICE BOOKS

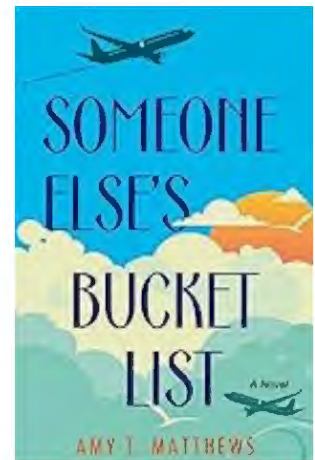
Our October book is *Someone Else's Bucket List* by Amy T. Matthews.
We'll meet on **October 2nd** at **1:00 pm**.

RSVP to Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org
or 920.729.9553
by September 30th to get the location.

RSVPs are a must when we meet at restaurants!

The November book is *True North* by Andrew J. Graff.

Second Choice Books is open to all members of the branch.
Questions? Contact Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org.



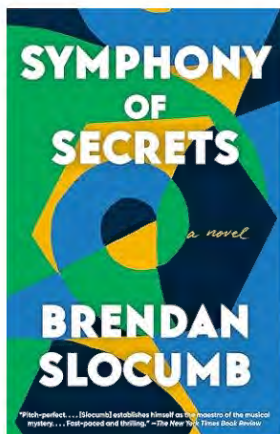
AFTERNOON LITERATURE

Our October book is *Symphony of Secrets* by Brendan Slocumb.

The Wednesday, October 16th host is Laurie Leonard.
The Thursday, October 17th host is Karen Gosse.

Check your directories for their addresses and be sure to RSVP to your host giving them plenty of notice!

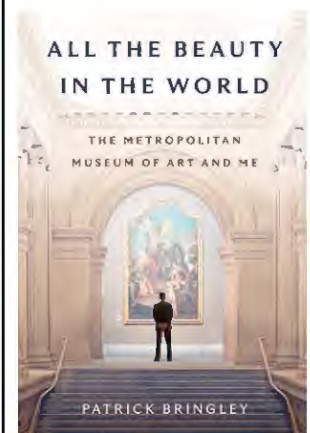
If you're not currently a member of the group and wish to join, contact Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org or 920.729.9553.



Evening Literature Group News

NOTE: The Evening Literature Group will NOT be meeting in October due to the Book Sale.

We will meet again on November 14th, 6:30 PM
Book: All the Beauty in The World, by Patrick Bringley
Discussion Leader: Rachel Edwards
Hosted by: Kathy Kuck



“An Evening Dedicated to Fostering Meaningful Dialogue and Mutual Respect”

There is an intriguing opportunity for us on October 1, at Poplar Hall in Appleton. There will be refreshments and networking time, a panel discussion with Republican Reid Ribble and Democrat Barbara Lawton, ending with opportunities to have facilitated discussions with fellow attendees. Topics will focus on finding common ground, handling political polarization, hopes for bipartisan positive efforts.

We frequently say we wish our country wasn't so polarized; this event is aimed at solutions to that problem. There is a \$25 registration fee. In your registration, you will be asked to declare your political leaning to help create groups with different viewpoints. Take a look at <https://www.commongroundfoxcities.org/community-conversations> and register if you're interested. I plan to attend, so if you can make it, I'd like to know. Most likely we won't be seated at the same discussion table, but we can share the networking social time. I plan to wear an AAUW shirt or pin.

Faye Binsfeld

SCAM ALERT: Scammers are everywhere. Since my email is online for our branch, there has been a fake message from someone posing as me asking for money. The message doesn't sound genuine and if you really look at the return address, it isn't mine. Just delete it.

Sadly, Faye Binsfeld

Note from Judy: Often the first email asks for your assistance. If you reply, you're usually asked to purchase gift cards. Always look at the ACTUAL email address, not just the name. Never respond without verifying with the real person you know!

AAUW Art Class October 7, 2024 (Monday) Origami Cut Paper Designs



- **Place:** Chris Scott's House
1406 W. Edmund Dr. Appleton, WI
- **Time:** 12:30 pm
- **Theme/Subject:** your choice
- **Materials:** Materials will be provided. Class cost: \$15

All are welcome. No experience necessary. Just come and have fun.

Please **RSVP** to Laurie Leonard at rjllal@new.rr.com by Tuesday, Oct 1st.

September in Cedarburg Trip

Trip has been canceled due to low numbers. Rescheduling for the spring may be possible.



Appleton Branch AAUW “Winter Wonderland” Brunch

Holiday Brunch & Fundraiser Tips:



Tip #1: Mark your calendars and plan to attend. Invite a friend. Guests are always welcome!

Date: Saturday, December 7th

Time: 8:30-11:30

Place: Bridgewood Hotel, 1000 Cameron Way, Neenah

Tip #2: This is the time to seriously think about your contributions. Consider donating a gift basket. If you need ideas, check out the poster at the October meeting. Perhaps you can work with a friend(s) to compile a basket.

Tip #3: We are in need of oral auction donations. Suggested donations might be jewelry, antiques, art pieces, small furniture items, or extra large gift baskets.

Contact Sue Taylor (920-716-3439) or Jeanne Seitz (920-734-4944) with questions.



AAUW Appleton Branch Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2024 5:50 pm
Prince of Peace Fellowship Hall, Appleton
Approximately 60 members attending

President Faye Binsfeld called the meeting to order. The minutes of our May 2024 meeting stand approved as published in the Apple Branch newsletter.

Finance Vice-President Jackie Booher announced that the monthly finance report can always be found in the newsletter. Over the summer she wrote \$18,000 worth of checks to colleges and universities for the scholarships given to our May student recipients.

Faye returned to thank Susan McFadden and Judy Phillips for being hostesses for tonight's salad dinner. She went on to talk about the opportunities that AAUW provides members to get involved in branch activities from advocacy & education to book sale and interest groups. We have a no-guilt promise, but we do encourage some level of involvement. Faye recapped AAUW's overall mission and how that mission is reflected in research conducted by AAUW which directly guides national lobbying efforts on Capitol Hill. Faye next mentioned two important pieces of branch communications: the yearbook/directory which was available for pick-up by each member and the monthly newsletter. Faye encouraged everyone to read the newsletter thoroughly each month when it's published to stay on top of all the current & future branch happenings.

Program Vice-President Helene Iverson got everyone up and active with a quick game of ways in which "everyone is connected to others".

Faye gave a short recap of STEM events that the Appleton branch has been involved in, then introduced Linda Buck, our new STEM Chair, who discussed some opportunities that we may want to participate in through programs run by other organizations.

Junior Achievement – programs for elementary students and also for middle school students

Fox Valley Technical College – November 5th Tech Knowledge – Middle Schoolers, either run sessions or guide students from session to session

Smart Girls Rock – Miller Electric – possible for 2025

Mind Trekkers – possible future program

After a group game of "Match the quote to the Famous Woman", Membership Vice-President Jayne Heinrich introduced the five new members who have joined since May: Mike Goodnight (not present), Denise Chorne, Becky Buechler, Jessica Armstrong, and Jessica Larsen. (continued on next Page)

September Minutes continued...

Becky O'Connor, Public Policy Chair, reviewed committee actions so far this fall. AAUW members participated in training by the League of Women Voters and have taken shifts at the DMV encouraging people to vote and helping them to register. Nonpartisan information about voting and registering was posted on our AAUW Appleton website <https://appleton-wi.aauw.net/> and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AAUWAppleton>.

Becky also introduced the AAUW Reads book for 2024-2025, *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson, which is co-sponsored by the Social Justice interest group. The book will be read and discussed in chunks in small groups over a period of months. This is open to anyone in the branch. A giveaway of the book was held; Marlene Angevine was the winner.

Faye next introduced Mary Grace, one of the Book Sale Chairs, who covered important info to know about the book sale:

- *Customers – Members need to help promote the sale via posters and bookmarks.
- *Come join us at book sorting – check the dates & times.
- *Help is needed on Set-Up Day – Tables & Shelves
- *Be there on the October Work Night – Be sure to order your box lunch from Jane Thomas!
- *At the Work Night, you'll be able to sign up for sale work shifts.
- *Mark November 7th for the after-sale celebration for anyone who worked the sale.

The next speaker was Jeanne Seitz, one of the Holiday Brunch Chairs, who talked about the silent auction basket portion of the December 7th event at the Bridgewood Hotel & Conference Center in Neenah. Jeanne had a display of basket ideas and encouraged everyone to come up after the meeting and take an idea off the display & mark their name on that spot. Baskets can be put together and delivered at any time now and Jeanne will store the baskets. The Holiday Brunch auctions are the only fundraiser we do that goes to support the branch, our activities, and keep our local dues at a level price.

Helene Iverson announced one addition to the yearbook. The November program at the Neenah Public Library now has a date of the evening of November 18th. Carpooling is encouraged for that meeting.

After a final game of Heads & Tails, Faye adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Goodnight
For Shirley Collins,
Recording Secretary

FAYE'S POETRY CORNER

How To Avoid Mixing Your Metaphors

by Brian Bilston

It's not rocket surgery
First, get all your ducks on the same page.
After all, you can't make an omelette
Without breaking stride.

Be sure to watch what you write
with a fine-tuned comb.
Check and re-check until the cows turn blue.
It's as easy as falling off a piece of cake.

Don't worry about opening up
a whole hill of beans:
you can burn that bridge when you
come to it, if you follow where I'm
coming from.

Concentrate! Keep your door closed
and your enemies closer.
Finally, don't take the moral high
horse:
if the metaphor fits, walk a mile in it.

In honor of book sale workers
who become
Librarians temporarily

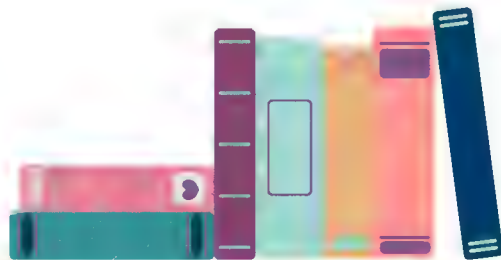
My First Memory (of Librarians)

by Niki Giovanni

This is my first memory:
A big room with heavy wooden tables
that sat on a creaky wood floor
A line of green shades-bankers' lights-
down the center
Heavy oak chairs that were too low or
maybe I was simply
too short
for me to sit in and read
So my first book was always big

In the foyer up four steps a semi-circle
desk presided
To the left side the card catalogue
On the right newspapers draped over
what looked like
a quilt rack
Magazines face out from the wall

The welcoming smile of my librarian
The anticipation in my heart
All those books-another world- just
waiting
At my fingertips.



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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Newsletter Editor:

Judy Goodnight
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920-729-9553

Articles for the November newsletter are due October 15th.

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

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



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Michael L. Goodnight & Judy Goodnight

Owner

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WOMEN'S

ACTION

COALITION

OF THE FOX VALLEY

ADVOCATING FOR WOMEN'S EQUALITY