



Branch Briefs

Newsletter of the Geneva Lake Branch

Volume 74 Issue 6

September 2023

AAUW

Mission Statement

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Historical and Hysterical Hats!



Aging with Attitude



Pattie and her MoM=WoW, Lillian (at age 89)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 14 at 6:00 PM

Inspire Coffee in Lake Geneva

Did you know that 1 out of every 5 people living in Walworth County are 65 years of age or older? Think about it...Aging is the most natural thing that YOU do in lifeyou have been aging naturally since the day you were born!

But, when we think about growing older....or we look in the mirror.... well, that's a different story ... filled with emotion and uncharted territory. You are invited to attend September's Program "Aging with ATTITUDE!"

Our fellow AAUW member, Pattie Stejskal, MSW, Old Soul, and Artist, will lead us in a creative discussion about everything from the Graying of America to the Best advice you've ever received. Pattie believes that all of us have a wealth of information on what works well and that by exploring and sharing our own experiences in a guided discussion we can all be better prepared to live intentionally and master the art of living well at any age.

If you plan on attending this discussion on September 14th, we kindly ask that you RSVP to Pattie at her email to assist in planning. Email: Pattiestejskal@gmail.com (In the subject line write: AAUW RSVP).

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President's Message

The evening sounds of crickets, cicadas, and grasshoppers always signaled the end of summer and the beginning of the school year for me. I hope your summer was filled with wonderful memories.

Our STEM Luncheon on August 10 was an inspiring event with 40 attending. We were treated to a tour of the STEM classrooms by the Principal Jeremy Andersen. Thank you to the wonderful STEM Scholarship Committee of Valerie Schmitz, Sheila Venteicher, Pam Christensen, Kathy McCarville, Andrea Farb, Pattie Stejskal, and Sharna Ahern. A very special thank you to Betsy Polousky who created a beautiful Scholarship Recipient Board that was shared at the meeting. After lunch, several of our members offered their congratulations and best wishes to our lovely young women as they continue their educational journeys.

Our Scholarship Fund is made possible by our annual Fundraiser which will be at the Geneva National Clubhouse **on Monday, October 23 at Noon**. It will be a fun event learning the history of hats and watching our models entertain us on the runway! I know I will see you there! Information is included in this newsletter. Checks should be made out to AAUW Geneva Lake Branch and mailed to Carla Olson at 610 Settlers Ridge Drive, Lake Geneva, WI. Thank you to Diane Thompson and her committee for all their work thus far.

Nina Ruskey

AAUW Board Meeting

The AAUW Board Meeting will be **Monday, October 30 at Noon** at Barrett Memorial Library in Williams Bay. Bring your lunch and drink, and I will provide snacks/sweets. All are welcome to attend. The next Board meeting will be after the holidays.

President: Nina Ruskey 262-745-1351 nruskey16@gmail.com

President Elect: Vacant

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ALL ABOUT HATS

What you need to know about our upcoming fundraiser!



THANKS: Betsy Polousky for creating these awesome posters!

Historical and Hysterical Hats-Annual Fundraiser Luncheon and Hats Style Show at Geneva National on October 23

This is our only fundraiser of the year! The proceeds of this event enable us to provide scholarships to senior young women from public high schools in Walworth County who plan to pursue studies/careers in a STEM field. We are asking that each member plan to purchase at least two tickets, one for yourself and another for a friend. AND please encourage your friends to attend as well. We need to sell at least 250 tickets! The Reservation Flyer is included as a separate attachment in this mailing. Please print it out and use it for yourself, and share it with friends. Mail it, along with a check to our treasurer Carla Olson, 610 Settlers Ridge Drive, Lake Geneva, WI 53147

WANTED FOR OUR FUNDRAISER

Needed big **reusable shopping bags**. I do not want grocery bags with handles, but shopping bags, either paper or plastic, like you get when you shop for tennis shoes, or coats etc. If you have some, please let Diane Thompson know as she is collecting them. (1-262-745-8355)



FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a Fundraising Committee Meeting at Diane Thompson's house, **September 13 at 10 am**. This is an important meeting, so please try to come!

VISIT TO RACINE AAUW TO PROMOTE OUR FUNDRAISER

Anyone interested in going to Racine's AAUW dinner meeting on **September 12**, let Diane know (text or call 1-262-745-8355). We will be leaving at 3:30. **Diane must know by September 3 to make reservations**. The dinner costs \$28.50 (chicken marsala, potatoes, vegetables, salad, bread, and cheesecake for dessert). **We will go wearing hats and promote our fundraiser and hopefully sell tickets!**

Help Wanted-President Elect

By **Nina Ruskey**

We are seeking a member who is willing to accept the President Elect position. This person will attend board meetings and monthly meetings to familiarize herself with the responsibilities of the President with the intention of taking over the President role in the summer of 2024. Board meetings are typically once a quarter, and general meetings are monthly from April through December. It is not a difficult position. There is much support and help from past members. Hope you will consider joining me this year. Please contact Nina Ruskey if you have any questions or are willing to step up. 262-745-1351 txt or call. Email at nruskey16@gmail.com

Public Policy

By **Kathy Walsh**

As we move into the “political” season, helping our members stay informed is a critical piece. In this environment, I encourage all to first think about issues that are important to you and then seek out representation that will support your views. This is even more important in local and state elections. Writing to your current representatives and letters to editors continue to be ways to let them know your views! Wisconsin is going to be front and center in November!

Public Policy will meet **September 12th, 7 PM** at 775 Brickley Dr, Fontana. This meeting is open to all who wish to participate; please let me know if you plan to attend! kath3032@gmail.com
Kathy Walsh, Public Policy Chair



Make an Impact!
Join AAUW
Legacy Circle

Leave a Lasting Legacy

Contact: Lucy Harvey lois3545@aol.com; Bonnie Diehl bdiehl81@gmail.com

AAUW Program Schedule 2023

Date and Time	Program	Location	Special Notes
September 14 7:00 pm - Program	Aging with Attitude Presenter - Patty Stejskal	Inspire Coffee 883 W Main Street Lake Geneva	Parking <u>for a fee</u> behind or in front of the building. <u>Free</u> parking at Central Denison School two blocks north on Cook Street
October 23 Registration - Noon Lunch - 12:45 pm Fashion Show - 1:15 pm	Annual Branch Fundraiser Theme - Historical and Hysterical Hats	Geneva National 1221 Geneva National Avenue Lake Geneva	There will be a fee for this event TBD
Tuesday, November 15 (Note change) 7:00 pm - Program	Human Trafficking Presenter - Dawn Fielder of DHHS Walworth County	Matheson Memorial Library 101 N Wisconsin Street Elkhorn	Joint Program with our AAUW Branch and Matheson Library. This program will be open to the public.
December Time and Date - TBD	Holiday Party	Big Foot Country Club	There will be a fee for this event TBD

Interest Groups

Lunch Bunch

By Barb Lucksinger

Lunch Bunch is looking for members to organize either September or October or November meeting. Please contact Barbara Lucksinger at 414-416-3149

Bluestockings

By Bev Kitzmiller

Bluestockings will meet at Joanne Barrett's home at 88 Medinah Lane in Abbey Springs on **Tuesday, September 19 at Noon**. Karen DeFalco will lead the discussion of **The Monk of Mokha** by Dave Eggers. Pam Christensen will assist as cohost. If you plan on attending, please let Joanne know in a timely manner at 630 -631-9928. Also, please bring a sandwich to share. Joanne has asked me to remind attendees that they will have to go through security. She has arranged for "AAUW Book Club at Unit 88" to be sufficient ID.

Date	Book	Leader	Host/Cohost
October 17	<i>And There Was Light</i> by Jon Meacham	Kathy Walsh	Kathy Walsh, Host, Marcia Lauzon, Cohost
Wednesday, November 15	<i>Lessons in Chemistry</i> by Bonnie Garmus	Bev Kitzmiller	Diane Thompson, Host, Judy Johnson and Betty Shay, Cohost
December 12	<i>West With Giraffes</i> by Lynda Rutledge	Karen DeFalco	Kathy McCarville, Host, Susan Steele and Pam Rawles, Cohosts

Bluestockings 2

By Diane Thompson

Mark **September 12 at 1pm in Burlington** for a Mormon tour. After reading The King of Confidence this past year for book club, we learned about Strang and his settlement in Spring Prairie. Well, on September 12th, we will have a tour of the Mormon Cemetery and learn about the Strang Mormons in Burlington today. We will see their church and some houses. If you are interested in going, call or text Diane Thompson (1-262-745-8355); she is organizing this event.

Keep Moving

By Jean Henderson and Diane Thompson

Sept. 7 Thursday -- Text or call Jean (262 723 5414) if you're joining us
Tour Lauderdale Lakes - Park at Jean Henderson's (car pool if possible) N7411 Country Club Dr, Elkhorn, WI. We will walk around the area and see some interesting homes on the local (mostly empty) roads. No shore path, but some trivia and healthy steps!

Sept. 28 Thursday -- Text or call Diane 262 245-8355 NOT Jean
Tour and walk in the Knollwood area, near Wms Bay and Hwy 50, led by our member Suzanne Edwards. Learn about this community and its history and get a hike in, too!

Leaders- Diane Thompson and Suzanne Begin in Lake Geneva on SHOREPATH, behind Library, walking to Suzanne's (W 4247 Indian Dr Lake Geneva) A longer walk - about 2 - 2 1/2hrs



Calendar

Sept. 3 – Reservations due to Diane Thompson for Racine AAUW Dinner Meeting

Sept. 7 – Get Moving Walk at Lauderdale Lakes

Sept. 12 – 1:00 PM – Mormon History and Cemetery Tour – Burlington

Sept. 12 – 3:30 PM – Leave for Racine AAUW Dinner Meeting

Sept. 12 – 7:00 PM – Public Policy Meeting – Kathy Walsh’s

Sept. 13 – 10:00 PM – Fundraiser Committee Meeting – Diane Thompson’s

Sept. 14 – 6:00 PM – Regular Meeting – Aging with Attitude – Inspire Coffee, Lake Geneva

Sept. 19 – Noon – Bluestockings – Joanne Barrett’s

Sept. 28 – Get Moving Walk at Knollwood

Oct. 23 – HATS Fundraiser – Geneva National

Oct. 30 – Noon – Board Meeting – Wms Bay Library