

Bulletin

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

www.aauwfortwayne.org www.indstate.edu/aauw-in www.aauw.org

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Thoughts from the President:

By Dr. Bobbie Weikle

Membership Matters!!!

How many of you have sent a welcoming message to a new member who joined AAUW this year? Have you thought about introducing yourself by email, phone, with a card, or better yet, in person? If you keep having these thoughts, let this message prod you on to the finish line. Make part of your New Year's resolution include making a personal contact with our new members and help them feel like they are a part of our mission. It is only going to be through our networking and making personal connections with people that we keep our membership strong and help the Fort Wayne AAUW Branch GROW!!!

Update on the "Pen Pals 'R' Us" Project:

We sharpened our writing tools and are "off and writing" with the "Pen Pals 'R' Us" Project! Mrs. Robin Williams, a high school Language Arts teacher for ninth graders in DeKalb county, is acting as our "cooperating" teacher and will monitor the letters to and from the students.

Six AAUW members signed on for writing letters and becoming a pen pal to Robin's students. In the beginning, we wrote Christmas cards to "peak" the interest of the students about our Project. Robin made an informative power-point presentation to introduce who we are to the students, provide some information about AAUW, and the overall purpose for the project. To our delight, twelve eager students signed up to participate and write back to us. Throughout the semester, we will write (4) letters to the students. The beginning letter is an introduction of ourselves to the student. The last letter will involve our closure and wishing the students well in their lives.

Robin has come up with some creative ways to interweave the writing skills that she teaches daily into making our pen pal letters become meaningful. Something that the AAUW members felt was an important part of the project was to expose the students to our handwriting. We will write all the letters in "cursive" on paper to the students. The students will ultimately write a summary about their Pen Pal experience with us. Their evaluation of this writing experience will become a part of the students' personal resume that is kept throughout high school. This type of experience is extremely valuable to help students utilize written language skills and learn to interact with others in their daily lives, for work, and writing for enjoyment. It will also provide a positive experience in community volunteerism.

Robin has met with all the AAUW participants to get to know us better as an organization and as individuals. We have tried to set the project up so that there is a "win/win" outcome for both our AAUW members and Robin's students. As the project winds down, we have asked Robin to summarize what her students have gained from this experience and how we might improve on the project if we replicate it in the future. As AAUW members, it will be a valuable gateway into learning about how 9th graders of today view the world and how we might be able to help them gain a basic understanding about the mission of AAUW and our work to improve the lives of ALL women.

Membership

<u>NOW</u>

is the best time to Recruit New AAUW Members!

Every AAUW member is a part of the membership team. Experience tells us that new members who are **recruited by our own** Branch members become active and **stay** in AAUW.

2018-19 Directory and Membership Records Updates

Change email Address: We heard from Nancy Getzin that her email address has changed. Please change to: <u>nwgetzn@gmail.com</u>

Correction email Address: Please note there was a misprint on the email of Jean Joley. (Her last name only has one ' L ' in it.) Change to jeanjoley11@gmail.com

Save the Dates!

Mark your Calendar!

Your Membership Matters

By Margaret Schimmel and Kris Conner, Membership Co-chairs margy.schimmel@yahoo.com or (260) 747-5078 and sticheratheart2@gmail.com or (260) 747-5776

National AAUW has informed us that they will no longer be accepting half price dues in January of each year for members joining at that time.

However.....the BEST deal is still in place! The **Shape the Future** campaign begins each year on **March 16** and is an incentive to prospective members to join <u>*at*</u> an AAUW event. This can be a Branch meeting, an interest group meeting, or an AAUW sponsored event partnering with other organizations. NEW members pay 1/2 national dues: \$29.50 and full Indiana state and local branch dues: \$25.00, totaling to \$54.50. These dues are valid until June, **2020**.

As Branch members, we should share this information with anyone who is interested in joining us in our mission.

This year, 2018-19, is an exciting time at AAUW as they focus on education and training, economic security, leadership and governance and sustainability, **the four pillars of AAUW's new strategic plan**. The support from our state and branch leaders will be critical to reach our bold goals to achieve <u>pay equity by 2030</u> and train 10 million women to negotiate their salaries by 2022.

The AAUW Strategic Plan is created through an inclusive process involving the AAUW Board of Directors and staff. The goal indicators of success and strategies reflect an integrated approach to fulfilling their mission, vision, and value promise. As AAUW continues to move forward in a changing world, so have their Strategic Plan and Vision Statement.

Update on Members:

Many of you will want to send a note of "cheer" to long-time member, **Nancy Andrews**. She recently suffered a stroke and is currently staying with her daughter who is caring for her needs. We all wish her a speedy recovery. Send cards to her home address: 4908 Oak Mast Trail, Ft. Wayne, IN 46804; or email: <u>tinymattie2@comcast.net</u>

Branch Board Meetings

February 4, 20196:30 p.m.April 8, 20196:30 p.m.Location:Business and Technical Conference Room (2nd FL)
Allen County Public Library (ACPL)
900 Library Plaza (between West Washington Blvd. and West Wayne St.)

Branch Programs

Annual Meeting – Saturday, March 23 – see more information on page 3 Spring Brunch - Saturday, May 18, 2019 Fort Wayne Country Club, 5221 Covington Road, Fort Wayne

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AAUW Annual Meeting and 80th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon

Saturday, March 23, 2019, 11:00 a.m.

Girl Scouts of Northern Indiana-Michiana Service Center

10008 Dupont Circle Drive East Fort Wayne, IN 46825

11:00 am Gathering and getting reacquainted with members, friends and guests
11:30 am Lunch and Anniversary Cake
12:00 pm Recognitions and Annual Meeting
12:15 pm Speaker Marsha Miller
12:30 pm Program
2:00 pm Announcements and Closing

Make your reservations now for the 2019 AAUW Annual Meeting and Recognition Event.

This March we will kick off our celebration of the 80th anniversary of our branch. This will be a year-long celebration and our March meeting will include a PowerPoint of past events and members honored over the past 80 years. In addition, we will hold our annual meeting, election of new officers and the special recognition of our members. Our special guest and speaker will be our AAUW Indiana President, Marsha Miller.

Plan to come and bring family and friends! We welcome all and we want you to be able to come so if you need a ride, please contact Cathy Huff at 260-403-7074 so she can arrange car pool services.

Early Bird reservation is \$17 per person if received by Monday, March 11.

On-time reservation is \$20 per person if received by Friday, March 15.

Your *reservation and check must be received* no later than Friday, March 15.

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AAUW Annual Meeting / 80th Anniversary Celebration Reservation Form

Saturday, March 23, 2019, 11:00 a.m. Reservations and checks – **must be** <u>received</u> by Friday, March 15

Name:		Name:			
Name:	me:N		Name:		
Indicate Your Entre Selection(s):					
# Chicken	#	Vegetarian	#	Gluten Free	
Total Number Attending:	X \$	each meal = Tc	tal Check Amount	:\$	
Mail this form and your check payable to "AAUW Fort Wayne Branch" to:					
Eileen Fraser 9726 Silver Shore CT Fort Wayne, IN 46804					
[Phone 260-432-7719: email eileen fraser@outlook.com]					



Contact Cathy Huff at

questions.

260-403-7074 with any

Check # _____

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Grant Applications accepted January 1 through February 28.

The Grant Application Form and instructions for applying may be found on the web site at: <u>http://aauwfortwayne.org</u>.

AAUW Trust

By Barb Kanning, AAUW Trust Chair kanning4@frontier.com or (260) 432-5228

Attention all Branch members!

The application period for obtaining a grant from our AAUW Trust is happening NOW! We have already begun to receive applications online on our website

Do you know a 501c3 nonprofit organization that might want funding for a specific project? Here's all you need to do:

- 1. Contact them and see if there is interest and need.
- 2. <u>Send them the web address : aauwfortwayne.org</u>
- 3. Instruct them to click on the Trust tab at the top, and read the guidelines by clicking on the qualifications tab.
- 4. Encourage the organization to submit an application.

Recipients will be notified by mid-March. Grants will be presented in April.

We look forward to another successful grant awarding period this spring.

A Thank you note from a grant recipient – Just Neighbors

As an employee of Just Neighbors Interfaith Homeless Network, I'd like to thank the AAUW Trust once again for your grant for cleaning supplies for families **exiting** our program.

Our new executive director, Joshua Gale, would like to visit with community groups, neighborhood associations and congregations to raise awareness of our emergency homeless shelter for families. If you are part of a group that is looking for a speaker, please contact him at 260-458-9772 or <u>joshua@ihnfw.org</u>. You can also contact me at the same number or at <u>nancy@ihnfw.org</u> Monday-Thursday from 9 to noon.

If you'd like to learn more about family homelessness in this area, I encourage you to view our website at <u>www.JustNeighborsIHN.org</u> and/or our Facebook page: <u>www.facebook.com/justneighborsihn</u>. There are many great not for profits in this city and I would encourage you to become familiar with the work that they do to make Fort Wayne a better place. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions about our work.

Nancy McCammon-Hansen

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AAUW Membership – Increase of Local Branch Dues

Our local AAUW Fort Wayne Branch dues have remained the same for many years without an increase to help cover rising costs. At the November, 2018 meeting, the Branch Board approved raising the local dues from <u>\$13.00 to \$18.00</u>, <u>making an increase in local dues of \$5.00</u>.

The increase in dues will help cover paying our honorariums and mileage for speakers, food costs, meeting rooms, etc. (An example of this is the recent honorarium paid to Concordia HS for the excellent Choir performance at our Christmas Brunch.)

This will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on March 23, 2019 at 11:30 a.m. If this increase is approved at the March meeting, the cost of dues for joining national, state, and our local branch will be:

National Dues:	\$ 59.00
State Dues:	7.00
Ft. Wayne Branch Dues:	18.00
Total:	\$84.00

Paycheck Fairness Act

Tell Your Member of Congress: Cosponsor and Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act

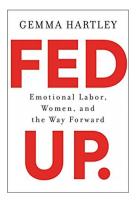
The economic well-being of women and families was a central issue in the election of the historically diverse 116th Congress. Now, our legislators have come to Washington with a charge to stand up for women's economic security — and there is no more fitting way to begin than by making real progress toward ensuring all women receive fair pay.

The Paycheck Fairness Act will soon be introduced in Congress — and you can be a critical part of the work to pass it by urging your members of Congress to become original cosponsors and to call for its swift passage.

Urge your members of Congress to affirm their commitment to pay equity by cosponsoring the Paycheck Fairness Act today!

The Paycheck Fairness Act would take meaningful steps to help close the gender pay gap. AAUW advocates have made sure Congress knows pay equity is a priority for women and families. Now, the Paycheck Fairness Act must be a priority in the 116th Congress.

Our lawmakers must make good on their promises to make progress for gender equity. Urge your members of Congress to cosponsor the Paycheck Fairness Act to help close the gender pay gap.



Book Review

By Dr. Bobbie Weikle

FED UP: Emotional Labor, Women, and the Way Forward by Gemma Hartley, (2018). HarperCollins Publishers, 195 Broadway, NY 10007. ISBN: 978-0-06-285598-5

If you are "fed up," this book will surely charge up your juices! Hartley's book ties in brilliantly with our AAUW efforts to work for equal pay and improving the lives of ALL women.

Countless women have become "fed up"! Regardless if you were cheering from your Lazyboy rocker when the "Women's March" was held in Washington, or like one of our AAUW members, Dottie Boyce, who was lucky enough to take part in the Washington march with her daughter and granddaughter, we have reached a critical turning point in society.

The author examines the mental and emotional balancing act that continues to be engrained in our cultural upbringing. By most standards her marriage to her husband would be rated as "having it made", when comparing it with someone who married in the 40's or 50's generations. Harley takes great care to let the reader know that their marriage is for the most part a 50/50 partnership. Her point? She helps the reader understand that there is still more that needs to be worked toward in our cultural evolution. *(continued on next page)*

Book Review – continued

By Dr. Bobbie Weikle

In her work, Hartley strongly points out the grave differences in the emotional reactions occurring daily among men and woman. She highlights the severity of our "undervaluing of care-based labor [and how that can make] motherhood hard to enjoy. When the author's career takes off and she becomes the "bread winner" and her husband was at home full-time, she is totally frustrated that nothing seemed to change. She realizes that becoming a working mother doesn't solve the emotional imbalance of what she refers to as **"emotional labor."** Hartley expands her views by pointing out that "as a woman, making an effort isn't good enough, because we are constantly bombarded with the message that we need to be *perfect.*" Her "reaction to a job well done is almost always that it wasn't quite good enough." In contrast, her "husband's reaction to a job well done is satisfaction. He doesn't live with the constant inner dialogue that he needs to do better when it comes to *emotional labor*. It's not his job to keep everyone comfortable and happy. The tasks [she takes] on with care do not hold the same value for him. He does not see the organization of a life as anything more than a perfunctory task. [She sees] it as a measure of [her] love and, furthermore, [her] self-worth." There is a "great sense among us and an even greater sense of *obligation* to "*do it all!*" "We feel shame and guilt when we don't live up to the expectations for our *emotional labor*."

The writer makes the case for women still being "on call. It's up to us to ask, delegate, and do so in a way that will cause the least amount of friction. This is the part of what makes emotional labor so exhausting." She opens the door to a discussion about workplace equality and the lengths women go to adapt to male standards. "The way we perform emotional labor at work and the way we perform it at home are different to be sure, but it all stems from the same cultural assumptions about how women should move through a man's world." The author asserts that these things are so deeply ingrained, that we don't often think about (in the broad sense) how much is on our plate.

In Part III of the book, "*The Path Forward*", the writer tackles the "nature" vs "nurture" issues but asserts that "most all of us, in big and small ways, have been conditioned to accept *emotional labor* as our lot in life." If you were raised to think of "feminism" as a dirty word and watched your role models and peers tout traditional gender roles as if it were the gospel, then it will take a conscious ongoing effort to move past these traditional roles. In a closer examination by the author, it becomes clearer "that in emotional labor, nurture trumps nature at every turn."

Becoming aware of how we have been "conditioned" is one thing, but making changes in society that are more permanent requires a lot more effort. The author illustrates her point in describing the pace in which the country of Iceland has made rapid strides in equalizing gender issues in their country. Iceland has become known as "the most feminist country in the world." Becoming a more feminist country did not come about easily. Like many other countries, when the global recession hit, Iceland was severely affected as well. However, they recognized early on that if the country was to get back on its feet, the government needed to change. There was a major difference among the way the Icelandic people dealt with the economic meltdown. In the U.S., while many men remained in their jobs even as our economy took a nosedive, it was handled much differently in Iceland. The men who were held responsible for Iceland's economic problems were also held accountable and went to jail. The most telling detail is the fact that women were given the jobs to replace the men. The entire Icelandic government resigned – even the prime minister. There is obviously something to be learned from this country. The country takes pride in pointing out that they **"have a low gender wage gap, the best working conditions for women, and a parliament where women currently hold 48 percent of seats alongside a female head of state."**

In examining the views of men, the author found that most Icelandic men "felt confident in claiming the title of feminist, and it is this spirit of solidarity that seems to be catapulting the country forward. Both men and women want to see a more equal society, and both are ready and willing to fight to make that a reality." Hartley points out that if both men and women can get over the notion that is *nature, not nurture*, that holds us in these roles, we can come together to harness the power of *emotional labor* and make this valuable skill set work for us all. Ultimately, we need to recognize what our partners are doing and rise to the occasion. We all need to own *emotional labor* as our responsibility as adults, regardless of our gender. This brings us back to our efforts in **AAUW to renew our fight for equal pay.**

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Interest Groups

Afternoon Book Discussion – Meets the third Thursday of the month at Halls Gas House at 12:30 pm.

February 21 – Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly (also discuss Jane Eyre due to cancelled last meeting)

March 21 – The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion

April 18 – A Piece of the World by Christine Kline

May 17 - Beloved by Michelle Obama (changed from the previous selection)

Creative Arts and Service – Meets at various locations, dates, times

No additional information provided

Creative Stitchery and Crafts – Meets the first Tuesday of the month at a group member's home at 1 pm. *No additional information provided*

Current Literature I – Meets the first Tuesday of the month at group member homes at 7:15 pm.

February 5 – A Piece of the World by Christina Baker Kline	Discussion Leader: Andrea Tarbet
April 2 – Select Books for 2019-2020	Hostess: Barb Kanning
May 7 – The Alice Network by Kate Quinn	Discussion Leader: Chris Myers
June 4 – Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann	Discussion Leader: Joanne Beerbower

Current Literature II – Meets the fourth Monday of the month at Villas of Heritage Lake Clubhouse at 1:30-3 p.m.

February 25 – Language of Flowers by Vanessa Diffenbaugh	Discussion Leader: Jane Anderson
March 25 – <i>Rainwater</i> by Sandra Brown	Discussion Leader: Cheryl Mathews
April 22 – Choose Books for 2019-2020	Hostess: Jane Anderson
May 20 – Sing Unburied Sing by Jesamyn Ward	Discussion Leader: Lois Guess

Great Decisions Book Club – Meets the Second Friday of the month at a member's home at 11:30 a.m.

February 8, 11:30 a.m. at the home of Pat BeckerGroup leaders: Carolyn Pelz and Pat BeckerMarch 8, at 11:30 a.m. at the home of Nancy KellyGroup leader: Rita Voors

Fort Wayne Branch Recognitions

By Mary Lou Thomas, Recognition Chair redding11@aol.com or 260-672-0803

Each year at our Annual Meeting recognition is given to members or groups who have served the branch in special ways. The awards to be presented are: **Woman of the Year, Eleanor Roosevelt Award, Emerging Leader** or **Member Leader**. Honorees could be individuals, a committee or an interest group. More information can be found on the pages 15-19 of our Directory or on the Membership page of our website http://aauwfortwayne.org/membership/.

The branch recognition committee will be meeting soon. **Submit your nominations by Friday, February 15 to Mary Lou** by email or phone using the contact information above.

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The Bulletin Editor c/o 7209 Tanbark Lane Fort Wayne, IN 46835



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AAUW Fort Wayne IN Branch Board of Directors

President: Dr. Bobbie Weikle Director of Programs: Cathy Huff Helt Co-Directors of Membership: Margaret Schimmel / Kristine Conner Recording Secretary: Cheryl Matthews Corresponding Secretary: Theresa Brady Director of Finance: Joanne Beerbower Chair of AAUW Trust: Barb Kanning

AAUW Fort Wayne IN Branch Committees

Director of Communications/Media Publicity: Jane Anderson Director of Diversity and International Relations: Director of Public Policy: Judy Gillman College/University Representative (PFW): Dr. Terri Swim College/University Liaison: Dr. Gloria Shamanoff Recognition Chair: Mary Lou Thomas Nominating Committee Convener: AAUW Funds: Phyllis Thompson Bulletin Editor: Theresa Brady Interest Group: Cathy Huff Helt Reservations: Eileen Fraser Member Records: Connie LaBrash Historian: Juliette Spears