



President's Message

Lisa Hedin

AAUW Hastings Branch finally got to celebrate our 50th program year anniversary! It was fun to see so many people and really inspiring to hear about the beginnings of the Branch and the adventures that have been had along the way. It was a good reminder that our branch was started by a few women who saw an opportunity and a need in our area, and rather than shrug their shoulders, they got together, did the work and filled that gap. I hope you are all inspired to notice where your experience and expertise can positively add to the Hastings community. We are a group of women and men who get things done.

There is an election this fall for three seats on the Hastings School Board. Early voting is underway right now, and Tuesday, 2 November 2021 is general election day, Hastings Chamber of Commerce and Hasting Community TV hosted a candidate forum on 5 October. (While I am writing this note prior to the event I am sure it was informational and the HCTV will have a recording available on their YouTube page.) Hastings Star Gazette is also running candidate responses on their webpage. Please make sure you are informed and participate in this election.

I am looking forward to our first “regular” business meeting and program on 25 October 2021 at St Philips Church. Please note that masks are mandatory inside at St Philips Church and we will not be serving refreshments. What a treat it will be to be back to an in-person program. We will be exploring options to stream the event for those at home.

Continue to do good work, care for each other, and stay well.

Program

Danna Elling Schultz, Mary Ellen Fox, Diane Saed

Making it in the World of Finance and Helping Others Along the Way

After gaining valuable experience in the financial services industry, Patricia Jones began working with clients to help them prepare for retirement and pursue their vision of financial independence. People matter to Patricia, and she is adept at using her knowledge and experience to help clients clarify their goals. She works hard to cultivate lasting relationships that are beneficial for both the client and her company.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. 11 Book Club
- Oct. 16 & 17 LeDuc Candlelit Tours
- Oct. 19 Arts Center Coffee Concert
- Oct. 25 General Meeting & Program
- Nov. 8 Book Club

HASTINGS BRANCH

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

2021-2022 PROGRAMS

September 27, 5:30 pm Hastings Golf Club
50th Anniversary Celebration

October 25, 7:00 pm
Making it in the World of Finance & Helping Others Along the Way
 Patricia Jones – Financial Advisor

November 22, 7:00 pm
Paid Family & Medical Leave Legislation & Pay Equity Initiatives
 State Senators Susan Kent & Lindsey Port

December 4, (Brunch) Hastings Golf Club
Holiday Celebration and Fund Raiser

January 24, 7:00 pm
Black Dirt Improv Presentation

February 28, 7:00 pm
Equity: Helpful or Harmful?
 Dr. Alfreda Baldwin

March 28, 7:00 pm
Title IX Discussion: How is it working after 50 years? What are the challenges? Where do we go from here?

April 25, 6:00 pm Spring Social
Making your Career in a non-traditional Profession
 Claire Ferrar, President of Standard Heating & Air Conditioning

May 23, 7:00 pm Book Sale
Hidden Inspiration & My Unpublished Journey
 Diane Saed

Clients know Patricia as someone who brings clarity and objectivity to her role as their advisor. She understands the importance of keeping the client's values at the center of the planning and portfolio design processes.

Patricia has excellent professional credentials that enable her to serve a broad range of client needs. She holds the Accredited Asset Management Specialist designation awarded by the College for Financial Planning. She also holds the Series 7 and 66 securities registrations with LPL Financial as well as life insurance and health/disability insurance licenses regulated by the Minnesota Insurance Commission.

Patricia lives in Minneapolis with her husband and two children; she volunteers in support of community organizations and enjoys reading in her spare time.

St. Philip's Church's COVID policy states that we are not able to serve coffee or treats at our meetings. However, please feel free to bring your own coffee or water, if you wish, to the meeting.

Save the Date

Jackie Rigelman

It's coming....December Holiday Brunch

December 4 is the AAUW Holiday Brunch at the Hastings Golf Club. Since our book sale and wine soiree were very successful, this event will be more about fun and less about fund raising. However, items for a silent auction and/or a drawing are welcome!

It's fun to see AAUW friends' creativity. Please email me if you have items to contribute.

jacann@comcast.net

Treasurer's Report

Carol Tobin

We are doing very well financially; our balance the end of August was \$5284.14. Income for the month came from dues from old and new members and the wine soiree. Expenses were related to National and State Dues, visibility/membership, and the 50th Celebration. Our balance at the end of September is \$7553.94.

Book Club

Shirley Tammen

On Monday, October 11th at 1:30pm at Pleasant Hill Library we will be discussing *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* by V.E. Schwab. This fantasy novel deals with a Faustian bargain that comes with a curse enabling Addie LaRue to live over centuries. Her journeys send the reader along a dizzying and whirling kaleidoscopic adventure through centuries filled with love, loss, art and war.

For Monday, November 8th at 1:30 (Pleasant Hill Library) we will be discussing *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley. This book is about eighteen-year-old Daunis Fontaine, a biracial, unenrolled tribal member, and the product of a scandal. She has never quite fit in, both in her hometown and on the nearby Ojibwe reservation. Daunis dreams of studying medicine, but when her family is struck by tragedy, she puts her future on hold to care for her fragile mother.

Firekeeper's Daughter is the 2022 Hastings Reads main selection. The theme for 2022 will be "Celebrating Indigenous People and their Resilience." All books and activities will focus on this subject.

All AAUW members are invited to attend the book club, once or regularly. The group meets at Pleasant Hill Library in the meeting room the second Monday of each month beginning at 1:30.

Community

Margaret Goderstad

LeDuc Historic Estate:

Candlelit Tours: October 16th and 17th at 7:00, 8:00 and 9:00pm - \$10 for Adults and \$8 for DCHS members and students, ages 17 and under. **Reservation Required**

Orange Dragon Art Gallery, Prescott:

Fall Exhibit: now through November 7th. Check website for hours.

Hastings Arts Center:

Coffee Concert: October 19th at 10:30am – Susan Miranda on oboe and Brian Handeland on sax

Diversity

Peggy Horsch

Hello! Hola! Still Hispanic Heritage Month for a few more days.

I spent most of my career with Dakota County in the Dakota County Attorney's Office. Towards the end (I retired September 2020), I was the Civil Division Head. During that time, George Floyd was murdered and the pandemic descended. What seemed as two unrelated although monumental events, I have come to realize intersected in the universe.

Sometime around 2018, the County began a series of mandatory trainings for all its employees around diversity, equity, and inclusion. Its work force was, and to some extent still is, white. And I mean white people with little to no meaningful contact with anyone not white (raising my hand here). The County, like many other employers, realized to attract and keep high quality talent it must become proactive in its outreach to existing and potential employees to build an inclusive, diverse, informed workplace.

The training was employee lead with help from a great group of facilitators. I was in the first wave in 2018. We were open to listening, sharing, sometimes disagreeing, but were mostly an agreeable sort.

Flash forward to the next round of trainings in late 2019. The grumbling had started; mostly under the breath. Why do I have to sit through this? It has no bearing on my job. Good time for a nap. But outright confrontation, a handful, maybe more who were silent, also began to challenge the idea of inclusiveness, the need for diversity in their lives, and why they were "forced" to learn anything about the struggles of their fellow workmates. Even some vocal hostility was sporadically mouthed and the Minnesota Nice (at least as it existed on the surface) was in some amount of trouble.

Then came George Floyd, civil unrest (riots to some), protests, Defund the Police movement and all smack in the middle of a pandemic that would further separate our lives. Recognition of historical violence by law officers (certainly NOT all) against minority citizens, and a concerted call to recognize and end systemic problems within policing, were suddenly juxtaposed against the heartbreaking destruction of neighborhoods/businesses, the maddening rise in violent crime in our cities, and the call to get rid of all policing.

We conflated issues and, seemingly, became incapable of recognizing that more than two things can be true. We, regrettably, retreated to our inevitable corners with less human contact; this time angrier, more vocal, more incapable of listening to one another, and sadly less human.

This is where I wonder back to what the Dakota County training would be today after it was halted because of the pandemic. Was the somewhat muted but vocal resistance experienced in the 2019 training just the tip of the iceberg? Did the intervening pandemic years make more dissenters or just amplify their voices? Have we really, for good, gone to our respective corners never to turn around and face one another again? (On a side note, I am feeling my inner Carrie Bradshaw voice 😊).

No answers from me; just hopefully a conversation starter and perhaps a path forward to healing. Please let me know if you have any events or information to share on diversity, equity and inclusion in our community or the greater community.

Thanks for hearing me out. Until next time.

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

Historian

Lisa Hedin

We continue to acknowledge and celebrate 50 years of our AAUW Branch

Newspaper clipping of 1976-77 officers



Some of our Charter members celebrating 50 years



Left to right are - Shirley Tammen, Audrey Anderson, Margaret Goderstad, Bev McCumber, Sue Tanner, and Pat Schultz.

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

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