

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

What Does it Take to Lead National AAUW?

When I look at the date on our National AAUW logo and read “Empowering Women Since 1881”, the sage adage of the 60’s, “We’ve come a long way, baby!” always comes to mind. Think about all the issues women were dealing with during the earlier years of our organization. Having the right to vote, be educated, own property, having a job outside the home, equal pay for equal work, and being in control of your own body were just a few of issues women were fighting for.



Then and Now:

We’ve Come a Long Way!

Thinking about the leadership needed for AAUW in the 1880’s and comparing it to the leadership needed in 2021 and beyond, is sort of over-whelming! The past two years alone have required strategic thinking beyond what most organizations and society has ever imagined.

In the 70’s, a friend who was born in 1888 recounted many of the obstacles that she and other women had battled. Coming from a wealthy background, she soon realized that the only way she was ever going to have her own life was to remain single. As an exceptionally bright person, she also realized that her father would not encourage her to attend college. However, after many battles, her father gave his “permission” to attend college. On campus, she fought another battle with college officials due to the regulation of living in a ‘women’s dormitory’ instead of off-campus in an apartment. Somehow, she managed to get around that restriction and lived in her own apartment. After taking a few courses, the only fields which she felt would provide an income to live on were in teaching and nursing. Excelling in public speaking, she directed her studies toward teaching.

**Well-Behaved
Women
Seldom Make
History!**

- Laurel Thatcher Ulrich

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Not long into her career and teaching in a one-room schoolhouse, the uphill battles that women of that era had to fight became a reality. Not only did her teaching contract from the School Board (comprised of men) expect her to attend church on Wednesdays and Sundays but demanded Board approval of any man she chose to date and where she resided. Other contractual demands included a “dress” code, keeping the school clean and the wood stove burning to provide heat for the students. She also became aware that male teachers were paid a good deal more than a woman. After all, the men were going to be supporting a family!

Moving on to a larger school in a city where the pay was a little better (but still not equal to a man’s salary) she was finally relieved of a few duties such as cleaning and providing heat for the room. She began her writing career and published a book on the art of public speaking that was actually used to teach public speaking in the local school district. Eventually, she went on to become an editor of a newspaper but was faced again with the inequality of wages for women.



Welcome Our New AAUW Leader

Gloria L Blackwell:

When the announcement came of our new national leader, Gloria L. Blackwell, being chosen as the Chief Executive Officer of AAUW, I was eager to learn about her background, leadership, and work to improve the lives of women. One of her achievements has been extremely beneficial to our local AAUW Branch and people in this region. Gloria has helped spearhead innovative programs such as AAUW’s award-winning **salary negotiation** workshops. **Start Smart** and **Work Smart** workshops have trained more than 190,000 women nationwide.

Please read the biographical background about our new leader that was sent to AAUW members and can also be found at <https://www.aauw.org/about/leadership/gloria-l-blackwell/>. While achieving some goals such as receiving equal pay for equal work are taking longer than expected, the work of AAUW and people such as Ms. Blackwell are continuing to have a positive effect overall on society. Gloria has a proven record of making a lifelong commitment to AAUW’s vision of achieving **equity for ALL**.

Please welcome Gloria L. Blackwell to her new position and recommit yourselves to working to achieve our national goals. A lot of work is still needed to achieve equality for **ALL** people!

AAUW Trust

Happy 40th Anniversary!

This year the AAUW Fort Wayne Branch will be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of our AAUW Trust. The Trust was established from the bequest and estate of the former member, R. Hazel Miller. The continuing contributions to the AAUW Trust have enabled the local organization to support grants, programs, and fund projects in keeping with the mission of AAUW, encourage education among AAUW members and the community, promote standards of excellence in education, and work with others in the community whose mission is similar to that of AAUW. Over time, the AAUW Trust has awarded a total of 394 grants and as of 2021 awarded a total of over \$449,000 to fund projects that have benefitted many people throughout Indiana.

In honor of our AAUW Trust anniversary, the Fort Wayne AAUW Branch will host a special celebration at our meeting and brunch held on Saturday, December 4, 2021, at the Pine Valley Country Club. For more details and to register for the AAUW brunch, see page 5.

Through the years, many programs and projects in the community have received funding by the AAUW Trust. A few of the prominent grants will be highlighted for this celebration. Recipients of these grants will provide project updates about how AAUW Trust funds have benefitted people in this region.

Silent Auction Fundraiser

The proceeds from our Silent Auction at our December event at Pine Valley will be split – half will remain in our Fort Wayne Branch to support our local efforts and half will **support our National AAUW Fund** to advance our mission. Our gift to the National AAUW Fund helps support AAUW Advocacy, NCCWSL, Member Leader Programs, LAF, Tech Savvy, Student Advisory Council, Start Smart, CAP Grants, Elect Her, Younger Women’s Task Force, C/U Partners, Tech Trek, Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, and more.

The auction items do **not** have to be “baskets”. A wide variety of items will be available. Among the contributions to bid on are lovely hand-crafted or specialty homemade food items. Some wonderful gift certificates for hotel overnights or for attending local events have also been donated for previous auctions. Get creative and surprise us with what you come up with for us to bid on!

It is a good place to pick up a holiday or birthday gift for someone in your family or a friend.

*Grant Applications
accepted*

January 1 - February 28.

*The Grant Application Form and
instructions for applying may be
found on the web site*

at: <http://aauwfortwayne.org>.

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.*

Save the Dates!

Register Early!

***Mark your
Calendar!***

2021-2022 Yearbook Membership Information Changes / Corrections

- p. 23 – the Vice-Chair for the Branch Trust Board is Corrina Weikle (not Corinna)
- p. 28 – Kristine Conner’s postal address is 7833 W. Jefferson BLVD #226
- p. 29 – Carolyn Hurley’s cell phone number is 260-210-3272. Use Silver City NM postal address as of November 2021 until further notice.

Please contact Theresa Brady (tbrady822@gmail.com or 262-853-8739) when your information changes and we will print in the next newsletter.

Branch Board Meetings

All Board meetings will be at the Allen County Public Library, Room A, 900 Library Plaza FW at 6:00 pm.

November 1, 2021

February 7, 2022

April 4, 2022

June 6, 2022

Branch Programs

Director of Program

Linda Manning, tmlm4733@gmail.com or 260-403-1913

Holiday Brunch and Silent Auction

Saturday, December 4, 2021 at 9:30 am

Pine Valley Country Club, 10900 Pine Mills Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46845

Celebrate the holiday season AND the 40th Anniversary of the AAUW Fort Wayne Trust. This event includes our popular silent auction, which furthers the AAUW mission. Please consider a contribution of a basket or individual items to include in the auction. See reservation form on page 5.

Annual Meeting

Saturday, March 5, 2022

Allen County Public Library (ACPL) Main Location, Meeting Rooms A, B, C
900 Library Plaza (between West Washington Blvd. and West Wayne Street)

At our annual Meeting we will elect our new officers and recognize outstanding contributions of individuals and groups. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected everyone greatly. Educators are trying to teach and students are trying to learn under circumstances never before encountered. A local educator will speak on how our children are being affected by this health crisis and how our schools are trying to do their jobs despite the negative forces.

AAUW Fort Wayne Branch Holiday Brunch and Silent Auction
Celebrate 40th Anniversary of AAUW Branch Trust



Saturday, December 4, 2021 9:30 am
 Pine Valley Country Club
 10900 Pine Mills Road

Join us in celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the AAUW Fort Wayne Trust. Through the years, some outstanding projects have been funded by the Trust and benefitted people throughout Indiana. More than 390 grants have received funding. A few of the grant recipients and projects previously funded by the Trust will be highlighted during our celebration. To mark this special event, Maestro Robert Nance and a few Heartland Chorale musicians will perform holiday music for our joyous occasion!

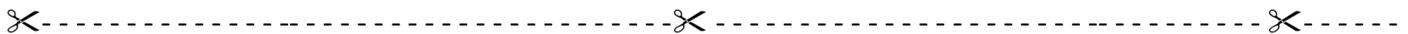
Please invite a guest and enjoy our branch’s annual holiday brunch and a delicious breakfast buffet. You can also kick off your holiday shopping and bid on a variety of items in our silent auction. All proceeds benefit the AAUW Fund, which advances AAUW’s mission by sustaining our national programs and activities, as well as our local branch. Everyone is encouraged to contribute a gift basket or individual items to be included in the auction. Food, fun, and no-stress shopping – all for a great cause! Send in your reservations now!

Early Bird reservation is \$16 per person if received by Friday, November 15.

On-time reservation is \$19 per person if received by Friday, November 19.

Your **reservation and check – must be received** no later than Friday, November 19.

Breakfast buffet includes meats, eggs, potatoes, fruit, pastries, coffee, tea, water.



December 2021 Holiday Brunch Reservation Form

Saturday, December 4, 2021, 9:30 am

Reservations and checks – **must be received by Friday, November 19, 2021.**

Member Name: _____ Phone Number _____

Guest #1 Name: _____

Guest #1 Phone number/email: _____

Guest #2 Name: _____

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” to:

Eileen Fraser 9726 Silver Shore CT Fort Wayne, IN 46804

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

Pay online at <https://aauwfortwayne.org/online-payments/>

Check # _____



**New Hamilton Book
for Publication:**

*Ruth has finished writing a book about the Hamilton family, titled: **Please Call Me Edith**. The book focuses on the life of Edith Hamilton and Ruth has been busy submitting the book to publishers and trying to get her new work accepted for publication.*

Update on our AAUW Member

Everyone attending our previous brunch where author, playwright, and member, Ruth Tyndall Baker, had two actors portray a scene from her new play, **'Women Unleashed,'** came away excited and wanting to see the whole play performed. After months of editing and planning, let's all give a 'hats off' to Ruth for her tenacity in getting the play produced and on to the final destination of being performed live and on stage!

Mark Your Calendars!

Ruth has been working with the well-known Fort Wayne director, Thom Hofrichter and his new production company, Playground 630, soon to be a company in residence at PFW. The play, **'Women Unleashed,'** is a wonderful portrayal about the Hamilton women and their family of Fort Wayne.

Edith and Alice Hamilton were women who were truly ahead of their time, and each made significant contributions to the fields of education, medicine, health care, enacting national sanitation standards and improving the lives of children and families. The play depicts the daughters' interactions with their parents, who encouraged them to "think" outside the box and instilled in them the desire to pursue knowledge, interests, and careers that went beyond anything considered 'appropriate' for a woman of that era. Their contributions would ultimately benefit society overall and the play is a lasting tribute to work.

The play will be performed at the **'Studio Theatre'** located in Kettler Hall on the Purdue University Fort Wayne campus. The play will be performed **Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm and Sundays at 2 pm, March 4-6 and 11-13, 2022.** Tickets are \$20.00. For information about tickets, call 260-416-4461.

Volunteers Needed!

We hope all our AAUW members will plan to attend the play. Ruth has asked for volunteers from AAUW to help with handing out programs and taking tickets during the evenings the play will be performed. If you are available to help for any of the performance dates, please contact Ruth Baker Tyndall at 260-422-3486 and leave your name and a phone number and she will return your call.

Interest Groups

*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

Group meets at 6-8 pm on the first Tuesday of the month in the Globe Room at the ACPL Main Branch.

November 2 – *Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* by V. E. Schwab

December 7 – *Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate

February 1 – *A Life Without Water* by Marci Bolden

Group Leader: Martha Dawson

Discussion Leader: Linda Manning

Discussion Leader: Theresa Brady

Discussion Leader: Nancy Andrews

Current Literature II

Group meets at 1:30-3:00 pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Community Villas of Heritage Lakes Club House at 8220 St. Joe Road, FW.

Group Leader: Cheryl Mathews

Great Decisions

Group meets at 1:30-3:00 pm on the second Friday of the month at the Community Villas of Heritage Lakes Club House at 8220 St. Joe Road, FW.

Group Leaders: Donna McKenzie and Rita Voors

November 12 – **U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle** Hostess: Rita Voors Leader: Carol Patterson

First Impressions

Meeting times and locations vary.

Group Leader: Cheryl Mathews

Creative Arts & Service

The group meets mostly second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm.

Group Leader: Carol Isaacs

Creative Stitchery and Service Projects

The group meets on the First Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm.

Group Leader: Patti Davis

AAUW Fort Wayne IN Branch 2021-22 Board of Directors

President: Dr. Bobbie Weikle

Director of Program: Linda Manning

Co-Directors of Membership: Amy Lehman/Stephany Bourne

Recording Secretary: Terri Stumpf

Corresponding Secretary: Theresa Brady

Director of Finance: Eileen Fraser

Chair of AAUW Trust: Margy Schimmel

AAUW Fort Wayne IN 2021-22 Branch Committees

Director of Communications/Media Publicity: Jane Anderson

Director of Diversity and International Relations: Open

Director of Public Policy: Open

College/University Representative (PFW): Dr. Terri Swim

College/University Liaison: Dr. Gloria Shamanoff

Recognition Chair: Mary Lou Thomas

Nominating Committee Convener: Jane Anderson, Ruth Von Deylen

AAUW Funds: Barb Kanning

Bulletin Editor: Theresa Brady

Interest Group: Cathy Huff Helt

Reservations: Eileen Fraser

Member Records: Theresa Brady

Historian: Jane Anderson