



The Apple Branch

American Association of University Women
Appleton, Wisconsin

Serving the Greater Fox Cities Area

Volume 39 Number 3 November 2024



**APPLETON (WI)
BRANCH**

Dear Friends,

I loved running wildly from house to house Halloween night, outside in the dark night disguised from all. I was confident of accumulating a bucket of goodies and friendly smiles where ever I went. I hadn't heard that sometimes people got into some real mischief under cover of darkness. My biggest fear was that my always-home-made-costume would fall apart or an older brother might get into my candy stash back home. My biggest disappointment was to receive an apple; it was all about candy that night.

Oct 22	Social Justice Meeting
Oct 23-26	BOOK SALE
Oct 30-Nov 2	BOOK SALE
Nov 5	ELECTION DAY
Nov 6	Second Choice Books
Nov 7	Book Sale Celebration Lunch Fratello's
Nov 11	Board Meeting
Nov 12	Brunch Helpers Meeting/ Public Policy Meeting
Nov 14	Evening Literature
Nov 18	AAUW Reads : Afternoon Session One
Nov 18	Branch Meeting
Nov 20	Wed. Afternoon Literature
Nov 21	Thurs. Afternoon Literature
Nov 22	Brunch Reservations Deadline
Nov 26	AAUW Reads : Evening Session One

Collectively, we are facing some somewhat spooky suspense as we wonder how Book Sale will turn out in such a difficult location this year. Our energy and creativity have been put to the test. Like my costumes, our sale site was patched together to provide shelving and storage for more books than there really was room for. We don't know if our "take" will be affected, or if we'll be able to satisfy our customers who have come to expect so much from us. We're like the folks who handed out full-size candy bars on Halloween, delivering more than expected. People remember and return each year. It's been tougher this year, but I've seen we continue to wow our customers and earn impressive profits despite our limitations. It's magic!

And just think of the magic those books are creating when they are opened by parents, children, cooks, students, gardeners. Our customers will travel around the world and throughout time, they will solve mysteries both fictional and scientific, they will be transported from their own lives, to laughter and joy, empathy and understanding, new learning and ancient wisdom. No magic wands or fancy costumes. Just our hard work and great ideas. Well done, everyone! Time for treats after your amazing trick! And feel free to wear your cape!

Election days have their own suspense. Will the predictions be accurate? Will the polling places move things along smoothly? Just how close will it be? How long will the lines stretch? And it's dark out when we open the "bags" to see what we get. Will the results be clear and accepted by all? That's the one that has us all on edge this year.

Talk about a Spooky Unknown. The country's bags of goodies- votes- need to be proven safe from anybody wanting to reach in and take some. Or even add some. The hardworking poll workers, handing out ballots and I Voted stickers, will be on the alert, watching to ensure all is well, no tricks under cover of darkness. Is that new? Of course not. I know, I am a poll observer on election mornings and poll worker for the afternoon shifts. I've learned firsthand that poll workers are dedicated to accuracy: correct advice, clear directions, watchful supervision, and precise tabulation. After many challenges in recent times, we know they get the job done; they could justifiably wear Super Hero costumes.

A comforting constant in our lives is AAUW. We know we have AAUW here in Appleton as well as nationally standing for what is right, especially for women and girls. Whether we celebrate or despair over the results and reactions to elections, AAUW will be a voice of reason and positivity. We will work for what is just and fair no matter what conditions we find ourselves in. We're experienced at that.

Those porch lights guided my journeys Halloween night. I knew how to get what I wanted by following the lights in the darkness. AAUW helps guide us, adding purpose and satisfaction to our lives. In turn, we can be the light that leads others towards fulfillment. It's magic!

Faye Binsfeld, President

AAUW Appleton Program News



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 our 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

STEM News for November Branch Meeting

Kristine Kolb, Education Manager for JA of Wisconsin, will be giving a brief presentation about Junior Achievement including showing a video about JA BizTown at the November Branch Meeting. JA BizTown combines teacher-led learning with a day-long visit to a simulated town for fourth/fifth grade students. Many of the businesses in JA BizTown offer hands-on STEM work experience to the students. Kathy Kuck and I had the opportunity to tour BizTown a few weeks ago and were very impressed. Kristine will share more about JA and answer any questions. Hope to see you at the November Branch Meeting.

Linda Buck, STEM Coordinator

AAUW Appleton Membership News

Thank You to all the Appleton AAUW members actively participating in the preparation & running of the book sale! It's a great way to get to know members and help out at the same time.

Recruitment-- Remember that you are the best tool in our organization! Talk to friends about AAUW & let us know if you need us to drop off a folder to them.

Renewal Reminder--It is time to renew for those members who joined AAUW in October 2023. You can renew online at AAUW's Community Hub. Just click log in and go to your personal profile with your credit card. Renewal amount is \$100: National \$72, State (WI) \$13 and Branch (Appleton) \$15. If you prefer, you can send a check made out to AAUW-Appleton to Jackie Booher. Her address is in the directory. Any questions about renewal please let us know.

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



*Join us for our
Winter Wonderland
Holiday Brunch & Fundraiser*

Date: Saturday, December 7th, 2024

Place: Bridgewood Resort & Conference Center
1000 Cameron Way, Neenah



Time: 8:30 a.m. Gather
9:15 a.m. Buffet Brunch

Menu: Fluffy scrambled eggs, double smoked bacon,
breakfast sausage, seasonal fruit, assorted
pastries, homemade muffins, chilled fruit juices, coffee, tea



Cost: \$25.00 per person

Checks made out to: AAUW Appleton Branch

Due by November 22nd

****Send checks to: Grace Fuller
624 Black St.
Kaukauna, WI 54130**



***Guests are always welcome! Be sure to include their names when you send your check to us.**

***Dietary restrictions? Put them in writing along with your reservation.**

****Thank you for understanding that we cannot honor reservation requests made after 11/22!**

“Winter Wonderland” Brunch Details to Remember

***November 22** Deadline for reservations and Deadline for turning in auction items (drop off at Jeanne Seitz’ or Sue Taylor’s, bring to Nov. mtg., or call for pick-up)

***Easy travel to Bridgewood from Appleton** – Take HWY 41 south toward Neenah. Then take the Winneconne Ave. (114) exit turning left at the light. Continue south on Green Bay Road through 3 roundabouts. Then turn left onto Cameron Way.

***Brunch Helpers’ Meeting** – 1:00 on Nov. 12th at Jeanne Seitz’s home (see address below). Anyone interested in helping with tasks the day of the brunch, including those who have helped in previous years, is asked to confirm with Jeanne Seitz or Sue Taylor. Tasks include setting up, selling raffle tickets, serving as elves etc.



***Sorting & Basket Assembly** – 9:00 on Dec. 3rd at Jeanne Seitz’s home, 5817 North Kestrel Circle, Appleton

2024 AAUW Appleton Book Sale:

As you receive this newsletter we are just starting the 2nd week of our 87th book Sale. So many of you have worked tirelessly to make our sale another success despite a smaller space and so many books. A huge thank you to all of you. It does truly take a village and, in this case, a branch! And now it will soon be time to celebrate!

BOOK SALE CELEBRATION LUNCH

Please join us on Thursday, November 7, at 11:30 AM at Fratello’s on the River. You may RSVP on the sign-up sheet at the mall or contact Mary Grace at 920-915-6379 or mcggs@aol.com. If your spouse or other family member helped with our sale, please invite them to join us! We need your RSVP by November 5.

Ethnic & Elegant

This is a dinner group that meets for three dinners starting in January. The menus and recipes are provided and every couple provides part of the meal—as well as hosting one of the dinners. To become a member and/or ask any questions about how the group is organized, contact Nancy Samson at samsonnancy47@gmail.com.

Articles for the December newsletter are due November 15th.

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

AAUW Appleton Public Policy

Simply put...
our branch members are amazing.

Despite the long hours working the book sale, our members have put their time and energy into the following actions to advocate for issues important to AAUW:

- ➔ Voter registration assistance at the DMV.
- ➔ Writing & sending VOTE NO cards on the proposed referendum amendment.
- ➔ Preparing nonpartisan voter information bookmarks to hand out at the book sale. (Special thanks to Marian Moberg for her work on this.)

Still to come...

- ➔ Preparing advocacy actions for future branch meetings that relate to our program topics.

Our next Public Policy Committee meeting is Tuesday, November 12 at 1:00 at Becky O'Connor's home. Let Becky know if you would like to join this committee.

Becky O'Connor
AAUW-Appleton Public Policy Chair



SOCIAL JUSTICE INTEREST GROUP

Next meeting date at Starbucks, 1680
S. Appleton Rd, Menasha, 6:00 pm,

October 22nd

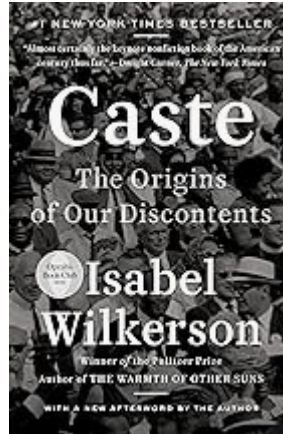
RSVP to Judy Goodnight—920-729-9553 or judy@gwd.org.

Topic: “Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed For Men” by Caroline Criado
Perez. We’re finishing the book with discussion of Parts 4-6 (Chapters 10-16).

AAUW Reads!

2024-25

All are welcome to join any or all discussions!



Our AAUW Reads book discussions will begin in November. 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. This will be held at Becky O'Connor's home. There will be an additional session on Tuesday, November 26 at 6:30 pm. This will be held at Judy Goodnight's home. Be sure to RSVP to the host of the session you plan to attend.

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

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

RSVP to Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org

or 920.729.9553

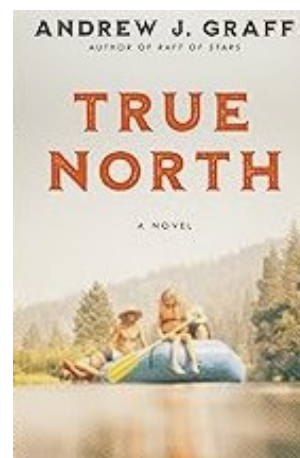
by November 4th to get the location.

RSVPs are a must when we meet at restaurants!

The December book is *The Wager* by David Grann.

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

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



AFTERNOON LITERATURE

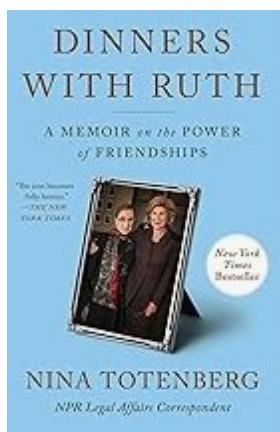
Our November book is *Dinners with Ruth* by Nina Totenberg

The Wednesday, November 20th host is Pat Hauser.

The Thursday, November 21th host is Liz Lokensgard.

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 Book Group

When: Thursday, November 14, 2024, 6:30 PM

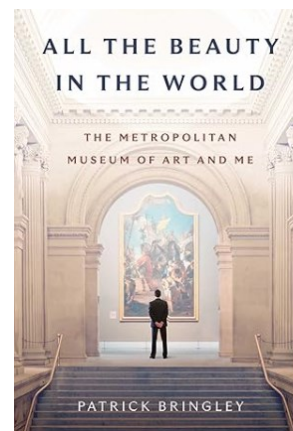
Host: Joan Moeschberger (address is in yearbook/directory)

Discussion Leader: Rachel Edwards

Book: All the Beauty in the World by Patrick Bringley

RSVP: Please RSVP to Joan or Donna by the morning of the 13th (contact info is in the yearbook/directory)

All members are welcome to join us.



FAYE'S POETRY CORNER

Dream Work
by Mary Oliver

Wage Peace
Wage peace with your breath.
Breathe in firemen and rubble,
breathe out whole buildings
and flocks of redwing blackbirds.
Breathe in terrorists and breathe out sleep-
ing children
and freshly mown fields.
Breathe in confusion and breathe out maple
trees.
Breathe in the fallen and breathe out life-
long
friendships intact.
Wage peace with your listening:
hearing sirens, pray loud.
Remember your tools:
flower seeds, clothes pins, clean rivers.
Make soup.
Play music, learn the word for thank you in
three
languages.
Learn to knit, and make a hat.
Think of chaos as dancing raspberries,
imagine grief as the out breath of beauty
or the gesture of fish.
Swim for the other side.
Wage peace.
Never has the world seemed so fresh and
precious.
Have a cup of tea and rejoice.
Act as if armistice has already arrived.
Don't wait another minute.

Cheese
by Lynn Ungar

Say what you like about the human race,
we have a talent for pulling victory
from defeat. Consider cheese,
which is essentially spoiled milk
that has been tended and treasured
until it turns to gold.
Which make me wonder whether,
in the cave where I store my old
resentments, there might not be
bundles that could, with patience
and careful turning, yield something
funky, and yet savory and complex.



AAUW Appleton Branch Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2024 5:00pm
Northland Mall, Appleton

President Faye Binsfeld called the meeting to order. The minutes of the September 2024 meeting stand approved as published in the Appleton Branch Newsletter.

Financial Report: Faye Binsfeld for Jackie Booher
There is \$20,725.10 in our checking account and \$16,589 in our scholarship fund. The financial report will be in the newsletter.
We are looking for a new VP of Finance to be mentored by Jackie and to take office in the Fall.

Faye Binsfeld announced that early in-person absentee voting will take place from October 22, 2024 through November 1, 2024.

Holiday Brunch Report:
We need baskets, oral auction items and raffle bag items.
Brunch will be \$25. Grace Fuller will be collecting money until November 22, 2024.
More information about the brunch will be in the newsletter.

Ethnic and Elegant Dinners will be resuming. Contact Nancy Samson if you are interested.

Information about AAUW Reads will be in the newsletter.

Reminder was given to not talk politics at AAUW events.

The meeting was adjourned. Book Sale leaders then gave instructions for our work night.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Collins
Recording Secretary

Appleton AAUW Income and Expense Statement
 July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

As of 9/30/2024

Budget
 2024 - 2025

INCOME:

		add'l 1485.00 received prior to 7/1/2024	
Membership Dues 2024-2025	465.00		2,175.00
Membership Dues 2025-2026	0.00		0.00
December 2024 Brunch Net Income	0.00		1,619.00
Advertisement	50.00		50.00
Misc	220.50		
Interest	<u>50.38</u>		<u>0.00</u>
Total Income		<u>735.88</u>	<u>3,844.00</u>

EXPENSE:

Membership/Recruiting	37.83		400.00
Financial Assistance (2)	0.00		144.00
Newsletter	0.00		0.00
Program	207.48		800.00
Yearbook	373.47		350.00
Insurance	362.50		300.00
Public Policy	0.00		100.00
Historian's Expense	0.00		150.00
President Expense	0.00		300.00
Finance Expense	0.00		150.00
General Expense	0.00		100.00
Women's Action Coalition	0.00		200.00
Fox Valley Reads	0.00		0.00
STEM	0.00		500.00
Special Events	0.00		300.00
Diversity	<u>0.00</u>		<u>50.00</u>
Total Expense		<u>981.28</u>	<u>3,844.00</u>

Revenue Less Expenses (245.40)

Checkbook Balances as of 9/30/2024

General Checking Account

Leadership Development	7,908.89
General Fund	<u>12,816.21</u>
Total Checking Account	<u>20,725.10</u>

Scholarship Money Market Account* \$16,589.38

*Includes \$2.09 in monthly interest

Booksales expenses to be reimbursed at the
 end of booksale 1,526.57

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:

Faye Binsfeld

binsfeldfaye@gmail.com

920-268-8246

Membership VP:

Jayne Heinrich

plainjayne37@gmail.com

920-246-8569

Newsletter Editor:

Judy Goodnight

judy@gwd.org

920-729-9553

Membership Outreach

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

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

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



If you know of a member who we should reach out to in this way, please contact JaneAnne McCabe. E-mail: jamforever02@yahoo.com, Text: 920-382-0031

Michael Goodnight and Associates, LLC



1406 Fieldstone Court
Neenah, WI 54956

Phone: 920.215.0014

E-mail: Mike@michaelgoodnight.com

Michael L. Goodnight & Judy Goodnight

Owner

WOMEN'S

ACTION

COALITION

OF THE FOX VALLEY

ADVOCATING FOR WOMEN'S EQUALITY

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