

SCOPE



**MONONA/MADISON (WI)
BRANCH**

Monona/Madison Branch

Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2025

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 Zoom Meeting

6:30 Social time via Zoom

7:00 p.m. Program: Dr. Dennis Hafemann, Ph.D. in chemistry, retired faculty from UCLA Medical School, Marquette University, and MSOE **Title: ‘The Manhattan Project and its Consequences’** Dr. Hafemann received his B.S. in chemistry from MIT and his Ph.D. in chemistry from U.C. San Diego. He has published papers in chemistry, physics, and biology. He has taught at UCLA, Marquette and MSOE. In retirement, he has pursued his interest in the history of the Manhattan Project (atomic bomb) visiting Oak Ridge, Hanford, Los Alamos, and the Trinity site. Dr. Hafemann has taught a four-series course at UW-Milwaukee on the Manhattan Project and its Consequences



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.

Invitations have been extended to other branches including our District 1 (Beaver Dam, Fort Atkinson, and Janesville) as well as branch presidents in the state to extend to their members and the State Board. 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, Pat Ruppert & Debbie Mahaffey

Welcome to February, the month that has only 28 days but lasts forever. Our planned speaker for the January meeting had a last-minute scheduling conflict and was unable to join us. Many thanks to Consuelo Lopez for stepping in to find an alternate speaker. We were able to hear Dr. Ken Mayer, Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science at UW, speak on the Changing Landscape of US politics. If you were not able to attend, his presentation is well worth watching. Kleo sent an email to the branch with a link to the recording.

We look forward to our February meeting, which will be held on Zoom, with speaker Dr. Dennis Hafemann on The Manhattan Project and its Consequences. The meeting is February 25, with social time at 6:30 and program at 7:00. There is a branch board meeting on February 12 at 1:00. Following our speaker please plan to stay online as we will hold our business meeting including a report of the board meeting. All are welcome to join us for the board meeting, which will be held on Zoom.

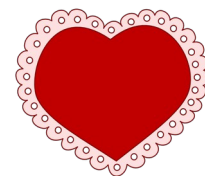
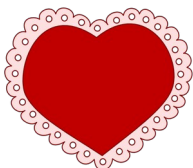
We continue to have opportunities to get to know one another better and support our mission, including a lunch at MATC (which filled up the available reservations quickly), a trip in April to the Milwaukee Art Museum to see Art in Bloom, and a possible visit and tour of the EPIC campus. Thanks to Val Murphy for coordinating these events. In March, a group will be wearing our new AAUW t-shirts to volunteer to assemble supply packs for Girls on the Run. Volunteers are still needed so let Debbie Mahaffey know if you can join us on Thursday, March 6th from 9:30-11:30 AM. It promises to be a busy year for our branch.

PROGRAMS, Ellen Healey & Georgia Stilp

The Program Committee will start its work on the 2025-2026 speaker program. If you have speaker recommendations, please let Georgia Stilp or Ellen Healey know via an email. Include the speaker's name, topic, and contact information.

February Birthdays:

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



STATE CONVENTION, Kleo Baruth Kritz

CONVENTION 2025 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! Welcome to the city of LaCrosse on the mighty Mississippi! You can now register for Convention 2025 on April 25-26 and we encourage your friends who are not AAUW members to join us. Just click this link to the AAUW WI website <https://aauw-wi.aauw.net> and then click “State Convention” on the horizontal menu at top of page and you will find:

Convention Registration:

- Everyone will need to register online.

Registration fees are \$107 for only Friday, \$85 for only Saturday, or \$135 for both. Your meals/beverages/snacks are included in your registration fees.

- After you register, you can pay online or by check. No service fees are charged for online payments.

- Late registration charge of \$10 after Monday, March 24.
- Hotel Registration: We will meet at Stoney Creek Hotel in Onalaska/La Crosse.
- We have a special rate, and you can book your room online at our website or use the phone number that is provided.
- 2025 Hotel rooms \$104 + 13% tax = \$118.04 Hotel registration includes self-serve breakfast.
- Last Day to Book at special rate: Monday, March 24, 2024.

Check around with your friends and find someone with whom to share a room.

As you scroll through our convention page on the AAUW WI website, you can also find out about our optional Friday morning activities, silent auction, and the entire schedule of convention activities/speakers.

Eleven Monona/Madison members attended last year: Donna Anderson, Linda Bergren, Ellen Healey, Sally Keyel, Kleo Baruth Kritz, Consuelo Lopez, Deborah Mahaffey, Val Murphy, Susan Slattery, Georgia Stilp, and Gail Stirr. So feel free to ask them how much they enjoyed it last year and we want even more of our members attending this year!!

CONVENTION 2026 WILL BE IN DISTRICT ONE, Kleo Baruth Kritz

Convention 2025 in La Crosse has not yet happened but we are already planning for Convention 2026 here in our District 1, which includes Beaver Dam, Fort Atkinson, Janesville, and us. As the State Program VP I will be the co-chair with Maggie Winz, our past AAUW WI state president and member of Fort, who has volunteered to be the Local Arrangements co-chair. We are wanting 3-5 volunteers from each branch. Pat Ruppert and Debbie Mahaffey have volunteered and Consuelo Lopez as our District 1 Co-ordinator, will be on the committee. If you are interested in volunteering for our Convention 2026 planning committee—or what to learn more about we will be doing—please let me know and welcome to the adventure of Convention 2026!

CALENDAR

- **Feb.11: Film Group**
- **Feb. 12 at 1 p.m.: Zoom Board Meeting**
- **Feb. 19 at 7 p.m.: Evening Book Club: Zoom meeting or at Pat Ruppert's, depending on the weather.** Reviewer: Pat Ruppert; *Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride
- **Feb. 27 at 9:30 a.m.: Morning Literature: Monona Library.** Leader, Lynn Celley; *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon
- **Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.: General Meeting via Zoom**
- **Mar 7 at 1 p.m.: Bridge at St. Stephen's**
- **Apr. 25-26: State Convention, LaCrosse**

Co-presidents: Pat Ruppert & Debbie Mahaffey; Membership: Kleo Baruth Kritz & Jennifer Ondrejka; Newsletter: Sally Keyel website, www.monona-madison-wi.aauw.net



A STEM Workshop at UW-Whitewater

Saturday, April 5, 2025 | 8:00 am to 1:30 pm
Designed for girls in grades 6-9 | Boys may attend

University of Wisconsin
Whitewater



Online Registration Required
www.uw.edu/ce/camps/additional/techsavvy
Opens 1/22/2025
Closes 3/30/2025

\$15 per person includes
Workshops - Presentations - Lunch
T-shirt and drawstring bag for students
Special sessions for parents

Hands-on Workshops Led by STEM Professionals

(Choose 3)

- Wear Your Genes!
- Bath Bomb Chemistry
- Sun-Powered Racers
- Surgical Intern for a Day
- Solving Weather Mysteries
- Natural Disaster Detectives
- Bust Crimes with Technology
- Beverage Electrolyte Challenge
- Build and Program a Robotic Hand
- Measure the Eiffel Tower with Surveying Tools



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This is not a school-sponsored activity, and the local school district does not approve, support, supervise, or endorse this program/activity.