



## President's Message

*Lisa Hedin*

The morning of May 1st found me attending the virtual AAUW MN State Meeting along with a number of our other Branch members. (AAUW Hastings sure does its share and then some to keep the world going around.) Kim Churches, AAUW Executive Director, spoke at the end and wow is she ever a passionate advocate for our organization. Keep an eye on your email, as we hope to be sending a link out to a recording of her presentation shortly.

The AAUW Hastings Board is hard at work on our next program year. We are planning on a full program year with our 50th Program Year celebration, a new fundraiser or two, a book sale (or two), Gad Abouts, and in person mission oriented programming. We will extend the Branch's Zoom subscription, and continue to build our ability to provide virtual participation opportunities. Continue to send in your dues (\$93) for your 2021-22 year of membership to Mary Charlson at 2371 Glacier Way Hastings, MN 55033. Get your check in the mail and feel the satisfaction of crossing something off your "to-do list". Also, dues paid after 1 July will have a \$10 late fee added.

I know Louise Penny and Lisa See are favorite authors of many of you. On Saturday, May 15th these two authors are participating in an author conversation as an AAUW fundraiser called Cover to Cover. Here is the link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/23rd-annual-cover-to-cover-fundraiser-for-re-entry-women-scholarships-registration-144809770923>

Thanks to Cindy Toppin for passing along this fun and unique opportunity.

Stay well, take care of each other, and count your blessings.

## Membership

*Kathy Palmer and Jackie Rigelman*

This month we will end a year of amazing programs which we handled beautifully virtually. However, we are hoping to get back to meeting in person starting in September!

**It's that time again to renew your membership!!** The program committee has some exciting topics in the planning for our 2021-22 year, so you won't want to miss out!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 10 ..... Book Club  
May 11 ..... Gadabouts  
May 24 ..... Virtual General Meeting  
June 14 ..... Book Club

### HASTINGS BRANCH

Meets on Mondays

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

### 2020-2021 PROGRAMS

September 28, 6:30 pm Virtual Salad Supper  
**We've Come A Long Way, Ladies!**  
Audrey Johnson

October 26, 6:30 pm  
**Leading into the Future: Current Realities and Mental Models**  
Derrick Jaeger & UyenThi Tran Myhre

November 23, 6:30 pm  
Karla Bingham

December 7, 6:30 pm Holiday Party  
**Food, Music and Celebration**

January 25, 6:30 pm Virtual Chili Supper  
Margaret Anderson Kelliher

February 22, 6:30 pm  
**Building Remembrance For Reconciliation**  
James Curry, Heidi Langenfeld, & Greg McMoore

March 22, 6:30 pm  
**Dementia and Friends**  
Colleen Fritsch

April 26, 6:30 pm  
**All Things AAUW**

May 24, 6:30 pm  
**College Possible**  
Amy Browender

Dues for 2021-22 will be going up to \$93. This is a direct pass-through of a \$3 National dues increase, neither the State nor local dues components are changing:

National AAUW \$62

Minnesota AAUW \$9

Hastings Branch \$22

**After July 1<sup>st</sup> a \$10 late fee will be assessed.**

Since we are not meeting in person, like last year, your dues check needs to be sent directly to our Treasurer, Mary Charlson.

So, please help out by getting your payment in now and sending your **\$93 check (payable to Hastings AAUW)** to:

Mary Charlson,  
2371 Glacier Way  
Hastings, MN 55033

Looking forward to seeing you next year!

## Program

*Danna Elling Schultz, Tina Folch and Diane Saed*

### *"College Possible" - Helping Kids Get There*

AAUW's May program will be especially timely as we hear and think about student graduates at all levels. A positively poised presentation will expose how "**College Possible**" helps high school students often seen as unlikely to think of themselves as college-bound, to be coached through a pre-application period, to full college acceptance by a higher education institution and continuing through the college experience of the student.

Amy Browender, an eight-year staff and development person with "**College Possible**", will share the success of the Minnesota - founded non-profit organization which began its programing in Minnesota's high schools in 2000. Since then its work and impact can be found statewide in Oregon and Washington and the cities of Omaha, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Milwaukee.



Amy will describe what's key in bringing a student along who is academically gifted for higher learning to partner with a "**College Possible**" coach and leave high school with a life- long plan.

The examples Amy will share from her own personal coaching and in grooming new coaches will be a positive lift in these times when students have had their educational experience completely re-written from the norm.

Amy's most recent role with "**College Possible**" has been in raising awareness and resources for its programs. She has planned fundraising events which help bridge the organization to new partners.

As a Highland Park, St. Paul native, and a graduate from Ripon College, Amy will tell stories of how the most economically and culturally challenged can come into their own by living through a higher education experience, having had the help of "**College Possible**".

**Here is the Zoom link for May's meeting and program:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83609135493?pwd=cEJTV1E1SElqWU1sR1dJamhXdHd2QT09>

**You will receive this ZOOM Meeting invitation again, via email, before the May meeting and program.**

## Community

*Margaret Goderstad*

Good News!! More venues are opening so be checking websites to see what is available.

**Hastings Arts Center:** (check out their website)

Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 7:00 pm will be featuring Kangwoon Jin, classical pianist. Online or in person.

Reserve a spot

Hastings Public Schools Art Department Student Spring Art Show - now online

In-person lessons available

Their fundraiser continues - shirts @\$20.

**Orange Dragon Art Gallery** in Prescott is now open, Wednesday - Sunday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## Book Club

*Shirley Tammen*

*The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett will be discussed on Monday, May 10 via zoom at 1:30. This multi award winning novel features 16 year old twin sisters who leave their black community to follow different life paths.

The zoom link for the May 10th book club meeting is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81615109295?pwd=ak1oSWFqbHBiY1QxSzRTM1BnRjY3dz09>

The book group decided to meet twice during the summer. On Monday, June 14 at 1:30 (location determined later) we selected *For Whom the Bells Tolls* by Ernest Hemingway. We thought it was a good time to revisit that popular classic.

On Monday, August 9, 1:30 will be our second summer meeting. So many in our group love mysteries, so here we go! *The Lost Man* by Jane Harper is a powerful story of suspense set in outback Australia where three brothers live. One of the brothers is found dead in this remote area and family secrets surface. Who did it?

AAUW Book group will begin the fall season by discussing *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson. This Pulitzer Prize winning author examines aspects of caste systems across civilizations and reveals a rigid hierarchy in America today. This date is Monday, September 13 at 1:30, the location is undetermined.

On Monday, Oct. 11, we will discuss *The Invisible Life of Addie Larue* by V.E. Schwab.

### **The Dakota County Library will be hosting (via Zoom):**

Hastings' Black Community: History & Experiences

Learn about the stories and timeline of early Black families who made Hastings their home from 1857 to 1954. Descendants of the Dungeon family from Harrisburg, Virginia will describe their journey to Hastings and eventually to south Minneapolis after the burning of Hastings' Browns Chapel, an African Methodist Episcopal Church. Presented by members of Building Remembrance for Reconciliation.

This program is a two-part series. Registration required separately for each session.

Zoom virtual events

Monday, May 17, 7–8 p.m.

Monday, May 24, 7–8 p.m.

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/libraries/Programs/Adults/Pages/hastings-black-community.aspx>

## Gadabouts

*Margaret Goderstad & Lisa Hedin*

### **May 11, 2021 at 2:00 PM:**

From the Minnesota Historical Society, listen to a new documentary, “A Brief History of Women in Bars: A Minnesota Story in Three Rounds,” then join us in conversation with its creator. Fulbright-National Geographic Digital Storytelling Fellow, historian, and podcaster Katie Thornton will look at how Minnesota’s temperance movement set the stage for our women’s suffrage movement. Explore how temperance leaders and many early suffragists failed to engage women who were not wealthy, white, Anglo-Saxon Protestants. Discover how women who did not fit those definitions empowered themselves – sometimes through the economic and social opportunities presented by the alcohol industry. Thornton will also talk about doing historical research at the Gale Family Library.

### **Link for the May11 (2:00 PM) Gadabouts event is:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89827325983?pwd=Kys3RjhOUUnNSYzkwRkdrbGERVWlwQT09>

### **Volunteer Leader Wanted: Gadabouts**

Have you been looking for a role to play in AAUW Hastings? Well, AAUW Hastings has been looking for you!

We are looking to invigorate Gadabouts for the 2021-22 program year and need members to step up and bring their new ideas. Our goal is to have 3-4 virtual programs, and maybe try a modest in-person adventure. Whether you want to take on leadership for the year or for one program, the Branch will be happy to have you. We have had great success with virtual programming and are open to what works for you (in-person or virtual).

## **Strategic Plan**

*Lisa West*

On May 4, 2021 our Branch Board unanimously approved the AAUW Hastings Strategic Plan (Plan). The Plan is designed to guide AAUW Hastings' work and activities for the next five years, from 2021 through 2026. A plan is not supposed to be a shelf dust-collector. A plan should be a living document that evolves over time, establishes goals, and provides direction and purpose for an organization.

The four main macro areas of focus in the AAUW National Strategic Plan are included in the Plan; but with Goals, Objectives and Actions that reflect our local level of service to Hastings and the surrounding community.

Through discussions with AAUW Hastings Board members, Goals, Objectives, and Actions for the main focus areas of Education, Economic Security, Leadership, and our own Governance and Sustainability as an organization were drafted. Following drafting, review, and comments from the AAUW Hastings Board, the Plan was released for member review and comment. Once member comments were incorporated the Plan was approved by our Board.

If you didn't take the opportunity to review the draft Plan – read it now! If you reviewed the draft Plan, read the final Plan again! And, return to the Plan whenever you feel the need to revisit this guiding document that will help shape what AAUW Hastings intends to do and support, as we continue to empower women and girls now and into the future. Most importantly, participate in every way possible, in implementing the Actions identified in the Plan. Our AAUW Hastings organization will thrive, grow, and improve the lives of women and girls, and their families, when we all work together!

The AAUW Hastings Strategic Plan is available on our webpage.

## **Web Page**

*Mary Ellen Fox*

Accidentally delete your email with 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

## **Scholarship Update**

*Glenda Schnirring*

A Hastings Branch scholarship awardee will be named on Monday May 17, along with other Hastings High School students receiving scholarships.

With your generous financial giving to the "no sale" Garage Sale, which typically funds the scholarship, the Hastings Branch will again be able to grant its traditional award to a new honoree. The scholarship is in the amount of \$2500 and will be given to an academically strong young woman from the Hastings High School

The winner will be named and described after May 17th in a short announcement known as "Sprout".

## **Treasurer's Report**

*Mary Charlson*

There were no expenses or income during the month of April so the checking account balance remains at \$2,813.60.

Here is another reminder to renew your \$93 AAUW membership by mail. My address is, 2371 Glacier Way, Hastings. Checks should be written to Hastings AAUW.

Thank you to those members who have renewed their 2021-22 dues.

## **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Darlene Olson, one of our long time members of AAUW. She was awarded her PhD in Education and Theater at Concordia University in St Paul on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Funds

*Glenda Schnirring*

### How did Hastings' Branch Stack Up?

Every year Hastings Branch budgets and pays out (currently) \$1000, toward the program endeavors of AAUW national. This amount added to individual gifts sent in by Hastings Branch members brought its annual total to \$3070 for fiscal year '20-'21.

Giving to AAUW's Greatest Need FUND is extremely important thus I'm very glad to be able to report the total announced at the recent AAUW State Convention. The Hastings Branch ranked 8th in FUNDS giving among the 30 Minnesota branches reporting. In gifts per capita, Hastings Branch ranked tenth.

The Hastings Branch gift was given in honor of the late Kay Klicker Leadholm, whose time and support to the Hastings Branch was immeasurable.

Continue to support AAUW's national FUND appeals. All amounts are welcomed and become a beautiful total by year-end. Your tax-deductible gifts are used for legal advocacy of highly contested cases of inequity, researching gathered data which is essential in order to have a fully informed stand on issues, and lobbying Capitol Hill by AAUW's professional staff who become the voice for women and girl's rights and fairness.

Thank you for your personal support to AAUW FUNDS nationally. Its success becomes the residual success of local branches like ours.

## Planning Ahead For Future Fundraiser

*Ceil Strauss*

Crafters, Knitters, Bakers, and Quilters....

AAUW is planning a Holiday Brunch Fundraiser at The Hastings Public House on Dec. 4, 2021. This event will include a craft and bake sale, a silent auction, AND a real auction. Many more details will follow as this exciting event gets closer! BUT...right now, all AAUW members...please think about an item you might create and contribute to this fundraiser. All proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund. We need homemade cards, wine baskets, knitted scarves, placemats and napkins....etcetera, etcetera...let your creative juices flow. These items could be sold. A few really big items, like a special holiday wreath, might be bid on as part of a silent auction. Soooooo..... plan early, use the months ahead to sew, knit, quilt, cut and glue to get items ready for this fundraiser. We need all of You!

## Historian

*Lisa Hedin*



December 2015

## Secretary

Arlene Wellemeyer

### Minutes – April 26, 2021

#### AAUW Business Meeting - Hastings Branch (Zoom)

Members joined the meeting at 7:00 pm and tried to guess names of famous women, according to clues given on playing cards (leftover from the most recent mailing that invited all to the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Hastings Branch on September 27, 2021). Pat Powers stepped in for President Hedin, at her request, and called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

#### She relayed the **President's Greeting**:

Thank you to the team of members who did the mailing for the 50th anniversary (Nancy Ahn, Shirley Tammen, Gail Glashan and Pat Powers).

Reminder to mail in dues for 2021-22 to Mary Charlson.

Reminder to vote in the AAUW National bylaws election, open until May 17. Look for email from Shannan Wolf from AAUW National. The pin number needed will be found in the email. Contact Lisa Hedin for assistance, if any problems with voting. It is very important to vote because a quorum is needed to make any changes, for example, to the membership requirement.

The minutes of the March business meeting were approved as printed in the TWIG. Motion: Glenda Schnirring; Second: Gail Glashan.

Mary Charlson reported a current checkbook balance through 4/26/21 of \$2,813.60, unchanged from the 3/31/21 balance. The Treasurer's report was approved. Motion: Betty Hoeschen; Second: Margaret Goderstad.

The proposed 2021-2022 budget was presented by Treasurer, Mary Charlson, and approved by the membership. Motion: Cindy Toppin; Second: Verna Fuller.

Glenda Schnirring reported the results of the Nominating Committee: Treasurer: Carol Tobin; Co-VPs for Program: Danna Elling-Schultz, Mary Ellen Fox and Diane Saed for two-year terms. Motion: Marcia Pletscher; Second: Kathy Stockman. Appointments of nominees were approved.

## Committee Reports

**Membership:** Kathy Palmer reminded of need to mail 2021-22 dues of \$93 to Mary Charlson, address in TWIG.

**Program:** Danna Elling-Schultz noted that the May presentation will be College Possible, a program for which there is currently some impetus in the MN Legislature for financial support. Danna also said the Program Committee will welcome suggestions from members for speakers in the coming year.

**Fundraising:** A report will be made at the May meeting.

**Public Policy:** Pat Powers, once again, noted the opportunities for contacting U.S. Reps and Senators through National AAUW's Take Action application. Also, she mentioned the extensive financial support for schools, child care, Pell Grants, research and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), as well as for prevention of violence against women that is being proposed by the Biden administration's infrastructure bill.

**Gadabouts and Community:** Margaret Goderstad noted the LeDuc is hosting a virtual Mother's Day Tea on Sunday, May 2 (register through the Dakota County Historical Society. Tours (restricted numbers, preregister) will begin on May 13. Hastings Art Center is again hosting in-person events. Their website is also currently hosting a virtual art show from students in the Hastings school district.

**Book Club and Hastings Reads:** Shirley Tammen reported the next Book Club Zoom will be on May 10 (*The Vanishing Half*, Brit Bennett). Meetings are also planned for June and August, to be held outdoors. June 14, 1:30 pm, to discuss Hemingway's *For Whom the Bell Tolls*.

**Branch Strategic Plan:** Lisa West reported that no comments have been received from members that would require any substantial further discussions or changes. Pat Powers will forward an additional copy of it to Danna Schultz, as requested. The Board will vote on final approval of the Branch's Strategic Plan at its May meeting.

Danna Schultz mentioned the recent article by James Curry in MNPost on the burning of the AME Church in Hastings. A link was posted in Chat for the members to copy.

Pat Hanson moved to adjourn the meeting. Carol Tobin seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm. The evening's presentation, *All Things AAUW*, by President Hedin followed at 7:50 pm.

Attendance ~ 33.

**AAUW Mission Statement**

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

**AAUW Vision Statement**

Equity for all.

**Minnesota State Website**

<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>

**National Website**

<https://www.aauw.org/>

**AAUW Hastings Board**

President ----- Lisa Hedin  
VPs Membership ----- Kathy Palmer  
Jackie Rigelman  
VPs Programs ----- Danna Elling Schultz  
Tina Folch  
Diane Saed  
Secretary ----- Arlene Wellemeyer  
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AAUW Funds ----- Glenda Schnirring  
Book Club ----- Shirley Tammen  
Community ----- Margaret Goderstad  
Diversity ----- Marlys Schmitt  
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