



### President's Message

*Lisa Hedin*

Happy almost spring (I sure hope this is our last month of almost spring!) This President's Message is less a message, and more a news report. Here is what you need to know to be in the know.

- **2022-2023 Dues:** Dues will be going up to \$98 next year. This \$5 increase is a pass through of an increase to national dues. State and local dues are unchanged. Dues distribution: National \$67 (\$64 tax deductible), State \$9, and local \$22. Dues for the 2022-2023 program year are due by 1 July 2022. Check out the Membership note in this TWIG for more info.
- **Program Ideas:** In addition to a social, business meeting and program in April we will be collecting ideas for next year's speakers. Please bring any contacts, general ideas or "I wonders" that you have to the April meeting. The quality of our programs come back to our membership.
- **Rivertown Days Booth/Book Sale:** Our Branch will be hosting a book sale booth at the craft/vender fair portion of Rivertown Days (July 15-17) again this year. Ceil Strauss, Linda Bindman and I will be heading up the effort, but we need all of you to be successful. Set aside books (especially children's books), be watching for a volunteer sign up, and maybe most importantly cross your fingers for dry weather. We are looking forward to seeing you all down at the river this summer.
- **High School Scholarship:** Last program year we had a speaker from College Possible challenge us to consider the structure of our HS scholarship. We are going to put together an Interest Team to discuss this topic over the summer and bring back ideas to our Board in September. Do you want to join Glenda Schnirring and Margaret Goderstad on that team? Let me know and you are in! No vetting required, only interest!

Continue to do good work, care for each other, and stay well.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 11 ..... Book Club
- April 25 ..... General Meeting & Program
- April 29-30 ..... State Convention
- May 9 ..... Book Club
- May 10 ..... Concert Honoring Women Composers

### HASTINGS BRANCH

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

### 2021-2022 PROGRAMS

- September 27, 5:30 pm Hastings Golf Club  
**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**
- October 25, 7:00 pm  
**Making it in the World of Finance & Helping Others Along the Way**  
Patricia Jones – Financial Advisor
- November 22, 7:00 pm  
**Paid Family & Medical Leave Legislation & Pay Equity Initiatives**  
State Senators Susan Kent & Lindsey Port
- December 4, 10:30 am Hastings Golf Club  
**Holiday Celebration and Fund Raiser**
- January 24, 7:00 pm  
**Black Dirt Improv Presentation**
- February 28, 7:00 pm  
**Equity: Helpful or Harmful?**  
Dr. Alfreda Baldwin
- March 28, 7:00 pm  
**Title IX Discussion: How is it working after 50 years? What are the challenges? Where do we go from here?**
- April 25, 6:00 pm Spring Social  
**Making your Career in a non-traditional Profession**  
Claire Ferrar, President of Standard Heating & Air Conditioning
- May 23, 7:00 pm Book Sale  
**Hidden Inspiration & My Unpublished Journey**  
Diane Saed

## Program

*Danna Elling Schultz, Mary Ellen Fox, Diane Saed*

### Claire Ferrara leads in a male-dominated industry

Claire Ferrara grew up around her family's business – Standard Heating & Air Conditioning, a Minneapolis based third-generation company started by her grandfather in 1930. Her first Work experience at the company began as a teenager, answering phones, working in the warehouse and eventually spending time as a technical apprentice.

After earning other industry experience and two college degrees, a bachelor's degree from St. Kates followed by an Associates from Dunwoody College of Technology, Ferrara returned to the company in early 2016. She started in a sales position before moving on to Sales Manager and Customer Experience Manager. Proud to be a female leader in a male-dominated industry, Ferrara became company President in 2019 and majority owner in February 2020.

Personally, Ferrara is an avid reader and traveler, and donates her time to several nonprofit organizations around the Twin Cities. She is a proud supporter of technical education and serves on the Board of Trustees at Dunwoody College of Technology. She helped establish the college's premier annual fundraising event celebrating women pursuing technical careers.

In addition to her community service, Ferrara is passionate about the heating and cooling industry. She is involved in several industry-affiliated organizations, holds a number of industry specific certifications and licenses, and gets excited about promoting and recruiting for the many career opportunities within the trade that she feels "will make people's lives better."

After 92-years, Standard Heating & Air Conditioning continues to serve Twin Cities residents while also valuing service to the surrounding community. The company involves both their customers and employees in annual nonprofit giving and volunteer work in the Twin Cities community. Standard Heating has been a MN Keystone Program member for almost 25 years and works closely with other organizations in the Twin Cities like Homeward Bound and MACV (MN Assistance Council for Veterans), donating money, equipment, and services.

## Hospitality

*Nancy Ahn, Kathy Stockman, Patty Todnem*

### FESTIVE AAUW APRIL MEETING BEING PLANNED

The April meeting will be held at St. Philip's church beginning at 6:00 with a smashing social hour. Punch and amazing appetizers and desserts will be served. Feel free to bring guests.

The topic for the program is, "Making your Career in a non-traditional Profession". Hope to see you there.

## Book Club

*Shirley Tammen*

On Monday, April 11, 1:30, The AAUW Book Group will be discussing *My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mend our Hearts and Bodies* by Resmaa Menakem. This self-help book offers solutions for the racism present in all of us.

On Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm at the library, we will discuss Madeline Miller's *Circe*. It is the retelling of Homer's *Odyssey* through the eyes of the Greek goddess.

Don't forget about our "mini" book sale at our Monday, May 23rd general meeting. This is our fundraiser for the annual Hastings Reads programs in February. We donate \$150 from AAUW as a sponsor. We will sell used books before and after the meeting.

Take your books to St. Philip's during the day, if possible, for easier sorting. We request fairly recent adult books. If you aren't able to take them during the day on the 23rd, bring them to my home. (Shirley Tammen, 725 6th St. W) You may bring them anytime the week before the sale. We have a driveway side door, which is usually open. Any books left over will be sold at AAUW's Rivertown book sale.

## Treasurer's Report

*Carol Tobin*

Our check book balance is \$\$5,891.80 as of today. Expenses related to NCCWSL, Memorial and fundraising for AAUW St. Cloud have been paid.

Hopefully in the coming weeks the National Web site will be fully up and running so we can pay our membership dues on the website individually with our own debit or credit card. I will keep you posted. As with any new program the roll out has not be smooth. Please be patient if you need to go there. It is getting better. As always if you want to pay your dues with a check that continues to be available when the time comes.

## Membership

*Kathy Palmer & Jackie Rigelman*

We would like to welcome our newest member, Erica Wood. That brings our membership for the 2021-2022 to 91 members!

April will begin the time to renew AAUW dues for 2022-2023. Dues will be going up to \$98. This is a direct pass-through of a \$5 National dues increase; neither the State nor local dues components are changing. Dues will be paid by check again this year, as the AAUW National is not able to process dues online at this time.

At the April meeting, there will be a drawing for two AAUW national membership fees (\$67 value each). These national membership dues were earned at two Shape the Future events our branch held this year. A national membership was awarded for every two new members who joined at those events. All current members will be entered into the drawing.

## Web Page

*Cheryl Read*

Accidently delete your email with 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

## Community

*Margaret Goderstad*

### Hastings Arts Center:

- Tuesday, April 12th, 10:30 a.m. Coffee Concert - "Sonata Winds" - Free
- Sunday Matinee, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm – "Heartland Marimba" – Call for Tickets

### LeDuc Historic Estate:

- May 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm. A Mother's Day Tea with three courses. Reenactors will discuss the relationship between Mrs. LeDuc and her children. Register early - \$40 per person. [dakotahistory.org](http://dakotahistory.org).

### Orange Dragon: Prescott

- Newly refreshed by HPACC members the student spring show opens April 6<sup>th</sup>.
- May 4 - Spring Exhibit opens

### River Valley Band:

#### - Concert titled "Honoring Women Composers"

Tuesday, May 10 at 7:00pm at the Hastings Middle School Auditorium. The concert will include the premier of Erika Svanoe's composition commissioned by the Band entitled "Florence and Alice" as well as works by other women composers. This program honors not only the works of the women selected but also the lives of Hastings own LeDuc sisters. The music will commemorate Florence and Alice LeDuc, the sisters who lived in the LeDuc Mansion and founded the Hastings Needlepoint Company. These talented businesswomen were far ahead of their time! There is a great article in the Star Tribune from 2012 to read if you are a subscriber.

<https://www.startribune.com/descendants-return-explore-leduc-legacy/151784615/>

This is a free concert at which the Band will accept offerings of food for Hastings Family Service.

## Diversity

Peggy Horsch

A number of years back during a presentation on a diversity topic one of our members asked the presenter how, given the lack of diversity in Hastings (perceived or real at the time), can we engage the topic at hand. I'll never forget her answer, "drive 20 miles north." That stuck with me because it was so obvious, yet we failed to see it. I've come to appreciate the reality is 20 miles and a world apart. 20 miles represents across the street, down the block, and around the corner. We segregate our lives by the smallest measurements, with the largest consequences. How did that happen?

I participated in two events this week that brought home some of the historical context of segregation and the lasting impacts it has today. Building Remembrance for Reconciliation (BR4R) is currently engaging community members in listening sessions for next steps in building racial reconciliation and ways forward for our little hamlet. In my session, we kept coming back to the premise that we can't move forward until we understand our past. Spreading the story Heidi Langenfeld shared with our membership about the thriving black community in Hastings in the late 1800's and how it was impacted by the arson at Brown's Chapel and other acts of hatred (go to BR4R.org if you missed the meeting) is the first step. Although all the questions of what transpired and why most likely will never be resolved, we do know it resulted in black families leaving Hastings to reside in black communities existing in the Twin Cities.

The second event was sponsored by the MN Historical Society and BR4R that brought author/historian Chad Montrie to Hastings to discuss his book, *Whiteness in Plain View: A History of Racial Exclusion in Minnesota*. In the book, Montrie traces national, state and local historical factors that led to segregated housing in Minnesota. He is not from Minnesota but was directed to study Minnesota by another author/historian who argued if it happens in "liberal" Minnesota, it happens everywhere. Montrie's work covers rural cities and urban metropolises. He found individual factors at work depending on the locality (Edina's appeal to the wealthy to buy upscale, racially segregated homes and Austin's appeal to the working class to keep their union jobs) but when outright racial segregation in restrictive covenants were declared discriminatory and unlawful by the courts,

discriminatory practices never evaporated in any of the studied communities but rather intensified. Montrie cites examples in government promotion through zoning laws discouraging multi-family homes and rentals and private industry mortgage lending practices and real estate doings that made it hard, if not impossible, for minorities to buy in predominately white neighborhoods and cities. He argues these were responses to the perceived will of the citizenry for racially segregated housing; at least that of its white citizenry. When asked, he states he has no resolution in our ever increasingly divided country, but, like the work of BR4R in Hastings, getting to resolution starts with understanding the past. In that, he is road mapping a way forward.

Please let me know if you have any events or information to share on diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in our community or the greater community.

Until next time.

### [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/>

## Secretary

Arlene Wellemeyer

### Minutes - March 28, 2022

#### Business Meeting - AAUW Hastings Branch

St Philip's Lutheran Church

Members In-Person and by Zoom

1. President Lisa Hedin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Pat Powers requested members to submit to her that evening any registration forms for the State AAUW Convention April 29-30, 2022 in St. Cloud, MN and/or for ordering AAUW fundraiser tee shirts and hoodies. Pat will submit all forms with one payment for our branch to State.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as published in the TWIG, with the correction of National Women's Day to March 9th. Motion: Pat Powers; Second: Lisa West.

2. Treasurer's Report: Carol Tobin reported a current balance of \$5,740.76, noting that the expenses during the current period were mainly related to NCCWSL. The Treasurer's Report was accepted. Motion: Glenda Schnirring; Second: Betty Hoeschen. President Hedin noted the draft budget for 2022-23 will be presented to members at the April Business Meeting for approval.

### 3. Committee Reports

a. **Membership:** Kathy Palmer announced that dues for the 2022-23 year will be collected beginning at the April Spring Social meeting at St. Philips. A drawing will be held at that meeting among current members for two National membership dues awards. A digital display of with photos and info on members is being prepared for display at the April meeting.

b. **Program:** Danna Schultz confirmed presenters for April (Claire Ferrar, President of Standard Heating & Air Conditioning) and May (Diane Saed, Hidden Inspiration and My Unpublished Journey). She reminded members to bring their suggestions for next year's programs to the April meeting.

c. **Public Policy:** Pat Powers: SCOTUS Justice confirmation hearings; and April AAUW MN Convention.

d. **Book Club:** Shirley Tammen said *My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Heal Our Hearts and Bodies*, by Resmaa Menakem will be discussed at the April 11th meeting.

e. **AAUW Funds/HHS Scholarship:** Glenda Schnirring. No Report.

f. **Gad-Abouts:** Cindy Toppin: April 8th outing is planned to the Sheldon Theater in Red Wing.

g. **NCCWSL:** To date, three applications for this year's May 24-26 virtual conference have been received, two from Hastings and one from Dakota County Technical College.

h. **Community:** Margaret Goderstad recommended three upcoming Hastings Art Center's Tuesday morning Coffee Concerts, as well as a Sunday matinee concert on April 24th. Margaret also noted several events at the LeDuc

(see <https://www.dakotahistory.org/leduc-events>), as well as a free lecture at the Hastings Library, on the topic of racial exclusion in Minnesota, by Chad Montrie, a silent auction event at the the Dakota Country Historical Society Museum in South St. Paul, and the Spring Exhibit of the newly rennovated Orange Dragon in Prescott, WI, beginning on May 4th.

i. **Diversity:** Peggy Horsch reiterated information the lecture at the Hastings Library on MN;s racial exclusion history. Peggy also spoke about the listening sessions being conducted by Building Remembrance for Reconciliation.

The Business Meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:20 pm. Motion: Trudy Cragg ; Second: Shirley Tammen.

Presentation: Title IX Discussion: How is it working after 50 years? What are the challenges? Where do we go from here? by Cathy Moen, Hastings Public Schools School Director of Human Resources and Title IX, and Scott Doran, Interim Principal Hastings High School.

## Gadabouts

*Cindy Toppin*



The first Gadabouts in forever was a great success. Colleen Ray's performance at the Sheldon was wonderful and so was the wine afterwards at the Hastings Public House!

### AAUW Hastings Board

President -----	Lisa Hedin
VPs Membership -----	Kathy Palmer Jackie Rigelman
VPs Programs -----	Danna Elling Schultz Mary Ellen Fox Diane Saed
Secretary -----	Arlene Wellemeyer
Treasurer -----	Carol Tobin
AAUW Funds -----	Glenda Schnirring
Book Club -----	Shirley Tammen
Community -----	Margaret Goderstad
Diversity -----	Peggy Horsch
Gadabouts -----	Members
Historian -----	Lisa Hedin
Hospitality -----	Nancy Ahn Kathy Stockman Patty Todnem
NCCWSL -----	Gail Glashan
Newsletter -----	Linda Bindman
Public Policy -----	Pat Powers
Fundraising -----	Ceil Strauss
Web Page -----	Cheryl Read



**Location:**

Hastings Middle School Auditorium  
1000 11th St W  
Hastings, MN 55033

For more information, please visit  
the River Valley Band Facebook Page  
([https://www.facebook.com/  
rivervalleyband](https://www.facebook.com/rivervalleyband))

*You are cordially invited*  
**Concert Honoring Women Composers**

Tuesday, May 10 at 7:00 pm

This concert will feature musical selections composed by women. The River Valley Band commissioned Erika Svanoe, band director at Augsburg University in St. Paul, to compose a piece entitled "Florence and Alice." The music will commemorate Florence and Alice LeDuc, the sisters who lived in the LeDuc Mansion and founded the Hastings Needlepoint Company. The talented businesswomen were far ahead of their time!