



Milwaukee (WI) Branch  
making a difference since 1894

# NEWSLETTER

## March 2019

### LOTUS LEGAL CLINIC SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

# Saturday April 6, 2019

## Board Meeting 9:30-10:45

## Members Meet and Greet

11 am — Social  
11:30 — Lunch &  
Program

at the  
*Italian Community Center*  
631 E Chicago St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

# Cost \$15

Please make your reservations  
by March 29th

Phone: 414-276-6820

Email:  
aauw.milwaukee@gmail.com

**Wear RED on Equal  
Pay Day  
to symbolize how far  
women  
and minorities are  
"in the red" with  
their pay!**



Lotus Legal Clinic empowers survivors of sexual violence and trafficking.

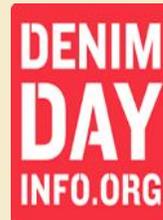
They provide direct, comprehensive legal services, advocacy and community education, and they invest in survivors as change agents. Barry Slagle, Board president of Lotus Legal, a retired Juvenile Court commissioner will be our speaker at our April meeting.

Wisconsin consistently ranks among the top ten states in the nation concerning human trafficking. Victims of both sex and labor trafficking experience high rates of sexual assault due to their vulnerability, and these individuals suffer extreme secondary trauma from within the legal system; victims frequently report this secondary trauma is as harmful to them as their incidents of assault have been.

Lotus Legal just received a grant to that will allow the them to: Increase victims' awareness of and access to comprehensive legal services; increase protection of victims' rights through representation; provide trauma-informed, victim-centered, culturally relevant advocacy and services to victims; enhance collaboration and cooperation among service providers, law enforcement, and prosecutors;

increase victims' access to legal and advocacy supports; create brochures, pamphlets, and legal and advocacy resource guides for project partners; and develop trainings and best practices for legal services to victims in sexual assault cases involving trafficked persons.

The program is designed to increase the availability of civil and criminal legal assistance programs for adult and youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who are seeking relief in legal matters relating to or arising out of that abuse or violence, at minimal or no cost to the victims.



April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and Denim Day is a call to action for all people to come

together by wearing denim as a visible sign of protest against sexual violence. By participating in Denim Day this April 25th, you can play a role in the prevention of sexual violence. Every year we ask community members, elected officials, businesses and students to make a social statement with their fashion and on April 25th to wear jeans as a visible means of protest against misconceptions that surround sexual assault.

# President's UPDATE

Lyn Hildenbrand



It was early 1894, and a small group of women had come together to consider launching an organization. And while that first meeting may not have been “formal,” it was, indeed fortuitous. The stated purpose of the local branch, as recorded in the group’s by-laws, was **“to unite the college women of the vicinity for work on the educational, civic, and social problems of the community, and to cooperate with the national association in its general work.”**

Such a mission meshed perfectly with the increasing popularity of “causes” and “crusades” that would define the social fabric at the turn of the century. And, so it began, the beginning of AAUW Milwaukee Branch!

We had a grandiose 125th soiree on March 2, at our former clubhouse - the beautiful **Villa Filomena** - over 100 members, friends and associates joined us in toasting our legacy and looking to our future with open hearts and minds so as to continue on with the legacy that our fore-mothers left us. We will have pictures for our next newsletter and to share at our May Scholarship

luncheon. Thanks to everyone who made the event a huge success!

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 introduced by Reps. Edith Green (D-OR) and Edith Rogers (R-MA) 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.

Despite the Equal Pay Act, the gender pay gap persists; women are typically paid just 80 cents for every dollar paid to men — and that number has barely budged in a decade. Although enforcement of the Equal Pay Act and other civil rights laws has helped to narrow the gender pay gap, these actions only cover segments of the American working population, and many important protections are not yet codified in law. Moreover, there are numerous other reasons for

discrimination and pay disparity that must be addressed.

AAUW continues to advocate for strong pay equity legislation, regulation, and enforcement to protect employees and assist employers. **Equal Pay Day** is an opportunity to draw attention to the gender pay gap and to call for legislative action and other solutions, including AAUW’s salary negotiation workshops, to curb this pervasive problem.

**Denim Day** is a campaign to prevent sexual violence through education and raising public awareness. *April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month*, and Denim Day is a call to action for all people to come together by wearing denim as a visible sign of protest against sexual violence. By participating in **Denim Day this April 25th**, you can play a role in the prevention of sexual violence. Every year community members, elected officials, businesses and students to make a social statement with their fashion and on April 25th to wear jeans as a visible means of protest against misconceptions that surround sexual assault.

Our State Convention is being held **April 26 & 27**. Our convention committee has worked tirelessly to ensure that each of us has a great experience learning from, and laughing with each other, while relishing in the company of so many likeminded individuals. While at Convention, take the time we have together to mix & mingle and get to know members from other branches, learn their best practices and share with them ours. If you plan on attending Convention please let me know ASAP. Peace, *Lyn*

## Equal Pay Day Is April 2<sup>nd</sup>

We will have information stations set up at **Alverno** and **UW Milwaukee** that day. This is a great opportunity to reach out to someone who may not realize what an impact this may have on their future. Feel free to contact Jean Kruel at [jtkreul@yahoo.com](mailto:jtkreul@yahoo.com) if you can help out!

**EQUAL WORK  
DESERVES  
EQUAL PAY!**



# Membership Matters



Graciela Pequeno

A little bit of history: Reported by *The Milwaukee Journal* in the spring of 1973, Milwaukee Mayor Frank Zeidler noted that past histories of Milwaukee did not adequately reflect the accomplishments of many of the talented, intelligent women who had made a mark on the city. In 1992, AAUW's Wisconsin State Division published *Wisconsin Women: A Gifted Heritage*, a compendium of profiles of the state's most notable women, many of whom had broken barriers to rise to prominence in what once had been unconventional occupations for women. They included branch members Elizabeth Peckham, Breta Griem, Mabel Mannix McElligott, Dorothy von Briesen, and Catherine Cleary, and many more.

These ladies were ahead of their time (Women Making a Difference, P.157 – 168).

By now we must have recuperated from our grand **125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration**. Our hats off to the hardworking dedicated Heritage Club! As a result we have gained several new members! Our President, Lyn Hildenbrand announced starting March 16<sup>th</sup> the membership fee for NEW joining members will cover one and a half years of membership. We encourage each one of our members to invite your friends, colleagues, or family members who qualify, to join our wonderful Branch. Thank you Lyn for this exciting announcement!

### **YOU ARE ALL INVITED TO SOROPTIMIST'S FUNDRAISER FOR DREAMERS OF EDUCATION: LUNAFEST**

On Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at Marquette University, a series of eight short films that are by, for, and about women will be presented.

Marquette University Women's Innovation Network (MU-WIN) is hosting this year's event during Women's History Month.

Film Viewing: 3:30 – 6:30 p.m. and 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Marquette University, Todd Wehr Building first floor auditorium 1414 West Clybourn Street

Tickets \$20.00, can be purchased on-line, just Google: [lunafest.org](http://lunafest.org)

Students and volunteers can register for free tickets using promo code: SIMKE

AAUW-WI

ALL  
HANDS  
ON  
DECK

## 99<sup>th</sup> AAUW-Wisconsin State Convention

# April 26-27, 2019

Special convention room rates apply:  
\$116.91 (includes resort fee and tax) for a double queen room  
Larger rooms available – also at a discount

This rate is also guaranteed to AAUW members for Thursday night (before the convention and Saturday night (after the convention)!

Bring a friend or family member and make it a weekend in the country!

Come and enjoy a lovely resort, spa, golf course and lake views!

To make room reservations call (800) 338-5253

Identify yourself as a member of American Association of University Women group. All reservations must be accompanied by a major credit card.

This block of rooms is being held until March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Reservations after that are subject to availability



## DATES to remember

~~~~~  
Saturday

April 6, 2019

*Sexual Assault Awareness*

~~~~~  
Saturday

May 4, 2019

*Annual Scholarship Brunch*

~~~~~  
June 2019

*Road trip to Chicago*

~~~~~  
**The Heritage Club** has cancelled the March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, but it will meet on **Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** at 12:00 Noon at the Astor Hotel.

Submitted by Mary Fiedler,  
Chair, Heritage Club

### Women in Leadership

Have you thought about whether or not you may be biased when it comes to women leaders? Did you know (hopefully, many of you do!) that 63% of business leaders are male compared to 27% women leaders; That gender representation at the C-suite level (in 2016) Vice Presidents were 71% male and 20% female; That only 1% of Fortune 1000 companies have at least one woman on their Board (from *2020 Women on Boards*).

What possibly may be in play is likely implicit bias – whether conscious or unconscious. According to an article in the November 2016 issue of HR Magazine titled, “*Women’s Work*”, many organizations have made strides in becoming more diverse and inclusive. However, most still operate in a manner where women’s contributions are valued less. I would invite you to go to the AAUW national web site under Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership find and take the Implicit Association test. It only takes a few minutes and you may (or may not) be surprised at your results. You may or may not be surprised.

For women leaders to be successful, the “playing field” needs to be fair, that pay be equitable, and for freedom from harassment of any kind be the norm, not the exception. Individual rights and social justice for a diverse society is one of the AAUW’s public policy advocacy themes for the next two years.

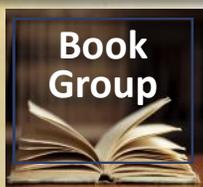
### Women in History

April 2, 1931 – Jackie Mitchell, the second woman to play in baseball in the minor leagues, pitches an exhibition game against the Yankees and strikes out both Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. She was just 17 years old at the time.

### Upcoming Events:

**April 2 in EQUAL PAY DAY!** Please consider helping out at either UW Milwaukee or Alverno College that day to get the message out about how this affects women’s futures. It can be as little as an hour of your time that day. Contact me at [jtkreul@yahoo.com](mailto:jtkreul@yahoo.com) for more information – many voices make a difference!

**Tuesday, March 26th, at 1:00 p.m. in Suite 202.**

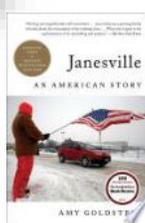


**Book  
Group**

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

Everyone is invited to attend the monthly Book Club discussions, which are normally held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at the Astor Hotel in Suite 202.

On Tuesday, March 26, the Book Club will discuss “*Janesville: An American Story*” by Amy Goldstein. Donna Jordahl will be the Discussion Leader.



“A gripping story of psychological defeat and resilience” (Bob Woodward, *The Washington Post*). An intimate account of the fallout from the closing of a General Motors assembly plant in Janesville, Wisconsin, and a larger story of the hollowing of the American middle class.

“Moving and magnificently well-researched... *Janesville* joins a growing family of books about the evisceration of the working class in the United States. What sets it apart is the sophistication of its storytelling and analysis” (Jennifer Senior, *The New York Times*).

“Anyone tempted to generalize about the American working class ought to meet the people in *Janesville*. The reporting behind this book is extraordinary and the story—a stark, heartbreaking reminder that political ideologies have real consequences—is told with rare sympathy and insight” (Tracy Kidder, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Soul of a New Machine*).

All members and friends of AAUW are cordially invited to join us  
for a lively discussion of our branch history!

Submitted by Mary Fiedler, Coordinator Milwaukee Branch Book Club