

Hastings Branch

September 2020



President's Message Lisa Hedin

Happy Fall to Everyone!

I am excited to be kicking off the 2020-2021 AAUW Hastings Program year! While last spring got quiet fast for our Branch, that is not going to be the case this fall! Our Board (membership, programs, garage sale, hospitality, book group, treasurer...) have been hard at work getting a terrific program year ready for all of us. Be sure to check it out on the right hand side of this page. Not surprisingly, this AAUW year will look a little bit different. It will likely even change during the year. We are nimble and creative, so I am sure that we will find delivery methods that work for our membership. The Board will work to constantly balance the safety of our members and community with everyone's desire to share camaraderie and serve the AAUW mission.

The program year will start virtually. Meetings and programs through December will be held via Zoom. The Technology survey early in the summer showed us that a significant number of members have reliable internet, appropriate devices and even experience with this platform. The Board will be looking for ways to support and grow our memberships' comfort with this virtual platform. Be sure to reach out to myself or another Board Member if you have ideas or need help with this delivery model. Gail Glashan supported by a number of Board Members will be hosting "Zoom Practice" sessions. See the article later in the newsletter.

The world around us is a very unsettled place right now. It feels like there is so much that we don't know, and that maybe cannot even be known. At the same time it is a perfect time to continue to advance the work of AAUW, and to serve the mission: To advance equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. We are a group that has at the core a drive for equity. We have recently passed the historic milestone of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. SO, VOTE!!! Use the method that is the best for you, but stands shoulder to shoulder with women through history and VOTE!

Let us continue to do the work, care for each other and stay well.

Program Danna Elling Schultz, Tina Folch, and Diane Saed

> We've Come A Long Way, Ladies! Centennial Celebration of the 19th Amendment through Song

Classically trained opera singer Audrey Johnson presents this educational, entertaining, and interactive concert performance supported by live piano accompaniment.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 14	 Book Club
Sept. 28	 Virtual General Meeting
Oct. 12	 Book Club

HASTINGS BRANCH

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

2020-2021 PROGRAMS

September 28, 6:30 pm Virtual Salad Supper We've Come A Long Way, Ladies! Audrey Johnson

October 26, 7:00 pm Community Conversations on Diversity Derrick Jaeger

November 23, 7:00 pm Karla Bingham

December TBD Holiday Party Food, Music and Celebration

January 25, 7:00 pm Virtual Chili Supper Margaret Anderson Keller

February 22, 7:00 pm Building Remembrance For Reconciliation

March 22, 7:00 pm Dementia and Friends Colleen Fritsch

April 26Spring Fling Social50 Year Branch Anniversary Celebration

May 24, 7:00 pm College Possible Amy Browender **Book Sale**

This concert celebrates the 100th anniversary of American Women's right to vote, recognizing the struggle and sacrifices of the Women's Suffrage Movement's most important figures. (Flyer attached)

AAUW members do not have to register, the link will be sent to you directly

NCCSWL & Zoom Facilitator

Gail Glashan

zoom

You will soon receive a ZOOM Meeting invitation via email to attend the fall kick-off AAUW Hastings Branch meeting!

Are you new to ZOOM?



Zoom is a video conferencing service you can use to virtually meet with others-either by video or audio or both, on your computer, tablet or phone. A Zoom Meeting refers to a video conferencing meeting that's hosted using Zoom. To Zoom you will need a video camera built in to your device, or separate webcam, a microphone, a broadband internet connection and a Zoom client installed on your machine.

Here's what you'll need to know to get started.

 Before joining a Zoom meeting on a computer or mobile device, you can download the FREE Zoom app. (Otherwise, you will be prompted to download and install Zoom when you click a join link.) Download link: <u>Zoom desktop client</u> (Windows or Mac) If using a smartphone or tablet, go to iOS App Store

or Google Play, search for ZOOM Cloud Meetings and download the app.

- 2. After launching Zoom, create an account, click **Sign Up Free.**
- 3. That's it!
- 4. Sit back and watch for your AAUW Hastings Branch email with the Zoom link to our September 28th meeting.

Want to practice Zoom ahead of time?

Contact me via email or phone and I will send you a link, via email, to practice Zoom-ing together on...

Tuesday, September 22, 2020, from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 22, 2020, from 6:30 –8:00 p.m.

Gail Glashan, gwglashan@gmail.com Mobile: 651.253.3578

P.S. Zoom has been updated with several security changes to help reassure users. If you don't have access to a computer, iPad or mobile phone, it's possible to dial in and listen to the meeting on your phone. A phone number is included below the link.

Book Club

Shirley Tammen

Our AAUW Book Group met twice over the summer months, just to keep in touch with the women. In June we met in my garage (the weather was inclement) and discussed *The Lager Queen* by local J. Ryan Stradal. In August, we talked about *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes. We met down by the river near the Pavilion.

On Monday, September 14, at 1:30 we will meet down by the river again, near the Pavilion, where we will discuss *Where The Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens. Bring a lawn chair with you. If it rains, we will meet in my garage with masks and social distancing.

On Monday, October 12, at 1:30, our topic will be The Pulitzer Prize Finalist *There There*, a novel by Tommy Orange. Orange follows 12 characters from Native communities who are on their way to the Big Oakland Powwow whose chorus of voices tell of the plight of urban Native Americans. This book is in the book bag, which I will bring with me on Monday, September 14th.

We always encourage AAUW members to join our group discussion, once or monthly. We hope to begin meeting again at Pleasant Hill in the near future.

Community

Margaret Goderstad

HPAAC virtual gala – Sunday, September 27th from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Hastings and Prescott have been neighbors along the river for over 200 years! For nearly a decade, we have gathered annually to celebrate our shared commitment to advancing the arts in our communities. Since our beginning in 2008, the Hastings and Prescott Area Arts Council (www.HPAAC.org) has been dedicated to providing more opportunities for the arts and humanities to thrive through three main impact areas: Funding Scholarships, Developing Local Partnerships, and Advancing Arts Programming.

We look forward to having you join us from the comfort of your own home on Sunday, September 27th from 6:00 pm -7:00 pm as we celebrate the arts!

To learn more about the event and to shop our online auction items, please visit our website www.hpaac.org/gala and register today!

REGISTRATION IS FREE! INVITATION IS **ATTACHED!**

Garage Sale Ceil Strauss and Carol Tobin

Un-Garage Sale to Raise 2020-2021 Scholarship Funds

Help us raise the funds for our annual scholarship for a Hastings High School top female senior. Due to these unusual times, we are asking for personal donations in place of our annual garage sale this year.

Mail your donations (suggested contribution of \$40) to our treasurer at:

> Mary Charlson 2371 Glacier Way Hastings, MN 55033

Deadline: October 30, 2020

Treasurer's Report Mary Charlson

On June 30th the end of our 2019-2020 fiscal year the checking account balance was \$2,995.37.

The NCCWSL Conference was cancelled this year and a refund of \$1,000 was deposited and included in this total. The \$1,000 is earmarked to be awarded to a recipient next spring, 2021.

Deposits in July and August, 2020 include renewal dues from 82 members. Expenses during the two months include the payments of membership dues to AAUW National and State. The checking account balance as of August 31, 2020, including the carryover balance is \$4,665.37.

Membership Kathy Palmer and Jackie Rigelman

At present we have 86 Hastings Branch AAUW members. We think this is a great number as this year is very unique with virtual meetings and social distancing. We are thankful for the loyalty of you, our membership.

However, we would love to have new members join us! We'd love to invite someone like YOU to join our Hastings Branch of AAUW! A guest "virtual" visit is welcome. Guests wanting to join AAUW can get a membership application by contacting Jackie Rigelman or Kathy Palmer. A two-year degree or more is the only requirement for membership for anyone who would like to join. Membership dues are \$90.00 for new members.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATE

Have you had a change in address, email, phone number or added an additional degree? We ask you to contact either Jackie or Kathy with any changes you may have so we can update our 2020 Directory.

Please email us: Jackie: jacann@comcast.net or Kathy: majeski@embargmail.com.

Lew Linde Honored by State Supreme Court



This summer, Lew Linde received a letter from Minnesota State Supreme Court Chief Justice Lorie Gildea. She thanked Lew for a life time commitment to social justice and service to our community. Attached at the end of the TWIG is a copy of the letter that Lew received.

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

Public Policy

Pat Powers

On September first the League of Women Voters sponsored a Zoom Meeting featuring the Secretary of State, Steve Simon. The content of the meeting was the Path to Election this year. He is so positive that Minnesota is prepared and secure and that you can vote by mail and not be afraid your vote will not count. Minnesota still has same day registration. Minnesota is still number one in the country for voter participation.

Ways to vote:

Vote from home which is **absentee**. You can go to the website <u>MNvotes.org</u> and in 5 minutes you can download and print an absentee ballot application or fill out an application online. You do not need an excuse to use the absentee ballot. When you get your ballot fill it out and bring it to your county election office at the county building in Hastings. Ballots will go out beginning September 18th. State Elections phone number is 651-215-1440.

Vote by **mail**. Apply for your ballot as above and mail it in. You must carefully follow the directions. It is important to use the 2 envelopes and get your signature where it belongs. There is no need for a witness. Due to the Covid19 pandemic, the witness requirement has been waived. Fill in the ballot with your preferences and correctly sign and then get it in the mail early. Ballots will be accepted up to 7 days after November 3, 2020 if there is a postmark before November 3, 2020. You can also drop off your mail in ballot at the county election office or at the address on the envelope.

Vote **in person**. Go to your polling place and vote on November 3[,] 2020. There are 3 million MN voters and 3000 polling places. That is about 1000 people per polling place. 66% of a survey of voters say they are uncomfortable with going to the polls and will be voting absentee or by mail. Consider the voting plan below. Make your own plan and then copy and email this reminder to your family and friends and all your connections. You are doing your part to Get Out the Vote!

Dear Voter, What's Your Voting Plan?

- 1. Check out Minnesota voting information at <u>https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting</u>
- 2. Make a plan. Options are available.
- 3. Please consider voting from home. Order your ballot now! (You can even track your ballot on this website!)
- 4. Share this information with your family and friends.

Remember.... YOUR VOTE MATTERS!

TPT American Experience is presenting a 4 part series on "The Vote" starting September 14 at 9:00 PM. Learn about the first generation leaders in the decades long battle to win the vote for women.

Diversity Marlys Schmitt

AAUW's Branch Diversity and Inclusion role is to remind members of programs and activities to promote diversity and inclusion. Every third Thursday of the month is Hastings community conversation about Diversity, Clarity, and Inclusion known as THRIVE. Learn more about THRIVE by going to www.HastingsMN.org or the Facebook page, Thrive in Hastings. According to these sites, "The three tenets of THRIVE," as determined by the community of Hastings, "are increasing Cultural Competency, Bridging Community, and Providing Trust and Safety for all." It is important right now to join in conversation with those marginalized, having different colored skin and/or socio-economic differences. It's time to reach out to those who we have ignored because of our differences.

If you cannot define racism or feel you are not racist, these meetings are for you. According to Angela Bell, an assistant professor of psychology at Lafayette College in Pennsylvania, "If you have to ask if you are a racist, you are; and if you are not asking if you are a racist, you are." It is almost impossible to not be racist in some form if you were born in America. Racism is a part of our culture. Ms. Bell goes on to state, "It does not matter if you voted for Obama" or if you say, "I have many Black friends." These types of comments are said in defense of anti-racism and are a shield to hide our racism and to make us feel like we are doing our part to avoid being labeled a racist.

Much more needs to be done in our community of Hastings to welcome and understand our inherent defenses to racism. It's never too late to learn, especially when it helps to make our community more welcoming and a better community for all to enjoy.

AAUW Mission Statement

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

AAUW Vision Statement Equity for all.

Minnesota State Website http://aauw-mn.aauw.net

National Website https://www.aauw.org/

AAUW Hastings Board

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Newsletter	Linda Bindman
Public Policy	Pat Powers
Garage Sale	Ceil Strauss
	Carol Tobin
Web Page	Mary Ellen Fox

We've Come a Long Way, Ladies!



A Centennial Celebration of the 19th Amendment Through Song

Monday, September 28, 2020 · 7:30 pm

Classically-trained opera singer Audrey Johnson celebrates the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote through song. This concert performance incorporates an engaging narrative, authentic costuming, and original footage, all of which tells the amazing story of the Women's Suffrage Movement.

Music will feature:

- Songs from the time period sung at rallies and in theaters
- Relevant pieces from American folk and operatic traditions
- · Commissions by female composers set to Movement texts

You'll learn about:

- Why the liquor industry was one of the biggest opponents of women's voting rights
- The role of bicycles in women's liberation (the scandals!)
- Songs that furthered Suffrage intentional or otherwise
- Changes to the 14th Amendment against the Movement





Sponsors







8th Annual HPAAC Gala

Join us from the comfort of your home!

Sunday, September 27th, 2020 | 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Hastings and Prescott have been neighbors along the river for over 200 years! For nearly a decade, we have gathered annually to celebrate our shared commitment to advancing the arts in our communities.

Registration is **FREE!** To learn more and to shop our online auction items please visit: **www.HPAAC.org/Gala**



THE SUPREME COURT OF MINNESOTA MINNESOTA JUDICIAL CENTER 25 REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD. SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 65155

CHAMBERS OF LORIE S.GILDEA CHIEF JUSTICE

(651) 296-3380

June 23, 2020

Llewllyn (Lew) H. Linde 901 - 16th Street West, Apt. 209 Hastings, MN 55033

Dear Mr. Linde:

The Minnesota State Bar Association Access to Justice Committee brought to my attention a small number of attorneys whose commitment to pro bono has been exceptional. You are one of those few.

I am writing to thank you for your extraordinary service representing Minnesotans in need of legal help. What is particularly impressive is your commitment to providing meaningful access to justice as a 20-year volunteer for Legal Assistance of Dakota County, becoming LADC's first volunteer to qualify for Emeritus Status. In recent years, you have focused exclusively on providing advice at the Hastings Lewis House Clinic, signing up for almost every monthly clinic since 2014. I understand that you founded local organizations that LADC regularly works with, like the United Way of Hastings and Hastings Family Service, and that you are beloved by the LADC staff, the local bar, and the residents of Hastings. Your leadership and compassion set a shining example for all in the legal profession.

Equal justice under the law is the most fundamental promise of our justice system. A judicial system that is accessible only to those who can afford it does not keep that promise. Minnesota's lawyers have acknowledged their role in ensuring equal access to justice, and it is lawyers like you who help to make that promise a reality.

On behalf of the Justices of the Minnesota Supreme Court and of all Judges across the State of Minnesota, I thank you for the pro bono services you provide. You are answering the highest calling of our profession by helping to make equal access to justice a reality.

Sincerely,

mister Older Lorie S. Gulaca

Chief Justice