

Beaver Dam Branch

Winter 2017-18

AAUW News

Dear AAUW Members:

Happy New Year!! Hope this finds you warm, healthy and happy!!

I hope you have liked the monthly programs so far this year. If you have any suggestions for next year, keep them and bring them to the May Brunch. The board sits down over the summer and develops the program from your suggestions.

The 23rd annual Basket Auction was a huge success!! Although we were down in attendance, the proceeds made enough to cover all the scholarships that we sponsor.

Don't forget that our monthly meetings will be held on the third Monday for January, February, March and April. Let Diane or Heidi know if you like this or not.

Please look at our new website <https://beaverdam-wi.aauw.net/> Everything that you need to know about the AAUW Beaver Dam Branch is on there. Plus pictures!! Thanks to Diane Kitchen for setting it up!!

The Dodge County Humane Society has been selected as our non-profit group for the year. They could use donations of canned dog food, dog and cat toys, dry kitten food, small treats, liquid dish soap, paper towels, Clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, milk caps, paper roll tubes, shoe boxes. Cash donations are always welcome too.

Hope to see you soon at a meeting or a Book Club offering.

Your friendly editor,

Mary Kahler

MEETINGS FOR UPCOMING YEAR!!

We will be having meetings on MONDAY nights. Let me repeat MONDAY night.

Our first meeting will be MONDAY, **January 15**, at the Municipal Court within the police station. The meeting will feature Beaver Dam High School's Mock Trial Team. Learn what the team does, how they practice and why they are successful. Order in the court begins at 6:30 p.m.



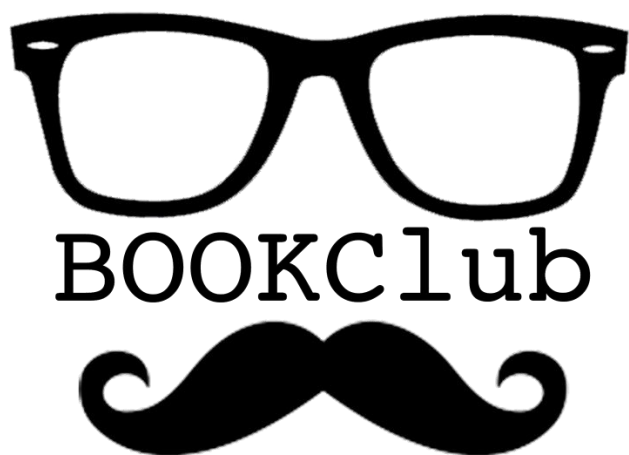
February's meeting will also be on a MONDAY (**February 19**). Since it is the month of love, we thought it might be good to hear some poetry. Local poet, Michael Belongie, will be reading some of his poems. This all happens at the Landmark Credit Union (near Food Pride) at 6:30 p.m.

Gail White is an amazing Beaver Dam native who has run marathons on all seven continents. (Did you know that there was a marathon on Antarctica?? Me either.) She will be presenting on her accomplishments at our **March 19** meeting at 6:30. It will be held in the conference room (the McClure Room) of the Beaver Dam Community Hospital.



Harvest Church will be the place for our **April 16** meeting. The program "5 Stones" will be explained. This program endeavors to make people aware of sex trafficking that is happening around us. The meeting begins at 6:30.

Our final meeting of the year is our brunch which will again be held at the Trosten Haus. We begin at 9:30 on Saturday, **May 19**. Members whose last names begin with A-M are encouraged to bring a brunch dish to pass. We are hoping to have a guest speaker from the state AAUW organization. As always, it is a great opportunity to socialize with all members.



Our AAUW Branch really loves to read. We love reading so much that we have TWO Book Clubs. One is held monthly in the morning at Higher Grounds Coffee Shop usually on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. On the fourth Monday night of the month, the night book club meets at various members' homes at 7:00 p.m.

NIGHT BOOK CLUB

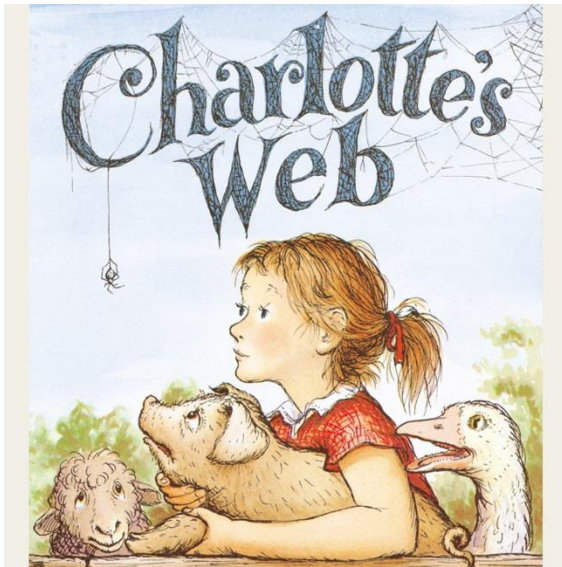
We begin the new year on January 22 at Kathy McMichael's home (W7719 Redwood Road). The book of discussion is "Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood. This has become a very popular TV series on Hulu. This dystopian novel revolves around a society where women are second class. Should be a good discussion.

On February 26, we will be reading "The Fix" by David Baldacci. Amos Decker, detective, is doing his third round in this novel. A murder/suicide occurs right in front of him. When he attempts to solve it, he finds that it is classified and may involve an international terrorist group. Unravel the mystery at Jan Sutter's home (307 Hillcrest Drive).

"Hillbilly Elegy" by J. D. Vance will be the book of choice for March 26 at Jean Militello's home (1420 Hiawatha Drive). The author writes about his experiences growing up in a poor Appalachian town. Part memoir, part social commentary, part historical.

On April 23, Kathi Gallus will be hosting (712 West Street) the discussion of "Lilac Girls" by Martha Hall Kelly. Three women's lives; a New York City socialite, a Polish teenager and a German doctor, interweave during World War II.

The end of the book club season will occur on May 21 at Crystal Boling's home (161 Lakeshore Terrace) with "Commonwealth" by Ann Patchett. In this novel by an award winning author, an unexpected romantic encounter changes two families. New selections for next year will be made at this meeting.



A Tisket-A Tasket ---A Basket Auction



DAY BOOK CLUB

This morning book meeting is hosted by Carmen Hanson and Marilyn Van Haren. It features the book "Lilac Girls" by Martha Hail Kelly. World War II is the setting for this novel of three women on a collision course. Be there on January 9 for an interesting discussion.

On February 13 Ellen Sushak and Diana Schneider will host for the discussion of a classic "East of Eden" by John Steinbeck. The rich farmland of California is the setting of the interactions of two families. All I can think of is James Dean, so I probably need to read this.

"Small Great Things" by Jodi Picoult is the book of choice for March 13 when Vicki Moss and Barb Hartwig will host. Ms. Picoult is an accomplished author who tackles the subjects of race, privilege, prejudice, justice and compassion in her new novel.

Toni Wyman and Mary Schiller will host the discussion of "The Silent Wife" by A.S.A. Harrison on April 10. Ready for a psychological thriller? Well, here you are. In the vein of "Gone Girl", a husband and wife are thrown into conflict.

The final edition of the morning book club will be held on May 8. Children's books are the theme, so "Charlotte's Web" or anything by E. B. White will be the focus of discussion. Margaret Furdek and Christa Slinger will be the hosts. New selections for next year will be made at this meeting.

In October we held our 23rd annual basket auction. Check out the pictures on the website. After all these years, it is still a success! As we hoped, we made enough to give the scholarships that we strive to give.

Here is the financial breakdown:

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|-----------------|-----------|
| Live Auction: | \$3620 |
| Silent Auction: | \$ 762 |
| Donations: | \$1470 |
| Meals: | \$ 528.88 |

In total, we made \$6380.88. Amazing!!

We will continue to give two \$2000 scholarship through the Beaver Dam High School Scholarship Committee and if the STEM camp (on the UW-Madison campus) is held, and within our budget, we plan on sending two middle school girls to camp. This success is what we are all about!

Thank you to those of you who helped with this event and to those who made baskets! We look forward to next year!

-Submitted by Heidi & Diane, Co-Presidents

THINGS TO PONDER---

*We are still in need of co-vice presidents!!

Please consider these positions. There are lots of people who will help you through.

Talk to some of our members who have done this, if you are considering this.

*Facebook: We are on Facebook:

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

*Social Committees? What do you think of eliminating these? Are they a valuable part of the meeting? Or not?

*Should our September meeting be a welcome program to new members??

*We have a wonderful new website, but have you checked out other branch's websites? It is interesting to see what other branches are reading, doing, etc.

Mary Kahler

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