



October 2021

GREEN BAY (WI)  
BRANCH

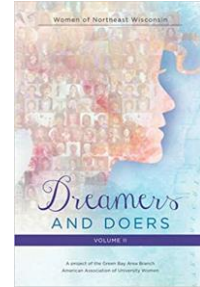
# BAYNOTES

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

## October Branch Meeting Dreamers & Doers Gala

Thursday, October 14, 2021  
5:30 – 7:30 pm

Hotel Northland – 304 N. Adams St. Green Bay



Join us in the Crystal Ballroom of the historic Hotel Northland as we celebrate the women of Northeast Wisconsin and the release of our Dreamers and Doers Vol. II.

Network with women of Dreamers and Doers of Volumes I and II who have impacted our community as well as the history of Northeast Wisconsin.

\$20.00 admission includes program, music, small bites, and a cash bar.

Parking in multi-story parking garage on Pine Street, or valet parking at Hotel Northland.

The Dreamers and Doers, Volume II, book will be on sale at the event for \$20 per copy.

This event supports AAUW scholarships for women to pursue post-high school degrees.

Purchase tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dreamers-and-doers-vol-ii-book-release-party-tickets-95729791383>

Dotty Juengst, Eileen Littig, Sara Ramaker

Perform at Brown County Library Local History

Dreamers and Doers presentation



## INTEREST/STUDY GROUPS

### AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Wendy Schroeder

**Monday, October 25th 3:00pm**

**Lion's Mouth Bookstore**

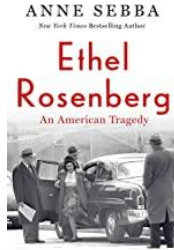
Book: **Ethel Rosenberg: An American Tragedy** by Anna Sebba

Leader: Wendy Schroeder

In June 1953, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg electrocuted

moments apart. Both had been convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage for the Soviet Union, despite the fact that the US government was aware that the evidence against Ethel was shaky.

Seventy years after her trial, this is the first time Ethel's story has been told with the full use of the dramatic and tragic prison letters she exchanged with her husband, her lawyer and her psychotherapist over a three-year period, two of them in solitary confinement.



### ¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

Mary Barker

**Wednesday, October 20 6:30pm Green Bay Distillery**

Book: **Transcendent Kingdom** by Yaa Gyasi

Yaa Gyasi's stunning follow-up to her acclaimed best seller, is a powerful, raw, intimate, deeply layered novel about a Ghanaian family in Alabama



## ART STUDY GROUP

Carolyn Reedy & Mary Woodbridge

We have not planned a specific art meeting for October as it would be on the same day as The Gala.

There are some interesting art exhibits in the area to visit on your own.

Neville Public Museum: Beauty of the Beasts Animal Art This exhibit shares over 120 pieces of animal art from the Neville Collection. The exhibit runs through November 7.

The Rahr-West Art Museum in Manitowoc: The Art of Tablesetting is an annual exhibit that began in 1974. It runs from October 8-November 7.

Our next art group meets on November 11 at the Art Preserve.

## WATER STUDY GROUP

Carol Pearson

**Shopping for Plastic, The 2021 Supermarket Ranking**  
**Greenpeace USA**

In March Greenpeace USA released its second ranking of 20 U.S. grocery retailers' efforts to reduce single-use plastics. As with their first ranking in 2019, all of the supermarkets assessed received failing scores.

Check out how your favorite supermarket ranked this year:

<https://www.greenpeace.org/usa/shopping-for-plastic-2021>

### **Branch Board Meeting**

Thursday, October 28 6:30 pm  
Via Zoom

All members are welcome

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Mary Schmidt & Thao Coopman

### **Membership Directory changes and additions**

\***Nancy Anderson** – new email –  
[nancymarieand@gmail.com](mailto:nancymarieand@gmail.com)

\***New member – Drew Coopman** – husband of member Thao Coopman

Cellphone: 920-639-2179

Email: [dcoop158@gmail.com](mailto:dcoop158@gmail.com)

Drew has a degree in business administration from UW-Stevens Point and works for Schneider National.

\***Renewing Member, Julia Laes Anderson**, granddaughter of Maryl Hitchcock  
UWGB-B.A.

Inside Sales Agent – American Family Ins  
3527 S. Webster Ave. GB 54301

Home: 920-321-6402

Email: laesja@gmail.com

**New Baby:** Wishing a very happy birthday to Portia Tuttle on September 23 but, but more important Portia got an amazing early birthday present: Asher James Tuttle was born Sept. 22, weighing 6 pounds 10 ounces and 20 inches long. Mom and baby are doing well.

**Email change:** For those of you trying to email Nancy and having her email returned, your worries are over. Lucky Nancy was in Iceland! She has returned safe and sound and happy and COVID free. BUT something went wrong with her old email address that she has yet to figure out. So choosing the path with the least resistance, she has opened a new email account. So please correct all your AAUW materials to reflect her new address: [nancymarieand@gmail.com](mailto:nancymarieand@gmail.com)

**Happy 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**, September 22nd to Maryl and Bob Hitchcock. What a day to celebrate and remember. They are both at Angel's Touch, Maryl recovering from a back issue and Bob is living in another wing. For greetings and congratulations, Maryl can be reached at Angels Touch, 394 Angels Touch Court, De Pere 54115.

## **SCHOLARSHIP**

Sara Ramaker

Remember that the branch is annually giving three scholarships of \$1000 each to a student in their last year of study at UWGB, NWTC and Bellin College. The scholarship is funded with \$550 from our Greater Green Bay Community funds and \$450 from our branch. The branch donation has been funded by the Dreamers and Doers project. At this point, almost every dollar received from the sale of our book, Dreamers and Doers, goes to these scholarships.

We recognized the our Branch 2021 Scholarship Recipients at the September Meeting

**Brittany Larsheid – Bellin School of Nursing**

**Rebecca Adams – NWTC**

Her note: I am writing to express my sincere thanks for the AAUW Green Bay Branch Scholarship. I am honored to be the recipient of this \$1000.00 scholarship. This generous contribution will allow me to continue to pursue my Associate degree at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

I am a second-year student in the computer science program at NWTC. I consistently maintain a 4.0-grade point average and participated in the on-site student help desk. I hope to graduate in 2022 and pursue a career in the computer and library science industries.

The AAUW Green Bay Branch Scholarship will pay for books and tuition expenses. This scholarship will go a long way towards keeping my educational goals alive. It would not be possible without your generosity. I am truly grateful and appreciative to be the recipient of this award. Thank you very much! With deepest gratitude, Becky Adams

**Bobbi Steines – UWGB** Bobbi will be graduating from UWGB in the Spring and take some time off before taking the LSAT to go to Law School in Madison. She has work with non-profit water groups.



## **PUBLIC POLICY**

Sara Ramaker

### **Update on Fair Maps Lobby Day**

Background: Fair Maps Coalition is a group of 16 nonpartisan, nonprofit organizations with many different agendas. They have joined together, because each organization feels that little will be accomplished with the gridlock. Ending gerrymandering and “safe seats” is the quickest way to end gridlock. AAUW WI is a part of this coalition.

The issue: nonpartisan redistricting procedure, i.e. ending gerrymandering. Please keep in mind... Brown County went Republican in 2020, but also passed a referendum supporting nonpartisan redistricting by 72%. 56 counties (including Brown) have passed resolutions, 32 counties and 19 cities have passed referendums supporting nonpartisan redistricting. All referendums passed by supermajorities (69% was the lowest. 89% was the highest.) Keep in mind that all these resolutions and referendums were organized by local people trying to effect positive change. Think of the time, energy and money that has gone into this issue. Can you name any other issue into which average citizens have poured so much energy? Can you think of any other issue in recent time, other than the Packers, that Wisconsinites so support?

Sara’s article and information is lengthy, quite complete and very informative and will continue at the end of this newsletter.

## **PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

Lindsay Mather

Wisconsin AAUW has a state-wide Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee that is made up of one member of each branch. One of the goals for our branch, as well as statewide, continues to be to increase diversity within our branch, so our participation in this Committee is very important.

**If you would be interested in being the Green Bay Branch's representative to this state committee, please let me know.** I will forward the information I have received to anyone who is interested.

I encourage all of our members to familiarize yourselves with AAUW National's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Toolkit, which is a fantastic resource for all of us to learn to create more equitable and inclusive spaces, in our Branch and beyond. The toolkit can be found here: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/dei-toolkit/>

Please reach out to me if you are interested in joining the state committee, or if you have any questions. Thank you!

## **Two Women Who “Saved” the World**

contributed by Sara Ramaker

### **"Pfizer’s Global Covid-19 Vaccine Rollout Depends on Two Expert Staffers**

As countries hunt for more doses, vaccine makers like Pfizer call on staffers with rare skills for transferring the technology to contractors  
Kayana Szymczak for The Wall Street Journal Aug. 20, 2021 8:53 am ET

Pfizer Inc.’s PFE -0.16% ability to supply billions of doses of its Covid-19 vaccine hinges on two employees working on opposite sides of the world. From her home in Andover, Mass., Amy Genest scouts for companies that can make Pfizer’s shot. After finding a partner, she hands over the project to Poonam Mulherkar, an engineer in Gandhinagar, India, who manages the top-secret transfer of the vaccine’s blueprint and manufacturing.

The women belong to a select group of drug-industry staff who may hold the key to helping countries overcome limited supplies of doses—and accelerating the world’s vaccination campaign against the pandemic.

Vaccine makers like Pfizer, though they have significantly increased their output of shots, can only make so much at their own plants. Mses. Genest and Mulherkar are among a relatively small number of professionals with the rare skill set to enable other companies to produce the shots." Never underestimate two women!



## **Indigenous People's Day----October 11**

The Native American cultures in Wisconsin are rich and varied--the state is home to 11 federally recognized nations and tribal communities. Honor Indigenous People's Day by learning more about these tribes' histories, traditions and impacts on Wisconsin's communities through some of the museums and historical parks.

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### **Susan La Fleshe (1865-1915)- Part 2**

This is a continuation of the story of Susan La Fleshe from the May BayNotes. Reminder: Susan La Fleshe Picotte was a Native American doctor and reformer in the late 19th century. She is widely acknowledged as one of the first Native Americans to earn a medical degree. She campaigned for public health and for the formal, legal allotment of land to members of the Omaha tribe. We stopped when La Fleshe graduated valedictorian in 1889 from the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania. She was a doctor, but as a Native American she was not a citizen and could not vote.

After her graduation, Susan La Fleshe went on a speaking tour at the request of the Connecticut Indian Association, assuring white audiences that Indians could benefit from white civilization. In August 1889, La Fleshe was offered a position as a government physician in the Omaha Agency Indian School operated by the Office of Indian Affairs. La Fleshe soon found that her education did not fully prepare her for the challenges she found on the reservation.

Soon after she arrived and opened her office, the tribe began to file in. Many were sick with tuberculosis and cholera and some were simply looking for a clean place to rest. She became their doctor, lawyer, accountant, priest and political liaison. When her patients started calling her, "Dr. Susan," her white counterparts suddenly quit. She was now the only physician for 1350 square miles.

Although she was not obligated to provide care for the broader community, she found she was giving care to many more than the children of the school. Responsible for 1200 people, La Fleshe had 20-hour work days. Her supplies were provided by the Connecticut Indian Association. Although she would often encounter Omahas who rejected her diagnosis and questioned everything she'd learned in a school so far away, she was widely trusted and often left her small office in the schoolyard to make house calls. She found she also was helping people by writing letters and translating official documents. Although her office was only 12 by 16, it doubled as a community meeting place. Her salary: \$500 per year, plus \$250 from the Women's National Indian Association for work as a medical missionary.

La Fleshe met and married Henry Picotte, a Sioux Indian, in 1894. They had two sons: Caryl in 1896 and Pierre in 1898. With her husband's support, she continued to practice medicine and opened an office in Bancroft treating native and white patients in the town and surrounding communities. This was very unusual for a Victorian age woman to continue working when she had children. If necessary, she would take her children with her.

She became an activist for temperance, particularly after her husband died from alcoholism and tuberculosis. She persuaded the Office of Indian Affairs to ban liquor sales in towns formed within the reservation boundaries. She advocated proper hygiene and the use of screen doors to keep out disease carrying flies, waged unpopular campaigns against communal drinking cups and the mescal used in new religious ceremonies. And before she died in September 1915, she solicited enough donations to build the hospital of her dreams in the reservation town of Walthill, Nebraska, the first modern hospital in Thurston County.

She also advocated for land reform for her community and for her sons to inherit the land that their father owned when he died. She continued to work on her community's behalf until the end of her

life, though much of that seemed to be in vain, as her people lost many of their ancestral lands and became more, not less, dependent on the Office of Indian Affairs.

Susan La Fleshe was virtually unknown beyond the Omaha Reservation until 2017, when she became the subject of a book and a PBS documentary titled "Medicine Woman." The Book is *The Warrior of the People: How Susan La Fleshe Overcame Racial Inequality to become America's First Indian Doctor* by Joe Starita.

### **Continuation of Sara Ramaker's news on the Fair Maps Update**

Lobby Day, a day to meet with legislators and informed them about concerns and actions they can take on issues important to a group, is a common event for most nonprofits advocating for change. Until COVID19, AAUW had a yearly lobby day. Fair Maps has been organizing this virtual lobby day for many months. It takes considerable time to recruit, train and organize 300 people to meet virtually with each legislator. Each legislator was contacted. If they did not respond, they were contacted many times. No legislator can truthfully say they "knew nothing about it." I have been working on this issue for a long time and feel I know quite a bit about it, but there is always more to know. We spent the morning in meetings listening to updates on the issue. We each received several hours of training (before the day) and had time to practice during the day. The focus was on polite, respectful conversation. We all worked hard to keep our tone positive and nonpartisan. In short, a lot of time and effort went into this all-day event.

The following is a letter my group collaborated on describing our experience:

"On September 27 as part of Fair Maps Coalition Legislative Lobby Day, I joined nine women, representing many diverse groups, who reside in

Senator Cowles' District 2. We hoped to meet via Zoom with Senator Cowles and our Representatives Steffen, Steineke and Tauchen. Our mission: tell personal stories of how gerrymandering has affected us and ask the legislators to pass nonpartisan redistricting, (Senate Bill 389/Assembly Bill 395), to take up the Peoples' Map Commission's voting maps, and to reject a legislative joint resolution, filed on Sept. 24, that would perpetuate the existing, highly gerrymandered voting maps (AJR80/SJR63). We also hoped to learn what each representative's thoughts on the issue.

Senator Cowles sent an inexperienced staff person who took notes and listened. We learned nothing, because he didn't know the Senator's positions. Although two had promised to attend, neither three representatives nor their staff attended. We were upset. As constituents, they should have welcomed our comments on nonpartisan redistricting, an issue supported by 72% of their Brown County voters in the 2020 election.

They would have heard the harm ten years of gerrymandering has done: how districts divide houses on a single block and multiple polling places results in lost votes; how schools are harmed by poor funding and people not becoming teachers; how the Oneida, Menominee and Stockbridge-Munsee Indigenous Tribes' districts are divided, diluting their voting power, preventing successful advocacy for access to higher education, high-speed internet and clean water.

We wanted to hear our legislators' positions on the proposal to create a fair, transparent, and nonpartisan procedure for redrawing voting maps and ask them to reject the joint resolution that will continue the gerrymandering. Unfortunately, gerrymandering has given these representatives safe seats. They focus on the party and the financial contributors and voters' concerns are not valued, not heard and not addressed."

It was a long and frustrating day. I am very disappointed in our representatives. Rep. David Steffen never had the courtesy to even make up an excuse for not coming. I was disappointed, but not really surprised. Still, it was also an energizing day. I was so impressed with the many people we heard from and the 10 women in my group. They opened my eyes to many new things for which I am grateful and will carry forward.

### **Update of Fair Maps at State level**

Sara Ramaker, Public Policy Chair

Not only did the legislators not show, but they passed a resolution that will keep their gerrymandered safe seats for another 10 years. The resolution was proposed on Friday and voted on Tuesday. Talk about ramming it through without citizen input. The resolution has the same power as law, but cannot be vetoed by the governor. The resolution sounds like they want fair maps, except for the third provision. This provision requires the redistricting to keep as much as possible the same districts. They say they want to avoid voter confusion. This proposal would be fine if the districts were fair, but all it will do is keep the same unfair, gerrymandered maps. This would be great if they had applied it in 2010 when instead, they created maps that a court found to be the “most gerrymandered maps in the country.” To create these gerrymandered maps, 40% of the voters were moved to different districts. Clearly, there was no worry about “confusion” then.

I am not sure what is next. We have the nonpartisan People’s Maps Commission that is preparing maps. Remember: the Commission studied the issue by inviting experts from around the country to talk to them, had open hearings and created a portal where citizens could propose their own ideas for their local maps. Their goal is fair nonpartisan districts. We do not expect the legislature to even look at, let alone learn from these maps. The legislature

res<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2021/09/21/citizens-group-responds-map-rejections/8383067002/> According to article in the 9/23/2021 Green Bay Press Gazette,

“The Brown County Board approved a contentious map of new supervisor districts crafted in two business days, just a week after it rejected six maps created over nine months by a citizens advisory group.

The board voted 14-8 on Wednesday in favor of a map created by the county planning department, but many of the elected supervisors criticized its inconsistent compactness, its splicing of rural towns like Scott, and the fact that many districts now have the Fox River as a constituent.

The map will determine where county residents vote, which candidates they can choose from, and which communities County Board members will represent.

My guess is it saves some supervisory seats, but to be honest, I have been focusing on other matters and have not studied the maps. Politics - just so frustrating.

ponded to the Commission by hiring attorneys to prepare strategies to litigate the issue. It is also believed, though nothing has been said, that the legislature has once again hired outside experts to draw their maps in secret. The legislature was apparently scared enough about citizens actions that it too opened a portal to allow citizens to draw their maps. It is unclear how these citizen maps will be used.

UNCLEAR is about the best way to describe this issue as of now. BUT it does not mean we. Can do nothing. We still must send letters, postcards, emails, or call and remind the legislators that we exist and we want a nonpartisan procedure to draw out 2021 maps.

## **Update on Fair Maps in Brown County**

Sara Ramaker, Public Policy Chair

**Background:** The Planning Board has always prepared the redistricting maps. In 2010 certain county supervisors unfairly pressured the planning committee to prepare maps that protected supervisors. These maps were challenged by LWVGGB and the court order some, but not all, of the changes asked for by LWVGGB.

To avoid this problem in 2020 and largely through the efforts of the LWVGGB, Brown County adopted an ordinance that provided that for a nonpartisan advisory group to work with the Brown County Planning Board to prepare proposed redistricting maps. Under the ordinance, no supervisor could approach the group members of the planning board during this process. Also, no person in the group could be a member of a party. This group was chosen by the county from citizens who volunteered. The group studied the issue, had opened meetings and gave guidance to the Planning Board. The group proposed 6 maps.

When the Advisory Group presented the maps to the County Board, I attended before when the maps were on view and the members and planning board personnel were available for questions. I was very impressed with the people involved and their efforts to create these maps. I am confident that the process was fair and impartial. I am confident that these were very well drawn maps. I left feeling that whatever map the county board accepted would be good.

The board rejected all the maps. For the committee's response, see: "It's All Kind of a Slap in the Face..."

## **BRANCH LEADERSHIP TEAM**

President: Lindsay Mather  
Vice-president Programs –  
Barbara Wilson & Carol Pearson  
Membership – Mary Schmidt & Thao Coopman  
Treasurer- - Lisa Ubbelohde  
Secretary – Portia Georgia

## **BRANCH CHAIRS**

Greater Needs Fund – Nancy Anderson  
Dreamers and Doers - Dotty Juengst  
Scholarship – Sara Ramkaer  
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