



October 2023 Branch Briefs

President's Message

Come one and all to our annual fundraiser on **Monday October 23rd at 12:00 Noon at Geneva National Clubhouse for a Luncheon and Style Show.** The theme this year is **Historical and Hysterical Hats.** Chris Brookes has created a slide show highlighting the history of women's hats from 1850 to present. Models will be women from our own Geneva Lake Branch. Lunch will be served first with the style show following. There is a cash bar along with a 50/50 raffle. **Don't miss this event of fellowship and fun with your branch members and guests. RSVP are due October 4th!**

Bev Kitzmiller has stepped down from her communications role in our branch due to health issues. She has been responsible for the Branch Briefs, our monthly newsletter and Messenger notices that went out by email to all members. We are so grateful for her years of service to keep us all informed about the activities of our branch. Be well Bev.

With the help of Carla Olson and Sheri DeWeerd, we are piloting a new group email platform that can keep us up to date on our Geneva Lake Branch activities. We are looking for someone to take over the position of creating the monthly Branch Briefs.

There are several rsvp's included in this October Branch Briefs.
Lots happening this month. Don't miss out on signing up for all these events!!!

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. As a reminder, our board consists of officers (including programs and membership) along with public policy, communications, fundraising, and STEM chairs; however all are welcome to attend.

By Nina Ruskey

AAUW Program Schedule 2023

Date and Time	Program	Location	Special Notes
October 23 12:00 Noon	Annual Branch Fundraiser Lunch/Style Show Historical and Hysterical Hats	Geneva National 1221 Geneva National Avenue Lake Geneva	Cost is \$65 per person
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.
Thursday, December 7 6:00 pm	Holiday Celebration	Big Foot Country Club 770 Shabbona Drive Fontana, WI	Cost is \$48 per person Invite and RSVP included in this newsletter.



December Holiday Celebration

We will once again have our **Holiday Celebration Dinner on December 7th** in place of a monthly meeting. *Thanks to Kate Berley and the Big Foot Country Club, we have a lovely venue to celebrate our mission and friendships. Please see the invitation at the end of this newsletter. RSVPs are due Nov. 30th. We want 5-6 bottles of wine for a raffle basket to raffle to a lucky member.*

Contact Nina Ruskey at nruskey16@gmail.com if you have a donation for this.

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 and then I will be your Past President when you take over. 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

Help Wanted-Branch Briefs Editor

By Nina Ruskey

With Bev Kitzmiller stepping down as Branch Briefs editor, we will need someone to take over. If you enjoy writing and putting together a monthly newsletter, please let me know. Typically, a notice is sent out to members around the 3rd week of the month for information blurbs. The editor collects the information and inserts it into a newsletter format that you create toward the end of each month. The newsletter is ready to send out by the first of each month. For the months of January, February and March, a very shortened version (1-2 pages) is sent out since our branch does not host monthly meetings in those months. Let me know if you are interested. **Contact Nina at nuskey16@gmail.com.**

Interest Groups

Public Policy

This continues to be an interesting time! The best way to make your wishes heard with your representatives is to contact them by phone or email. Myvote.org or vote411 are both sites to get information about contacting your representatives. You may not get to talk to them, but do leave information telling them your concern(s). Their offices keep track of voter input!

Some of the current issues are:

- The proposed impeachment of Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz
- Fair Maps (this is still not settled, it's in the courts)
- The state budget and school funding
- Making voting more accessible

The Public Policy committee met September 12th, our next meeting is October 10th. We are working to help YOU sort through the issues and decide what YOU support. The most important thing you can do is take responsibility to make your voice heard and when it's time to vote, **SHOW UP!!!**

Kathy Walsh, Public Policy Chair

KEEP WATCHING THIS SPACE EACH MONTH!

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will not meet in October.

Bluestockings

By Kathy Walsh

The selection for October is And There Was Light - Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle by Jon Meacham. We will meet October 17th, 1:00 pm, at the Williams Bay United Church of Christ, 46 Stam St for dessert (you don't need to bring anything except your thoughts about the book)! The Prologue is very insightful and there are interviews with the author on YouTube that give insight into why he decided to write a biography of Lincoln since many have already been written. (Don't be overwhelmed by the 670 page book - 249 pages are his sources! He is a very thorough researcher.) Please RSVP to Kathy Walsh, kath3032@gmail.com.

Even if you did not have a chance to finish the book or if you were not able to get a copy, Come to learn some new things about Lincoln!!

Culinary Questors

Everything Apples is the theme of October Culinary Questors. It will be October 4th at 12:30 pm. Members could still just text Karen DeFalco at 1-815-953-5979 if interested in joining them. It will be at Karen's home.

A host is needed for November 1 st CQ at 12:30pm. Carolyn and Karen would be happy to help you pick a theme. The December 6th CQ is "Christmas Around the world." It's at Nina Ruskey's home at 12:30 pm. This is a fun group who enjoy sharing food and discussing it.

AAUW Name Pins and Accessories

A few of you mentioned purchasing a permanent pin name tag. Thanks to Sue Greben....here is the website where you can order the official AAUW name tag pin or any other clothing or accessories if you wish to do so. In the additional line under your name you might want to add Geneva Lake Branch.

<https://aauw.source4.com/b2c/ProductInfo.asp?Category=8541&itm=131042>

Aging with Attitude.... Extended

Thank you everyone for attending Aging with Attitude! I hope everyone had a great time! There was so much information to share and the desire to continue meeting to “discuss” topics and issues (or “pink shoes “) that are important to us was enthusiastically expressed!

I heard somewhere that Gossip is as old as the hills (yes, older than you and me) and that it's important for us to get together and gossip... in a good way to keep us healthy! **CONNECTION IS KEY** to successful living at any age!!! So, let's get together and

“GO-SIP”!!! (Get Out, Socialize, Improvise and Participate!!)

Our first **“Go-SIP”** gathering will take place **Thursday, November 9th**

10:00-Noon.

Our friends at Barrett Memorial Library (65 W. Geneva St. Williams Bay) are kind enough to offer us a meeting spot on the lower level of the library.

Bring your own coffee, tea, or water to **Sip** on and come prepared to brainstorm on future discussion ideas. No topic is off limits! We have a wealth of knowledge in our group, and we want to listen and learn from each other! To get us started where we left off...I'm going to pick the topic of **Sleep and Energy** to discuss this time. If there is interest, hopefully we can have additional informal drop in ...

“Go-Sip gatherings for whoever is in town and available.

Come prepared to listen & exchange ideas on what works ... and ... what doesn't and let's see what wisdom can be shared!

Thanks!

Pattie Stejskal

GREAT DECISIONS!

By Pattie Stejskal

AAUW is fortunate to participate locally in Great Decisions 2024, offered by The Foreign Policy Association (FPA) and led by local Volunteer Educators. The FPA has sponsored Great Decisions for over 60 years where people from all over the U.S. as well as other countries join local discussion groups (read expert authored articles and view an educational DVD) that focus on world affairs and policy options for eight critical issues each year.

We are currently in the planning process. This group is open to the public and held for 8 weeks (AAUW usually has a great number of members who participate) from the first week in February to the first week in April. In the past, two different discussion groups have been offered. One every Thursday AM @ Barrett Memorial Library, Williams Bay, or every Tuesday PM at Matheson Memorial Library, Elkhorn.

This year's proposed topics are as follows:

- Midwest Realignment
- NATO's Future
- Climate Technology and Competition
- Understanding Indonesia
- Science Across the Border
- High Seas Treaty
- U.S. – China Trade Rivalry
- Pandemic Preparedness

If you are a returning Great Decisions participant or if you are interested in trying something new by taking advantage of this ***amazing opportunity***, please detach and fill out the form below **RSVP by October 22nd!**

***Detach the section below and send in your registration form! Order due October 22,2023.

2024 GREAT DECISIONS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Please indicate group: Morning group _____ Evening group _____

Books _____ (If sharing, need only one) Amount Enclosed _____ (\$38.00 per each book)

Note: Books will be available (not by FPA) for e-readers; however, anyone who wishes that format will need to purchase her/his own e-book. Also, there will be a shared cost for the DVDs + shipping and the meeting room (To be determined once number getting e-books known). _____ I will purchase my own e-book.

Please write check for \$38.00 (**payable to: AAUW Geneva Lake Branch**) and mail it to Pattie Stejskal, 341 Home Ave. Fontana, WI 53125. **Note: To receive the mass mailing discount, orders must be placed to the Foreign Policy Association (FPA) by October 22, 2023.** The \$38.00 covers the cost for the discussion book, the DVDs that have experts discussing each topic, and the shipping and handling fees. Note: Price subject to change if costs increase.

Books are shipped at the beginning of January, and you will be contacted to make sure each participant can receive a book before February.

President: Nina Ruskey 262-745-1351 nruskey16@gmail.com
President Elect:
Past President: Sheila Venteicher 262-245-9178 s@venteicher.org
Secretary: Pattie Stejskal 847-477-9227 pattiestejskaal@gmail.com
Treasurer: Carla Olson 989-600-0287 AAUWGLtreas@gmail.com
Co VPs Programs: Mauri Zinni 630-639-8280 zinnim@att.net
Paula Jarzemsky 608-445-6108 pajarzem@wisc.edu
Co VPs Membership: Suzanne Edwards 630-202-0703 sedward8910@gmail.com
Louise Zitzler 262-745-9144 lzitzler@yahoo.com
STEM: Valerie Schmitz 920-205-4116 valerie@wiredx4.com
Sheila Venteicher 262-245-9178 s@venteicher.org
Branch Briefs/ Messages:
Website Manager: Judy Moser 262-394-5047 judithmoser@gmail.com
Facebook Manager: Mary Winingham 608-395-5485 mary@mirrorconsultingllc.com

Calendar

- Oct. 4 - 5:00 pm Culinary Questors-Apples at Karen DeFalco's home
- Oct. 4 - RSVP's and \$\$\$ is due for Hat's Fundraiser!
- Oct. 10 - Public Policy Meeting -Kathy Walsh- chair
- Oct. 17- 1:00 pm -Bluestockings - Williams Bay United Church of Christ
- Oct. 23 - Noon - HATS Fundraiser - Geneva National Clubhouse
- Oct. 30 - Noon - Board Meeting - Barrett Memorial Library-William Bay
- Nov. 9 - 10:00 am. GO-SIP - -Barrett Memorial Library- Williams Bay
- Nov. 15- 6:00 pm. Human Trafficking-Matheson Memorial Library -Elkhorn
- Nov. 30- RSVP due for the Holiday Celebration at Big Foot Country Club
- Dec. 7- 6:00 pm. - Holiday Celebration at Big Foot Country Club



**AAUW Invites You to Our Holiday Celebration
Thursday, December 7th 2023 at Big Foot Country Club
770 Shabbona Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin**

Cost: \$48 per person

Cocktails (Cash Bar)/Cheese/Crackers 6:00 pm. Dinner at 7:00 pm.

**Plated Dinner
Includes salad, rolls, coffee and dessert**

**Entree Choice of
Maple Glazed Salmon
Or
Chicken Piccata**

All Reservations Must be received by November 30th

Reservation form for our AAUW Holiday Celebration

NAME _____

Choice _____

GUEST _____

Choice _____

Total X \$48 _____

**Checks made out to: AAUW Geneva Lake Branch
Mailed to Carla Olson, 610 Settlers Ridge Dr. Lake Geneva, WI 53147**