



The Apple Branch

American Association of University Women
Appleton, Wisconsin

Serving the Greater Fox Cities Area

Volume 39 Number 12 August 2025



**APPLETON (WI)
BRANCH**

What's Happening This Month...

AUGUST 2025

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|------|----------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---------------------------------|
| 7/27 | 7/28 | 7/29 Book Dropoff/ Cleaning Day | 7/30 | 7/31 | 8/1 Directory Deadline for Summer Re- newals | 8/2 |
| 8/3 | 8/4 Second Choice Books | 8/5 Book Sorting 9:00-Noon Branch Picnic Telulah Park | 8/6 | 8/7 Art Class Book Sorting 6-8:00 pm | 8/8 September Newsletter Articles Due | 8/9 |
| 8/10 | 8/11 | 8/12 Book Sorting | 8/13 Aft. Books Summer Gathering/ Jewelry Event | 8/14 Book Sorting Evening Lit | 8/15 | 8/16 |
| 8/17 | 8/18 | 8/19 Book Sorting | 8/20 Summer Mysteries | 8/21 Book Sorting | 8/22 | 8/23 Women's Equality Day |
| 8/24 | 8/25 | 8/26 Book Sorting | 8/27 | 8/28 Book Sorting NHPI Equal Pay Day | 8/29 | 8/30 |
| 8/31 | | | | | | |

President's Page

Dear Friends,

I am eagerly anticipating traveling to the Netherlands and Belgium this fall. On our free day in Amsterdam, I hope to tour the Anne Frank House. Her diary is a dramatic memory from high school reading, making me curious about the tiny attic that served as the family's hiding place from the Nazis. I had a part in our high school production of the play based on her story, which allowed me to temporarily "live" in that small space with 6 other people. The play ends with black-out and the sounds of the wooden door being chopped down. And then silence. It left a lasting wound in my heart.

I will reread Anne's diary soon; I want it to be fresh when I visit. While the conditions of Nazi Germany were far more severe than anything we have endured, I hope to take heart from the messages of hope and resilience that have made the book a lasting influence. The times we are living in beg for inspiration, even if it comes from a 13-year-old girl living in silent hiding each day to avoid detection. Despite the hate and fear the Nazi regime directed at the Jewish community, Anne wrote powerful words that can support us today.

"It's difficult in times like these: ideals, dreams and cherished hopes rise within us, only to be crushed by grim reality. It's a wonder I haven't abandoned all my ideals, they seem absurd and impractical. Yet I cling to them because I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart."

You can argue that statement is simplistic or naive. But when you take the time, as Anne was forced to do, and consider your neighbors, your friends, the principled leaders we respect, there is cause for reassurance. Voters may be swayed temporarily, but unfailingly the majority reject cruelty and dishonesty when they see them. Good people are at work around us.

If you contact your legislators to speak up for your values, if you have meaningful conversations with those you don't agree with, if you listen to various viewpoints, you are living what Anne spoke of with hope. We don't have to be on street corners, but we do have to be advocates for our beliefs. Our education is a gift many do not have, and with it comes the obligation to find common ground by offering points that are founded in fact and patriotism. We are the voice of knowledge and compassion.

I've selected a few more quotes from Anne instead of poetry this month. Her decision to write was a momentous one, but hardly seemed so as she began. May your decisions help shape a better community around you. Who knows where it will lead?

With Hope,

Faye Binsfeld, President



AAUW Appleton Program News



LEND A HAND and help out at AAUW programs including:

Tuesday, August 5 picnic at Telulah Park (4:30 pm arrival for 5-7 pm picnic)

Tuesday, September 9th AAUW First Program Meeting at Prince of Peace (4 pm arrival for 5:15 pm eat and gather time and 6 pm meeting)

Tuesday, October 7th Book Sale Work Night at Fox River Mall site (4:30 pm help organize box meals before 5 pm business meeting)

If you would like to join the program committee, or help out with the hospitality tasks such as set up, refreshing food and beverages, and clean up at the meetings, please let me know. **MANY HANDS LIGHTEN the LOAD. Add your hands to the To-Do List!**

Lisa Balster, 414-236-8868, balsterlisa@yahoo.com



BYOP-PP: Bring Your Own Picnic to the Program Preview.

Join a picnic at **Telulah Park Pavilion** on

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Chat with members, bring other guests, and potential new members for our great organization, our work, and our mission. Share what you like about our AAUW Apple Branch at the event and enjoy some tasty summer food. **Bring a salad or dessert to share. Bring your own beverages and main meal.**



Tuesday, September 9th AAUW Program Year 2025-2026 first meeting!

Join the first meeting for the year at the Prince of Peace Fellowship Hall at 2330 E. Calumet St. (use the west entrance). People can gather and eat at 5:15 p.m. with the business meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. Last names that start with a letter from A-M should bring a savory finger food. Letters N-Z, please bring a sweet finger food. Enjoy the food and company. Learn about the AAUW efforts and activities locally, statewide, and nationally.



Book Sale Work Night and Branch Meeting on Tuesday, October 7th, 2025.

The book sale work night and Branch meeting will be held at the Fox River Mall site. Stay tuned for the 5 p.m. box meal options in the September newsletter. New locale means new food options for the book sale workers – who are often hungry after long hours. Yum!

AAUW Appleton Membership News

Membership Renewals

Many members with summer renewal dates have already completed the process. Thanks for that! For those who have yet to do this, you can renew online at the AAUW Community Hub (AAUW.org). Log in, go to your Personal Snapshot and select RENEW. Payment is by credit card. If you prefer to pay by check, make the check for \$102 out to AAUW-Appleton and send it to Kathryn Herzog at 4313 N. Windcross Drive Appleton 54913. If you have any questions or need support during the renewal process, please feel free to reach out to Kathy O'Connor.

Directory

Jane Doughty is already hard at work on the directory. We appreciate all of the time she is putting into this. If you would like any changes made to your personal information in the directory, please let Jane know at jane@wood-doughty.net. Members must be current by August 1st in order to be included in the directory. If any changes need to be made to your official AAUW Roster information, let me know at kocpsy@gmail.com.

New Member Opportunities

Keep in mind that we are excited to welcome new members into the Branch! Upcoming opportunities to invite prospective members include the Program Preview Picnic, the Fall Kick-Off Branch Meeting and the Book Sale Work Night! We have 3 free national memberships which exempt new members from national dues. These need to be used by October 31st.

We hope you are having a great summer and look forward to seeing you all at the August Picnic and September Meeting!

Kathy O'Connor and Sally Lindow
Membership Vice Presidents

AFTERNOON LIT END OF SUMMER GATHERING

It's time to reconnect with your book-loving friends and get ready for the new program year and line-up of Afternoon Literature books to be read. But first, let's enjoy a relaxing afternoon of catching up with friends and sharing books you've read over the summer while sitting under some shady trees, enjoying a cool beverage, and some tasty treats. You provide your own lawn chair and your own beverage. Judy Goodnight will provide the shady trees and the tasty treats!

August 13th, 1:00 pm

Judy Goodnight's, 1406 Fieldstone Court, Neenah

RSVP to judy@gwd.org or 920.729.9553. (In case of rain, we'll meet inside.)

AAUW Appleton Public Policy Update



AAUW National set the stage this month by proudly supporting the **Good Trouble Lives On National Day of Action** – “a nationwide call to protect our democracy and civil rights – honoring the legacy of Congressman John Lewis before, during and beyond July 17. This is not a day of quiet reflection – it’s a day of courage and action.”

Even though the 17th is past...and THANK YOU to the members who made signs (Ruth Park!) & showed spirit and courage and action by walking together from the Appleton Public Library to Houdini Plaza – we keep looking to the “beyond” in the days ahead. There will be more opportunities to **show up, speak out, and organize** in our communities. AAUW provides the megaphone as we forge ahead in unprecedented times.

From AAUW National:

AAUW is fighting for a future where:

Students of all backgrounds have access to strong public education systems

Women can access and afford higher education

All women can achieve economic security

Voting rights are protected and expanded

Here’s what we’re up against:

Efforts to Eliminate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Assault on Public Education and Civil Rights Protections

Threats to Higher Education Access and Equity

Attacks on Reproductive Freedom and Health Care

Efforts to Suppress the Freedom to Vote

Since You Asked:

*AAUW’s mission and the goals of the **Good Trouble Lives On National Day of Action** are deeply aligned - fighting for education, economic opportunity, civil rights, and a democracy that works for everyone. This is a non-partisan mobilization, rooted in the legacy of Congressman John Lewis, and one that all AAUW branches can participate in.*

This isn’t a mandate – it’s an invitation. Whether you’re showing up, speaking out, or spreading the word, there’s a role for every member and every branch.

Here’s to more good trouble, AAUW friends.

Becky O’Connor, AAUW-Appleton Public Policy Chair

PUBLIC EDUCATION UPDATE: Carol Lenz

Was this really 'the year of the kid? School districts weigh in

School districts throughout the state are voicing concerns about the level of funding in this budget. As a result of zero increase in state aid, 66% of districts will see a cut to state aid in 2025-2026.

[Article](#) by Carol Lenz (Click on the link to read Carol's article.)

Published in [The Dairyland Patriot](#)



SOCIAL JUSTICE INTEREST GROUP

We're taking a break in August! Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 23rd at 6:00 pm. We're reading & discussing "How to Read the Constitution and Why" by Kim Wehle—Part 2 Rights—Chapters 5-9.

August 28th is Equal Pay Day for Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander women.

*****September newsletter articles will be due August 8th*****

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

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

BOOK SALE UPDATES

July 29th Cleaning Day: During our book drop off from 10:00 am to noon, we will also be cleaning and organizing the store for our sorting days. We will be dusting shelves and cabinets, cleaning the floor, and setting up shelving units. Join us if you are able. We are also in need of cleaning supplies. Please bring rags, mops, etc.

Book Sorting begins:

We will be sorting books at our new book sale site every Tuesday morning from 9:00 am to noon and Thursday evening from 6 to 8:00 pm starting on Tuesday, August 5. Sorting will continue for all of August and September. If you are new to book sorting, we encourage you to come and give it a try. Book sale chairs will give you an orientation and are always available for questions. You can also drop off books during all of the sorting times.

Join us for lunch:

To celebrate the official start of the book sale season we will be going out to lunch after book sorting on Tuesday, August 5. We will go out again on the first Tuesday of September.

Our New Location:

If you have not yet been out to our new location at the Fox River Mall, you will find us just to the right of the main food court entrance. Our store has an outside entrance and you will see our AAUW book sale signs in the windows. It is not accessible from inside the mall.

Fall Posters and Bookmarks:

In this newsletter you find a copy of the poster which gives all the information about dates, times, and prices for the Sale. They will be available at all August and September branch events, at our store, and by contacting Trish Brehm. When you take posters/ bookmarks, there will be sheets to sign indicating the places where you will distribute the posters and bookmarks. The posters and bookmarks are one of our best ways to let folks know about our sale.

Questions?

Contact one of the book sale chairs. You will find them listed in your directory.

88th Annual AAUW Book Sale! KEEP ON YOUR TOES READ!



NEW LOCATION! FOX RIVER MALL

*Use outside entrance to the right
of main entrance to food court*

Oct. 16-19, 2025

Thurs. & Fri. 9am - 7pm

(Most Books \$1-\$2)

Sat. 9am - 5pm, Sun. Noon - 5pm

(Most Books \$1-\$2)

Oct. 23-26, 2025

Thurs. & Fri. 9am - 7pm

(Most Books \$1-\$2)

Sat. 9am - 5pm, Sun. Noon - 5pm

(1/2 Price Days)

Oct. 30 - Nov. 1, 2025

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

Sat. 9am - Noon *(All Items Free)*

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

920-636-8153

920-540-7751

920-734-6750



American Association
of University Women

88th Annual AAUW Book Sale!

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Sat. 9am - noon
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empowering women since 1881

American Association of University Women



WOMEN'S FUND LUNCHEON

You're Invited!

Join Your AAUW (and other) Friends
at the 25th Annual Women's Fund Luncheon

Wednesday, September 10, 2025
Fox Cities Exhibition Center, Appleton



Keynote Speaker: Kathrine Switzer,
First woman to register and run
in the Boston Marathon
despite the attempt to force her
off the course
because the marathon
was "not for women."

All proceeds from the luncheon directly benefit the Fox Valley community's women and girls. Your payment includes a \$30 tax deductible contribution to the Women's Fund.

We have a table reserved for AAUW Appleton.
Contact Faye Binsfeld for details and to make your payment.

The luncheon cost at a reserved table is \$94.00.

There is one table for 8 reserved for our branch,
but a second table can be reserved if we add it by July 31.

Non-reserved seats are \$100 per person.

WOMEN'S ACTION COALITION

OF THE FOX VALLEY

ADVOCATING FOR WOMEN'S EQUALITY

Join us!

Women's Equality Day Celebration
Saturday, August 23, 2025
Houdini Plaza, Appleton Farmers Market
8:00-12:30

Join our sister organizations of the Women's Action Coalition of the Fox Valley Region to highlight Women's Equality Day and its importance to us all. The League of Women Voters will be registering voters, and other volunteers will be taking Polaroid pictures of people who stop by and share their thoughts about equality by writing on a card. We will be sharing the plaza with a local authors' group, so you can enjoy that as well! It will be a time to reflect on what the day means both historically and now. Stop in for a visit or to help and support the Women's Action Coalition! Either way we would love to see you there!

Contact Faye Binsfeld or Becky O'Connor if interested in helping!



2025-2026 DIRECTORY CHANGES/ADDITIONS:

Please check your directory entry in the current edition. If you have any changes, corrections or additions that need to be made to your entry for our annual directory, **please contact Jane Doughty (jane@wood-doughty.net) NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2025.**

Also check your renewal date. **If you haven't already renewed and your renewal is listed as 7/2025 or earlier, you must renew by August 1 to continue to be included in the new directory.**

Lastly, due to a change at National, we will no longer include degree information in the directory.

AAUW Reads



Our next book has been chosen! The AAUW Reads book for 2025-26 is a recommendation from the AAUW-Appleton Social Justice group. The topic is timely: immigration.

From Kirkus Reviews: **A *New Yorker* staff writer examines the tragedy of Central America against the backdrop of U.S immigration policy. From the beginning, the U.S. has meddled in the affairs of Central America’s nations, some of them autocracies. This tinkering, particularly in the Reagan years, led to murder, civil war, and, decades later, a stream of migrants desperate to flee rampant poverty and violence. “For more than a century, the U.S. has devised one policy after another to keep people out of the country,” writes Blitzer. “For more than a century, it has failed.” It’s a sorrowful yet urgent topic, and Blitzer navigates it with both journalistic rigor and compassion. A sobering, well-reported history in which no one emerges a winner.**

As always, AAUW Reads tackles difficult topics with heartfelt enthusiasm and courageous discussions. We hope you consider taking part in this one! We will read the book in “chunks” with a schedule that runs from November-April (no discussion in December). Two options each month will be offered...in person and on Zoom. As always...if you plan to participate...you can win this book at the September branch meeting!!

Stay tuned and watch the newsletter for updates and ways to buy this book that supports a local, independent, woman-owned business!

Becky O’Connor and Judy Goodnight

SECOND CHOICE BOOKS

Our August book is *Chronicles of a Radical Hag*
by Lorna Landvik.

We'll meet on **August 4th at 1:00 pm.**

RSVP to Judy Goodnight at judy@gwd.org or 920.729.9553
by August 1st to get the location.

RSVPs are a must when we meet at restaurants!

Our September book is *The Good Lord Bird* by James McBride.

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



Evening Book Group

Thursday, August 14, 2025 6:30 pm

Book: *Into the Storm* by Tristram Korten

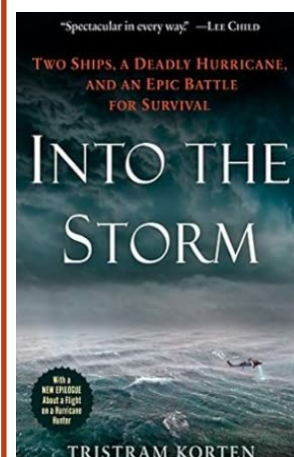
Discussion Leader: Amanda Skorr

Host: Judy Goodnight

RSVP to Donna or Judy by noon on the 13th please

(contact info is in the directory/yearbook)

All members are welcome!



SUMMER MYSTERY



To: Active Detectives
From: Chief Inspector H. Iverson
SUBJECT: Special Task Force Assignment

Please RSVP for a place at the table in August.

Wed. Aug. 20. 12:30 Osorio's

RSVP: Due to Judy Phillips Wed. Aug.13 cubbie1945@gmail.com

Pork Pie Pandemonium: Albert Smith's Culinary Capers Recipe 1 by Steve Higgs

Lead on the case: Judy Tate



AAUW Summer Art Class for August

Where: Chris Scott's house
(1406 W. Edmund Dr., Appleton)
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025
Time: 12:30 pm
Cost: \$15.00 (All supplies included)

Theme: Dragonflies Watercolor Painting

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

RSVP to Laurie Leonard at

rjllal2024@gmail.com

by Friday, August 1.



Let's Take a Break From It All!

What You Want and Need to Know About Your Jewelry! 🍷

Wednesday, August 13, 4:00 pm, Wilder's Bistro on S. Oneida Street

Bridget of Bridget's Jewelry Workshop will be offering her expertise on jewelry. If you have any questions about your jewelry, this is your opportunity to learn more than the fact that the ring looks pretty on your finger. Topics that can be covered are: what to look for when buying jewelry, the different metals, pearls and why they are making a comeback and how to take care of your jewelry.

Bridget received her education at NWTC focusing on Jewelry Repair and Fabrication. In 2012 she started her Jewelry Workshop specializing in jewelry repair and design as well as jewelry evaluation and materials purchasing. She's worked in the jewelry industry since 2001 and says she loves working with her hands and helping people with their jewelry needs.

Please **RSVP by August 6th** to Cheryl Reissman (#s in our directory). We need to confirm numbers with Wilder's. Family and friends are welcome.

If you have ideas, based on the one listed above, or something totally different, contact Sylvia Bull (sjbcreate@gmail.com) or Shirley Collins (shirley.collins.wi@gmail.com). Also look in future monthly Newsletters for events.

Appleton AAUW Income and Expense Statement
 July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Budget
 2025 - 2026

As of 7/31/2025

INCOME:

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|---|-----------------|
| | | add'l 1020.00 received prior to 7/1/2025 | |
| Membership Dues 2025-2026 | \$ 65.00 | | 2,025.00 |
| Membership Dues 2026-2027 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| December 2025 Brunch Net Income | 0.00 | | 1,229.00 |
| Advertisement | 0.00 | | 50.00 |
| Misc | 0.00 | | - |
| Interest | 50.00 | | 0.00 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| Total Income | | <u>65.00</u> | <u>3,304.00</u> |

EXPENSE:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| Membership/Recruiting | 0.00 | | 400.00 |
| Financial Assistance (2) | 0.00 | | 154.00 |
| Newsletter | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Programs | 0.00 | | 800.00 |
| Yearbook | 0.00 | | 400.00 |
| Insurance | 0.00 | | 400.00 |
| Public Policy | 0.00 | | 100.00 |
| Historian's Expense | 0.00 | | 50.00 |
| President's Expense | 0.00 | | 100.00 |
| Finance Expense | 0.00 | | 150.00 |
| General Expenses | 0.00 | | 100.00 |
| Women's Action Coalition | 50.00 | | 200.00 |
| Brunch | 0.00 | | 100.00 |
| Special Events | 0.00 | | 300.00 |
| Diversity | 0.00 | | 50.00 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| Total Expense | | <u>50.00</u> | <u>3,304.00</u> |

Revenue Less Expenses 15.00

General Checking Account

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Leadership Development | \$6,168.89 |
| General Fund | \$ 16,844.83 |
| Total Checking Account | <u>\$ 23,013.72</u> |

Scholarship Money Market Account*

*Includes \$4.40 in monthly interest \$34,565.95

Book sale expenses to be reimbursed at the end of book sale \$185 \$1,776.10
 \$1,200.00 mall for two months (August and September)

FAYE'S POETRY CORNER

Words of Anne Frank, 1929- 1945 as written in her diary

I see the world being slowly transformed into a wilderness; I hear the approaching thunder that, one day, will destroy us too. I feel the suffering of millions. And yet, when I look up at the sky, I somehow feel that everything will change for the better, that this cruelty too shall end, that peace and tranquility will return once more.

~

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.

~

I must uphold my ideals, for perhaps the time will come when I shall be able to carry them out.

~

What is done cannot be undone, but one can prevent it happening again.

~

I don't think of all the misery but of the beauty that still remains.

~

I know what I want, I have a goal, an opinion, I have a religion and love.
Let me be myself and then I am satisfied.

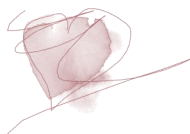
I know that I'm a woman, a woman with inward strength
and plenty of courage.

~

Human greatness does not lie in wealth or power,
but in character and goodness. People are just people, and all people have
faults and shortcomings, but all of us are born with a basic goodness.

~

In the long run, the sharpest weapon of all is kind and gentle spirit.



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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Kathy O'Connor
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Newsletter Editor:

Judy Goodnight
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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