

BAYNOTES

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

November Branch Meeting
Monday, November 16, 2020
6:30 pm via Zoom

Program: “How School Privatization Opens the Door for Discrimination”

Presenter: Julie Fisher Mead, Associate Dean for Education and
Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis
at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Professor Mead has published numerous articles in both educational and law journals addressing school privatization. She is a member of the American Education Research Association, The Education Law Association, and the University Council on Educational Administration and is a fellow with the National Education Policy Center.

The department’s mission is “to create, evaluate, exchange, and apply knowledge about leadership, learning, and organizational performance to prepare scholars and scholar practitioners who cultivate equity and educational opportunity in a diverse and changing world. Dr. Mead’s research centers on legal issues related to special education and legal issues raised by various forms of school choice.

She has presented similar programs to other AAUW branches and local groups and was highly recommended to us. This program was planned before the death of George Floyd and country’s angry reaction. With AAUW’s emphasis on education and our realization that not all schools are equal, this program is particularly topical today. I do hope you can join us.

Branch Social Zoom Get Togethers – Sara Ramaker

I am definitely missing the social time with you all. I am proposing a one hour for each meeting. Depending on the number that attend, we will allow three - five minutes for everyone to "catch up", to tell us what is happening in your life, latest bitch, latest success, etc. We can try it and make changes as needed. I am going to set a timer and keep each meeting to one hour.

Coffee and Catch Up will be Monday, November 9 from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.



zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81326596787?pwd=akVCOEdDTndlV3NaMmtlTlBhekdlVZz09>

Whine With Wine will be Thursday, November 12 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81326596787?pwd=akVCOEdDTndlV3NaMmtlTlBhekdlVZz09>



INTEREST GROUPS

Art Study Group

Carolyn Reedy & Mary Woodbridge

“We must never forget that art is not a form of propaganda, it is a form of truth” John Fitzgerald Kennedy

The 75th Art Annual exhibit is open at the Neville Public Museum from **October 17, 2020 to January 3, 2021**. It is an all-media juried exhibition of current artworks produced by artist living in the counties of Northeastern Wisconsin and Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. A total of 54 artworks by 50 artists were chosen by juror Annemarie Sawkins (Independent Curator and Art Consultant).

Several of the selected works speak to the societal challenges of the past year; from a global pandemic to social justice.

If you have not been to the museum since the opening of the new “Generations Gallery” give yourself some extra time to explore and view the many items from their permanent collection that have not been on display before.

(It is best to make reservations ahead of time due to the limited number of visitors allowed.)

The Milwaukee Art Museum also has an interesting program on their website about the Architectural History of the Milwaukee Museum. It is an architectural landmark comprising three buildings, each purposefully designed. Explore the buildings and their rich histories.

<https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/architectural-history-of-the-milwaukee-art-museum/DQKiaCk9A4WRJg>



Afternoon Book Group

Wendy Schroeder

Monday, November 23

3:00 pm via Zoom

Book: Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

Leader: Terri Gulyas



The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small southern black community and running away at sixteen, it’s not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it’s everything: their families, communities, racial identities. Many years later, one sister lives with her black daughter in the same town she once tried to escape, the other secretly passes for white and her white husband knows nothing of her past. The fates of the twins remain intertwined as their own daughters’ storylines intersect.

Vanishing Half considers the lasting influence of the past as it shapes a person’s decisions, desires and expectations.

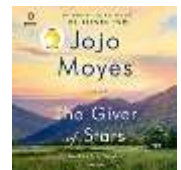
¡Adelante! Book Group

Mary Barker & Sara Ramaker

Wednesday, November 18

6:30 pm via Zoom

Book: The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes



A sweeping rural romance that tells a fictionalized account of the Kentucky Pack Horse Librarians. It is inspired by a real group of librarians who between 1935 and 1943 delivered books to some of the most remote regions in the Appalachian Mountains

BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 5th 6:30

Via Zoom

All members are invited to attend with ideas.



CLEAN WATER STUDY GROUP

Carol Pearson

DNR Report Shows Wisconsin's Air Quality Is Improving By Danielle Kaeding, Oct. 23, WPR

The latest report from state environmental regulators shows Wisconsin's air quality is improving. The findings are part of the 2020 Wisconsin Air Quality Trends Report from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

The report found 95 percent of people in the state live in an area that meets federal air standards, said David Bizot, the agency's air quality and planning standards chief. The findings were based on air quality data collected through last year.

To listen to the report, visit [DNR Report Shows Wisconsin's Air Quality Is Improving](#)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Nancy Anderson

Sleuth Jill Lauritsen was able to locate Angie Shobe's son, Andy and he sent this in reply:
"I just received your card about concerns about my mother. She is doing well, she is now living at Allouez Sunrise Village in Allouez. After her fall and broken shoulder last year, we decided to get her in an assisted living facility, they are taking excellent care of her and she has her own 1 bedroom apartment there.

Her new home phone number is 920-857-3393, her cell number is 920-737-8208.

I've found the best time to get a hold of her is usually after dinner time. I'm supposed to have her mail forwarded to my house"

From Jill: I'm sure Angie would appreciate a card or note that we are thinking of her. Please send to: Angie Shobe 279 E St Joseph St GB. 54301

We are sending a card around via mail for members to sign and then Jill will send it to Angie. Look for it and keep it moving. Thanks

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sara Ramaker & Lindsay Mather

1. **Comments on the October meeting on the Brown County Treatment Courts:** Thank you to the 23 members and guests we had attend our Zoom October Branch meeting on the Brown County Treatment Courts. I hope you all found it interesting and enjoyable as I did.

One of the things I love about Green Bay is how word gets around. A nonmember friend had talked to County Supervisor Joan Brusky about the Treatment Courts and thought it would be a good topic for AAUW. I did a little research, mainly talking to Joan Brusky who agreed to talk to Judge Zuidmulder about presenting a program. I proposed it, the membership voted it number 2 topic and we had a great branch meeting.

I am a believer that government is not only necessary, but it can make a difference in ways that no other group or organization can. Our last Branch meeting on the Brown County Treatment Courts supports this premise. Brown County is so blessed to have two individuals working hard for real change to our criminal justice system. We were happy to have Judge Donald Zuidmulder and Brown County Supervisor Joan Brusky take the time to talk to our branch about the Brown County Treatment Courts.

I am sorry if you missed this meeting, because this is a government program we can all feel good about. It all began many years ago when Judge Zuidmulder noticed the number of people regularly coming through his court. These were people arrested for crimes, but their major problem was drug abuse. They were never going to deal with their drug abuse in jail. Without help, nothing would change and they were destined to do the revolving prison door. He had read about the treatment courts and wanted it for Brown County. When he approached the County Board for approval, he specifically told them, he would do it for free.

The reluctance to take on a new “cost” was overcome and the Drug Treatment Court was created.

The Drug Court is not a “free ride.” Each defendant is screened, must plead guilty and meet certain conditions for probation. It is a contract with the individual and the criminal justice system. It is coordinated by a team that includes a case manager, the D. A. and the judge. It is all overseen by the court on a regular basis. It is the aura of the court, the immediate consequence if one fails and the threat that the judge that can send them to jail that makes it work. Each person has an individual plan that has requirements for them to meet, such as: group therapy, hours of public service, etc., whatever is necessary to help the defendant become sober and follow the program. There are three phases and some can take a year or years to get through the program. There are relapses, but they can continue if they meet the meet the “punishment” for each infraction. There are some who do not pass. The success is due to the regular court contact, the individual program and a quick consequence for failing to live up to the contract. Another advantage of this court is that it coordinates what is happening in other courts. For example, if a defendant has a child involved in CHIPS (Child in Need of Protective Placement) or a divorce, there might be three different judges involved. Under the old system three judges might be dealing with the family on three different issues. With the treatment court, there is coordination among the courts.

Is it successful? From a person level, yes. The failure rate is low and the recidivism is low. They are able to provide for themselves and contribute to our community. More importantly, many of these people have never had anyone care about them. The team approach gives them the support they need. Attending graduation, one learns how much the program has meant to each individual. From a police perspective, yes. “There was a 94% decrease in Police Calls/Contacts during and after completion of Heroin Treatment Court and 90.5% decrease in Jail Placements from pre to post treatment court.”

From a cost perspective: yes. The decrease in police contacts and fewer jail time means less cost. There are no longer the costs to society to medical community and the judicial system. Although there were those skeptical of the program, it is now widely accepted as a win-win for all.

The program has been expanded to five treatment courts. In addition to the Drug Court, there are the following: the NEW Veterans Court, Mental Health Court, OWI Court and Heroin Court. Brown County was not only the first to set up a treatment court, but also has the greatest number of courts. I have asked Barb to include the latest statistics on the Treatment Courts. I worry that the bulk of our community do not know of the good things happening through these courts. Let us all do our best to spread the good word. After all, who does not want to hear good news about a government program today?

2. **HELP with AAUW Five-Star Program**

“AAUW’s Five-Star National Recognition Program rewards affiliates (states, branches and other organizations) for aligning their work with the AAUW strategic plan and other initiatives that foster the organization’s mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. The program will run from July 2019 through June 2021.”

Years ago, when our branch had a joint meeting with the Girl Scouts, I remember one of the scouts saying, “AAUW is like scouting for adults.” I thought that was very intuitive. Looking at this Five-Star Program, I am reminded of her comments, because it seems so similar to requirements for badges. (I was in Girl Scouts and served as a leader for years.) I think with a little extra work we can meet these requirements. Why not get our “badge” and make out state proud? I am hoping there is someone who would like to work with me, primarily to prepare the forms we need to file with AAUW. It would not take too much time, would be a short-term project, i.e. a perfect way to contribute to your branch without making a big commitment. I will see the actual work is done. I just want

someone to take responsibility for filing the information with AAUW. Please contact me so we can get started. Apparently, we can file the information as we do it.

3. Future Meetings

Based on requests from members, from now on when I announce the meeting, I will also include the Zoom invite. Then the day before or the day of I will resend the invite so it is at the top of your email. Please keep giving suggestions on ways to improve our meetings. We all are learning as we go.

4. VOTE: Finally, I had a memory on Facebook today which included a picture of four charming and talented young women from Myanmar who stayed at my house for a week four years ago as a part of their trip to the US to study our elections. They were dressed in my Halloween stuff and really enjoyed our Halloween and trick and treating. They went back and continued political activism, some even running for office. I have been fortunate to meet eight different women from Myanmar helping to bring democracy to their country. Sadly, one was recently kidnapped with two other candidates while campaigning. Hoping for their safe return, this is a reminder that our right to vote is so important. If you haven't voted, please do as safely as possible. If you have voted, good for you. Here is hoping for a safe, fair and peaceful election and transition of power. "The price of democracy is constant vigilance."

Halloween is my favorite Holiday! My house is decorated and I love it! I will miss the trick and treaters this year, but my family will still celebrate Halloween. I wish you all a **HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**

Stay Positive, Test Negative.



Race and the Nineteenth Amendment

Sara Ramaker

Introduction: I have always had an interest in politics and women in politics and read a lot about women in history including suffrage. I know what most Americans were taught about women's suffrage is sadly missing many key ideas. It is, however, only recently that I realized how "sadly missing" from my reading was the effect of race on the women's suffrage movement. These realizations and the Black Lives Matter Movement, has left me with the strong belief that until Americans confront racism in our past and how it permeates our society, little will change. I recently put together a presentation on race and the Nineteenth Amendment. I decided to redo the presentation into two articles for the BayNotes. The articles will not be a history of suffrage nor can they explore all the aspects of how race affected the women's suffrage movement. What I hope to present is enough history to show how racial attitudes nearly preventing the passage of the 19th Amendment. In addition, I want to introduce one of the many black woman who fought for civil and voting rights that history has forgotten, Ida B. Wells.

Article I: On Aug. 26, 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution officially took effect when Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby [signed a proclamation](#) certifying its ratification. The amendment promised women that their right to vote would "not be denied" on account of sex. It did not result in all women voting in the next election. (Note: Women in Georgia were denied the right, because the state required one be registered six months before the election. Jim Crowe and other procedural hurdles denied the vote to most Black women until the Voting Rights Act in 1965. Native Americans were not granted citizenship until 1924, though laws similar to Jim Crowe laws prevented many Native Americans from voting. Latino women faced similar hurdles. literacy tests remained an effective means of keeping some Hispanic and other women of

color from voting long after the federal amendment was passed. It took a 1975 extension of the Voting Rights Act, prohibiting discrimination against language minority citizens, to expand voting access to women who rely heavily on languages other than English. All of these groups still face hurdles in order to vote.)

Procedurally, the Nineteenth Amendment proceeded as follows: On May 21, 1919, the House of Representatives passed the amendment, and two weeks later, the Senate followed. On June 10, 1919, Wisconsin, Michigan and Illinois were the first states to ratify the 19th Amendment. Eight states voted no: Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland (symbolically passed it in 1941), Mississippi (symbolically passed it in 1984), Delaware and Louisiana. Interestingly, Democrats throughout the U.S. pressured Mississippi because they wanted a Democratic state to get the credit for passing the 19th Amendment. It became pretty clear that the only real hope for passage was Tennessee.

“Tennessee was meeting in special session to consider the amendment. The Senate had voted to ratify, so it was up to the House. The vote was on August 18, and it looked like there were enough red roses (red opposed and yellow for) on the House floor for the amendment to go down. One member wearing a red rose in his lapel, Harry Burn thought of the letter in his pocket from his mother, Phoebe, who had written, “Dear Son... Hurray and vote for suffrage and don’t keep them in doubt... Don’t forget to be a good boy...” Harry cast the tie-breaking vote for the amendment. With this, Tennessee became the 36th state and the amendment had passed the threshold for ratification by three-fourths of the states. It was on its way to Washington to be certified as the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.” But was it? “After the Tennessee House vote on August 18, Speaker Seth Walker immediately called for reconsideration of ratification of the amendment. Although anti-suffrage legislators in Tennessee tried desperately to discredit Harry Burn and others, their efforts failed. No one was willing to change their vote. The House

adjourned on August 20, 1920, without reconsidering the ratification of the amendment. “I want to state that I changed my vote in favor of ratification first because I believe in full suffrage as a right,” Harry Burn emotionally addressed the chamber. “I believe we had a moral and legal right to ratify; and I knew that a mother’s advice is always safest for a boy to follow, and my mother wanted me to vote for ratification.”

Never underestimate the power of a mother. But for one mother’s advice and one vote, who knows how long it would have been before women were given the right to vote nationally.

For the suffragettes, achieving this milestone required a lengthy and difficult struggle; victory took decades of hard work. Race and women’s votes were tied together from the beginning. Yet, there were often tensions between the abolitionist and women’s rights supporters. The abolitionists always feared that their anti-slavery would be hindered by demands for women’s rights. It is ironic that Frederick Douglas, a black abolitionist is credited for getting the women’s suffrage plank passed at the Women’s Rights Convention in Seneca Falls. Early suffragist leaders, however, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony would later split from their alliance with abolitionists. Frederick Douglas continued to maintain a close relationship with Stanton and Anthony. The abolitionists, however, made it clear that women’s suffrage was of less importance than abolition of slavery when they pushed through the Fifteenth Amendment granting black men the right to vote. They did not want to combine the issues, because the men feared it would hurt their cause.

Clearly, women suffragettes were outraged that, under the 15th amendment, black men would get the vote while women were still denied. It is at this time that in the paper published by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Stanton pointedly attacked African-American men, whom she characterized as “Sambos” and incipient rapists. This characterization had to be hurtful to Frederick

Douglas. Yet, Susan B. Anthony and Douglas maintained a close friendship, because he saw her on the day that she died and Anthony spoke at his funeral.

Stanton's comments are totally unacceptable today, but these were terms often linked to Black men in her period. Imagine her anger when she could not vote, but people with "this reputation" could. I do not condone the language, but her anger at being "left out" was real. Again, men's rights were more important than women's rights.

Expediency defined as "the quality of being convenient and practical despite possibly being improper or immoral; convenience." When it came time to push through the 15th Amendment, the supporters chose suffrage for Black males, because they feared seeking suffrage for women, too, was too controversial and thus an unrealistic expectation. (Remember the 15th Amendment also passed by one vote and the South was not there to fully protest.) Sexism was not as important as racism. Interestingly, the men acted expediently and history largely vindicated them. Ultimately, the women's suffrage movement would be charged with selling out the interests of African-American women when it became politically expedient to do so. Arguably, this opened a rift between black and white feminists that persists to this day. Reading recent articles, it seems women in history continue to be held to a different standard.

Between 1878, when the 19th amendment was first introduced in Congress, and 1920, when it was ratified, champions of voting rights for women worked tirelessly, but their strategies varied. It is important to understand that no one person or group is responsible for the Nineteenth Amendment. No one approach worked. Some tried to pass suffrage acts in each state—nine western states adopted woman suffrage legislation by 1912. Others challenged male-only voting laws in the courts. More public tactics included parades, silent vigils, and hunger strikes. Supporters were heckled, jailed, and sometimes physically abused. This did not stop

the suffragettes. Beginning in the mid-19th century, woman suffrage supporters lectured, wrote, marched, lobbied, and practiced civil disobedience to achieve what many Americans considered radical change. **Next Month: President Wilson and the 19th Amendment.**

AAUW STATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

My name is Jane Doughty and I am representing District 5 this year on the State nominating committee.

The positions we are trying to fill are:
President-Elect (who becomes President after 1 year),
VP Leadership
VP Membership.

We are in the process of collecting names for those positions as our first priority but we are also collecting names for the other Board positions to help future nominating committees.

I'm hoping you could take a little time to think about the members of your branch (including yourself!) and pass along any names to me that you think would be good candidates for the State Board. If you could include the position or positions that are applicable (or just General if no position comes to mind) and a sentence or two about why you thought of this person, that would be extremely helpful. For example, if you think the Membership chair from last year would be ready to take on the state-wide duties of Membership, suggest her for VP Membership and say she increased membership in your branch by 5%. Or if there is a member that hasn't held a branch position but just seems really good, perhaps suggest her as a General candidate.

We are trying to collect up the names by 11/1 since we need to have the slate confirmed by mid-January.

Note from AAUW National – Dues Increase

Julia T. Brown

At its October 16, 2020, meeting, the AAUW Board of Directors voted to increase Individual Member dues for the next three years. The dues will rise by \$3 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, \$5 for FY 2023 and \$5 for FY 2024, making the total dues amount for those years \$62, \$67 and \$72, respectively. All but \$3 of your annual dues remains tax deductible.

This decision wasn't made lightly. The board members couldn't be more grateful for our members — or prouder of the work you've done this year. We also recognize that all of us are navigating numerous challenges in these uncertain times. However, in order to preserve the viability of this organization we all love, the board needed to take action. Simply put, this measure is essential for AAUW to continue our mission to achieve gender equity.

Most nonprofits adjust their dues annually or every other year to keep pace with inflation and rising expenses. However, due to prudent budgetary management, AAUW has been able to keep its dues flat since July 2018. That means that, by the time the first scheduled increase takes effect, we will have maintained three years of dues stability.

Moreover, in recognition of the difficult economy we're in, the board planned for the initial adjustment to be the most modest. Over the course of the year, it works out to be only an additional 25 cents per month — what we hope is a small price to pay for maintaining our important work and community.

Current life members will not be affected by this change. New life memberships acquired after July 1, 2021, will reflect the higher dues' amounts. College and university membership fees will remain unchanged.

Please [reach out to us](#) with any feedback or concerns.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to AAUW and our mission. On behalf of the AAUW Board, we are grateful for your understanding and look forward to continuing our work together.