

BAYNOTES

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



STEM Night: “Robotics, Coding & Spheros. Oh My”

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16 - 5:30 – 7:00 pm (no social time)

Bay Harbor Elementary 1590 Harbor Lights Road

Presenters are: Mary Karl and Nicole Smith (STEM specialists) and students

Learn what is happening in our schools. STEM education is *active* and focuses on a *student-centered learning* environment. Students engage in questioning, problem solving, collaboration, and hands-on activities while they address **real life issues**. **An evening filled with wonder and amazement has been planned for you!**

GREEN SCREEN: Ever seen a movie in which a **superhero** flies through the sky? You can see all the skyscrapers whizzing by in the background, and it looks so cool. Discover how movie makers **film** such shots.

MEET DASH: A real robot, charged, ready to play out of the box. Responding to voice, navigating objects, dancing, and singing, Dash is the robot you always dreamed of having. Use Wonder, Blockly, and other apps to create new behaviors for Dash — doing more with robotics than ever possible.

BLOXELS: Still wondering how you can build an entire video game from scratch using nothing but a Bloxels Gameboard and some different colored blocks?

EV3: LEGO MINDSTORMS EV3 makes building, programming and commanding your own LEGO robots smarter, faster, and more fun than ever.

STOP MOTION: Animation is a technique used in animation to bring static objects to life on screen.

Snack Boxes and beverages will be provided. Please RSVP yes or no to lindbird2@gmail.com so we can plan for snack boxes. Last minute attendees and guests are welcome!

Need a Ride? Call: Sara Ramaker: 336-0910, Mary Schmidt: 246-2040, Linda Birder: 362-4929, Nancy Anderson: 217-8621, Dotty Juengst: 469-1919, Sandy Melroy: 227-8038

Directions: 41N, exit Lineville Rd. Go to the right at the first roundabout. Continue to the second roundabout and take the third exit onto the service road that parallels the highway. Follow that to Harbor Lights Road and turn right. The school will be on the left. Enter at the front entrance. There will be a sign directing you to the library, which is on the left, shortly after you enter. **OR** take Velp Ave through Howard and Suamico and eventually turn right on Harbor Lights road crossing the highway, the school will be on your left.

INTEREST/STUDY GROUPS

ART STUDY GROUP

Laura Fischer-Bonvallet & Sandy Melroy

Thursday, October 26 10:00am – noon
Sandy Melroy's home 1931 Rainbow Ave.
De Pere. RSVP: 227-8038

Shibori Silk Scarf Making Workshop. NO experience necessary. All supplies will be provided for a "Colorful, creative, way to FALL into FALL!" Cost: \$6.00/person. Payable that day.

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Wendy Schroeder & Lisa Ubbelohde
Meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Reader's Loft at 3:30pm.

Tuesday, October 24 Book: **Sisters in Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World**, by Linda Hirshman. A fascinating story of the intertwined lives of Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the first and second women to serve as Supreme Court justices.

¡Adelante! Book of the Month Club

Mary Barker & Sara Ramaker
Meets at 5:30 pm at the Green Bay Distillery.

A national AAUW Book Club with monthly reads to spotlight engrossing stories and writing by women from all backgrounds.

Wednesday, October 18 Book: **A Disability History of the United States** by Kim E. Nielsen. The first book of its kind places the experiences of people with disabilities at the core of the chronicle of American history. Using primary sources and social histories, Kim Nielsen portrays familiar stories like slavery and immigration in a new light,

highlighting the role ableism played in the growth and flourishing of democracy. In so doing, she skillfully illustrates how conceptions of disability have had a deep effect on how we understand the American experience.

SOCIAL JUSTICE INTEREST GROUP

Meeting: **Thursday, October 12** 7:00 pm

Sara Ramaker's – 2545 Oakwood Ave.

"Whine and Wine" We chose water policy as our first area to investigate. We will discuss the use of bottled water and how it affects the environment. Write letters to our legislators about the issue. All are welcome!

MOVIE GROUP

Bev Braun
Monday, October 2 - 10:50 am. Movie group will meet at Bay Park Square to watch "**Battle of the Sexes**". Lunch to follow.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Lisa Ubbelohde & Sandy Melroy

Our branch grows stronger with strong women members—Welcome to Beth Rehani, a new member as of September!

Please Add Beth's contact details to your membership booklet and make her feel welcome at future branch events:

Beth Rehani
304 N. Van Buren St., Green Bay, WI 54301
Phone: 920-915-4702
Email: bethrehani@gmail.com

TREASURER REPORT

Jan Davis

Financial Report June 30, 2016- Aug 31, 2017

Checkbook Balance 06/30/2016 \$1151.45

Income – \$8915.08

Expenses - \$6685.84

Checkbook Balance 08/30/17 \$3380.69

NEWS FROM THE ART GROUP

On Thursday, September 7, 2017 the Art Group sponsored a fund raising event to the **Art Institute of Chicago** to view the special exhibit “Gauguin: Artist as Alchemist.” We had a full coach bus of 55 individuals who thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The event was open to members, friends, family, as well as the general public. We cleared more than \$1000 to be used specifically for the scholarship fund. Kudos to Linda Birder, Sandy Melroy, Janice McCarthy, Mary Schmidt, and Laura Fisher-Bonvallet who planned and coordinated the day, with the graphic art assistance of Mary Barker. There were miles of smiles all around...and what a fun way to earn some funds for the branch! Thank you to those members who were able to attend and all who made the day possible!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sara Ramaker

Branch and Group Programs for 2017-2018

I hope you are as excited about our programs for 2017-2018 as I am. The new group organization not only made this a “group effort”, but also resulted in some wonderful programs. If you did not make the first meeting, the branch programs are in your directory. All members should have received the directory at the meeting or through the mail. If you missed the first meeting, be sure and pick up a program directory at the next meeting. It has not only branch programs, but also the Art Study, Afternoon book and Adelante book groups' schedules.

Wow! Our trip to the Gauguin exhibit could not have been better. The weather, the traffic, the exhibit, the attendees (Things we have no control over.) the organization of the event – the advertising, registration, the checking in, the goody bags, water bottles and quick stop for dinner (which we could control) was wonderful. We even were home early! The bus was full (with a waiting list – thank you very much.) which means we made scholarship money. Special thank you to the Art Group, specifically: Linda, Laura, Sandy and Janice McCarthy, who spearheaded the adventure. (I will never be reluctant about pushing my friends to participate, because they had a great time and one thanked me for giving him the “heads up about the trip”!) Thank you to all who made this a success.

September Branch Meeting: I am sorry if you missed “Susan and Elizabeth: a Friendship of Consequence,” our first branch meeting. It was excellent! Susan Kohout and Chris Milton gave us a different and entertaining view of two close friends who changed the way U.S. society looked at women's rights. They clearly had the audience's attention when attendees cheered and reacted during the speeches. While very entertaining, many attendees told me how much they learned. One was surprised to learn that it took 70 years of protest for women to get the right to vote. The problem with

“history” is that it often ignores “her story”. By remembering these women, we are honoring the work and the women who opened “doors” for us. Thank you to Sue for organizing the dinner. (The staff at the District were so helpful and accommodating in every way.) Thank you also to Mary and Sandy for the rocker for the set.

October Branch Meeting: I am so looking forward to our next program, “Robotics, Coding, Sperm, Oh My!” (I thought “sperm” was a typing error.) This will not be a lecture, but rather fifth graders showing us how they use these in school. We talk about STEM. This will give us a chance to see it in action. The science will be interesting, but I am looking forward to talking to the students. I remember the program we did with the Girls Scouts. How much I learned and enjoyed interacting with girls. When we told them about AAUW, one girl said, “AAUW is Girls Scouts for adults.” This will be a truly unique opportunity for us. The teachers and students are giving up their free time to be with us. We really would like a good turnout.

I have to admit that occasionally being president is work (as opposed to something one wants to do), but lately the “work” of being president has been an incredible gift. I was invited to the AAUA District meeting and the Clean Bay Backer’s Annual Bringing Back the Bay Tour: Waterfront Revitalization Through Restoration.

SOME THOUGHTS ON FEMINISM

I picked up the book, *We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, a Nigerian author of award winning and bestselling novels. The book is the TED talk she made exploring what it means to be a woman. She starts out saying she is a feminist and someone tells her, feminists are unhappy. She then introduces herself as “a happy feminist.” Then she was told that feminism is contrary to Nigerian society so she introduced herself as a “Happy African Feminist.” Then she was told it meant she

hated men... many comments later, she ultimately introduced herself as a “Happy African feminist Who Does Not Hate Men And Who Likes to Wear Lip Gloss and High Heels for Herself and Not for Men.” After outlining how gender bias has hurt our women and society, she ultimately defines feminism is an acknowledgement that “there is a problem with gender as it is today and we must fix it, we must do better.” Ironically, Doonesbury by Gary Trudeau tackled this issue last weekend: Dad tells mother their daughter said she is not a feminist. Mother asks daughter what she thinks feminism is.

Daughter: “It is the belief that women are superior to men.”

Mother: “Wrong it’s the belief that women should have the same rights and opportunities as men.”

Daughter: “Are you sure, Mom? Why would there be a movement behind something so obvious? You might as well defend gravity.”

Mother: “She’ll be fine. “

There is no change until we acknowledge there is a need for change.

NOTES FROM DISTRICT MEETING

Sara Ramaker

Last Saturday I had the great opportunity to meet with AAUW women from around our district. I have had enough contact with them before that I look forward to seeing them again. It is an amazing opportunity to spend the morning with intelligent, lively and funny women from around the state discussing ideas that will give other women and girls a chance to develop their full potential. I always learn something new in addition to exchanging AAUW information and ideas.

I have several ideas I want to suggest to our board, such as: 1) the state is offering two \$500 scholarships to NCCWSL (National Conference of

for College Women Student Leaders) in June 2018. College women can participate in a leadership conference with students from around the U.S. The women who have attended are not only motivated but also have new skills for accomplishing their goals. The scholarship covers registration, food and lodging during the conference. I would like to work with UWGB and recommend applicants for this wonderful opportunity and find the funding for transportation. 2) Appleton has created an Action Team, which is encouraging members to take action by writing their representatives. At each meeting they have postcards, suggested comments, and addresses. The branch pays for postage if the card is left with them.

CLEAN BAY BACKERS

Sara Ramaker



Monday Morning I was proud to represent AAUW at the Clean Bay Backer's event. I also enjoyed the company of AAUW member Eileen Littig on the tour. It was a tour. The tour's purpose was to show some of the work being done to save our Green Bay. The focus was on restoration and community access to the water. Mayor Schmidt noted that he no longer wants our backs to our waters. The development of water access in Green Bay is a priority. All the investment in recreation areas has paid off, because it is a draw for bringing people and businesses to our area. The tour was well organized, the speakers were very good and the work being done is fascinating. We discussed four areas at three locations.

1. **Bay Beach:** We learned about the proposed development at the park. The new ferris wheel will be on the water's edge so that the view at the top will be the bay. They are working with the DNR for approval of a pier for wildlife observation and also to give people who do not have access to a boat a chance to see what the shore looks like from the

water. Finally, they want to bring back a sandy beach. All of the reasons for closing the beach in 1948 have been resolved by the Clean Water Act. The major issue today is blue green algae, which is actually a bacteria. Testing for it on a daily basis would be too costly. One study being done is to see if the relatively inexpensive tests we do have has any correlation with the presence of the bacteria. They also discussed the successful treatment of phragmites, a tenacious invasive species.

2) **Ken Euers Nature Area** (on the west side of the Bay) is a 65-acre city park. We learned about the success of Cat Island where they have rebuilt the wetlands lost to storms. At Cat Island there is greater diversity now and an endangered bird that has not been seen in this area for decades has returned. There are several programs at this park including efforts to preserve one wetland and develop another. Wetlands are important for habitat for survival of many species of birds, animals, and plants. Wisconsin has lost 70% of its wetlands. One program will create a "log jam" to protect wetlands from the bay's rough waves. Another will restore a wetland. They want to engineer it to get the most they can out of the small area. Another program is dealing with the phragmites.

3) **Green Isle Park**. At this site we learned about Allouez's plans to develop paths and water viewing and fishing sites along the rivers. The bicycle paths that are there are used and appreciated. They hope to find a way to connect the East River paths with the Fox River path. The Isaac Walton league told us about Osprey Point, a 100-acre property off County GV on the other side of the East River. It is called Osprey Point because osprey nest along the East River. They have a master plan and part of it is to introduce children to nature. There are trails and a developing butterfly garden. They have created a necessary buffer for the river. The buffers are important to reduce the sediment in the river. Sediment chokes out nutrients harming fish and plant food. They also have a 6-acre property on

Willow Creek (which flows into the East River) across from the Rite Place. The League is working with Brown County Land and Water to develop a northern pike restoration at this site.

In summary, many organizations (nonprofits, schools, governmental agencies) and good people have put together grants from a variety of sources to restore our Green Bay and its tributaries and introduce new areas for the public to enjoy our water. Water issues are close to my heart, but my readings did not touch on any of the things I learned on the tour. This is only a short synopsis of all I learned. It was a wonderful morning. I was also introduced to a park and a preserve open to the public that I can take my grandsons and I will. I encourage you to explore them, too.

Finally, I am excited about our April program. Our presenter is Jill Noordyk from the Clean Bay Backers and will inform you much more than this little report.

A few things you should know about phragmites. These are the tall reed plant that we see along every road. Not only does the plant hide our view of the water and crowd out native plants, but it also creates a wildlife dead zone. No plant can fight it. No animal or bird can penetrate it and no bug wants to eat it. It has been in North American for over 100 years and no species has been able to find a use for it. (As a contrast a red oak can support 500 bug species). This is actually very unusual with ecology. Usually something is there and some species decides to take advantage of it. It is also a fire hazard. We have lost 20% of our bird species in this area due to this invasive plant. We have ways to control it, but it is costly.

PREVIEW OF OUR NOVEMBER BRANCH MEETING

Dotty Juengst

The November 20th meeting will celebrate 45 years of Title IX and look at the challenges for the future. What is covered in the law is stated below. This is from the AAUW web site:

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/aauw-issues/title-ix/>

Title IX requires recipients of federal education funding to evaluate their current policies and practices, adopt and publish a policy against sex discrimination, and implement grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee discrimination complaints. All schools, k-12 and post-secondary, must publicly appoint at least one employee to coordinate Title IX compliance.

Title IX affects all areas of education, including: recruitment, admissions and housing; career and technical education; pregnant, parenting, and/or married students; science, technology, engineering, and math education; sexual harassment and assault; comparable facilities and access to course offerings; financial assistance; student health services and insurance benefits; harassment based on gender identity; and athletics.

If you want more information on Title IX go to the AAUW.org link listed above.

Mon. Oct. 2 – Movie Group – Battle of the Sexes
Thurs. Oct. 12 – Whine and Wine
Mon. Oct. 16 - Branch Meeting
Wed. Oct. 18 – Adelante Book Group
Tues. Oct. 24 – Afternoon Book Group
Thurs. Oct. 26 – Art Group
Mon. Nov. 20 – Branch Meeting