



WOMEN'S CIVIC CONFERENCE CO

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

September 2026

Board Meeting – Thursday, September 10, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

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

General Meeting – Wednesday, September 16, 2026, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

General Meeting - Wednesday, September 16, 2025 Chair of the Day: Linda Brown

10:00 am – 2 pm Business Meeting and Program

“US Supreme Court 2026 Review & 2027 Docket”

Speaker: James L. Santelle, former US Dept of Justice Attorney

Noon – Luncheon

Menu – House salad with dressings, Warm breadsticks and butter, Chicken Alfredo, Brownie Sundae

This month's Honored Affiliated Club – **Greendale Woman's Club**

PRESIDENTS– Linda Brown & Jean Kreul

Welcome to the 104th year of the Women's Civic Conference! Originally organized in 1922 as “Women's Court Conference” by women who had finally received the right to vote, the primary focus was on the court system. Over the years the organization's name has changed several times, and our focus is now on presenting many topics of civic interest. This year we will cover U.S. Supreme Court decisions, voting matters, veteran's issues, prejudices, criminal justice, educational trends, and Milwaukee's history. Bring a friend to a conference and introduce them to our organization. We think they will be impressed by the topics and speakers, and the wonderful women who make up WCC. A special thanks to the women who helped build WCC including Mary Wilde and Mary Ellen Clinton who are among several who have devoted many years to our group. We invite you to help us build our organization so that we can continue to provide the programming you enjoy.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's conferences,

Linda Brown and Jean Kreul – Co-Presidents

PROGRAM NOTES – Linda Brown

One of our favorite speakers, James Santelle will be returning as our September speaker. He will provide information on the implications of the US Supreme Court decisions of 2026 and inform us of the new cases to be heard in 2027. James is a retired Attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice. He is a graduate of Marquette University and the University of Chicago Law School. He currently teaches classes at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and speaks to interested groups about many civic issues. Invite your friends to join us for this informative session and a delicious lunch.

ARRANGEMENTS & REGISTRATION – Mary Cherweznik NOTE! New Chair & New Address!

A prepaid reservation is required to attend each conference. The cost is \$40.00 per person per conference and a **check payable to WCC is to be mailed to Mary Cherweznik, 3858 S Oakridge Ct, Greenfield, WI 53228**. If you are paying for more than one conference, please indicate the month(s) you are paying for on your check. After checking the menu selection for the month, if you have food allergies or special menu restrictions, please enclose a note with that information along with your check. **PLEASE NOTE:** The Post Office sometimes takes up to 10 days to deliver mail, and Tuckaway needs our attendee count 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 Mary Cherweznik (414 395-3001 landline) with questions.

HOSPITALITY – Mary Golden

There are some openings this year for “Greeters” to welcome members arriving for our conferences. If you can help with this, contact Mary Golden at (414)828-9987 or mgolden_csw@yahoo.com.

MEMBERSHIP – Diane Kaminski

Welcome back everyone for another year of outstanding conferences! WCC Membership Dues remain the same at \$30 annually for September thru May 2027 programs. The affiliated club memberships also remain the same. I will be collecting dues in September at our reservation table. Make your check **payable to WCC** or pay in cash. Please advise if there are any changes to your address, email or phone so that our Membership Directory will have the correct information.

Diane Kaminski, Membership Chair 262-617-3404

EDUCATION – Bernadette Asiatidis

Wis. State Superintendent Dr. Jill Underly appointed Kaylee Jackson this past May to lead the Office of Literacy. Kaylee has more than 15 years’ experience as an educational leader and literacy strategist. Literacy coaches will be placed in about 50 schools this fall. They are a component of Act. 20 which was passed in 2023. This law mandates changes in literacy instruction from pre-kindergarten through third grade. Although the legislature budgeted \$50 million, only \$9 million was released at this point in time. Statewide standardized tests indicate that fewer than 40% of students are considered proficient. When schools are ranked nationally, a variety of metrics are used to calculate a state's standings, not just academic performance. When broad based metrics are used, Wisconsin consistently scores in the top 25%.

HEALTH CARE – Mary Ellen Clinton

"Worlds-first" Vaccine by AI - Artificial intelligence has been used to develop a "fundamentally new" vaccine that could protect against swathes of viruses and prevent pandemics. The team at the University of Cambridge say it is the first time a vaccine's key component has been designed entirely by AI and then trialed in people. The vaccine was engineered to work on all coronaviruses which would include all Covid variants as well as viruses that currently infect animals yet have the potential to start the next pandemic. The work is still in the early stages, but the team is already developing separate vaccines that could tackle flu and Ebola. Vaccines teach our bodies how to spot an infection to increase our chances of fighting it off, but some viruses are adept at changing their appearance or mutating so vaccines quickly go out of date. This is why Covid and winter flu vaccines need to be regularly updated. The team is trying to stay ahead of the curve, in fact, so far ahead that they could protect against new outbreaks or pandemics.

CIVICS – Kelley Knoerr

In case you haven’t heard, we have elections for a new Governor and many other state offices coming up! On **August 11** we will cast votes in the state’s partisan primary. You may only vote within one political party for this primary election, so choose wisely. At the time of this writing, there are four Democratic candidates for Governor remaining in the race (Brennan, Crowley, Hong, Roy) and two declared Republican candidates (Manske, Tiffany). Your primary ballot will include voting for several other state offices. The results of the primary will determine the candidates for the general election on **November 3**. Go to MyVote.wi.gov for information about polling places and ballot specifics. A good source for information about candidates can be found on ballotpedia.org.

There have been statements made recently about getting back to our “Wisconsin progressive roots.” That is a partly true statement regarding governors. The State of Wisconsin has held 74 regular gubernatorial elections and one special recall election. Fifty-five elections have been won by Republican candidates. Seventeen elections were won by Democratic candidates. Three were won by Wisconsin Progressives. One was won by a Whig (our second governor, Leonard Farwell, in 1851). Vote!

HONORED AFFILIATED CLUB – GREENDALE WOMAN’S CLUB

The Greendale Woman's Club is going strong after almost 70 years. We hold our meetings on the first Wednesday of the month September through May. Our membership consists of not only Greendale ladies but residents from surrounding communities. We focus on promoting, sponsoring and participating in community activities, giving grants to deserving entities and scholarships to graduating students. Our members also enjoy social activities like cards, book club and lunches. We try to find something for everyone.

WEBSITE – *Mary Wilde*

Please try our website, www.womenscivicconference.com, for all your newsletter and conference meeting information. If you need help, stop at the reservation table at monthly meetings for some navigation hints.

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:

October 21, 2026	Topic: Voting Matters & The Path to Citizenship
November 18, 2026	Topic: Veterans. They fought for us, how are we caring for them?
February 17, 2027	Topic: The Melting Pot (and we’re not talking food)
March 17, 2027	Topic: Criminal Justice and alternatives to incarceration
April 21, 2027	Topic: Trends in Education
May 19, 2027	Topic: Milwaukee – It’s all About the Waters