

BAYNOTES

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

April Branch Meeting

Monday, April 15, 2019

Resurrection Catholic Church (Gathering Area) 33 Hilltop Drive Allouez

Social time, light refreshments 5:30 pm Program: 6:00-7:00 pm Questions 7:00-7:15 pm

Why Competition in the Politics Industry is Failing America:

A Strategy for Reinvigoration Our Democracy

A study by Katherine Gehl, Milwaukee business leader and
Michael Porter, renowned Harvard Business School professor

Presenter: Sara Eskrich

Sara directs Katherine Gehl's innovative work. She will discuss the report, explaining the analysis, the results and proposed solutions. Sara is also Executive Director of Wisconsin Democracy Found, a Wisconsin based nonpartisan initiative committed to revitalizing democracy.

Gehl's work applied a business marketing assessment, a new analytical lens, on our political processes. For decades this same analysis has been used to understand competition in other industries. Its application to our political system found our system to be a duopoly. This explains that while we may see the system as not functioning, it actually functions exactly the way it is intended. Just as simple changes in the rules can change the way football is played, simple changes to the rules in our political system can make the system more competitive allowing the voters to hold our elected representatives accountable for delivering results. Our democracy will be revitalized by a renewal of our citizens' belief that every vote does count and every voice can be heard.

A short summary of Michael Porter's and Katherine Gehl's background. Porter has authored over 19 books and over 130 articles including *Competitive Strategy*, *Competitive Advantage*, *Competitive Advantage of Nations* and *On Competition*. He is the Bishop William Lawrence Professor, the highest award that Harvard can bestow a professor and the director of the school's Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, which was founded in 2001 to further his work and research on competition. Gehl is very successful Milwaukee entrepreneur who has received many awards for her accomplishments. Gehl has an MBA from Northwestern University, J.J. Kellogg School of Management, and she has a variety of experiences beyond her position as CEO of Gehl Industries. As a successful business leader, Gehl understands what businesses need to thrive and compete successfully. Because our system seems incapable of solving problems, Gehl is concerned about the inability of our political system to address the vulnerabilities threatening U.S. competitiveness. Our system has ceased to be able to problem solve. Ms. Gehl sold her business to devote time to ensure that communities and business leaders are aware of the problems and become a part of the solution.

* The report can be found at: <https://www.hbs.edu/competitiveness/Documents/why-competition-in-the-politics-industry-is-failing-america.pdf>

INTEREST/STUDY GROUPS

WINE STUDY GROUP

Thursday, April 4 6:30 pm
Sara Ramaker's home 2545 Oakwood Ave.

The Wine Study Group organized by Maryl Hitchcock and Mary Barker had its first meeting on March 7 at the Ramaker Home. We watch the first two sessions of the Great Lectures series on Wine. We were shown how to properly observe, smell and taste the wine. We applied the information we learned to the "proper tasting" of three different wines – two reds and a white. It was a fun evening as well as a learning evening. Some words like "well-balanced" and "tannins" have more meaning. Knowing a little bit more has made wine drinking even that much better. Six members attended – including some of our youngest and oldest Branch members. Wine does appeal to all ages!

¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

Mary Barker & Sara Ramaker

Wednesday, April 17. 5:30 pm
Green Bay Distillery. 835 Mike McCarthy Way
Book: A House in the Sky: Memoir by Amanda Lindhout and Sara Corbett.

Sarah Laden's life seems like it could not get any more tumultuous. Her husband recently died, her older son, Nate, has developed a rebellious streak, her younger son, Danny, is barely passing his classes, and all the while she is struggling to make ends meet through her catering business. But when an alarming revelation tears apart the family of her closest friend, Laden finds herself fostering her friend's young son, Jordan. Everyone is invited to attend.

ART STUDY GROUP

Laura Fisher-Bonvallet

Thursday, April 18 10:00 am.
Docent tour of the Art Colony exhibit at the Neville Public Museum. Laura Fisher-Bonvallet and Sandy Melroy will lead attendees through the 2019 exhibition. Meet at the museum.

Lunch will follow, if you choose, at nearby Copper State Brewery, 313 Dousman St. Please email/call Laura Fisher-Bonvallet no later than **Monday, April 15**, to make reservation 920.499.9899 (landline), or email info@LauraFisherBonvallet.com

In 1915, nine women organized the Green Bay Art Colony. Their first exhibit was shown in the basement of the library. This display is considered the beginning of the Neville Museum. Since then year the Green Bay Art Colony has an annual display at the Neville Museum. This year's exhibit, entitled, "My Thoughts Exactly," has 50 works and 29 artists and will be displayed from March 22- May 5. It is a lovely and varied exhibit. This year is special in that many of the artists have collaborated to create a piece they could not have accomplished alone. Two of our members, Sandy Melroy and Laura Fisher Bonvallet, have pieces in the show. Remember to vote for your choice.

Thursday, May 16 10:00 am.
Studio Tour: Lily Bay Pottery, 3450 N. Lake Michigan Dr., Sturgeon Bay, WI.

Meet on the magnificent grounds of the studio located on the shores of Lake Michigan. Arrange your own car pooling for this event. Artist **Linda Sheard** creates exquisite ceramic vessels and other work. She will lead a tour of her studio which includes a demonstration of her technique, as well as an opportunity to shop her amazing work. Her husband Bart is a master gardener and has created exquisite grounds for their home and studio. He will lead the group on a tour of the grounds for those interested. Check out her website <http://lilybaypottery.com> NOTE: There are stairs at this studio with the work area on the first floor and the gallery on the second floor.



RSVP's are required, and participation is limited to 8 people. Cost is \$10 per person which will go towards supplies for disadvantaged children pursuing artistic endeavors in Sturgeon Bay, a project that Linda supports.

Please email/call **Sandy Melroy, no later than Monday, May 1.** Send your check made out to **Linda Sheard** and mail to Sandy Melroy, 1931 Rainbow Ave, De Pere, WI 54115 920.227.8038, cell, SilkSensations@new.rr.com. Your check is your confirmation.

Lunch will follow, if you choose, at the newly remodeled Inn at Cedar Crossing, 336 Louisiana St. Sturgeon Bay (entrance is on Third St.).

With our huge thanks to Joyce Fritz for an amazing day of seeing how she creates and brings her art to life, including the bugs she is so famous for!



Thanks to Laura for setting up this great studio tour for the AAUW art group!

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Wendy Schroeder

Monday, April 22 3:00 pm

Reader's Loft

Book: **Dark Money: the Hidden History of the Billionaires Behind the Rise of the Radical Right**

by Jane Mayer.

Leader: Dotty Juengst

Why is America living in an age of profound and widening economic inequality? Why have even modest attempts to address climate change been defeated again and again? Why do hedge-fund billionaires pay a far lower tax rate than middle-class workers? In a riveting and indelible feat of reporting, Jane Mayer illuminates the history of an elite cadre of plutocrats— who have bankrolled a systematic plan to fundamentally alter the American political system. Mayer provides vivid portraits of the secretive figures behind the new American oligarchy and a searing look at the carefully concealed agendas steering the nation.

IMMIGRATION STUDY GROUP

Janice McCarthy

I recently finished reading Michelle Obama's new book, Becoming. Here are a few thoughts about being black in America:

- Michelle's high school counselor told her, "I'm not sure you're Princeton material."
- Black students at Princeton were like "poppy seeds in a bowl of rice."
- "It was impossible to be a black kid at a mostly white school and not feel the shadow of affirmative action."
- "I knew invisibility. I'd lived invisibility. I came from a history of invisibility."

I run the risk of having you think that the above comments were complaints. They were not...just a check on reality (over 400+ pages) from a woman who received her law degree from Harvard University. In her words"

"I grew up with a disabled dad in a too-small house with not much money in a starting-to-fail neighborhood, and I also grew up surrounded by love and music in a diverse city in a country where an education can take you far. I had nothing or I had everything. It depends on which way you want to tell it."

And Michelle definitely tells it the latter way!

Reserve Date for May Luncheon

Our Annual Meeting will be held
Saturday, May 4, 2019
Ten.et Restaurant 2475 W. Mason St.
Reservation form is attached to the April BayNotes email. Reservations due Saturday, April 27.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

Mary Schmidt

Thinking ahead to our May Luncheon- if you have items you would like to donate for our LAF raffle please let me know, as well as baskets. I will put together items and hold a drawing to raise money to support LAF at the luncheon.

BRANCH COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Wendy Schmidt-Janosik

Welcome to new members:

Lisa Lotte Gammeltoft

1125 Van Buren St. Green Bay, 54301

Phone: 920-455-0817; Cell 921-412-6616

Email: lgammeltoft2@att.net

Gwendolyn Newman

2862 Old Plank Rd De Pere, 54115

Phone: 920-530-9495

Email: gnrazz@att.net

Sharren B. Rose

11 Webster Heights Drive Green Bay, 54301

Phone: 920-435-3558; Cell 921-366-5506

Email: wisconsinbrowndog@msn.com

2019-2020 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Your AAUW membership expires on June 30, 2019. You can renew anytime from April 1st to June 30th.

Dues are \$85 and can be sent to me:

Jan Davis, 1765 Chateau Drive, Green Bay, 54304, with a note identifying any changes in information.

Also, new this year, you can renew directly online with a credit card. Log on to aauw.org, log in, enter Members Services Database and click on Renew My Membership. They will refund the branch dues back to our bank checking account.

Member Sunshine

Tourtillott is part of this

All Girl Senior Show

Exhibition at the Lawton

Gallery University of

Wisconsin Green Bay –

April 13-25th. The Gallery

is open 10am-3pm. An

Opening Reception is April

13th from 2:00-4:00,

scholarship awards will be given opening night.



Meet new member Tynisha Willingham-Meidl.

Tynisha D. Willingham-Meidl earned her Bachelor Degree and PhD from Pennsylvania State University in Curriculum and Instruction. She received her Master in Education from University of Texas Pan-American. Currently she is the Assistant Academic Dean and Chair of the Teacher Education Program for Programs and Curriculum Development at St. Norbert College and holds the rank of associate professor. Tynisha has been in the field of education for more than 15 years.



Tynisha is an active scholar and has 3 published books in the area of community engaged learning and teacher education. She is the co-editor for Literacy and Social Responsibility, a journal of the International Literacy Association, and served on the advisory board of reviewers for Literacy: Helping Students Construct Meaning (9th edition). She is very active in the Greater Green Bay community.

VOTE

Sara Ramaker

As members of AAUW, we know who is in our elected positions makes a difference to lives of women and girls in this country. AAUW is all about improving conditions for women and girls. This means if we care enough to do all we do to support AAUW, we must care enough to vote. No matter where you are living in this state you have important decisions to make. You have to decide who you want to be your State Supreme Court Justice. If you live within the Green Bay School District, you need to choose the people who will decide how the district will operate. This will not only affect the students, but also your property values and taxes. If you live in Green Bay, you need to also decide your mayor. There are probably similar positions all over our area. You can look at your ballot at [MyVoteWisconsin](http://MyVoteWisconsin.com).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sara Ramaker

February Branch Meeting: While weather prevented our originally scheduled tour of the Neville exhibit "Our Brown County 200 Years", we were able to reschedule it for this month. Seventeen members were able to attend. Our guide Lisa Kain explained the concept of the exhibit. It was felt that a comprehensive chronological 200-year history would be difficult to pull together and might not appeal to all visitors. They chose to create an exhibit with 50 artifacts, 50 photographs, 50 people and 50 places (i.e. 200 stories) to demonstrate the complex, diverse and rich history of our county. It was a wonderful exhibit and certainly warrants a second or more visit. Of course, the highlights for all of us were the exhibits featuring our members, Dotty Juengst and Pat Finder-Stone. We have a great picture of Pat with her exhibit. Dotty Juengst was out of town. To show our AAUW pride for Dotty's accomplishments, those members wearing the AAUW logo vests stood in her place. Special thanks to Dotty who organized the tour, our guide Lisa Kain, Sue Hendricks for arranging the pizza and those members who contributed desserts.

March Branch Meeting: We had a wonderful turnout for our March meeting. Our member Eileen Littig, a well-known documentary film producer and her co-producer, Therese Barry Tanner presented a rough copy of their new independent documentary about the exciting and unique Alzheimer program being conducted by the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute. The film focuses on three Wisconsin women whose mothers died of Alzheimer's and are participating in the study. Each is at a different stage in life and live in different areas of the state. The film "shows the work going on behind the scenes at the highest levels of Alzheimer's research and shares the emotional journeys of the three subjects who put their lives under a microscope." This research is particularly important for women, because the illness strikes

women more than men. From the comments, we all agreed this was a wonderful film. The title of the film...well, at present, *All In: The Human Subjects*.

Consider a Donation: They are still in need of additional dollars (roughly \$45,000) to finalize the film project, namely: the complete technical finishing (music, sound mix, color grade and mastering), paying for the legal requirements for release and begin the screening at film festivals and other marketing. A tax-deductible donation can be made through their 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor, CID. If you wish to donate, please write a check to Center for Independent Documentary. In the memo line, write: All In: The Human Subjects. Give it to Eileen Littig or mail directly to: Center for Independent Documentary, 1300 Soldiers Field Rd., Suite #4, Boston, MA 02135.

May AAUW Meetings: In addition to the annual spring luncheon on Saturday, May 4, (see details in these BayNotes), **mark your calendar for Monday, May 20th for our Dinner/Planning Meeting** at my home at 5:30 p.m. This is a fun night – good food, good company and the opportunity to finalize the topics for next year's branch meetings. If you have ideas for a topic and speaker, please let Linda or me know. Linda and I put together a list of proposed topics – suggestions from last year as well as those members have suggested throughout this year. We will add your's to our list.

In Addition

Green Bay School Board asking for Your Opinion

If you live in the Green Bay School District, you have an opportunity to voice your opinion about the redesign of the district to meet the variations in enrollment throughout the district. The survey can be found at gbbaps.org/redesign_2020. The takes about 15 minutes (or more depending on if you want to read more about the various options that the board is considering). It is not often that the elected representatives ask for your opinion. Please take advantage of it. How the schoolboard spends your tax dollars not only determines the quality of the

education but also affects your property taxes and property values.

Women in History

Pauli Murray: I first was introduced to Pauli Murray when Adelante read the book, *The Firebrand and the First Lady, Portrait of a Friendship*. This tells the story of the friendship between Pauli Murray and Eleanor Roosevelt, a relationship that certainly affected the attitudes and values of both women. It is a fascinating book. Murray was a trailblazer and influential civil rights and feminist activist, who would be remembered if she were not a black woman. In 1944 she graduated top in her class at the Howard University School of Law, where she coined the phrase “Jane Crow” referring to the sexual discrimination she experienced. In 1966, she co-founded the National Organization for Women. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg credited Murray’s work as the inspiration for her 1971 milestone brief in *Reed v. Reed*, a case marking the first time that the Equal Protection Clause was applied to sex discrimination. In 1977, she became the first African American woman to be ordained as a priest in the Protestant Episcopal Church. She died in 1985.



Kate Hamilton Pier: Kate Hamilton Pier was the eighth woman admitted to the Wisconsin bar. Her family moved from Vermont to Fond du Lac in 1845. She became one of the first businesswomen in the state when she took over her father’s extensive real estate holdings in 1871. She married C.K. Pier, a lawyer, and had four daughters. In 1887, she decided a law degree would be helpful to her real estate business. She entered the University of Wisconsin Law School with her oldest daughter, also named Kate



Hamilton Pier. In 1887, the older Kate’s 42nd birthday, the Pier women graduated. Four years later her other two daughters graduated from U.W. Law School. Later the family moved to Milwaukee and opened the Pier Law Office, where the four Pier women practiced law together. In 1871, the senior Kate was appointed as a Milwaukee County Court Commissioner, making her the first woman in the U.S. appointed to serve in a judicial capacity.

Title IX Champion Passes: Former Indiana U.S. Senator Birch Bayh died recently at the age of 91. He was the lead sponsor and pushed through law - Title IX, the federal law banning discrimination against women in college admissions and sports in 1972. Before the law, women earned fewer than 10% of all medical and law degrees and fewer than 300,000 high school girls (one in 27) played sports. Today women make up more than half of the those receiving bachelor’s and graduate degrees and more than 3 million high school girls (one in two) play in one or more sports. In a 2012 interview, Bayh said the law was aimed at giving women a better shot at higher paying jobs and he continued to speak in support of Title IX’s enforcement for years after leaving Congress. He also was a leading sponsor of the Equal Rights Amendment which barred discrimination on the basis of gender. It passed Congress but has failed to win approval of two-thirds of the states.

