

BAYNOTES

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

October Branch Meeting

Monday, October 19, 2020

Via Zoom 6:30



Program: “What are Treatment Courts?”



Presenters:

Honorable Donald Zuidmulder, Brown County Circuit Court Judge
Joan Brusky, a Brown County Supervisor.

Brown County is unique for having five different treatment courts, namely: Drug Court, Heroin Court, Mental Health Court, OWI Court and Veterans Court. These courts were created under the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) program was established by the 2005 Wisconsin Act 25 to support county efforts that provide treatment and diversion programs for non-violent adult offenders for whom substance abuse, mental health or other issue was a contributing factor in their criminal activities.

Incarceration for these people is unlikely to help them deal with their substance abuse, so it is more likely to lead to repeat criminal activity. In contrast, if the person can get the drug, mental health or other issue under control, the person is unlikely to commit another crime.

The purpose of the treatment courts is to provide a structured program to assist those struggling with these issues. It is not an easy program, and people have been unsuccessful and are then jailed. Those involved in these programs believe them to be very successful. Both speakers have been very involved and supportive of these courts.

If anyone is interested in attending, please email me ramaker.sara@gmail.com and I will forward a copy of the Zoom link to all interested people on October 19th.



Upcoming November Program
November 16 – Dr. Julie Mead

How Privatization of Schools Opens the Doors for Discrimination

INTEREST/STUDY GROUPS

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Wendy Schroeder

Monday, October 26th 3:00pm Via Zoom

Book: **The Island of Sea Women** by Lisa See
Leader: Wendy Schroeder

Mi-ja and Youngsook, two girls living on the Korean Island Jeju, are best friends who come from very different backgrounds. When they are old enough, they begin working in the sea with their village's all-female diving collective, led by Young-sook's mother. As the girls take up their positions as baby divers, they know they are beginning a life of excitement and responsibility but also danger.



Despite their love for each other, Mi-ja and Young-sook's differences are impossible to ignore. *Island of Sea Women* is set in an epoch over many decades, beginning during a period of Japanese colonialism in the 1930's through the era of cell phones and wet suits for the women divers. A beautiful, thoughtful novel that illuminates a world turned upside down, one where the women are in charge, engaging in dangerous, physical work and the men take care of the children.

¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

Mary Barker & Sara Ramaker

**Wednesday, October 21 6:30pm
Via Zoom**

Book: **Homegoing** by Yaa Gyasi
Homegoing follows the parallel paths of two sisters and their descendants through eight generations: from the gold coast to the plantations of Mississippi, from the American Civil War to Jazz Age Harlem.



ART STUDY GROUP

Carolyn Reedy & Mary Woodbridge

“*Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time*” Thomas Merlon

October can still be a beautiful time to get outside and we have 2 ideas for an art walk by yourself or with a friend.

The first is a special program presented by Tundraland called “Windows for a Cause”. It is a fundraiser for Make A Wish Foundation. Artists in the area have their art pieces in downtown storefronts in both Green Bay and Appleton. The theme this year is “What inspires you?” The storefronts in Green Bay include Black Saddle Tavern & Oasis, Nectar, The Flats on the Fox, Bellin Bldg, Hotel Northland, Metreau Apartments, Hagemeister Park and the Green Bay Police Dept. The storefronts in Appleton are on College Avenue.

The second is a visit to DePere and the Nicolet Alley between Nicky's Lionheart Restaurant and Gyro Kabob/T Alteration. There are also murals at 365 & 353 Main Street, 131, 109 and the Theater on N Broadway, 115 Washington St, 115 Wisconsin St., 520 George St and on the Fox River Trail under the Bridge near Voyager Park.

Now, when the weather turns cold or rainy there is an online series of 10 short videos by Barbara Brown Lee of the Milwaukee Art Museum. She has been the Chief Educator there for 45 years and all of the works in the videos are part of the museum's collection. The series is called “Art Lives here with Barbara Brown Lee”.

<https://mam.org/learn/videos.php>

Branch Board Meeting

Thursday, November 5 6:30 pm

Via Zoom

All members are welcome

MEMBERSHIP

Nancy Anderson

Thanks to everyone for renewing their memberships. We are a strong branch with your participation.

We are wondering if any member has heard from Angie Shobe or know if she has moved. We like to keep track of our older members and haven't been able to contact her. Please contact Nancy Anderson if you have her information – nancyhhfdt@hotmail.com.

WATER STUDY GROUP

Carol Pearson

Graphics Explain the Climate Feedback Loop

Fueling US Fires by the World Resources Institute, September 26

Fires blazing across the Western United States have claimed dozens of lives, destroyed countless properties, displaced hundreds of thousands of residents, and worsened air quality at a time when the coronavirus pandemic threatens respiratory health. The ominous skies are a [preview](#) of what's to come in a world of continued inaction on climate change. What was seemingly a distant future is now playing out in front of our eyes.

Wildfires in the Western United States, and around the world, are [getting worse](#). Fires in Oregon, Washington and California for the last month are off the charts compared to previous years — and fire season is still not over. But what's more troubling is that fires are not growing in isolation. Fires are just one piece of a multi-part climate feedback system — all of which are worsening, fueling more rapid climate change.

For more information, visit:

<https://cleantechnica.com/2020/09/26/graphics-explain-climate-feedback-loop-fueling-us-fires/>

TREASURER REPORT – Lisa Ubbelohde 9/18/20 Balance - \$6881.73

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sara Ramaker & Lindsay Mather

Where did September go? Why is it getting so cold? Usually, I hate the end of summer but look forward to the beauty of fall. I was worried that we would have no color, because it seemed like so many trees had lost their leaves. My drive to and from Door County last weekend proved me very wrong. There are some gorgeous colored vistas. There are such very vibrant reds! I love them. Yet, the end of summer is even harder this year, because it limits the opportunities to socialize outside. Listening to Dr. Fauci and watching what is happening in our area, I am avoiding, as much as possible, entering any buildings now. I fear the isolation that winter will bring. Let's all work extra hard to maintain connections with each other. The path through this pandemic will be easier if we share it with good people.

September Branch Meeting: Thank you to the members that participated in our September branch meeting on Pay Equity. The feedback that I received from the members was all very positive. Dr. Christine Smith was quite informative. She gave us a lot of statistical information to back up the discrepancies in women's and men's pay. For those unable to attend, here is a brief description of some of things that stood out to me:

1. The statistics are based on the median annual salary of a person working fulltime and year-round and looks at every occupation for which there is sufficient data. It compares apples to apples, i.e. women in the same job make less than men in that exact job. The latest figures from 2018 show women make 82% of men. These figures are different depending on race. This left me wondering what is happening in part time positions.

2. Women with children make less than women without children. With each child the pay decreases roughly 6%. In contrast, men with children have higher incomes than those without.

3. 90% of the women with disabilities cannot find work, while 50% of men with disabilities are employed. One good result from COVID19 is that more companies acknowledge people work well from home and have shown to be more willing to hire people with disabilities.

4. It used to be that women with college degrees made salaries equal to men with a high school degree. The loss of good paying manufacturing jobs has resulted in men with high school education making less.

5. Smallest gap in salaries is at the entry level, but it gets worse as people age. It is highly likely that an unmarried women over 65 is living below the poverty level.

6. Women entering male dominated professions make less than the men entering the profession. In formerly male dominated professions which women are not dominate, i.e. accounting, veterinary science, pharmacy, the pay scale has dropped. YES! as more women enter the field, the salaries decrease.

7. The Pay Check Fairness Act (Lily Ledbetter Act) extended the time to bring suit and allowed women to raise equal pay claims when they learn of the differences in pay. Without that act, claims were thrown out as untimely because they began when the woman was hired.

8. Between 1990 and 2015, the pay gap was getting smaller, not anymore. The gap is shrinking so slowly now that it is estimated women won't receive equal pay until 2106.

We had some very good questions leading to more in-depth discussion in certain areas. It was all an eye opener to me.

AAUW Joins in Educational Survey of Local Candidates

AAUW was asked to join with Wisconsin Public Education Network, LWVGGB and other local nonpartisan organizations supporting education to conduct a survey to ascertain local candidates' positions on education issues. The candidate responses will be shared with our partners and members of our community. No candidates or party will be endorsed. The information will be offered as a public service to local voters. AAUW strongly supports providing an excellent education for all children, not private school vouchers for a few.

Brief Notes on Native American voting rights

I attended a program on how gerrymandering has harmed Native Americans presented by a collaboration of Native American organizations and learned some interesting history on Native voting rights. While the Fourteenth Amendment, gave citizenship to all people born in the United States, it specifically excluded native Americans. It was not until 1924 with the passage of a statute that Native Americans were recognized as citizens. This did not, however, give them the right to vote. Natives had to fight for their right to vote in each state. In 1962, Utah was the last state to give natives the right to vote. With literacy tests, poll taxes and voter intimidation, natives' voting rights, however, were impinged upon. The 1965 Civil Rights Act eliminated poll tax and literacy requirements. Gerrymandering has resulted in splitting the native vote in certain areas of Wisconsin. This means that they have little power to change the person representing them. For example, water rights is a big issue for tribes in Wisconsin. In districts where there is a significant native vote, the legislator is more interested in protecting water rights. If the tribe, however, is split into several districts, legislators need not worry about their interests, because they cannot vote them out of office.



The Gallagher-Stuck virtual forum will be held virtually on Tuesday, Oct. 6 from 4:00 to 5:30 pm. The Door County League is conducting the forum and will also be recording it.

A Short update on Title IX

In fall of 1973, Lynn Genesko received the first athletic scholarship awarded to a female. It was for swimming at the University of Miami. It was one year after the passage of Title IX of Education Amendment Act of 1972 which provided, “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.” This not only created many opportunities for individual women, but also marked a shift in both collegiate and professional athletics for women.

Since the enactment of Title IX both men’s and women’s participation in collegial sports has increased. Forty-five years after the enactment of Title IX, the NCAA created a report, “45 Years of Title IX: The Status of Women in Intercollegiate Athletics.” Several major findings were as follows:

- The number of female student-athletes is at an all-time high. Both male and female student-athletes continue to set NCAA participation records year after year, but in the 2000s, men’s participation numbers in championship sports slightly outpaced women’s.
- The low representation of minority women in NCAA leadership positions has remained mostly stagnant over the past five years. In that timespan, the percentage of minority female head coaches of women’s teams has remained at just under 14 percent. Just 2.5 percent of NCAA athletics directors are minority women.
- Division I has the greatest gap in spending between men’s and women’s athletics programs, with athletics departments on average spending twice as much on their men’s programs. The spending is more equitable in Divisions II and III.

- Women hold about 23 percent of all NCAA head coaching, athletics director and conference commissioner positions.
- Over the past five years, women have outpaced men in acquiring conference commissioner positions. In 2015-16, women held 37 of the 142 available conference commissioner positions — up from 27 in 2010-11.”

“While it is very encouraging to see progress has been made over the last 45 years with respect to the federal law Title IX and opportunities for women, the data also shows that there is still much to be done to increase equity and diversity, and to create a more balanced scenario in intercollegiate athletics for our student-athletes and administrators,” said Bernard Franklin, NCAA executive vice president of education and community engagement and chief inclusion officer. “ See:

<http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/media-center/news/ncaa-releases-new-report-title-ix-turns-45>

If you have heard any complaints about Title IX forcing universities to end such programs as men’s wrestling, see the ESPN article, “Five Myths about Title IX”, for the truth about Title IX. See: https://www.espn.com/espnw/title-ix/story/_/id/7729603/five-myths-title-ix These smaller athletic programs are usually dropped to put more money into football and basketball. Despite gains, women are still forced to sue colleges to get the equal rights they are guaranteed. In September, 2019, two women sued the University of Kentucky claiming UK needed to add another 183 women athletes to meet Title IX requirements. <https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/2019/09/25/two-students-sue-university-kentucky-too-few-womens-sports/2432962001/> Another interesting point about women athletes is that they graduates in higher numbers than male athletes.



Update on Gerrymandering/Fair Maps

by Sara Ramaker

LWVGGB has successfully convinced the County Board to put a nonbinding referendum requesting nonpartisan maps. The language is as follows: “Should the Wisconsin Legislature create a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of legislative and congressional district plans and maps?”

What does this mean? Every ten years, Brown County and Wisconsin must adjust their maps based on the census. This asks for a nonpartisan procedure in drawing the maps for legislative districts. It would put the responsibility in the hands of a nonpartisan commission and take it out of the hands of the politicians. The maps would be drawn on census data and not political data that leads to “gerrymandering”.

Gerrymandering (manipulating the drawing of district maps to keep a party in power) has been going on since the beginning of our country. Both parties when in power take full advantage of the system. Currently, with the help of computers to analyze political data down to party affiliation, who you vote for and other personal information, politicians can cherry-pick votes they need and easily carve our district maps to insure they win a majority of the districts. Instead of voters choosing the representative, the representatives choose the voters.

Nonpartisan districts would not only be fairer but cheaper. Wisconsin’s present maps cost nearly \$1 million to create the district maps after 2010 census and nearly 3 times more to defend the maps in court. No citizens were allowed to see or comment on the Wisconsin maps before they were presented to the legislature and passed.

In contrast, our neighboring state of Iowa has used a nonpartisan procedure since 1980. The only significant cost is the copying costs so that every citizen can review and comment on the proposed districts. Their districts are geometric in shape,

making for a fairer system. A comparison of Wisconsin districts maps versus Iowa maps tells the story.

Gerrymandering of districts is considered the major cause of gridlock at our state and national legislature. It is contrary to the notion of one person-one vote. It is seen as a real threat to our democracy for many reasons. One is voter apathy. Why vote when you know your party can never win?

51 County Boards have passed advisory resolutions and voters overwhelmingly passed referendums in 17 counties. The votes in favor were from 72.4% in Rock and Marquette Counties to as high as 80.6% in Rock County. Similarly, voters overwhelmingly passed referendums in 18 municipalities. The lowest percentage was 71% in Lac du Flambeau and the highest was 89% in Rhinelander. A recent Marquette poll found that 72% of Wisconsinites favor ending gerrymandering, including 83% Democrats, 63 % Republicans and 76% Independents. In addition to Brown County, fourteen counties have a similar referendum on the November 3rd ballot.

AAUW favors fair nonpartisan districting. I hope you too will support the referendum and let your representatives know that you want fair maps. LWVGGB has purchased a number of removable bumper stickers that states, “Vote YES Nov. 3rd for Non-Partisan Maps Referendum.”

If you would like one or more, let me know and I will drop them off. They really are removable. I put the sticker on my car. A few days later, I realized how crooked it was so I removed it and put it on straighter. It came off perfectly.



Links from the AAUW Webinar October 1st on RBG

Dotty Juengst

Just copy the link to your search box. Feel free to pass this on.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/fight-for-a-just-fair-supreme-court/social-media-scotus/>

<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/just-and-fair-supreme-court/>

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/2020-convening/>

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/fight-for-a-just-fair-supreme-court/lte-scotus/>

[https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Amy%20Coney%20Barrett%20Senate%20Questionnaire%20\(Public\)%20\(002\).pdf](https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Amy%20Coney%20Barrett%20Senate%20Questionnaire%20(Public)%20(002).pdf)

BRANCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

President: Sara Ramaker & Lindsay Mather
Vice-president programs – Linda Birder
Membership – Nancy Anderson
Treasurer- - Lisa Ubbelohde
Secretary – Portia Georgia

BRANCH CHAIRS

Greater Needs Fund - Mary Schmidt
Dreamers and Doers - Dotty Juengst
Scholarship –
BayNotes - Barbara Wilson
Website – Mary Barker

INTEREST GROUP CHAIRS

Adelante Book Group – Mary Barker
Afternoon Book Group – Wendy Schroeder
Art Study – Carolyn Reedy & Mary Woodbridge
Wine Study – Mary Barker & Maryl Hitchcock
STEM – Linda Birder
Water Study – Carol Pearson
Movies – Bev Braun
Voting – Linda Birder
Social – Jill Lauritsen

BRANCH PROGRAMS 2020-2021

September 21 – “The Simple Truth about Pay Equity” with Dr. Christine Smith.

October 19 – . “What are Treatment Courts?” with Honorable Donald Zuidmulder, Brown County Circuit Court Judge and Joan Brusky, a Brown County Supervisor

November 16 – Dr. Julie Mead: How Privatization of Schools Opens the Doors for Discrimination.

***December 21** - Holiday Party - We will “party”.

***January 18** – Movie Night

***February 15** –A program to look at racial and police policy issues facing Green Bay with a panel of Green Bay leaders.

March 15 – Helen Bannon. Portrayal of Jesse Jack Hooper

***April 19** - Dreamers and Doers Gala?

***May 1 or 17** – Spring Luncheon and election of officers / Cocktails and Conversations

*Note: It is unknown if and when we will be able to safely come together at a face-to-face meeting. We will probably have to celebrate our holiday party via Zoom. If we are able to get together, we will plan our Dreamers and Doers Book Gala in April. If not, we will plan something else for April and meet via Zoom. Similarly, if we can have a spring luncheon for our annual meeting, we will move it to the first Saturday in May and have our Cocktails and Conversations on May 17. If not, we will have our annual meeting and choose topics on May 17 via zoom.

NOTE FROM STATE PRESIDENT

Joan Schneider

Hello AAUW WI Branch Members!

Since health is on my mind so very much, I want to wish you good health. Take care of yourselves! Socially distance. Wear masks. Make good choices; there are so many!

It is fair to assume you have started your new AAUW year but with a different look. It is good to be flexible because it helps us survive and flourish in challenging situations. I realize some of the branches, divisions and state board members have been sharing helpful tips. I heard one branch, worried about raising scholarship money, asked members to donate the money they would have spent at their fundraiser. “You

usually spend \$100 at the fund raiser? Just donate \$100 to scholarships.” Others are sponsoring Zoom events. Some are locating funds not used during the pandemic that they can vote to use for scholarships. I am impressed with the creativity, leadership and talent in our branches.

I imagine you are in some way involved in the election and voting. I follow the news a little more than I have in the past. Being retired, I feel I have a good opportunity to be informed. The thing I have to be careful about is sounding partisan. We need to remind our branch members to be really careful. I said something I thought was nonpartisan; someone else had tagged it as partisan. There is a fine line.

Zoom or some other form of technology has probably become more important in your branch than it was a year ago. What has really caught my attention is the outreach I see happening in branches as we help everyone learn the new systems. There are group workshops, individual tutoring, and practice sessions. State Convention will be a Zoom event in April.

This is a good time for me to remind you about state and national resources that are available to you. I reach out to the past state presidents often. The state board is also here to help you and everyone in your branch. Our contact information is in Badger Briefs.

People have been asking me where I found an AAUW poster or card or shirt etc. I have been using Shop AAUW for years. A couple weeks ago I found many sales and ordered a few items. If you are looking for gifts, visibility, convenience, research project information, public policy brochures, etc. Some items are free except for shipping. Look into Shop AAUW.