



Hastings Branch

February 2018



President's Message

Lisa West

The beginning of any given year is often a time of change. That's no different when it comes to AAUW. As you know, the national AAUW Board of Directors voted to increase annual membership dues from \$49 to \$59, effective in fiscal year 2018-2019. AAUW National recently released additional background information regarding the need for this dues increase. In a nutshell, dues income, branch giving and other incomes have been steadily declining. There hasn't been a dues increase since 2009. In inflation adjusted dollars, fiscal year 2019 dues will be equivalent to dues paid back in 2007. And, dues are a much more stable source of income than member donations and other funding sources. So, what will this mean for our Hastings Branch? Most likely – and there's no sense sugar-coating it – a subsequent dues increase. The Board will keep members posted on developments relative to our membership dues. We want all members informed about the potential dues change and the reasons for the change.

On a lighter note – we have two terrific people who stepped forward to assume responsibility for the annual garage sale! Member Ceil Strauss and soon-to-be member, Trisha Hawkins will co-chair the 2018 garage sale in September. We are very grateful for their willingness to oversee this important fundraising event.

See you later this month for another intriguing program!

February quote: "Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does." ~ William James

Program

Rosalie Cavis & Deb Saunders

February 26

*Please join us for our February General Meeting at 7 p.m.
at St. Philip's Lutheran Church in Hastings.
Our program will follow at 7:30 with guest speaker Bill Green.
His presentation is entitled
History of African Americans in Minnesota.*

Upcoming Events

February 12.....Book Club
February 26..... General Meeting
 March 6.....Board Meeting
 April 23.....Spring Social

HASTINGS BRANCH

Meets on Mondays at...

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

1401 15th Street West, Hastings, Minnesota 55033

2017-2018 PROGRAMS

September 25, 6:00 pm SALAD SUPPER
Hastings School Board Candidates and Superintendent Tim Collins
 2017 NCCWSL Takeaway, Scholarship Recipients
 Rosemary Pechous and Loren Bushyhead

October 23, 6:00 pm AT HHS
Sexual Assault on High School and College Campuses--St. Olaf College Sexual Assault Resource Network Speakers
 Co-presentation with Hastings High School Feminism Club and Counseling Office

November 27, 7:00 pm
Poverty in our Midst: Facts, Figures and Action to Address Poverty in Dakota County
 Kelly Harder, Dir., Dakota County Community Services

December 18, 7:00 pm HOLIDAY SOCIAL
Food, Music and Celebration

January 22, 6:00 pm CHILI SUPPER
Her Story – Some Hastings Women Who Made a Difference
 Heidi Langenfeld, Local Historian

February 26, 7:00 pm
History of African Americans in Minnesota
 Bill Green

March 26, 7:00 pm
What's Next for State Health Care Policy: Cost and Coverage
 Lynn A. Blewett, U of M School of Public Health

April 23, 6:00 pm SPRING SOCIAL
Meditation and Mindfulness
 Dr. Mona Roach

May 21, 7:00 pm
"Katie's Kids" Program
 Joan Demeules, St Catherine's University Access and Success Director

Secretary

Pam Pontzer

AAUW HASTINGS BRANCH - GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – January 29, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 by President Lisa West.

Lisa welcomed the membership and asked if everyone had received adequate notice of last week's general meeting cancellation. Lisa then read from a letter received from AAUW National Board Chair, Julie Brown. Brown noted the accomplishments of AAUW, referencing that AAUW was 136 years old in November 2017. Brown stated that the National Board will be developing a new strategic plan in 2018. Lisa recommended that members go the AAUW website to get a full picture of the many activities that AAUW is involved in. Lisa will send a copy of Brown's "State of AAUW" letter to the membership. Jan Benson is the current President of AAUW Minnesota and will be looking at how to apply the strategic plan developed at the National level to Minnesota activities. Lisa asked that we think about activities at the local level. She asked that we all think "outside the box" for branch projects.

The Secretary's Report was approved for the November 2017 General Meeting with a motion by Pat Powers, and seconded by Shirley Tammen. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Treasurer, Mary Charlson was unable to attend the meeting. Lisa noted that the checking account balance is \$2,884.86. A payment in the amount of \$2500 was made to Stanford University on behalf of our 2017 AAUW Scholarship winner, Marianne Smallidge. Dues were paid for one new member. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Glenda Schnirring and seconded by Pat Schultz. The motion was unanimously approved.

Membership Co-Chair Camille Nelson noted that 2 visitors were attending our meeting.

Program Co-Chair Deb Saunders informed the group that Co-Chair Rosalie Cavis is in the process of planning the Spring Social. The Spring Social will be held at the Hastings Country Club on April 23, 2018, and will be catered by Rudy's Red Eye. The cost to attend the social is \$30.00. Deb handed around a clipboard for members to sign up and pay.

Public Policy Chair Pat Powers noted that we received a thank you note from 360 Communities for our donation to Lewis House. Pat mentioned that we should prepare for the First State of the Union from this administration and be watching for possible affects to the public policy priorities of AAUW. Some of these priorities are the gender pay gap, immigration, and Title IX. Pat also spoke about resolutions brought forth at the State Convention and how these resolutions are constructed. She noted that the ERA has not been included in the Minnesota State Constitution.

Gad Abouts Co-Chairs Cindy Toppin and Sue Cruse - Sue noted that Gad Abouts will visit the Red Wing Pottery Museum on January 31, 2018. The cost is \$22.80. On May 3, 2018 the group will attend a coffee concert at Orchestra Hall. 20 tickets are available and the cost will be between \$20 and \$30. Sue will need to know who wish to attend by March 29, 2018. This is the last Gad About activity for the year.

Hospitality Co-Chairs Patty Todnem and Nancy Ahn thanked the board for providing the chili supper.

Book Club Chair Shirley Tammen informed the members that the book group will meet on February 12, 2018, at the home of Diane Smith. The book is Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance. On Monday, March 12th, the group will discuss the book The Other Einstein by Marie Benedict. The location for this meeting has not yet been determined. The first event for Hastings Reads will be held on February 1, 2018 at the Le Duc. An entire schedule of events for Hastings Reads can be found on each of the tables at tonight's dinner. The Friends of Pleasant Hill Library will hold a used book sale from February 24th to February 26th, 2018, at the Pleasant Hill Library.

Twig Editor Lois Twedt asked members to let her know if they are not receiving the Twig.

AAUW Funds Chair Glenda Schnirring noted she had just mailed a check for \$2500 to Stanford University for this year's AAUW Scholarship winner and that she and the rest of the scholarship committee would be reviewing this year's list of applicants tomorrow. We have awarded 47 scholarships to date.

NCCWSL Chair Gail Glashan noted that there had been 6 NCCWSL candidates, with 4 completing applications. The NCWSSL committee met and reviewed applications. All the candidates were well qualified. The committee chose Danielle Perra. Danielle attends Villa Nova College. This is the 6th NCCWSL scholarship that we have awarded.

Community Chair Margaret Goderstad informed the group that on February 3, 2018, The Roe Family singers will be performing at the Hastings Art Center. The Le Duc will hold a Scotch Tasting on February 9, 2018, and a High Tea on February 7, 2018. Margaret mentioned that in 1857, the first black residents moved to Hastings. In 1907, the first black church in Hastings was burned to the ground. Klu Klux Klan marches attracted hundreds of people. With that in mind, on February 24, 2018 at 2:00 PM, a program entitled "Building Bridges" will be held in the Hastings High School Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public. Check the HastingsNow app for other upcoming activities.

Diversity Chair Marlys Schmitt was absent

Historian Chair Lisa Hedin had nothing to report.

Garage Sale Co-Chairs Linda Bindman and Kathy O'Keefe told the group that the garage sale had been fantastic and that they are stepping down to allow others to experience the fun of chairing this committee. Kathy and Linda brought up many topics at tonight's meeting to inspire others to step up and chair the Grand Garage Sale.

Old Business - Lois Twedt informed the group about attending the St Cloud AAUW Tech Savvy event held on October 28, 2017. The event was for girls in grades 5 through 9. Lois noted that St. Cloud State covered the facility and many other costs. Lois noted that 20 members of the AAUW St Cloud Branch were able to coordinate the registration, fund raising and food concessions. If Hastings AAUW was interested in hosting this type of event, we could partner with DCTC or Inver Hills. Lois approached Health Force, a Minnesota State College System program to see if we could act as a 3rd party (along with Inver Hills Community College) in sponsoring an event through them. DCTC already hosts two events so we are looking at connecting with Inver Hills. Lois is not sure if we could get this organized for this year but it should certainly be considered going forward.

New Business - Lisa noted that MN AAUW is looking for a Web Page Manager. She also noted that there were no resolutions brought forward last year at the State Convention. She hopes this changes in the future. The deadline for submitting articles to the Pine is February 1, 2018. National dues have increased by \$10.00 for the 2019 fiscal year. The State Convention will be held in Faribault on April 27, 2018. In 2019, the National Convention will be held in Grand Rapids, Minnesota!

There were 47 attendees at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

The evening's program, "Her Story - Some Hastings Women Who Made a Difference" was presented by local Historian Heidi Langenfeld.

Pam Pontzer, Secretary

Book Club

Shirley Tammen

On Monday, February 12, the group will be discussing J.D. Vance's Hillbilly Elegy, A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis. I believe I can get the "Books in a Bag" for that selection and plan to bring it to our January meeting being held at the home of Diane Smith

On Monday, March 12, we will be discussing The Other Einstein by Marie Benedict. This historical fiction novel focuses on the life of Mitza, Albert Einstein's wife, a brilliant physicist, whose contribution to the theory of relativity is renown in the scientific world.

AUTHOR AT BIERSTUBE

Brian Freeman, a well-known psychological thriller author, is the Thursday, February 15, 6:30 speaker at the Bierstube. Amazon's #1 Bestselling Author's novels have been sold in 46 countries and 22 languages. Freeman's two award winning novels include Spilled Blood and The Burying Place. A larger room will be available at the Bierstube that evening. Join the group for dinner at 5:30 or come for the presentation by Brian Freeman. All are welcome!

HASTINGS READS

Author visit by Kao Kalia Yang, author of The Song Poet, will present during the day at Hastings High School on Tuesday, February 20th. There will be another author visit by Koa Kalia Yang at the Hastings Art Center on Tuesday, February 20, from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Community

Margaret Goderstad

THE LEDUC HISTORIC ESTATE-

- Friday, February 9, 7 p.m. Burns Night Scotch Tasting - Reservations required. Call [651-438-8480](tel:651-438-8480)
- Saturday, February 17, 3:30 p.m. Valentine's Day Tea - Reservations required. Call [651-438-8480](tel:651-438-8480)

HASTINGS ART CENTER

- Ellie Leonardsmith photographic exhibit, "What We Hide," continues through mid-February
- Sunday, February 11, 3 p.m. A quartet featuring the classics from "The Great American Songbook", "Oldies, but Goodies" love songs
- Friday, February 23, 7 p.m. Violin & Cello duo which has performed across three continents, including the Kennedy Center. They are winners of the Eastman Concerts Competition. String faculty for the Dorian Summer Camp at Luther College. Reside in Deborah

BUILDING BRIDGES IN HASTINGS - OUR BLACK HISTORY

You are invited to "Building Bridges in Hastings - Our Black History," 2 p.m., Saturday, February 24 at the High School Auditorium. Learn more about Hastings Black history & enjoy a performance by a Readers' Theater & BlackOut Improv Group from the Twin Cities. This is a community supported Celebration. Free & open to the public, but a free-will donation will be accepted.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Charlson

One new membership deposit was made during the month of January. A payment of \$2500 was made to Stanford University for our 2017 AAUW Hastings High School Scholarship recipient. There is a balance of \$2,884.86 in the checking account.

Mary Charlson, Treasurer

Gad-Abouts

Susan Cruse & Cindy Toppin

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

The next Gad-Abouts will be a trip to Orchestra Hall Coffee Concert, in Downtown Minneapolis, with lunch to follow.

Details:

Date: Thursday, May 3rd

Meet: Sterling parking lot, NW corner, at 8:30. We leave at 8:45 a.m. There will be coffee and treats from 10 a.m. until the concert begins at 11:00. For those who are interested, there is a 30 minute preview of the concert starting at 10:15.

Cost: \$23.00 (checks made out to Cindy Toppin, due by March 19.) We only have 20 tickets, so reserve your spot early.

Lunch: Either Brit's Pub or the Newsroom, you will pay directly for your lunch.

For more info, contact Susan Cruse (437-1767).

Hastings AAUW Board Members

President	Lisa West
Past-President.....	Pam Pontzer
Co-Vice Presidents Membership.....	Camille Nelson
	Ruth Versaw
Co-Vice Presidents Programs.....	Rosalie Cavis
	Deb Saunders
Secretary	Pam Pontzer
Treasurer	Mary Charlson
AAUW Funds.....	Glenda Schnirring
Book Club.....	Shirley Tammen
Community.....	Margaret Goderstad
Diversity	Marlys Schmitt
Gad-Abouts.....	Susan Cruse
	Cindy Toppin
Historian.....	Lisa Hedin
Hospitality.....	Nancy Ahn
	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
Website.....	Mary Ellen Fox

Program

Rosalie Cavis & Deb Saunders

The **Spring Social** will be held on Monday, April 23rd, 2018, at the Dakota Pines Golf Club, (formerly known as the Hastings Golf Club). The event will be catered by Rudy's Catering.

5:30pm Social Hour - cash bar

6:00pm Buffet Dinner - menu of popovers with honey butter, Bistro salad, cheesy mashed potatoes, Rudy's signature teriyaki green beans, roasted boneless chicken breast with parmesan sauce, and roasted pork loin with red wine mushroom cream sauce. Vegetarian and gluten free option is available upon request

7:00 pm Business meeting

7:30 pm Dr. Mona Roach's presentation: Mindfulness and Meditation. She will share her insights on meditation and mindfulness in an educational, interactive and experiential way.

The cost of the event is \$30 per person, which includes tax, tip and room rental. This event is open to all, so please invite friends, family and anyone who might have an interest in AAUW. We are hoping to have at least 60 in attendance at this event!

Please sign up at the February or March AAUW meeting. Checks can be made out to Rudy's Catering. You may also sign up by emailing Rosalie Cavis at cavis4@gmail.com or call her at [651-442-5839](tel:651-442-5839). Reserve your spot by April 9, 2018.

Historian

Lisa Hedin



Diversity

Marlys Schmitt

Diversity at the AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

Every year hundreds of college women attend and participate in AAUW for 3 days of leadership, networking and training. This year's 33rd National conference for College Women Student Leaders brings diverse women together as shown in the Attendee Profile:

See attachment

Please see AAUW's website to learn more at www.nccws.org

MESSAGE FROM PEGGY HORSCH REGARDING UNITED WAY FOOD DRIVE—

See Attachment

Also note the attached new directory with 3 new members.

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>