



Hastings Branch

February 2017



President's Message

Lisa West

Last month's program on modern-day slavery within the commercial fishing industry was extremely interesting. No matter what the topic, positive or negative, through AAUW or other aspects of life, it's thought-provoking to learn about something we've perhaps not been aware of before now. It feels good to expand our knowledge and learn new things, good or bad.

As we move forward into 2017, I'd like to challenge each of you to expand your knowledge about topics in general, but also about our AAUW mission, namely empowering women and girls. Learn all you can about what AAUW does toward that end. Read your AAUW Outlook publication. Read the Minnesota Pine. Go online to the AAUW and AAUW Minnesota webpages and explore the enormous amount of information you can find there about AAUW research, government involvement, and what's going on across the nation through AAUW.

And, here at home, I challenge you to think outside the box. How can we facilitate and advance AAUW's mission of empowerment? We work hard and provide a scholarship to a top-achieving, female, high school student each year. We've done that for years, and it's a good thing. More recently, we embraced another avenue toward empowerment by providing a NCCWSL scholarship to one or two, outstanding, college students. We didn't do that before – but recall the excitement of our members as we shifted efforts in this new way. Imagine how it would feel to directly and positively impact more than two or three young women each year. Again, let's think outside the box. What are some ways our Hastings Branch could impact and empower more women and girls in our community? What can we support and get involved in – who could be our partners? Put your thinking caps on and let's see what we can come up with – there's no limit to what we can achieve together!

February quote: "You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make." ~ Jane Goodall

Program

Peggy Horsch & Pam Sullivan

February 27

The topic for our February meeting is "Overcoming Sleeplessness". Dr. Dan Kessler will be the speaker. He practices Behavioral Sleep Medicine and deals with such issues as insomnia and mental health.

Coordinated by Gail Glashan and Lynn Moratzka

[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>

Upcoming Events

- February 13.....Book Club
- February 17.....Gad-Abouts
- February 27.....General Meeting
- March 13.....Book Club

Hastings Branch--2016-2017 PROGRAMS

September 26, 6:00 pm SALAD SUPPER
Broken Barriers, Income and Job Equity for Women

Barbara Battiste, Office on the Economic Status of Women

Pat Powers, Coordinator

October 24, 7:00 pm
Bringing Women Into The Building Trades

Vicki Sandberg and Panel, Women Building MN

Pam Sullivan, Coordinator

November 28, 7:00 pm
Opportunities & Challenges Facing Our Region: from Poverty and Homelessness to Diversity and Growth

Craig Helmstetter, Wilder Foundation

Cindy Toppin, Coordinator

December 19, 7:00 pm HOLIDAY SOCIAL
Food, Music and Celebration

Coordinated and Hosted by Jolly Volunteers of AAUW

January 23, 6:00 pm CHILI SUPPER
Seafood From Slaves

Pulitzer Prize Winning Author, Robin McDowell

Lisa Hedin, Coordinator

February 27, 7:00 pm
Overcoming Sleeplessness

Sponsored by Regina Foundation/Allina Health and AAUW

Lynn Moratzka and Gail Glashan, Coordinators

March 27, 7:00 pm
Changing Demographics & Consumer Protection for Seniors

Laurie Thrush, Hastings Sr. Center and Marit Anne Peterson, Minnesota Elder Justice Center

Lew Linde, Coordinator

April 24, 6:00 pm SPRING SOCIAL
Protecting Bees in Minnesota's Prairies/Gardens

Dr. Daniel Cariveau, Entomologist, U of M

Peggy Horsch, Coordinator

May 22, 7:00 pm BOOK SALE
Somali Women's Experience in Minnesota

Farhio Khalif, Voice of East African Women, Inc.

Karen Moore, Coordinator

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

Secretary

Pam Pontzer

AAUW HASTINGS BRANCH – GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 2017

PRESIDENT - Lisa West - Lisa called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Lisa thanked the AAUW Board for providing the chili supper. She asked for a show of hands from members who had attended the Women's March on Saturday, January 21 in St Paul, Minnesota. Many members had participated. Lisa noted that there had been questions as to whether AAUW should participate in the march. AAUW National ultimately decided that our organization shared many of the values of the marchers and AAUW was represented in many cities throughout the country as well as in Washington D.C. Elizabeth Holden, the grass roots manager for AAUW National observed that the 58th Presidential Inaugural was a peaceful transition of power and that the millions of women who marched a day later did so in a peaceful manner. Millions of women marched because women's rights are human rights. Lisa noted that AAUW is a non-partisan organization and that many members probably voted differently but we welcome all. Any event that is non-partisan, non-violent, and embraces the mission of AAUW, is supported by AAUW. Lisa noted that she had been unable to attend due to State AAUW activities held the weekend of the march.

SECRETARY - Pam Pontzer. Pam submitted meeting minutes from the November 28, 2016 general meeting that were published in the Twig. A motion was made by Pat Powers and seconded by Gail Glashan to approve the November 28, 2016 general meeting minutes as printed in the Twig. The motion was unanimously approved.

TREASURER - Nancy Techam - Nancy noted that the checking account balance is \$5142.06. A motion was made by Ann Skoglund and seconded by Lynn Moratzka to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion was unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP- Ruth Versaw and Camille Nelson - We are currently at 84 members. There were 7 guests at the general meeting with 3 joining that night. .

PROGRAMS- Pam Sullivan and Peggy Horsch- Lynn Moratzka described the February 27, 2017 program. We will be partnering with Allina Clinic and the Regina Foundation as in past years, but the program will not be our normal health seminar. The topic, as suggested by our membership, is "Overcoming Sleeplessness". Dr. Dan Kessler will be the speaker. He practices Behavioral Sleep Medicine and deals with such issues as insomnia and mental health. The program, as always, is open to the public

PUBLIC POLICY - Pat Powers - Pat said that 9 members carpoled to the Women's March in St. Paul. It was an invigorating, powerful experience and she found the ease of navigation surprising since approximately 100,000 people attended the event. Pat noted that NPR dubbed the march "The Anti Trust March" for women. Pat mentioned MoveOn.org will be holding mini-workshops on the best way to contact Representative and Senators. Tuesday is the best day to contact these people. Swingleft.org is another organization focused on the mid-term elections. Minnesota District 2 is considered a swing district so it would be beneficial to make your voices heard. Danna Schultz apprised the membership that legislation regarding school vouchers should be on our radar. Pat will provide information to the membership concerning legislative contacts.

GAD-ABOUTS - Cindy Toppin and Sue Cruse. Sue informed the members that on Friday, February 17, the Gad-Abouts would leave Hastings at 9:30 A.M. to attend the "Unknown Faberge" exhibit at the Russian Museum of Art. Lunch will follow at Cafe Edna. On Wednesday, April 12, at 1:00 P.M. the group will see the play "Rise Up Oh Men" at the Plymouth Playhouse. Finally, on Thursday, May 18, the group will travel to the History Theater to see the play "Sweetland.

HOSPITALITY- Barb Jorenby, Kathy Stockman, Patty Todnem. No news items.

BOOK CLUB - Shirley Tammen - The book club will meet on February 13 at the home of Pat Giddings to discuss "Under A Flaming Sky: The Great Hinckley Firestorm of 1894" by Daniel J. Brown. Shirley distributed flyers concerning Hastings Reads. The opening event is a first-hand account of a Japanese-American woman's experience spending her childhood years confined to an American prison camp during WWII. This event will occur on Saturday, February 4 at the Pleasant Hill Library. Jamie Ford, the author of "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter

and Sweet" will be speaking at a Hastings Reads event on Tuesday, February 21st. Hastings Reads is supported by AAUW through funds raised at the AAUW Book Sale.

TWIG NEWSLETTER - Lois Twedt - Lois asked that she be alerted if anyone is not receiving the Twig.

AAUW FUNDS - Glenda Schnirring - Glenda informed the membership that Ruth Versaw, Ann Skoglund, Betty Hoeschen and she would make up the committee responsible for choosing the AAUW Hasting High School Scholarship recipient. They will receive the applicants' names on February 2. The scholarship amount this year is \$2500.

NCCWSL - Gail Glashan, Pat Powers, Ann Skoglund, Jan Junkman - Gail informed the group that 16 NCCWSL applications had been requested and that 8 had been returned. From that group of 8, a NCCWSL recipient has been chosen. Her name is Rosemary Pechous. She currently attends school at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls campus and works at the Hastings YMCA. Her sister, Kelly Pechous, won the AAUW Scholarship in 2009. Rosemary is excited about the opportunity to attend the event in College Park, Maryland from May 31 to June 3, 2017. It is hoped that she will be able to speak to our branch after attending the NCCWSL conference

COMMUNITY - Margaret Goderstad - Margaret was absent. There is a Valentines Tea at the Le Duc Mansion on February 11. On February 10, at 7:00, the presentation "Divas, Wild Women and Rockers Musical" will take place at Breakaway Arts.

HISTORIAN - Lisa Hedin - Lisa informed the group that she is unable to attend many of the events but will get pictures from others and make sure that they are posted. Lisa also mentioned that the play "Brief Interview with Internet Cats" is happening at Hastings Middle School on February 2 at 7:00. The event is free.

GARAGE SALE - Kathy O'Keefe and Linda Bindman - Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS - Lisa West completed revising the Bylaws and submitted them on January 3, 2017. She expects that there will be further changes after the National Meeting in June.

NEW BUSINESS - The State Board is accepting nominations for President-Elect. The vote will occur in April with the President- Elect shadowing the current President for 1 year. Lisa accepted the nomination for the position. As she is the only candidate to date, the State may be looking for someone to fill the Secretary position. Lew Linde suggested we send a second candidate to the NCCWSL Conference this year. Gail Glashan said that this will be a goal in the future. She and Jan Benson are writing a grant for \$5000 from the RBC Foundation. The grant will help to fund AAUW of Minnesota NCCWSL scholarships.

ADJOURN

50 members were in attendance. Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Nancy Techam and seconded by Cindy Toppin. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 P.M.

Lisa Hedin introduced the evening's speaker, Pulitzer Prize winning Author and Journalist Robin McDowell. The presentation was entitled "Seafood from Slaves".

Minutes submitted by: Pam Pontzer, Secretary

Gad-Abouts

Susan Cruse & Cindy Toppin

Susan Cruse (651-437-1767) & Cindy Toppin (651-437-7753)

Gadabouts activities are open to all members. We meet in the Sterling parking lot (NW corner) and car pool to the venue. Lunch is usually involved. You can sign up at the meeting or call Cindy Toppin (437-7753) or Susan Cruse (437-1767) to reserve your place.

Wed April 12 1:00 p.m.

"Rise up oh Men" at Plymouth Playhouse

This is the latest in the Church Basement Series - let's see what those men can do in the church kitchen!

There will be a special Church Basement Lunch before the play right at the Playhouse.

Thursday, May 18

History Theater - Sweet Land, the Musical

10:00 a.m. production

1920: Inge Altenberg journeys to America to marry a bachelor farmer, sight unseen. In the wake of WWI, her German heritage turns here new neighbors against the match.

Lunch after someplace in St. Paul

Please feel free to join us!

Historian

Lisa Hedin

A Page From the Scrapbook



Treasurer

Nancy Techam

The checking account balance as of January 31, 2017 is \$5,128.06. Deposits included dues for five new members. Expenses included payment of dues to AAUW National and AAUW Minnesota for those five members.

Nancy Techam, Treasurer

Book Club

Shirley Tammen

We will be meeting at the home of Pat Giddings on Monday, February 13 for the discussion of Dan Brown's Under A Flaming Skv: The Hinckley Firestorm of 1894. (I believe you already have this info.

On Monday, March 13, the group has chosen Kristin Hannah's The Nightingale. Set in France during WW11, two sisters from a small village chose different paths and loyalties during the invasion of the Nazis. Verna Fuller will host this meeting.

Books at the Bierstube will feature author Sherry Roberts on Thursday, February 16, 7 pm. Roberts mystery novels feature Maya Skye, a Minnesota yoga instructor as the protagonist of her two books- Down Dog Diary and Warrior's Revenge.

Remember to check out the remaining Hastings Reads activities.

Hastings AAUW Board Members

President	Lisa West
Past-President.....	Pam Pontzer
Co-Vice Presidents Membership.....	Camille Nelson Ruth Versaw
Co-Vice Presidents Programs.....	Peggy Horsch Pam Sullivan
Secretary	Pam Pontzer
Treasurer	Nancy Techam
AAUW Funds.....	Glenda Schnirring
Book Club.....	Shirley Tammen
Community.....	Margaret Goderstad
Diversity	Marlys Schmitt
Gad-Abouts.....	Susan Cruse Cindy Toppin
Historian.....	Lisa Hedin
Hospitality.....	Barb Jorenby Kathy Stockman Patty Todnem
NCCWSL.....	Gail Glashan
Newsletter.....	Lois Twedt
Public Policy.....	Pat Powers
Garage Sale	Linda Bindman Kathy O'Keefe
School Supply Drive	Mary Ellen Olson Cathy Sery

Public Policy

Pat Powers

Here are some ways to engage in the politics of today:

AAUW 2 minute activist link

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

From the Huffington Post

“Laura Moser is a freelance writer and mother in Washington, D.C. After the election, she found she couldn’t disengage. So to channel her energy, and that of others as well, she created [Daily Action](#), a daily text people can sign up for that gives them one concrete and specific action to take. In just a matter of weeks, she’s amassed over 100,000 subscribers. One is Aaron Becker, an author from Massachusetts. “People are feeling fatigue,” he told the [Washington Post](#). “We are not really designed as human beings to take on the responsibility of everything at once.” But since channeling his energy in a specific way, he’s gotten a measure of control back in his life. “Now I feel like I can turn off my browser window and do some work,” he said.”

And there are plenty of other groups doing a similar thing—making it easy to channel that outrage in productive ways that can change outcomes.

- [5 Calls](#) gives you five calls that you can make in five minutes.
- [The Resistance Manual](#) is an open source guide to taking action on a range of issues, from incarceration to immigration.
- [Run For Something](#) is dedicated to helping young people get off the sidelines and into the leadership pipeline.
- [No One Left Behind](#) is dedicated to helping obtain special immigration visas for those—like translators and interpreters—who have helped U.S. soldiers abroad.
- [The March for Science](#) will be held on Earth Day, April 22nd. Showing up will be a way of demonstrating that we care about facts, data, science and what they tell us about climate change.
- [The Indivisible guide](#) bills itself as a “practical guide to the Trump agenda,” and also shows you how to get involved with one of the over 4,500 local indivisible groups that have already been started.