

# Bulletin

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

[www.aauwfortwayne.org](http://www.aauwfortwayne.org) [www.indstate.edu/aauw-in](http://www.indstate.edu/aauw-in) [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<a href="#">AAUW FW Trust</a>	3
<a href="#">Board Meeting Dates</a>	3
<a href="#">Board of Directors List</a>	6
<a href="#">Committee List</a>	6
<a href="#">Community Impact Project</a>	2
<a href="#">Interest Group</a> Info	6
<a href="#">Membership</a> & Directory	3
<a href="#">Event Info &amp; Registration</a>	1
<a href="#">President's Message</a>	5
<a href="#">May Program Info</a>	4
<a href="#">2023-25 Election Slate</a>	4

## AAUW Fort Wayne Branch

### 2023 Annual Meeting and Member Recognition

**Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 10:30 am**

Anthony Wayne Services (AWS)  
5323 W Jefferson Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Cost: \$20/person

The AAUW Fort Wayne Branch will hold its annual meeting and **election of officers** Saturday, March 18, 2023. Branch recognitions will be awarded. All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting. Look for the slate of nominees on page 4.

Our speaker will be Chief Program Officer Joni Schmalzried. She will enlighten us about the purpose of the AWS Foundation and the support they have given to the disabled community of Fort Wayne. Please plan to arrive by 10:30 so that you don't miss a minute of fun and fellowship with all the members and their guests.

Lunch includes a variety of wraps, salads, dessert bar and choice of beverages.

As always, guests are welcome to attend. Send in your reservations now!

**Your reservation and \$20/person must be received no later than Friday, March 10, 2023.**

## 2023 AAUW Fort Wayne Branch Annual Meeting Reservation Form

**Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 10:30 am**

Your reservation and \$20/person **MUST be received by Friday, March 10, 2023**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email of Guest #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email of Guest #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #3 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email of Guest #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 20 each meal = Total Check Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

To: Rhea Ervin, 4150 Hexhill CT, Fort Wayne, IN 46818

Ph: 260-43 8-9318 Email: [raervin07@gmail.com](mailto:raervin07@gmail.com)

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

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

## ***Community Impact Project – St. Joseph Missions Women’s’ Shelter***

By Theresa Brady, Co-President

<https://www.stjosephmissions.org/>

I met with Erin Ness, Executive Director, in January. I toured the facility and learned how the organization helps provide emergency shelter and resources for single women in Fort Wayne. The organization has a variety of needs – tangible items as well as volunteer time. There is a [wish list](#) on their website and if you like, bring an item (preferably something listed as “urgent”) to our March event and I will make sure it gets to the shelter. There is a [volunteer application](#) to help with office work, housekeeping, gardening etc. if that appeals to you. The women who come into the shelter (referred to as guests) bring very little – clothing and a few personal items. The staff at the shelter help replace identification cards, etc. Most have cell phones or can get a smart phone through an assistance program.

But the part of our conversation that intrigued me most was how our membership – current/retired educators, nurses, and businesswomen could **help in a unique way**. Erin and I brainstormed an idea and I need to hear from our branch members if we want to commit to this – helping the guests write down their work, housing and medical information to assist with job and housing applications and medical appointments. We also talked about how to help guests navigate Social Security.

Our idea is to help the guests build their personal data file and show them how to save and access it on their phones. It can help them complete a housing or job application faster (all the details will be right in their phone). They can create a way to store information about their current medications (take photos of their prescription labels and save to an album). Each guest could use assistance in creating documents that list their work, housing or medical history. The shelter has more than 10 computers that can be used to help the guests set up a free gmail account, that comes with Google Drive for document storage. They can download an app on their phone and learn to edit documents as needed.

I know, some of you are thinking “Theresa, I am not computer savvy.” Not everyone has to be – we need people who are great conversationalists and people who can help create documents! We would need members who can put the guests at ease and get them thinking about their history and how to phrase their skills. They weren’t “just a waitress” but they “worked in the food industry, serving customers”.

Erin and I talked about the possibility of a set day (& time) of the month that AAUW members would come into the shelter and help the guests that wanted help.

What do you think? Who would like to help develop this further? It would be great to have another member or two to work out the details for this project.

Respond to [presaaufortwayne@gmail.com](mailto:presaaufortwayne@gmail.com) or call Theresa to tell us

- I want to help develop the project
- I want to participate with the impact project once developed

Let’s get this project outlined and be ready to make an impact this spring!

## ***Follow Up from AVOW***

From Faith Van Gilder, our December Event Speaker and founding member of AVOW

[avow.womensvoices@gmail.com](mailto:avow.womensvoices@gmail.com)

The annual **AVOW Women’s Campaign Institute** will be August 4-6, 2023, at Indiana Tech’s Keene Building. This is a nonpartisan boot camp for women interested in running for office or serving on appointed boards and commissions. Registration will open in April; for more info, visit [avowfw.com](http://avowfw.com).

The next three **Civil Conversations** are tentatively scheduled for February, March and April, and will focus on “Rifles, Religion and Reproduction.” Watch AVOW’s Facebook page for updates!

## 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 Amy Lehman, Director of Membership*  
[amylynnl@comcast.net](mailto:amylynnl@comcast.net) or (260) 705-6155

### **Welcome new members!**

Gail Kanning, graduated with a BS in Interior Design from Valparaiso University works at Allied Payment Network – [gail.kanning@gmail.com](mailto:gail.kanning@gmail.com).

Anne Duff, graduated IPFW with a Counselor of Education MS is a retired educator – [anneduff@frontier.com](mailto:anneduff@frontier.com).

Please send any membership information changes to be included in the newsletter to Theresa Brady at [tbrady822@gmail.com](mailto:tbrady822@gmail.com) or call at 262-853-8739.

### **Corrections to the 2022-2023 Yearbook**

Branch Office Years were listed incorrectly as ending in 2023.

The elected term is actually 2022-2024:

**Co-Presidents:** Andrea Tarbet, Theresa Brady

**Director of Programs:** Stephanie Bourne

**Corresponding Secretary:** Cathy Huff Helt

## Branch Board Meetings

**April 3, 2023, 6:30 pm** – Downtown Library, Globe Room

**June 6, 2023**– TBD

All current and future board members are encouraged to attend the June meeting!

### ***Grant Applications accepted***

***January 1 through February 28.***

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

---

## AAUW Trust

### **Note the location change!**

Join the AAUW FW Trust at their public meeting to hear reports on 2022-23 grants and award 2023-2024 grants. This is always a wonderful meeting to hear about the impact of our grants in the community.

Monday, April 24 at 6pm at IVY Tech 3800 N. Anthony in Room CC1640.



## Program – Save the Dates!

By *Stephany Bourne, Director of Program*  
[slbourne1@gmail.com](mailto:slbourne1@gmail.com) or (260) 515-3290

### **Angola Adventure** **Saturday, May 20, 2023**

Travel to see the Sojourner Truth statue and brunch at Pokagon State Park's Potawatomi Inn

We will travel from Ft. Wayne to Angola where the group will gather with townspeople to pay tribute to the newly placed and dedicated statue of Sojourner Truth. After a short time there, we will then gather for a brunch at the Potawatomi Inn at Pokagon State Park.

We are reaching out to as many AAUW members around the area for the purpose of networking and to have discussions around the needs and projects that women see as critical for their area.

We will leave from the parking lot at Northrop High School located on Coldwater Rd. Look for more details in the next newsletter!

---

*Register today for the  
 2023 Annual Meeting and  
 Member Recognition Event  
 Saturday March 18*

*Use the form on page 1 or  
 pay online at*

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

## 2023 Annual Meeting Elections

The following nominees will be on the slate for officer positions and for 2023-2025. Terms begin in July.

Treasurer – Laura McDermott  
 Recording Secretary – Terri Stumpf  
 Membership Chair – Monette King

The following nominees will be on the slate to serve on the Trust Board 2023-2025. Terms begin in July.

Corrina Weikle  
 Staci Lugar Brettin  
 Michael Dunne Steece

All members of the branch are encouraged to attend our Annual Meeting and Member Recognition Event on Saturday, March 18 and vote!

## AAUW Funds – December Silent Auction Thank You

By Barb Kanning, AAUW Funds Committee Chair

I want to send each and every attendee of the December Holiday Brunch a very sincere **THANK YOU**.

We were overwhelmed with your generous number of donated items and had to get more auction forms printed in the Pine Valley office!

Members and guests got out their checkbooks and shopped. We also received donation dollars from members who were outbid or couldn't attend that day.

Our auction total was \$1,045.00! Half of this amount will be sent to national AAUW to the AAUW Funds to be used where most needed. The other half will stay in our Branch to be designated by our Branch Board of Directors at the February meeting.

We are so pleased with your support each and every year.

## In Memoriam

Our AAUW Fort Wayne Branch lost another of our long-time 50-year honorary member in January.



Pat Becker passed away on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at the age of 81.

Pat Becker was a true AAUW member. She served our branch in many capacities from president to chair of committees. She will be remembered for her great sense of humor, thoughtfulness, dedication to whatever she did in our branch and truly to her family.

Pat and I were longtime friends. We both were members of Great Decisions and Current Literature Group. Mary Patricia Kinder was born in Fort Wayne and taught for many years on the secondary level. She loved teaching. She taught in Lake Fenton, MI, Jefferson Middle, Blackhawk Middle, Bishop Dwenger IPFW, and St. Francis in Fort Wayne.

Pat and her husband had two children and 9 grandchildren.

Pat served many positions in her church as well as in AAUW. She will be remembered for growing and fulfilling her full potential. She will be truly missed.

*~Jane Anderson*

Her complete obituary can be found at

<https://www.divinemeracyfuneralhome.com/obituary/MaryPat-Becker>

## *Thoughts from the Co-Presidents:*

*By Andrea Tarbet and Theresa Brady*

### **Seeing From a Different Point of View**

The tagline on my (Andrea's) email signature at work since I was diagnosed with cancer has been: "Make each day count." Each work email I send has that at the bottom near my name and info. When I (Andrea) was diagnosed with Stage 3 cancer and undergoing subsequent treatment, I came to realize that the only truly nonrenewable resource we have is time. Everything else can be replenished.

After recently celebrating five years no evidence of disease, I am so grateful for the gift of more time, and don't take it for granted. I am more patient with some things, and less patient with others- machines that don't work, long phone hold times- because they waste my time.

Your time is just as valuable. There are many competing priorities we have, and we fight the clock often. None of us want to waste our time on things that don't matter.

Something that does matter to all of us is AAUW. It's the common thread that binds us together. We all champion gender equity for women and girls. We care about diversity and public policy that supports our goals.

When we use our time on things that matter, it feels good. We feel like we are making positive change in the world. When I spend time on AAUW projects and participate in activities, it feels good because I know what AAUW does for women and girls. I enjoy serving others and giving back.

What time do we spend on AAUW? If you are pitching in at the branch level, thank you! We all appreciate what you do! If not, there are lots of ways to get involved at the branch level. Do you have MS Word skills to collate & edit the bi-monthly newsletter? What about tech skills – like setting up microphones and projectors, or communicating with our branch's webmaster on website updates? Can you help us identify members to serve in leadership roles? Can you help us identify members to be recognized for their service to the branch? Are you a party planner and want to help plan our events? There are many ways to volunteer. Be sure to read more about a Community Impact Project in development on page 2.

Using our time and talent for AAUW is an investment, and one that brings great return for women and girls. Paying it forward helps the next generation enjoy the gains made and encourages them to serve as well.

Contact either of us to talk about how you would like to dig in deeper with AAUW. We would love to hear from you!

Make today count for AAUW,

~ Andrea and Theresa

**Please note:** the new President's email address is [presaauwfortwayne@gmail.com](mailto:presaauwfortwayne@gmail.com). Both of us have access to the email address to answer your questions. The Bulletin will be emailed from that address – be sure to check your junk/spam folder and mark the address as "safe" so that you get the Bulletin and other important messages.

## Interest Groups

### Current Literature I

Group meets at 6:30-8:45 pm on the first Tuesday of the month in the Globe Room at the ACPL Main Branch.

February 7, 2023 – *The Tobacco Wives* by Adele Myers

\*No meeting in March

April 4 – *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge

**Group Leader: Andrea Tarbet**

Discussion Leader: Joanne Beerbower

Discussion Leader: Lynne Colvin

### Current Literature II

Group meets at 1-2:30 pm on the fourth Monday of the month at the Community Villas of Heritage Lakes Club House at 8220 St. Joe Road, FW. (\*third Monday in November)

February 27, 2023 – *Fascism: A Warning* by Madeline Albright

March 27 – *Run, Rose, Run* by James Patterson and Dolly Parton

**Group Leader: Cheryl Mathews**

Reviewer: Lois

Hostess: Mary

Reviewer: Martha

Hostess: Ruth

### Great Decisions

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

February 10 - Global Famine: Lack of Food Worldwide

**Group Leaders: Donna McKenzie**

Discussion Leader: Judy Gillman

### Creative Arts & Service

The group meets mostly third Tuesday of the month at 11:30 am.

February 21, 2023 – The Clyde (Bluffton Road, off Broadway)

March 21 – Cork & Cleaver (221 E Washington Center Rd)

**Group Leader: Monette King**

Hostess: Linda Flatley

Hostess: Ruth Von Deylon

## AAUW Fort Wayne IN Branch Board of Directors

**Co-Presidents:** Andrea Tarbet/Theresa Brady

**Director of Programs:** Stephany Bourne

**Directors of Membership:** Amy Lehman

**Recording Secretary:** Terri Stumpf

**Corresponding Secretary:** Cathy Huff

**Director of Finance:** Eileen Fraser

**Chair of AAUW Trust:** Corrina Weikle

## AAUW Fort Wayne IN Branch Committees

**Director of Communications/Media Publicity:** Jane Anderson

**Director of Diversity and International Relations:** Open

**Director of Public Policy:** Open

**College/University Liaison (PFW):** Dr. Terri Swim

**College/University Liaison (IVY Tech):** Joanne Alvarez

**Recognition Chair:** Barb Kanning

**Nominating Committee Convener:** Jane Anderson

**AAUW Funds:** Barb Kanning

**Bulletin Editor:** Open

**Reservations:** Eileen Fraser

**Member Records:** Brian Johnson

**Historian:** Jane Anderson



Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/aauwfwbranch/>