



WOMEN'S CIVIC CONFERENCE CO

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

February 2026

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

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

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

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

General Meeting - Wednesday, February 18, 2026 Chairs of the Day: Linda Brown, Diane Edward

10:00 am – Business Meeting

10:15 am – **“Technology and Engineering in 2026- Not the Shop Class You Remember!”**

Speaker: Jake Mihm, Wisconsin DPI Technology and Engineering

Noon – Luncheon

1:00 pm – **“Unlocking the Power and Potential of Girls”**

Speakers: Alisa Karweik & Tina Jones from Girls on the Run

Menu – Chicken Noodle Soup, Warm Rolls and Butter, Shrimp and Cheese Tortellini Alfredo, Roasted Asparagus, Red Peppers, Carrot Sticks, Apple Crisp with Ice Cream

This month's Honored Affiliated Club –

Reminder – The next Women's Conference will be March 18, 2026

PRESIDENT – Mary Cherweznik

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a happy Holiday season, and, after a pause to catch your breath, are ready for another year of timely, interesting presentations at our monthly WCC meetings. We have had numerous comments on how much our members enjoyed our conferences and perhaps learned something new. Our compliments go to Linda Brown, Program Chair, and her team as they have brought in particularly great speakers this year. My compliments also go out to our members who donated to our chosen charity, Forward Latino. You have done it again and surpassed last year's donations: \$2,562 (including the WCC \$500 match) was sent on to Forward Latino in early December. I am overwhelmed by your generosity. Thank you.

Our job this spring is to put together a leadership team that will carry on our mission in 2026-2027 which, in part, is to “inform and be informed on local, state, and national issues.” We need to install a new President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, and Membership Coordinator to serve with returning Officers and Committee Chairs. Serving as an Officer or Committee Chair is an excellent way to become involved in WCC's future. I have posted the WCC executive board and committee chair positions for your review (see Page 3) Most positions only require a few hours a month, so please forward your name and your preferred area of interest. Without your participation, our club may have to disband, and that would be a significant loss.

PROGRAM NOTES – Linda Brown

At our meeting on February 18, we will be hearing from Jake Mihm from Madison. After 25 years as a technology educator, he joined the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction as a Technology and Engineering Consultant. We will learn about the updates to CTE (Career and Technical Education) and how girls may want to choose that path. As the State Director of Wisconsin Skills USA, he helps students learn about the opportunities that are available to them. Our second speaker will be a female officer from that organization who, as a high school student, is going to talk about her pathway into the skilled trades. Many of us have grandchildren who are not that interested in college and need another pathway to success. As it becomes more difficult to find employment after college, they may want to consider a trade. We will always need a plumber to fix our clogged toilets! There are many new CTE areas for them to explore.

Our afternoon speaker from Girls on the Run will share information on a local program for girls to help them build confidence and emotional strength. Girls will gain critical life skills that strengthen their potential and enrich their lives.

ARRANGEMENTS & REGISTRATION – Carol Dohoney

A prepaid reservation is required to attend each conference. The cost is \$40.00 per person and a check made 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 the Apt number) and must be postmarked by the first of the month. If you are paying for more than one conference, please indicate the month(s) you are paying for on your check. Also, if you are paying for others, include their name(s) with the reservation. 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. Contact Carol 414 745-8104 with other questions. Once the count has been 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.

EDUCATION – Bernadette Asiatidis

The Trump Administration has announced a plan to dismantle the Dept. of Education. According to this plan the Education Department's work will be spread across four other federal departments which are: 1-Labor Dept. 2-Dept. of Health & Human Services 3-State Dept. 4-Interior Dept. There is strong pushback from many state and educational leaders who see no benefit, just additional bureaucracy as all of these issues are currently contained in a single agency. Multiple agencies can lead to much confusion in getting questions answered and policies implemented according to educational leaders. There has been controversy to this plan as only Congress has the power to abolish the Dept. of Education.

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.

CIVICS (formerly Legislative) – Kelley Knoerr

There are several important State Elections this year. A new Supreme Court justice will be elected to replace Rebecca Bradley on April 7. 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.

The current governor election in Wisconsin is off to a crowded start. The primary for the gubernatorial race is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026, followed by the general election on Nov. 3. As of January 9, here are the 16 official candidates, with political leanings and experience noted:

Democrats (9) -Former Lt. Gov. **Mandela Barnes**; Former Department of Administration Secretary **Joel Brennan**; Milwaukee County Executive **David Crowley**; State Rep. **Francesca Hong**; **Missy Hughes**, former head of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp; **Brett Hulsey**, former member of the WI State Assembly; Lt. Gov. **Sara Rodriguez**; **Zachary Roper**; State Sen. **Kelda Roys**.

Republicans (3) - **Andrew Manske**; Washington County Executive **Josh Schoemann**; U.S. Rep. **Tom Tiffany**.

Independents (4) - **Oliver Carranza**; **Crystal Harper**; **David King**; **Mike Kohn**

Soon the candidates will be actively campaigning across the state and the mailers, phone calls and ads will start! Watch for articles, announcements of debates, and other important election events. 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.

Mark your calendar for the following future conferences:

March 18, 2026	Topic: Wisconsin State Courts and Voting Rights
April 22, 2026	Topic: Gun Violence
May 20, 2026	Topic: Our Beautiful Milwaukee County Parks

WCC EXECUTIVE POSITIONS & COMMITTEE CHAIR POSITIONS

Please review this list of volunteer positions. If you would like to see if a position is something that meshes with your interests and experience, you might “shadow” an officer or committee chair to determine if you’d be a good fit. It will provide a great chance to give back to an organization that has given so much. **Without active participation from our members, WCC will 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.