



WOMEN'S CIVIC CONFERENCE CO

Founded 1922 as Women's Court & Civic Conference
www.womenscivicconference.com

March 2026

Board Meeting – Thursday, March 12, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

New Berlin Library Conference Room, 15105 W Library Ln, New Berlin, WI 53151

General Meeting – Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tuckaway Country Club, 6901 W Drexel Ave, Franklin, WI 53132

General Meeting - Wednesday, March 18, 2026 Chairs of the Day: Bernadette Asiatidis, Jean Kreul

10:00 am – Business Meeting

10:15 am – **“Behind the Scenes of the Wisconsin Court System”**

Speaker: Janet Protasiewicz, Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice

Noon – Luncheon

1:00 pm – **“Voting Matters!”**

Speakers: Peg Schrader, President League Of Women Voters Milwaukee

Menu – Chopped Italian Salad, Warm Rolls and Butter, Beer Battered Cod, Lemon Pilaf, Carrots and Green Beans, Pound Cake with Strawberries and Juice, Strawberry Ice Cream

This month's Honored Affiliated Club: **AAUW – West Suburban Milwaukee Branch**

Mark your calendar for the following future conferences:

April 22, 2026 Topic: Gun Violence

May 20, 2026 Topic: Our Beautiful Milwaukee County Parks

PRESIDENT – Mary Cherweznik

Well, hello again! I hope you enjoyed our February conference and are looking forward to March. Behind the Scenes of the Wisconsin Court System will be presented by Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice (and WCC member) Janet Protasiewicz. I am so looking forward to understanding exactly how our Supreme Court works: how to bring a case to the Court, what determines the cases they choose to hear, and learning about the hearing and decision process. We'll also have Peg Schrader, President of the League of Women Voters Milwaukee, talk to us about how much Voting Matters!

We have an important task for the next few months; we must put in place a new leadership team for the 2026-2027 term. Most clubs and organizations have the same issue: members like to attend meetings, spend time with their friends, and hear from interesting speakers, but only a few members will give a bit more of their time to help with the administration of the club. As a result, many clubs have the same leaders carry the water year after year for the whole group. But those folks have given enough and are ready to pass the torch. We all get so much benefit from the Women's Civic Conference that it would be a real loss if we were forced to fold. A listing of committees and officer positions is on the last page. Please consider how YOU can contribute. When a member of the Nominating Committee calls, please hear them out, and give a little back by taking on an office or a committee. Don't make us call you! You can also volunteer! You will get back more than you give.

This will be our first meeting without Glenna Vance's smiling face and classy wardrobe, and I'll be missing her. Warm regards, Mary C

REMEMBERING GLENNA – Linda Brown

I am incredibly sad to let you know that my dear friend and WCC's past President Glenna Vance died of a heart attack on January 19th. She rescued our organization when she volunteered to take on the position of President during Covid. Glenna was our President for four years at a time when we had to redo our bylaws and change our name to save our organization. She did it skillfully with humor and grace. She also helped with programming and hosted several programs during the past few years. Several members have commented on our wonderful programs. It takes a great deal of time to find speakers on current topics, and she was always ready to help. Glenna will be missed.

A note from Glenna's family – Lori Vance

"She loved being a part of Women's Civic Conference. And so many of you attended her funeral. Thank you from our family for all the love of Glenna."

Lori Vance



ARRANGEMENTS & REGISTRATION – Carol Dohoney

A prepaid reservation is required to attend each conference. The cost is \$40.00 per person and a check **payable to WCC** is to be mailed to **Carol Dohoney, 11077 W Forest Home Ave, Apt 2510, Hales Corners, WI 53130** (be sure to include Apt number). If you are paying for more than one conference, please indicate the month(s) you are paying for on your check. If, after checking the menu selection for the month, you have food allergies or special menu restrictions, please enclose a note with that information along with your check.

PLEASE NOTE: The Post Office is sometimes taking up to 10 days to deliver mail. We need to give final numbers to Tuckaway by the 5th of the month, so **please postmark your check by the 20th of the month prior** to the meeting. Once the count is submitted to Tuckaway, we cannot refund payments. If you have not reserved and paid for your spot, please do not expect to be seated at the conference.

Contact Carol Dohoney @414-745-8104 with any questions.

MEMBERSHIP – Mary Wilde

Membership Booklets will be available at our upcoming meeting. Please pick your copy up at the reservation table if you have not already done so.

EDUCATION – Bernadette Asiatidis

Teachers & students are using artificial intelligence, AI, at increasing rates. One of the downsides is that students are feeling less connected to both their teachers and peers. Many teachers are concerned that AI weakens critical thinking & research skills. Teachers using AI say that in many cases it has improved their teaching methods & it has enabled more personalized learning. The beneficial side of AI for students has included tutoring & college or career advice. The downside use of AI shows risks with data breaches, sexual harassments & bullying. There are advantages & disadvantages to the use of AI which is why guardrails need to be set up through professional development. At this point in time less than half of students & teachers have received school provided information on how best to use AI.

HEALTH CARE – Mary Ellen Clinton

Doctors are leaving or limiting participation in Medicaid primarily due to significant lower reimbursement rate compared to private insurance, which makes it financially unsustainable for many practices, particularly independent ones. Further, high administrative burdens, including complex billing, frequent claim denials and some pay delays add to the pressure, leading to higher provider turnover.

Starting October 1, 2026 significant changes to Medicaid will take place based on federal changes passed in 2025. These changes primarily impact lawfully present immigrants and their eligibility for full Medicaid coverage, restricting the definition of qualified immigrants. Medicaid eligibility for noncitizens will be restricted to specific groups, such as Lawful Permanent Residents residing in the U.S. for at least 5 years and certain humanitarian parolees. Further changes are scheduled for later dates.

Artificial intelligence in healthcare is improving patient outcomes and operational efficiency through advanced diagnostics, personalized treatment plans, and administrative automation. Key benefits include faster more accurate imaging analysis, reduced clinician burnout, enhanced drug discovery, and predictive analytics for early disease intervention. This has been very helpful in diseases such as Cancer, Parkinson, and many more. Artificial intelligence is fundamentally reshaping medical care by shifting the focus from reactive treatment to proactive personalized health management.

CIVICS – Kelley Knoerr

On April 7, Wisconsin will hold a Supreme Court election to fill the seat of retiring Justice Rebecca Bradley. This election is especially important as it will shape the state's highest court for years to come. There are two official non-partisan candidates: **Maria S Lazar**, and **Chris Taylor**, they are both currently serving as judges on the State Court of Appeals. To help voters make informed decisions, a live debate between the candidates is scheduled for **March 25 at 7:00 PM**. The debate will be locally broadcast on WISN, offering an opportunity to hear directly from those seeking the position. Make Your Voice Heard, VOTE!

SUNSHINE – Jean Reinemann

If you know of a WCC member who is sick, having surgery, or who has a family member who recently passed away, please contact Jean Reinemann, 262 993-8112, jeanreinemann@gmail.com with that information. Jean will send a card so that the member will know we're thinking about her.

2026 WCC TOUR - Jean Dueling & Linda Jenzake

Save the date! On Tuesday, May 5th we will be touring the Black Holocaust Museum at 401 W North Avenue. We will meet there at 10:25am or Carpool from State Fair Park & Ride at 10am. Cost will be \$10 for the Museum entry, and we are still working on finding a lunch location. More details will be shared as we get closer to the event!

HONORED AFFILIATED CLUB – AAUW WEST SUBURBAN MILWAUKEE – Ellen Bartling, President

Since 1881, the American Association of University Women (AAUW), a national organization, has worked to advance equity for women and girls by championing their success in higher education—a pathway to economic security. AAUW West Suburban-Milwaukee is one of twenty-two AAUW branches in Wisconsin. Founded in 1957, WSM now includes more than 150 active members from the greater Milwaukee area. Over time, WSM has awarded \$100,000 in local scholarships to female students attending Alverno College, Carroll University, MATC, Mt. Mary University, MSOE and WCTC. WSM believes economies thrive when all women are empowered and educated, and all women deserve equitable access and advancement in their careers, free from harassment and discrimination. Our focus remains on the issues, not political parties, and this focus is grounded in values not partisanship.

AAUW – West Suburban Milwaukee, ANNUAL STYLE SHOW! Join the fun!

AAUW's 23rd Annual Style Show is again being held at the lovely Wisconsin Club on May 2, 2026. The style show is our annual fundraiser to support scholarships for deserving women who are pursuing further education. Please mark your calendars and join us for a time of shopping, raffles, silent auction, delicious luncheon as well as a fun, fashion style show to start off the spring season! Invite a friend to come along; it is a fun time with something for everyone! Reach out to Marty Gholston or Deb Newbauer to get more information and get on the invitation list.



Marty Gholston martygholston@gmail.com
Deb Newbauer debnewbauer@gmail.com

414-399-7710
262-309-5116

WCC EXECUTIVE POSITIONS & COMMITTEE CHAIR POSITIONS

Please review this list of volunteer positions. Talk with or “shadow” an officer or committee chair if you want to learn more. The highlighted positions in the list are especially important because they will be vacant next year and must be filled.

Without active participation from our members, WCC may have to disband.

President – Preside at all meetings, establish WCC’s direction, appoint chairs of various committees, provide a monthly Newsletter message, and encourage new membership.

Vice President – Assist the President and perform the President’s duties in the absence of the President.

Recording Secretary – Keep a safe, secure record of the Board and regular meetings.

Corresponding Secretary – Conduct the general correspondence of the organization.

Treasurer – Keep a record and accurate account of all monies, report as required and serve on the Audit and Budget Committee.

Arrangement & Reservations Chair – Collect members’ and others’ payments for monthly meetings, place event orders with Tuckaway, check in attendees at the event, and resolve any issues with venue staff.

Audit & Budget Committee Chair – Following the May WCC meeting, convene and conduct a meeting to review the year’s budget and expenses, and prepare a budget for the upcoming year.

Civics Chair - Monitor news and other reports related to local, state, and national policy and legislation and how changes may affect members through reports in the monthly Newsletter.

Education Committee Chair – Monitor news and other reports related to education on all levels and advise members of findings through the monthly Newsletter.

Health Care Committee Chair - Monitor news and other reports related to health care and advise members of policy, health maintenance and other changes through the monthly Newsletter.

Historical Record Chair – Collect and maintain all WCC records including agendas, meeting minutes, and Program information.

Hospitality Committee Chair – Arrange for members to serve as greeters/hostesses for general meetings.

Membership Chair – Maintain membership information, collect annual dues, provide information for publication of the annual membership directory, and encourage new members to join WCC.

Newsletter Chair – Establish a Newsletter format, update monthly with the month’s events and recognition, collect committee Chairs’ articles, publish and distribute the Newsletter monthly to all members.

Program Committee Chair – Select topics, programs, and dates for substantive, even-handed material to be presented at monthly conferences, arrange for Program Chairs to coordinate the presentations, and prepare the annual Program Guide (prospectus).

Sunshine Chair – Send get well, sympathy, and other special occasion cards to members as warranted.

Tours Committee Chair – Plan and arrange for an annual tour to a place of interest, communicate details to the membership, collect payments as needed, and provide a wrap-up report.

Website Chair – Provide information about WCC to the website manager and oversee their work and expenses.

Parliamentarian – Provide procedural guidance at all general and Board meetings.