



Hastings Branch

February 2015



President's Message

Pam Pontzer

This is hot off the press from AAUW. Each year, the Legal Advocacy Fund Case Support Travel Grant provides funding to bring LAF plaintiffs, advocates, and experts to speak at AAUW state conventions across the country. This spring, six states will welcome LAF speakers at their conventions or annual meetings: AAUW of Florida, AAUW of Illinois, AAUW of MINNESOTA, AAUW of New Jersey, AAUW of New York and AAUW of Oregon! I have been unable to determine who will be speaking. However I can say that presentations by the Legal Advocacy Fund are stellar. Now, in addition to watching the Spamettes swan song performance, you have yet another reason to attend the State Convention!

Where is the best place in the world to be a woman? The World Economic Forum recently released their 2014 Global Gender Gap Report which ranks 142 countries. The report breaks down categories such as political representation, the pay gap, and health. This study concludes that it will take 81 years, at the current rate, to close gender gaps in the workplace globally. The top 5 countries are Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark. This lineup bodes well for Minnesota with its' strong Scandinavian heritage. The United States, alas, came in at number 20.

It is time to think of program ideas for 2015/2016. Come to the March meeting with suggestions for programs and/or speakers that you would like us to pursue. Your ideas will be compiled into a survey that will be handed out and voted on at the Spring Social in April.

Program

Pat Schultz & Ann Skoglund

February 23

Children in Child Protection - Why Should You Care?

Join us for our February program - Child Protection services have been in the news a lot this year.

Cindy Toppin, former VP of Programs at Lifetrack, has worked with Child Protection for years. Lifetrack has the only therapeutic preschool in Ramsey County for children who have experienced abuse or neglect. Cindy served for 10 years on the Ramsey County Citizen's Review Panel, which provided oversight and review of Child Protection services. The Governor's Task Force on Child Protection recommendations will be discussed. Come learn what trauma means for a young child and how it affects their entire life in terms of health and school success.

Theresa Gomez, Director of Metro Alliance for Healthy Families, a 9 county collaborative, will share the success of their highly effective home visiting services in intervening early with high risk families. Early intervention prevents costly services down the line. There is no better investment than making sure infants and toddler are safe and have nurturing early experiences that build a strong foundation for the architecture of their brains.

Treasurer's Report

Nancy Techam

The checking account balance as of January 31, 2015 is \$3,186.28. The major payment made in January was to the University of Minnesota Morris for \$2,000.00 as our 2014 scholarship recipient as she successfully completed fall semester.

Upcoming Events

February 9	Book Club
February 19	Gad-Abouts
February 23	General Meeting
March 9	Book Club

Hastings Branch

2014-2015 PROGRAMS

September 22 — Salad Supper
Hastings as a Destination: Looking Back, Moving Forward
Cynthia Messer, U of M Tourism Center
Co-Creator TPT Minnesota Tourism Special

October 27
Financial Advice for Women
Suzann Brown, Wealth Management Advisor

November 24
An Evening with F. Scott Fitzgerald
David Page, Inver Hills Community College

December 15
A Holiday Social
at the LeDuc Mansion

January 26 — Chili Supper
Trauma/Adverse Childhood Experiences
Sheri Fox, M.A., R.N.

February 23
Children In Child Protection — Why Should I Care?
Cindy Toppin and Theresa Gomez,
Metro Alliance for Healthy Families

March 23
Refugees in Minnesota
Laura Svoboda, Resettlement Director for Arrive Ministries (formerly World Relief)

April 27 — Spring Social at Bella Vista Restaurant
"I'm New at Being Old!"
Lucy Rose Fischer, Author and Artist

May 18
"Cooking Up the Good Life"
Jenny Breen, Chef and Author

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

Secretary

Lisa West

AAUW HASTINGS BRANCH - GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

January 26, 2015

PRESIDENT: Pam Pontzer. Pam called the business meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., welcoming 60 members and guests. Pam thanked Board members for providing the chili supper and members who contributed desserts. Pam also acknowledged Mary Ellen Olson and Laura Leak for organizing a terrific holiday social at the LeDuc. Pam announced the exciting news that we received 10 inquiries about the NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) scholarship opportunity and 6 outstanding, completed applications. Pam informed members that she is preparing a Branch Project Grant proposal to submit to AAUW MN, requesting \$100 to initiate working with the newly formed high school Feminist Club. She intends to meet with club advisor, Kari Jaeger, next week for her input on the grant application. Kari was thrilled to learn that some AAUW Hastings Branch members are willing to speak to the group about their experiences in academics and the working world. AAUW MN asked that the following information be passed along to Hastings members: 1) The Red Wing Branch is offering the film, "Anita, Speaking Truth to Power" on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, with a discussion following the film. The film showing location is Twin Bluff Middle School, 2120 Twin Bluff Road in Red Wing. The film is free but tickets are required and can be obtained from the Red Wing Public Library. 2) The AAUW National Convention is in San Diego, June 18-21. AAUW MN Board President, Sharon Bigot would like to know if anyone from Minnesota is going, so she can facilitate roommates and a possible Minnesota member gathering. 3) The AAUW MN State Convention is in Austin, Minnesota, April 10 and 11. The Winter Pine publication, mailed to all members, contains convention information and a registration form. Pam mentioned that our Branch received a thank you note from the Hastings Prescott Area Arts Council for donating the mosaics our members created last spring. Fundraiser bidding was high on all four and Pam purchased one! The January 13, Wall Street Journal featured an article containing positive news for women in the business world. The article, entitled "Changes Ahead for Women on Boards," noted that in 2009, only 18% of new corporate board members were women, while last year, the number rose to 29%. The number of Fortune 500 companies with no women on their boards dropped from 25 to 18, suggesting that it is no longer acceptable to have zero women board members. Another interesting fact noted was that the Twitter, Inc. board was all male at the time of its initial public offering, which drew widespread criticism. The following month, the social media company added a woman. Women are moving, albeit slowly, into corporate governing positions. And finally, Pam noted that her daughter was writing a paper for school and came across an article entitled "Why Failure is the Key to Success for Women." Pam shared this excerpt from the article, "What do confidence and innovation have in common? They can't be learned without making mistakes. Acquiring them without going through failure is not an option. Failure often hurts, but as Lawrence of Arabia said (in the movie at least), the trick is not minding that it hurts and swimming back through the swell to try again. Women seem less eager to do this. What is innovation, after all, but failing to solve a problem a little less badly each time? The article ends, "So here's a suggestion. Go forth, ladies and louse up. Muff it. Make a blunder. Botch it up royally. Make a complete balls of it. The guys do it all the time. Just before they get promoted."

SECRETARY: Lisa West. Lisa submitted meeting minutes from the November 24, 2014, general meeting that were published in the Twig.

Motion by Glenda Schnirring, and seconded by Pat Hanson, to approve the general meeting minutes, as printed in the Twig. The motion was unanimously approved.

TREASURER: Nancy Techam. Nancy reported the month end checking account balance of \$3,327. Nancy stated that all major expenses have been paid for the year.

Motion Cindy Toppin, and seconded by Betty Hoeschen to approve the January Treasurer's Report. He motion was unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP: Janet Grove and Pat Hanson. Janet and Pat reported that we have 95 paid members, and introduced new member, Jeanne Loesch. Several guests in attendance were also recognized.

PROGRAMS: Pat Schultz and Ann Skoglund. Pat and Ann noted that next month's program event is entitled, "Children in Child Protection – Why Should I Care?" presented by member, Cindy Toppin, and Theresa Gomez with Metro Alliance for Healthy Families. The March program will be "Refugees in Minnesota" presented by Laura Svoboda, Resettlement Director with Arrive Ministries. The annual Spring Social will be at the Onion Grille on April 27 at 6:00 p.m., featuring speaker, author/artist, Lucy Rose Fischer, whose presentation is entitled, "I'm New at Being Old."

GAD-ABOUTS: Jane Driscoll and Joann Bergman. Jane informed members of the next two Gad-Abouts events: January 28 – lunch at the Onion Grille and shopping downtown Hastings (or another beverage and socializing at the Onion Grille); and February 19 – the Minnesota History Theater production of "God Girl." Members will carpool leaving at 9:00

a.m. for a 10:00 a.m. performance. Twelve members are needed to ensure the \$20.00 discounted rate.

BOOK CLUB: Shirley Tammen. Shirley noted the February 9, Book Club discussion will be of the book, "Tender is the Night," by F. Scott Fitzgerald, hosted by Elaine Wilbur. Shirley mentioned that the upcoming Hastings Reads event flyers could be picked up out at the table where the name tags are located. Also, the Friends of the Library Book Sale is scheduled for February 20 – 22.

PUBLIC POLICY: Pat Powers. Pat did not present a report, but noted the receipt of a thank you note from the Lewis House for the generosity of AAUW Hastings and the donations collected at the December Holiday Social.

AAUW FUNDS: Jan Junkman. Pam Pontzer noted that the Board approved altering the high school scholarship criteria to require intent to attend at least a 2-year college, versus the existing 4-year college requirement. Gail Glashan summarized the NCCWSL application process the Hastings Branch has conducted. One thousand young women will attend the NCCWSL at the University of Maryland from May 28 through 30, 2015. This is the 30th anniversary of NCCWSL. There were seven ads in the Hastings Branch requesting applications, coupled with other attempts to solicit applications, yielded ten inquiries and six final applications. The Hastings Branch will contribute a \$350 scholarship to hopefully be matched by one of eleven \$500 scholarships from AAUW MN. The blind applications were reviewed by the committee formed to address this opportunity, and first- and second-choice candidates were selected. We will be attempting to send both candidates if at all possible.

COMMUNITY: Margaret Goderstad. Margaret informed members that there will be a Valentine's Day Tea at the LeDuc on Friday, February 14 at 3:30 p.m.; registration is required through Community Education. On February 22, the Sunday afternoon presentation will be "The Lincoln's Come to Visit."

GARAGE SALE: Kathy O'Keefe. Kathy encouraged members to begin setting aside items for the annual September Garage Sale, and to please price those items before bringing them to the sale. She provided price lists for members who want to get started early!

ADJOURN

Motion by Nancy Techam, and seconded by Cindy Toppin to adjourn the business meeting. The business meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 7:36 p.m.

Ann Skoglund introduced the evening's speaker, Hastings resident Sheri (Zuzek) Fox, R.N., who recently received her Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from St. Mary's University. The topic for the evening presentation was "Adverse Childhood Experiences."

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa West, Secretary

Gad-Abouts

Jane Driscoll & Joann Bergman

Joann Bergman ([651-319-0272](tel:651-319-0272)) & Jane Driscoll ([651-437-6802](tel:651-437-6802))

On **Thursday February 19th**, we are going back to the **History Theatre** to see a new play **God Girl**. As the Theatre write-up states: "The war in Vietnam is over – the women's liberation is in full swing – and a bright, spirited 1975 Macalester graduate is determined to change the world. See what happens when she joins the first large group of audacious women seeking the Master of Divinity degree from an elite Ivy League seminary. Minnesota playwright Kristine Holmgren is a Presbyterian pastor and former *Star Tribune* columnist. Her new play explores the hard work, humor, and heartbreak experienced by the first brave women who dared smash the stained glass ceiling of Protestantism."

Tickets have been ordered for those who signed up at the January meeting. However, if anyone else is interested, Please contact Jane ASAP (437-6802) as additional tickets could possibly be reserved. Tickets are \$20. Anyone who is going, please meet in the Sterling parking lot (across from SA). We will be **leaving at 9:00** for a 10:00 performance. Following the play we will be lunching at the Downtowner Woodfire Grille.

In **March** or **early April**, we are planning to go to the **Minneapolis Institute of Art** to view the **Hapsburg Exhibit**. Final arrangements are pending.

Program

Pat Schultz & Ann Skoglund

We Need Your Good Ideas! In keeping with our branch tradition, each member will have an opportunity at the Spring Social on April 27 to identify favorite program ideas from a list of possibilities for the 2015-16 program year. We'd like that list to be full of tempting options. For that, we need your help! Is there a subject that we should investigate? Is there a topic you'd like to learn more about? Have you heard a speaker who inspired you? Do you know a local author, artist, or community member who you think would make an interesting presentation?

Please share your good ideas with us! We will be very grateful for your help!

Pat Schultz pmschultz400@yahoo.com 437-5959

Ann Skoglund ann.skoglund@gmail.com 437-2724

Book Club

Shirley Tammen

Tender is the Night by F. Scott Fitzgerald has been selected for Monday, February 9. Published in 1934, the novel is set on the French Riviera in the late 1920's. Tender is the Night is the tragic romance of a young actress and an American psychiatrist and his wealthy wife. Elaine Wilbur will host this book club event.

The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates by Wes Moore will be discussed at the Monday, March 9 meeting. A fascinating non-fiction look at the lives of two Wes Moore's whose lives took opposite directions. One became a Rhodes Scholar, the other imprisoned for life. We are still looking for a hostess for March.

Hastings Reads 2015!!

Shirley Tammen

Journeys: Riding the Orphan Train has been selected as the theme for the 2015 Hastings Reads February events. Here is an update. Hastings AAUW is one of its sponsors.

Orphan Train by Christine Baker Kline is the main selection. Author Kline will be speaking at Hastings 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Rodzina by Karen Cushman is the chosen middle school book.

Train to Somewhere by Even Bunting is the elementary choice.

The Kick-Off will be held at Pleasant Hill Library on Saturday, February 7, 1-2:30. Renee Wendinger, author of several books about orphan trains will speak. She is President of the Orphan Trains of New York and also the daughter of an orphan train rider. Certified Geneologist Jay Fonkert will provide information on "Finding Your Family History at the National Archives" on Wednesday, February 25, 2-3 p.m. at Pleasant Hill Library. A family event at the Hastings Y on Friday, February 20, 6-7:30 p.m. is intended for families with children in elementary school. Choo Choo Bob will be there for entertainment. Pizza will be served.

There are a number of other events during the month of February and are available in the Hastings Reads brochure.

AAUW Funds

Jan Junkman

We recently sent the \$2000 high school scholarship award to our 2014 recipient, Amanda Pass. Amanda successfully completed her first semester at the University of Minnesota at Morris, and emailed me her impressive transcript of grades. This completed the requirement for receipt of the scholarship award.

Gail Glashan will send a separate email re: the NCCWSL project. The committee would like to send a second outstanding female college student to the conference, but we only have funding for the first choice. This is the first year of this project for our branch, and we were very excited to receive such terrific applicants. Gail will provide more details in her email regarding this possibility.

Public Policy

Pat Powers

We need the Paycheck Fairness Act

Frances Perkins, do you recognize that name? She was the AAUW member who became a Cabinet member under Franklin D Roosevelt. She was bright and well educated (1902 Mount Holyoke BA, chemistry and Physics; 1910 Columbia University MA, economics and sociology). She became Labor Secretary during a pivotal time in America. She was the principle architect for many of the New Deal initiatives that improved the lives of working Americans. The CCC, the National Labor Relations Act, the Minimum Wage and restrictions of Child Labor and Social Security were all influenced by Frances Perkins. She saw the conditions of those who were often ignored and overlooked. She knew the workers needed shorter hours and higher wages and working conditions should be safe and children should not be burdened with hard labor and old age should not mean poverty and suffering. She was a champion and a heroine for all Americans. She came to the arena of Public Policy at a critical time in history. She had the right experience and education to step up to the plate and influence legislation that has had lasting effects. She knew it was the right thing to do.

Today we have had Lilly Ledbetter step forward and fight for pay equity for women. Her cause was important in allowing women to challenge each and every discriminatory paycheck but it did not solve the gender pay gap. We need the Paycheck Fairness Act which would come about by bipartisan congressional action and would be the right thing to do. Voters care, the disparity is real at 7% with a college degree and much wider if you do not and the pay gap will not go away with the corrections that are currently in place. Lifting women out of poverty is within the reach of congress. What can you do? AAUW website under Public Policy has a **Take Action** link that you can easily make contact with your Congressional Representatives and let them know that the pay gap is an important issue. There is also the **Two Minute Activist** sign-up where AAUW will send you an email notice when it is important to contact your members of Congress on a given issue. We all cannot be Frances Perkins but we can have a voice and try to influence legislation from where we are.

Community

Margaret Goderstad

The LeDuc Historic Estate

- Valentine's Day High Tea at the LeDuc Historic Estate - Saturday, February 14, 3:30 p.m. There will be scones, tea sandwiches, and other goodies. A variety of different types of teas will be available for sampling and guests will learn about the LeDuc's involvement and love of tea over the years of living in this beautiful house. Registration is required for this \$35 per person event and may be done through Hastings Community Education @ www.hastingscommunityed.com or by calling the LeDuc Historic Estate @ 651-437-7055.

- Sunday Parlor Series - The Lincolns Visit the LeDuc Historic Estate - Sunday, February 22, 3:30 p.m. Max and Donna Daniels have an extensive background in theatre and have been portraying Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln since 1988. They have performed for schools, libraries, Civil War Reenactments, and have appeared on ABC1 Channel 7 in Chicago in the show, "Someone You Should Know." In Springfield, IL, they appear regularly at the Lincoln House Visitor Center, Memorial Day Ceremonies at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, and took part in the dedication of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. They research and write their own original script, receiving many compliments for the entertaining way in which they present their programs. The quality of work is such that they have performed at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. It is a rare opportunity for the members of the community to be able to meet these very talented people. Reservations for this \$20 event should be made by calling 651-437-7055. Refreshments will be served.

HOME CONCERT SERIES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HASTINGS PRESCOTT AREA ARTS COUNCIL

Members of the community are invited to attend a musical evening at the home of Fran Jauquet, 224 6th St. W. in Hastings, MN 55033, on Friday evening, February 27, 2015. Music from the Natural World - Cats, Birds, Rivers, and Roses will be presented by Sarah Lockwood, piano and Carolyn Campfield, soprano.

Because seating is limited, please make reservations by February 20 by calling 651-480-8303 or 651-225-1818.

Refreshments will be served and a voluntary honorarium would be appreciated.

Community Partners Collaboration is an organization which meets monthly at City Hall for the purpose of sharing the status and objectives of Hastings non-profit initiatives that are designed to improve the quality of life for Hastings citizens and beyond. AAUW has recently begun attending the meeting for information that may fit its program and membership interests.

The Jan. 21, meeting featured Tabatha Barrett from DARTS who explained DARTS' new service to the Hastings area is in the field of Care Giver Coaching. Upon request a representative from DARTS will make a visit to the home or in an off-site location of the care giver of a dependent person and provide advice and resources to that person which would be of help to that home. By contacting DARTS' Care Giving Corner one can discover how to access its help. Colleen Fritsch, who worked with DARTS when it was the provider of transportation to Hastings residents, offered her thanks to the support of the groups in the Collaboration for their years of support to DARTS' transportation program in Hastings.

Mary O'Brian of Hastings Community Education explained the success of its Early Childhood Family Education curriculum which helps family members learn to relate with one another through recreation and learning. The program serves parents with children from 0 to 5. It's immensely successful to new parents. Little Learner Scholarships are provided to qualifying families to help offset ECFE fees for the classes.

Mary Schied of Pleasant Hill Library spoke about the growth in eBooks and other enhancements designed for the benefit of library members.

By Glenda Schnirring

Diversity

Margaret Cox

<http://www.startribune.com/local/south/290389861.html>

Rosemount, Hastings districts deemed racially isolated by state

- Article by: [ERIN ADLER](#), Star Tribune
- Updated: January 31, 2015 - 12:09 AM

State education officials have named the district "racially isolated" compared to neighboring Hastings.

I read this article this last Sunday and had a lot of questions about it. I will talk to people at school and let you know what they say at our February meeting.

Membership

Janet Grove & Pat Hanson

Our membership is up to 95 with our newest member. We welcome Jeanne Loesch, Her address is 15540 Upper 194th St. E. Phone # 437-1591 – email address jeanneloesch@yahoo.com Jeanne attended Winona State University. Remember to invite your friends to check out AAUW at our next meeting. If they join now, dues are only \$40.

Hospitality

Betty Hoeschen & Sara Strom

Thank you to all Board members who provided the great food we enjoyed before the January meeting.

Due to requests, the following Chicken Chili recipe is provided by Betty Hoeschen and Margaret Cox.

Chicken Chili

1 lb boneless, skinless chicken breast, diced	14 1/2 oz. chicken broth
	1 tsp. salt
1 medium onion, chopped	1 tsp. ground cumin
2 garlic cloves, chopped	1 tsp. oregano
2 T. olive oil	1 tsp pepper
2 cans Great Northern Beans, rinsed and drained	1 tsp. cayenne pepper, optional
1 lb. baby carrots, sliced	1 cup sour cream
1 bag frozen corn	1/2 cup whipping cream or half and half
2 red peppers, chopped	

Saute onion and garlic in olive oil. Add chicken and cook until no longer pink. Put into large soup pot. Add beans, carrots, corn, peppers, broth, and seasonings. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for about 1 hour. Stir in creams and heat through. Taste - add additional seasonings and or broth to create desired flavor. Make, eat, freeze, reheat, freeze, etc - all works well!!

Historian

Trudy Cragg

A View from the Past

Gad-Abouts Autumn Color Tour - 2005



Liz, Trudy, Carol, Barb, Verna, Ann, Kathy, Ramona, and Fidelis

President	Pam Pontzer
Past-President.....	Glenda Schnirring
Co-Vice Presidents Membership.....	Janet Grove Pat Hanson
Co-Vice Presidents Programs.....	Patricia Schultz Ann Skoglund
Secretary	Lisa West
Treasurer	Nancy Techam
Community.....	Margaret Goderstad
AAUW Funds	Jan Junkman
Public Policy	Pat Powers
Diversity	Margaret Cox
Historian	Trudy Cragg
Newsletter.....	Lois Twedt
Book Club	Shirley Tammen
Hospitality	Betty Hoeschen Sara Strom
Garage Sale	Linda Bindman Kathy O'Keefe
School Supply Drive	Mary Ellen Olson Cathy Sery
Gad-Abouts	Joann Bergman Jane Driscoll

AAUW Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

AAUW Vision Statement

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

Minnesota State Website

<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>