



October 2020 NEWSLETTER

SAVE THE DATE!

Our next event meeting will take place on **Saturday, November 7th** our featured speaker will be Belinda Boyle from the Healing Center at Aurora Sinai Medical Center. All are welcome to join in the Zoom meeting. The Zoom link will be provided the week of November 1st.

If you know someone who would be interested in learning about the Healing Center, please invite them!



Presidents Message - Jean Kreul

As I write this, it has been 7 months since the odyssey known as the **Novel Coronavirus Pandemic** began. Does any of the following sound familiar?

An estimated 500 million people worldwide infected. No vaccine to protect against infection and no antibiotics to treat secondary bacterial infections. Controlled efforts are limited to isolation, quarantine, good personal hygiene, use of disinfectants, and limitations of public gatherings, which were applied unevenly.

The above are from articles on the Centers for Disease Control and the National Archives websites describing the 1918 Flu Pandemic. During that time In the United States, 675,000 people died. Life expectancy dropped 12 years!

According to an article by Steven Berg, Professor of History at Shippensburg University and former researcher at the Division of Public History at the Wisconsin State Historical Society from the Autumn 2000 issue of Wisconsin Magazine of History: "Wisconsin was the only state in the nation to meet the crisis with uniform, statewide measures that were unusual both for their aggressiveness and the public's willingness to comply with them. Undoubtedly, those measures helped reduce the loss of life from the disease." Sad to see that the attitude of some in our state has changed so much since then.

In late summer, I asked our committee chairs to set goals for the 2020-2021 year. You will find in this issue goals that were received. I ask you review them to find something for which you can assist. In order for AAUW Milwaukee to be a VIBRANT organization, even the smallest effort counts. The chairs, their contact information and goals are included (see page 2).

AAUW National News

The National AAUW Board will be considering two changes when it convenes in October:

- A dues increase. As I write this, the exact amount and timing has not been determined, however, the amounts range from \$3.00 to \$10.00. The actual change may be done incrementally. The last time dues changed was a \$10 increase in 2018. The most recent change before then was in 2008. The increase would not affect student affiliate members.
- A change that would allow membership opportunities for individuals who do not have a Associate or Bachelor's degree.

A town hall meeting explaining these changes is available at [AAUW.org/membership/view recent webinars](https://www.aauw.org/membership/view-recent-webinars). At the landing page, scroll down to June 16, 2020 National Board Town Hall and click on it. Board Chair Julia Brown and Vice Chair Melinda Gaul will explain the rationale for these proposals. I encourage you to take time to learn about these important updates and how they would affect the organization.

AAUW - Milwaukee Committee News

Membership Committee Goals 2020 - 2021 - Lyn Hildebrand (lyne819@gmail.com)

- Maintain current membership numbers
- Consider strategies for a new member recruitment event.
- Plan an in-person recruitment event in spring 2021

College/University Relations Committee Goals 2020 - 2021 - Jessica May (jessicalmay@gmail.com)

- Host a virtual screening and discussion for *Picture a Scientist*, a new documentary on women in STEM. Invite area college students studying STEM to participate in the screening and discussion.
- If National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) isn't held in 2021, identify another way to use the NCCWSL Scholarship funds to support an alternative leadership development opportunity for an area college student.
- Identify virtual ways to promote awareness of Equal Pay Day and the online Work Smart workshop at area campuses. An example would be to share online resources with college career centers, on our branch website and social media, and through a short Zoom webinar.
- Collaborate with the Women's Leadership Collaborative to implement a virtual "Day of Pay Equity" in Milwaukee, using Work Smart workshops. Recruit facilitators from our branch and help communicate/support facilitator training.



Public Policy Committee Goals 2020 - 2021 - Andrea Waxman (arwaxman@gmail.com)

- Following an important election year, redistricting maps will be drawn using results of the census. Members need to understand the importance of fair maps on legislation.
- Encourage members to become Two-Minute Activists. This sign-up through AAUW National sends alerts to enable you to contact your legislators (Federal) about equity issues, stopping sexual harassment, etc. via email or text.
- Offer a Legislative Update in January 2021. Invite state and/or local legislators to share their positions on issues that are important to women and girls.
- Assist with promotion of the Day for Pay Equity, if it goes forward, with members of the Woman's Leadership Collaborative/TEMPO.

Scholarship Committee Goals 2020 - 2021 - Joanne Johnson (jjohnsonm15@gmail.com)

- The primary goal of the AAUW Milwaukee Branch continues to be the identification of and awarding academic scholarships to outstanding MPS seniors who document financial need for the purpose of attending a college or university of their choice.
- Work with the office staff to become comfortable with the Scholarship Committee process.
- Review contacts with Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) for updates to assure the smooth delivery of application materials to counselors.
- Identify new chair or co-chairs for the 2021-2022 year. The current co-chairs can serve as committee members for another year to ensure a smooth leadership transition.
- Assure scholarships are awarded to the most qualified seniors, based on the established criteria, regardless of gender.

Women's Herstory

Edmonia Lewis

One of the first internationally famous African American artists, Edmonia Lewis was born in New York in 1844 and studied art at Oberlin College before becoming a professional sculptor. She was known for her marble busts of famous abolitionists like Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and Horace Greeley, and her patrons included President Ulysses S. Grant.

Aphra Behn

Seventeenth-century playwright, novelist, poet, and government spy Aphra Behn may have been the first woman in England to earn her living as a professional writer. Though many men of her time vocally disapproved of female writers in general—and of the often risqué content of Behn's writing specifically—her theatrical works were popular with audiences. Behn worked for most of her adult life as a writer, but took a brief break from the literary world from 1666 through 1667 when she traveled to Antwerp under the name "Astrea" to work as a spy for Charles II.

Committees cont.

Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Committee 2020 - 2021 Goals - Mia Tatum-Crider
(mtatumcrider@gmail.com)

Hello! My name is Mia Tatum-Crider and I am the AAUW Milwaukee Branch Diversity and Inclusion Chair! Please consider joining Christine Brown and myself as our work will aid in developing, implementing, and monitoring programs and activities that promote diversity and inclusion empowering women and girls within our community!

- Collaborate with diverse coalitions and community groups within the greater Milwaukee area thus increasing engagement of AAUW Milwaukee Branch members with multicultural outreach initiatives. Active involvement in speaker series, activities, and events.
- Increase and grow the number of diverse members within the AAUW Milwaukee Branch by actively recruiting new members who are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color).
- Provide opportunities for enriching discussion and presentations regarding inclusion, racial equity, mental health and wellness, and social justice as it impacts women and girls of diverse backgrounds (BIPOC).
- February 6, 2021 Featured Diversity & Inclusion Program! TBA!

We look forward to more collaborations with community groups and diversity coalitions! Please contact me if you are interested in joining this committee! We look forward to hearing from you!

Diversity is about all of us, and about us having to figure out how to walk through this world together
~Jacqueline Woodson

An individual has not started living until she/he can rise above the narrow confines of her/his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity
~Martin Luther King, Jr

Unity, not uniformity, must be our aim. We attain unity only through variety. Differences must be integrated, not annihilated, not absorbed
~Mary Parker Follett

It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences
~Audre Lorde



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 supports equal-pay advocacy, community programs, leadership development tools, the student leadership conference and so much more! AAUW makes no representation or warranties with respect to these products and/or services. Benefits, services and programs are subject to change without notice.

GEICO

Because you're a part of AAUW, [you could save money](#) with a special discount on GEICO auto insurance and give back to AAUW, too! See how much you could save today by getting a quote online, calling 1-800-368-2734 or visiting your local agent.

LTC Global

With 35+ years of experience in long-term care insurance, LTC Global will [save AAUW members time and money](#) on their long-term care insurance quotes. They offer multiple carriers to help people best meet their individual needs and budget. As an AAUW member, you may be eligible for a premium discount. Your extended family members (including spouses, brothers, sisters, parents, children age 18+, grandparents, aunts, uncles and in-laws) are also eligible for coverage. Call 888-305-4582 to learn more.

Nationwide Pet Insurance

Nationwide Pet Insurance® provides affordable pet health coverage from preventive care to significant medical incidents. AAUW members are [eligible for a 5% discount](#) (or more for multiple pets)—which makes this peace-of-mind protection even more affordable. Find out why VPI is the #1 choice in America for pet insurance.

Dollar Car Rental

Save 7% off base rates at participating locations with Dollar Car Rental and Thrifty Car Rental! [Reserve with Dollar Car Rental](#) or call 1-800-800-4000. (Use CD# 3063922.)

Thrifty Car Rental

Save 7% off base rates at participating locations with Thrifty Car Rental! Reserve with Thrifty Car Rental or call 1-800-847-4389. (Use CDP# 3063921.)

For additional perks go to <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/discounts-and-perks>



The Women in Math and Science Quiz

- Who photographed wildlife in Africa and worked for preservation of animals, especially in the Congo, in her books on conservation?
- Who earned more than 27 patents including a safety feature for sharp shuttles in textile mills, improved window sashes, and perfected a machine to create square bottoms in paper bags?
- Who spurred the rise of molecular biology using mathematical techniques and published 192 monographs while lecturing at Smith College for 30 years?
- Who was a famous and highly respected mathematician, astronomer and neo-Platonic philosopher in Alexandria who designed an astrolabe, a planisphere, and a method of distilling water; and was tortured and torn apart by a mob because she would not convert to Christianity?
- Who was an army surgeon in the Civil War and won the Congressional Medal of Honor; and worked for dress reform, declaring “corsets are coffins”?
- Who studied the life history of the song sparrow after authoring *The Birds of Oklahoma* in 1920?
- Who received patents – probably the first American woman – for cleaning and curing Indian corn in 1715, and for staining palmetto leaves and straw for hats and bonnets in 1716?
- Who expanded the theory that the Appalachian area was where plants survived during the Ice Age and wrote the classic *Deciduous Forests of Eastern North America* in 1950?
- Who joined the Office of Naval Research in 1946 to promote government funding for scientific research and encouraged women to engage in math research as Dean of Graduate Studies at CUNY?
- Who studied societies in the South Pacific and published popular accounts of her work from 1925 to 1939?
- Who was the first computer programmer (1833), largely self-taught in math, for whom the programming language ADA was named by the Department of Defense in 1977?
- Who had a comet named for her after she discovered it in 1847, taught astronomy at Vassar, and was the first woman elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences?
- Who became the first African-American graduate of a nursing school in 1879 – New England Hospital for Women and Children?
- Who was the first African-American woman to earn a degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1890?
- Who was probably the first woman in America to perform major surgery when she successfully removed an ovarian tumor in 1875?
- Who produced a lipstick that would not rub off or stain in 1950, with sales over 10 million dollars in 1953?
- Who used spectroscopy to analyze organic compounds at Mt. Holyoke as head of chemistry department from 1914-1946? In 1937 she was the first recipient of the Garvan Medal for service in chemistry.

Answers are available on the National Women's History Alliance website

<https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/quizzes/>

Book Club: 2020-2021 - Anne Lehman & Ellie Moseley

The AAUW of Milwaukee Book Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 1:00 to 2:00, September to May (excluding December 2020 and June, July, and August of 2021). This year we will have virtual meetings via ZOOM. These are the wonderful books selected for this season: October 2020 through May 2021.

- October 27: **Where the Crawdads Sing** by Delia Owens
 - Discussion Leader: Margaret Courtwright
- November 24: **The Island of Sea Women** by Lisa See
 - Discussion Leader: Tricia Brieceno
- December: no meeting
- January 26: **White Fragility** by Robin DiAngelo
 - Discussion Leader: Christine Brown
- February 23: **All the Light You Cannot See** by Anthony Doerr
 - Discussion Leader: Ellie Moseley
- March 23: **News of the World** by Paulette Jiles
 - Discussion Leader: TBA
- April 27: **Crazy Brave** by Joy Harjo
 - Discussion Leader: Anne Lehman
- May 25: **Caste: The Origins of Discontent** by Isabelle Wilkerson
 - Discussion Leader: Sharon Munson
- September 28: Select books for 2021-22
- October 26: TBA



You Are More Than Beautiful

I want to apologize to all the women I've called pretty, before I've called them intelligent or brave.

I'm sorry I made it sound as though something as simple as what you were born with is the most you have to be proud of when your spirit has crushed mountains.

From now on I will say things like, you are resilient or you are extraordinary.

Not because I don't think you're pretty, but because you are so much more than that.

- Rupi Kaur

Office Hours

Tuesday, and Wednesday,

9:30 am - 12:30pm

Thursday

9:30 am - 1:30pm