



# Hastings Branch

May 2019



## President's Message

Lisa West

Dear Members,

I experienced my first AAUW MN State Convention as President – our 90<sup>th</sup> Convention! With the exception of starting the business meeting before I was supposed to, and wearing two different socks, it went pretty well. It's a whole different perspective from in front of the room. But, as I do with many things in my life, I learn from my experiences, so I can do things differently next time!

You'll hear more from Pat Powers about the diverse and inspiring speakers at this year's Convention. I was so impressed by Dr. Kathy Annette and Dr. Zoe Spenser, and the challenges and achievements in their lives. It was another good Convention.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Pat Powers for her extensive involvement in the Hastings Branch auction items for this Convention. Thank you to all who donated items or cash toward our auction offerings. We earned \$355 and will get credit for that donation to AAUW funds of greatest need!

We haven't confirmed a location for the 2020 State Convention, but hopefully over the summer we can announce a Host Branch. And along those lines, since there is no AAUW National Convention planned for 2020, I'm in preliminary discussions, with several State AAUW Presidents, about a Midwest Regional Convention in 2020. The Quad Cities, St. Louis, and Kansas City locations have been thrown on the table; but stayed tuned and we'll see where this goes!

As our 2018-2019 program-year draws to a close, I want to wish you all a wonderful, warm, safe, and happy summer. See you on May 20 for our final program!

May Quote: "Feminism isn't about making women stronger. Women are already strong. It's about changing the way the world perceives that strength." ~ G.D. Anderson

## Program

Rosalie Cavis & Deb Saunders

### Blue Zones Project Albert Lea – A community journey to wellbeing

Our May 20th program speaker is Ellen Kehr, the Organization Lead for the Blue Zones Project Albert Lea and the Project Manager of the National Vitality Center. She has served as the Freeborn County SHIP (Statewide Health Improvement Partnership) Coordinator and the Organization Lead for the Blue Zones Project Mason City.

Ellen is passionate about education, community wellbeing, public service and economic development. Throughout the years she has served on a wide variety of community and non-profit boards. Recently, she served on the Albert Lea City Council from 2009-13, for 12 years as a commissioner and past president of the Albert Lea Economic Development Agency and currently is a board member and past president of the Riverland Community College Foundation.

Ellen's professional careers along with her extensive community service and engagement have given her the opportunity to work and serve in many different sectors of the

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 13 ..... Book Club
- May 17 .....Gad-Abouts
- May 20 .....General Meeting

## HASTINGS BRANCH

Meets on Mondays  
St. Philip's Lutheran Church  
1401 15<sup>th</sup> Street West,  
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

## 2018-2019 PROGRAMS

September 24, 6:00 pm      Salad Supper  
**The Artist in the World**  
Marisha Chamberlain

October 22, 7:00 pm  
**Mayor Candidates Forum**

November 26, 7:00 pm  
**Empowering African Women through Education and Opportunities**  
Michelle Triebold

December 3, 6:30 pm      Holiday Social  
Hastings Art Center  
**AAUW National CEO, Kim Churches**  
**Food, Music and Celebration**

January 28, 6:00 pm      Chili Supper  
**Creating Caring Communities in Minnesota: Five Things You Can Do – NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)**

February 25, 6:30 pm      Hastings Reads  
Hastings Art Center  
**Dear Martin and Odd One Out**  
Nic Stone, author

March 25, 7:00 pm  
**History of Hastings Part 2**  
Heidi Langenfeld

April 29, 5:30 pm      Spring Social  
Dakota Pines Golf Club  
**The Crusade for Forgotten Souls: Reforming Minnesota's Mental Institutions**  
Susan Foote

May 20, 7:00 pm      Book Sale  
**Albert Lea Blue Zones Project**  
Ellen Kehr, Success Director

community, all of which play an integral part in our quality of life. What she values most about all these experiences are the lessons learned and relationships forged along the way. As a community navigator tasked with building partnerships, connecting resources and inspiring community engagement, she feels they are the most valuable assets she brings to the work she does today.



Want to learn more about Blue Zones or maybe even find a new recipe for dinner tonight? Check out these links!

<https://www.bluezones.com/#section-1>

Learn more about us here:

<http://Explore.BlueZonesproject.com>

“Like” Blue Zones Project Albert Lea on Facebook!

[www.facebook.com/BlueZonesProjectAlbertLea](http://www.facebook.com/BlueZonesProjectAlbertLea)

## Community

Margaret Goderstad

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### LeDUC HISTORIC ESTATE

- Mother's Day Tea - Saturday, May 11, 3:30 p.m. – Reservations Required Call 651-438-8480.
- Friends of LeDuc & Historic Hastings – May 14, 6:30 p.m. A walk in the woods to observe wildflowers
- Tour Season Opens – May 16
- Oakwood Cemetery Clean-Up – May 21, 4-8 p.m.
- Rhubarb Festival – June 1, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. – Bake sale, Flea Market in Simmons Shed, Activities for Children, Rhubarb & other plants for sale. Hastings Garden Club will also be selling plants.

### HASTINGS ARTS CENTER

- Coffee Concerts – May 14 & 28, 10:30 a.m.
- Gypsy Mania – Hot Club Swing Jazz – May 18, 7 p.m.
- Hutton-Caviani Duo – Jazz Standards & Original Music June 1, 7 p.m.

### HPAAC

- “Music on the Mississippi” – River Valley Band – May 19, 3 p.m. Rotary Pavilion at Levee Park
- Scholarships Available for all ages in any art media. See website.

### ARTSPACE HASTINGS RIVER LOFTS

- Henrik Ibsen’s *An Enemy of the People* (A bluegrass infused adaptation) – May 31 - 7 p.m., June 1 – 7 p.m., June 2 – 1 p.m. Buy your tickets at [sodhousetheater.org](http://sodhousetheater.org) or 612-414-2032

### DAKOTA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

- WWI Exhibit at Sears Court, MOA – May 24-27 – Events for children & those who complete activities will receive a voucher for admission to the Crayola Experience.
- Fashion Show on May 27, 1-5 p.m. featuring clothing of the WWI Era. Patty Todnem has created one of the ensembles. The theme: “The War That Raised Grandma’s Hemline.”

### Book Club

*Shirley Tammen*

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The Monday, May 13 book club selection is Michelle Obama’s biography *Becoming*. An instant best seller, Obama relates her experiences balancing her work, family and her husband’s political career. Linda Bindman will host this meeting. If members wish to car-pool to Linda’s home, meet at the Methodist (Resurrection) Church at 6:40. This will be the last meeting until September 9.

We will again hold a “mini” book sale at the May 20 AAUW meeting. Because we want to continue to be a sponsor of the annual Hastings Reads programs, we hold a book sale before and after the meeting that evening. We request hard cover or paperbacks which are fairly current. Prices: \$2 hardcover, \$1 paperback. WHAT A BARGAN. I will be at the church by 1pm if you are able to bring them early, otherwise bring them before the meeting so we can sort them. This has been a great fundraiser for HR through AAUW members, so let’s keep it up.

### Gad-Abouts

*Vicki Amundson, Karen Holmquist, & Nancy Techam*

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**Skyrock Farm and Carousel in Hamel, MN on Friday  
May 17, 2019**

This is the last gadabouts event for this year, a visit to Skyrocket Farm and Carousel on Friday, May 17th. A reminder for those attending this event that we will leave the St. Philips parking lot at 9:15. A huge thank you to all who participated in the Gadabouts events this year.

We will begin working on events for next year this summer.

### Treasurer’s Report

*Mary Charlson*

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Expenses were paid for the Spring Social and April guest speaker. The checking account balance as of April 30, 2019 was \$2267.65.

Thank you to 39 members who have already renewed their 2019-20 dues!

## Membership

Camille Nelson & Ruth Versaw

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We welcome new member Melody Bialke. Melody is a University of Texas, Austin alum and has already volunteered to help with our programming next year!

**It's that time again to renew your membership for 2019-20.** The program committee has some exciting topics in the planning, so you won't want to miss out on any of the coming year!

Dues remain the same as last year at \$90. Dues break down to: National AAUW \$59, Minnesota AAUW \$9, Hastings AAUW \$22. You may bring your check to the May 20th meeting or send it to treasurer:

Mary Charlson, AAUW Treasurer  
2371 Glacier Way  
Hastings, MN 55033

**Make check out to Hastings AAUW by June 30 to avoid a \$10 late fee.**

## Secretary

Betty Hoeschen

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### AAUW HASTINGS BRANCH-GENERAL MEETING- APRIL 29, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Lisa West at the Hastings Public House following a social hour and buffet dinner enjoyed by the 66 members present. Lisa reviewed the AAUW State Convention held in Grand Rapids, and read the proclamation by Governor Tim Walz declaring April 27, 2019, as AAUW Day in Minnesota.

Gail Glashan moved and Lisa Hedin seconded that the minutes of the March meeting be approved as submitted by Betty Hoeschen. The motion passed.

Mary Charlson reported a check book balance of \$2492.65. Vicki Amundson moved and Kathy O'Keefe seconded the treasurer's report be approved. The motion passed.

Mary reviewed the proposed budget for 2019-2020. Glenda Schnirring moved and Danna Elling Schultz seconded that the proposed budget be accepted. The motion passed.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Camille Nelson welcomed and introduced Melody Bialke, a new member.

Ideas for programs should be given to Rosalie Cavis or Debbie Saunders.

Pat Powers reported there is a legislative emphasis to get the Equal Rights Amendment passed.

Nancy Techam reported on the last Gad Abouts event scheduled for this year. A trip to Skyrock Farm and Carousel in Medina, is scheduled for May 17, 2019. The day includes tea, a tour of the farm, lunch, gardens, and a high jumping horse exhibition. A sign-up sheet was circulated.

Shirley Tammen reported the book club is reading Michele Obama's book, *Becoming*, for the May 13, 2019, meeting at Linda Bindman's home.

The paintings in the front of the room are for sale, with proceeds going to HPAAC to benefit a female taking lessons at Hastings Art Center. The paintings were donated to the library, but will not be used with the remodeling of the facility.

Remember to bring books to sell at the May 20, 2019, meeting. Proceeds support the AAUW contribution to Hastings Reads. Shirley will accept books before the sale if you are unable to attend the meeting.

Margaret Goderstad reported on some of the many events happening in the Hastings area this spring including Hastings Art Center, HPAAC, Le Duc Historic Mansion, and Dakota County. Tricia Hawkins reminded members of the September 21, 2019, garage sale date. This is our one and only fundraiser for the year.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Officer nominations for 2019-2020 were: treasurer-Mary Charlson, Vice President of Program- Deb Saunders and Tina Folch. After nominations were closed, Danna Elling Schultz moved and Cindy Toppin seconded the slate be accepted as presented. The motion passed.

Lois Twedt reported on the SCRUBS camp she has been working on with DCTC. This year the camp will introduce medical careers for people working with individuals with disabilities to middle school age youth. The camp dates are June 17 and 18. AAUW would like to provide 8 counselor/guides each day. A sign-up sheet was circulated for those interested in volunteering for the event.

Kathy O'Keefe introduced 'Longer Table', a community inclusion event to be held at Levy Park, June 23, 2019, from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Watch for more information.

The meeting was adjourned to 7:47 pm.

## Public Policy

Pat Powers

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### AAUW State Convention

Glenda Schnirring and Pat Powers made the long trek to Grand Rapids and arrived at the lovely Timberlake Lodge in time for the Friday Banquet and speaker. The speaker chosen was an outstanding woman from Grand Rapids, Dr. Kathleen Annette. She grew up on the Red Lake Indian Reservation, attended the U of Minnesota, graduated as a Medical Dr. as the first woman from the Ojibwe Nation to become a physician. She retired after 26 years as deputy director of field operations of Indian Health Services. She was the site coordinator after the shooting incident at the Red Lake High School in 2005. She has won many awards and had a powerful career. She served 12 years on the board of the Bland; in her retirement she is the President /CEO of the Blandin Foundation. The take away from her talk was that she was persistent at whatever came her way and when she was up against naysayers she always responded with "We'll see" and then proceeded to conquer the elements. The Blandin foundation is all about Minnesotans imagining, leading, and growing healthy, inclusive vibrant communities. In January they announced 50 grants totaling \$4 million in support of local nonprofits.

Saturday was filled with an excellent program. There were breakfast training sessions for officers and then the business meeting. The LAF speaker was on a tight schedule so she spoke in the morning, a break in the business meeting. Dr Zoe Spencer, an LAF recipient, was a spectacular example of how we help women who are at the breaking point in trying to get justice for wrongful decisions by their employer. Virginia State dismissed her gender discrimination suit. She explained the discrimination. She was making approximately \$40,000 less than two male colleagues who had lighter classroom time and close to 200 fewer students in their

classes. Dr. Z is a black woman with a PhD from Howard University who grew up in ghetto. She admits to being a fighter. She packed the courtroom with her students and pleaded her case in front of 3 white judges who determined that the school was right and that she did not deserve equal compensation. The administration of the school is all white and male. The school would not agree to a gender equality study. The school is a Historically Black College/University, HBCU. She continues to experience retaliation. She appealed the decision and lost again and is currently taking it to the Virginia Supreme Court. At her lowest point when she was about to give up AAUW gave her a substantial amount of funding that allowed her to continue. She is buoyed up by learned resilience and faith. She is why we give to the AAUW funds.

Karen Kirkwood, former state president, gave us an update on the initiatives of AAUW. "Charting the Course" is working on equality for women meaning equal pay for equal work. AAUW is raising \$1 million in unrestricted funds to support research, leadership development and advocacy. It will support Tech Trek, Smart Start/ Work Smart and existing programs that empower women in our communities, schools, workplaces and positions of leadership.

Back at the business meeting there was the introduction of resolutions. The resolution to support the Dream Act was approved. The resolution is implemented by AAUW members staying informed about DACA legislation and lobbying legislators to vote for the Dream Act. The other resolution about opening AAUW to all who endorse the AAUW mission was pulled from the agenda when it was determined that the states cannot make that decision for all of AAUW, that it depends on a national vote which failed at the last national convention.

The breakout sessions included mission-based presentations and enrichment presentations. There was time for everyone to attend 2 sessions before it was time to head home.

Think about attending next year. It is great to meet your peers from all over the state and great to learn so much more about AAUW.

## Web Page

Mary Ellen Fox

Accidentally delete your email with the latest directory?

Forget where our meeting is located this month?

Then, check the website!

Here's the link: <https://hastings-mn.aauw.net/>

Member protected section PASSWORD: hastings2017

### [AAUW Mission Statement](#)

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

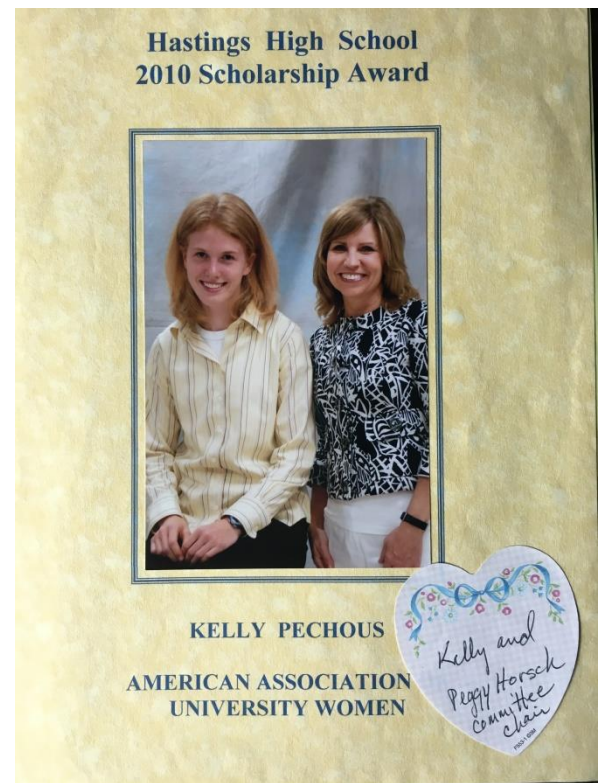
### [AAUW Vision Statement](#)

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>

## Historian

Lisa Hedin



## AAUW Hastings Board

<b>President</b> -----	Lisa West
<b>Co-VPs Membership</b> ---	Camille Nelson Ruth Versaw
<b>Co-VPs Programs</b> -----	Rosalie Cavis Deb Saunders
<b>Secretary</b> -----	Betty Hoeschen
<b>Treasurer</b> -----	Mary Charlson
<b>AAUW Funds</b> -----	Glenda Schnirring
<b>Book Club</b> -----	Shirley Tammen
<b>Community</b> -----	Margaret Goderstad
<b>Diversity</b> -----	Marlys Schmitt
<b>Gad-Abouts</b> -----	Vicki Amundson Karen Holmquist Nancy Techam
<b>Historian</b> -----	Lisa Hedin
<b>Hospitality</b> -----	Nancy Ahn Kathy Stockman Patty Todnem
<b>NCCWSL</b> -----	Gail Glashan
<b>Newsletter</b> -----	Linda Bindman
<b>Public Policy</b> -----	Pat Powers
<b>Garage Sale</b> -----	Tricia Hawkins Ceil Strauss