



The Apple Branch

American Association of University Women

Appleton, Wisconsin

Serving the Greater Fox Cities Area

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**APPLETON (WI)
BRANCH**

Late-breaking news & information means you get an added small but mighty issue of the December newsletter. Be sure to read it - especially the minutes of the November branch meeting before attending the December Brunch.

WISCONSIN BUDGET LISTENING SESSION

In preparation for the upcoming 2025-2027 biennial budget, Governor Evers will be holding budget listening sessions starting Monday December 2nd. This is an opportunity to share your thoughts on the budget with the Governor, staff, and members of his cabinet. The information for each session is below. Please share this information with any stakeholders you feel would be interested in joining a session. If you are unable to attend any of the sessions you can submit your comments [here](#). Please reach out if you have any questions.

12/2 – Appleton BLS 5:30pm-7:00pm

Einstein Middle School, 324 E Florida Ave, Appleton, WI 54911, USA

[Registration Link](#)

Our Public Policy Committee strongly encourages you to attend the listening session. If you cannot attend, use the link provided to submit your comments. Refer to the sample letters for some of the talking points from the November branch meeting presentation.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES:

New email for Brunhilde Courtney: brunzumba@gmail.com

Welcome New Members!

Amy Nasr

N1160 Roena Ln

Hortonville WI 54944

amynasr4@gmail.com

Dianne Eisenach

N2334 Heavenly Dr

Greenville WI 54942

dianneeisenach@gmail.com

AAUW Appleton Branch Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2024 6:00pm
Neenah Public Library

Preceding the Meeting we had two presentations:

Helene Iverson introduced Carol Lenz and other members of Fox Cities Advocates for Public Education who talked about how our state budget is affecting K-12 schools. Special Education funding is of particular concern. The drain of funds to private schools through the Choice program continues to harm public schools. There are several ways branch members can take action as the budget is being formulated. Becky O'Connor reminded members that they received an email link to determine who their new state representatives are. Sample letters to send to representatives were made available. Public Policy is making support for public education a priority this year.

Linda Buck, STEM chair, introduced Kristine Kolb from Junior Achievement who gave a presentation about Junior Achievement's programs. Members are welcome to sign up to explore volunteering at any of the opportunities JA offers. There was a sign-up sheet available.

At 7:50 pm, President Faye Binsfeld called the meeting to order. The minutes of the October 2024 meeting stand approved as published in the Appleton Branch Newsletter. The financial report changes dealt with Book Sale income as noted below.

Members are reminded to open their newsletters each month when they arrive. Latest information about interest groups and branch activities may be found there.

Holiday Brunch Updates:

Reservations need to be made by November 22. Baskets need to be turned in by November 22. Small raffle bag items can be brought in up to and including the day of the brunch. Bring checkbooks and cash! This is a fundraiser!

Book Sale: Mary Grace

Book sales brought in \$48,876.80. Expenses were \$4,853.24.

Our profit was \$44,023.57 of which 35% (\$15,408.25) will go to National for the Greatest Needs Fund.

The remaining 65% (\$28,615.32) will go into our Scholarship Fund.

The Book Sale Committee will meet on December 9. They welcome input about the sale.

The Board is working on strategic planning. Strategic planning sheets are available and anyone can have input. Submit to Faye Binsfeld.

Other Business:

The nominating committee will be meeting.

We are looking for candidates for Membership Chair, Program Chair, Secretary, and President Elect. Don't be shy about volunteering for one of these positions.

The Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Collins
Recording Secretary

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

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