

# SCOPE



**MONONA/MADISON (WI)  
BRANCH**

**Monona/Madison Branch**

**Newsletter**

**FEBRUARY 2024**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, Zoom Meeting**

**6:30 Social time via Zoom**

**7:00 p.m. Program: “Love. Family. Freedom. It Really Is That Simple” presented by Kim Simes,** Chief of Staff,

People + Culture coordinating Family Equality’s strategic alignment of diverse internal and external activities. Family Equity’s mission is to ensure that everyone has the freedom to find, form, and sustain their families by advancing equality for the LGBTQ+ community. They are outspoken changemakers, creating an equitable LGBTQ+ family narrative, through advocacy, community, and education. Prior to this role, Kim served as the Director of Special Events with the Development Team, and previously served as Director of Regional Programming for Family Equality, focusing on coordinating community events in the Midwest and West Coast Regions. Kim’s passion is working with and connecting with people. Kim completed her education at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater earning a BA in Speech – Organizational Communication and a Master’s Degree in Counseling.



Kim and her wife, Robin live in Wisconsin where they are raising their two teenage daughters. When not at school and work, the family enjoys traveling, being in + near water, walking their two rescue dogs, and spending time with friends and family.

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**ZOOM:** Kleo will send out Zoom invitations on Sunday night. In the past you could come in early without Kleo, the host, and just visit. She now will use a waiting room for our general meetings and you will see the message “The host will admit you” when you open your zoom invite. Kleo would appreciate you signing in by 6:45 and plans to let people in starting 6:30 so you can visit, but she would like you to be signed in by 6:50. The speaker will start precisely at 7 and she hopes to have everyone admitted who is

coming. Kleo's home number is 608-273-2476 if you need to call her for any reason the night of the meeting.

Other branches including Beaver Dam, Fort Atkinson, and Janesville as well as the State Board and Rock County Diversity Action Team have been invited so expect to see some unfamiliar faces who are also interested in our speaker. The meeting will be recorded and sent out to our members and recording will be available until next meeting.

### **PRESIDENTS' CORNER, Sally Keyel & Pat Ruppert**

So many things to look forward to, as always with our branch! It'll be interesting to see what Kim Simes has to tell us. The fundraising luncheon should be a tasty adventure. And the State Convention coming up in April! It will be here before we know it, so make your plans now. Kleo and the committees have been working hard to get an exciting line-up of programs.

Please do take the time to vote on the bylaw changes too.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Sharon Knoop, Marian Ehrenberg & Kleo Baruth Kritz**

#### **OFFICERS NEEDED for 2024-2025**

Thank you to our members who have agreed to fill new officer positions. We still need volunteers for our Co-Membership VP positions. Please help us complete our slate of new officers. If interested, contact a member of the Nominating Committee--Marian Ehrenberg, Sharon Knoop, or Kleo Baruth Kritz. We would be happy to answer your questions about these positions. Our contact information is in the Directory. Also, go on our website, [Monona-madison-wi.aauw.net](http://Monona-madison-wi.aauw.net), for job descriptions or contact a current officer.

If anyone is interested in joining any of our committees, please let us know, too. We need effective leadership to help our branch continue to thrive.

### **February Birthdays:**

February 5, Dianne Taris; February 10, Barbara Ebert; February 18, Bobbi White & Jennifer Ondrejka; February 21, Shiela Rieves; February 28, Laura Nielsen



## **NATIONAL BYLAWS VOTE, Kleo Baruth Kritz**

### Open Up AAUW: AAUW Bylaws Election 2024

This spring AAUW members will be asked to vote on an amendment to the national bylaws recommended by the AAUW Board of Directors and AAUW Governance Committee that would open membership to any individual who supports AAUW's important mission of advancing equity for women and girls.

### Key Dates for 2024 Vote

April 3, 2024 Voting opens (online voting is encouraged)

May 15, 2024 Online voting ends at 12:00 pm ET

May 16, 2024 Vote results announced online

### Overview and Reasons for the Proposed Amendment

The AAUW Board of Directors and Governance Committee recommend approval of the following bylaw amendment to eliminate the degree requirement for membership in AAUW. This change will align our membership practices with our purpose of advancing equity for women and girls and enable us to include members with the diverse backgrounds and perspectives needed to achieve our purpose in today's world.

We remain committed to higher education as a pathway to eliminate barriers that hold women back and to enhance their leadership opportunities at all levels. We admire the effort of the inspiring women who have led the way in earning their degrees. We recognize, however, that in today's world higher education degrees are one of several paths needed to advance equity for women and girls. Professional certifications, on the job training, career technical experience, and life experience are alternative paths to obtaining education and the skills needed to become leaders and advocates for ending discrimination against women.

When AAUW began its work, higher education and professional careers were denied to most women. That is no longer the case. More than 50% of college degrees are currently being awarded to women, and women are now attaining powerful positions in business and government. Yet discrimination against women continues. Eliminating the degree requirement enables us to expand our voice and our reach, our ability to fulfill our purpose, and will open more financial opportunities to address the needs of all women. AAUW's name, which continues to have significant brand recognition as a women's rights organization, will remain the same if the amendment is adopted. The board recognizes that some members have strong views on the proposed change in the requirement for membership and encourages respectful debate on this important issue.

The board firmly believes that the proposed amendment is in the best interests of AAUW and its future relevance and sustainability as an inclusive and forward-thinking organization committed to advancing equity for women and girls. The board urges a vote in favor of the amendment.

### Amendment Summary

The Proposed Revision of Article III Would:

- Replace the Individual Members paragraph of the Membership Qualification provision with new language indicating the sole requirement for membership is support of AAUW's purpose.
- Delete the provision on Student Associates since college students would be allowed to join as full members of AAUW thus eliminating the need for a Student Associate provision.
- Delete the reference to "categories of membership" to permit the board to set different dues for college student members as previously allowed when Student Associates were listed as a separate category.

When and how do I vote?

All voting will take place online starting April 3. AAUW is utilizing an independent, third-

party voting system for this year's vote. Most members will receive emails from [vote@simplyvoting.com](mailto:vote@simplyvoting.com) with their unique elector ID and password to vote. This information will be emailed to members before voting begins (and voters will receive regular reminders if they have not yet voted).

All members without an email address on file or who have unsubscribed from AAUW national emails will receive a paper ballot by mail. No additional paper ballots will be sent

during the voting period.

How many votes are needed for the changes to pass?

The AAUW bylaws require that the affirmative (yes) vote of two-thirds of the votes cast are required to amend the bylaw

## **MILESTONES**

Sending our positive thoughts to Dorothy Haines as she heals from a broken wrist. Her new address is still at Oakwood East, but in the Meadows, Room 210.

Also hope Marjorie Sutton heals well too.

## **EMERGENCY CONTACTS, Kleo Baruth Kritz**

Our branch is creating an Emergency Contact List, which will NOT be published in the directory, but will be kept by several officers (president, membership VP) in case we are unable to contact you and do not have a family or friend to call. So far 19 of our members have contacted us with their emergency contacts. If you have not done so, please email me [kbkritz@charter.net](mailto:kbkritz@charter.net) an emergency contact: **name, relationship (friend, son, daughter, or other family member), phone, and email.**

We will keep this confidential. It will be your responsibility to update or reconfirm this information yearly. We value all of you and want to keep in contact with each one of you.

## **WOMEN'S HISTORY, Bobbi White & Susan Slattery**

### **Fun Facts to know about Florence Nightingale**



**Florence Nightingale**, a British Nurse, notably known for her incredible impact on the nursing profession., is remembered and celebrated for her great achievements year-round. Although Nightingale has done so much throughout her life, a lot of people do not know much about her.

There are a few fun facts you should know about her.

**Her family did not want her to be a nurse.** When Florence was 16, she knew nursing was her true calling, but her parents were against it. It was expected that someone of her social stature would marry and raise a family. Going against the wishes of her family, she refused to get married at age 17 and continued her nursing education in Germany.

**Florence had a natural skill for analyzing data.** Analyzing, classifying, and documenting data was a skill that naturally came to Florence. She created the first pie charts and eventually became the first

female of the Royal Statistical Society due to her pioneering work.

**She loved to write.** Nightingale had a passion for writing and wrote more than 150 books, including “Notes on Hospital” and “Notes on Nursing”, which laid the foundations for modern nursing practice. Much of her writing was influenced by her feminist identity.

**She played a significant role during the Crimean War.** Florence worked as a nurse during the Crimean War helping wounded soldiers. At first, the doctors didn’t want her and the other nurses to help, even though they were swamped. They saw Nightingale’s opinions on patient care as an attack on their professionalism. It wasn’t until the doctors became overwhelmed with the number of bodies did they ask Florence and the other nurses for assistance. They were able to greatly improve medical and sanitary conditions in the hospitals and improve outcomes for the wounded soldiers.

**Lady with the Lamp.** During her work in the Crimean War, Florence would nurse soldiers at night. She would carry a lamp with her during rounds which would lead to her nickname, “Lady of the Lamp”. She grew to be a person of fame as people were captivated by her dedication.

**She spoke many languages.** Florence was fluent in several languages, including English, French, German, and Italian as well as Greek and Latin.

**Founder of modern nursing.** Nightingale is referred to as the founder of modern nursing.

She proposed ways of improving sanitation, the foundation of modern medicine. During the war Nightingale, the need for improved sanitation and her efforts made a huge difference in the hospitals throughout England as well. This enabled more women to join the nursing profession with her advocating for education to elevate the nursing

profession.

**She loved to travel.** Traveling the world was a passion for Florence. She loved to gain insight and knowledge about the practice of medicine.

**A training school for nurses was established in her honor.** In 1860, Nightingale founded the first nursing school in London. There the Nightingale Training School for Nurses was established.

Florence is still honored to this day. We celebrate International Nurses Day every year on May 12<sup>th</sup> but every day her legacy lives on! Before her impact, nursing was not considered a respectable profession. To this day, Nightingale has been remembered as the pioneer of modern medicine nursing and every day she continues to inspire future nurses.

As a nurse for the past 53 years, I am very grateful to Florence for paving the way for all the nurses who followed behind her!!

### **STATE CONVENTION, Kleo Baruth Kritz**

### **CONVENTION 2024 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!!! Kleo Baruth Kritz**

You can register now for Convention 2024 at Mt. Pleasant on April 26-27! Just click this link

<https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/convention-2024/> and you will find:

- Convention registration
  1. Online for only Friday (\$100) or only Saturday (\$85) or both (\$120). Your meals are included in your registration fee. If you pay by credit card, you will be charged a 5% fee
  2. Or you can take Option 2 and pull up a registration form, fill it out, print it, and send it with a check to the person named
  3. Late registration charge of \$10 after March 15
- Hotel registration at the Delta Hotel in Racine. Again you can register online or phone the hotel. The Delta Hotel fee is considerably less than last year.
  - 2024 Hotel rooms \$89 + 13% tax = \$100.57**
  - 2023 Hotel rooms \$139 + 13% tax = \$157.07
  - o Hotel registration includes self-serve breakfast with a ticket. If not staying at hotel, can buy ticket for \$10 in Lobby or choose other options.
- Last Day to Book: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 for our special rate.
- Check around with your friends and find someone with whom to share a room
- A schedule of all the keynote speakers, 6 breakaway sessions, district and counterpart meeting plus opportunities to meet other AAUW members. You can scroll all the way down and look over schedule of programs/activities

You also can look at the poster (attached separately), which has a QR square, and direct your cell phone's camera at it and our website will pop up for you to register!

Ten Monona/Madison members attended last year: Donna Anderson, Ellen Healey, Sally Keyel, Kleo Baruth Kritz, Val Murphy, Shiela Reeves, Pat Ruppert, Georgia Stilp, Gail Stirr, and Mary Zupanc. So feel free to ask them how much they enjoyed it last year and we want even more of our members attending this year!!

**BASKETS NEEDED:** My name is Cheryl Maplethorpe, and I am the Wisconsin State Vice President for Fund Development. One of my main duties is to organize the silent auction at the April 26-27 State AAUW Convention.

I am contacting you to encourage your branch to donate one or more auction baskets for the silent auction. The minimum value of the branch's auction submission should be \$50.

The plan is to preview the items on the 32Auctions site so AAUW members can see them before the Convention. The images of those items will close before the Convention begins. **All bidding will take place at the Convention only**; therefore, items must be brought to the Convention for display and bidding.

A suggestion: You will attract more bidders if the winner does not have to travel to your city in order to partake of the items in your basket.

Last year's baskets included:

- A collection of items celebrating a season such as Spring or Summer
- Something special from your area or from someone in your area who is creative (who might even be a member of your branch?).
- A basket on craft projects
- A basket of books and wine

We would love to have all branches participate! To do so, three items need to be completed. We will use this information as part of the description for your auction basket(s).

An application form,

A jpg photo of the entry/entries,

A "catchy" description of your entry/entries.

The deadline for items to be included in the preview on 32auctions is April 15, 2024. The Convention Committee designated funds raised will support the National AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. If you have any question, please feel free to contact me at [cheryl.kay.maplethorpe@gmail.com](mailto:cheryl.kay.maplethorpe@gmail.com)

## **AAUW GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, January 23, 2024 via zoom**

**Program: 7:00** Francine Hirsch, PhD., Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor of History, UW-Madison, spoke on “Russia’s War on Ukraine” on Zoom with 19 Monona/Madison members present and 13 from Janesville AAUW, one from the State Board, and one unknown.

The virtual meeting was called to order by Co-President Sally Keyel at 8:02 pm.

**National Membership Voting:** Carole Salinas, State Leadership VP, discussed the reasons for AAUW bringing this issue of eliminating the education requirement to the membership to vote on again relatively soon. The percentage of voters was low last time, only about 29% of the total membership voting. We need 2/3 of the members who vote to change this rule, and 61% did vote for it last time.

The major reasons to make a change and include anyone who agrees with our mission to advance opportunities for girls and women include:

- We are missing out on a great deal of potential corporate funding because we appear “elitist.”
- One doesn’t need a degree to support gender equity.
- We currently allow 2 year degree recipients to join as well as men.
- Making this change could increase our membership as well as generate outside funding opportunities to help us do our work better.
- If we stress diversity, equity, and inclusion, how do we justify discriminating against women who believe in our mission but did not have the opportunities we did?

Carole told the story of giving this information to a couple members who were opposed to the change but changed their minds after learning more of these details. We hope to evolve similarly to the YMCA/YWCA, etc. (You do not have to be young, male, or Christian to join YMCA.) Many organizations no longer have the restrictions that they initially required in their names--that is the way of the future in this increasingly diverse world.

You will receive emails from National encouraging you to vote and explaining why. Go to “Simply Voting” which is a third party company that manages web voting for organizations. The official name of our organization will remain “AAUW,” but the letters no longer stand for anything in particular - it is just recognizable letters. Please vote! Vote Yes to make this important change.

**December Minutes:** The December minutes were printed in the *Scope* and accepted as is without any corrections.

**Finance Report:** Gail Stirr reported that absolutely nothing happened and we still have a balance of \$9763.91 in the bank. Gail also reported that anyone who knows anything about websites would be most welcome to help her with keeping ours organized, up to



date, and more elegantly designed.

**Programs:** Donna Anderson reported that the committee will be meeting in late Feb./early March to gather ideas for our 2024-2025 programs. The committee would like suggestions, feedback, and additional members.

**Membership:** Nothing significant occurred. Kleo Baruth Kritz noted that she had a call from Maple Bluff Country Club that things were already being booked for the holidays, so she confirmed that we want to reserve the same rooms for December 7, 2024.

**Nominating Committee:** Sharon Knoop reported that this committee is ready to make phone calls to members to request their help in filling an office. Job descriptions are on the website. We have made things a bit easier by having Co-Chairs for several positions. Volunteers are greatly appreciated! Please contact Sharon, Kleo or Marian Ehrenberg if you are willing to serve in any capacity.

**Public Policy:** Debbie Mahaffey reported that she is unable to attend the State meetings due to a time conflict on the first Monday of the month. If anyone has that time available and is able to help her, it would be much appreciated. She knows that a State resolution on anti-racism has been updated; National has a toolkit for DEI that will be available on Jan. 31 and has information on educational policies, book banning, and school vouchers.

The League of Women Voters is seeking volunteers to be election observers (people who watch on the sidelines to insure voting is done correctly).

**Educational Funds:** No report.

**STEM/NCCWSL:** Donna reported that we are funding the entry fee of \$15.00 for 7 girls to participate in the Tech Savvy program at UW-Whitewater and 3 of our members have volunteered to help with the program.

In regard to NCCWSL it has been challenging to make the correct contacts with both Madison College and the UW-Madison to help identify young women who would be good candidates to send to NCCWSL.

**Publicity:** Pat Ruppert was supposed to give the report, but she was hospitalized for emergency surgery. Mary had nothing to report.

**Diversity, Equity & Inclusion:** Nothing new to report.

**Fundraising:** Two groups are going to “Diane’s Delicious Diner” at Madison College East Campus prepared by their culinary students on Feb. 15 and April 4. Lunch starts at noon and finishes at 1:30 pm. The cost is \$25.00 for lunch plus \$15.00 for fundraising (total \$40.00). Please contact Val Murphy to sign up.

**Newsletter:** The deadline for the next newsletter is February 7.

**University Relations:** No report.

**New Business:** Kleo is heavily involved in planning the next State Convention which will take place in Racine on April 26 & 27 entitled “Architects of the Future.” Kleo reminded us of all the things AAUW has helped women achieve over the years. She is

excited by the low cost of the hotel (\$100.57 per night including taxes); the tour of the S.C. Johnson Building; the excellent speakers coming; and the fascinating topics in the small breakout sessions. Our branch will contribute \$10.00 toward the registration fee (undetermined at this point) for members who wish to attend.

**Emergency Contacts:** Kleo again urged members to provide an emergency contact person who is likely to know where a member has moved to or if they are ill or hospitalized when the member doesn't respond to phone calls.

**Study Groups:** Bridge Group: Feb 2; La Cuisine: Feb. 3; Afternoon and Evening Lit Groups as listed, Film Group: Feb. 13.

**Board Meeting:** Feb. 8 at 1:30 by Zoom. Anyone can attend - please contact Kleo if you wish to attend in Feb. so she can include you in the Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Stephanie Sorensen

## CALENDAR

- **Feb.13: Film Group**
- **Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.: Evening Book Club: Zoom meeting or at Gail Stirr's, depending on the weather.** Reviewer: Georgia Stilp; *Homemade: A Story of Grief, Groceries, Showing Up – and What We Make When We Make Dinner* by Liz Houck
- **Feb. 22 at 9:30 a.m.: Morning Literature: Monona Library.** Leader, Sue Richter; *Beloved* by Toni Morrison
- **Feb. 27 at 7 p.m.: General Meeting via Zoom**
- **Mar 2 at 1 p.m.:** Bridge at St. Stephen's
- **Mar. 7 at 1:30 p.m.:** Board Meeting via Zoom
- **Apr. 26-27: State Convention**

Co-presidents: Sally Keyel & Pat Ruppert; Membership: Kleo Baruth Kritz & Lynn Christensen; Newsletter: Sally Keyel      website, [www.monona-madison-wi.aauw.net](http://www.monona-madison-wi.aauw.net)

