

# BRANCH BITS AND PIECES

## Welcome to another year of AAUW!

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### Special points of interest:

Board Notes

Our Scholarship Recipients

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Book Clubs

Stay tuned for October's e-newsletter

As we continue our mission of working towards equity for women and girls, it's nice to start off with some bits of good news.

In 1900, Paris made history by being the first Olympics to include women. This year, Paris saw another first—total equity in the number of male and female athletes participating in the games! And women's sports in general continue to make great strides, with game attendance, tv-viewership rates and female athletes' salaries making huge gains and hitting all-time highs.

Other numbers also show reason for hope. The World Bank tracks a measurement called human capital, which is a way of predicting a country's economic progress and development success. According to their most recent report, girls' human capital is now equivalent to or higher than boys in 90% of the countries for which they have data. They have also seen a steady increase in the proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments, more than doubling over the last 25 years.

My last bit of good news hits closer to home. I was contacted recently by the executors of the estate of Elaine and Oris Possin. Elaine was the only woman in her chemistry program at UW-Madison and went on to be a legendary chemistry teacher at BDHS. She was also one of the founders of Peace Lutheran Church in Beaver Dam and a dedicated AAUW member. She and Oris were major contributors to the BDACT, among other local projects. And she was the mastermind behind decades of successful BDHS proms. She is fondly remembered for her intelligence, kindness and leadership.

Thanks to Elaine and Oris, we will be receiving a gift of \$3,000 this year. They have also set up a continuing fund with Beaver Dam Area Community Foundation which will give smaller grants each year in perpetuity. We will receive one of these grants every year, along with two other local groups, Peace Lutheran and Alpha Xi. Later this year our membership will discuss and vote on how we want to spend this gift. Think about how you would like to use this expression of Elaine and Oris's remarkable generosity.

With such good news to start us off, the coming year can't help but be a big success. I look forward to seeing you all soon, *Bobbi*.

## PROGRAMS TO START THE YEAR

### Looking for some fun???

To kick off the 24-25 season we will be socializing at Ooga Brewing Company (301 S. Spring Street) from 4:30 to 7:00 on Wednesday, August 21. This will give us all an opportunity to share our summer stories and adventures. In addition, programs will be unveiled as well as BOOKMARKS!! Please bring someone who might be interested in joining. This is a good chance for them to see who is in our organization and what we do. Hope to see you there!!



### Book Clubs will be resuming next month:

September 10: "Tom Lake" by Ann Patchett 9:30 at Higher Grounds

September 23: "Murder in Black and White" by Marilyn Thomas (yes, that Marilyn Thomas). Place to be determined. Contact Kathy McMichael for details. Discussion begins at 7:00

October 8: "The Many Lives of Mama Love" by Lara Love Hardin 9:30 at Higher Grounds

October 28: "The Situation Room" by George Stephanopoulos. Hostess: Denise Roedl. Discussion begins at 7:00



### Basket Auction Soon

I'm getting excited for our 28th scholarship gift basket auction scheduled for October 16 at Old Hickory Golf Club. I hit the ground running this week to area businesses and have already received several generous donations from the community and expect more in the next couple of months! You may see our flyer posted at some businesses. You will be receiving the flyer soon, as well as an information sheet in your member booklet in September. New this year will be the addition of puzzles at our book sale table, so please gather those puzzles and bring them in when you drop off your basket. Mark your calendars for October 16 and be thinking of friends to invite!

--Diane Kitchen

### Library Renovations—The Next Chapter

On November 20, we will be meeting at the Beaver Dam Community Library to see what changes they are envisioning for the library. Sarah Cournoyer, Library Administrator, will share this information with us. Be aware that our meeting will start at 6:00 instead of the usual 6:30. They close at 7:00 and if we met at 6:30 that would not give us enough time. For those of us who are old enough to remember the "brand new" library, this will be interesting to see how they are changing with the times.



### December Mingling

As you know, we usually do not meet in December but this year we thought it might be fun to meet at a place in downtown Beaver Dam and just go around to different places. Sometimes people might call this a crawl. If this is something that you might be interested in doing—please contact Bobbi. Date and time have not been established at this time. Keep tuned.

## AAUW SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The high school recipients of 2024 scholarships are Britney Wendorf and Emma Adsit. Each girl received a \$2000 scholarship.

Britney plans to attend UW-La Crosse to study radiologic sciences in the fall. In high school, her favorite class was AP Psychology. She liked the subject material and had friends in the class. To top that off, her teacher became her favorite teacher. One of the projects for this class was to collect data around school for a survey. The last book she read was "The Hunger Games: Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes" and the last thing she watched on television was "The Summer I Turned Pretty". Her dad is the person who inspires her the most. Best of luck, Britney!!

We did not hear from Emma, but we wish her the best as well.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Our current balance in both savings and checking accounts is approximately \$2600. This is after paying for scholarships and dues.

We currently have 42 paid members.

## Community Unity

Hello everyone,

I hope you are enjoying the summer and also looking forward to the **AAUW program on Wednesday, September 18, featuring Ruth Conniff, author of our summer read, "Milked: How an American Crisis Brought Together Midwestern Dairy Farmers and Mexican Workers."** To continue AAUW's commitment to awareness and education, the program is free and open to the general public. We are fortunate that the BDACT Fine Arts Center is offering its auditorium for the Conniff program, giving the opportunity for even more attendance than in the past. *Here's how you can help promote the program:* Talk it up at work, at your book club, card club, other groups you know, friends, neighbors, etc.

Information is on the last page of this flyer. If you want a flyer, contact me.

*(Note: The flyer for the public lists the program for 7 PM; however, AAUW will have its monthly meeting at 6:30 PM, same place. Also, whenever you have the opportunity, please say "thanks" to Tom Heffron, President, Patrick Lutz, Vice-President, or any representative from the Beaver Dam Area Community Foundation for the grant to support our summer read program.)*

Thank you so much for being part of the publicity team for this great program!

Annette Kamps,  
AAUW/DEI/Community Chair

*AAUW Board Notes:*

*-Audit was performed on our books by Jan Sutter. All was found to be accurate.*

*-John Noltner was confirmed to be a part of our community outreach for 2025. Noltner is a self-described nomadic seeker of beauty. Papa, hubby & dog dad. Writer, photo dude, speaker & Christmas tree farmer. He recently wrote "Lessons on the Road to Peace". Originally from Beaver Dam, he will be staying here for an entire week residency.*

*-It was agreed to spend a total of \$300 on stipends for programs this year.*

AN INVITATION/ UNA INVITACION  
JOIN THE FREE COMMUNITY PROGRAM  
UNASE ESTE PROGRAMA COMUNITARIA  
GRATUITA PRESE  
FEATURING RUTH CONNIFF

FEATURING RUTH CONNIFF

AUTHOR OF THE AWARD-WINNING BOOK , "MILKED:

HOW AN AMERICAN CRISIS BROUGHT TOGETHER  
MIDWESTERN DAIRY FARMERSAND MEXICAN WORKERS,"  
a compelling portrayal of farmingcommunities in Wisconsin and Mexico  
and the connection between them

autora del libro premiado:

MILKED: HOW AN AMERICAN  
CRISIS BROUGHT TOGETHER  
MIDWESTERN DAIRY FARMERS  
AND MEXICAN WORKERS

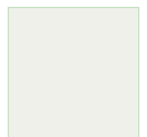
una descripción convincente de las  
comunidades agrícolas de Wisconsin y  
México y la conexión entre

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 7:00 PM AT THE BDACT FINE  
ARTS CENTER,117 W. MAPLE AVENUE, BEAVER DAM  
MIERCOLES, 18 SEPTIEMBRE, 7:00 PM, BDACT FINE ARTS  
CENTER, 117 W. MAPLE AVENUE, BEAVER DAM

The book is the 2024 community-wide summer read for Beaver Dam  
and the area. The read and program are presented by the American  
Association of University Women, Beaver Dam, with grant support  
from the Beaver Dam Area Community Foundation.

El libro como una crisis agrícola se uno los productores de leche y  
obradores mexicanos" es nuestra lectura comunitaria de verano del  
2024. La lectura y el programa están patrocinados por La Asociación  
Americana de Mujeres Universitarias, con una beca de apoyo de  
parte de la Fundación Comunitaria de Dam.

MARY KAHLER  
209 BEAVER STREET  
BEAVER DAM, WI 53916



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STREET ADDRESS  
ADDRESS 2  
CITY, ST ZIP CODE