



President’s Message

Lisa Hedin

Happy Fall everyone! I am excited to be kicking off the 2022-2023 AAUW Hastings Program year! We have an engaging and mission focused program year coming up. Check it out on the right-hand side of this page. I am especially excited to see us strengthening our partnership with the Hastings High School Feminism Club through a co-hosted program in October.

We are going to be starting out our year just a little bit closer to “normal”. Salad Supper will be back as part of the September meeting. Check out the Hospitality article a little deeper in this TWIG for more information. Also, once you are at the meeting keep your eyes out for the return of clipboards! There will be opportunities to sign up to bring sweet/salty treats to future meetings. We also intend to host our business meetings and programs on Zoom so that the world travelers (or those who prefer to stay home in their comfy recliner) amongst our membership can still join in. Keep your fingers crossed for our technology!

AAUW Hastings has had an amazing summer! We participated in Rivertown Days, hosted our second Summer Wine Soiree, held Book Group by the river, shared tea with potential members, and attended numerous community music and theater events.

Let’s keep that momentum and enthusiasm rolling into the new program year. Continue to do the work, care for each other, and stay well.

Program

Danna Elling Schultz, Mary Ellen Fox, & Diane Saed

Dignity at Home for Families with Parents with Dementia

Aging in Place is the ability to live in the residence of one's choice safely, independently, and comfortably regardless of age, income, or ability. Needs and circumstances change as people age which can create challenges and dilemmas for caregivers. For our September program we will hear from Hastings AAUW member Kathy O’Keefe and her two sisters who are caring for their mother who has dementia. They will discuss how they are meeting her changing needs while being guided by the book *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept 12** **Book Club**
- Sept 26** **Salad Supper, General Meeting & Program**

HASTINGS BRANCH

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

2022-2023 PROGRAMS

September 26, 6:00 pm **Salad Supper**
Dignity at Home for Families with Parents
with Dementia
Kathy O’Keefe and sisters

October 24, 7:00 pm **Hastings Art Center**
Representatives from the Minnesota Federal
Reserve discuss equity in the system
With the HHS Feminism Club

November 28, 7:00 pm
The Missing and Murdered Indigenous
Women Task Force
Sen. Mary Kunesh and Photographer John
Kaul

December 10 (TBD) **Hastings Golf Club**
Holiday Celebration

January 23, 6:00 pm **Chili Supper**
Culturally sensitive issues in children’s
literature

February 27, 7:00 pm
Books that speak to the female experience

March 27, 7:00 pm
Therapy Dogs providing assistance to college
students in crisis

April 24, 6:00 pm
Women Leaders
Lori Sturdevant

May 22, 7:00 pm **Book Sale**
Minnesota’s Changing Demographics
Susan Brower, State Demographer

Hospitality

Nancy Ahn, Darla Kimmes, & Kathy Stockman

The Salad Supper is Back!

We are so excited to start the 2022-23 AAUW programming year by resuming the traditional Salad Supper which had been interrupted by the COVID pandemic. The board members will furnish the desserts, breads and butter, and beverages. **Members are asked to bring a dish of their favorite salad to share.** We will begin serving at 6:00pm at St. Philip's Lutheran Church on Monday, September 26th. Come ready to enjoy a pleasant evening with old and new friends with yummy food and a great program.

Book Club

Shirley Tammen

It's a new season of reading, discussing, and critiquing for AAUW's Book Club selections for 2022 and 23. The group met down at the Mississippi in July and August, but will return to Pleasant Hill Library (Sand Coulee Room) for September through May.

Our chosen read for Monday, September 12th at 1:30pm will be Louise Penny and Hillary Clinton's *State of Terror*, a fast-moving international plot involving terrorists who are bombing locations around the world.

On Monday, October 10th, we will discuss *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles. Three teenage boys and an eight-year-old travel the Lincoln Highway from Nebraska to New York City in search of the mother who abandoned two of the boys, one of whom had just been released from a juvenile detention center.

On Monday, November 14th, we selected *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Hamel. Inspired by a true story from WWII, a young woman with a talent for forgery, helps hundreds of Jewish children flee from the Nazis.

Don't forget about Friends of the Library Used Book Sale on Friday, October 7th and Saturday, October 8th, & Sunday, October 9th. There will be lots of great reads at that semi-annual sale.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Tobin

Our beginning carryover balance in July was \$5,334.07. **Income** for July and August includes dues for 78 renewing members and 6 new Shape the Future members, wine soiree, and book sale at Rivertown days. **Expenses** for July and August include AAUW national and state dues and expenses related to fund raising. The ending balance at the end of August is \$11,260.11

Several exciting finance related topics will be coming up in the near future so be sure to read the TWIG and attend meetings. Everyone's input is important.

Membership

Kathy Palmer & Jackie Rigelman

The Membership Committee, Kathy Palmer and Jackie Rigelman, are thrilled to welcome Dorothy Sandahl, Becky Gartzke, Geneva Weisser, Julie Malm, Jaci Cobian, Miki Atkins, and Lori Best as new members. We are excited to welcome our first student member, Ashley Sarne. Ashley is an IT student at DCTC and newly appointed AAUW MN state website manager. She is this year's NCCWISL recipient. Welcome to all our new members.

Thank you to all of the members who paid dues before July 1st. The winners of the \$10 gift cards were: Lois Twedt (Hastings Public House), Pat Hanson (The Scoop), Rosalie Cavis (Spiral Brewery), Erica Wood (El Original Mexican Restaurant), and Jan Hertel (Froth and Cork).

SHAPE THE FUTURE dues discounts are available at the Sept. 26 Salad Supper. Anyone joining AAUW for the first time that evening is entitled to reduced dues of \$64.50. (Regular dues are \$98.00.) Members, if you know someone who might be interested in joiningLET THEM KNOW ABOUT THIS GREAT DEAL!

We are proud of our power point featuring AAUW members and plan to run it during the salad supper. It's a great tool for putting names and faces together. However, we need a few more "faces". If you haven't contributed your picture and would like to do so, send a photo to Kathy Palmer (majeski@embarqmail.com) The photo can be from your archives or snap a photo using your computer and send it off to Kathy before Sept. 19. (Photos can be taken at the Sept. meeting, but will be in the power point after Sept. 26.)

Community

Margaret Goderstad

Hastings Concert Association:

- James Taylor Tribute on September 12th at 7:00pm. Hastings Middle School Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$25.
- Hall Sisters on October 5th at 7:00pm. Hastings Middle School Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$25.

Building Remembrance for Reconciliation (BR4R):

- Community Discussion at ArtSpace on Tuesday, September 13th 7:00-8:30pm. BR4R invites you to a conversation about the early Black community in Hastings. The public is welcome and refreshments will be served.
- Breaking the Silence: Remembering Brown's Chapel AME – Sunday, October 23rd, 2:00-5:00pm. at the First Presbyterian Church (602 Vermillion). This will be an afternoon of music, reflection, education, & inspiration and a walking/driving tour of Hastings' historical Black community landmarks.

Orange Dragon Art Gallery: Prescott

Fall exhibit runs from September 14th through November 6th.

LeDuc Historic Estate:

- Candlelit Tours – October 15th & 16th. Reservations Required
- Victorian Holiday Tea – December 3rd & 10th at 3:30pm. Reservations Required

River Valley Band:

Veterans Day Concert: November 6th at 1:00pm at Hastings Middle School. With special guests the 204th Army Band from Ft. Snelling

Black Dirt Theater:

“Elf: The Musical” – November 26th, 27th, & December 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Now hiring a creative team, see their website

HPAC:

10th Annual Gala on December 4th. Watch for exciting details

Hastings Arts Center:

Check website for fall schedule

Funds & Scholarships

Glenda Schnirring

Kyra Smallidge, our 2022 Scholarship Awardee, enrolled at University of Kansas



A late summer report from our Hastings Branch scholarship winner, Kyra Smallidge, is that she will begin her studies at the University of Kansas, in Lawrence, KS. She has chosen to double major in Psychology and Marketing. Kyra is very appreciative of her AAUW scholarship, which will be given to her upon completion of her first semester.

Kyra spent some of her summer rallying for reproductive rights of women, thus felt good about a recent Kansas legislative vote on the issue.

Submitted by Glenda Schnirring who after six years of taking the lead on AAUW Funds and Scholarships will be handing the reins over to Marilyn Tennesen.

Funds & Scholarships

Marilyn Tennesen

Presently we offer one \$2500 scholarship annually to a Hastings High School senior female with the highest-ranking GPA who plans to attend an accredited college or university.

We are now discussing offering a second scholarship to a female who is First Generation higher education, and, or, attending a program like Dakota County Technical College for the Trades. (Electrician, Plumber, HVAC, Construction Management etc. are needed areas of employment.) If you are interested in helping draft criteria for a second scholarship, please let me know at the September meeting.

NCCWSL

Gail Glashan

Sophia Sanchez was our 2020 NCCWSL recipient (she attended in 2021). The following is an article from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) newsletter.

CHCI Social Equity Public Policy Fellow

Hometown: Hastings, Minnesota

School: Smith College

Degree: B.A. in Government

Placement: TBD



Sophia Sanchez (she/her) is from rural Minnesota with familial roots in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Her hometown branch of the American Association of University Women sponsored her through the National Conference for College Women Leaders, inspiring her to pursue opportunities outside of her comfort zone. Her interest in

government stems from growing up in a predominantly white neighborhood while watching her father go through the US immigration process.

Sophia graduated from Smith College with a B.A. in Government, concentration in International Relations, and membership in Pi Sigma Alpha. She was awarded as the Anita Wein Global Studies Scholar for her studies at the Higher School of Economics in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Sophia worked as a research assistant to two professors, studying paradiplomatic Taiwan relations and data use in development & governance. In 2020, Sophia returned to Saint Paul to intern in the immigration services department of the International Institute of Minnesota, supporting community members throughout the progress of their citizenship applications. She remained active in her hometown local government as an election judge for four years. Sophia sought out policy experience by competing as a finalist in the 2022 New York University Policy Case Competition with her team policy “Mitigating Forced Labor in International Supply Chains.” During college, she was a proud member of the Latin American Student Organization and a founding member of Smith College’s competitive Model United Nations team.

As the 2022-23 CHCI Social Equity Public Policy Fellow, Sophia is excited to learn about the legislative process beyond the classroom. She hopes to understand the impact of policy on communities by observing the highest level of democracy in action.

Public Policy

Pat Powers

Get Out The Vote

AAUW in Action: AAUW is committed to open and fair elections that are broadly accessible to all voters, nonpartisan voter education efforts that will promote equitable political participation and representation in appointed and elected office, and expanding voting rights. Our democracy works when everyone can fully participate. Elected officials routinely make decisions about issues that directly impact all of us. From our paychecks to paid leave, access to reproductive health care and access to education, our lives are on the line—and **our vote is our voice**. To create real change, we must be part of the conversation, and the most powerful way for us to have our say is at the polls. Yet the right to vote has a long and tumultuous history. Protecting that right—one that many fought long and hard for—continues today as ongoing efforts to suppress the right negates what it means to live in a free democracy.

What you can do: Make sure you vote. The Secretary of State maintains the information page [MNVotes.org](https://mnvotes.org) for all information about voting. If you can bring a friend to vote. Encourage everyone to exercise their right to vote.

First day to vote early in person: Friday, September 23

Last day to vote early in person: Monday, November 7

Make a date for November 8 for voting at the polls.

Diversity

Peggy Horsch

At the start of every school year, I feel a sense of excitement and renewal, even though it has been close to 40 years since I entered a school room! It got me to thinking it is a good time to do a check-in with what's going on in the ISD 200 diversity, equity and inclusion scene.

The Department of Education Report Card (rc.education.mn.gov) is a great source for all sorts of school district specific data from how kids responded to specific questions on a variety of topics (school safety to classroom engagement and everything in between) to progress measures and demographic data. I encourage you to take a look for yourselves. I went in search of demographic data related to diversity and it reminded me, once again, that "diversity" is, well diverse. It is racial, LGBTQ+, special education, economic and so much more. Our students are diverse in amazing ways. The State data on the ways is more limited than what anecdotal evidence suggests, but it does provide a starting point. Here goes. The racial makeup of ISD 200 from February 2022 is 17% students of color and 83% white. The break down for students of color is: Hispanic 6.5%, American Indian .6%, Asian 1.3%, Black or African American 2.8%, Two or more Races 6.2% and 2 students who are Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, for a total of 720 students. The percentage of students in special education is 14.5% (605 students) and in English learner is 1.7% (69 students). There are no statistics on the Report Card (at least that I could find) that cover students identifying as LGBTQ+ but relatively recent national and state reports suggest the number is anywhere from 10% to 22% - a wide range but in any case, a substantial number of students.

So, what is ISD 200 doing to engage, support and celebrate its diversity? Well, lots and it's needed. We hear a lot about student mental health needs, especially those falling in diversity categories, but the reality in stark data was excellently presented in a recent KARE 11 Breaking The News segment on youth suicide in the United States (Verify In Focus: "NOBODY TALKS ABOUT IT – THE RISE IN YOUTH SUICIDE"). In a word, it's beyond alarming about what's going on with our kids. But, there is good news to report and that comes in the form of support and engagement resources and organizations within the school district and the community.

Federal funding has allowed the district to add additional classroom and mental health resources for the school year totaling approximately \$2 million. This funding will allow each building to have a Student Success Coach specializing in student support for those experiencing academic, behavioral, social and emotional challenges. Middle and high school students will have access to a Chemical Health Counselor. The high school has a full-time social worker to support mental health and the middle school will continue with the Communities in Schools position connecting students to caring adults and community resources. The elementary buildings will have a Therapeutic Assistance Program providing on-site mental health services to those students who cannot otherwise access services. Additionally, there are 2 Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports positions district-wide to coordinate student's positive social, emotional, behavioral, developmental and academic outcomes.

In the special education world, the district's LEAP (Lifelong Experiences and Academic Programs) program supports students social, communication, cognitive, academic and functional needs. One example is the middle school's "We Be Poppin" program that teaches valuable job and life skills by running a popcorn delivery business to staff and students. In addition to LEAP, the K-12 Bridge program offers center-based services for students.

There are many groups that promote, celebrate and support students, including the Feminism Club, Gender and Sexuality Awareness Group, and BLOOM (Believing in and Loving Ourselves and Others More - formally the Diversity Club – love the new name!). In the community, IDEA Hastings, discussed in the last newsletter, Transparent Alliance, Helping Kids Succeed and THRIVE are active and engaged with kids. I have to also call out those school board members (including President Lisa Hedin) who consistently look at the health and well-being of our students through many lenses, including the important lens of supporting diversity, equity and inclusion, and all school staff who are on the front line. I am absolutely sure there are many more groups, organizations and resources I have neglected to include but the point is there are many caring people individually and collectively doing great things.

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

Fundraising

Ceil Strauss

Our traditional annual garage sale is becoming a memory of the past ... We had our second summer with two newer events to raise funds for our annual scholarship for a HHS student, and other scholarships. Both events were very successful in helping us to meet our fundraising goals for our scholarships, providing an opportunity for fellowship (fun!) amongst our AAUW members, and reaching out to potential new members by making those in our community more familiar with AAUW and our mission.

Used book sale during Rivertown Days (July 16-17):

We had a booth in the Arts and Crafts area on Saturday and Sunday of Rivertown Days and sold gently used books for adults, young adults and children. Our goal was to raise the \$150 we normally donate to the Hastings Reads effort annually and some funds towards our scholarships, as well as increase visibility of AAUW in the Hastings community.

Members donated dozens of boxes of books, and our sale was very successful! We raised the \$150 for Hastings Reads, plus an additional \$400 plus that will go toward our annual HHS scholarship.

A special thanks to Linda Bindman for being in charge (while Ceil was out of the country) and to Lisa Hedin for her major efforts, and for supplying all but the kitchen sink for our booth set up!

Wine Soiree at Hastings Golf Club on August 11: A wine tasting and dinner was held with the goal of raising a major portion of the \$3,500 we earmark for our annual HHS student and other scholarships, enjoy each other's company, and to invite others from the community to learn about us and hopefully grow our membership.

We had 78 attendees, including many non-members. It was a wonderful evening with good company, and an excellent combination of food and wine. New this year was a raffle with seven wonderful donated prizes, including a \$1000 gift certificate for the new Four Seasons Hotel in Minneapolis. The raffle went over very well, raising a good portion of the scholarship funds.

The input from those attending was very positive, and we expect this will continue to be an annual event. And on the fundraising front, we exceeded our expectations and had a profit of \$5,300 to use towards our scholarship fund!

A special thanks to Nicole Sindelar (AAUW member and owner of the Hastings Golf Club) for again donating use of the venue.

And thanks to our fundraising committee (Gail Glashan, Jackie Rigelman, Pat Powers, Linda Bindman, Jan Junkman, Ann Skoglund, Nicole Sindelar & Ceil Strauss) and all our members who helped out at the book sale and at our wine soiree. It was great to be able to see everyone again!

Help Wanted

There are a couple opportunities for you to get a little bit more involved in AAUW – locally or at the State level.

- Locally – We do not have a designated “Gad-Abouts” chair, so we are counting on members to host AAUW Hastings members on fun, educational outings. Come up with an idea, write an article for the TWIG (send it to Linda Bindman), bring a sign-up sheet to a meeting and we will get you hooked up with a clipboard. Let's share our interests with each other.
- State – AAUW MN is looking for an Education Chair. Reach out to Gail Glashan for more info on what this position involves. Is it time for you to participate in a little more AAUW?

Web Page

Cheryl Read

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/>

The password for the members only section of the website has been changed, the new password will be sent to all members via email.

Secretary

Hannah Spaulding

Minutes - May 23, 2022

Business Meeting - AAUW Hastings Branch

St Philip's Lutheran Church

Members In-Person and by Zoom

1. President Hedin, who was unable to attend that evening, had requested Board Member Pat Powers to preside, who called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. The minutes of the April Business Meeting were approved, as published in the TWIG. Motion: Kathy O'Keefe; Second: Margaret Goderstad.

2. Carol Tobin, Treasurer, reported a current checkbook balance of \$5,642.07.

Carol said she would welcome receiving checks from members that evening, or later by mail.

Although a new online renewal method for membership is in the works for the AAUW National website, this year, Carol is going to collect all member checks as usual and will submit them to National.

The Treasurer's report was accepted: Motion: Betty Hoeschen; Second: Pat Schultz.

3. Committee Reports

a. **Membership** (Jackie Rigelman and Kathy Palmer):

- The upcoming memorial service for Arden Sanstead, longtime AAUW, was noted.

- Jackie displayed a certificate received from AAUW to Hastings Branch in recognition of three new members in 2022-23.

- She also reminded members to pay the \$98 dues for the next program year by June 30, 2022 to be eligible for the drawing for several \$10 gift certificates to local businesses.

b. **Programs** (Danna Elling Schultz, Mary Ellen Olson, Diane Saed)

- No report. Members expressed appreciation to the Program team for the year's excellent presentations.

c. **Public Policy/State Convention:** (Pat Powers)

- Pat Powers and Gail Glashan attended the recent Minnesota State AAUW Annual Convention. Pat displayed the Convention booklet, of which she had several copies available, and recommended it for the useful information about MN State AAUW and local branches, as well as the public policy initiatives planned for 2022-2024.

d. **Fundraising** (Ceil Strauss)

- Ceil said she will soon be circulating by email a SignupGenius link for members to sign up to work shifts at our branch's book sale booth at Hastings Rivertown Days (July 16-17).

- The 2nd Annual Wine Soiree is being planned for Thursday, August 11, 2022. Save the date!

Attendance will be capped this year at 95.

e. **Book Club** (Shirley Tammen)

- There will be no Book Club meeting in June.

- The Book Club plans to meet again in Levee Park for the July and August meetings. July selection is *The Thursday Murder Club*, by Richard Osman.

f. **NCCWSL** (Gaili Glashan) No report. (Details on 2022 awardees in May TWIG.)

g. **Community** (Margaret Goderstad) Margaret referred members to the specific local websites for the many activities taking place this summer (Hastings Art Center, Le Duc, Orange Dragon, historical societies and others.) In particular, she recommended the free Coffee Concerts at the HAC as great opportunities for excellent live music.

h. **Hospitality** (Patty Todem). No report.

i. **Diversity** (Peggy Horsch)

- Peggy noted the Hastings Pride Fest will be held on June 11, with parade starting from McNamara Field and ending at Jaycee Park. See IDEA website for details.

j. **AAUW Funds/HHS Scholarship.** (Glenda Schnirring).

- Glenda announced the scholarship award for 2022, which she had presented shortly before that evening at the Hastings High School award ceremonies. This year's awardee was Kyra Smallidge who plans to attend University of Kansas to study Psychology and Marketing.

- Marilyn Tennesen will be the new Board Member for AAUW Funds/HHS Scholarship for 2022-2024.

4. The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm. Motion:

Natalie Letourneau; Second: Patty Todnem.

5. The evening's program followed at 7:30 pm. *Hidden Inspiration and My Unpublished Journey*. Diane Saed and her guest, Lisa Valentine.

Submitted by Arlene Wellemeyer
Secretary

Historian

Lisa Hedin



Book sale at
Rivertown Days

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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	Jackie Rigelman
VPs Programs -----	Danna Elling Schultz
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Book Club -----	Shirley Tammen
Community -----	Margaret Goderstad
Diversity -----	Peggy Horsch
Gadabouts -----	Members
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