



# Hastings Branch

March 2017



## President's Message

Lisa West

Last month's program on sleep was extremely interesting. I think all who attended learned something they didn't know about sleep, or perhaps didn't want to know! It was a great program – thanks to Dr. Kessler.

It's March – and many women are still trying to catch-up to what their male counterparts were paid last year. It's perhaps more transparent in government, where I work; but for many women in the workplace, it's a big secret that they're essentially working 15 months to make the salary that their male co-workers make in just 12 months. As we gear up for Equal Pay Day on April 4, check out the AAUW webpage for weekly ways to take action and speed up the progress toward equal pay. Some progress has been made, with women now making an average of 80 cents on the male-made dollar, rather than the past 74+ cents, but we still have a gap to close. And unfortunately, AAUW also observes equal pay days in AUGUST for African American women, and SEPTEMBER for Native American women. That's astounding to me. Let's continue working toward change in whatever way suits each of us, and together, hopefully more progress can be made.

At last month's meeting, I shared an announcement from Patricia Fae Ho, AAUW National Board Chair, about the consideration of a national dues increase of \$10.00. Please see a condensed, follow-up article for an update in this Twig.

March quote: "If in the last few years you haven't discarded a major opinion or acquired a new one, check your pulse, you may be dead." ~ Gelett Burgess ~

## Program

Peggy Horsch & Pam Sullivan

### March 27

Scams appear everywhere and they are getting more sophisticated and more threatening to your economic wellbeing. How do you prevent becoming a victim? Our first speaker at the March meeting, Marit Anne Peterson, Program Director for the Minnesota Elder Justice Center, will present valuable tips and information on Consumer Protection for Seniors and let us know about the good work the Elder Center is doing for seniors across the state.

Our second speaker is Laurie Thrush, Senior Program Coordinator for Hasting Public Schools. Laurie works extensively with the Hastings Senior Center. She will discuss the changing demographics of seniors in our community and programs and opportunities for this dynamic population right in Hastings.

Our Spring Social is once again at the Onion Grille on Monday, April 24th. Please plan to attend to celebrate spring and hear about the bee population in Minnesota. We will be treated to an Italian buffet, cake, coffee and other drinks for purchase. The cost is \$21, payable by cash or check to Hastings AAUW. Please make your reservation by Monday, April 10th . Payment can be made at the March meeting or by sending to Peggy Horsch at 1490 Tierney Court. See you there!

Coordinated by Gail Glashan and Lynn Moratzka

## Upcoming Events

- March 27.....General Meeting
- April 3.....Book Club
- April 12.....Gad-Abouts
- April 24.....Spring Social

## 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--February 27, 2017

**PRESIDENT - Lisa West** - Lisa called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. Lisa read from a letter sent by Patricia Fae Ho, Board Chair of AAUW National. Fae Ho stated that the money collected by AAUW is used to promote societal change. She herself is a 17 year member and is proud of the accomplishments of AAUW. At this point, the National Board of Directors of AAUW is suggesting a \$10.00 per year increase in dues. This is the first increase in 9 years. The additional funds will be used to support the sexual assault initiative headed by Lisa Maatz, state and local AAUW functions, research on ongoing societal issues and other needs to further the mission of AAUW. Lisa Maatz, Vice President of Government Relations and Advocacy will be in Minnesota and Wisconsin from March 10-13, 2017. Sharon Bigot, President of Minnesota AAUW, is attempting to set up a meeting with Maatz during that time. She has asked that Gail Glashan and Lisa attend this meeting. Lisa asked that our membership relay any concerns or comments to her to pass along to Maatz.

**SECRETARY - Pam Pontzer** - Pam submitted meeting minutes from the January 23, 2017 general meeting that were published in the Twig. A motion was made by Kathy O'Keefe and seconded by Pat Powers to approve the January 23, 2017 general meeting minutes as printed in the Twig. The motion was unanimously approved.

**TREASURER - Nancy Techam** - Nancy was absent. Lisa reported that no deposits had been made during the month of February. Expenses were \$2500 paid to Sarah Shingledecker, recipient of the 2016 AAUW Hasting High School scholarship and \$485 for expenses incurred for NCCWSL. The NCCWSL expense will be reimbursed by AAUW Minnesota. The checking account balance is \$2143.06. A motion was made by Cindy Toppin and seconded by Shirley Tammen to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**MEMBERSHIP- Ruth Versaw and Camille Nelson** - We had several guests attending tonight's meeting. Four additional members joined in January. One member joined at tonight's meeting.

**PROGRAMS- Pam Sullivan and Peggy Horsch**- Peggy and Lew Linde have met with Laurie Thrush. Laurie is with the Hastings Senior Center. She will talk about the demographic changes taking place in our community at our March meeting. Also speaking at the March meeting will be Marit Peterson who works with the Minnesota Elder Justice Center. Peggy told the members that the Spring Banquet will be held at the Onion Grill. An Italian Buffet will be offered along with desert. The price of the meal is \$21.00. Checks should be made out the Hastings AAUW and submitted to Peggy Horsch.

**PUBLIC POLICY - Pat Powers** - Pat said AAUW has a 135 year history of working for fairness, equality, inclusivity and opportunity. AAUW believes democracy demands work every day and that elected officials should be held accountable. AAUW reports that Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos may roll back Title IX rules. Title IX provides guidance on preventing and addressing sexual harassment and assault and protecting transgender students from discrimination. Some recent publications put out by AAUW are "Solving the Equation" which examines the variables necessary for women to be successful in engineering and computing, "The Simple Truth" which looks at the gender pay gap, and "Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership" which looks at the reasons why men still outnumber women in leadership positions. The State of the Union is being broadcast on Tuesday, February 28th at 8:00 PM. The AAUW website has a bingo card that members can fill out. Watch words such as "Parental Leave", "Hate Crimes" etc. will be on the bingo card. Prizes will be awarded

**GAD-ABOUTS - Cindy Toppin and Sue Cruse** - On Wednesday, April 12, at 1:00 P.M., the group will see the play "Rise Up Oh Men" at the Plymouth Playhouse. The cost is \$39.00 and includes lunch at the Playhouse. Member should meet at the Sterling parking lot at 10:15. 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** - There will be no March bookclub. On April 3rd, 2017, the group will meet at the home of Verna Fuller. The book selection is The Nightingale by Kristin Hanah.

**TWIG NEWSLETTER - Lois Twedt** - No news items.

**AAUW FUNDS - Glenda Schnirring** - Glenda informed the membership that Ann Skoglund, Betty Hoeschen and she have selected the winner of the 2017 AAUW Hasting High School Award. The scholarship amount this year is \$2500. The winner's name will be announced at the May meeting.

**NCCWSL - Gail Glashan, Pat Powers, Ann Skoglund, Jan Junkman** - Gail informed the group that they would like to send a second applicant to the NCCWSL conference this year. A few years ago, we solicited contributions from the membership to send a second candidate. We have \$90.00 remaining from that effort. Recently, a few donors contributed another \$450.00. In total, we now have \$540.00. Gail is hoping for another \$310.00 in contributions to send this second candidate. The name of the second candidate is Loren Bushyhead. Loren is a Native American from the Cherokee Tribe. She is in her third year at Inver Hills Community College and would like to pursue a law degree in the future. Gail and Jan met with Lauren and are very impressed with her credentials. There is a possibility that in the future, Minnesota AAUW will be able to increase the number of candidates that are sent to the conference if a grant from RBC in the amount of \$5000.00 is secured. The NCCWSL conference will be held in College Park, Maryland from May 31 to June 3, 2017.

**COMMUNITY - Margaret Goderstad** - Margaret stated that on March 5, 2017, The River Valley Band will give a free concert at the Hasting Art Center. There will be a martini tasting at the Le Duc on Friday, April 21, 2017. On May13, 2017, a Mothers Day Tea will be held at the Le Duc.

**DIVERSITY- Marlys Schmitt**- Marlys was absent. Lisa Hedin informed the group about a presentation being offered on Tuesday, March 7 from 3:30 to 4:45 in the Hastings Middle School Auditorium. The presentation is titled "Understanding and Recognizing Racial Bias and White Privilege". The speaker, Jen Kohan, works on behalf of Education Minnesota in promoting this anti-racism initiative. Community members are welcome to attend.

**HISTORIAN - Lisa Hedin** - No news items.

**GARAGE SALE - Kathy O'Keefe and Linda Bindman** - Kathy told the group that the garage sale will be held at The River of Life Church in September. The date has not yet been finalized.

**OLD BUSINESS** - Lisa West told the group that the State Secretary position has been filled for one year.

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** - Lisa informed the group that the AAUW State Convention will be held in Wilmar from April 28 through April 29, 2017. The Hastings Branch can send up to 6 voting delegates. The cost is \$115 if you participate in all of the activities. The Hastings Branch does reimburse attendees for some of the costs. The list of speakers at the event will be available soon. Karen Moore announced that a meeting will be held at the Minnesota Literacy Council on March 13 from 6:00-7:30 PM. The organization provides social services, English training, and other assistance to refugees as they navigate the resettlement process. They are looking for Board Members if anyone is interested. Please contact Karen for further details. Bill Spinelli told the members about "The Democracy Project". The Democracy Project, in years past, was instrumental in the formation of HPAAC (Hastings Prescott Area Arts Council). The group is reconstituting itself and is looking for citizen engagement. They meet at Breakaway Arts every other Saturday morning at 9:00 A.M. to discuss initiatives that would help our community to become the best that it can be. The next meeting will be held on March 11, 2017. Show up and find out what it means to become an engaged citizen!

### **ADJOURN**

Sixty seven members were in attendance. Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Gail Glashan and seconded by Glenda Schnirring. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 P.M.

Gail Glashan introduced the evening's speaker, Dr. Dan Kessler. Dr. Kessler practices Behavioral Sleep Medicine and deals with issues such as insomnia and mental health. Dr. Kessler's speech was entitled "Overcoming Sleeplessness". The program was sponsored by the Regina Foundation, Allina Health, and AAUW.

Minutes submitted by: Pam Pontzer, Secretary

### **NCCWSL**

*Gail Glashan*

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The year was 1983. There were almost no women in the executive ranks of the Fortune 100, and Sandra Day O'Connor had only just taken her seat as the first woman on the U.S. Supreme Court. Closing the gender gap in leadership wasn't happening fast enough. Donna Shavlik, then-director of the Office of Women in Higher Education at the American Council on Education, invited representatives from other organizations, including the American Association of University Women (AAUW), to organize a leadership meeting for college women. And NCCWSL was born!

The AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) is the premier conference for students to hone their leadership skills, make lifelong connections and get ready to shape the world. Our AAUW Hastings Branch is proud to be sending two outstanding college students, Rosemary Pechous and Loren Bushyhead, to the University of Maryland, College Park, to attend this conference, May 31–June 3, 2017. We look forward to hearing all about their experience at this jam-packed conference with an agenda of world class, trailblazing women.

AAUW of Minnesota is awarding each branch that sends a candidate a \$500.00 scholarship. Our AAUW board budgeted \$350.00 to co-sponsor a student, an \$850.00 scholarship value. We are able to send a second student because unsolicited donations poured in. We now have \$615.00, of the needed \$850.00. If you'd like to contribute, please send any donations (not tax-deductible) to Nancy Techam, our treasurer. Any dollar amount is welcome. Monies surpassing our need for this year will be placed into our NCCWSL 2018 'pot'.

Thank you, AAUW Hastings members, for your generosity in supporting and empowering the young women leaders of tomorrow.

### **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 or Susan Cruse to reserve your place.

Wed April 12 - We currently are full for this event. You can call Susan if you want to be on a waiting list in case someone cancels.

#### **"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. We will meet at the Sterling parking lot at 10:15, and leave at 10:30.

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 her new neighbors against the match. We will have lunch after someplace in St. Paul. More information and Sign up will begin at the March meeting.

Please feel free to join us!

### **Book Club**

*Shirley Tammen*

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Due to the many conflicts during March, the book group has decided to forgo a March meeting and will instead meet on Monday, April 3 for the discussion of Kristin Hannah's The Nightingale. Verna Fuller will host the April meeting.

The Little Paris Bookshop by Nina George was selected for our Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Who can resist floating on a barge through France surrounded by books, wine, love and great conversation! Linda Bindman will host in May.

**Books at the Bierstube**—Thekla Madsen, a River Falls author has co-written a crime thriller with Karl Bort, a retired Cleveland police detective. Based on a true crime, this novel focuses on drugs, sex and voodoo. Madsen will discuss this novel at the Bierstube on Thursday, March 16, at 7 p.m.

**Hastings Reads 2017**—The Japanese-American Experience programs for February were will attended by Hastings community members. Jamie Ford, author of The Corner of Bitter and Sweet, spoke to 80+ people at the Hastings Art Center. The kick-off featured a Japanese woman's first-hand experience while spending 3 years in an internment camp during WWII. Activities for children included Gyo-taku fish printing, Chinese - Brush painting and Du Daiko's drummers performing at the Y.

## Community

Margaret Goderstad

### THE COMMUNITY

Lawshe Memorial Museum, Dakota County Historical Society, South St. Paul, MN--  
DAKOTA STAR QUILTERS SHOW - Runs through Friday, March 17 during regular  
hours - Free, but \$5 donation appreciated - Lecture & Workshop on Saturday, March  
11, 9 a.m. - 75 quilts, all sizes & shapes

### HASTINGS ART CENTER

- ARTIST DIANNE GINSBERG - Oils & Acrylics - Runs through March - During  
regular operating hours

### THE LEDUC HISTORIC ESTATE

- COCKTAIL TASTING - April 21, 7 p.m. - 1940s Vintage Fashion Show  
accompanied by tastings of four cocktails, Music of the 40s, Dishes prepared in the  
LeDuc Kitchen - Interpretive Program. Reservations required - \$40 per person -  
Call [651-438-8480](tel:651-438-8480)  
- MOTHER'S DAY TEA- May 13, 3:30 p.m. - A four-course event with samplings of  
various teas, all prepared in the LeDuc Kitchen - Music & Interpretive Program -  
Book early as teas fill quickly --\$40 per person. Call [651-438-8480](tel:651-438-8480)

## Historian

Lisa Hedin

### *A Page From the Scrapbook*



## Treasurer's Report

Nancy Techam

The checking account balance as of February 28<sup>th</sup>  
was \$2143.06.

Nancy Techam, Treasurer

### **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

### 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>