



### President's Message

*Lisa Hedin*

Congratulations everyone!!! We did it. The first Hastings-AAUW virtual business meeting/program is in the books. Thanks to the Program Committee for starting us off on such a terrific foot. Thanks to Gail Glashan for getting so many of our members through those first baby steps on zoom. Most importantly thank you to all of you who took the time to try this new platform. It is terrific to be part of a group of lifelong learners who are connected to the AAUW mission "To advance equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy".

We are right in the thick of an election year, and I hope that everyone has a plan for voting. National research has shown that AAUW members vote at a higher rate than the general population. We all know that Minnesota has a high base participation rate for voting, so we have a challenge to go even higher. The best place to get information is the Minnesota Secretary of State's webpage: <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>. Find out about registering, election-day voting, and alternative methods of voting; track your ballot and so much more. Stand with women through history and into the future – VOTE!

For the safety of our members and the public our Board made the decision to cancel the September 2020 garage sale, but we do not want to cancel our scholarship! Please take a minute to read the article in this month's TWIG reminding us all of where to send a donation (the cut-off date is 30 October). The Board is suggesting a donation amount of \$40. It was observed by one Board member during the conversation on this topic that the donation would actually be less than she regularly spends on at the garage sale!

A small group of members is taking advantage of this pause of the garage sale to spend some time deeply considering alternative fundraising methods. A recommendation will be developed and considered by the board prior to the end of this program year. Let me or Jackie Rigelman know if you are interested in participating in this task force.

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

### Program

*Danna Elling Schultz, Tina Folch, and Diane Saed*

#### Leading into the Future: Current Realities and Mental Models

During this interactive session we will dive into current realities facing our communities and how our current mental models effect how we interpret what we see.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. 12 ..... **Book Club**
- Oct. 26 ..... **Virtual General Meeting**
- Oct. 27 ..... **Gadabouts**

### HASTINGS BRANCH

**Meets on Mondays**  
**St. Philip's Lutheran Church**  
**1401 15<sup>th</sup> 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, 6:30 pm**  
**Leading into the Future: Current Realities**  
**and Mental Models**  
**Derrick Jaeger & UyenThi Tran Myhre**

**November 23, 7:00 pm**  
**Karla Bingham**

**December 7, 7:00 pm**                      **Holiday Party**  
**Food, Music and Celebration**

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

**February 22, 7:00 pm**  
**Building Remembrance For Reconciliation**  
**James Curry, Heidi Langenfeld, & Greg**  
**McMoore**

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

**April 26**                                      **Spring Fling Social**  
**50 Year Branch Anniversary Celebration**

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

Derrick Jaeger serves dual roles as Executive Director of the Hastings YMCA and a member of the Social Responsibility Team focusing on boards, community organizations and local government agencies. He is a 20+ year employee of the YMCA of the North with executive leadership experience working within suburban, urban and rural communities to improve culture and inclusion. He has created unique collaborations with city, county, schools, non-profits and business associations helping community leaders unite to identify and solve community issues. He has a passion for community engagement working to establish and lead initiatives that empower leaders to remove barriers so the community can advance and sustain equity work.



Derrick will be joined by:

UyenThi (pronounced “Wing-T”) Tran Myhre is the Director of Equity and Leadership Development for the YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities. She received her Master’s in Educational Psychology from the University of Minnesota and her B.A. in Journalism and Certificate in Women’s Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has worked in diversity, equity, and inclusion settings for over 15 years, from AmeriCorps literacy and college access programs to serving as Assistant Director at the first campus-based Women’s Center in the country at the U of M. UyenThi is also a contributing writer and editor at Project Yellow Dress, a storytelling platform that highlights the histories, voices, and experiences of the Southeast Asian diaspora. She believes in the power of narrative and storytelling to uplift voices and communities, and to drive change towards a better world.



**Here is the Zoom link for the meeting and program:**

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83609135493?pwd=cEJTV1E1SElqWU1sR1dJamhXdHd2QT09>

Meeting ID: 836 0913 5493  
Passcode: 856412  
One tap mobile  
+13126266799,,83609135493#,,,,,0#,,856412# US (Chicago)

**You will receive this ZOOM Meeting invitation again, via email, the morning of the October meeting and program.**

**Holiday Social:**

The Holiday Social will unfortunately look different this year 😞 but gathering is important even if virtual 😊. On Monday, 12/7, we are planning a bingo bonanza with prizes with musical interludes between the games. We need your help with the musical interludes. If you play an instrument (or someone in your household does) or will bravely join up with a few friends to strike up a holiday tune we need you! Let Peggy Horsch know that you can help spread the holiday cheer ([mhorsch8@yahoo.com/651-226-7861](mailto:mhorsch8@yahoo.com/651-226-7861)). Please don't make us go to the Boom Box! Details on the event will follow in the November Twig!

**Book Club**

*Shirley Tammen*

To keep connected, the AAUW Book Group has been meeting monthly down by the gazebo on the Mississippi. Great attendance for us!

However, we will meet on Monday, October 12, at 1:30 behind Pleasant Hill Library by the picnic tables. We assumed the weather will be colder by the river, but who knows. We will be discussing *There There*, a novel by Tommy Orange.

We have not selected our read for November, but will decide when we get together on Monday.

Hastings Reads has chosen all three of the books for Hastings Reads 2021. The theme: *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in America* (a book of 16 Minnesota authors who share their insight into being a Minnesotan and a person of color). Some of the authors who share their experiences are Kao Kalia Yang, a former Hastings Reads author, Heid E. Erdrich, and Shannon Gibney, who will be the featured speaker for HR in Hastings during February.

We also selected *Ghost Boys* by Jewell Parker Rhodes for the middle school book, and *The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson as the elementary book. All events will take place in February 2021.

## 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

## Community

*Margaret Goderstad*

### The LeDuc Historic Estate:

Harvest Haunting Candlelit Tours Return on October 27, 28, 29, and 30 at 7:00, 8:00, or 9:00pm. Each show may contain only 10 guests at a time and social distancing with masks will be observed. Registration accepted by phone or on [www.dakotahistory.org](http://www.dakotahistory.org). The cost is \$10 for non-members and \$8 for members of DCHS.

Regular Tours, Thursday-Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. by reservation only. Groups of 10 people only with social distancing and wearing of masks.

### Hastings Arts Center:

Online Music Lessons WILL Continue

Tuesday morning coffee concerts:

October 27, at 10:30am – Live Video Premiere featuring Jacob Meyer, clarinet and Matthew Harikian, piano (Check out Gadabouts)

Watch for information on future performances by OK Factor and Twin Cities Gospel Choir

### Orange Dragon Art Gallery, Prescott:

Open Wednesday - Sunday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## Gadabouts

Gad-Abouts are going out!! On Tuesday, October 27 we are going to the Hastings Art Center (HAC) for the video premiere of Regarding the Environment featuring Jacob Meyer, clarinet and Matthew Harikian, piano. Some of the pieces on the program are explicitly environmental and some are more subtly related. It is the performers' hope that this music will inspire us all to enjoy and appreciate the nature around us every day and to recognize the seriousness of the climate crisis and the actions we must take to save our planet.

The concert will be pre-recorded and then shown on the screen at the Hastings Art Center at 10:30 am on Tuesday, October 27. The concert is free, but seats must be reserved to assure compliance with Covid-19 guidelines. Reserve your seat, and get more information at the HAC website.

<https://www.hastingsartscenter.org/upcoming-concerts--events.html>

Please join us if you feel ready to be out.

## Membership

*Kathy Palmer and Jackie Rigelman*

### 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 2020-21 Directory.

Please email us:

Jackie: [jacann@comcast.net](mailto:jacann@comcast.net) or

Kathy: [majeski@embarqmail.com](mailto:majeski@embarqmail.com).

## Treasurer's Report

*Mary Charlson*

A total of 86 members have paid their membership dues for this year. A request for cash donations from our members to pay for the local AAUW scholarship has already raised \$2,140. Thank you for your generous donations.

A reminder that our scholarship goal is \$2500 and if you choose to donate, please mail checks by October 30<sup>th</sup>. My address:

2371 Glacier Way, Hastings, 55033.

The donation checks along with the 86 member dues have been deposited into our checking account. Expenses include payment of dues to AAUW National and State and to our September guest program performance. The checking account balance on September 30<sup>th</sup> was: \$5,998.37.

## **Diversity**

*Marlys Schmitt*

### **Below is Kimberly Churches, AAUW CEO, statement against racism:**

AAUW joins the country in mourning the losses of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and countless other people of color who have been unjustly killed across our nation. Our country needs healing. But healing will only come with justice. As an organization we condemn racism.

Systemic racism is firmly rooted in the U.S. and today's injustices mirror our shameful history — from police brutality to the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on communities of color. There can be no justice or equality when Black and Brown communities are seen as less deserving of basic human and civil rights.

On behalf of our 170,000 members and supporters, we commit to fighting for justice, long-term and lasting change, and we stand in solidarity against racism. We also acknowledge that as an organization we have our own work to do.

And, as a member of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, we will work to advance the policies and systemic changes identified in the New Era of Public Safety: A Guide to Fair, Safe, and Effective Community Policing and Vision for Justice platform.

## **Secretary**

*Arlene Wellemeyer*

September 28, 2020  
AAUW Meeting - Hastings Branch  
(Zoom)

1. President Lisa Hedin called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm. She thanked everyone (approximately 42 members on screen) for continuing as members under such difficult circumstances and also for their efforts with Zoom.
2. Mary Charlson gave the Treasurer's report. The current checkbook balance is \$5,998.37, reflecting deposits for 86 paid members and of \$1,355 donations already received in lieu of the annual garage sale. Expenses paid included the portions of dues paid to National and State, as well as the branch's share of the payment for the evening's presentation. Mary noted that included in the balance is \$1,000 returned to branch from NCCWSL (canceled for the year), which is earmarked for the next NCCWSL award(s). Donations in lieu of the garage sale are requested by Oct 31.

To date, approximately a third of members have donated. A total of \$2,500 is needed for the award of our local scholarship, and \$40 is the suggested donation. Thank you to all who have already donated. Motion to approve: Second: Cindy Toppin. Treasurer's report approved.

### **3. Committee Reports**

**Membership:** Kathy Palmer thanked members for continued support. Current year's budget was based on the assumption of having 85 members, which has now been surpassed (86), however, she encouraged continued efforts to recruit new members. It was noted that AAUW, generally, needs to recruit many more younger members to continue. The current average age of an AAUW member is 73.

**Program:** Danna Shultz reported the program is set for the year (planned to be via Zoom until conditions permit us to meet again in person). Derrick Jaeger is speaking on Diversity in October. In November, State Senator Karla Bingham will discuss the election and, also, Kari Jaeger on Hastings Reads. Peggy Horsch is working on a virtual Holiday Party for December. Margaret Anderson Kelliher, currently Commissioner of the MN Department of Transportation, formerly DLF Speaker of the House, will speak in January. Rich Manke will speak on Sundown Towns in February, and some descendants of one of the first black families to live in Hastings (Cooper) will also attend. Colleen Fritsch will speak on Dementia and Friends in March. In April, it is hoped we will be able to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Hastings Branch at the Public House. In May, Amy Browender will present "College Possible."

### **Garage Sale - 2020 Plan and Additional Fundraising**

**Initiatives:** Ceil Strauss reiterated the need for \$40 donations by October 31 to replace the garage sale, our main fundraiser for the local scholarship. In addition, at the last Board meeting, Pat Powers and Gail Glashan volunteered to work with Ceil Strauss and Jackie Rigelman on alternative fundraising possibilities. Other members interested in this effort are invited to reach out to Ceil or Jackie, either to join the group or with a particular idea. All ideas welcome!

**Public Policy:** Pat Powers said most important right now is to vote, either in person on election day, Tuesday, November 3, or as soon as possible by absentee ballot, which can be mailed in via USPS or delivered to City Hall or Government Center (Hastings voters). (At the end of the meeting, Camille Nelson also told of her experience that day of going to the Dakota Co. Government Center to vote early, in-person, by absentee ballot. No lines.) Pat also mentioned that she is State AAUW Membership Chair and would welcome any ideas from membership on recruiting new and younger members.



Gad-Abouts: New Co-Chairs are needed. Lisa welcomed anyone who would like to take on this important function of camaradie building in the branch. An example of Zoom-Gad-Abouting: Maybe someone has an idea for a presentation to watch together and to discuss afterwards. Someone would need to take charge of publicizing it and organizing the Zoom logistics.

Book Group: Shirley Tammen reported on meetings this summer at the river, which went well. The next meeting is planned for 1:30pm on Monday, October 12, behind the Library, weather permitting. There There... by Tommy Orange, novel by a Native American writer will be discussed.

AAUW Funds: Glenda Schnirring read the announcement of the May scholarship award to Amy Roach, 2020 Hastings High School graduate, who has enrolled at University of Southern California, majoring in political science and chemistry, a combination which she hopes will be useful to her as an advocate for change in pursuing social justice for all. Glenda said she is confident we will be in a good position, financially, to award another scholarship this year.

Community: Margaret Goderstad expressed congratulations to HPAAC for their very successful virtual gala on Sunday, September 27. She reminded of the Coffee Concert at the Hastings Art Center, September 29, at 10:30. The Coffee Concerts are being held again, with a limit of 50 people (pre-registered), observing social distancing. The Orange Dragon gallery in Prescott is again open, Wed - Sun, 11 - 5, displaying local artists.

Diversity: Marlys Schmitt encouraged members to participate in Hastings THRIVE events and the related book events. Derrick Jaeger of the YMCA is also doing equity labs on the issues.

Branch Strategic Plan: Lisa West apologized for not being able to present something that night, but promised to have an update developed for the next meeting.

President Hedin thanked Mary Ellen Fox and Gail Glashan for their efforts with Zoom that evening, and also expressed special gratitude to Tina Folch, who was responsible for the behind-the-scenes work in arranging the logistics for the evening's presentation.

Motion: Kathy O'Keefe. Second: Linda Bindman The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

At 7:30 pm, members of the Dakota County League of Women's Voters (Co-sponsors of the evening's program) joined the Zoom meeting. Audrey Johnson, classically trained opera singer, gave a welcome and introduction to the video

of her performance. Website of Audrey's performance company is [www.oftheeising.com](http://www.oftheeising.com)

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

## 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

### [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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VPs Membership ----- Kathy Palmer  
Jackie Rigelman  
VPs Programs ----- Danna Elling Schultz  
Tina Folch  
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Book Club ----- Shirley Tammen  
Community ----- Margaret Goderstad  
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Gadabouts  
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Kathy Stockman  
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Newsletter ----- Linda Bindman  
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