



Milwaukee (WI) Branch
making a difference since 1894

NEWSLETTER

July 2019

NCCWSL Conference 2019

Saturday
August 3, 2019

Open House
at the
Astor Hotel
924 E Juneau, Suite #202
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Members
Meet and Greet

Anytime between
11am - 1:00pm - Social

- ◆ **Hors d' oeuvres**
- ◆ **Door Prizes**

*Please make your reservations
by July 31, 2019*

Phone: 414-276-6820

Email:
aauw.milwaukee@gmail.com



On May 26th, 2019 I had the privilege to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders and it would be an understatement to merely say that I had a “great experience.”

On the first day, I along with 300 student leaders gathered in the Grand Ballroom at the University of Maryland to kick-off the conference. During the opening keynote, I knew from the energy of the room that I was in for a challenging, yet inspiring event for the next few days.

One of the best highlights of NCCWSL was having the opportunity to engage in a diverse range of workshops encompassed throughout the conference. As it was my goal to learn more about leadership strategies with other students around the U.S., I attended the “Tools for Teaching Inclusive Community Building Skills to Student Leaders” workshop. In this, I learned best practices for community organizing and also had the opportunity to share my perspective as a student leader at Alverno College. Additionally, the “Idea Mapping and Money Mining” workshop taught me how to better organize my thoughts and turn them into reality. As a business student and aspiring entrepreneur, this workshop provided me with tangible information that I can instantly apply to my work. Although these are just a few things I learned, I valued each breakout session and will use these learning tools to become a better leader and

advocate for social justice.

Another highlight of NCCWSL was listening to the many dynamic keynote speakers. I was particularly moved by Scholar and Humanitarian, Dr. Terera Trent’s message. As I sat amongst all of the attendees in the conference room, it amazed me to see how she captivated so many people of different backgrounds. Towards the end of her speech, she declared, “Redefine your life and your future generation... stand on the shoulders of giants.” With this, I believe Dr. Trent’s message culminated the theme of NCCWSL.

Most of all, NCCWSL prompted me to take a step back and evaluate my life as a U.S. Citizen. While many still face injustices, it is fair to acknowledge that most U.S. citizens possess some form of privilege. The final Keynote speaker, author Roxane Gay, reinforced that we all have privilege and it is not a matter of feeling accused, but rather having the ability to acknowledge it, to become more conscious of how we lead. I believe that with this level of self-awareness, we can collectively advance to creating a more equal and just society.

On a final note, NCCWSL was truly an eye opener to the issues that women face in the United States and the world. I would like to thank AAUW for creating a transformative and powerful event, where women leaders can unite and become better change-makers for our local and greater communities.

Donna Lewis- Taylor

President's UPDATE

Jean Kreul



Welcome to the 2019-2020 AAUW Milwaukee Branch "year." I am pleased to serve as President during these interesting times!

On June 10th I had the privilege of attending the **Women's Suffrage Centennial Celebration** at the Capital in Madison. What an amazing event! There were presentations from First Lady Kathy Evers, Justice Ann Walsh Bradley, Rebecca Kleefisch, State Reps Jessie Rodriguez and Sheila Stubbs, and Christian W. Overland from the Wisconsin Historical Society. Ladies dressed in white waived original suffragette banners from the period and the Joan Wendel Quartet provided inspiring music. I was able to view the original documents that confirmed Wisconsin was the **FIRST** to ratify the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. There were echoes of the many women who worked tirelessly for us to have the right to vote - they paved the way for us. A truly humbling, once-in-a-lifetime experience!

Through its local Branches and State and National organizations, the

American Association of University Women (AAUW) has worked hard to assure women and girls have the resources to be successful members of their communities and beyond. What can we do to support this effort? How about the following?

The Fair Pay Act made it through the House of Representatives. However, the Senate still needs to vote on this legislation. We must be aware of its progress and contact our Senators about our views, so it does not stall.

Many women begin or continue their careers with greater student debt. We must make sure they have the confidence to seek benefits and pay that meet their needs.

Start Smart and Work Smart help women throughout their careers to start and remain at a level of pay

to commensurate with their abilities and talents. We must make sure they are aware it is available.

Title IX, as you know, is more than athletics. It is also about Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), equal access to facilities and prevention of sexual harassment on school campuses. We must not let this important legislation be dismantled.

These are just a few of the issues that need our support and best efforts in the coming year. It will be a challenge to follow up our 125th Anniversary of our founding! It is my hope we always remember the vision of the wonderful women who gathered to form what has become AAUW Milwaukee Branch. These women paved the way for us to empower women and girls with opportunities in their education, work and whatever inspires them! We need to be courageous like they and the suffragettes were.

Jean

Join the AAUW Team Heart Walk 2019!

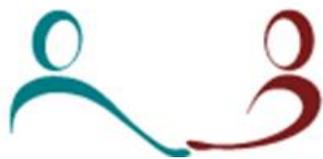
Are you aware that only 56% of women recognize that heart disease is their number 1 killer? According to the Centers for Disease Control, heart disease is the leading cause of death for women in the U.S. (in 2017 about 1 of every 5 female deaths).

The American Heart Association's Greater Milwaukee Heart Walk is scheduled for *Saturday, September 21, 2019* at Veteran's Park. The walk begins at 10:00 AM. If you are interested in walking along (and anyone else, you care to bring along!) please email the office. Remember, AAUW has heart!

On the Table MKE

Thanks to the Greater Milwaukee Foundation (GMF), thousands of residents in the greater Milwaukee area came together in small gatherings to "meet new people, exchange ideas and bridge social divides, sometimes in life-changing ways," on October 9, 2018 (*Conversation at a Whole New Level*; Greater Milwaukee Foundation brochure; On the table MKE Voices from the Tables 2018 Community Report).

For the third year, GMF is sponsoring **On the Table MKE** on *Thursday, October 10, 2019*. For information, go to onthetablemke.org. Consider this a great civic engagement opportunity in which to participate.



Membership Matters



Lyn Hildenbrand

Membership with AAUW means you're part of a community dedicated to changing the climate for women and girls. It also means you have access to some great discounts and special services exclusively offered to members.



AAUW's member benefits can enhance your professional and personal life and will save you money along the way! Most important, every time you use one of your benefits, you are also supporting AAUW's vital work, which is what makes AAUW one of the nation's most powerful voices on women's issues.

With each purchase, AAUW receives a royalty that is used to support the work we do, including our [equal pay advocacy](#), [community programs](#), [leadership development tools](#), [student leadership conference](#), and so much more!

Save the Date!

First Meeting of the year – **September 14, 2019** at Italian Conference Center

Our first meeting of the 2019-2020 year will help us to *Shape the Future* of our Branch. You are the best ambassadors for our organization! This is your chance to invite someone you think would be interested in becoming a member. We will have a social time from 11:00-11:30 am with luncheon and program to follow.

RSVP's are due by *Friday, August 23, 2019*

Look for additional details in the September newsletter.



College & University Relations

Reported by Jessica May,
College & University Relations Chair

This past year, AAUW-Milwaukee awarded its second annual **NCCWSL Scholarship**, a \$1,000 award to send a Milwaukee area college student to AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). The 2019 recipient of the NCCWSL Scholarship was **Donna Lewis-Taylor**, a sophomore-level Accounting and Sociology student at Alverno College. Donna is quite a leader, both on and off campus. At Alverno, she serves as President of the Black Student Alliance (BSA), through which she works to create awareness of issues affecting minority communities with "uncomfortable" conversations, civic engagement projects and student events; Secretary of Youth Empowered in the Struggle (YES), a social justice organization that fights for immigrant, student, and worker's

rights; a member of the National Association of Black Accountants; a member of the college's Student Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees; and was recently nominated by the college to be a Newman Civic Fellow, a one-year leadership development program through Campus Compact for "community-committed college students.

Off-campus, Donna mentors young girls in Milwaukee Public Schools, through Big Brothers Big Sisters, and serves as the only college student on Milwaukee's Criminal Justice Council (CJC) - Smart Reentry Committee, which aims to reduce the recidivism rate by providing housing, employment and health programs for people released from prison.

Even with all that experience, Donna still found tremendous value in attending NCCWSL. I hope you enjoy reading about her experience at NCCWSL 2019, in this month's newsletter. If it inspires you, consider joining the College & University Relations Committee in 2019-20 to help with the selection of next year's recipient!



Lyn Hildenbrand

PUBLIC POLICY



Janet Nortrom

Hi WOMEN friends from your new Public Policy Chair - just a friendly reminder AAUW is working to Empower women and girls.

Stay tuned by joining the [Two-Minute Activist](#)

[Support the Paycheck Fairness Act](#) Despite federal and state equal pay laws, the gender pay gap persists. But Congressional action can help change this.

[Fight for Working Women: Raise the Federal Minimum Wage](#)

Raising the minimum wage is an important part of ensuring women's economic security and that of their families.

[Take Your Advocacy to the Next Level](#)

Sign up for Two-Minute Activist mobile and advocate for gender equity wherever you go.

Act on issues impacting women and girls by joining AAUW's Action Network. As a Two-Minute Activist, you will receive urgent email notices when your advocacy is needed most. We'll provide all the tools you need to call or send messages to your members of Congress, write letters to the editor for your local newspapers, contact your state legislators about pressing issues, and more.

Janet Nortrom



DATES to remember

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Saturday

August 3, 2019

Open House  
at Astor Hotel Suite #202  
924 E Juneau  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Saturday

September 14, 2019

(2nd Saturday)

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Saturday

October 5, 2019

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Wednesday evening

November 6, 2019

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Saturday

December 7, 2019

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Saturday

February 1, 2020

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Wednesday evening

March 11, 2020

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Saturday

April 4, 2020

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Saturday

May 2, 2020

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Saturday

June 6, 2020

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### Tuesday, September 24th, at 1:00 p.m. in Suite 202

The AAUW Book Club will meet on September 24, 2019, for the annual selection of books to be read during the year 2019-2020.

We meet at 1:00 on the 4th Tuesday of each month (September through June) at the Astor Hotel, 924 E. Juneau Ave., Milwaukee, WI to discuss a selected book. The leader of the discussion is usually the person who has recommended the book, or another person interested in the topic.

Everyone is invited to attend and recommend a book to be read and discussed, the date for presentation, and the discussion leader.

Please note that the book for October 22, 2019 is *Euphoria* by Lily King and the discussion leader is Janet Nortrom.

Submitted by Anne Lehman co-coordinator with Ellie Mosely of the Book Club.

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