



### President's Message

*Lisa Hedin*

Election day will be behind us by the time you read this TWIG. Time to look forward. There are interesting, important things happening on a state, federal and global level. Here are a few ways to learn more.

The upcoming State Legislative session could give our state an opportunity to vote on equal rights for all through the adoption of an Equal Rights Amendment. Check out AAUW's partner organization ERAMN.org. Pencil 12 February 2024 10:30 am - 12:00 into your calendar for #Day1forERA at the MN State Capital Rotunda. Fingers crossed for no snow storm this year!

The AAUW national website is a wealth of information about topics related to equality for women and girls. Want to take a break from streaming Virgin River or watching college football and try something a little meatier? Check out the recorded webinars available from AAUW.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/> Topics range from Leave No One Behind: Combatting Global Human Trafficking to Youth Voices for Global Gender Equality: In Conversation with AAUW UN Youth Representatives.

Speaking of the United Nations, are you familiar with the Sustainable Development Goals developed by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs? Until recently I wasn't. Look at their website (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>) to learn more. Goal number 5 is Gender Equality in direct alignment with the work of AAUW.

But let's not forget about home. Our branch will continue to have a great program year, a joyous holiday event (look later in this TWIG for details) and thanks to Pat Powers' connections may be hosting the State Convention in April (details to follow).

Stay well, continue to do good, and count your blessings.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 13 ..... Book Club
- Nov. 27 ..... Meeting & Program
- Dec. 7 ..... Gadabouts
- Dec. 9 ..... Holiday Brunch
- Dec. 11 ..... Book Club

### HASTINGS BRANCH

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

### 2023-2024 PROGRAMS

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

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, 10:00 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

## Program

*Danna Elleng Schultz, Mary Ellen Fox, & Becky Gartzke*

### Forecasting Minnesota's Changeable Weather



Back in the 1980s and '90's some of you may remember a smart and engaging **female** meteorologist on KSTP TV and KS95 FM. That was Karen Filloon and she's our guest speaker for November!

Karen worked in that role in Minnesota from 1982-2003. Taking her passion and knowledge of climate and weather into landscaping, she joined Southview Design in 2008 as a residential landscape designer. She now promotes Southview's landscape designers and architects and their projects. Currently, her work at Southview Design covers marketing, business development, website content manager, and internship mentor.

Karen grew up in Michigan and Florida and moved to Minnesota in 1982. She has a B.S. in Meteorology from Florida State University and an A.A.S. degree from Dakota County Technical College in Landscape Design/Horticulture. She serves on the BATC (Builders Association of the Twin Cities) Workforce Development & Education Committee, promoting trades and raising awareness of the careers available in the construction industry – including Landscape Design/Build.

Karen has also served on NARI (National Association of the Remodeling Industry) Board of Directors for four years, oversight of the NARI Golf Event for five years, and a committee member of the NARI Marketing and Sponsorship Committees.

In her spare time when she's not landscaping or watching the next weather front move in, Karen loves spending time at the cabin.

## Treasurer's Report

*Renee Souza & Carol Tobin*

Our Zoom subscription expenses were paid in October as well as nominal member dues to National and State. We ended the month with a strong balance of \$17,975.72.

## Gadabouts

There's still time to join your fellow AAUW members (Karen Holmquist, Nancy Techam, and Vicki Amundson) on a Honky Tonk Holiday! This event will be at the SideKick Theater in Bloomington on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>! Lunch will be at 11:30am followed by the show at 1:00pm all for \$49. **See the flyer at the end of the TWIG for details.**

## The Holiday Brunch is December 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am

It is time to **sign up** for the holiday brunch! **Details are on the flyer at the end of the TWIG!**

We will also be involved in the Adopt-a-Family program. Our members have been very generous with the Adopt-a-Family donations the last two years, and we plan to adopt another family this year. We will gather donations at the Holiday Brunch. We should receive information for our family soon, so watch for future announcements about how to sign up to provide gifts, etc. for the family.

## Membership

*Kathy Palmer & Jackie Rigelman*

A change in AAUW Dues date has occurred which recently came to the attention of the Membership Committee. This change does not affect most members, only newer members. During 2022-2023, when new members began paying dues, "membership due dates" were extended 1 year past the date dues were paid. Previously, all memberships ended on June 30.

With this change, members joining within the past year will now pay dues at various times during the calendar year. The date on which new members paid dues the first time will be put on their name tags. Hopefully, this will assist the Membership Committee and members in knowing when their yearly dues need to be paid.

Also... congratulations to Diane Saed and Ramona McCullough, who have paid their last AAUW membership dues. Both have been members for 50 years and are Lifetime Members.

## AAUW Hastings Branch to Host the 2024 State Annual Meeting

Hastings has a good venue for the State Annual Meeting with the Confluence Hotel's opening: hotel rooms, meeting space, and food service. The State Board supports our enthusiasm to host. The dates, April 26 for the evening meal and socializing time and April 27 for the business meeting and two speakers. Karen Kirkwood is the State VP of Program and she will be onboard to advise us.

Now I invite you to join the planning committee. Jobs identified by previous host branches include:

- Establish a theme
- Publicity
- Budget and Finance
- Fundraiser for AAUW Funds
- Speakers
- Details on Materials to be handed out
- Convention booklet
- Food choices and timing

Contact Pat Powers if you want to be part of the committee  
651-592-6259  
[Pat.pow01@gmail.com](mailto:Pat.pow01@gmail.com)

### [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](#)

## Web Page

*Cheryl Read*

Accidentally delete your email with the latest directory?

Forget where our meeting is located this month?

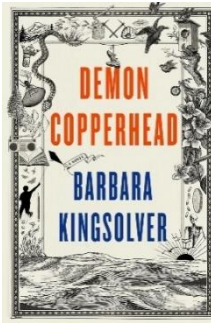
Then, check the website!

Here's the link: <https://hastings-mn.aauw.net/>

## Book Club

*Shirley Tammen*

On Monday, November 13, 1:30pm at the Pleasant



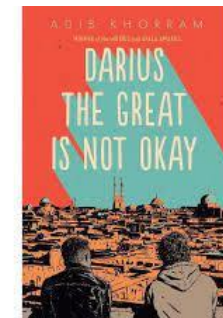
Hill Library, the group will be discussing *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver. This book was the co-recipient of the 2023 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and won the 2023 Women's Prize for Fiction. Kingsolver writes about a boy whom nobody wanted as he struggles through life feeling invisible in the

popular culture of southern Appalachia.

On Monday, December

11th at Pleasant Hill Library the group will be discussing Matt Haig's *The Midnight Library*.

Viscount Harleigh needs no one in his well-ordered life, until he discovers a bundle of joy on his doorstep. Join us for the discussion!



*Darius the Great is Not Okay* by Adib Khorram is the Hastings Reads main selection. Darius Kellner suffers from depression, bullying by high school jocks, and a father who always seems to be disappointed in Darius. The author will be speaking in the evening at

the Hastings Arts Center on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The AAUW Book Group will be discussing *Darius the Great is Not Okay* on Monday, January 8th at 1:30 via the book bag.

The flyers for HR events have not yet been printed.

## Community

*Margaret Goderstad*

### Hastings Arts Center:

- Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am – Catena String Quartet. Free coffee concert
- Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:30pm – Christmas on the Prairie, tickets are required. [Hastings Arts Center Holiday Events](#)
- Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm – A Bluegrass Holiday with Becky Schlegel and the HIGH 48s. Tickets are required. [Hastings Arts Center Holiday Events](#)
- Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am – FluteSpiration Quartet. Free coffee concert

### River Valley Band:

- Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 1:00pm at the Hastings Middle School. The band will play with the 204<sup>th</sup> Army Band from Ft. Snelling

### Orange Dragon Art Gallery:

- Winter Exhibit is November 1st – December 19<sup>th</sup>

### HPAC Gala:

- Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4:30-8:00 at the Hastings Arts Center. Tickets can be bought at [HPAC Gala tickets](#)

### Hastings Area Historical Society:

- Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 12:45pm – Tour of “Fasbender Clinic” a Frank Lloyd Wright – designed building. Meet in the back parking lot
- Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm – Gettysburg Address Ceremony on its 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Oakwood Cemetery. Parking available in the Hastings High School lot.

### Black Dirt Theater:

- Radio Theater on KDWA – Sundays at 8:05pm and Wednesdays at 2:05pm

### Holiday Train:

- December 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:00pm

## Public Policy

*Pat Powers*

Claudia Goldin, Claudia Goldin you are golden. Claudia Goldin is the 2023 Nobel Prize winner in Economic Sciences for advancing the understanding of women’s progress in the work force.

This prize has been given out 93 times and only 2 other women have won. What makes it so special for AAUW is that she has studied 200 years of women’s participation in the workplace and payday equality. It’s the gender gap in the labor market. She explains how women must piece together the family, the home, together with the marketplace and employment.

You have to know the underlying reason for the difference if there is the possibility of policy change that would benefit women, you have to call it by the right name. Claudia looked for the data and applied the data in creative ways to measure the unknowns over time.

It isn’t just the social and economic changes that make the difference for women but also includes the personal decisions that young women make. Getting enough education is important. Marrying later gives young women time to identify who they are outside the home. Many young women are influenced by what their mothers chose to do. Prospects for good jobs may not have been available.

The most recent idea in today’s economy is the earnings difference between men and women are noticeable at the birth of a woman’s first child. There are many reasons why changing the gender gaps in the workplace has been slow. Now policy should address that “we’re never going to have gender equality, or narrow the pay gap, until we have couple’s equity.”

Claudia Goldin is 77, a Harvard professor who lives in Cambridge MA. The Nobel Prize value is \$1 million.

## Diversity

*Jaci Cobian*

November - Celebrating and Giving Thanks for the Diversity of Indigenous Heritage

During the month of November, it is a time of reflection as people all over our globe recognize, celebrate, and give thanks for indigenous communities and their heritage. Celebrating and preserving indigenous heritage is vital for nurturing cultural diversity as well as gaining a true understanding of both the historical and contemporary significance of indigenous communities. Such communities, with unique cultures that encompass their languages, traditional knowledge, customs, arts and crafts, music, and spiritual practices portray many “treasures” that have been handed down for generations - “treasures” that contribute to our culturally rich world.

Indigenous heritage is wonderfully diverse, with each indigenous community sustaining a distinct and deeply rooted culture from the Native American tribes of North America to the Inuit of the Arctic, as well as countless others that span the world. Indigenous communities carry within them traditional knowledge pertaining to unique ways of understanding the natural world or environment, viable practices, and medicinal remedies which benefit all of society. Their knowledge of sustainable environmental practices offers valuable insights into addressing contemporary ecological challenges. Indigenous arts and crafts including basket weaving, painting, pottery, as well as traditional clothing not only display their cultural aesthetics but often tell stories of their history and mythology for all to learn from. Overall, cultural enrichment is attained as indigenous heritage contributes to the world’s cultural diversity.

Despite indigenous heritage being rich and invaluable in nature it does, however, face a range of challenges that can threaten its preservation and vitality. Indigenous communities often possess their own unique languages, many of which are now considered endangered. These languages are now at risk not only as communication tools; but, as instruments of cultural identity and wisdom.

Many indigenous communities also have faced, or continue to face, land disputes which weaken or threaten their bond to ancestral lands and traditional ways of life. This impacts, too, their spiritual beliefs, practices, and rituals that are intimately connected to their land and environment. Indigenous communities often have increased rates of poverty along with lower access to education and healthcare needs, as well as more limited economic opportunities. With the advancement of Western culture, urbanization, and globalization a cultural erosion of indigenous traditions and languages has evolved.

As we celebrate and show thanks for the diversity of Indigenous Heritage, recognizing and respecting it is an important step toward addressing historical injustices, land rights, and socio-economic disparities. By engaging with indigenous cultures, we have the opportunity through cultural exchange to learn from their unique perspectives and experiences. We can take on our responsibility to ensure the preservation and celebration of these invaluable legacies to create a more diverse, inclusive, and culturally rich world. Through such means we are promoting a greater understanding and tolerance for cultural diversity, in addition to enriching our collective understanding of being human.

Here are some resources for gaining an enhanced understanding of Indigenous Heritage:

1. Cultural Survival:  
Website: Cultural Survival  
[www.culturalsurvival.org](http://www.culturalsurvival.org)  
Note: Click on “Indigenous Woman and Youth” Section for your review.
2. International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs  
Website: IWAGIA <https://iwagia.org>
3. National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)  
Website: NCAI <https://www.ncai.org>
4. Indigenous Heritage - Telling All Americans’ Stories  
Website: National Park Service  
<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/indigenouheritage>

## Secretary

*Hannah Spaulding*

### AAUW Board Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2023, 7:00 pm

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

1. Call to Order at 7:00pm. Approximately 50 attendees in the room, 6 on Zoom.
  2. September 25, 2023, Business meetings minutes as published in the TWIG approved – motion Pat Powers, second Patty Wilson.
  3. Treasure's Report (Renee Souza) – Trend of branch financial strength is positive. Acknowledged that many members have made individual contributions to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund and challenged the support to continue and grow. Treasure's Report YTD through September as included in the meeting notice approved – motion Betty Hoeschen, second Glenda Schnirring
  4. 2023-24 Scholarship Proposal – Based on the fundraising success YTD the board is considering a revision to the 2023-24 Budget to increase the number and value of scholarships given. \$2,500 HS Academic scholarship (increase from \$2,000), 2-\$1,000 HS non-traditional field scholarship (increase from 1), 2-\$600 NCWSSL (increase from 1) and \$500 to Hastings Reads (increase from \$300). This proposal was initially shared with membership in the October TWIG and Board action is anticipated on November 6, 2023, to allow HS scholarship documents to be completed on time. Note this is a single year commitment and does not commit the Branch to maintain this level of giving in the future. Please contact Lisa Hedin to share feedback on the proposed budget revision.
  5. Committee/Activity Reports
    - a. Membership (Jackie Rigelman) – Per changes at National, membership renewal dates will be linked to the date of initial membership payment, and not program year. This will not affect most existing members of Hastings Branch. Ramona McCullough and Diane Saed have both reached the Lifetime membership level. After 50 years of paying dues, they are both now exempt from any dues requirements!
  - b. Programs (Danna Elling Schultz) – Note that the December Brunch is at 10:30 AM, not PM as printed on the bookmark! Ugh!
  - c. December Holiday Brunch – A planning committee has been identified, and information will be provided to get them started. (Remember AM not PM!)
  - d. Public Policy (Pat Powers) – VOTE! The most recent Nobel Prize in Economics was given to Claudia Goldin, recognizing her work on why women earn so much less than men. (Freakonomics Radia has a podcast with Claudia Golding that was taped in 2016 and re-released upon her Nobel recognition. Listen wherever you get your podcasts.)
  - e. Gad-About (Nancy Techam) – Clipboard was passed around for Honky-Tonk Holiday event on December 7.
  - f. Book Club (Cindy Toppin) – Cindy gave the Book Club update, as Shirley Tammen was at the Friends of the Peasant Hill Library receiving the Volunteer of the Year Award. Book for November 13<sup>th</sup> is Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver (start reading now, it is quite long) and for December 11<sup>th</sup> the book is The Midnight Library by Matt Haig.
  - g. Community (Margaret Goderstad) – Margaret joined from home on Zoom! Read the TWIG for info on upcoming community events. The Power Boy at MN History Theater was also called out by Dorothy Sandahl. Julia Lyon also shared that AAUW-St Paul host weekly meetings on Tuesdays with 2 speakers bracketing a luncheon. Gad-Abouts anyone?
6. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm. Motion Cindy Toppin, second Betty Herman.
- Program - Perspectives on Women in Law Enforcement Hennepin County Sheriff Dawanna S. Witt

## Historian

*Lisa Hedin*

Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party



## AAUW Hastings Board

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| President -----      | Lisa Hedin  |
| VPs Membership ----- | Kathy Palmer<br>Jackie Rigelman                         |
| VPs Programs -----   | Danna Elling Schultz<br>Mary Ellen Fox<br>Becky Gartzke |
| Secretary -----      | Hannah Spaulding  |
| Treasurer -----      | Renee Souza<br>Carol Tobin                              |
| AAUW Funds -----     | Marilyn Tennesen  |
| Book Club -----      | Shirley Tammen  |
| Community -----      | Margaret Goderstad                                      |
| Diversity -----      | Jaci Cobian   |
| Gadabouts -----      | Members   |
| Historian -----      | Lisa Hedin  |
| Hospitality -----    | Nancy Ahn<br>Darla Kimmes<br>Lois Twedt                 |
| NCCWSL -----         | Gail Glashan  |
| Newsletter -----     | Linda Bindman   |
| Public Policy -----  | Pat Powers  |
| Fundraising -----    | Ceil Strauss  |
| Web Page -----       | Cheryl Read   |



***Join us at 10:00 am at the Hastings Golf Club***

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Saturday

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9

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December

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Please make your **\$30** check payable to **AAUW Hastings** and mail to Jody Rudh 2337 Brooke Lane Hastings, MN 55033 or Venmo @ Jody-Rudh by **December 1**.

*Our branch will once again participate in Hastings Family Service Project Share 'Adopt a Family' Look for more information in the Twig.*



Sidekick Theater  
11411 Masonic Home Dr.  
Bloomington



“Tis the season for a hootenanny! Celebrate the most wonderful time of the year with this funny, heartwarming musical extravaganza. It’s the perfect way to treat yourself this holiday season. Whether you enjoy good old-fashioned country Christmas songs or you like contemporary holiday tunes with a distinctly Nashville twist, you won’t want to miss out on the Honky Tonk Holiday!

Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup>  
Lunch 11:30 AM Show 1:00 PM  
\$49

Cranberry Chicken Breast, Cheesy, Potatoes, Green Bean Almondine, Winter Salad, Dinner Rolls, Assorted Desserts -, Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and Hot Tea (Special dietary meals available by request ahead of time.

Contact: [karen.holmquist49@gmail.com](mailto:karen.holmquist49@gmail.com) (checks to Karen Holmquist, postdate Nov.15 1024 Aston Circle, Burnsville, MN 55337)

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