

AAUW Impact

Empowering women since 1881 American Association of University Women

Volume 38 No. 5

Janesville, WI Branch

April 2025

Fearful of Being Scammed?

Angie Hoium, BSACS, CUCE, CFCS
Blackhawk Community Credit Union

Tuesday, April 22

6:00 Social, 6:30 Program

Janesville Woman's Club

Join Us!



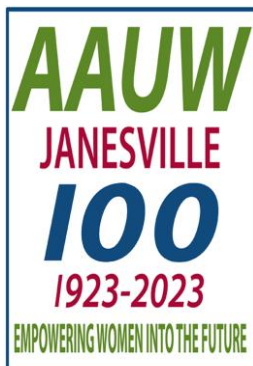
Are you afraid of scammers stealing your hard-earned money or your identity? Knowing how scams work and practicing skills to protect yourself is vital to keeping your money safe. Angie will discuss scams that target various age groups including an in-depth explanation of scams that target seniors. Come learn how to spot and avoid potential scams and fraud, develop strategies to prevent identity theft, and get answers to your questions.

Angie is the Fraud & BSA Officer at Blackhawk Community Credit Union. A Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) Compliance Officer coordinates and maintains compliance with Bank Secrecy Act regulatory requirements to detect and prevent money laundering. This senior-level banker spends most of their time examining data and ensuring that different rules and procedures are successfully implemented. Angie hosts a variety of fraud prevention programs in cooperation with community organizations throughout the year. Learn more about fraud, scams, and identity theft on the Blackhawk Community Credit Union website, www.bhccu.org/about-us/personal-data-protection.

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by AAUW, Janesville Branch, Wisconsin.
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Articles for the next issue are due:

April 16th
To Carole Salinas
csalinas3767@gmail.com



AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Co-Presidents – | Pat Logterman | 512-203-4583 |
| | Wendy Tupper | 449-1551 |
| VP Program – | Pat Phillips | 436-3050 |
| VP Membership – | Carole Salinas | 201-1790 |
| Secretary – | Lea McCarthy | 408-0123 |
| Finance VP – | Nancy Moskal | 359-3138 |

AAUW's Mission:

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

President's Message: Call to Action

Over the past couple of months, we have been shocked and frightened by the daily changes put forth by the new administration. We've found ourselves avoiding the news, feeling hopeless and worried about the world our children and grandchildren will be living in. We had a choice: to give into the sense of hopelessness or to do something to fight the changes that will negatively impact women and disenfranchised people. There are opportunities to become involved. This is not a time to be passive.

1. **Vote April 1:** Every election—whether local, state, or national—presents an opportunity to shape our future. The April 1 election is an important one as we vote for a Wisconsin Supreme Court Judge that will shape the future of the courts for years to come and the Superintendent of Public Instruction that will impact decisions that affect our schools and the safety of our children. Local elections often have the most immediate and visible impact on your day-to-day life, from the local school board to city councils. By voting, you are ensuring that your voice is heard in decisions that will shape your community.
2. **Beyond the Ballot: Getting Involved:** Voting is just the beginning. To truly make an impact, we must become involved in local and state issues year-round. Attend town hall meetings, engage in community discussions, and stay informed about the policies that affect your everyday life. Your involvement strengthens the democratic process and builds a more informed and empowered community.

Do you want to help advance gender equity and create a more economically secure world for women and girls? Get involved today!

Pat Logterman and Wendy Tupper
AAUW Janesville Co-presidents



The Time is Now!

We're all aware of the purging of all Diversity, Equity and Inclusion programs in all areas of our government. On March 16th, as I watched "60 Minutes" on the consequences of this banning in the military, a group of talented and diverse high school musicians who had auditioned and were selected to play along with the National Military Orchestra were informed that their concert had been canceled. The soldiers were following the orders of their Commander in Chief. Several military retiree musicians from every branch of the military stepped up to mentor the young musicians! The show did go on!!!

I bring this up as it shows that with courage and conviction, we can all make a difference. I recently read *The Time Is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage* by Joan Chittister. Father James Martin, SJ said, "She is a rare combination of a gifted spiritual writer and a great prophetic voice, speaking out for women, for minorities, and for all marginalized people. When I think of someone who speaks truth to power, I think of Joan."

What can each of us do?

- When you see something...say something.
- Use the "5 Calls" App to tell your congressman what you support DEI efforts.
- Attend local rallies to show your support.
- When the opportunity arises...VOTE!

Leslie Brunsell

April Action Items



- RSVP to Michaela Adair or Sharon Straub for Out & About events.
- **Vote**



Calendar Items

- Tu. Apr. 1 Election Day (Polls open at 7 am and close at 8 pm)
- W. Apr. 2 Out & About: Hedberg Library Tour (9:30 am) followed by lunch at Citrus Café. RSVP to Michaela or Sharon.
- Sa. April 5 Tech Savvy STEM Workshop at UW Whitewater (7:30 am)
- Sa. April 5 Foundation Spring Super Fundraiser ***Fashion in Bloom*** (Janesville County Club, 10:00 am)
- Tu. April 8 Diverse Discussions (Woman's Club, 1:00 – 2:30 pm)
- Tu. April 15 Book Discussion (Carol Neuman's home, 6:30 pm)
- W. April 16 Impact articles due to Carole Salinas
- Tu. April 22 AAUW Branch meeting: Woman's Club, 6 pm Social | 6:30 Program
- April 25-26 AAUW State Convention (La Crosse)



- Sa., May 3 Grounds Clean up at Woman's Club Building (9 -11 am)
- Su. June 22 Annual Garden Tour (Woman's Club grounds fundraiser)
- Sa. Sept. 13 Art in Bloom (noon-5 pm)

April Birthdays

(We have a lot of members who have birthdays on the same day!)

- 7 – Carol Fosshage
- 9 – Nancy Arnold
- 9 – Paulette Davis
- 18 – Carol Herzig
- 18 – Jane Tucker
- 20 – Barbara Fett Timmer
- 20 – Michaela Adair
- 30 – Paula DeRubeis



Someone need a bit of Sunshine?

If you know that one of our members could use a bit of sunshine please let Kathy Thostenson know (kthostens@yahoo.com).

She is our Sunshine Chair and will send congratulations, get-well, sympathy, or other messages on behalf of the members of AAUW Janesville.



Thankyou Tech Savvy 2025 Sustaining Sponsors

AAUW National: Membership Dues Change

The AAUW Board of Directors voted to increase AAUW **individual member dues** at their February 2025 meeting. Individual member dues will increase \$2 on April 1, 2025 and April 1, 2026 as follows:

- Beginning April 1, 2025 individual member dues rate: \$74
- Beginning April 1, 2026 individual member dues rate: \$76

Member dues are an important funding source for AAUW. While costs for member support increase annually, dues have not kept pace. During the feedback process, we heard from more than 750 members. The Board's decision to increase dues by \$2 reflects an adjustment to the original proposal to lessen the burden of a dues increase on members while keeping pace with inflation.

Your member dues help fund member services such as:

Administrative Support: Assist with dues processing, Community Hub management, 990N filings, branding materials, and toolkits (e.g., DEI Toolkit, College/University Member Toolkit).

Website Support: Update and manage ~500 branch and state websites and provide ongoing Site Resources support.

Member Trainings: Hold regular virtual member gatherings and training programs.

Member Engagement: Organize member-led groups and committees like Archives Corps, Lobby Corps, and national committees.

Speaker Engagement: Offer National speakers for branch meetings and state conventions.

Real-Time Support: Connect Team provides daily assistance and semi-weekly "Office Hours" for branch leaders.

And more! The bottom line: **We heard you.** The dues increase balances AAUW's financial sustainability with the member feedback we received in January.

Taken from AAUW National's website

Stay Connected with AAUW

If you are not receiving emails from National, stay informed by re-subscribing to AAUW emails: aauw.us/emailoptions.





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Be sure to thank our supporters when you visit their businesses

AAUW Wisconsin: State Convention 2025

The following AAUW Janesville members will be traveling to LaCrosse the last weekend in April for the state convention: Diane Adams, Nancy Arnold, Leslie Brunsell, Pat Logterman, and Carole Salinas. We will be busy learning, networking, and socializing!



Friday, April 25

- 9:00 am AAUW-WI State Board Meeting
- 12:30 pm Branches set up tri-boards and auction items
- 2:00 pm Opening and Welcome
- 2:30 pm Counterpart Meetings: Pres/Pres Elect/Bylaws, Membership, Finance, Program, STEM, DEI, Public Policy, Newsletter/Website/Social Media
- 3:30 pm District Meetings
- 5:20 pm Keynote Speaker: “National AAUW Public Policy” by Meghan Kissell, National AAUW Senior Director of Policy & Membership Advocacy
- 6:30 pm Dinner
- 7:30 pm Keynote Speaker: “Uncovering the Lost Histories of Women” by Lynda Drews, author of the Maid and the Socialite: The Brave Women Behind Green Bay’s Scandalous Minahan Trials

Saturday, April 26

- 8:45 am State Business Meeting and Installation of Officers
- 11:15 am Breakout Sessions I
 - 1. “Everybody’s Got Something...” by Matt Glowacki
 - 2. “Transforming Science Education: Personalizing Lesson Plans Using AI” by Bonnie Diehl, PhD
 - 3. “How We Will Get Corrupting Big Money Out of Politics” by George Penn
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Breakout Sessions II
 - 1. “My Journey in Holocaust Education” by Darryle Clott
 - 2. “Reproductive Health: More Than Just Abortion” by Jill McMullen, MD
 - 3. “Enduring Families Project: La Crosse Black History, by Denise Christy Moss, Darrell Ferguson
- 1:55 pm Infusion/Inclusion Activity, Leslie Brunsell
- 2:20 pm Keynote Speaker: “Welcome to the Struggle” by Amanda Goodenough
- 3:20 pm Wrap/Up/Final Announcements

Looking ahead!

Next year District One which includes Beaver Dam, Fort Atkinson, Monona | Madison, and Janesville branches will be in charge of planning and hosting the state convention. The convention will be held in Madison. Save the Date: April 17-18, 2026!

AAUW Public Policy

AAUW is focusing on public education for members to take action. Here are some information pieces for you including our AAUW Wisconsin Public Policy Statement on public education:

To preserve a strong system of public education promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Public education is under attack in our own state with the April 1 election of a Department of Public Instruction Superintendent and Supreme Court Judge. There, also, are school boards and/or referendums on the ballot.

Other information

Tell Congress to Oppose Attacks on Higher Education:

<https://aauw.quorum.us/campaign/113544/>

Civil Rights division gutted Ed Dept
<https://www.propublica.org/article/education-department-civil-rights-division-eroded-by-massive-layoffs>

AAUW Condemns Actions to Undermine the U.S. Department of Education:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/news/media/press-releases/aauw-condemns-actions-to-undermine-the-u-s-department-of-education/>

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/03/11/politics/department-of-education-cuts/index.html>

Take Action

<https://aauw.quorum.us/campaign/113544/>

Thank you,
Leah Burrows, Chair
Public Policy Committee

March 6, 2025 Today, I would like to share with you a poem my daughter, Jacquelyn "Jaci" Turner wrote to her husband after he learned several of his peers were fired from NOAA i.e. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration located in Boulder, Colorado.

For My Husband, the Public Servant

Fifteen years, a steadfast call,
A servant to the public, to science, to all.
Not for wealth, nor fleeting fame,
But for truth, for duty, for honor's name.

A scientist - honored and known,
His reach extends where great minds have grown.
Respected abroad, his wisdom sought,
Yet here at home, his work is fought.

He does not serve for power or gold,
But for the people, the young and old.
A civil servant, steady, true,
With a mission clear - to help you.

His hands help shield both life and land,
Protecting what we fail to plan.
He studies storms, the shifting tide,
To keep us safe, to be our guide.

His work, like others in his field,
Brings food to tables, strength to yield.
He safeguards homes, the farms, the sky,
He builds the world on which we rely.

Yet voices jeer, they call him "lazy,"
Their vision warped; their logic hazy.
They strip the halls of those who care,
And leave behind an empty chair.

He's watched them go, forced out in pain,
Future leaders, lost in vain.
Brilliant minds, dismissed, betrayed,
By hands that twisted truth and played.

The trust is shattered, the wound runs deep,
Who will return? Who dares to leap?
For when the honest are cast aside,
Who will stand where honor died?

Still, he remains, though hearts may ache,
Not for applause, nor what he'd take.
But for the work, for what is right,
For science, for justice, for truth in the light.

Thanks! Jaci Turner



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Tech Savvy by the Numbers!

Tech Savvy is Saturday, April 5 at

Here are the numbers

- 95** students registered (as of March 20)
- 39** parents/adults attending with the students
- 36** Robotic Hand kits
- 36** Solar-powered Race Car kits
- 35** schools with students in attendance
- 29** AAUW volunteers in blue vests from Fort Atkinson, Geneva Lake, Janesville, and Monona/Madison branches
- 18** gallons of beverages for breakfast and lunch (orange juice, lemonade, coffee, and ice water)
- 13** professional women in STEM fields presenting student workshops
- 7** generous sponsors: Alliant, Fort HealthCare, Ball Corp., Rock Road Companies, SIM, Spacesaver, and SHINE
- 5** parent presenters
- 5** years of hosting Tech Savvy with AAUW Fort Atkinson
- 3** buildings on the Whitewater campus will be used
- 2** visitors from AAUW Sheboygan
- 2** visitors from AAUW Tomah
- 1** keynote speaker...Amanda Morgan, Madison meteorologist.



Tech Savvy is a BIG undertaking!





April 2 9:30 AM Hedberg Public Library Tour

The days of the card catalog are long gone. Our library has relocated many things to better serve the clientele. Mary Buelow will give us a tour of the new locations of the contents of the library. There will be a handout for you to save so that you can find things easily. Meet us at the Library Main Desk. After the tour, we will have lunch at Citrus Café.

April Showers Bring May Flowers

Date: TBD

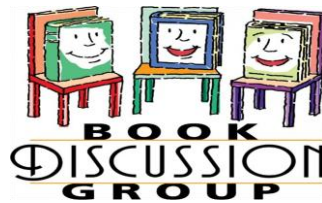
We will car pool to Warner Park in Madison. As the flowers start to bloom, we can see many of the things that we read about in *Birding to Change the World*. I wish I knew when the flowers will be blooming, but we will have to keep you informed. We will have lunch somewhere in Madison.

Beloit Civic Theatre: The Charitable Sisterhood of the Second Trinity Church.

Performances are April 24th - May 3rd. Kathy Thostenson will probably go to a Matinee on April 26, 27, or May 3rd. Contact Kathy at 608-754-7311. She might be able to order tickets.

Hope to see you "out and about"!

Michaele and Sharon



Book Discussion

Our March book group meeting was held at Paula Flaherty's beautiful new home. Sharon Straub provided egg-free chocolate brownies that were delicious. A lively discussion of the book, *The Briar Club* by Kate Quinn inspired us to share memories of the 1950s. We strongly recommend this book.

On April 15, we will meet at Carol Neuman's house, 3505 N. Woodbury Lane, Janesville, at 6:30 pm. Pat Phillips will lead our discussion of the currently popular Civil War novel, **The Demon of Unrest** by Erik Larson. Mary Pharmer will provide the refreshments. All members of AAUW are welcome to join us.

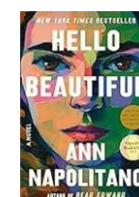
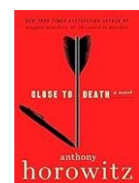
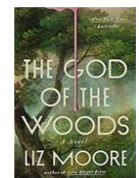
Looking Ahead

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| May 20 | <i>God of the Woods</i> by Liz Moore |
| June 17 | <i>Table for Two</i> by Amor Towles |
| July 15 | <i>Close to Death</i> by Anthony Horowitz |
| | We will choose books for Sept., Oct., and Nov. at this meeting. |
| August 19 | <i>Hello Beautiful</i> by Ann Napolitano |

Note: We still need discussion leaders for May, June, and July. Please take your turn at this easy, fun role. Ann will be happy to help you.

Ann Petersen

apetersen608@gmail.com



Foundation News

The following information was discussed at the Foundation Board meeting Monday, March 17, 2025.

There were concerns about some shingles that blew off the roof, however, this was repaired with the company stating that the roof does not need replacing at this point. It was pointed out at the meeting that insurance companies are beginning to not cover roofs of commercial buildings that are older which means that it may be necessary to consider a new roof within the next 5 years. The estimate range of a new roof at this time is \$1900 – 3200. There also have been some issues with the elevator which is old as well. Each time a repairman comes it costs a minimum of \$400. When using the elevator please do NOT slam the door on the second floor. Please close it gently. It was also stated that the kitchen at the Woman's Club is NOT a commercial kitchen and cannot be advertised as such.

With discussions about the roof and the elevator, it greatly emphasized the importance of the approaching Super Fundraiser ***Fashion in Bloom*** on Saturday, April 5, 2025. Everyone should have received the information about the fundraiser and their raffle tickets. Tickets for the event are \$35 per person and the raffle tickets are \$5 each. All members received 6 tickets to purchase or sell. Ann Tearman is in charge of the silent auction baskets for the event. Every club is responsible for at least one basket; however, individual members are encouraged to create a basket or some type of auction entry. As an additional fundraiser there will be a "tulip pull" which will give participants an opportunity to purchase a tulip from the table that could result in a "win" of a gift card from \$10 to \$50. Those attending are encouraged to bring several \$10 and \$20 bills for chances for the tulip pull rather than using credit cards.

Representatives from Kendra Scott Jewelry will also be available to offer various popular items. (Last year there was a discount for those with April birthdays, just saying.) You can reserve a table of 6 for \$300 which will offer preferred seating and a bottle of champagne. Members are encouraged to create auction baskets and/or donate gift cards for the "tulip pull" in amounts from \$10 to \$50 dollars. This is the largest fund-raising event for the Foundation which provides for the coverage of the expenses of the building.

Trivia Night raised \$1322. There was a discussion about charging a surcharge fee for using a credit card when paying for events which was tabled at this time. The Foundation Board is beginning to create a planning committee for the 100th Anniversary of the Woman's Club building in 2028. This will be a large undertaking with a great deal of planning and preparation. If you have any interest in being a part of that planning committee, please contact Nancy Arnold.

Save the Dates!

Saturday, May 3, 2025 from 9 AM to 11 AM will be the spring grounds clean up. This also includes the corner lot which is also owned by the foundation. The most recent wind storm created some damage to part of the fence in the corner lot and that will need to be repaired. Members from all clubs are encouraged to attend the clean-up day and bring family and friends as well. If students are looking for volunteer hours this is a great way to get some hours. Many hands make for quicker work!

Sunday, June 22, 2025 will be the 5th Annual Garden Walk (funds go toward landscaping needs at the Woman's Club building)

Saturday, September 13, 2025 noon to 5 PM will be ***Art in Bloom***, a new fundraiser. Details are on the last page of the March-May 2025 newsletter that was recently emailed to all members.

Nancy Arnold, AAUW Foundation Representative