

Bulletin

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

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Thoughts from the President:

By Dr. Bobbie Weikle

100th Anniversary Celebration – The Continued Fight for Women's Rights!

In celebrating the 100th anniversary ratifying the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote, we all should hit the 'reality pause' button to reflect and truly appreciate how hard this battle was to win! The fight in Indiana is a concrete study of the tenacity of women. At that time, due to Indiana's legislature meeting only every other year, try to imagine getting law-makers together to discuss the topic of women voting.

Thanks to the work of women like Amanda Way, a native of Winchester, Indiana, who is credited with helping to found the Indiana Women's Rights Association and calling for the state's first women's rights convention in 1851, her work helped mount a force to be reckoned with! Through the monumental efforts and perseverance of many Hoosier women, a 'Special Session' of the Indiana legislature was called to get the votes needed. On January 16, 1920, the legislature voted and Indiana became the 26th state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment. Tennessee would be the last state that actually fully "ratified" the amendment so it could become part of the constitution.

Suffragists Could Be Almost Anyone!

In her new book, *"We Must Be Fearless" The Women Suffrage Movement in Indiana (2020)*, author Anita Morgan dissects the historical Women's Suffrage movement and, in her Introduction, makes the poignant statement that "[a]n Indiana suffragist could be almost anyone" (p. 1). The term 'anyone' meant that women and men from all walks of life, people of color, immigrants, varied educational backgrounds, and a variety of religious and political views took up this fight throughout many decades.

'Real Equality' - We're Still Fighting for It!!!

In watching the current political conventions, it seems ironic that the battles for 'real equality' are still being fought. The irony is even more distinct when reading some earlier written correspondence between Abigail and John Adams, who was serving as a delegate to the nation's Continental Congress held in Philadelphia in the spring of 1776. Through their correspondence during that period of time, Abigail makes a plea to her husband to

"Remember the Ladies, and be more generous and favourable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the Husbands. Remember all Men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the Ladies we are determined to foment a Rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or Representation." (Ware, 2020, p. 7)

Abigail's message to John comes through loud and clear as she urges him to 'keep women in mind' and indirectly urges her husband (and other delegates) to view men and women as having equal rights

(continued on page 3)

Membership

NOW

*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.*

Membership Matters

By Donna McKenzie and Amy Lehman, Co-Directors of Membership
dcmckenzie@comcast.net or (260) 637-0260 and amyllynnl@comcast.net or (260) 705-6155

A Big Thank You

To all of you who renewed your membership, thank you for continuing to support the mission of AAUW. Our organization truly works to improve the lives of ALL women! Our work is critical to lives of everyone! This next election is going to be crucial to all of us. Be sure to remind **everyone to vote**.

Three Cheers for the continued good health of ALL our AAUW members!

Recently, we heard from some of the members living at the Towne House Retirement Community. In a conversation with Juliette Spears, she related that they had '**finally**' lifted the "**lock down**" orders and the residents could now leave the facility. In another conversation with Ruth Von Deylen, she said they had kept busy with walking around the pathways that surround the building. Daily meals were delivered to their door. She also related that in June, when all the residents had been tested for the virus, no one had tested positive at that time! All that 'good living' has really payed off! Way to go, Ladies!!!

Mail/Email Address Changes

Janet Rison has moved to the Lutheran Life Village South. We hope she will enjoy her new home. Please send her your good wishes at the following address:

Janet Rison
Lutheran Life Village South
7623 S. Anthony Blvd., Apt. S 310
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

Nancy Kelley now has an email address. Please send her correspondence to:
nancykelley2@aol.com

Please send any membership information changes to Theresa Brady at tbrady822@gmail.com or call at 262-853-8739.

Interest Groups

*These regular group meetings may not be held due to Coronavirus health precautions.
Please check with your group leader to learn if events will be held.*

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

September 1 – Select Books for 2020-21

October 6 – *Book TBD*

Discussion Leader: TBD

November 3 – *Book TBD*

Discussion Leader: TBD

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

September 28 – *A Gentleman in Moscow*

Discussion Leader: Martha Weatherford.

October 26 – *Matriarch: Barbara Bush* by Susan Page

Discussion Leader: Eleanor Wallace

'Real Equality' - We're Still Fighting for It!!! (continued from page 1)

as they are crafting the document for independence. The independence of ALL people and their rights was on the minds of women much earlier and discussed in her new book, ***"American Women's Suffrage: Voices from the Long Struggle for the Vote 1776-1965,"*** by Susan Ware (Ed., 2020).

A wealth of letters and documents are examined from much earlier historical times and Ware points out that only a few months later (following the pleas of Abigail), "the colonies declared their independence from Britain but **failed to grant political and legal equality either to women or to African Americans**" (p. 5). Women, people of various races, creeds, and backgrounds most certainly took notice and thus, the movement for suffrage and the equal rights for ALL people began much earlier than is typically remembered.

While Morgan's book represents a spectacular account of how hard Hoosier women fought, Susan Ware's book depicts the much earlier efforts that have been made throughout history to achieve the goal of suffrage and woman's right to vote. Both books should be on everyone's 'must read' list!

"Bread & Roses" – Don't Miss Our Next AAUW Brunch!

To continue celebrating the passage of the 19th Amendment, be sure to attend our upcoming **October AAUW Meeting & Brunch** on Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 10:30 am. Our Guest Speaker will feature one of Fort Wayne's outstanding community leaders, activist, and supporter of the rights of voters and women, Ms. Charlotte Weybright. Her presentation, titled: "Bread & Roses" will give everyone some greatly needed hope during this time when we all need to be inspired! Be sure to fill out the enclosed registration form and return it if you plan to attend the brunch.

References:

Morgan, Anita. (2020). ***We Must Be Fearless: The Woman Suffrage Movement in Indiana.*** Indiana Historical Society Press, 450 West Ohio St., Indianapolis, IN 46202; 800-447-1730; <http://shop.indianahistory.org>.

Ware, Susan (Ed., 2020). ***American Women's Suffrage: Voices from the Long Struggle for the Vote 1776-1965.*** Published by Library of America; www.loa.org; Distributed by Penguin Random House, Inc. ISBN: #978-1-59853-664-5.

Yang, Jia Lynn. (2020). ***One Mighty & Irresistible Tide: The Epic Struggle Over American Immigration, 1924-1965.*** WW. Norton & Company, Ltd., 500 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10110; www.norton.com; ISBN #978-0-393-63584-3

Sidelined Women Scientists

By Cheryl Mathews

Marie Maynard Daly, Jocelyn Bell Burnell, Klaradan Von Neumann, Chien-Shiung Wu.

Have you ever heard of any of these names? Most likely, you haven't. These are women who made significant scientific discoveries or advances in America, but received scant credit or were in the shadows of male colleagues. An article in the October, 2019, issue of *Smithsonian* magazine, titled, "Sidelined" by Susan Dominus, tells of the effort to bring these women and their accomplishments to light. In 1969, **Margaret Rossiter**, one of the few women enrolled in a graduate program at Yale, devoted to the history of science, asked her fellow classmates if there were ever any women scientists. The overwhelming answer was, "No. Never. None.", although someone mentioned one well-known woman scientist, **Marie Curie**, two-time winner of the Nobel Prize. The history of women in science became Rossiter's life work, traveling thousands of miles, digging into dusty files and archives. The culmination was her published study, "Women Scientists in America: Struggles and Strategies to 1940." The subtitle reflects what Rossiter discovered about the systematic way that the field of science deterred women, and a "chronicling of the ingenious methods that enterprising women nonetheless found to pursue the knowledge of nature."

In 1993, Rossiter attended a conference at which researchers presented papers on women scientists whose work had been wrongly credited to men. Rossiter was astounded and decided this phenomenon needed to be recognized and named. She decided on the "Matilda Effect", after **Matilda Gage**, a suffragist, whose own work was overlooked by historians and who wrote about the way women scientists in particular, had been erased by history. Many subsequent studies have examined the Matilda Effect. A 2013 paper, "The Matilda Effect in Science Communication", reported that "both women and men judged research papers by men to be stronger than those by women, and both men and women showed preference for the male authors as possible future collaborators." Although there has been much progress in recognition of women scientists, there is still work to be done.

As for Margaret Rossiter, she is a professor emeritus at Cornell University. In the 1990s, Cornell created a new department aligned with Rossiter's interests – the Graduate Program in the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology.

More information on the women named at the beginning of this article:

- **Marie Maynard Daly** (1921-2003): first African-American woman in the U. S. awarded a PhD in chemistry from Columbia University in 1947. Her pioneering work investigated the links between cholesterol and heart disease and the effects of cigarette smoking on the lungs.
- **Chien-Shiung Wu** (1912-1997): experimental physicist emigrated from China in the 1930s and was recruited to the Manhattan Project where she worked on uranium enrichment.
- **Klaradan Von Neumann** (1911-1963): self-taught mathematician was a primary developer of coding for the 1940s ENIAC computer. Yet she is not listed as an author on the paper announcing that work.
- **Jocelyn Bell Burnell** (1943-): astrophysicist denied a 1974 Nobel as co-discoverer of pulsars, attended a school in Northern Ireland where science for girls was not allowed.

**October 2020 AAUW Meeting & Brunch
 Saturday, October 3, 2020, 10:30 am
 Club Room at the Clyde Theater, 1806 Bluffton Rd., Fort Wayne, Indiana**

Agenda:

- Gathering & Introductions
- Meeting & Announcements
- Brunch

Guest Speaker: Ms. Charlotte Weybright, topic: "Bread & Roses"

Wrap-up & Closing

Come raise your glass and celebrate the 19th Amendment to the Constitution giving women the right to vote. To help mark the 100th anniversary of our right to vote, please plan to join us for our AAUW celebration brunch and meeting.

To help mark this special occasion, our guest speaker, **Charlotte Weybright**, will give a presentation titled **"Bread & Roses"** dedicated to our Foremothers who fought so valiantly to ensure we would have the right to vote. Ms. Weybright's background is in law, education, and politics. Since her retirement in 2010, she has worked tirelessly for the Election Board as well as devoting many hours of work to community development projects. Ms. Weybright continues to advocate to preserve the rights of women and our voting rights, which are being eroded.

Brunch Menu: Vegetable Quiche, Sausage, Fresh Fruit, Danish, & Coffee or Tea. Make your reservations now for the 2020 AAUW Fall Meeting & Brunch.

Early Bird reservation is \$15 per person if received by Monday, September 21, 2020

On-time reservation is \$17.00 if received by Friday, September 25, 2020.

**AAUW Fort Wayne Branch Fall Meeting & Brunch Reservation Form
 Saturday, October 3, 2020, 10:30 am**

Reservations and checks must be received by Friday, Sept. 25, 2020

Please indicate if you want your meal to be gluten free.

Member Name: _____ \$ _____ Check for gluten free

Guest #1 Name: _____ \$ _____ Check for gluten free

Guest #1 Phone Number & Email: _____

Guest #2 Name: _____ \$ _____ Check for gluten free

Guest #2 Phone Number & Email: _____

Total Number Attending: _____ x \$ _____ each meal = Total Check Amount: \$ _____

Mail this form and your check payable to **"AAUW Fort Wayne Branch"** and send to:

Eileen Fraser, 9726 Silver Shore Ct., Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Phone: 260-432-7719; email: eileen.fraser@outlook.com

Check # _____

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Lobbying for Mail-In Ballots

While there has been an announcement made about the vote-by-mail issue within Indiana and the regulations used in the past elections for mail-in ballots will still be in place, you can still register your opinion about this matter. However, you need to go directly to the top! Tell Governor Eric Holcomb to:

Allow 'no excuse needed vote-by-mail' for all registered voters in November, as was done in the June primary.

Phone Number: 317-232-4567 or website: <http://www.in.gov/gov/2752.htm>. Tell him voters should not have to risk illness or death to carry out their constitutional right to vote. If it was OK for us to vote by mail in the June Primary, it should be OK for us in November.

Voting Information from the League of Women Voters!

The League of Women Voters has asked for help to encourage voter registration and voting in the Fort Wayne area. The Fort Wayne Branch of AAUW and the League are both very committed to seeing an increase in getting people to **VOTE** in our upcoming election in **November!** It may seem like a long way off, but actually, we're down to counting the "days" until the vote is taken.

The League has asked if any of our members or other people you know are **in need of absentee ballots or information about early voting sites? Do you have that information or would you like assistance in providing it?**

The League of Women Voters is an organization that is open to all regardless of gender identity and is a non-partisan resource for voting information. Their team of trained volunteers can help you or others to answer your questions. If you have questions and/or concerns, you may find answers at the following resources:

- **For Questions/Answers from Candidates: 411.org** — This is a national website of the League of Women Voters where you can view unedited candidate responses to questions posed to them by League members.
- **www.indianavoters.in.org** — You may register to vote, find your polling place, and get information about absentee ballots and voting at this site.
- The League's local website: **www.lwvfw.org**

You can also find the League on Facebook and Instagram at **[lwvfw](#)**

Informed voting is important! Please pass this information along to others and help the **League of Women Voters** and the **Fort Wayne Branch of AAUW** to help **GET OUT THE VOTE!**

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

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