

BAYNOTES

Empowering Women since 1881 – Through Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy and Research
Branch Website: greenbayarea-wi.aauw.net
Celebrating our 90th year

Wednesday, May 31 5:30 pm - ?

Creative idea sharing for our future

Sara Ramaker's 2545 Oakwood Ave.

We will share ideas about the next two year's calendar of events, field trips, and informative speakers. All members and ideas are welcome.

AAUW NATIONAL VOTING PARTY

Monday, June 5th anytime between 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Ramaker Home – 2545 Oakwood Avenue, Allouez

Please rsvp – Sara Ramaker 432-8249 or ramaker.sara@gmail.com

AAUW is all about getting out the vote. I won't miss a chance to vote and I am betting you all think the same. Well, as members of AAUW we have a National Election this year. We have important positions and issues before us. I am encouraging all of you to vote. It does not matter that the deadline for requesting a paper ballot is over, because we can all vote on-line until June 15 at 9 p.m. ET. The latest Outlook has the information on the candidates and issues, your voting identification number, PIN and a brief description on how to vote on-line. I know some of you are more computer savvy than others. I do not want anyone not voting, because they do not want to deal with the on-line voting. To make it easy for you to vote, we are having a Voting Party. Come with your Outlook (so you have your member ID number or voter PIN) and we will help you vote. If you cannot find your Outlook and have questions on your voter ID and PIN take time to call AAUW at 800-326-2289 (or email at connect@auuw.org) before the meeting to get these numbers.

Copy attached sheet to newsletter, read, and bring along as reference to voting.

SPECTACULAR SUMMER POTLUCK PICNIC

Thursday, June 22 from 5:30-8:00 pm

Laura Fisher-Bonvallet's home 1150 Hill Dr. Oneida More details to follow

INTEREST/STUDY GROUPS

ART STUDY GROUP

Art Study Group Planning Meeting and Brunch

Thursday, June 15 from 10:00am to noon

Hostess - Maryl Hitchcock

1202 Fox River Drive, DePere 336-5173

Co-hostess - Diann Malueg



BOOK GROUP – meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Reader’s Loft at 3:30 pm.

May 23rd. Book: **Some Luck** (The Last Hundred Years Trilogy: a Family Saga) by Jane Smiley. Smiley gives us the blessings of farm life. 1920-1953.

At 5:30 pm we will be having dinner at Tuscons and discussing possible book selections for next year. Originally dinner was at Grapevine, but they are hosting an event that evening. Join us!

June 27th Book: **Time of Our Lives** by Peggy Noonan.

Travel the path of Peggy Noonan's remarkable and influential career, beginning with a revealing essay about her motivations as a writer and thinker.

DREAMERS & DOERS Writing Session

A writing session will be held **Friday June 23, 9:30 AM** at Sara Ramaker’s house. 2545 Oakwood. .

We will be writing profiles from information gathered about the remaining women. It’s more fun to work together and bounce ideas off each other. Let’s get this done!

Book Study Group – Aldente!

Linda Birder

For those who are interested in being part of a book group but are unable to attend the Tuesday monthly afternoon discussion meetings.

The first meeting of **Aldente!** will be **Thursday, May 18 at 5:30 at Green Bay Distillery.**

We will be following the AAUW monthly book list. Our first book, **Re Jane by Patricia Park** focuses on Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month. We will discuss the book over dinner. Mary Barker will lead the discussion. All are welcome!

June date – TBD

Book: *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family* By Amy Ellis Nutt)

“When Wayne and Kelly Maines adopted identical twin boys, they thought their lives were complete. But it wasn’t long before they noticed a marked difference between Jonas and his brother, Wyatt. A journey that could have destroyed a family but instead brought it closer together.”

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Maryl Hitchcock & Janice McCarthy

Membership Renewal Forms were mailed to all members in late April. We encourage everyone to complete the form and mail it with their \$75.00 dues by June 1 if possible. This will assure that the Membership Directory is complete and accurate.

An Informal Get-Together for New Members

Thursday, June 8, 2017 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm

At the home of Maryl Hitchcock
1202 Fox River Drive, De Pere

See last page of newsletter for Calendar of Events

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Liz Pierce

Our Newest Members are:

1. **Christine Jean Daleiden**

UW-Oshkosh, BSN

Occupation: RN

Employer: Aurora Hospital

2555 Bittersweet Avenue, 54301

Cell: 639-8595

2. **Wendy Schmidt-Janosik**

3701 Misty Meadow Lane, Unit 1

De Pere, WI 54115

Occupation: retired

BS Human Dev UWGB

MA Family and Community Counseling

Northeastern IL U

920-988-3928

3. **Sheila Kronberg**

4. **Neicy Lynn Thorsen**

160 E Briar Lane, Green Bay, WI 54301

920-336-0873-home

920-412-1058- Cell phone

neicylthorsen@gmail.com

Bachelor- Elmhurst College

Graduate degree- Northern Illinois University

Retired Special Education Teacher

Amy Sue Sawyer is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in the Nursing Program at Bellin College, and plans to graduate in the spring of 2018. Amy Sue's professional journey has been one of resiliency, as she has overcome much adversity during her adult years. Her own experiences have shaped and inspired her to be a nurse who advocates for patients in a kind, nonjudgmental and empathetic way. In addition to being a full-time student, AmySue works part-time and is the mother of two teen-age daughters; one of them, Elaina, joins us today.

Samah Obaidin is majoring in Human Biology at UW-Green Bay and will graduate in May of 2018. She is a 4.0 student and volunteers her time with BayCare doing research. Her goal is to be a medical doctor. Samah lives with her husband, four children and mother-in-law who she cares for. Samah's success in her accomplishments and goals are even more impressive when we recognize that Samah grew up in Syria. She began to learn the English language only after arriving in the United States. She continues to help her children become more fluent in English, as well as assist her family transition to a "new culture."

Our third scholarship recipient is **Pamai Lee Xiong** who is unable to be with us today. Pamai will complete her studies in Integrative Leadership and Human Development in the spring of 2018 from UW-Green Bay. She currently works as a Respiratory Therapist. Earning a Bachelor Degree from UW-Green Bay will allow her to be one step closer to earning a Master's Degree. Her ultimate goal is to be a part of a missionary team and provide medical health care and education overseas.

(It was suggested that we include in every scholarship a one-year membership to AAUW. It certainly seems like something we should consider.)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sara Ramaker

As of May 6, the branch completed another year. As president, (though I may be prejudice) I found every meeting interesting and informative. In addition, we have grown some new members, expanded the Art Study Group, started a Human Trafficking Study Group, and (because of Samah Obaidin's immigration worries) possibly an Immigration Study Group. One highlight of the year was clearly our 90th Birthday Party! We can celebrate 90 years for the rest of 2017, too!

Annual Branch Meeting: I am sorry all of you could not attend our Annual Branch meeting May 6th. I heard from many people how much they enjoyed the meeting. Clearly, we enjoyed the space and especially the food at The District. (I heard from several people how impressed they were with the fresh and delicious chicken salad.) I want to give special thanks to Sue Hendricks for organizing everything with The District. I hope we can use this location again.

New Organizational Structure: At the annual meeting our new Vice-President Linda Birder gave a presentation, "Make a Difference—Choose Action." She identified our 12 different groups and encouraged everyone to join at least two. The groups are as follows: Art, Book Clubs, Scholarship, Social, LAF, Dreamers and Doers, STEM, Social Justice, Movie Goers, Human trafficking, Pay Equity Interviewing Skills and Women's Health Issues. Each group will be responsible for education, networking with other groups, getting AAUW name out, providing some community outreach/service, effective communication to our membership and scheduling a branch meeting at least one time every two years. One of our primary focuses this year will be to develop this organization structure. If you have any questions or want more discussion on this, call Linda Birder or attend the AAUW June picnic to start.

Important National Voting Issues: Elsewhere in this BayNotes I highlight the need for all of us to vote in our national AAUW election. I hope you all will vote on every issue, but there are two that I want to bring to your attention, namely: Proposal 1 and 2 of Bylaws amendments.

Briefly, Proposal 1 introduces a new form of membership called "Advocate." This creates a membership that eliminates any degree requirement, but limits the role of this member, specifically the Advocate cannot vote on AAUW business, serve as an AAUW officer or director, or "serve as the designated contract for administration or finance of an affiliate." (I believe that the Advocate could vote on State and branch AAUW matters and serve in many branch positions, but that is not clear.)

Proposal 2 eliminates the degree requirement completely. I had mixed feelings about these proposals. On one hand, I welcome new members and by our stage in life it is often hard to discern if a person has a degree or not. Yet, we are "University" women and our history and focus is on post high school education. Recently, I had an experience that made my decision to vote "For" Proposal 2. I was talking to a newly retired and new LWV member about various programs and issues. She was interested in a subject that AAUW strongly supported. I mentioned AAUW and our local branch and perhaps we could persuade her to join us, too. She told me when she first moved to Green Bay, she was home with children and wanted something to expand her mind. She looked into AAUW, but she had only two years of college and did not qualify. She now has masters, but not being able to join years ago has soured her on AAUW. She very clearly told me she was not interested. You may feel differently, but if you do not vote, no one will know. Whether you vote or not, the decision on these two proposals will shape AAUW for many years ahead. Do NOT let your reluctance to vote on-line keep you from voting. If you cannot make the party, call me and we will arrange a convenient time.

AAUW Green Bay Area Branch

Board of Directors 2017-2018

Thank you to our Nominating Committee: Mary Barker, Carol Pearson, and Lisa Ubbelohde for the slate of officers. Thank you to all of last year's officers and Chairs! Welcome and thank you to our new officers as well as the board members who have agreed to continue in their respective positions. I look forward to working with you.

President: Sara Ramaker

Vice-President: Linda Birder

Treasurer: Jan Davis

Secretary: Nancy Anderson

Committee/Group Chairs:

Membership: Lisa Ubbelohde

Legal Advocacy Fund: Mary Schmidt

Dreamers and Doers II: Dotty Juengst

Hospitality: Sue Hendricks

Scholarship Co-Chair: Liz Pierce

Scholarship Co-Chair: Laura Fisher-Bonvallet

BayNotes Editor: Barb Wilson

Website: Mary Barker

Art Study Co-Chair: Laura Fisher-Bonvallet

Adelante! Co-Chair: Mary Barker & Linda Birder

Pictures! Pictures! Pictures!

Diann Malueg has graciously agreed to begin a scrapbook of AAUW events for our Green Bay Chapter. If you have any "hard copy" pictures you'd like to have included, please send them to Diann. If you have a "phone" photo and aren't able to make a hard copy, please forward the photo to Sara and she'll make a hard copy and see to it that Diann receives it for our album. Say, "Cheese!"

STATE CONVENTION

Sara Ramaker

BRIEF UPDATE ON AAUW - WISCONSIN STATE CONVENTION 2017

All those that I spoke to attending the state convention agreed that all went very smoothly and that they enjoyed and learned a lot at the conventions. Thanks to Barb Wilson who organized the registration and her helpers Lisa Ubbelohde, Linda Birder, Bev Braun and Sue Braun. Our part, registration, went very smoothly. Attendees seemed pleased with the packets (bookmarks and candies) we gave them.

Thanks to Bev Braun who organized our district's baskets. The baskets were amazing. The total for all basket raffles was \$1500. The funds will go to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund. AAUW created this fund in 1989. This fund is used to award an individual, project, organization or institution for outstanding contributions to equity and education for women and girls.

Ellen Hartman, AAUW national Board member, reminded us of the need to vote in the AAUW election. "People think that stories are shaped by people. In fact, it is the other way around." AAUW does this shaping through its studies and programs. For example, become a "Two Minute Activist" and receive regular emails containing information telling you what to say to Congressional representatives on pending legislation. She discussed new research, "Deeper in Debt – Women and Student loans" to be released later this spring. Women have a disproportionate amount of educational debt. Couple this with the wage and benefits gap and we have a serious issue that needs addressing. Boston, Washington, D.C. and six other cities have partnered with AAUW to teach women how to better negotiate salaries. She discussed the dues increase. AAUW operates on dues and donations. Dues are a more stable source. There has been no increase in dues since 2008. It is difficult to name even one item that has not

increased significantly since that time. If approved, the national dues will be increased to \$59 and will be effective July 1, 2018.

Mary Burke was the keynote speaker who talked about her new program, “Building Brave.” This will be a mobile app that hopes to meet women where they are. Believing in yourself is so important but hard for women to get there on their own. The focus is to help women be Bold, Be Brave, and Be Ourselves without apologies. They will develop “Best Practices” – for example, women use too many “qualifiers”. The program is based on research and will be fun. If interested, see: Buildingbrave.org. Research shows women are judged by a different standard than men. This unconscious bias allows us to justify how we feel about women. If one is assertive, she is bossy. If she is ambitious, she is selfish. Yet, we know the world is a better place when women have an equal place at the table. The goal is to make bold, confident women not just tolerated, but appreciated.

I learned many things in the individual breakout sessions. One goal for this year is to try to collaborate more with those groups in the community working on the same issues. This is a way to not only accomplish more, but also get our name out in the community. The session on membership had many great ideas that we will try to implement this year. The state convention is a wonderful connecting place. Now that I have worked with more women throughout the state, I not only learn what they are doing but also enjoy reconnecting with these friends.

Finally, we approved two resolutions at the convention. One is a Water Resolution and the other is support for College Campus Victims of Sexual Assault. Both are printed in full in this BayNotes.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Thurs. May 18 – Aldente Book Group
- Tues, May 23 - Afternoon Book Group
- Wed. May 31 – Branch Planning Meeting
- Mon. June 5 – Branch Voting Party
- Thurs. June 8 – New Member Get Together
- Thurs. June 15 – Art Study Planning/lunch
- Thurs. June 22 – Branch Summer Potluck
- Fri. June 23 – D&D Writing Session
- Tues. June 27 – Afternoon Book Group