



President's Message

Lisa Hedin

Happy Fall everyone! I am excited to be kicking off the 2023-2024 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. Consider inviting a friend, neighbor, or young person to attend a program as your guest.

We will be kicking off our program year with a Salad Supper as part of the September meeting. Hastings School District's new Superintendent: Dr. Tammy Champa, will be joining us and share information about the Capital Improvements (Technology) Levy that will be on this fall's ballot. This presentation will take place after we have all had some salad, and before the business meeting.

Check out the Hospitality article a little deeper in this TWIG for more information about the salad supper. Also, once you are at the meeting keep your eyes out for the clipboards! There will be opportunities to sign up to bring sweet/salty/fruity 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) 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 third Summer Wine Soiree, held Book Group by the river (and occasionally in the library due to weather), shared tea with potential members, welcomed a few new faces to our board, and some folks are learning mahjong.

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.

Help Wanted

We do not have a designated "Gad-Abouts" chair, but it would be great to re-establish our practice of group activities. We are counting on members to host AAUW Hastings members on fun, educational outings.

1. Come up with an idea – theater, live music, site tour, ...
2. write an article for the TWIG (coordinate with Linda Bindman),
3. bring a sign-up sheet to a meeting (AAUW will provide the clipboard)
4. Go Gad-About!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 11 **Book Club**
 Sept. 25 **Meeting & Program**
 Oct. 9 **Book Club**

HASTINGS BRANCH

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

2023-2024 PROGRAMS

September 25, 6:00 pm **Salad Supper**
Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women
Task Force
 Senator Mary Kunesch

October 23, 7:00 pm
Perspectives on Women in Law Enforcement
 Hennepin County Sheriff Dawanna S. Witt

November 27, 7:00 pm
Forecasting Minnesota's Changeable
Weather
 Meteorologist Karen Filloon

December 9, 10:30 am **Hastings Golf Club**
Holiday Celebration

January 22, 6:00 pm **Chili Supper**
Book Selection Process in Dakota County
Libraries
 Librarian Christy Wayne

February 26, 7:00 pm
Women's Heart Health Month – How to
Survive a Heart Crisis and How to Prevent
One from Happening
 Danna Elling-Schultz and Dr. Elizabeth Tuohy

March 25, 7:00 pm
Diaries of Jane Doe: Historical Perspectives
on Women's Health in Dakota County

April 22, 6:00 pm **Spring Social**
Amelia Earhart
 Nancy Earhart Burt

May 20, 7:00 pm **Book Sale**
Title IX Impact on Athletes & Sports at the
Collegiate Level
 Vicki Davis

Let's share our interests with each other. These can be daytime or evening outings – near or far (well maybe not too far!).

Rivertown Days Book Sale

AAUW-Hastings joined many other vendors and local organizations in Jaycee Park during the 2023 Rivertown Days festivities. We sold used books, met our community members, dodged summer thunderstorms, and raised over \$490 to use in support of Hastings Reads and our Hastings High School scholarships. Thanks to everyone who participated by donating books, purchasing books, working the sale or storing supplies. It was a terrific success.

Program

Danna Elling Schultz, Mary Ellen Fox, & Becky Gartzke

Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women Task Force



I (Danna) have known our September guest both professionally and personally and I know this will be an interesting and enjoyable event.

Sen. Mary Kunesh (DFL-New Brighton) will present on her work with the Murdered and Missing

Indigenous Women Task Force. Sen. Kunesh was instrumental in passing the task force legislation in 2019 and works with the project now. She was elected to the House in 2016 and the Senate in 2020. She was also successful in passing other important and related legislation in 2023 and was the chief author of the bill to change the Minnesota state flag.

She is the first indigenous woman to serve in the Minnesota Senate. Her mother and grandfather [were] enrolled members of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and she is a descendant of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. She was a founding member of the Native American and People of Color & Indigenous (POCI) caucuses.

She has a bachelor's degree from St. Catherine's and a master's degree from St. Cloud State. She has three children and two grandchildren. She has 12 siblings (she is nine of thirteen kids) in her family.

Hospitality

Nancy Ahn, Darla Kimmes & Lois Twedt

Crisp Evening, Beautiful Autumn Leaves, and the AAUW Salad Supper

Monday, September 25th brings in the new schedule for AAUW meetings. We start the new season with a salad supper. **Members are asked to bring a salad to share (with a serving utensil) by 5:45 so we may begin serving at 6:00.** The board will provide the coffee, tea, lemonade, bread and desserts. We look forward to seeing you.

Treasurer's Report

Renee Souza & Carol Tobin

Our beginning carryover balance in July was \$5,334.07. **Income** for July and August include 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 August balance because of a very successful summer of fundraising is \$18,196.50 We are however awaiting outstanding expenses for the wine soiree that will affect that balance; however, we are very healthy at this early stage in the fiscal year.

Remember, this is to be expected as our fundraising efforts are done early in our fiscal year after which we start spending on the grants and NCCWSL Scholarship.

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/>

Membership

Kathy Palmer & Jackie Rigelman

Congratulations to the four winners in the drawing for members who had paid dues by July 1st: Susan Cruse, Trudy Cragg, Nancy Kerestes and Christine Erickson. Susan won a gift card to Schoolhouse Scoop. Trudy won a gift card to Spiral Brewery. Nancy won a gift card to Froth and Cork. Christine won a gift card to Hastings Public House. We hope that you enjoyed using the gift cards this summer.

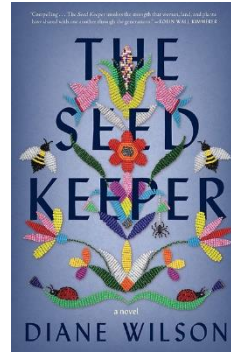
New Members: On August 9, Membership hosted a New Member's Tea. Several women joined AAUW that evening. We welcome Rachel Allgor, Linda Ferris, Jane Scully, Ashley Orchard, and Julie Hicks. Earlier in the summer, Becky Arenivar joined. Please extend a hardy welcome to these new members as they attend meetings and social events.

Photos for Power Point: Hey AAUW members, at our September Salad Supper (Sept. 25), the AAUW Power Point will be playing. This is a great opportunity for new members to recognize present members and vice versa. Thank you to those members who have sent Kathy photos for the power point. However, many members still need to hop on the power point train and email or text a photo to Kathy Palmer by Sept. 20 to be added to the power point by the salad supper: [651-480-2268](tel:651-480-2268), or majeski@embarqmail.com

Shape the Future Events: There are two more Shape the Future events with dues discounts available to new members. **The first event is the September Meeting** (Monday, September 25th, 2023 at St. Philips Church; a 6:00 pm salad supper followed by a 7:00 pm meeting and program.) **The second event is the December 2023 Holiday Brunch** (December 9th at 10:30 am.) Anyone joining AAUW for the first time at these events is entitled to reduced dues of \$67.00. (Regular dues are \$103.) Members, if you know someone who might be interested in joining...let them know about this great deal! We also encourage you to invite a friend to attend any of our meetings as your guest.

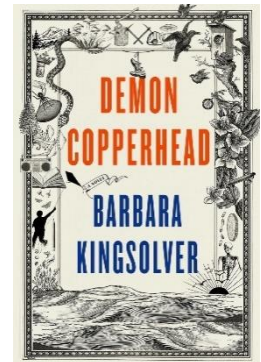
Book Club

Shirley Tammen



The AAUW Book Club selected *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson for the discussion on Monday, October 9th, 1:30 pm at Pleasant Hill Library. Spanning several generations, Wilson follows a Dakota family's struggle to preserve their way of life. *The Seed Keeper* is the winner of the 2022 Minnesota Book Award for Fiction.

On Monday, November 13, the group will be discussing *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver. This book was the co-recipient of the 2023 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and won the 2023 Women's Prize for Fiction. Kingsolver writes about a boy whom nobody wanted as he struggles through life feeling invisible in the popular culture of southern Appalachia.



Hastings Reads: The Hastings Reads committee has been meeting regularly to firm up events for the February 2024 programs. The theme for the programs is "It's Going to be Ok." The main selection is *Darius The Great Is Not Okay* by Adib Khorram. Darius suffers from depression, bullying by high school jocks, and a father who seems always to be disappointed in him. The picture book selected is *Looking For Happy* by Ty Chapman. A middle school book has not been selected yet. Stay tuned!

[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/>

Community

Margaret Goderstad

Hastings Arts Center:

- Tuesday, September 26th, 10:30am – The Metro Brass Quintet. Free coffee concert
- Tuesday, October 17th, 10:30am – Randall Ferguson presents *The History & Evolution of the Guitar*. Free coffee concert
- Saturday, October 28th, 7:00pm – The Double Down Daredevils. Buy tickets on-line.

Orange Dragon Art Gallery:

- Fall Exhibit is September 6th – October 29th

Sod House Theatre: Table – Wednesday, September 20th, 6:00 – 8:00pm. Artspace River Lofts, 121 Tyler St., Hastings. An evening of feasting, fellowship, songs and shenanigans while you are taken good care of by the most entertaining catering crew in the country. Tickets are \$65, this does include a meal. To buy tickets, see more details and the menu, go to the Sod House website.

[Sod House Website](#)

Public Policy

Pat Powers

Where is the ERA Amendment Bill Now?

Chief authors are Senator Mary Kunesh in the Senate and Representative Kaohly Her in the House.

- The bill must be introduced in both chambers.
- Each chamber has committee review where changes could occur.
- Floor vote comes after review
- A bill passes the legislature with simple majority of each chamber votes.
- At last, the bill goes on the ballot for ratification in the next general election.

Here is where we come in, we need to promote the YES vote in the 2024 election to pass the ERA amendment in MN. If it passes it takes effect immediately. Join ERAMN, fund the cause, volunteer, help educate and advocate for the ERA.

Nationally the deadline for states ratification was June 30, 1982. 35 states met the deadline. Three more ratified the amendment between March, 2017 and January, 2020. A joint resolution was introduced in January 2023 by Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-Mass.) and Sen. Ben Cardin (D-Md.) to remove the arbitrary deadline for ratification and recognize the amendment as part of the Constitution. In April the bill failed by 9 votes. It is languishing in the Senate but could have other opportunities to be voted on again this year. In MN the bill is stated:

Equality under the law shall not be abridged or denied by this state or any of its cities, counties, or other political subdivisions on account of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, ancestry, or national origin.

Next big event:

Mark your calendars:

Monday, February 12th, 2024 is the First Day of Session. Let's welcome back legislators in numbers too great to ignore! ERAMN reserved the Minnesota Capitol Rotunda 10am – noon the first day of Session for our ERA RALLY.

Historian

Lisa Hedin



Touring backstage of Chanhassen Dinner Theater in 2018

Diversity

Jaci Cobian

Diversity, and the importance of it, is truly noted as one of society's most necessary and greatest strengths! It becomes intrinsic when we welcome all the ways in which people differ including; but not limited to, age, race, mental and physical abilities, ethnicity, religion, sex/gender/sexual orientation, and political beliefs. In addition, Diversity provides us with daily opportunities for learning and practicing different life skills such as kindness, empathy, emotional intelligence, and understanding.

Knowledge about Diversity is key and as I have the privilege to share my first TWIG article on the topic of "Ageism" and how it links to Diversity in our everyday lives I want to acknowledge and personally thank Peggy Horsch for her work and dedication to AAUW, as she contributed a variety of TWIG Diversity topics over the past couple of years. Over the course of this upcoming year please feel free to share with me any topics that you may be interested in seeing become a featured TWIG topic, and I will do my best to include any suggestions received, as it is an honor for me to be working on your behalf to bring topics of interest in the area of Diversity to life.

As we live our everyday lives, Age Diversity plays an important role as it brings different experiences, perspectives, and skills to daily situations. Within such situations; however, "Ageism" which is a form of discriminatory behavior that affects people of all ages may be felt - resulting in stereotyping, exclusion, or unequal treatment. While ageism can target both the young and the old, it's most commonly associated with biases against older adults. Ageism manifests itself in many ways from casual jokes about "senior moments," or assumptions that older individuals are technologically inept, to being treated as if they lack relevance or vitality. On the flip side, ageism towards younger individuals can involve dismissing their ideas or contributions as inexperienced or immature.

There are consequences of ageism for older individuals such as economic inequality, healthcare disparities, isolation, mental and physical health issues, and lost opportunities when ageism limits

their contributions in society, ignoring their wealth of knowledge and experience.

Individuals can challenge and combat ageism as this will not only improve their own well-being; but, also help to create a more open-minded culture in which stereotypes hold less power and discrimination is less prevalent. First, begin by acknowledging your own biases and preconceptions about aging and accept the truth; that in fact, you are getting older, but still have plenty of life in you with many opportunities ahead, along with much to offer those around you. Be positive and see aging as a gain versus a loss and look for opportunities for growth.

Next, choose to support policies and organizations that promote age diversity and inclusion in the workplace and society and stress the need for education in learning about the diverse experiences and contributions of people of all ages, thus helping to break down stereotypes.

Promoting intergenerational relationships is also important as it encourages interactions between different age groups as a means to foster understanding and empathy. Such face-to-face interactions with children and grandchildren, younger co-workers, and younger people within the community helps people see beyond stereotypes. Be willing to learn from them and get to know their perceptions of the world.

In addition, you can act as a mentor to pass on your skills and knowledge while also finding meaning and purpose as you help others learn new things.

Last, be familiar with your rights and legal protections within the law as they pertain to age discrimination. Recognizing and challenging ageism requires a collective effort and a commitment to valuing the experiences and contributions of people of all ages. By educating ourselves and confronting ageism, we can together create a more equitable and inclusive society - one where everyone, regardless of age, is treated with respect and dignity.

To spark your interest and curiosity to learn more about "Ageism":

Ageism is One of the Last Socially Acceptable Prejudices. Psychologists are Working to Change That, American Psychological Association, March 2023

<https://www.apa.org>

What is Ageism?, May 2022

<https://www.verywellmind.com>

What is Ageism? Types, Examples, and Impact on Health - Medical News Today, November 2021

<https://www.medicalnewstoday.com>

Internalized Ageism - Discriminating Against Ourselves as we Age, March, 2023

<https://publichealth.wustl.edu>

Secretary

Hannah Spaulding

AAUW General Meeting Minutes

May 22, 2023

Location: In Person (St Philips Lutheran Church) and Zoom

1. (7:00 pm) Call to Order – 55 in the room, 3 on Zoom
2. (7:05 pm) Approve Meetings Minutes from April 24, 2023. Pat Powers motions, second by Betty Hoeschen. Motion approved.
3. (7:08 pm) Treasurer’s Report. Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report: motion by Pat Schultz, Vicki Amundson seconds, motion approved.
4. (7:10 pm) Annual Business
 - a. Approve 2023-24 Budget: motion by Marcia Pletcher, Betty Herman seconds. Motion carries.
5. (7:15 pm) Committee/Activity Report
 - a. Membership (Kathy Palmer & Jackie Rigelman)
 - a. Memberships depend on referrals so please refer.
 - b. Memberships are due please sign up online!
 - c. If you pay by July 1st – we will draw for 4 \$10 gift cards.
 - b. Programs (Mary Ellen Fox, Danna Elling-Schultz, Diane Saed)
 - a. Mary Ellen – having our end of the year program, we are working on next year. If you have a burning topic you want to focus on please let us know as we define the
 - c. Fundraising: Wine Soiree’ III (Michelle Tjomsland, Jody Rudh, and Julie Larson are the Wine-Out Gals). For the Wine Soiree we will be using the wine from Cannon River this year and will be at Hastings Public House on August 3rd. Soliciting for individuals to sign up to donate a bottle of wine for the wine pull. The more wine that is donated the more winners we will have. Also want to have some good raffle tickets – if you are interested, please contact Leslie. There also will be an invitation going out on Facebook and there will be a link to register on Google Sheets, on the paper version there is a QR code with instructions on the back with how to use a QR code. To make a payment you can use paper registration, or you can use Venmo - give paper registration to Jody. We do have a venue attendance limit of 100 people to attend.
 - d. Hospitality (Nancy Ahn) – thank you to all those who signed up and have brought treats to the in-person meetings.
 - e. Public Policy (Pat Powers) – we’ve been following the ERA amendment, it passed through the house and passed through the senate. Next step is go to the conference committee to be allowed to go on the ballot in 2024. There will be an article in TWIG with more about this.
 - f. NCCWSL (Gail Glashan) – No updates
 - g. Book Club (Shirley Tammen) – next meeting is the 10th of July at the riverfront near Rotary Pavilion - Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult
 - h. Scholarship/AAUW Funds (Marilyn Tennessen) – Already gave update will update with scholarship winners if received tonight.

- i. Community (Margaret Goderstad) – Black Dirt Theater, Music Man show in late July and early August. Rhubarb festival at Leduc on June 3rd
- j. Diversity (Margaret Horsch) – will be in the newsletter but PRIDE is going on now, check it out. Becky Garzke wins the raffle for the AAUW shirt

6. Motion to adjourn: First by Glenda Schnirring, Jackie Rigelman seconds. Adjourned at 7:29pm.

- No June Book Group
- July Book Group – July 10, 2023 1:30 pm at the riverfront near Rotary Pavilion, Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult
- July 21-23, 2023 – Rivertown Days Book Sale – watch your email for more information.
- Wine Soiree’ III – August 3, 2023 - Hastings Public House
- August Book Group – August 14, 2023 at 1:30 pm at the riverfront near Rotary Pavilion
- August Board Meeting – August 21, 2023, 7:00 pm on Pat Power’s Porch
- September 25, 2023 Salad Supper/Business Meeting/Program (6:00 pm/7:00pm/7:30 pm) – St Philip’s Church

AAUW Hastings Board

President -----	Lisa Hedin
VPs Membership -----	Kathy Palmer Jackie Rigelman
VPs Programs -----	Danna Elling Schultz Mary Ellen Fox Becky Gartzke
Secretary -----	Hannah Spaulding
Treasurer -----	Renee Souza Carol Tobin
AAUW Funds -----	Marilyn Tennessen
Book Club -----	Shirley Tammen
Community -----	Margaret Goderstad
Diversity -----	Jaci Cobian
Gadabouts -----	Members
Historian -----	Lisa Hedin
Hospitality -----	Nancy Ahn Darla Kimmes Lois Twedt
NCCWSL -----	Gail Glashan
Newsletter -----	Linda Bindman
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