



## President's Message

*Lisa Hedin*

With the whirlwind that was April and heading into May, another AAUW Hastings Program year is coming to an end. What a fabulous year it has been. Let's take a minute to remember and acknowledge our successes.

- Membership continues to be strong – 103 as of the writing of this message!
- Fundraising was successful, engaging and fun!!!
  - Rivertown Days Book Sale was a blast, and thanks to a team effort we worked around mother nature!
  - Wine Soiree' III was again an unparalleled success both financially and for fellowship.
  - Member book sale has yet to happen, but how can it be anything but successful given our track record. Book group leadership is in transition, and no one is surprised that it's taking 3 people to fill the role previously held by Shirley Tammen.
  - Support for Project Share through Hastings Family Service grows stronger every year with our branch getting gifts for two large families and making an additional cash contribution.
- Programs were mission focused and well attended! Our technology capability continues to grow.
- Scholarship and student recognition is strong. AAUW Hastings increased the value of all three high school scholarships. We are sending two female college leaders (both Hastings HS graduates) to NCCWSL to support their development. Our branch successfully endorsed a Hastings HS senior for the AAUW of Minnesota Young Women for Equity grant.
- In partnership with AAUW Red Wing a Hastings delegation traveled to the first day of the legislative session and lobbied for ERA MN.
- Last; but not least, we co-hosted the AAUW of Minnesota State Annual meeting at The Confluence. It was an unparalleled success, and yet again demonstrated that there is nothing that our branch cannot accomplish and with a flare!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 13 .....Book Club
- May 20 ..... Meeting & Program
- July 8 ..... Book Club
- July 19-21 ..... Rivertown Days
- August 8 ..... Wine Soirée
- August 12 ..... 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. Retu Saxena

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

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

May 20, 7:00 pm      Book Sale  
**Learning About Dementia**  
 Colleen Fritsch

As we look towards the summer and next program year let's use our momentum for continued growth through partnerships and advocacy. Our future is bright!

Hope to see you all this summer at AAUW book group, Rivertown Days Book Sale, Wine Soiree IV or any of the other great community events in Hastings that AAUW Hastings members support.

I want to thank all of you for your support during my time as President of our branch. I enjoyed working in common purpose with such a strong community of women and men. Please take a minute to thank Kathy Palmer, Jackie Rigelman, and Hannah Spaulding as their terms on the board also come to an end. Welcome Becky Arenivar, Linda Ferris, Jody Rudh and Dorothy Sandahl as they begin their terms on the board. The success of our branch is founded in our members' willingness to serve each other and the mission.

Stay well and continue to do good.

### **Help Wanted – Diversity and Community Coordinators**

A couple of our activity coordinators are going to be stepping aside, which creates opportunities for you to get more involved with Hastings AAUW! We are looking for Diversity and Community activity leads. Both these positions offer a lot of flexibility. In both roles the activity lead researches and prepares monthly articles for the TWIG, highlights events at monthly meetings, and is invited to attend monthly board meetings (via Zoom). Please reach out to Lisa Hedin, [lmhedin@yahoo.com](mailto:lmhedin@yahoo.com), if you are interested or would like more information

### **[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/>

## **Program**

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

### **Learning About Dementia**



On May 20<sup>th</sup>, Colleen Fritsch will help us learn about dementia, and teach us helpful strategies to use when interacting with someone living with dementia. Colleen Fritsch has spent the last two decades of her

career in aging services. She has worked to engage community members in understanding, engaging with, and supporting the older adults in our communities. As part of this work, nine years ago Colleen became trained as a Dementia Friend Champion, helping Minnesota become a Dementia Friendly state. She has become a Dementia Friends Master Trainer, and has helped train other Champions across the country to make this a Dementia Friendly USA.

Dementia Friends... is a global movement that is striving to create more dementia friendly communities by changing the way people think, act, and talk about dementia. Developed by the Alzheimer's Society in the United Kingdom, Dementia Friends is underway in Minnesota and across the United States. By helping everyone in a community understand what dementia is and how it affects people, each of us can make a difference for someone living with dementia.

### **A message from our Program VP's:**

Do you have program ideas for next year? If so, please send those ideas to one of us!

Danna [dannaelling@hotmail.com](mailto:dannaelling@hotmail.com)

Mary Ellen [emeefox@gmail.com](mailto:emeefox@gmail.com)

Becky [bgartzke19@gmail.com](mailto:bgartzke19@gmail.com)

## **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**

We are pleased to announce that Linda Ferris and Jody Rudh have agreed to take the positions of AAUW Hastings Membership Co-Chairs for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2024. We know that they will do a fantastic job.

Currently, 28 members with a renewal date of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 have paid dues. You should have recently received an email dues reminder from AAUW National that gives directions for paying dues online at [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org). Renee Souza and Carol Tobin will also bring computers to the May AAUW Hastings meeting so that they can help members who would like assistance with paying their dues online. Another option for paying dues at the May meeting is by check or use of a credit card. Checks for \$103 written out to AAUW Hastings can also be mailed to either of the treasurers:

Carol Tobin	Renee Souza
240 <sup>th</sup> St. E.	4980
Hampton, MN 55031	874 Bahls Drive
	Hastings, MN 55033

## Book Club

**Shirley Tammen, Cindy Toppin, Ann Johnson, & Linda Bindman**



On May 13<sup>th</sup>, we will be discussing *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. A story of love and hope as interweaving characters display how all moments, big and small, can measure a life. The story begins with people around the world opening their front doors and finding a box with the message,

“The measure of your life lies within.”  
Please join us; all are welcome!

### Summer Meetings:

We will take a break in June but we will meet on July 8<sup>th</sup> and August 12<sup>th</sup> down by the river (east end of Levee Park, near the train bridge) at 1:30pm. Bring your lawn chair.

If it is raining, we will meet in the library. July’s book selection is *The Mystery Guest* by Nita Prose. This is the second book in the Molly the Maid series. We have not picked a book for August yet. If you are interested in more details, contact Linda Bindman (651-210-8428), Cindy Toppin (651-353-7143), or Ann Johnson (651-437-7168).

### Member Book Sale May 20

We will have our member book sale before and after our Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> general meeting. This is our fundraiser for the annual Hastings Reads programs in February. We will be selling those used books that you are ready to get rid of. We prefer current books as they sell better. Prices are \$1.00 for paperbacks and \$2.00 for hardcovers. Any books left over will be sold at AAUW’s Rivertown Days book sale.

Please bring your books to St. Philips any time after 1:00pm on May 20<sup>th</sup>, I (Linda) will be there to collect and sort your books. If you are not able to bring your books on the 20<sup>th</sup>, then:

1. Bring them to our May 13<sup>th</sup> book club meeting and I will take them
2. Drop them off on Cindy Toppin’s front porch (409 W. 7<sup>th</sup> St.) during the week before
3. Give me a call (651-210-8428) and I will pick them up at your place

### Thank you Shirley!



The book group has met for over 40 years under the able leadership of Shirley Tammen. She has helped select the books, reserved the room, found the discussion questions, put together a summer book list, helped run the May book sale, represented us on the Hastings Reads

committee and so much more. It is going to take three of us to fill her shoes. At the Spring Social we were thrilled to recognize her for all her efforts.

## Wine Soirée IV

Wine Soirée IV is scheduled for **Thursday, August 8, 2024 at 5:30 pm** at the Hastings Public House.

This year's theme is  
**'A Taste of Tuscany'**

*So... pack your bags and get ready for an amazing evening!*

Plan to take home your own little piece of Tuscany by participating in a **Wine Pull!** Guests purchase a cork for \$10. Each cork matches a bottle of wine that guests take home.

**Like last year – we need your wine donations! Please bring your wine donation to May's AAUW Meeting or drop off your bottle at Jody Rudh's - 2337 Brooke Ln, Hastings, MN 55033**

Also, back by popular demand we will host amazing **Raffle Prizes!** Raffles include Hastings community experiences! Wining, dining and other unique local experiences!

NEW this year guests will participate in a **Dessert Dash!** Your table will 'bid' on a dessert for the table! Will it be Tiramisu, a Flourless Chocolate Cake, or an Ice Cream Cake? It is bound to be amazing and some added excitement too!

**Proceeds go to AAUW Hastings Scholarship fund.** Reserve your spot today for \$75, starting July 25<sup>th</sup> \$85.

Join in the FUN...add August 8 to your calendar and register TODAY by scanning the QR code!

**There is a flyer at the end of the TWIG with all of the info, the QR code, and a registration form. Reserve your spot!**

## Treasurer

*Renee Souza and Carol Tobin*

With the State Annual Meeting happening little activity was happening on our local chapter's finance arena.

We had lots of membership renewal activity and that will be more reflected in our May budget.

While our NCCWSL checks are off to scholarship recipients we await more activity there as well.

We're preparing for the upcoming book sale and more membership activity ramping up!

We did receive a gracious \$200 donation for the Greatest Needs Fund from Smead for the Silent Auction for the Annual Meeting – much thanks to Gail Glashan.

And congratulations again on the very successful Silent Auction included during the annual meeting; while outside of finances transactions it was extremely well received and incredibly successful!

## Community

*Margaret Goderstad*

### Hastings Arts Center:

- Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm – Monroe Crossing, reservations are required

### Black Dirt Theatre:

- "Cinderella, The Musical," July 26<sup>th</sup> – August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Orange Dragon Art Gallery:

- Spring exhibit May 3 – June 2. Open Wednesday through Sunday 11:00am – 5:30pm

### The LeDuc Historic Estate:

- Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 8:00am – 2:00pm – Rhubarb Festival – rhubarb, recipes, and baked goods available. Simmons Shed Sale will be open for purchasing "treasures."
- Tour season open May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### First Downtown Car Show:

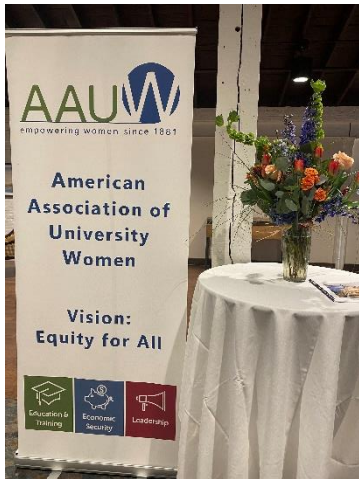
- May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### River Valley Chorale:

- Watch all media for exciting announcements

## AAUW State Convention

*Cindy Toppin*



The Hastings branch of AAUW (American Association of University Women) hosted the AAUW of **Minnesota State Conference at the Confluence Hotel** this past weekend. The theme of the conference was **Confluence: Inclusion, Collaboration, and Empowerment.**

Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan, just named by USA Today as the Minnesota Woman of the year, spoke to the conference attendees. In addition to a number of keynote speakers, a panel of women entrepreneurs from Hastings highlighted the joys and challenges of being a female business owner. Panelists included: Jen Fox of Spiral Brewery, Barb Hollenbeck of SC Toys, Rachel Allgor of Journey Audiology and Hearing Center, Sarah Lawrence of Muse 2320 Fiber Co., and Nicole Mariska Sindelar of Hastings Golf Club. Jan Hertel was the able moderator.

Britta Johnson, recipient of our AAUW Scholarship and a NCCWSL scholarship (and the daughter of Pam Pontzer) also spoke to the participants about her experiences.

### By the numbers:

125 women registered for the conference  
Over 30 came from our Hastings Branch  
39 stayed overnight at the Confluence  
25 people toured the historic City Hall  
13 volunteers plus 10 committee members made it all happen (Committee members included: Pat Powers, Linda Ferris, Linda Bindman, Julie Hicks, Patty Wilson, Marilyn Tennesen, Cindy Toppin, Jan Junkman, Jackie Rigelman, Gail Glashan, Lisa DeRoy, Betty Hoeschen, Lisa Hedin, Dorothy Sandahl. Renee Souza was not on the committee but spent countless hours on registration lists and payments).

Feedback was very positive; one comment was: "Can we come back to Hastings and the Confluence again next year?"

Thanks to everyone for their support of this major effort!

There are more pictures from the convention at the end of the TWIG. Thank you to Lisa Hedin, Cindy Toppin, and Marilyn Tennesen for sending pictures.

## Historian

*Lisa Hedin*



Rivertown Days book sale 2021

By Briana Bierschbach Star Tribune | MAY 6, 2024 — 12:59PM



RICHARD TSONG-TAATARI, STAR TRIBUNE  
Protesters on both sides of the issue gather outside the Senate chambers after an

At the Capitol May 2024

## **NCCWSL**

*Gail Glashan*

Meet Ashley Caballero and Alyssa Nestingen!

Ashley and Alyssa are our AAUW Hastings Branch 2024 NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) scholarship recipients.

Ashley will be a junior, fall 2024, at Concordia University, St. Paul, and has always wanted to be a doctor. She is fluent in Spanish and English and grew up in an immigrant family, always asking questions, taking initiative and working harder than other kids in her class. With her parents love and support, they taught her she was determined for great things. Ashley is pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology, expected date earned 2025.

Alyssa will be a sophomore, fall 2024, at Fordham University, Gabelli School of Business. She has a passion for the law and a desire to help others. She is pursuing a career as an attorney, Bachelor of Science, (Business Administration | Business Law and Ethics) expected May 2027. Alyssa feels her open-mindedness and desire to learn will help her embrace everything that NCCWSL has to offer, from workshops and educational panels to mentorship and activism.

Dare to be!

AAUW invites college women from around the country. For leadership training, inspiration and networking at our National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) University of Maryland, College Park, May 30–June 1, 2024.

Click on this link to view the Workshops, Panels and Agenda that will be offered to the attendees.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/events/nccwsl/>

~AAUW Hastings Branch NCCWSL Committee~

## **Title IX is 52 years old**

Patsy Cline, author and cosponsor of Title IX, was the first woman of color elected to the United States Congress.

The article at the end of the TWIG was posted on the Dakota County internal employee website as part of celebrating Women's History Month in March.

Thank you, Lisa West, for sharing it with us!

## **Secretary**

*Hannah Spaulding*

AAUW HASTING ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA  
April 22, 2024

Location: In-Person at the Hastings Public House (68 attendees) and Zoom

1. (7:00 pm) Call to Order/President's Message
  - a. Read your TWIG – Minimal Committee Reports tonight.
  - b. VOTE on the National By-laws question
  - c. Turn in ideas for next year's programs.
2. (7:02 pm) Approve March 2024 Business meeting minutes (in TWIG)  
April TWIG had the March business minutes. Dorothy Sandahl motions, seconded by Kathy O'Keefe. Unanimous approval.
3. (7:05 pm) Treasurer's Report (Renee Souza and Carol Tobin)
  - a. Approve Year to Date (Thru March 2024) Report  
Lisa West motions, Becky Gartzke seconds.
4. (7:08 pm) State Annual Meeting Update (Cindy Toppin)  
125 people coming this weekend, over 30 people coming from Hastings! We still need a couple of volunteers – Gail has a clipboard, please consider signing up. Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan is coming! Huge shoutout to Pat Powers to spearhead this effort and all others who have helped. Your time and attention to detail is much appreciated!

5. Book Club Leader Recognition (Cindy Toppin)  
 Shirley Tamman has been leading the Book Club for over 50 years! She has selected books, helped find the discussion questions, helped run the book sales. We would like to present a gift for all your dedication and hard work!

6. Honorary Lifetime Members (Kathy Palmer and Jackie Rigelman)  
 a. Tonight we are honoring new lifetime members Ann Johnson and Pat Schultz who joined in 1974!  
 b. Acknowledge Prior – Ramona McCullough and Diane Saed; both joined in 1973. Shirley Tamman is our longest standing member and joined in 1958.

7. Annual Business Work  
 a. Consider 2024-25 Budget  
 Motions to adopt 2024-25 Budget – Julie Hicks firsts, Marjorie Peterson seconds. Motion carries.  
 b. Consider incoming President, VP's of Membership and Secretary  
 i. Nominating Committee Candidates  
 1. President – Dorothy Sandahl  
 2. Vice Presidents of Membership – Linda Ferris and Jody Rudh  
 3. Secretary – Becky Arenivar  
 No additional nominations brought forth at the meeting – Rachel Algor motions, Betty Heschen seconds. Motion carries. Thank you to everyone who served on the nominating committee!

8. Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.

Upcoming Events:

April 26-27 – 95th AAUW of Minnesota Annual Meeting at The Confluence  
 May 6, 7:00 pm – Board Meeting via Zoom  
 May 13, 1:30 pm – Book Group at Pleasant Hill Library; *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick  
 May 15 – National Bylaws vote ends.  
 May 20 –7:00 pm/7:30 pm – Business Meeting and Program: *Title IX Impact on Athletes and Sports at the Collegiate Level*, Vicki Davis

**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
Treasurers -----	Renee Souza Carol Tobin
AAUW Funds -----	Marilyn Tennesen
Book Club -----	Shirley Tamman
Community -----	Margaret Goderstad
Diversity -----	Jaci Cobian
Gadabouts -----	Members
Historian -----	Lisa Hedin
Hospitality -----	Nancy Ahn Darla Kimmes Lois Twedt
NCCWSL -----	Gail Glashan
Newsletter -----	Linda Bindman
Public Policy -----	Pat Powers
Fundraising -----	Ceil Strauss
Web Page -----	Cheryl Read

**American Association of University Women (AAUW) Wine Soirée IV**

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**SCAN QR CODE ABOVE OR MAIL IN REGISTRATION FORM**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

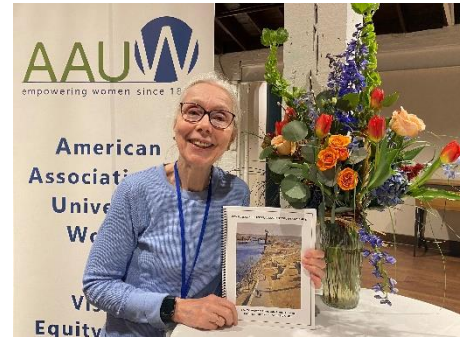
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Total attending-Price \$75 per person \_\_\_\_\_ Starting July 25th-\$85 per person \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to: Julie Larson 1019 Zweber Ln, Hastings, MN 55033

- Sending check made out to AAUW
- Sending Venmo @Julie-Larson-22





## A fearless politician who fought for gender equity

Patsy Mink is an influential and celebrated figure in women's history. Born on Dec. 6, 1927, in Paia, Hawaii, Mink made significant contributions as a trailblazing Asian American woman in the field of politics. As the first woman of color elected to the United States Congress, she dedicated her life to fighting for equality, education and social justice.



Patsy Mink

Mink's greatest achievement came in 1972 when she authored and co-sponsored Title IX, a landmark legislation that prohibits gender discrimination in educational institutions receiving federal funding. Her determined efforts revolutionized access to education for women and girls. It opened doors to countless opportunities and breaking down gender barriers.

Throughout her impressive career, Mink fought for civil rights, affordable health care and environmental preservation. Her unwavering commitment to justice and fairness continues to serve as an inspiration to women and advocates around the world.

In recognition of her invaluable contributions, Mink was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2014. Her indomitable spirit and dedication to championing women's rights serve as a reminder of the power of activism and the importance of creating a more equitable world for all.