



American Association of University Women
Tomah WI Branch – Organized in 1972

the **Twig** branch newsletter - **February 4, 2021**



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Many thanks, Kathy! Yoga nidra was the topic of our January meeting. We appreciate Kathy Peterson for leading this wellness session.

Our Next Meeting: **Tuesday, February 9 — 7:00 p.m. – 8 p.m.**

Join with Google Meet: meet.google.com/ngd-ppny-nfu

Megan Divyak will provide a virtual tour of our AAUW website, Facebook and Gmail site. This will help us in deciding how we make it more useful to members and the community.

Notes from Megan:

One of the agenda topics for our next meeting on Tuesday, Feb 9th will be to take a virtual tour of our AAUW Website, AAUW Facebook page, and touch on our Shared Google Drive (e.g., saving documents for posterity).

A number of updates, in particular, have been applied to our AAUW Website so if you can make your best effort to review in advance of the meeting, it would be greatly appreciated. I recognize there may still be a few gaps, so your input will be really helpful addressing those areas and any suggested changes, etc. We want to be sure that we are making our website (and Facebook page) most useful to you and the community. I may also need some assistance from other members with collecting additional documents or from an editing standpoint. More to come! Thank you in advance!

Links to access/review: [AAUW Tomah Branch Website](#) [AAUW Tomah Branch Facebook page](#)

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank You,
Megan

The AAUW WI State Strategic Plan will also be reviewed. Items to be discussed —improving engagement and serving the community.

President's Notes:

Dear Members,

Hope this Newsletter finds you all HEALTHY In mind, body and spirit. Self care even more important these days. Hopefully many of you are beginning to get covid vaccines. We were lucky to get our first round and it went well. Your county public health department is the place to register your interest.

<https://healthymonroecowi.org/vaccine/>

The winter is cold and snowy. Beautiful and invigorating if you can get outside a bit for a walk, or snowshoe you'll feel much better. But if you can get away even better! (My current plan).

However while you are hibernating there are lots of interesting AAUW resources on the Local, State and National web pages, such as recorded speakers from Public Policy day, toolkits, articles, etc. Fortunately, our February meeting will feature Megan Lund Divyak- who will give us a virtual tour of our social media and help you to navigate through our resources.

Please join us Tuesday night at 7pm for our business meeting and program. Even if you can just log in for a minute to say hi we would all appreciate seeing you and keeping in touch.

Sincerely,
Your President Deb Thiel

Update Your Email Address, Please! Review you contact Email address. Since we are doing so much of our communication via Email it's important that we are using one that YOU use!

The National AAUW Webpage lists the information that You at some point entered into the database or provided to Treasurer.

You can update your own information on the national site. If you use or used multiple emails in past - please let the our local Branch which Email should be used and what should be removed.

Please note: Audrey Chambers has a new email: audreychambers4@outlook.com

If there are any other Email address update, send them to Bonnie Peterson at wordemp@centurylink.net

Officers Meeting Held: A meeting was held on January 5th. Attending were Julia Palmer, Megan Divyak, Deb Young and Deb Thiel. Areas discussed were: program, Finance, Bylaws, Leadership, Strategic Planning, Public Policy and AAU Website.

Regarding Finance:

- Tomah Chamber of Commerce membership fees were approved in our 2020/21 budget, so e will go forward with that.
- National Dues will be increasing by \$3 next year and then by\$5 and \$5 the following years (\$62, \$67, \$72).
- The Wisconsin Technical College scholarship recipients are in process.

National Conference of College Women Student Leaders:

The NCCWSL program (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) will be virtual this year and something our local Branch members should become more aware of so that we can encourage participation by friends, family, community members, neighbors, co-workers with collage students to apply.

<https://www.nccwsl.org>

AAUW-WI has announced 12 scholarships of \$125 each to Wisconsin students to attend NCWSL for 2021. The conference dates are May 25 & 26, 2001. The scholarship will cover registration fees.

Eligible nominees must be currently enrolled in a program leading to an Associate degree (or equivalent), Bachelor's degrees, or Master's degree at a technical college or other two or four year pubic or private

college. Candidates must be nominated by an AAUW Branch with a limit of one nominee per branch. We will need to know of any interested applicants since there is an early March deadline for submission.

AAUW-WI 2021 Virtual Convention: This is your chance to experience convention without the expense of registration, travel or lodging.

Friday, April 23, 2021 (7 p.m. – 9 p.m.) Welcome followed by presentation of *Conversations Between Suffragists: Carries Chapman Cat and Jessie Jack Hooper*

Saturday, April 24, 2021

9:30 a.m. – 10: a.m. Business meeting

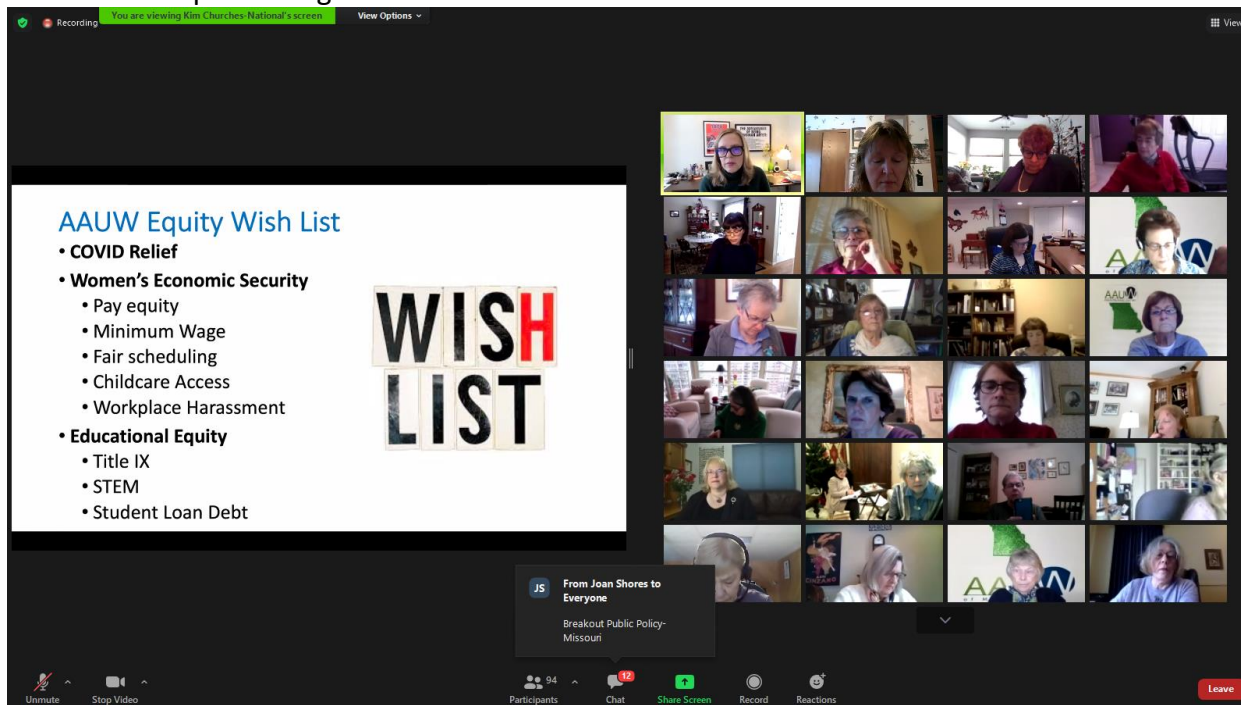
11: a.m. to noon Featured speaker Representative Shelia Stubbs

12:10 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Breakout sessions

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Jessica Michna presents *Women Who Dared*

AAUW Midwest Conference

President Deb Thiel participated in the recent online forum, a screenshot of which is shown below. Kim Churches was presenting AAUW's Focused Priorities.



AAUW Policy Webinar Feb. 2, 2021

Public Policy Update

A very exciting and focused year with the **State Public Policy** committee is occurring. We need a member who is interested in working with this group to step up and take on the role. Anyone interested? Please see the email attachment 20210202 for the minutes of the webinar. For further information please discuss with Deb Thiel, Branch President.

If you have newsletter items, please send them to Bonnie Peterson, AAUW Secretary, at wordemp@centurylink.net or 12808 County Hwy. PP, Tomah, WI 54660. Phone: 608-372-7501