

## BAYNOTES

Empowering Women since 1881 – Through Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy and Research  
Branch Website: [greenbayarea-wi.aauw.net](http://greenbayarea-wi.aauw.net)



**February Branch Meeting**  
**Monday, February, 19**  
**Resurrection Catholic Church**  
**333 Hilltop Drive. (change of venue)**  
**5:30 – 6:00 pm social**  
**6:00 – 7:00 pm program**



**Program: Voices of Hope**  
**A Reader's Theater Presentation by ESTHER**  
True stories of Hispanic immigrants who have settled in the Fox Valley.  
The script, written by Peter A. Geniesse,  
explores a sampling of the stories and reasons  
behind the often-traumatic stories that have brought people to the U.S.  
This is a moving presentation that will put faces on the many  
important immigration issues before us.

Admission is free, but donations are greatly appreciated  
and will support AAUW's scholarship program and the work of ESTHER.  
Invite friends and neighbors!

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### **ESTHER stands for Empowerment Solidarity Truth Hope Equity Reform**

ESTHER held its founding Covenanting Event on November 7th, 2004, with six congregations. Prior to our covenanting, gatherings of interested religious and lay leaders were held starting in May, 2002.

ESTHER is an interfaith social-justice organization. We are grassroots and non-profit, focusing our work in the Fox Valley region of Wisconsin.

ESTHER aims to bring together people of faith and communities of faith to build community and to identify and act on issues of injustice

## INTEREST/STUDY GROUPS

### ART STUDY GROUP

Sandy Melroy & Laura Fisher-Bonvallet

Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am at the Neville Public Museum. Laura and Sandy will lead a tour of the Green Bay Art Colony exhibit. Museum members are free, guest are \$7.00. Lunch will follow at the new Copper State Brewing restaurant, 313 Dousman St. for those who can stay. Any questions, call Sandy Melroy 920-227-8038

### !ADELENTE! BOOK OF THE MONTH

Mary Barker & Sara Ramaker

Wednesday, February 21 5:30 pm  
Green Bay Distillery, 835 Mike McCarthy Way,  
Ashwaubenon 54304

Book: **Firebrand and the First Lady: Portrait of a Friendship: Pauli Murray, Eleanor Roosevelt and the Struggle for Social Justice**, by Patricia Bell-Scott. Pauli Murray wrote a letter to President Roosevelt and his wife Eleanor, protesting southern segregation, which started a friendship between the two women that lasted 25 years, changing the course of race and racism in the United States.

### BOOK GROUP

Lisa Ubbelohde & Wendy Schroeder

Meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Reader's Loft at 3:30pm.

**Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Book: **Underground Railroad** by Colson Whitehead. Winner of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. Chronicles a young slave's adventures as she makes a desperate bid for freedom in the antebellum South.

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## MOVIE GROUP

Bev Braun and Diann Malueg

**Green Bay Film Festival** is during February and March. Check out their website –

[www.gbfilmfestival.org](http://www.gbfilmfestival.org) – for films, dates, times, and locations of showings.



## BRANCH COMMITTEES

### SCHOLARSHIPS

Liz Pierce & Laura Fisher-Bonvallet

Check out our scholarship webpage <https://greenbayarea-wi.aauw.net/scholarships> to find a listing of scholarship recipients since 1972. Many thanks to Mary Barker for making this possible!

Scholarship information for the 2018-19 school year is being updated and soon will be distributed to colleges and community resource agencies. Applications are due April 11. If you are interested in reviewing applications as part of the scholarship committee, please notify Laura-Fisher Bonvallet or Liz Pierce. It is expected that the committee will meet mid-April.

### TREASURER REPORT

Jan Davis

Checkbook balance 12/31/17 - \$4654.30

## LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND (LAF)

Mary Schmidt

In 1981 AAUW established the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF). Since then, the fund has provided millions of dollars to assist individuals fighting for pay equity and against sexual discrimination.

One of many individuals LAF has helped support was Janet Conney in *Janet Conney v. the Regents of the University of California et al.* In this case Ms. Conney claimed that she began experiencing a hostile work environment after male colleagues made inappropriate comments about her and other women, including comments about their bodies. She also learned that men working in positions similar to hers were making 50–100 percent more than she was. She complained about the harassment and pay inequity and her position was subsequently terminated in 2002. Conney filed a claim in 2003, and LAF began supporting the case in 2004.

After trial in 2004, she was awarded a total of \$2.95 million in damages. The university appealed, but in 2006, the California Supreme Court declined to contest the original verdict and awarded Conney an additional \$4.07 million.

As sexual harassment allegations and instances of the [gender pay gap](#) continue to come to light in media, it is plain to see that while we have come a long way in establishing and [defending women's safety](#) and equity in the workplace, we still have a long way to go before we achieve true equity. AAUW has a 37-year record of standing with plaintiffs who have made a difference for women and girls across the country, and with your help we will continue to support and amplify the voices of our plaintiffs in years to come. You can get involved by referring cases involving discrimination to LAF for consideration. To request an application for case support, please email [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org).

This article was first published in the January, 2018 edition of the LAF EXPRESS.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sara Ramaker

I have not been spending much time guiding AAUW in January. I had hoped to bounce off the holidays into a productive new year. My new year was somewhat derailed by our extended family Christmas that did not happen until January 13. It was a few days later that I got Christmas put away for the season and ready to begin 2018! Unfortunately, my sweet dog of 12+ years, Bella, suddenly got very sick and we spent at least 10 days trying to figure out how to help and stabilize her. Bella, always her own mind, decided to take control and just stopped eating. It was with a heavy heart that our family said good-bye to our Bella. (Look out Doggy Heaven, you got your hands full!).

During this period, I have so appreciated those of you taking up the slack and continuing with the January meeting plans and advertising for the February meeting. Unfortunately, once again Mother Nature decided to bring us ice the evening of the branch meeting and all was, wisely, cancelled.

It is good that organizations often evaluate what they have done and where they are going. I hope you had a chance to participate in the National survey on goals. It is not often they ask for our opinion so I think we should never miss an opportunity to tell them our thoughts, especially when they are willing to listen.

We too need to begin thinking about our goals. **The Board needs to appoint a nominating committee for next year's officer and board positions. I would love if someone would volunteer for the nominating committee!** We will contact everyone to see what they can contribute to AAUW in 2018-2019. I hope you will open your hearts and minds to new opportunities to expand your involvement in AAUW. It is only through our members that we can accomplish anything.

I am really looking forward to **Voices of Hope**, the presentation for our February meeting. These people are volunteering their time to come from Menasha to do their reading theater describing real stories of recent immigrants in our area. Many of us had the opportunity to hear them at the AAUW's state convention. It was moving and informative. The vignettes may vary from program to program, but the message is meaningful and moving. Please come and bring all your friends. The meeting is open to all and will be held at Resurrection Church in Allouez. I look forward to seeing you all there!

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### **National AAUW Survey -**

As part of our strategic planning process, we are endeavoring to distill a set of core AAUW values that are relevant for today and the future. We have collected suggestions through a previous survey with AAUW Board and Strategic Planning Task Force members. Now we seek to refine that list by reaching out to a broad range of AAUW stakeholders and members.

**Please consider completing your SurveyMonkey answers by 6:00 pm ET Tuesday, February 6, if your schedule allows.** Survey completion should take 15 to 20 minutes to complete.

- To access the survey directly, please use this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAUWValues2>
- If you have any problems with accessing the survey, please email Sharon at [sharonmcdade@greenwoodsearch.com](mailto:sharonmcdade@greenwoodsearch.com) phone at [703-567-3388](tel:703-567-3388).
- Your responses will be organized for a discussion about AAUW core values at meetings of the AAUW Board and the Strategic Planning Task Force later in February.

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP**

Sara Ramaker

### **Foxconn Announces Water Demands!**

Racine has formally requested of the DNR an additional diversion of 17 million gallons of water from Lake Michigan to Mount Pleasant primarily to meet the needs of Foxconn Technology Group's proposed manufacturing complex. The request is necessary, because Mount Pleasant straddles the Great Lakes and Mississippi basins. Mount Pleasant has no right to Lake Michigan water. The request is a step required for the approval process under the interstate agreement that guides the water use in the Great Lakes basin.

This is a big increase from the 17 million Racine presently takes. Presently the water to Mount Pleasant is shipped by Racine and returned to Racine. It is not mentioned whether or not this water will be returned. It is important to note that of the 7 million gallons taken, 2.7 (39%) will be lost due to the company's operations. To give you some perspective the 7 million gallons is just less than the amount agreed upon last year for Milwaukee to ship to Waukesha.

DNR announced it will hold a public hearing on Racine's bid to use Lake Michigan water for Foxconn project. The hearing will start of 6 p.m. in Sturtevant at the SC Johnson iMet Center, 2320 Renaissance Blvd. It will accept public comments until March 21.

Under the compact and the law, a straddling community like Mount Pleasant who meet certain criteria can be granted exception to diversion ban if the water is used as part of a public water supply and doesn't add up withdrawals over 100,000 gallons a day. Clearly if Mount Pleasant or Foxconn requested the diversion, the law would require much greater scrutiny and environmental impact than Racine requesting it.

Environmental groups fear this may set a precedence allowing more diversion than is safe.

The Great Lakes Compact was created by the eight states and Canada to prevent raids on the nation's largest single source of fresh water. There is a point in which too much diversion would completely destroy the ecology of the Lakes. No one knows how much water is actually removed from the lakes and no one knows what that tipping point would be for the Great Lakes. We do know that diverting too much water can completely destroy a lake system. One needs only study the Soviet diversion of the Aral Sea to grow cotton in the desert. The Aral Sea was once the fourth largest lake in the world and in less than thirty years it was down to 10% of its size. Now it is a thin strip. (The Eastern basin is called the Aralkum Dessert.). The shrinking of the Aral Sea has been called one of the "planet's worst environmental disasters." UNESCO added the historical documents concerning the development of the Aral Sea to its Memory of the World Register as a unique resource to study this "environmental tragedy."

Never forget this is our drinking water as well as many other communities.

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### **Request from Sandy Melroy – Arti Gras**

I am pleased that Mosaic, Inc, recently asked me to serve on their board – and one of our resounding successes for the community arts presence is art festivals---

**ARTI GRAS will be March 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> at Shopko Hall. We need Volunteers!**

If you can offer a few hours of help. You will receive free parking (mention this event when you are parking at Lambeau Field), Free admission, and a free tshirt ☺

Please click on this link to see what areas / shifts are needed: <http://signup.com/go/CUivEEb>

We all know the importance of the arts in our community – and I appreciate your interest in what is definitely a passion of mine!

### **Article submitted to GB Press Gazette Forum by Sara Ramaker**

Why I marched...

I am wearing the button from the 2018 Women's March in Chicago January 20. I get asked, "Why did you march?" I marched because I had marched in 2017 and it was wonderful to be among caring people. The 2018 march was equally inspiring. 300,000 people gave up a beautiful Saturday to tell the world how important this country and our democracy means to them. They are unwilling to offer excuses or do nothing. Unlike reported in some news media, they were not all wealthy women, but rather men, women and children from all walks of life, many different nationalities – diverse- like the U.S. Many different issues were represented: women's rights, health care, immigration, environment, our national parks, etc. The most consistent messages, however, were civility and love of the diversity in our country. It was that love accomplishes; hate destroys. It was about feeling safe, accepted and treated with respect by 300,000 people who share my values. Finally, it was like getting a big "hug" and told to go out and keep working for the U.S. you want, because we want it, too.