



Kathy Walsh

**Public Policy Committee Notes**  
**Chair Kathy Walsh**

Eager to make a difference in our changing political scene? Here 's an important opportunity requiring limited time and commitment! AAUW is involved with an effort to help register voters at our local Division of Motor Vehicles (Hwy 67 - 835 S. Lincoln, Elkhorn)

Monday and Friday afternoons 12 - 2pm and 2 - 4pm  
2 shifts, 2 volunteers per shift for Sept. 6th - Oct. 14th.

We've been welcomed by DMV staff. These efforts have been very effective and popular with non-partisan groups getting the vote out. Can we count on your help? The Public Policy Committee has been hard at work (to promote education and equality, our mission) but can't do this alone and would so appreciate your joining us, with a shift or two.

Get in touch with Kathy Walsh [kath3032@gmail.com](mailto:kath3032@gmail.com) to sign up and join our effort!



**Important Dates**

- Sept 11<sup>th</sup> Soup & Signing
- Sept 16<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting
- Sept 17<sup>th</sup> Bluestockings
- Sept 25<sup>th</sup> Lunch Bunch
- Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> Culinary Questers

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# SOUP & SIGNING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

Featuring:

SOUPS of

8 LOCAL RESTAURANTS

BOOKS of

8 LOCAL AUTHORS

Books Available for Purchase and Signing



SERVING FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

Reservations \$30 per person

Horticultural Hall, 330 Broad Street, Lake Geneva, WI 53147



Presented by the AAUW Geneva Lake Branch. AAUW's mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. Proceeds from this event will provide STEM college scholarships to young women from Walworth County public high schools and support our mission.

Check payable to AAUW Geneva Lake Branch due with registration by September 4, 2024.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tickets will be available at the door.

AAUW contact name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this section along with your check of \$30 per attendee to AAUW Geneva Lake Branch, Carla Olson, 610 Settlers Ridge Dr. Lake Geneva, WI 53147**

Additional donation amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Questions contact Diane Thompson (262) 745-8355

## Coming Soon our only Fundraiser

### SOUP and SIGNING

Please go out and sell TICKETS! We have great books and soups!  
Here is a sneak preview of the authors and books.

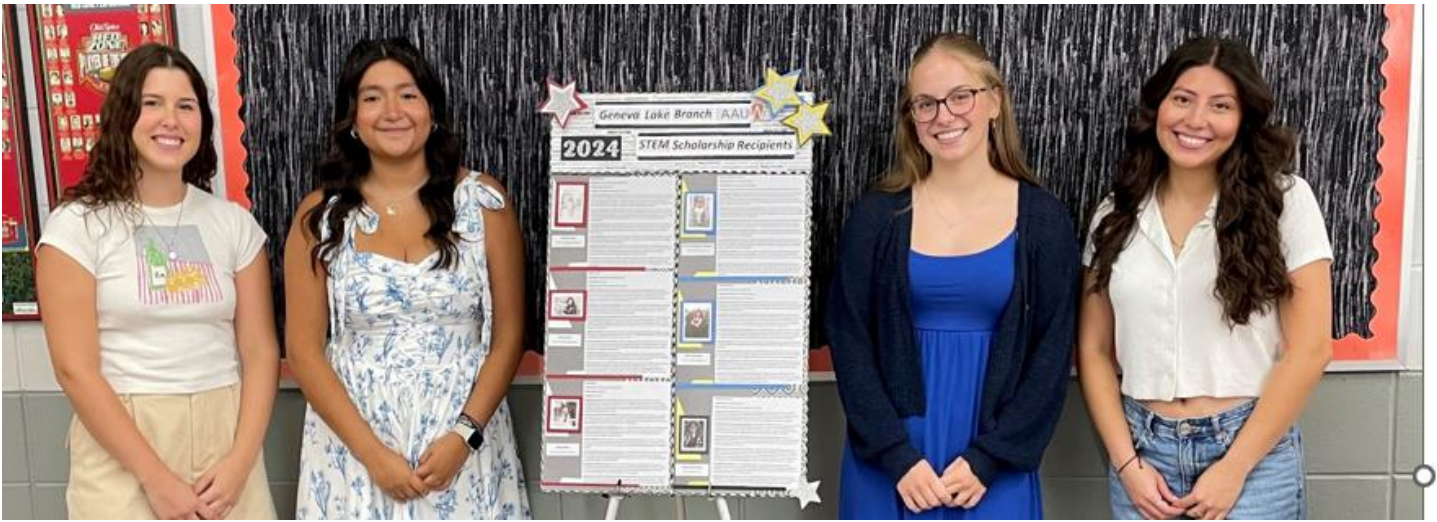
<u>Author</u>	<u>Book</u>
Nathan Bopp	Sea Pals
Jim Kenyon	A Cat Named Fatima
Ann Morrissy	Street Wars
Kevin Commins	Dog Spelled Backwards Is Love
Mary Reed	Free Spirits
James Reynolds	Fontana Story
Margaret Reuland	Finding Fontana
Judith Wright	The Heart of the Fight

### A sneak preview of the soups and restaurants.

<u>Restaurant</u>	<u>Soup</u>
Getaway	Seafood Bisque
Green Grocer	Roasted Beet
Gracie's	Cream of Chicken with Rice
Gordy's	Tortilla
Hawks View	Cheddar Broccoli
Mars	Clam Chowder
Simple	Tomato
Tuscan	Minestrone

**Remember. SEPTEMBER 11 at Horticulture Hall from 11-2.**





**STEM Luncheon**  
August 8, 2024  
Big Foot High School

Check out these wonderful women:  
[Recipients](#)





# President's Message

Branch news and reminders:

A quick shout-out to Diane Thompson and her Fundraising Committee for all the work and effort put into the Soup & Signing event scheduled for September 11. They still need help, so please contact Diane if you can help serve, set up, or clean up.

Open Leadership Positions:

After the Soup and signing event, Diane Thompson will be stepping down from her role as the Branch's Fundraising Chair after 10 years of incredible service. Please contact either of us if you are interested in filling this critical position.

Same with the President-Elect position.

There will be a board meeting on September 16 at noon at the Williams Bay Library.

And finally, a funny thing happened at Paneras when I was having coffee with one of the two Southern Lakes Newspapers Editors. We first chatted about backgrounds, work experience, and goals, before stating I needed to run because this column was due. She smiled broadly and then replied, "You're a member of AAUW? Wow, every time I meet one of those women, I'm impressed by their open-mindedness. You are exactly what I need right now," and promptly lobbed three-story pitches at me.

When I returned home, I meant to head to my computer to do this column and maybe even start the pitch strings but stopped when I saw my local government association's journal on the table. Its cover story was entitled, "Political Neutrality in an Era of Polarization." I smiled as broadly as the editor did earlier that day over how both were reminding me of what it is so hard for me to do; remain neutral and open-minded so I can equitably serve diverse populations and accurately report their perspectives.



Best regards, Susan Steele

Are you interested in a branch leadership role? If so, please consider the President Elect position. If any questions or interest, please contact me at [steeles203@gmail.com](mailto:steeles203@gmail.com) or 814-571-7616.





## Letter from Your Editor

Welcome back to September Issue #9!  
The political landscape has drastically changed. Now more than ever, it is important to have your voice heard. Vote!  
Lots going on with AAUW. Check out the 'sweater weather' events.

Bonnie Dill

The AAUW Legacy Circle is a recognition society for donors who have included AAUW National in their estate plans. Members of the Legacy Circle are committed to advancing equity for women and girls long into the future. By making a planned gift to AAUW National, Legacy Circle members embrace gender equity as part of their personal legacy. There is no minimum gift requirement to join the Legacy Circle, and members receive a special pin and other benefits.



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](https://myvote.wi.gov)





Make an Impact  
Join AAUW  
Legacy Circle

Lucy Harvey  
[lois3545@aol.com](mailto:lois3545@aol.com)

Bonnie Diehl  
[bdiehl81@gmail.com](mailto:bdiehl81@gmail.com)

This November, voters will elect the next President and Vice President of the United States, all 435 seats in the House of Representatives, 34 of the 100 seats in the Senate, 11 governors, and thousands of local officials down the ballot. Voters across the country will also make their voice heard on more than 100 ballot measures this year — voting on issues from the economy and abortion access to equal rights for all. With all of these key races on the ballot, one of the most important steps everyone can take right now is getting registered to vote.

When women vote, we change the conversation. That's why AAUW is joining When We All Vote in getting ready to vote this year. Join us and register to vote now at [weall.vote/aauw](https://weall.vote/aauw)

- Election Day is less than 100 days away.

## 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 (not required) 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, 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

## Great Decisions 2025

Topics include:

1. American foreign policy at a crossroads.
2. U.S. changing leadership of the world economy.
3. U.S.- China Relations.
4. International cooperation on climate change.
5. The future of NATO and European security.
6. AI and American National Security.
7. India: between China, the West, and the Global South.
8. After Gaza: American policy in the Middle East.



## Great Decisions 2025

This next year promises to be an interesting one! If you want to keep your mind sharp on topics related to National and Foreign Policy, it's time to mark your calendars and Sign Up for Great Decisions 2025!

AAUW is happy to once again host Great Decisions offered by the Foreign Policy Association. Classes are open to AAUW members, as well as members in the Geneva Lake community. Weekly meetings take place for 8 weeks from the first week in February to the last week in March.

### How it Works

Each week prior to class, you read an article from the Great Decisions 2025 “book”. When we meet, we watch and discuss a video. (Both articles and videos are written and produced by leading scholars and The Foreign Policy Association.)

You can choose to participate in an evening class (6 - 8 pm) or a morning class (9-11 am). The evening class usually has had around 10-12 participants, while the morning session has anywhere between 15-22. Last year both groups met at the Williams Bay Barrett Memorial Library.

\*\*\*\*Books\*\*\*\* for Great Decisions will be ordered at the beginning of October.

(Last year's books cost \$35.)

If you are interested in participating in this wonderful program, please contact [pattiestejskal@gmail.com](mailto:pattiestejskal@gmail.com) ASAP so she can start a class list, order books, and send you important information. Please put AAUW Great Decisions in the subject line and include your name, phone and indicate desired class; am or pm. Thank you!



## Bluestockings: October 2024 → September 2025

Date	Book	Leader	Host/Cohost
October 15	<b><i>The Truths We Hold</i></b> by Kamala Harris	Bev Kitzmiller	Kathy McCarville, Host, Bev Kitzmiller Cohost
November 19	<b>The Frozen River</b> by Ariel Lawhon	Marcia Lauzon	Carla Olson, Host, Sue Greben Cohost
December 17	<b>The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store</b> by James McBride	Jean Henderson	Jean Henderson, Host, Bev Kitzmiller Cohost
January 21	<b>The Burning of the World</b> by Scott W. Berg	Kathy Walsh	Diane Thompson, Host, Betty Shay Cohost
February 18	<b>The Energy Bus</b> by Jon Gordon	Roberta Killian	Roberta Killian, Host, Doris Mosser Cohost
March 18	<b><i>The House on Mango Street</i></b> by Sandra Cisneros		
April 15	<b><i>Remarkably Bright Creatures</i></b> by Shelby Van Pelt	Carolyn Langner and Jane Erickson	Diane Dorman, Host, Carolyn Langner, Cohost
May 20	<b><i>The Secrets We Kept</i></b> by Lara Prescott		
June 17	<b><i>The Women</i></b> by Kristin Hannah	Sharna Ahern	
July 15	<b><i>Horse</i></b> by Geraldine Brooks	Barb Turner	
August 19	<b>Book Selection</b>	Nan Voss	
September 16	<b><i>Mad Honey</i></b> by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan	Doris Mosser	Gwen Clausius, Host, Doris Mosser Cohost

**Bluestockings** will meet at 12:00 on Tuesday, September 17 at the home of Debbie Mecklenburg, 290 Fair Oaks Ave., Fontana (Buena Vista Club, Gate 2). Please bring a sandwich to share; Deb and co-host Nan Voss will provide salads and desserts.

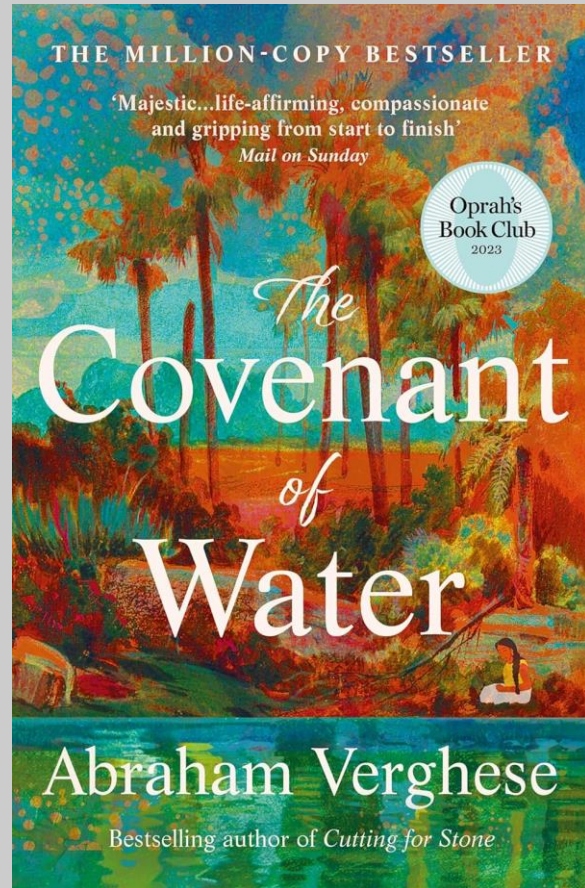
Our discussion of *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese will be led by Sharna Ahern.

Please let Deb know if you will attend at [dmecklen@aol.com](mailto:dmecklen@aol.com).

Our October 15 Bluestockings meeting will be at the home of Kathy McCarville with Bev Kitzmiller as cohost and leader of the discussion of *The Truths We Hold* by Kamala Harris.

In this newsletter you will find the year-long schedule of books and meetings created at our August meeting. You will notice that there are still several opportunities to lead the discussion and/or serve as host or co-host.

Please contact Bev Kitzmiller at [kitzmillerbev@gmail.com](mailto:kitzmillerbev@gmail.com) to let her know what month(s) you are willing to lead the discussion, host or co-host. We need all of us to step forward in leadership and look forward to a great year of reading and conversation!



## August Culinary Questers

### A Night in Paradise



## Sweater Weather Appetizers

**What:** Culinary Questors Interest Group for October

**When:** October 2nd at 12:30 pm.

**Where:** Nina Ruskey's home at [404 W. Miller Court](#) in Lake Geneva

**Who:** 12 Guests maximum

**How:** Choose an appetizer from this website of mostly small plates, dips and finger foods (no soups). <https://www.thepioneerwoman.com/food-cooking/recipes/g36866635/fall-appetizers-recipes/>

We need 3 dips, 4 main small plates, 3 veggie or fruit appetizers and 1 person to bring 2 bottles of wine and sparkling water. A prize will be awarded to the coziest and cutest sweater!

Bev and Nina will contribute desserts.

Please rsvp to Karen DeFalco at 1-815-953-5979 or email [kdelfalco1@gmail.com](mailto:kdelfalco1@gmail.com)

## Sweater Weather

toooooo funny





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

Date	Title	Presenter	Location
October 10 2024 Thursday	<b><i>Night Sky Star Gazing</i></b>	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.	GLAS Offices, N 2270 WI-57, Walworth, WI 53184, Building W5659-1.
November 14 2024 Thursday	<b><i>Wisconsin Cranberries</i></b>	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

## Geneva Lake Branch AAUW 2024

In August, six AAUW members gathered for the 2024-2025 program planning meeting, where we brainstormed engaging topics for the upcoming year. A thank you goes to Maura Zinni for graciously hosting the event. We are also grateful to all members who contributed ideas, with over 25 potential topics submitted! Our next steps include identifying speakers and confirming their availability. A final schedule of meeting topics should be out in December. This year, the planning group is piloting a new approach by holding all general program meetings at the Advia Credit Union in Elkhorn. This location is centrally situated in Walworth County, offers free usage, and provides easy access to a building with kitchen and restrooms. We look forward to a great year of learning ahead!

Janice Lyons and Joanne Kantner  
 Program Co-chairs

# Geneva Lake Branch AAUW 2024-2025

## Officers

President	Susan Steele
President Elect	Vacant
Co-VPs of Programs	Janice Lyon and Joanne Kantner
Co-VPs 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
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