



# Hastings Branch

October 2015



## President's Message

Pam Pontzer

The proceeds from the 2015 Great and Grand AAUW Garage Sale came to almost \$3200.00. What a terrific haul! I think we could have made even more, had we additional room to display the terrific donations from our membership. We are in great shape for funding the 2015-16 Scholarship. Cheers to Kathy O'Keefe and Linda Bindman, our garage sale gurus!

Arvonne Frasier, a longtime activist for women's issues, spoke at a Humphrey School forum last month. She also turned 90. I was particularly intrigued by one issue that she raised-"advocacy for the idea that work in the home, traditionally consigned to women, has economic value, and should be treated as such." I thought the following brilliant - "The term 'workplace' tends to signify that the bearing and raising of children, the care and maintenance of home and housing, and the provision of food at home are not work. Society's disregard for the value of this work puts all women and responsible parents at economic risk". She continues "A primary responsibility of any group or country if it wants to endure is to produce, recruit and train its next generation of citizens and workers. A biological fact is that only women are the bearers of children. As a nation we tend to expect those who choose to have children not only to finance their care and upbringing, but also to send those children to school well-behaved, well-fed and school-ready. We blame mothers but rarely fathers if they don't - or can't- do it well. To add insult to injury, parenthood is often seen as an impediment to success at what is called the 'workplace'".

I had children when I was older. Consequently, I had been in the "workplace" for a large part of my life. I found raising children to be much more challenging than what our society classifies as the "workplace". In my opinion, adults are not nearly as complex as children. At any rate, I am glad that Arvonne pounded on this issue. She ends with "Good luck. I'm really old, but I still have a voice and a vote. So do you."

## Program

Peggy Horsch & Pam Sullivan

### October 26

#### AAUW Hastings Branch October Program

With school back in session and the upcoming District 200 School Board Election, our October meeting will be informative and timely. As we have in the past several years, our branch is hosting a school board candidates' forum for not only our membership, but also the public. Think about inviting a family member, friend or neighbor. Hastings Community TV will tape the forum for broadcast. Come early as the forum starts promptly at 7:00 p.m. followed by a short business meeting and then our National Conference for College Women Student Leaders scholarship recipients will share their NCCWSL experience with us.

## Upcoming Events

- October 12.....Book Club
- October 20 .....Gad-Abouts
- October 26.....General Meeting
- November 9 .....Book Club

## Hastings Branch 2015-2016 PROGRAMS

September 28, 6:00 p.m. SALAD SUPPER  
*Hmong-American Farm Cooperative in MN*  
Yao Yang, Alternative Markets Organizer, HAFA  
Pam Sullivan, Coordinator

October 26, 7:00 p.m.  
*School Board Candidates Forum*  
*AAUW Hastings NCCWSL Scholarship Awardees*  
Peggy Horsch and Gail Glashan, Coordinators

November 23, 7:00 p.m.  
*Little Falls to Uganda*  
Bonnie Bzdok, *Resilient Uganda*  
Nancy Techam, Coordinator

December 14, 7:00 p.m. HOLIDAY SOCIAL  
*Holiday Food, Music and Celebration*  
Evening at the Hastings Arts Center

January 25, 6:00 p.m. CHILI SUPPER  
*Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics*  
*In the Hastings School District*  
J. Reichel, B. Seleski, K. Wald, E. Dietz, C. Benson  
Lisa Hedin, Coordinator

February 22, 7:00 p.m.  
*Autism Affects Us All*  
Panel Discussion moderated by Kathy O'Keefe

March 22, 7:00 p.m.  
*Breaking Free from Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking*  
Joy Friedman, *Sisters Helping Sisters*  
Lew Linde, Coordinator

April 25, 6:00 p.m. SPRING SOCIAL  
*Clutter Clearing Choices*  
Barbara Tako, Author and Consultant  
Sue Wagner, Coordinator

May 23, 7:00 p.m. BOOK SALE  
*Culture of Poverty*  
Cathy Rucci, Executive Director, MORE  
Karen Moore, Coordinator

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

September 28, 2015

**PRESIDENT: Pam Pontzer.** Pam called the business meeting to order at 6:55 p.m., welcoming 44 members and guests to the first meeting of the program year. Pam thanked Betty Hoeschen and Sara Strom for their good work organizing the annual Salad Supper. Pam announced this is Hastings' 46th year! Last year was very busy with our Branch applying for the first time, and being awarded, an AAUW Minnesota scholarship to send a college student to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), at the University of Maryland, May 28 through 30. Two scholarship applicants were so highly qualified, the Board wanted to send both to the Conference. AAUW Minnesota only provides one scholarship per branch, so we "passed the hat" among our membership and raised enough money to send our top two candidates. The response to this membership generosity was outstanding and gratifying as Elin LeBreck and Jolena Zabel were able to attend the NCCWSL. The State's NCCWSL application paperwork and process needed attention and reworking. Member, Gail Glashan not only shepherded our effort to send talented young women to the Conference, but managed to create NCCWSL documentation that will be shared with all the State branches. Thank you Gail! We also applied for and were awarded an AAUW Minnesota Branch Project Grant of \$100, to be used to partner with the newly formed Feminism Club at Hastings High School (HHS). The PBS documentary, "Makers" was purchased by our Branch to share with the Club. Our member, Laura Leak, spoke to the Club, as did NCCWSL scholarship recipient, Jolena Zabel. Remaining grant funds will be used to assist the Club in bringing Sierra DeMulder to HHS. Sierra is an internationally touring performance poet and educator, who will appear at HHS on October 27, at 9:30 a.m. All AAUW members are welcome and encouraged to attend. We also awarded a generous scholarship to a top-performing HHS female student graduate. She is dedicated, hard-working and driven. She must be reminded that socializing is a part of the college curriculum! Pam and her daughter, Britta, are so grateful to all members for the AAUW Hastings scholarship Britta received. Pam recognized that for the past three years, Hastings Community Education has sponsored "Women Who Serve Hastings" award luncheons. This year's recipient was our Past President, Glenda Schnirring! Glenda's community accomplishments are extensive, and members applauded her contributions. Pam recognized that one of our members has hidden talents – Lisa Hedin and her two children rocked the HHS auditorium for its In-Service Day, with a perfectly performed karaoke version of "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious," noting that Mary Poppins and the Hedin clan are forever linked! The AAUW National election results are in. There were many voting issues, but perhaps the hot-button issue was eliminating the college degree membership requirement. This bylaw was not passed, with 55.51% of AAUW members voting against eliminating this requirement, while 40.91% voted to eliminate it. The Lunch Bunch Mentorship Program was brought to Pam's attention by Lisa Hedin, who is involved in the Program with Peggy Horsch. There is an article in the Twig describing the Program. If you have questions and/or are interested in being involved, please ask Lisa or Peggy, or call Sara Lawrence at Hastings Community Education. Finally, the annual Grand Garage Sale was fantastic, in terms of results and general fun. Kathy O'Keefe and Linda Bindman did an outstanding job.

**SECRETARY: Lisa West.** Lisa submitted meeting minutes from the May 18, 2015, general meeting that were published in the Twig.

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

**TREASURER: Nancy Techam.** Nancy reported that earnings from the garage sale totaled \$3,120.25, with \$465 from cash donations, \$210.25 from the bake sale, and \$24.65 from the change jar. The month-end checking account balance was \$7,197.92.

Motion by Shirley Tammen, and seconded by Ramona McCullough to approve the September Treasurer's Report. The motion was unanimously approved.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**MEMBERSHIP: Janet Grove and Pat Hanson.** Pat and Janet introduced the four guests present. The Directory sent to members for review was not the most current version, which will be resent after corrections are made with some help from Lisa West. Members were encouraged to take a new program bookmarks, and to take AAUW brochures for the purpose of distributing them to potential new members.

**PROGRAMS: Peggy Horsch and Pam Sullivan.** Peggy requested that members with questions for School Board candidates should fill-out cards provided or send her an email prior to the October general meeting that will include a School Board candidate forum.

**GAD-ABOUTS: Cindy Toppin and Sue Cruse.** Cindy and Sue informed members of the October 20, outing to the Mill City Museum, with payment of \$10.00 needed by October 1. The next outing will be December 8, to the Lowell Inn for High Tea and shopping; payment of \$17.00 is needed by December 1. Cindy and Sue thanked Jane and Joann for the great file folder they passed along on Gad-Abouts.

**HOSPITALITY: Betty Hoeschen and Sara Strom.** Betty and Sara circulated a sign-up sheet for meeting refreshments and asked members to note the meeting start times that can vary for certain meetings, in order to have refreshments delivered slightly earlier than the meeting times. Betty noted that the autumn pumpkin and gourd center piece items can be purchased – so she doesn't have to haul them back to Kay Leadholm's orchard!

**BOOK CLUB: Shirley Tammen.** Shirley informed members that the Book Club meets at 7:00 p.m., the second Monday of the month. The first discussion for this year was, "Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Quest for Gold in the 1939 Olympics," by Daniel James Brown, that took place on Monday, September 14. Shirley hosted this meeting. The October 12, Book Club selection is "To Kill a Mockingbird," the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Harper Lee, hosted by Ann Johnson. We will follow up on Monday, November 9, with Harper Lee's controversial, earlier novel, "Go Set a Watchman." Sharing thoughts about both novels will give us greater insight and understanding of Lee's decision to publish this work. Ramona McCullough (1495 Pringle Ct.) will host the November meeting. All members are invited to join our book group – once, twice, or regularly. Hastings Reads (HR) has chosen their February 2016 selections. "The Life We Bury," by Minnesota author, Allen Eskens, is the adult book. "The One and Only Ivan," by Katherine Applegate, is the middle school selection; and our local author, Charlie Johnson's, "Emmy and The Rude Rooster," is the elementary read. Many events are planned to celebrate the 10th HR anniversary. AAUW is a sponsor of the events. Shirley encouraged AAUW members and others to become involved with Hastings Historic Inn's "Evening with a Mystery Writer," held on the third Thursday of each month, at 7:00 p.m. Ellen Hart, an award winning mystery writer, will be the featured speaker on October 15. It is a delightful, informal evening, with wine, cheese, treats, and coffee served. Call co-sponsor, Chapter 2 Book Store, in Hudson, Wisconsin (715-220-8818) for reservations. There is a \$15.00 fee that covers the food, \$5.00 of which is applied toward the purchase of one of the speaker's books.

**PUBLIC POLICY: Pat Powers.** Pat discussed the AAUW emails she's been receiving, noting that the AAUW Government Relations person went to the White House relative to the Pope's visit and encouraged members to read the article. Pat noted that the government shut-down is not likely to happen and that 17.6 million Americans have signed up for health care under the Affordable Care Act. Pat reported that the young women in the news who was shot in the face by the Taliban is living in England now and was a speaker at the United Nations. She talked about how every girl should receive 12 years for free public education. Sixty-three million girls don't get an education in the world today.

**TWIG: Lois Twedt.** Lois mentioned that if any members are not receiving the Twig, to please let her know. Members should expect the Twig to be emailed the weekend of the first full week of the month.

**NCCWSL: Gail Glashan.** Gail mentioned that NCCWSL (National Conference of College Women Student Leaders) attendees that received State and/or Hastings scholarships will be at the October meeting to speak about their conference experiences.

**COMMUNITY: Margaret Goderstad.** Margaret informed members of the Hastings Prescott Area Arts Council Gala on October 16. There will be an article in the Twig about upcoming LeDuc Historic Estate events, and the Augsburg Centennial Singers will perform on October 25 at 3:00 p.m.

**HISTORIAN: Trudy Cragg.** Trudy informed members that the past 46 years of AAUW Hastings is contained in 15 scrap books. Trudy is interested in anything that has to do with the Hastings AAUW Branch.

**GARAGE SALE: Kathy O'Keefe and Linda Bindman.** Kathy and Linda told members they were impressed with the volunteers' time commitment to the event. Items came priced, which was greatly appreciated; and they received very good notes from last year's Co-chairs, Cindy Toppin and Sue Cruse.

### ADJOURN

Motion by Sallee Jepsen, and seconded by Nancy Techam to adjourn the business meeting. The business meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 7:30 p.m.

Pam Sullivan introduced the evening's speaker, Yao Yang, Alternative Markets Organizer for HAFA, the Hmong-American Farm Cooperative in Minnesota.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa West, Secretary

## Community

*Margaret Goderstad*

**HPAAC's Fourth Annual Fundraising Gala** - Friday, October 16, 6 p.m. at SEAS. "Unmasking HPAAC" is the theme of this year's Gala and will feature very special appetizers, plated gourmet dinner, signature drinks, fundraising games, silent & live auction, and original works of art that will be available for sale. A dozen costumed singers (The Elizabethan Syngers), two Shakespearian actors (Black Dirt Theater) slinging insults, and an appearance by Miss Minnesota 2015 will be the entertainment for the evening. Tickets @ \$75 are available online at [www.hpaac.org](http://www.hpaac.org) or for purchase at Green Mill Restaurant, Evansen Art Studio, Hastings YMCA or Orange Dragon Art Gallery. This will be an evening to remember so purchase tickets while they are still available.

**AUGSBURG CENTENNIAL SINGERS** - In concert, Sunday, October 25, 3 p.m. at St. Philip's Lutheran Church. This men's chorus, consisting of 60 members (some from Hastings) features well-known gospel music, spirituals, folk songs, familiar hymns, sacred traditional selections, and a barbershop encore. A freewill offering will be accepted.

### **OCTOBER at the LeDuc Historic Estate**

- October 10, 8 a.m., 12 noon, & 4 p.m. - Register through Hastings Community Ed. or call 651-438-8489
- October 17 10 a.m. Children's Story Time at the LeDuc Chicken Coop - Themed Weekend on George Daniels
- October 23 & 24 - Bourbon Tasting - 7 p.m. Register by calling 651-438-8480
- October 25 - Harvest Haunting - 5 p.m.
- October 30 & 31 - Candlelit Tours - Reservations, please - 651-438-8480

## Membership

*Janet Grove & Pat Hanson*

We currently have 85 paid members in our Hastings branch. If you have not yet paid your dues for this year, please do so at the October meeting. We welcome Mary Charlson as a new member this fall. We are pleased to have Mary join us.

We are always interested in new members; so please invite a guest if you know someone who might be interested in AAUW.

We will be sending out an updated directory in the next few weeks, so please contact Janet Grove or Pat Hanson if you have recent changes that we aren't aware of.

## Treasurer's Report

*Nancy Techam*

Deposits for the month of September consisted of the \$3,125.25 brought in by the garage sale. Expenses included the membership bookmarks and brochures, church rental for the garage sale and the September speaker for a total of \$577.91. Checking account balance as of September 30, 2015 is \$7,307.92.

Nancy Techam  
Treasurer

## Gad-Abouts

*Susan Cruse & Cindy Toppin*

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

### **Tuesday, December 8th**

**A Lowell Inn tea** with 4 courses is the highlight of our December event.

Meet at Sterling at **10:30 for a 10:45 departure to Stillwater.**

Tea includes scones, soup, tea sandwiches, and 3 mini desserts per person, and tea (of course).

Christmas shopping for an hour or more is planned after the tea to walk off those desserts.

Price is \$17 per person for the tea. **Please pay Cindy Toppin by December 1st.** We already have 23 people registered for this event!!

UPCOMING in the new year:

A tour of the newly renovated Union Depot in St. Paul followed by lunch at Christos, in the Depot building. The Union Depot was originally constructed in the early 1920's but was renovated in 2012. It has interesting history as well as fascinating artwork.

Save the date: Wednesday, January 20

Tour will begin at 11, followed by lunch.

### [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>

## Book Club

Shirley Tammen

To Kill a Mockingbird, the Pulitzer winning beloved novel by Harper Lee will be the book discussed on Monday, October 12, 7 pm at Ann Johnson's home. We will follow up on Monday, November 9 with Harper Lee's controversial earlier written novel, Go Set a Watchman. Sharing thoughts about both novels will give us greater insight and understanding of Lee's decision to publish this work of art. Ramona McCullough, 1495 Pringle Ct. will host this November meeting. All members are invited to join our book group—once, twice or regularly.

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I encourage AAUW members and others to become involved with Hastings Historic Inn's "Evening with a Mystery writer" held there on the third Thursday of each month, 7 pm. Ellen Hart, award winning mystery writer will be the featured speaker on Oct. 15. It is a delightful, informal evening, with wine, cheese, treats, coffee served. Call Chapter 2 Book Store in Hudson, Wisc. at 715-220-8818 for reservations, as they are co-sponsors.. There is a \$15 fee which covers the food, \$5 of which is applied toward the purchase of one of the speaker's books.

## Diversity

Margaret Cox

Last May, I wrote a blurb in The Twig about Nari Gunjan. In case you missed it, Nari Gunjan is an organization established to provide education, literacy, vocational training, healthcare, and life skills to children, girls, and women in the most destitute area of India. "Nari Gunjan" means *Voice of the Women*. This last July, the **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Nari Gunjan Fundraiser** was held in Eagan. A poem was printed as a bookmark at the event, and Pat Powers and Karen Moore sent it to me to share with the AAUW Membership.

### A Father Asks His Daughter:

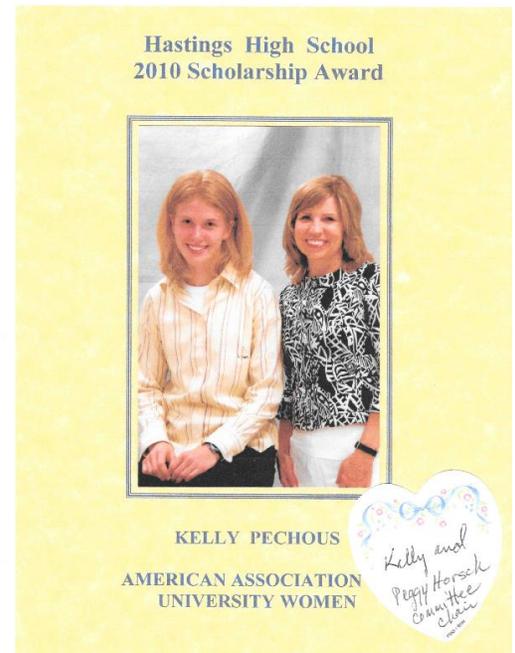
By Kamla Bhasin

Study? Why should you study?  
I have sons aplenty who can study.  
Girl, why should you study?  
The daughter tells her father:  
Since you ask, here's why I must study.  
Because I am a girl, I must study.  
Long denied this right, I must study  
For my dreams to take flight, I must study  
Knowledge brings new light, so I must study  
For the battles I must fight, I must study  
Because I am a girl, I must study.  
To avoid destitution, I must study  
To win independence, I must study  
To fight frustration, I must study  
To find inspiration, I must study  
Because I am a girl, I must study.  
To fight men's violence, I must study  
To end my silence, I must study  
To challenge patriarchy I must study  
To demolish all hierarchy, I must study.  
Because I am a girl, I must study.  
To mold a faith I can trust, I must study  
To make laws that are just, I must study  
To sweep centuries of dust, I must study  
To challenge what I must, I must study  
Because I am a girl, I must study.  
To know right from wrong, I must study.  
To find a voice that is strong, I must study  
To write feminist songs I must study  
To make a world where girls belong, I must study.  
Because I am a girl, I must study.

## Historian

Trudy Cragg

### A Page From The Scrapbook



### Hastings AAUW Board Members

President .....	Pam Pontzer
Past-President.....	Glenda Schnirring
Co-Vice Presidents Membership.....	Janet Grove Pat Hanson
Co-Vice Presidents Programs.....	Peggy Horsch Pam Sullivan
Secretary .....	Lisa West
Treasurer .....	Nancy Techam
AAUW Funds.....	Jan Junkman
Book Club.....	Shirley Tammen
Community.....	Margaret Goderstad
Diversity .....	Margaret Cox
Gad-Abouts.....	Susan Cruse Cindy Toppin
Historian.....	Trudy Cragg
Hospitality.....	Betty Hoeschen Sara Strom
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