



empowering women since 1881

Milwaukee (WI) Branch  
making a difference since 1894

# NEWSLETTER

## February 2019

**125th Anniversary  
Celebration  
Saturday  
March 2, 2019**

**Villa Filomena**  
(former Milwaukee  
Branch Clubhouse)

**1119 N. Marshall St.  
Milwaukee, WI  
53202**

**Members  
Meet and Greet**

**11 am — Social  
11:30 — Lunch & Program**

**Board Arrival  
9:00**

*Please make your reservations  
by February 20th*

**Phone: 414-276-6820**

*Email:*  
**[aauw.milwaukee@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.milwaukee@gmail.com)**



empowering women since 1881

*It is with great pleasure that the*

*American Association of University Women  
Milwaukee Branch*

*invites you to join us as our guest  
to our*

*125th Anniversary Celebration*

Saturday, March 2, 2019

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

at the

**Villa Filomena**

(former Milwaukee Branch Clubhouse)

1119 N. Marshall Street

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

RSVP by February 20, 2019

Telephone: (414) 276-6820

E-mail: [aauw.milwaukee@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.milwaukee@gmail.com)

Website: <https://milwaukee-wi.aauw.net/>

# President's

Lyn Hildenbrand



## UPDATE

Dear AAUW Colleagues!!

I do hope all of you are surviving the brutal weather. I think that Mother Nature is having a beef with Old Man Winter. But, as strong independent women I know that each of you continue to make things happen in spite of the weather!

There is so much going on with our Branch and State AAUW this year. I want to start with letting you know that our branch is being recognized by the Milwaukee Historical Society at their Annual Accolade Awards Dinner for our 125 years of service! I am proud to represent you along with several members who are attending the event at the Pfister Hotel on May 8<sup>th</sup> to accept this award.

Speaking of celebration, ours is right around the corner. Each of you should have received your invitation in the mail by now. The Heritage Committee is working diligently to ensure that our celebration is one to remember. We have secured a wonderful guest speaker; **Dr. Joan Prince** Vice Chancellor of UW Milwaukee. We will be celebrating in our former clubhouse, 'the Marshall House'. There will be lovely background music, a champagne toast, a Mayoral Proclamation and so much more... You don't want to miss this celebration on

March 2, 2019, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring a friend (potential new member) and share our success with others. It is an opportunity for us to brag and recruit. Please RSVP as soon as you can.

April is a busy month for our branch! We want to provide you with a number of ways to become more active within the branch, and to meet and get to know your fellow members. Do stay tuned, and open-minded as we need each of you involved to have a successful branch.

Please note that at our April Meeting *Branch Elections* will be held. So please check out the nominees in the next Newsletter and come cast your vote!

*All Women's Equal Pay Day* – April 2, 2019. The Public Policy and College & University Relations Committees will have displays at Alverno and UWM again. If you're interested in helping, please contact Jean Kreul for more information. The gender pay gap is a primary issue for AAUW and one that we have been working on for years. As early as 1922, AAUW's legislative program called for a reclassification of the U.S. Civil Service and repeal of salary restrictions in the Women's Bureau. In 1955, AAUW supported a bill requiring "equal pay for work of comparable value requiring comparable skills." Congress finally enacted the Equal Pay Act, a version of the

1955 bill, in 1963.

Yes! Spring will arrive soon. Along with spring comes our AAUW State Convention. Convention this year will be held at the lovely Lake Lawn Lodge in Delavan. We are calling for *'All Hands-on Deck'* April 26 and 27. At convention we will be fundraising for Start Smart and Work Smart. Come ready to bid on the silent auction baskets. I encourage you to make plans to attend, you won't regret it. We have funds budgeted to cover registration fees, so please notify the office and we can register you. Please watch for your invitation to the Convention that will be arriving shortly to your snail mailbox, and check out your emailed Badger Briefs for a complete agenda.

*Membership Renewals & Guests.* It's never too early to think about your renewing your membership for the 2019-20 fiscal year. If you have a friend that may be interested in joining March is the perfect time for them to join, as any dues paid March 16 or later will receive membership for the balance of the 2018-2019 programming year as well as ALL of 2019-2020 programming year for the \$98 fee!

I look forward to seeing you all March 2nd. In the meantime, stay warm and safe!

Peace, Lyn



AAUW WISCONSIN

**ALL  
HANDS  
ON  
DECK**

CONVENTION 2019



**SAVE THE DATES:**

**April 26 & 27**  
**Lake Lawn Resort**  
**Delavan, WI**

**Save the Dates:**

**Everyone is Invited to Attend!**

**Monday, February 11 at 11:00 a.m.:**

A special tour of the Chudnow Museum has been arranged by the Heritage Club to see the new exhibit on the Centennial of the Woman's Suffrage Movement in Wisconsin. The Chudnow is located at **839 North 11th Street, and there is a \$4.00 entrance fee.**

**Friday, February 15 at 12:00 Noon:**

Heritage Club Meeting in Suite 202 at the Astor Hotel.

**Friday, February 15 at 1:30 p.m.:**

Tour of the Marshall House, located at 1119 Marshall Street.

Submitted by Mary Fiedler



# Membership Matters



Graciela Pequeno

## Anniversary Celebrations: Past and Present

Milwaukee Branch anniversaries have always been occasions for celebration, reflection and future planning. This year's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary is no exception, with plans for the March event in full swing. A brief look at our previous anniversaries makes it clear that we have much in common with our predecessors. Like them, we take pride in our organization and we are committed to promoting education and learning in ourselves and in our communities. We also love celebrations as much as they did. Read on for a brief overview of anniversary celebrations.



**1919, the 25th Anniversary:** This beautiful silver service, currently residing in our Astor Hotel suite, was presented to the branch on the occasion of its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**1944, the 50th Anniversary:** The 50th anniversary was honored with a Jubilee Dinner in the Elizabethan Room of the Milwaukee Athletic Club. The branch "put aside wartime care and reviewed the merriest highlights of the years, with a style show of authentic period costumes produced from scores of Milwaukee attics." A huge three-tiered cake was cut by Mrs. T. Westley Tuttle, President of Milwaukee Branch; Helen White, National AAUW President and Mrs. Marvin Rosenberry, a former AAUW National President. The cost of the dinner was \$2.75.



**1969, the 75th Anniversary:** The Diamond Jubilee was celebrated with numerous events, including a Founders Tea in March, and a reception in April to mark the clubhouse's (the Marshall House) landmark designation. In May the celebrations concluded with a dinner dance.

**1984, the 90th Anniversary:** On this occasion, a champagne luncheon was held at the Marshall House in June. Flowers from member's gardens graced the luncheon tables and scrapbooks dating back to the 1920s were displayed. One of the fifteen of the branch's past presidents who attended the event described the group's approach as, "more serious and substantial than that of a typical woman's club. "But I don't mean to put down a woman's club. It's just that we go a little farther than they do. This is what our members want. I think we were once more social than we are now. I think there's more meat to what we do."



**1994, the 100th Anniversary:** The Centennial anniversary began with a luncheon at the Pfister Hotel, which was also celebrating its centennial year. Following the luncheon, Peter Mortensen, Concierge and Hotel Historian, conducted a tour of the completely renovated hotel. The highlight of the centennial, however, was a "white glove and hat" luncheon held in June at the Marshall House. Former Mayor of Milwaukee, Frank Paul Zeidler was the keynote speaker.

The United States flag which was flown over the U.S. Capitol on March 13, 1994, in commemoration of our 100th Anniversary, was presented to the branch by the presiding Architect of the Capitol, George White. In a congratulatory note, Donna E. Shalala wrote, "Please accept my congratulations on the 100th anniversary of your Milwaukee branch. I wish I were back in Wisconsin to celebrate with you personally."

**2019, the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** To mark this milestone, a gala luncheon will be held at the Marshall House, the Milwaukee Branch home for almost four decades. Highlights will include musicians, a "then-and-now" slideshow and historical display, greeters in turn-of-the-century attire, a commemorative gift, a number of honored guests and a bountiful buffet luncheon with a champagne toast. The keynote address will be given by Dr. Joan Prince, UWM's Vice Chancellor of Global Inclusion & Engagement and a long-time friend of the Milwaukee Branch.

Members and their guests are encouraged to wear clothing or accessories (handbags, fans, parasols, hats, gloves or jewelry) which may have been fashionable at any point in our long and rich history. There will be no charge for this very special celebration. Invitations and RSVP cards are being sent to all members.

By Mary Fiedler



March is **Women's History Month** and what better way to celebrate than by learning about two of the women who founded what has become the Milwaukee Branch of American Association of University Women.

**Elizabeth Gifford Peckham** was born in Milwaukee in 1854. A graduate of Vassar College, she was one of the first to earn a degree in science. She eventually was awarded a PhD from Cornell University - at the age of 62! Her obituary noted she was the, "first president of the local organization of college women and for many years was a member of the national women's suffrage board" (from [www.peckhamia.com](http://www.peckhamia.com) 39.1; obituary from the Milwaukee Journal February 13, 1940). She also appeared before legislative committees regarding woman's rights.

**Hattie Bell Merrill** received a master's degree in 1893 and was head of the science department at Milwaukee Downer College from 1897-1899. She also directed high school science departments in Milwaukee. She completed two trips to South America alone, which was unusual for that time, to study microscopic fresh water animals. She was appointed assistant professor of Zoology at UW Madison in 1900 and lectured at Cornell and Chicago as well (UW-Madison Center for Limnology blog at [www.limnology.wisc.edu](http://www.limnology.wisc.edu)).

As you can see, both were interested in science – not unlike many women today. We owe much to women such as these who paved a path for us. May we honor their spirit and continue to widen the path for those who follow us.

**Upcoming event: Equal Pay Day is April 2<sup>nd</sup>**. We will have *information stations* set up at **Alverno** and **UW Milwaukee** that day. Why not follow our Branch forebearers by taking a bit of time that day to help spread awareness of this issue? Contact me at [itkreul@yahoo.com](mailto:itkreul@yahoo.com) if you can help out!

## DATES to remember

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Saturday

March 2, 2019

**125th Anniversary  
Celebration  
at Villa Filomena  
(The Marshall House)**

~~~~~  
Tuesday

April 2, 2019

**Equal Pay Day  
Alverno College  
UW Milwaukee**

~~~~~  
Saturday

April 6, 2019

**Sexual Assault Awareness**

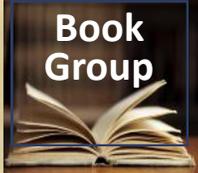
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Saturday

May 4, 2019

**Annual Scholarship Brunch**

~~~~~  
June 2019

**Road trip TBD**



### Book Group

**Author Priscilla Pardini to Lead the February 26th Book Discussion at 1:00 in Suite 202 at the Astor Hotel.**

In anticipation of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of AAUW Milwaukee Branch in March, Priscilla Pardini, author of "[Women Making a Difference: American Association of University Women in Milwaukee 1894-2012](#)", will lead the discussion of our branch's history.

The book, published in 2012, tells the history of our branch with clarity, style and impeccable attention to detail. The pages are filled with fascinating profiles of the Victorians who established our branch, followed by a full account of the group's programs and priorities as they evolved over the decades. Pardini skillfully sets the history against the background of national developments in education and public policy. According to John Gurda, prominent Milwaukee historian, the book "gives its readers the pleasurable sensation of time travel". The book is available for \$10.00 at the AAUW office suite and also on Amazon.com and at Boswell's Book Store.

All AAUW members, their families and friends are cordially invited to attend this special event!

Submitted by Mary Fiedler, Coordinator Milwaukee Branch Book Club

**4th  
Tuesday  
of Each  
Month  
September  
through  
May  
1 p.m.  
In Suite 202  
Astor Hotel**

