



Hastings Branch

January 2015



President's Message

Pam Pontzer

Welcome to 2015 - I realized some interesting facts about my maternal grandmother while introducing my children to their Pennsylvania heritage. My great grandparents immigrated from Milan, Italy. They had little money and settled in the small village of Coal Hollow where my great grandfather worked as a coal miner. Poverty was, and is still, evident in this area. His daughter, my grandmother, Veronica Magestrelli took education very seriously as a way to improve herself and her circumstances. In 1917 at the age of 22, she traveled to Washington D.C. where she was hired to work as a secretary for the War Department. The War Department was located in what is now the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. The Eisenhower Executive Office Building is located adjacent to the West Wing of the White House. I don't know why I never put this together, but she almost certainly would have seen Alice Paul and the other suffragettes protesting at the gates of the White House. My daughter, who is more perceptive than I was at her age, immediately recognized the significance of what her great grandmother had achieved and experienced.

In the same vein, I would like our branch to think about creative ways to collaborate with the newly formed Hastings High School Feminist Club. We have stories and insights for this young group that would be valuable for them to consider and reflect upon. Laura Leak shared some incredible hurdles she faced early in her teaching career. Cindy Toppin suggested that "The Makers", a PBS series about women's accomplishments, be purchased, shared, and discussed with the Feminist Club. Our branch will apply for a \$100 Branch Grant to facilitate this process. Let me know your stories and ideas.

Finally, Gail Glashan announced that she has, at this time, a completed application in hand for the NCCWSL scholarship! Also, the AAUW of MN asked Gail to share the NCCWSL flyer and application that she developed, with other branches in Minnesota. Congratulations Gail!

Program

Pat Schultz & Ann Skoglund

January 26

Chili Supper~General Meeting~Program

Our January 26th meeting will begin with a Chili Supper at 6:00 p.m.

The AAUW Board is hosting and providing the chili, fixings and dessert for all!

Our business meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. with the program at 7:30.

Adverse Childhood Experiences

Sheri Fox, R. N.

Sheri (Zuzek) Fox who began her career as an R.N. and recently received a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from St. Mary's University will be our guest speaker for the evening. Sheri's presentation is a culmination of the research she did for her Master's Thesis on Adverse Childhood Experiences. An Adverse Childhood Experience ("ACE") is a traumatic experience, that occurs in the life of a young person before the age of eighteen, that can have life-long adverse effects. As the number of such experiences increase, the risk of serious problems increase and may result in alcohol and substance abuse, smoking, depression, and anxiety, as well as long term and chronic health problems.

Sheri was invited to speak to District 200 employees on this important topic. Following that presentation, both Jan Hertel and Diane Saed suggested that our AAUW branch would find her presentation interesting and informative. Join us on January 26th to enjoy our chili supper, good conversation, and the opportunity to learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Note from Membership—Bring a guest to the January meeting and chili supper. If they join now, dues are half price, only \$40 for the remainder of this year!

Upcoming Events

January 12	Book Club
January 26	General Meeting
January 28	Gad-Abouts
February 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

November 24, 2014

PRESIDENT: Pam Pontzer. Pam called the business meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., welcoming 42 members and guests. Pam informed members that Gail Glashan met with Hastings High School Administration and Counselors and made a presentation concerning the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders, and the associated scholarship that AAUW would provide to a sophomore, junior or senior female college student. School officials agreed to assist AAUW in finding applicants whom would benefit for this opportunity. It was said that Gail made an excellent presentation and that attendees were impressed. Additionally, a Feminism Club has been organized at the High School by two students, sophomore Hannah Hornbuckle and junior Marisa Schommer. Teacher, Kari Jaeger is the group's advisor. The Feminism Club will help raise awareness about local and international women's rights issues. The group's goals are to help people take a stand, speak up about what they believe in, and stay educated about injustices around the world. Group discussions will focus on problems women face locally and internationally, and provide steps the group can take to help solve those problems. The Feminism Club will provide a safe place for people to voice their concerns and stories. To date, discussions have focused on the word "feminist" and how it has a negative connotation, body image issues, rape jokes, when and how to speak up when sexist comments are made or sexist acts are witnessed, and sexism in the classroom. Kari stated that the group would love to coordinate with AAUW and asked for ideas about how the two groups could partner. Lastly, Glenda Schnirring and Pam listened to the AAUW Post Election Call on November 5. No matter where you are on the political spectrum, the midterm elections produced one reason to celebrate – there are now more women in Congress than ever before! However, the number of women still represents just 20% of the house and senate, while women make up 51% of the general population. Turnout for the midterm was only 36% of the population. Lastly, a few bright spots on national ballot initiatives included: minimum wage initiatives passed in five states; Massachusetts passed a paid sick leave measure for workers of companies with 11 or more employees; Personhood Amendments were defeated in Colorado and North Dakota; and an Equal Rights Initiative that mirrors the language of the Equal Rights Amendment, passed with 64% of the vote in Oregon.

SECRETARY: Lisa West. Lisa submitted meeting minutes from the October 27, 2014, general meeting that were published in the Twig.

The general meeting minutes, as printed in the Twig, were approved by a unanimous vote.

TREASURER: Nancy Techam. There was no Treasurer's Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP: Janet Grove and Pat Hanson. Janet and Pat reported that we have 94 paid members. Andy Bindman, Linda's husband, was introduced as a guest. The 2014-2015 Member Directory is out.

PROGRAMS: Pat Schultz and Ann Skoglund. Pat and Ann noted that next month's program event is the Holiday Social that will be held on December 15 at the LeDuc Historic Estate; Mary Ellen Olson and Laura Leak are coordinating the event. Someone will be at the LeDuc after 5:00 p.m. to allow members to arrive early with refreshments. The January general meeting will feature our annual Chili Supper; and based on past experience, we will have a local speaker!

GAD-ABOUTS: Jane Driscoll and Joann Bergman. Jane and Joann informed members of the next two Gad-Abouts events: November 25 – the Buddy Holly Story at the Minnesota History Theater; and December 19 – a visit to the Swedish Institute. Sign-up sheets were circulated again. There will be no formal January Gad-Abouts event. Members will be invited to meet downtown Hastings for lunch and local shopping.

BOOK CLUB: Shirley Tammen. Shirley noted the December 8, Book Club discussion will be of the book, "A Christmas Blizzard," by Garrison Keillor, that will be hosted by Ramona McCullough. The January 5, Book Club discussion will be "The Orphan Train," by Christina Baker Kline. A hostess is needed for this meeting.

TWIG NEWSLETTER: Lois Twedt. Lois informed members that there will be no December Twig, but that pertinent information will be sent out in "Sprout" emails during December.

COMMUNITY: Margaret Goderstad. Margaret informed members that there will be Friday shopping for the next three weekends; the annual Gobble Gait will take place again on Thanksgiving Day; the River Valley Community Band, including several AAUW members, will play along with Ponticelli on Sunday, December 7 at 3:00 p.m. at Our Savior's Church.

NEW BUSINESS

Cindy Toppin mentioned the TPT Public Television series, "The Makers," that features topics including women in the military and women in politics. Relative to the Feminism Club and the High School, it was suggested that we could try to pair the club with AAUW members on topics that match the TPT series. The question was raised if perhaps we could purchase the TPT

DVDs for the High School. It was also suggested that members could ask family members about growing up – their lives and family history associated with feminist topics. Did a family member experience or get involved in a feminist movement or topic in some way?

ADJOURN

Motion by Arden Sanstead, and seconded by Shirley Tammen to adjourn the business meeting. The business meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Linda Bindman introduced the evening's speaker, Hastings resident David Page, an English and journalism instructor at Inver Hills Community College. His topic was "F. Scott Fitzgerald and James J. Hill: The Ties between St. Paul's Literary and Entrepreneurial Lions," focusing on the "poor little outsider" myth.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa West, Secretary

Book Club

Shirley Tammen

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline will be the novel for discussion at AAUW's book group on Monday, January 12 at the home of Barb Jorenby. This selection is also the Hastings Reads main selection.

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. No hostess as of this date.

Diversity

Margaret Cox

Here are some interesting and inspiring quotes on Diversity:

"It is time for parents to teach young people early on that in diversity, there is beauty and there is strength." Maya Angelou

"If we cannot now end our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity." John F. Kennedy

"Our workforce and entire economy are strongest when we embrace diversity to its fullest, and that means opening doors of opportunity to everyone and recognizing that the American Dream excludes no one." Thomas Perez

"What we have to do ... is to find a way to celebrate our diversity and debate our differences without fracturing our communities." Hillary Clinton

"We need to help students and parents cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens this community - and this nation." Cesar Chavez

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 Middle School Auditorium on Tuesday, February 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. More detailed information is provided in the brochure being published later in the month.



Good friends and good cheer!

A fresh snowfall, candles flickering,
a festive table
filled with appetizers and desserts,
and beautiful music filling the air,
awaited AAUW members,
as they entered the Le Duc
for a Holiday Social!

Thank you to all who made
our evening together so special.
Whether you made your favorite recipe
or made a donation...

Thank You!

Thank you holiday planners
for making possible our celebration...

Ann Skoglund, Pat Schultz, Pam Pontzer
Vicki Amundson, Margaret Goderstad,
Lisa Hedin, Betty Hoeschen,
Karen Moore, Glenda Schnirring,
Patty Todnem

Happy New Year!
Mary Ellen Olson and Laura Leak



Gad-Abouts

Jane Driscoll & Joann Bergman

Joann Bergman (651-319-0272) & Jane Driscoll (651-437-6802)

Several plans are in the works for 2015 Gad Abouts.

We thought that **January** would be a good month to stay close to home and support Downtown Hastings. Since half the fun of our get-togethers is having lunch, we decided on the **Onion Grille** in downtown Hastings at **11:30 on Wednesday January 28th**. Following lunch (weather and temperature permitting) you will be on your own to visit the many great shops in the downtown area. Plan to **sign-up at the Chili Supper or contact Jane (437-6802 or janevdriscoll@gmail.com) by Monday the 26th**.

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."

We need 12 signed up before February 2, in order to receive our group rate of \$20. Please plan to sign up for this event at the Chili Supper or contact Jane.

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

Treasurer's Report

Nancy Techam

The checking account balance as of December 31, 2014 is \$5427.05.
Our annual \$1000.00 contribution to the AAUW Funds was made in November. Other recent expenses revolved around the holiday event at the LeDuc.

Hastings AAUW Board Members

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	Sue Cruse
	Patty Todnem, Cindy Toppin
School Supply Drive	Mary Ellen Olson Cathy Sery
Gad-Abouts	Joann Bergman Jane Driscoll

AAUW Funds

Jan Junkman

NCCWSL

The January 10th deadline for NCCWSL applications is almost here! As you may recall, this is our new scholarship opportunity for a college age woman to attend the National Conference for College Women Leaders in Maryland in May, 2015. As of this writing, we have 1 applicant, but we are hopeful more applications will be received prior to the deadline. Thank you for spreading the news about this great opportunity. We will keep the membership informed of the status of this project.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR GIRL SCHOLARSHIP

The board approved a few revisions to the criteria for our annual high school scholarship. We previously required that the award would go to a senior girl who has attended Hastings High School for at least 3 years. However, because of changes in the high school scholarship application form, there is no fool-proof way that the length of attendance may now be determined. Therefore, this criterion has been deleted. Instead, we simply say that "The scholarship is to be awarded to the highest ranking Hastings High School senior girl available at the time of selection". Also, we changed another criterion from must plan to attend a 4 year college or university to "The student must plan to attend an accredited college or university". Please let me know if you have any questions.

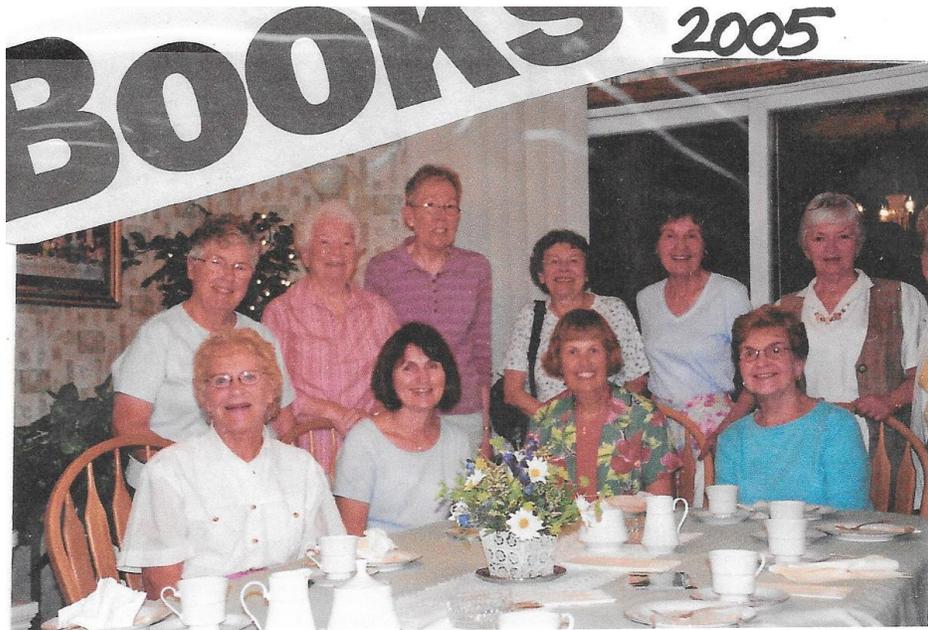
FUNDRAISING POLICY 501

We have been discussing the National AAUW policy revision at the board level for a few months, and reported on it in the last newsletter. It appears that we are in compliance with the new guidelines with the exception of the Hastings Reads program. The new policy states that funds collected using the AAUW name must support and advance the AAUW mission, as it is the intent of the donor. This presents an issue If we collaborate with another non-profit or charity; and we donate to the Hastings Reads program yearly. However, Shirley Tammen came up with a great idea that the board approved. We will use the proceeds from our spring Book Sale to fund the Hastings Reads program. This will be communicated both orally and in writing, and will then be understood by the buyer of the book(s) that the money collected will go towards the Hastings Reads program. We should then be in full compliance with the new guidelines.

Historian

Trudy Cragg

A View of the Past



Front row: Shirley, Kathy, Ramona, Verna
Back row: Mary, Pat, Carol, Barb, Arden, Fran

Community

Margaret Goderstad

Please join us at the LeDuc Historic Estate for these special events:

- Embracing Seasonality Through Spices –
The six-part series will be offered at 8 a.m. on the following Saturday mornings. These are the topics and dates:
January 17, TEATIME;
March 21, SPRING IS SPRUNG;
May 16, FORAGING;
July 18, EMBRACING THE HEAT;
September 19, FRUITS OF THE HARVEST;
November 14, GETTING TO THE ROOT OF THINGS.

These classes are sponsored by the LeDuc Historic Estate, Hastings Spiral Coop, and Mindful Motion Pilates & Fitness. There will be an exploration of herbs, spices, and attendees will be able to taste treats and health treasures of the kitchen. Registration is required and that may be done by calling 651-437-7055 or on email ajdeaver@yahoo.com. Cost per session is \$20, but a discounted rate of \$100 is being offered to anyone taking all six courses. Please check www.dakotahistory.org for further details

- Scotch Tasting - **Back by popular demand!**
There will be a Scotch Tasting event at the LeDuc Historic Estate on Friday, January 30, 7 p.m. Guests will have an opportunity to sample a variety of Scotch, learn the history of Scotch, eat some special Scotch foods, learn about the Irish poet, Robert Burns, and hear some lively bagpipe music. It will be an evening to remember!! Registration @ \$30 per person needs to be done soon as these events fill quickly. Call 651-437-7055 or email ajdeaver@yahoo.com

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>