



President's Message

Lisa West

Dear Members,
 On behalf of the entire Board, "Hello," as we begin our 49th programming year! The Board already met twice, and preparations for this year's programs and the annual Grande Garage Sale are underway. There's a fun and interesting outing scheduled for October, so check that out too.

I admit that I again resurrected some of my September message from last year, because parts of it still ring true for this year. Again, I encourage you to:

- 1) reflect on and feel good about what we accomplished together last year; and
- 2) keep yourself as informed as possible about what's happening in the realm of AAUW throughout the coming year. Read your Outlook publication; read the Minnesota Pine; take action when you believe it's appropriate, based on messages you receive from AAUW; and read this Newsletter. If you're not receiving the AAUW MN Pine (emailed to State members), check to make sure AAUW MN has your current email address.

As I move into my second year as AAUW MN President, I'm receiving more emails from AAUW National. I intend to share information that may be of interest to you and draw your attention to AAUW focus issues. We have a lot to do in our own community, but we also need to be aware of what's going on at the State and National AAUW levels. If you have any questions regarding what's going on at those levels of AAUW, please let me know and I'll do my best to get an answer for you.

And, as I move into my fourth year as your Hasting Branch President, I want you all to know that as much as I love being your President, I don't want to stand in the way of others taking on this leadership role. There is such a great group of people serving on the Board, they make it fun and easy to serve as President. Please talk to me about your interest in serving as President. There are also Past Presidents on the Board who are happy to aide and advise a new President. Step forward and take-on this important role – I promise, you'll love it!

I look forward to seeing you this September and working together throughout the coming year!

In honor of the September 8th, 100-year Anniversary of Minnesota's Ratification of the 19th Amendment

September Quote

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."
 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 9 Book Club
- Sept. 21 Garage Sale
- Sept. 23 General Meeting

HASTINGS BRANCH

Meets on Mondays
St. Philip's Lutheran Church
1401 15th Street West,
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

2019-2020 PROGRAMS

September 23, 6:00 pm **Salad Supper**
Groundwater Protection
Jill V Trescott

October 28, 7:00 pm
Challenges Young Women Face in Academia
Dr. Margaret Smerud-Clikman

November 25, 7:00 pm
Documentary Film: Women Outward Bound
Maxine Davis

December 9, 6:30 pm **Holiday Party**
Hidden Greens Event Center
Food, Music and Celebration

January 27, 6:00 pm **Chili Supper**
Navigating Loss and Grief
Donna Mathiowitz

February 24, 7:00 pm
History of Hastings Part 3
Heidi Langenfeld

March 23, 7:00 pm
College Possible
Amy Browender

April 27, 6:00 pm **Spring Social**
Local Comedian Janet Martin

May 18, 7:00 pm **Book Sale**
Dementia Friends
Colleen Fritsch

Program

Tina Folch & Deb Saunders

The Dakota County Groundwater Plan and Hastings Drinking Water

For those interested in learning about Hastings' particular challenges with drinking water, you are invited to attend the Mon., Sept. 23rd meeting of the Hastings AAUW. The evening begins at 6 pm with the annual salad buffet supper (be sure to bring a dish) at 6 pm. Then at 7:30 pm, speaker Jill Trescott of the Dakota County Groundwater Protection Unit will provide an update on the County's efforts to update its 2006 Groundwater Plan to address challenges to the health and availability of the local water supply. Nick Egger who is the Hastings Public Works director will discuss the City's brief "boil water" issue from 2018 and decision to start chlorinating the water.

Based on the State of Minnesota's new Groundwater Protection Rule, Hastings is expected to be designated as a "Level 2 Mitigation Area" for nitrate, the most serious initial designation. Of the municipal water suppliers in the state with nitrate issues, Hastings has the largest Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) at 59,295 acres and is the second largest in terms of population served. The County Groundwater Plan will especially address the County's response to its nitrate challenge.

The meeting will take place at St. Phillips Lutheran Church.

Community

Margaret Goderstad

Friends of LeDuc & Historic Hastings

- A member of the League of Women Voters of MN will give a presentation at First Presbyterian Church on September 10, at 7 p.m. This is an appropriate location as this is where the MN Women's Suffrage League was founded in 1881. This is free to the public.

Hastings Arts Center

- Lisa Wenger Band (well known in the Twin Cities):
September 14, at 7 p.m. Call or email for reservations.
- Coffee Concert featuring Jarrelle Barton, American Guzheng
Artist: September 17, at 10:30 a.m.

Book Club

Shirley Tammen

"A good book is a gift you can open again and again." Garrison Keillor.

We are excited to begin another season of the AAUW Book Group! *EDUCATED* by Tara Westover will be the discussed selection. In this autobiography, the daughter of a survivalist recalls her life with her bi-polar, schizophrenic Mormon father.

Shirley Tammen will host this Monday, September 9, 7 pm meeting. All AAUW members are welcome to attend our monthly meetings. Join once- or monthly- we always have room for one more. The group is considering meeting during the afternoon, which will be decided at the September meeting. Ann Johnson will host the Monday, October 9th gathering.

Books at the Bier Stube: Thursday September 19th, 6:30pm. The author will be Krisi Belcomino. She writes dark mysteries about fierce women seeking justice.

Bill Spinilli will be introducing author James W. Loewen who will discuss his book *SUNDOWN TOWNS: A Hidden Dimension of American Racism*. This event will be at Hastings Middle School Auditorium on Sunday, October 6, 4-6 pm. Learn about the background of racial incidents in Hastings during the 1870-1890s.

Garage Sale

Tricia Hawkins & Ceil Strauss

Saturday, September 21st from 7 am to 2 pm at the River of Life Church on Vermillion Street

Each member is asked to do several things:

1. **Bring sale items** (marked with a price on masking tape) Thursday, September 19th from 5-7:30 pm or Friday, September 20th from 12:30-6:00 pm.
2. **Bring a wrapped bake sale item** Friday between 12:30-6pm or Saturday morning before 9 am.
3. If you have a large item, feel free to take a picture of it, and make a sign with your phone # on it.
4. **If unable to participate, please contribute at least \$30.00** to AAUW for the garage sale.
5. Work one or two shifts between Thursday and Saturday.

If you have questions, please contact:

Ceil Strauss at strauss.soccer@gmail.com (651-398-3734) or Tricia Hawkins at pehpat440@gmail.com (406-539-0446)

Gadabouts

Vicki Amundson, Karen Holmquist, & Nancy Techam

Please Join Us for the first Gadabout trip for the 2019-2020 Year!

We have a wonderful trip set to the American Swedish Institute on October 16th, 2019. The exhibit is called The Vikings Begin. It is an extraordinary new display of early Viking boat grave artifacts from Uppsala University in Sweden and its museum, Gustavianum.

The cost is \$20 for the tour. We will carpool from St. Phillips at 10:45 to the French Meadow Bakery and Cafe and then start our tour at 1:00 at ASI. The tour will last one hour—touring the rest of the museum is on your own. Coffee and treats will be available at Fika Cafe if you wish. Carpool will leave for Hastings at 3.

Sign up will be at the first meeting of AAUW on September 23rd. You can also email me at amundsonvictoria@gmail.com

If you could have your money (cash or check) to me by October 9th it would be much appreciated.

My address is:
Vicki Amundson
13680 Henna Ave.
Apple Valley, MN 55124

We are also looking for people who would be willing to drive.

We hope MANY of you will join us!!

And, planning ahead:

Mark your calendars and save the date for *Christmastide with the Celtic Sounds of SimpleGifts with Billy McLaughlin on Tuesday, December 17*, at the Masonic Heritage Center in Bloomington. SimpleGifts make musical magic by bringing a modern flair to traditional Christmas carols and hymns. The show combines violin, Celtic whistle and bagpipes, piano, acoustic guitar and percussion with angelic three part female vocals to create a “modern Old-World” sounds.

Price: \$47 includes the matinee lunch of Stuffed Pork loin, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetable Du Jour, Winter Salad, Dinner Roll, Assorted Desserts, Coffee/Hot tea.

Contact: Karen Holmquist kholmquist@frontiernet.net

Treasurer's Report

Mary Charlson

The annual book sale in May brought in \$212.00. On June 30th the end of our 2018-2019 fiscal year, the checking account balance was \$2,184.65.

Deposits for July and August, 2019 includes new and renewed dues from 85 members. A \$30.00 cash donation towards this year's garage sale was also deposited. Expenses during these two month's include payments to AAUW National and AAUW State membership dues and deposit towards rental of Hidden Greens for Christmas Social. The checking account balance as if August 31, 2019, including the carryover of money from 2018-19, is \$3,798.65.

A reminder, our financial goal this year for the September Garage Sale is \$2,500.

Membership

Camille Nelson & Ruth Versaw

At present we have 86 Hastings Branch AAUW members, but we would love to have many more join us!

Who DO you know? We'd love to invite someone like YOU to join our Hastings Branch of AAUW! Do you have friends, colleagues, daughters, neighbors, church members, husbands that you could invite to join us? Salad supper on Sept. 23 is the perfect time to invite a friend for an evening of getting to know our organization. A guest visit is always welcome. Membership applications will be available for those ready to apply, with \$90 dues for new members. A two-year degree or more is the only requirement for membership for anyone who would like to join. If you have a name of someone you think may be interested, you could also forward the name on to us. We can contact them and provide them with information.

Are YOU still YOU? **DIRECTORY UPDATE**

Have you had a change in address, email, phone number or added an additional degree? We ask you to let us know of any changes you may have this year so we can update our 2020 Directory. You can simply check out the membership table at the Sept. meeting to look over last year's directory, or email us if that's more convenient for you. Looking forward to seeing all on Sept. 23!

Membership chairs,

Camille Nelson

Camille.nelson911@yahoo.com

651-437-2742

Ruth Versaw

ruth.versaw@gmail.com

218-259-2161

Diversity

Marlys Schmitt

The American Association of University Women is committed to the passage and ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The majority of Americans mistakenly believe that women and men have equal rights under the Constitution. The 14th Amendment of the Constitution explicitly states that men are guaranteed equality under law but is poignantly silent about women. The advancement of women's equality continues incrementally through patchwork legislation and court decisions, but women's equality under law remains illusory because these laws can be changed or even revoked at the whim of legislators and judges. The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) provides the constitutional guarantee that all men and women are truly equal under the law and that these rights cannot easily be abridged.

History

The ERA was first introduced in Congress in 1923 and was reintroduced every year until its passage in 1972. The proposed constitutional amendment required three-fourths of all states to ratify the amendment before fully implementing the ERA. State legislatures were given until 1979 to ratify the amendment, and Congress later extended the ratification deadline to 1982. By the time the final deadline passed in 1982, 35 states approved the ERA, three states short of ratification.

What It Says: The Equal Rights Amendment

Section 1: Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Section 2: The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3: This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

The Equal Rights Amendment in Congress: Since failing to ratify the ERA in 1982, subsequent sessions of Congress have taken action to propose legislative solutions to include women in the Constitution. Members of Congress have proposed a bipartisan resolution calling for an amendment to the Constitution of the United States declaring that women will have equal rights when compared to their male counterparts. Typically referred to as the "start-over amendment," this

resolution prohibits denying or abridging equality of rights on the account of sex.

A similar yet separate strategy, often referred to as the "three-state strategy," would repeal or eliminate the deadlines set in 1972 and 1978, preserving prior state ratifications and reopening the ERA for state ratification.

Update in the States: Legal scholars suggest that if three remaining states ratify the amendment, the ERA stands a good chance of acceptance. In 2017, Nevada became the 36th state to ratify the ERA. One year later, Illinois followed suit and became the 37th state, just one short of the three-fourths requirement. As justification for this theory, scholars point to the 1992 ratification of the 27th Amendment, which was originally passed by Congress in 1789 — more than 200 years earlier.

Why We Need the ERA: The lack of constitutional equality reaches every aspect of women's lives. The ERA would clarify, once and for all, that sex discrimination in employment, reproductive rights, insurance, Social Security, education, and more is a violation of our constitutional rights as Americans. The ERA provides the opportunity to seek legal recourse when an individual faces sex discrimination.

Constitutional Amendment versus Sex Discrimination Law: The progress our country has made on gender equality through the courts and patchwork legislation can be reversed. Sex discrimination does not have the same legal protection as other constitutional classes, such as race, religion, or nationality. This constitutional double standard means that hard-won legislative and court victories against sex discrimination are not permanent — and can be rolled back or difficult to enforce. The ERA would place the burden of proof on those who discriminate instead of those fighting for equality.

This article was found on AAUW's national website.

Web Page

Mary Ellen Fox

Accidentally delete your email with the latest directory? Forget where our meeting is located this month?

Then, check the website!

Here's the link: <https://hastings-mn.aauw.net/>

Member protected section PASSWORD: hastings2017

Secretary

Betty Hoeschen

AAUW HASTINGS BRANCH GENERAL MEETING MAY 20, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by President Lisa West at St. Philip's Church with 50 members present. Lisa reviewed a court ruling against the collection of wage data on the basis on gender, race, and ethnicity in pursuit of equal pay. AAUW follows these cases carefully and will let us know how the cases stand and what action we can take to further the cause.

Marcia Pletcher moved and Pat Powers seconded the minutes from the April meeting be approved as published. The motion passed.

Mary Charlson presented a checkbook balance of \$1972.65, as of May 20, 2019. Mary Ellen Fox moved the report be accepted, Kathy O'Keefe seconded, and the motion passed.

Camille Nelson introduced guests of Marilyn Tennesen and Cindy Toppin.

Members are encouraged to pay dues, of \$90.00, by June 30, 2019, to avoid a \$10.00 late fee.

Debbie Saunders reported progress on the planning of programs for the 2019-2020 year.

Pat Powers reviewed the update she receives concerning legislative and court actions happening across the country that are specific to the mission statement of AAUW. She will keep us informed if member action is needed in response to some of these happenings.

Nancy Techam thanked members who were able to join in some of the fun Gad-Abouts activities this year.

Patty Todnem thanked all members who have provided treats at meetings this year.

The next book club meeting will be a discussion of *Educated* by Tara Westover, at Shirley Tammen's home on September 9, 2019. Even though they will not be meeting during the summer, continue to read. Shirley has assembled and shared a list of interesting books to add to your reading list. Book Sale shopping was available before the meeting and continued after the meeting.

Margaret Goderstad updated us on some of the many activities happening around Hastings, especially at Le Duc Historic Mansion, Hastings Arts Center, Dakota County Historical Society, and HPAAC.

Tricia circulated sign up sheets for volunteer times for the garage sale to be held September 21, 2019. Money raised funds our local scholarships, so save your good items to sell.

Lois Twedt circulated a volunteer sheet for the SCRUBS activity to be held at DCTC, June 17-18, 2019.

Kathy O'Keefe had fliers available for a Sod House Theater presentation, *An Enemy of the People*. The interactive play will be May 31, June 1, and June 2, 2019, at Artspace Hastings River Lofts.

President, Lisa West, thanked everyone for the successful and fun year we have all contributed to. She is ready and excited for our next year, beginning in September.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Gail Glashan introduced our speaker, Ellen Kehr, from Albert Lea, Minnesota - "The Land Between the Lakes". She spoke about the Albert Lea Blue Zones Project, a community improvement project based on Dan Buettner's book, *The Blue Zones Solutions*.

[AAUW Mission Statement](#)

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

[AAUW Vision Statement](#)

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

[Minnesota State Website](#)

<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>

[National Website](#)

<https://www.aauw.org/>

AAUW Hastings Board

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