

# SCOPE



**Monona/Madison Branch  
Newsletter**

**April 2024**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 23**

**6:00 pm: Salad supper**

**Members N-Z please**

**bring a salad or main dish to serve 6-8. Members A-M please  
contribute \$10**

**7:00 pm: “Spirituality in African American Communities”  
presented by Carlotta Calmese, a former Dean at Madison  
College and a pastor at Fountain of Life Church.**

**MONONA/MADISON (WI)  
BRANCH**

**Hostesses: Sally Keyel, Betty Schmidt, Helene Phelps, Bobbi White**

**Location: Odyssey Center, 2238 South Park St, room 22, in the UW  
South Madison Partnership Building behind the Goodman Library.**

**Please bring your own beverage.**

**HYBRID ZOOM MEETINGS TO BE DISCONTINUED, Kleo Baruth Kritz**

-During the pandemic in 2020, Zoom was essential in keeping our branch functioning. Once we started meeting live at the Odyssey Center, we have had hybrid meetings, which involved hooking my computer up to the Odyssey equipment, so both live and virtual attendance could take place. A variety of things can and do go wrong from sound issues to Wi-Fi connections to inability for people trying to sign in not being able to, etc. -Every hybrid I have done has had something go wrong and it is NEVER the same problem. I have had countless tutorials with the Odyssey experts before meetings, who have been most generous with their expertise.

-At this time we have less than a handful of people attending our regular meetings via Zoom. For the amount of work involved I am going to discontinue hybrid meetings at our monthly meetings.

-Setting up a regular Zoom meeting takes less than two minutes and I plan to continue our January and February meetings (with invitations to other branches in our district), board meetings whenever needed, and any committee or book group meetings that need a Zoom. Wisconsin weather is known for being unpredictable and no one wants to go out on a snowy, dark night!! A planned or last minute Zoom is super easy to set up, and the visuals are much better than those in a hybrid meeting.

We hope more of you can attend our monthly meetings with great programs, excellent conversations, and tasty treats. Don't be hesitant to call a fellow member in your neighborhood to do some carpooling if you don't drive at night. If you can't think of anyone, contact me and I will try to arrange a ride for you.

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

Happy Spring! Snow and all! My valiant daffodils are making it through, and soon will be blooming in full swing. So many activities going on in our branch. Several members are going to the State Convention, and there's still time to sign up if you'd like to come. Great fundraising trips happening too. Please remember to vote on the bylaw change. Thanks to Kleo for all her efforts in providing hybrid meetings. We appreciate what she's had to deal with and hope she can relax and enjoy the general meetings more! I hope you plan on coming to the April salad supper! So nice to see people in person.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE Marian Ehrenberg, Sharon Knoop**

2024-25 SLATE of NEW OFFICERS: Elections at April meeting

Co-President: Deborah Mahaffey

Co-Program VP: Georgia Stilp

Co-Membership VP: Jennifer Ondrejka

Recording Secretary: Stephanie Sorensen

Corresponding Secretary: Marian Ehrenberg

Finance Officer: Gail Stirr (continuing)

Elections in April, installation in May

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL, Lynn Christensen and Kleo Baruth Kritz**

The time has come for most of you to renew your membership. (Most of us are on a July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024 schedule. Recent members' renewals are based on the date they joined.) The membership fee is the same as last year: \$72 for National, \$13 for State, and \$15 for our branch to total \$100. The one change is that all \$72 of your National fee are fully tax-deductible.

You can go to National AAUW website to renew your membership via credit card (preferred method) or you can bring a check to the April or May meeting made out for \$100 to AAUW Monona/ Madison to be given to Gail Stirr. You can also mail your check to Gail Stirr, who will submit dues to national and state on your behalf. Life members pay state and branch dues for a total of \$28. Honorary members pay nothing.

**MILESTONES**

**April Birthdays: Apr. 1: Lynn Christensen, Apr. 3: Sally Keyel & Barb Sorensen, Apr. 13: Mary Zins, Apr. 14: Kleo Baruth Kritz, Apr. 23: Debbie Mahaffey, May 2 Tiffany Butzbaugh**



## SCHOLARSHIP NEWS, Liz Senseman

Our branch supports scholarships and awards at several different levels. We donate to **National Grants** which generally go to graduate students; we have several awards at **UW-Madison** mainly for undergraduates; we have two **High School** scholarships for students going on to college; and we now also have **UW Madison Odyssey Project** awards which go to women attending community college. As these Odyssey awards are relatively new, this article will highlight the 4 recipients who have benefited from our contributions. The UW Madison awards will be featured in the next *Scope*, and the High School awards will be announced at the end of May.

Our branch has supported Odyssey through various channels for many years, and last year we decided to specify that two \$500 awards should be made to Odyssey participants each year. The women featured below are our first awardees.

Zawadi Ozulamoi is a graduate of the Odyssey Junior program and is now completing her first year at Madison College. Next year she will complete her associate degree through the Liberal Arts transfer program, and she plans to apply to UW-Madison to pursue a nursing degree. Her mother Josephine came to the US as a refugee from Sudan and attended the Odyssey Program in 2008, going on to earn both her bachelors and MSW degrees from the UW. Zawadi hopes, like her mother, to enrich the lives of those in the community and wants to set an example for her 3 younger siblings. Josephine wants AAUW to know how grateful she is for our support.



Aleesha Flowers is a current member of the UW Odyssey Project Class of 2024. A mother of 7 children ranging in age from 10 to 32, she learned about Odyssey through a daughter who graduated from the program several years ago. Aleesha has been accepted into the Liberal Arts transfer program at Madison College for the Fall of 2024. She lives paycheck to paycheck as a barber and has suffered great losses recently, including both parents and her brother, but she is determined to pursue her bachelors degree, write an autobiography, and inspire her family.

Theodora Smith graduated from the UW Odyssey Project Class of 2021 during the pandemic. She is a pre-nursing student at Madison College and has a passion for improving the outcomes for black mothers in Dane County. As a single mother who also cares in her home for a client and her baby, she struggles to make ends meet while continuing her studies, but she is determined to go forward to her end goal of becoming an OB/GYN. “Odyssey gave me empowerment, support, and motivation.”



Kelley Nelson-Gray graduated from the Odyssey Project in 2023 while pregnant with her third daughter. Having survived a difficult childhood while her mother battled drug addiction, Kelley initially went down the wrong path but experienced firsthand how helpful and influential a caring social worker can be. She hopes to become such a social worker in the future, working with at-risk children. She is taking classes at Madison College in the Liberal Arts transfer program and hopes eventually to earn her MSW degree. She will become the first in her family to graduate from college and she says she wants to break through generational curses.

If you are interested in learning more about the UW Odyssey Project there is a very informative site on line (just enter “UW Odyssey Program Madison” and it will pop right up). If you are interested in donating directly to Odyssey there is a triple match grant going on right now through May 31, 2024 - this applies to the Odyssey Family Fund. To donate visit [odyssey.wisc.edu/bob](https://odyssey.wisc.edu/bob).



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### **STUDY GROUP ANNOUNCEMENT, Donna Anderson**

Announcing the start up of the second annual Book Lunch Bunch Gathering. All are welcome. It is a time to have a snack, lunch or a beverage with great company and some discussion about books. You decide what is of importance to you and your love of reading. We are meeting on the fourth Thursday for the next few months.

GATHER AT THE CULVER'S OFF THE BELTLINE

2102 W. BELTLINE HWY

MADISON, WI

TIME: 11:30 A.M.

DATES: 4TH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

MAY 23, 2024

JUNE 27, 2024

JULY 25, 2014

AUGUST 22, 2014

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL AND ENJOYING A GOOD SUMMER.



This spring, AAUW members will be asked to consider a proposed national bylaws amendment to eliminate the degree requirement for AAUW membership. This amendment was brought forward to fully open membership to anyone who supports AAUW 's work. The intent is to align our practices with our mission for equity. The AAUW National board supports a Yes vote on the amendment.

### **Get Ready! National Election Opens April 3**

#### **From Kleo:**

Wednesday, April 3, at noon I received my ballot and voted.

1. You will see **AAUW, Election 2024** on your email so will know it is from AAUW.
2. The email will have **a link** to your ballot.
3. **Before you tap the link**, copy down your Elector ID and your Password. You can copy and paste but I found it easier to just do a pencil copy.
4. Once you open the ballot you will be asked **to vote for four people for Board of Directors**. There are **only four** and Melissa LaDuke is one of our speakers at Convention 2024!
5. As scroll down, you will see "I approve the change to AAUW Bylaws to eliminate the degree requirement" followed by **a "yes" and a "no" box**.
6. After you vote you will be shown your choices and asked to **"confirm"** your choices. A screen will pop up saying you are successful.
7. Afterwards, you will get another email saying you have voted and you can view your receipt.
8. It's that easy!

**Voting closes Monday, May 15, at 12 p.m. ET.**



## **INFORMATION FROM MARCH MEETING, Ellen Healey**

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM) Oral History Program seeks to document the experiences of Wisconsin veterans and to make those histories available to the public. Our March 2024 speaker, Luke Sprague, provided options for searching the WVM archives:

Using [WorldCat.org](http://WorldCat.org), a universal library database, type in the text box "Oral History Interview with " and the person's full name. In the list of results, click on the appropriate title and this will take you to the WorldCat/OCLC catalog entry. Then click on the "Show more information" tab and click on the "[wisvetmuseum.com](http://wisvetmuseum.com)" in the "More Information" This will take you to the audio/video interview and transcript/index. Or

Using Google, search, "Wisconsin Veterans Museum, Oral Histories" and scroll to "Search Oral Histories," click and type in the name of the person.

If you know a Wisconsin veteran that might be interested in providing an oral history, that veteran, or someone on behalf of the veteran, needs to submit an oral history request form and mail it to Luke at the below address. The oral history request form can be found with the following Google search: **Wisconsin Veterans Museum Oral History Request Form 2023**. The Museum does oral histories in Madison, or at a location in Wisconsin near the veteran's home, or from anywhere via Zoom.

If you have questions about the Oral History Program, you can also contact Luke:

Wisconsin Veterans Museum

ATTN: Luke Sprague, Oral Historian

30 W. Mifflin Street

Madison, WI 53703

Office:

608.261.0537

[Luke.Sprague@dva.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Luke.Sprague@dva.wisconsin.gov)

## **SPRING PICNIC**

Please mark your calendars for June 1<sup>st</sup>. Tower Hill Park Shelter has been reserved. Detailed information will be sent out separately.



There's still time to register for the 2024 AAUW Wisconsin State Convention which is being held April 26 - 27 at the Delta Hotel in Racine. You can register at [AAUW State Convention 2024 | Wisconsin \(WI\)](#) - \$110 for just Friday, \$95 for just Saturday, or \$130 for both days. **Note:** Our branch has budgeted money to reimburse a portion of the registration fee for those members who chose to attend. Last year ten Monona/Madison members attended. **Want more information, thinking about going, or want help finding a roommate? Contact Kleo Baruth Kritz**

### **WOMEN IN HISTORY, Bobbi White**

What Wisconsin veteran of WWII set a record for single spins in a light aircraft (64 spins) and three months later broke that record by nine spins?

Hint: It's Women's History Month

Jeanette "Jan" Kapus of Milwaukee set a record of 64 spins in May 1949, at an AMVET Airshow Convention in Manitowoc. Three months later she broke that record for spins in a light aircraft 73 times at the South Shore Water Festival in Milwaukee.

Kapus was born in Milwaukee on January 14, 1920. During WWII, she applied and was accepted into the Army Air Force flight training program as a member of WASP Class 44-W-4. Upon completion of training, she earned her silver wings, graduating on May 23, 1944. Jan was assigned to Courtland Army Air Base in AL as an engineering test pilot. Kapus tested BT-13's, ferried PT-17's, PT-19's & BT-13's to boneyards & co-piloted the B-17 on maintenance runs. She also flew the AT-11, UC-78 and UC-64.

After deactivation, she returned to Milwaukee and worked at the Prisoner of War Camp at General Mitchel Field, Milwaukee as Secretary to the Maintenance Officer. When the



POW Camp was closed down, she worked in the Federal Building as Secretary to the Commander of the Wisconsin Intelligence Agency, which gathered data from our Wisconsin veterans for the Nuremberg Trials. Later, she was assigned Secretary to the Adjutant of Wisconsin Military District. During her off time, Kapus gave flying lessons at night and on weekends at Curtiss-Wright Airport, now Timmerman Field in Milwaukee.

In 1947 when the Army Air Force became the United States Air Force, Jan accepted a commission as a 2nd Lt. and became active in the Reserves. In 1952 she applied for active duty and served as personnel officer for 20 years, retiring on August 31, 1972 as a lieutenant colonel. Her overseas assignments took her to Scotland, France, and West Pakistan

### **AAUW GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, March 26, 2024**

7:00 p.m. Luke Sprague from the Wisconsin Veterans Museum presented a program called "Wisconsin Veterans Tell Their Stories." The museum is in the process of finding as many veterans with any kind of connection to Wisconsin to record their oral histories of their service at any time they served. Luke recognized Ellen Healey, a member of our branch, for the work she has done in collecting oral histories throughout the state.

Co-President Sally Keyel called the meeting to order at 8:04.

**February Minutes:** The February minutes were accepted as printed in the *March Scope*.

**Finance Report:** Gail Stirr was not present, but there has been little change since last month.

**Programs:** Donna Anderson reported that a Zoom meeting was scheduled for April 8 at 1:00 pm to get the programs going. The committee has some ideas they are pursuing, but other ideas and suggestions are most welcome.

**Membership:** Kleo Baruth Krtiz reported that we gained two new members and now have 70. Kleo welcomed Brenda Smythe to the meeting and stated Franciska Coleman, who was not present, was also now a member.

**Nominating Committee:** Kleo reported that the proposed slate of officers for 2024-2025 are as follows: Co-President, Deborah Mahaffey; Co-Program VP, Georgia Stilp; Co-Membership VP, Jennifer Ondrejka; Recording Secretary, Stephanie Sorensen; Corresponding Secretary, Marian Ehrenberg; and Finance Officer, Gail Stirr. The election will take place at the April meeting.

**Public Policy:** Nothing new to report.

**Educational Funds:** Liz Senseman reported that the scholarship season is beginning. The UW scholarships will be presented April 24 and several of our members will be going. We are supporting four scholarships through Odyssey as well as our traditional high school scholarships for Monona Grove and LaFollette High Schools.



**STEM:** Donna reported that she, Kleo, Sharon Knoop, and Debbie Mahaffey had volunteered for the Janesville Tech Savvy at UW-Whitewater for middle school students where they all had an enjoyable time.

**NCCWSL:** Donna reported that we have an excellent candidate from UW-Madison, Katie Cervenka, who will be receiving our NCCWSL scholarship of \$1000.

**DEI:** Nothing new to report.

**Fundraising:** Jan Robertson reminded all of the upcoming luncheon at Madison College as well as the planned trip to Art in Bloom in Milwaukee. The committee is considering a trip to the Crane Foundation and is always open to suggestions.

**Publicity:** Mary Boyd reported that the Board approved funds to replace the lost signs for the annual book sale and she will take care of that.

**Newsletter:** Deadline is April 3.

**Old Business:**

**Convention April 26 & 27:** Kleo reported today was last day to register for the state convention without the late fee of \$10 and to get our special rate at the hotel. We have 140 people currently registered as of today and the goal is 160. Eleven of our members will be going so we will have a good representation.

**Voting:** Kleo again explained the need for a “yes” vote on the proposed change to eliminate the education requirement in our national bylaws and permit anyone to join AAUW who supports our mission. She detailed the history of how membership requirements have changed through the years. Everyone will receive a ballot from a third party hired to conduct the election in April so please look for it and vote.

**New Business:** There was a suggestion to have our May meeting outside since the program topic will be bird migration. Due to some of our members having walking issues, food being served outside, and Wisconsin weather, we decided to have the meeting at the Odyssey Center as scheduled. We will have our Salad Supper in April as well as our Picnic June 1.

Bridge (4/5) and Lit (3/28 for AM) groups will meet as scheduled.

Donna reported that the summer meetings of the Lunch Book Bunch went well last year, so we will again be meeting at the Culver’s on the Beltline on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the months of May through August to have informal discussions of books you have been reading.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

## CALENDAR

- **Apr. 5 at 1 pm: Bridge** at St. Stephen’s
- **Apr. 9: Film Group**
- **Apr. 17 at 7 p.m.: Evening Book Club:** Host: Kleo Baruth Kritz; Reviewer, Liz Senseman; *An Impossible Return* by Caroline Laurent
- **Apr. 25 at 9:30 a.m.: Morning Literature:** Monona Library; Leader, Sharon Knoop; *Are You There, God? It’s Me, Margaret* by Judy Blume

- **Apr. 23at 6 pm:** Salad Supper and General Meeting
- **Apr. 26 & 27: State Convention**

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