

Public Policy Committee Notes

Chair Kathy Walsh

The General Election and The Presidential Preference Primary will be held April 2nd. **VOTE!** There are important local races too. Learn about candidates and get informed before you vote!

During the past month, our team members, the Instigators, have diligently reached out to local newspapers. We've requested their collaboration in engaging local school board candidates by soliciting their responses to a series of questions. The local publications are often thinly staffed and often owned by a larger publishing group. Thank you to Sheri DeWeerd, Joanne Kantner, Mary Winningham, Marcia Lazard and Jean Henderson.

IN THIS ISSUE

1. Public Policy & Stem Scholarship
2. President's Message
3. Nominating Committee
4. Bluestocking Schedule
5. Letter from the Editor
6. Lunch Bunch
7. Bluestockings & Culinary Questers
8. Program Committee

The 2024 [STEM Scholarship Application](#) is live! Help a high school STEM senior apply for this scholarship.

Important Dates

- | | |
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| April 2 | VOTE! |
| April 3 | Culinary Questers |
| | AAUW open enrollment bylaw vote begins →ends 12:00 pm May 15 th |
| April 11 | The Importance of Exercise & Balance for Women |
| April 16 | Bluestockings |
| April 24 | Lunch Bunch |
| April 27-28 | AAUW Wisconsin State Convention |



President's Message

I had a lovely trip to Virginia to visit my daughter and family recently. The daffodils and flowering trees were in bloom. Baby Ramona was turning over, smiling and babbling. At 6 months the world is a wonder to her. I hope that you are seeing some signs of spring and enjoying the wonder of this season.

Our AAUW Geneva Lake branch resumes our monthly meetings in April. I look forward to seeing you on **Thursday, April 11th at 6:00 pm at Chapel on the Hill**. The topic is "The Importance of Balance and Exercise for Women," by Dr. Sue Wenker. Our program Co chairs Maura Zinni and Paula Jaremsky have organized our programs for 2024 and look forward to sharing them with our branch. Thank you to Brigitte Krieger who is organizing the refreshments for each of the programs. You can help by signing up to bring a treat when she requests it.

AAUW Wisconsin Convention is April 27 & April 28th at the Delta Marriott in Mount Pleasant (Western Racine). Hope to see you there. Still time to register for Convention at

<https://sptransact.com/aauw2024convention/N8W02>

Hotel Reservations at <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1706566263291&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Thank you to Susan Steele, President Elect, for putting together the 2024 Convention Basket called "Lake Life." Various items were donated by Susan, Janice Lyon and other members. It is now on the bidding site and ready for your bids. You can see ours and other great baskets from our Wisconsin AAUW Branches right here.

<https://www.32auctions.com/AAUW-WI-2024silentauction>

Spring Election and Presidential Primary - April 2nd.
April 3-May 15th AAUW Vote on Membership Requirements
Check out this [video](#) on AAUW History and Evolution



The Nominating Committee is officially announcing our AAUW Geneva Lake Slate of Officers, Board Members, Committee Chairs and Interest Groups for 2024-2025. The Officers and Board Members will be installed at the May meeting at 6:15 pm.

Geneva Lake Branch AAUW 2024-2025

Officers

President	Susan Steele
President Elect	Vacant
Co-Vp's of Programs	Janice Lyon and Joanne Kantner
Co-Vp's of Membership	Suzanne Edwards and Louise Zitzler
Secretary	Maura Zinni
Treasurer	Carla Olson
Past President	Nina Ruskey

Board Members

Communications	Bonnie Diehl
Fundraising	Diane Thompson and _____
Public Policy	Kathy Walsh
Scholarship Stem/NCCWSL	Valerie Schmitz and Sheila Venteicher
Facebook Manager	Mary Winingham
Website Manager	Judy Moser

<https://genevalake-wi.aauw.net>

Interest Group Coordinators

Bluestockings	Nan Voss and Bev Kitzmiller
Culinary Questors	Carolyn Langner and Karen DeFalco
Great Decisions	Pattie Stejskal
Keep Moving	Jean Henderson
Lunch Bunch	Janice Lyon

Other Coordinators

Bylaws	Sharna Ahern
Care and Concern	Sue Greben
Hospitality	Brigitte Krieger
Photographers	Joan Lagerlöf

Help Wanted:

We are still seeking two positions for our 2024-2025 Slate: Contact Nina Ruskey for information, questions or interest. nruskey16@gmail.com or text/call 262-745-1351

President Elect- Starting this summer, you will work with Susan Steele to become familiar with the task of President, attend 4 daytime board meetings per year and evening program meetings. You will help where needed and then step up to Branch President in Summer of 2025-2026

Fundraising - Assist Diane Thompson in planning the Soup and Signing Luncheon Fundraiser September 11, 2024.

State Leadership Role

AAUW Wisconsin is looking for a member from AAUW District #3 which includes Geneva Lake, Kenosha, and Racine branches to step up to a **state leadership role as District Coordinator**. The primary jobs of a district coordinator are:

- Plan and host three district meetings (fall is usually at a local restaurant [money is budgeted for this], winter is usually via Zoom because of our unpredictable weather, spring is at the state convention)
- Attend the four state board meetings if possible (July and October are in-person in Stevens Point; January is via Zoom; April is at the state convention)

Please reply back to Carole Salinas if you have questions or an interest. She is the AAUW WI Leadership VP. Her email is csalinas3767@gmail.com

2024 Bluestocking Schedule

April 16	Take My Hand Dolen Perkins-Valdez	Sue Greben, Leader	Diane Dorman, Host Carolyn Langner, Cohost
May 21 Walworth Memorial Library 525 Kenosha St, Walworth.	The Last Green Valley Mark T. Sullivan	Diane Thompson, Leader	Pam Christensen, Host ??????, Cohost
June 18	The Bluest Eye Toni Morrison	Marcia Lauzon, Leader	Sharna Ahern, Host Barbara Turner, Cohost
July 16	The Good Life Robert Waldringer MD	Jean Henderson, Leader	Jean Henderson, Host Bev Kitzmiller, Cohost
August 20	Books Selection	Nan Voss, Leader	??????, Host Karen DeFalco, Cohost
September 17	The Covenant of Water Abraham Verghese	Sharna Ahern, Leader	Debbie Mecklenberg, Host Nan Voss, Cohost



Letter from Your Editor

Welcome back to Issue #4! April showers bring May flowers. But April also brings elections. Remember to vote April 2nd. I have been doing a lot of research on my local elections which has proven to be challenging. Fortunately, The Lake Geneva Regional News has a plethora of information but I also have been talking with neighbors and friends about the important issues. I want to be informed when I go to the voting booth.

Bonnie Dill

STATE CONVENTION 2024

Among speakers



PARDEEP SINGH KALEKA
 Author of "The Gift of Our Wounds: A Sikh and a Former White Supremacist Find Forgiveness After Hate"



MEGHAN KISSELL
 "ERA - Equality is Overdue"
 National AAUW Senior Director of Policy and Membership



MELISSA LADUKE
 "Influence the Evolution: The Push for Inclusion"
 National AAUW Chair of Inclusion and Equity Committee

INSIGHTFUL DISCUSSION

From all of you after previous conventions:
 "Spirit of other women and atmosphere." "Just being together in person!"
 "Conversations with individuals who were all friendly and helpful. We had AAUW in common." "I really enjoyed the in-person contact and meeting new people."

And the Sweet Suite with treats Friday night will be available to all...



April 26-27
 At Delta Hotel
 In Mt. Pleasant

INFO AND REGISTRATION:



<https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/convention-2024/>

1:00 pm - 9:00 pm Friday
 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Saturday

Delta Hotels
 by Marriott Racine
 7111 Washington Ave
 Hwy 20, Racine

Contact
 262-498-2298
 Denise Anastasio
 denise.anastasio@gmail.com



In 2024 there are FOUR important elections in Wisconsin!

Spring — Local Leaders & Presidential Primary

February 20, 2024
 • Primary

April 2, 2024
 • General Election
 • Presidential Preference Primary

Fall — State & Federal Legislators, President

August 13, 2024
 • Primary
 November 5, 2024
 • General Election



Everything you need to know to register and vote is right here!



myvote.wi.gov



Expanding Our AAUW Reach Over Time to Meet Women's Needs

- 1940's AAUW Membership is open to all accredited institutions rather than a small, select few.
- 1963 Degrees in Education, Teaching and Home Economics are finally accepted.
- 1987 Men are allowed to join.
- 2005 Associate Degrees are accepted.
- 2021 63% voted for open membership.
- In April, 2024, AAUW members will vote to eliminate AAUW's degree requirement for membership by a required 2/3 majority.
- AAUW's National Board, Governance Committee and Inclusion and Equity Committee support this change.

Key Dates for 2024 Vote

April 3 | Voting opens (online voting is encouraged)

May 15 | Online voting ends at 12:00 pm ET and results announced online

Lunch Bunch

Geneva Lake Branch members and guests gather to talk about all thing's women and progress. We meet at independent eateries, many women-owned or managed. Come one, come all. RSVP by text 708.899.2734 to Janice L. This is a great way to introduce potential new members to our exceptional AAUW women!

4th Wednesday monthly at NOON.

2024 schedule always at NOON:

Wed, April 24, 2024, at Speedos Harborside Café, Lake Geneva

Wed, May 22, 2024, at Grandma Vicki's, Lake Geneva

Wed, June 26, 2024, at Simple Café, Lake Geneva

Wed, July 24, 2024, Boat House, Buttons Bay, Lake Geneva

Wed, Aug 28, 2024, at Harpoon Willies, Williams Bay

Wed, Sept 25, Luis's Pizza, Lake Geneva

Wed, Oct 23, Abbey Resort, Waterfront Restaurant, Fontana, RSVP Jan Schuren, 262-728-7767

NO LUNCH BUNCH NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

Bluestockings Our April meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 16th at the Walworth Public Library at 1:00. Note the change of time! Water and desserts will be available. Please have your lunch before you arrive. The book is, Take My Hand by Dolen Perkins-Valdez. Our leader will be Sue Greben. Contact Diane Dorman at ddianedorman@aol.com or Carolyn Langner at cjlangner@gmail.com to let them know if you plan to attend.



Please note that the May meeting will be held at Walworth Memorial Library, 525 Kenosha St. Walworth



Dr. Sue Winkler, Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Family Medicine, Community Health and the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

APRIL 11TH

Join us for a wonderful program hosted by our Program Committee about Women's Health. We all can name a friend or family member who has fallen and disrupted their lives. At a certain age, balance becomes a crucial component of our health. Accordingly, Dr. Winkler will walk us through some basic strength and balance exercises while she shares the research behind healthy aging. Maintaining good balance and posture promotes a healthy lifestyle but so does eating and exercise. What foods and nutritional supplements become more essential as we age? Sue will cover these topics and more. Plus, she will answer any specific questions we may have about living an active, fulfilling life. Come Thursday evening, April 11th at 6:00pm (business meeting) and 6:30pm for "The Importance of Exercise and Balance for Women." **Venue:** Chapel on the Hill, Parish Hall N2440 Ara Glen Dr. Lake Geneva WI 53147

Culinary Questers 2024

Calling all Culinary Questers: We are starting 2024 at Gwen Cassius' home for an appetizer supper. **Time Change alert—5:30.** There is no parking by Gwen's due to construction during the day. Just bring an appetizer of your choice. Gwen and Judy will make salads and Karen DeFalco will make a dessert. We have room for 12 so please text Karen DeFalco at 1815-953-5979 if you are interested in joining us! Or you can email Caroline at cjlangner@gmail.com.

We're in the process of refreshing the **TRIFOLD** for the AAUW State Convention and we require photos from several events: the Holiday Party, meetings/programs, fashion show fundraiser, and STEM luncheon. Our photos eloquently portray the passion and dedication of our members. Please send your submissions to s@venteicher.org (Sheila Venteicher).



Make an Impact!
Join **AAUW**
Legacy Circle

Leave a Lasting Legacy

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

Date	Program Title	Presenter	Location
April 11 2024 Thursday	<i>The Importance of Exercise and Balance for Women</i>	Dr. Sue Wenker, Assistant Professor with the UW-Madison Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, and the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program, is a board-certified clinical specialist in geriatric physical therapy emeritus and an advanced credentialed exercise expert for aging adults.	Chapel on the Hill Parish Hall N2440 Ara Glen Dr. Lake Geneva
May 9 2024 Thursday	<i>What's New and Exciting about Wisconsin Farmers' Markets</i>	Kristin Krokowski is a Commercial Horticulture Educator for the UW-Madison Extension in Waukesha County. Her research and programming focuses on produce safety, farmers' markets and the success of small to medium size fruit and vegetable growers throughout Wisconsin. Kristin also provides leadership for the Wisconsin Farmers Market Association along with supporting female farmers across the state.	Advia Credit Union 837 N Wisconsin St. Elkhorn, WI
July 11 2024 Thursday	<i>The Great Great Lakes</i>	Moira Harrington, Associate Director for Communications for UW-Madison's Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education, will share her knowledge of the world's largest freshwater system right on our doorstep, the Great Lakes. Fresh water is a precious commodity and Moira will share how she uses research, education and outreach to promote the sustainable use of our precious Great Lakes.	Advia Credit Union 837 N Wisconsin St. Elkhorn, WI
October 10 2024 Thursday	<i>Night Sky Star Gazing</i>	GLAS Education (Geneva Lake Astrophysics and STEAM) provides educational experiences to local students, as well as opportunities for college students to participate in research projects and community outreach programs, like the organization's popular stargazing events. An astronomy scientist will lead us through a star-gazing experience.	TBD
November 14 2024 Thursday	<i>Wisconsin Cranberries</i>	Leslie Holland is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Plant Pathology at UW-Madison. Leslie's presentation will answer these burning questions we all have about Cranberries...Where do they come from? Are they really grown in water? Which pathogens are vying to ruin your Thanksgiving Dinner? What challenges do cranberry growers face and what exactly is Ocean Spray?	Inspired Coffee 883 W Main St. Lake Geneva, WI Free parking at Central-Dennison School

*All programs are held on the second Thursday of each month, April – November
The program schedule is as follows:
6:00 pm – Social time; 6:15 pm Business meeting; 6:30-7:30 pm Program*