

BAYNOTES

Empowering Women since 1881 – Through Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy and Research
Branch Website: greenbayarea-wi.aauw.net
Celebrating Our 90th Anniversary 1927 - 2017

Green Bay Area AAUW Branch Meeting
Hispanic Women of Our Community
Their Hopes and Dreams
Speaker: Elizabeth Kostichka
with introduction by Sr. Melanie Maczka



Monday, February 20
Aging and Disability Resource Center
300 S. Adams St. Green Bay
5:30 Social time 5:45 Business 6:00 Program

In keeping with our theme that we learn from women's life stories, Elizabeth Kostichka and Sister Melanie Maczka who are active with Casa ALBA Melanie, a local Hispanic Resource Center will be our speakers.

Sister Melanie is the Executive Director and Elizabeth is Vice-President of the Board of Directors of Casa ALBA. Elizabeth Kostichka, an independent insurance agent, regularly counsels those seeking health insurance or medical assistance as well as assisting with medical concerns like bill payment, finding providers and other medical related issues. She also coordinates the Hispanic Senior support groups for Hispanics.

Casa ALBA opened its doors in February 2012 with the mission to assist in the nurture and well-being and development of all members of the Hispanic community living in the greater Green Bay area. It serves as a welcoming resource center for information and referrals, bringing together people in need of assistance with the appropriate service providers.

Both women will help us understand the many needs, concerns and hopes of Hispanic women in this community.

We would like attendees of this meeting to bring items for the Casa Alba Melanie's preschool program. The following items would be appreciated: puzzles, bilingual picture books*, board games*, construction paper, glue sticks, play dough, etc. I am sure a \$5.00 donation would be appreciated too. Casa Alba is fulfilling the need for Hispanic children to have a readiness program for kindergarten.

*The Reader's Loft has some bilingual books. The program has Candyland, and Chutes and Ladders.

INTEREST/STUDY GROUPS

ART STUDY GROUP

Thursday, February 16 10 am – noon.

Art Colony Show Tour at the Neville Public Museum led by Sandy Melroy.

Non-museum members: \$7.00.

Lunch optional at Cannery or Title Town after.
(Revised Study schedule at end of newsletter)

Response needed ASAP – Art Study Field Trip to Popelka Trenchard Glass LLS

Art Group is organizing a field trip to Popelka Trenchard Glass LLS in Sturgeon Bay Thursday morning, April 20th. Art Group invites all members to come along.

We will learn the art and techniques of glass making. There will be a 90-minute demonstration. **We need to know ASAP who will be attending.** The cost of the field trip is TBD, since the price is dependent on how many will attend. The entire event is \$150.00. Laura Fisher-Bonvallet has agreed to pay the deposit and will be reimbursed at a later date. If you know that you will be attending, please give me a call...632-4052 or e-mail me at sfrigo@new.rr.com. This way I can start the tally.

There is a discussion about going to lunch afterward, but this information will be decided later. The carpooling can be decided at a later date too.

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

Tuesday, February 28th.

Book: **Black Indian Slave Narratives** by Patrick Minges. Few people realize that Native Americans were enslaved right alongside the African Americans in this country. Fewer still realize that many Native Americans owned African Americans and Native Americans from other tribes. From the

interviews with former slaves that were collected by the Federal Writers' Project during the 1930s, this volume offers 27 of the most absorbing firsthand testimonies about African American and Native American relationships in the 19th century.

BRANCH COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Janice McCarthy & Maryl Hitchcock

Did you know that seven of the nine women who signed the charter to found the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) were AAUW members? The message sent when they signed that charter on February 12, 1909, still rings true today: Civil rights and women's rights are human rights.

From: AAUW Membership Matter e-Newsletter
February 2017

SCHOLARSHIPS

Liz Pierce

Three \$1,000 scholarships will be offered this year to qualifying women who attend UWGB, St Norbert's College, Bellin College, NWTC-Green Bay campus or College of Menominee Nation-Green Bay campuses. Two scholarships are supported with monies given in honor of Pat Hinckley, a past branch president and founder of our Dreamers & Doers program. Pat passed away in Spring 2014 from a brain tumor.

Other requirements for this scholarship include: Jr or Senior status at one of the four year colleges, or in their last semester earning their associate's degree; good standing; show financial need; and be 25 by Sept 1st.

Check out our Branch AAUW website under scholarships for more information.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday, February 13 at 5:30 pm. Sara Ramaker’s home – 2545 Oakwood Ave. Green Bay

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Sara Ramaker

It is time for us to form a nomination committee and look for officers for next year. I would love if two or three people would agree to work on the nomination committee. I think it also is time to think about if you can take an officer or board position. This is so very many things that we need to work on in next year. Please contact me if you are willing to serve on the nomination committee and/or would like to be considered for an officer position. 920-432-8249.

SEX TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

Sara Ramaker

Sex Trafficking Taskforce: Liz Pierce, Linda Birder, Dotty Juengst and I have just started exploring an action plan that seeks to study what legislation and funding is necessary to help the victims of this crime and impose stronger penalties on the abusers. All members are welcome to help us with this action plan. If you are interested, please contact one of us.

BRANCH HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING

\$409.00 was donated from the gift-wrapping at Barnes and Noble bookstore in December. Thank you to all who participated. Special thanks to Bev Braun who not only organized the project but also manned many of the hours at the wrapping table.

REMINDER: Mark your calendar for Friday, March 31 for our 90th Birthday Bash! Open House at Heritage Hill from 4-6pm.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Sara Ramaker

I do not know what happened to January, but I know it went by too quickly for me to get all that I wanted to get done. I could blame it on many things (like my tendency to procrastinate) but I think I just took on too many things. I accomplished a few things. I had a fundraiser for a delightful and talented young state assemblywoman. I think it is wonderful that we have young energetic talented young people willing to take on the job of a state representative. We need to tell them over and over that we are glad they are there. We need more women in the state legislature and we should do all we can to encourage women to run for office.

Women’s March January 20: I am very proud to have joined the more than 2.6 million people worldwide who marched in the Women’s March on January 21. My sister and I joined two busloads of people from Green Bay who went to Madison to march. We were not sure what to expect, but I must say I was a bit shocked when my daughter sent an email telling me what not to do if we were subject to tear gas. It was a very thoughtful thing to do, because I did not know that water, particularly warm water (It opens the pores.) will make it burn more. Fortunately, we encounter nothing like that. The Madison police were there, but friendly and helpful. They even teased a father carrying a small child, asking if they could get a lift, because their feet hurt, too! It was the most motley mixture of people – all races, all ages, all styles, from all walks of life and all representing different issues – but all friendly, warm, inviting and respectful. (“All our welcome here!” we chanted.) The one uniting factor was that we were marching because we did not like the “road” our country seems to be taking. I talked to an older woman who had traveled by herself from northern Wisconsin and marched despite two bad knees. The signs were the very best. Some people are just so clever. A few favorites were: “There is no Planet B – What are we going to do about climate change” “I marched in 1970 in Washington D.C. for reproductive rights, 47 years

later, I march for my daughter and granddaughters.”
 “Keep your little hands off my reproductive rights.”
 More than 75,000 people were in Madison alone.
 We were stalled for a long time, because the street
 was too full of people. That was the case all over
 the country and even in cities in other parts of the
 world. I have never felt so proud of my state, my
 country and the women and the “quality men who
 marched for equality” of this country. AAUW was
 there in marches all over the country. For pictures
 and more <http://www.aauw.org/2017/01/24/2017-womens-march/>

January Branch Meeting: I was unable to attend the January Branch Meeting delayed by the weather. I heard from several people that it was a wonderful evening. Special thanks to Sandy Melroy who opened her home, to Sue Hendricks and Jill Lauritsen for making soup, and to all members who contributed other food. From the feedback I have heard, members would like to continue to have the January meeting a dinner and movie night. We certainly know that when the weather gets rough, it is easier not to have to reschedule a guest speaker.

STATE CONVENTION NEWS

Wisconsin State AAUW Convention will be held Friday and Saturday, April 21, 22, 2017 at the Best Western Bridgewood Resort Hotel and conference center in Neenah. Theme is Amplify Our Voices.

Green Bay Area branch is in charge of registrations, packets, and registration table. Barbara Wilson is coordinating this.

Bev Braun has graciously agreed to coordinate our basket/s and has sent me a 3-page list of items she's already collected – from a Wisconsin cookie cutter to Wisconsin honey to a cow kitchen timer. Hurray Beverly!

We need to update our branch table top tri-fold representing our branch interests and programs to display during the convention.

Three of us will be attending a planning meeting Sat. Feb. 25 and receive updated information on the convention.

TREASURER REPORT

Jan Davis

AAUW – Green Bay Branch
 Financial Report Aug 1, 2016- Jan 31,2017
 CHECKBOOK BALANCE 08/01/2016
 \$1151.45

INCOME

Memberships	\$877
December Luncheon	525
Dreamers & Doers	1291
Christmas Gift Wrapping	410.35
	<u>3103.35</u>
TOTAL	\$4254.80

EXPENSES

Scholarship Fund Transfer	345.00
Hospitality	124.02
Dec. Lunch – St Brendan’s Inn	600.00
Green Bay Girl’s Choir (Cash)	50.00
Memberships	695.00
Membership Committee	61.33
Village Grille – Guests	93.29
Room Rental	90.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2058.64

CHECKBOOK BALANCE 01/31/17
 \$2196.16

OTHER AAUW NEWS YOU CAN USE

Sara Ramaker

Check Out the AAUW Website for more on these programs:

1. Become a Two-Minute Activist: If you are feeling overwhelmed by all the changes and not sure how to address them all or feel you just do not have time to stay on top of what is happening, take a look at the Two-Minute Activist program at AAUW <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/> You may just go to the website and look at the issues that AAUW is recommending action upon or sign up for email

alerts. You can just sign the email and send it directly to our legislators or use the information to write your own letter or email or call. Those of us who attended the meeting when former lobbyist Colleen Gruszynski spoke know that phone calls and personal hand written letters are most effective, but any email is better than nothing. Remember even if you know that someone is voting your way. It is always helpful for them to tell them. They can then say, "I have heard from x-number of constituents and x-number support this position." After all, when the state legislature totally ignored the fact that the bulk of the emails did not support a change in the gifting limits to politicians, the heavy number against the changes made them a little less greedy. We cannot change anything if we do nothing.

2. AAUW WEBINAR FEBRUARY 9 with author Sherrie M. Randolph to discuss her new biography of Florynce Kennedy

AAUW is having a book discussion with the author Sherrie M. Randolph regarding her biography, *Florynce 'Flo' Kennedy: the Life of a Black Feminist Radical*. It is described as a biography of "a super badass and wildly underrated woman known for her dazzling sense of style and sharp wit." You must pre register at this website: <http://www.aauw.org/event/2017/02/author-book-discussion-sherie-randolph/>

I registered. This caught my eye because I heard Florynce Kennedy speak when I was a very impressionable freshman at Carroll College in the early 1970's. I remember that her speech just blew me away. I had never heard such a dynamic speaker. What she said and the way she said it was so amazingly blunt! One thing I particularly remember was a statement she made about the government's version of what was happening in Vietnam. She told us that what the government was telling us was like "chocolate covered bullshit. It went down real smooth, but just don't bite." 47 years later I remember her words clearly. Of course, we all now know she was right. McNamara

has confessed so much. Whenever someone is trying to "sell me" on something that does not smell quite right, I think of Florynce. In this era of "alternative facts" it is particularly important that we do not swallow anything from anyone without checking the facts. We have to "bite" even if it leaves a bad taste in our mouths.

3. February 28 at 8:00 p.m.: President Trump's First Address to Congress What will President Trump say about women and families in his first Congressional address? AAUW asks us to hold the President accountable by playing a game of Bingo. Their idea is to keep us engaged and concentrating on the issues important to AAUW members. They even suggest making it a party night. AAUW has created a bingo card, which you can print and play or play on line at <http://www.aauw.org/2017/02/02/trump-first-address-to-congress-bingo/> You can register to play in person and possibly receive an award.

AROUND GREEN BAY AREA

February 22nd Noon Luncheon **Stand Against Racism series** at the YWCA- Discussion of the book **Between the World and Me** by Ta-Nehisi Coates, which received the National Book Award is a personal exploration of America's racial history and current crisis in the form of a father's concerns for his son. Speaker: Mohammed Bey, Director, Diversity & Inclusion, NWTC. Register by calling YWCA Member Services – 920-432-5581.

Paintings by Craig Blietz at the Paine Art Center. 1410 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh. Feb. 11-May 28th. From his Door County Studio Craig creates masterful paintings of farm animals and rural scenery celebrating the dignity and quiet beauty of agrarian life.

Art Study Group Schedule (revised)
1/27/17

February 16, 2017

**Art Colony Show Tour at the Neville
Public Museum**

Tour led by Sandy Melroy

(Those who are not members must pay an
entrance fee of \$7.00.)

10:00 am to noon

Lunch optional (possibly at The Cannery or
Title Town)

March 16, 2017

**The World's Greatest Paintings– The
Great Courses**

Bellini, Geertgen and Dürer

(leaders: Janice McCarthy and Maryl
Hitchcock)

10:00 am to noon

Hostess - Sandy Melroy

1931 Rainbow Avenue, De Pere

Co-hostess - Janice McCarthy

April 20, 2017

**Tour of Popelka Trenchard Glass
Company in Sturgeon Bay –**

Laura Fisher-Bonvallet

Possibly lunch before the tour

May 18, 2017

**The World's Greatest Paintings – The
Great Courses**

Poussin, Claude and Watteau

(leaders: Janice McCarthy and Maryl
Hitchcock)

10:00 am to noon

Hostess – Mary Schmidt 2410 Bittersweet,

Co-hostess - Stella Frigo

June 15, 2017

Art Study Group Planning and Brunch

Come with ideas for excursions, tours,
artists to study, etc.

10:00 am to noon

Hostess - Maryl Hitchcock

1202 Fox River Drive, De Pere

Co-hostess - Diann Malueg