



SPRING 2023
THE PINE



FROM the DESK of JAN CAREY, AAUW MN President



“Get ready to roar April 29th when our annual meeting is convened. Despite our virtual gathering we will gather to hear Betty Folliard empower us and an inspirational greeting from Senator Tina Smith. You’ll see reports from fellow members to the great work being achieved by branches. Resolutions will be presented and new board members will

be introduced. We are AAUW MN - Hear Us Roar!”

AAUW National Election

All voting will take place online (computer or mobile device).

Voting began on April 6. Voting will close on Monday, May 16 at 5:00 p.m. ET. For more information, go to [Voting](#). You should have gotten a ballot by email.

SAVE THE DATE

**AAUW MN 94th Annual Meeting on April 29, 2023
10:00 am - Noon**

HEAR US ROAR!

[AAUW MN 2023 Annual Meeting Registration](#)

Please use the registration form link above to indicate your attendance at the meeting. You may register for the meeting until April 26, 2023, midnight, CDT. Once you are registered, you will receive an email with the information needed to join the Zoom meeting.

[AAUW MN 2023 Annual Meeting Booklet](#)

View the *AAUW MN 2023 Annual Meeting Booklet* on the homepage of the AAUW MN website for the agenda and presenter information, along with reports, resolutions, and branch highlights. Voting by delegates and other eligible voters is currently underway and results will be announced at the Annual Meeting on April 29. Click on the link above to see the *AAUW MN 2023 Annual Meeting Booklet*.

February 18, 2023 Board Meeting

College/University Representative Resignation: President Jan Carey read a letter from Anna Voight submitting her resignation from the position of College/University Representative on account of health issues and work demands. Jan also read her reply thanking Anna for her service and wishing her well. Jan asked that Board members help her find a new C/U representative. It is an appointed office.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Beth Nienow, who was absent, submitted a written report stating that during the period between Jan 14, 2023 and this meeting, she had answered questions from branch treasurers and board members; deposited checks; kept records; prepared the financial statement and report, paid reimbursements and expenses, made a

donation to AAUW Greatest Needs fund and passed-through contributions to the Saint Cloud Area Branch. She prepared for the annual financial review for FY22. She also worked with Cyndy Harrison to cancel the Smore subscription in time so that it would not automatically renew.

Financial Report: Finance Committee Chair Janice Quist reported that she checked requests for payment from the Board members with the budget, and/or mission and/or Board motions. She checked receipts and RFP's and sent them to the Treasurer for payment. She studied the State finances and prepared a fiscal 2024 Proposed Budget.

2024 Proposed Budget: Pat Powers made a motion to approve the proposed budget for submission to the voting delegates at the state annual meeting. The motion was seconded by Deanna Ensley. The Board voted unanimously to approve the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget.

President Jan Carey's Report: Jan reported that she participated in the Upper Mid-west Group AAUW State Leader Liaison Meetings held via ZOOM on February 15, 2023 . The planners for their meeting in October in St Louis, MO have asked the states and branches to contribute to the cost of the meeting. Jan Carey also noted that the meeting will be open to all AAUW members from the Mid-west Group. Jan also attended the AAUW National Advancement Committee meeting on February 21, 2023 via ZOOM and the Diversity/Equity/Inclusion meeting via ZOOM on February 2, 2023. A subcommittee has been established to prepare a Power Point Presentation about membership similar to the one this group prepared about funds. The subcommittee plans to have it ready before most branches resume meetings in September. On March 15, an expert panel will discuss strategies to close the gender digital divide. See AAUW MN Facebook. A webinar about diversity and inclusion is scheduled for April and a workshop on the same topic is set for May.

Public Policy: VP Kelsey Waits reported that branches requested 500 ERA postcards and have asked for more postcards regarding other policy issues.

AAUW Funds: VP Rajani Sohni, who was not present, submitted a report stating that she emailed branch funds chairs a list of their named grant honorees based on their 2022 contributions. She received names of

honorees from Brainerd, Duluth, Faribault, Grand Rapids, Hibbing, Minneapolis, Red Wing, Rochester and St. Paul.

Education Chair/NCCWSL: Chair Deanna Ensley reported that five branches have requested NCWSSL grants. They are Rochester, Red Wing, Brainerd, Ely and Hastings.

Administrative Assistant: Teresa Sagen reported that she had obtained the February membership count and determined the number of delegates each branch may send to the state annual meeting. She has informed the Branch Presidents and asked that they notify her who the delegates will be by March 31.

Nominating Committee: Chair Pat Powers reported that the nominating committee has not found a nominee for VP Program or members to serve on the nominating committee.

New Business : 2023 AAUW MN State Annual Meeting - April 29, 2023 plans were discussed.

March 25, 2023 Board Meeting

Treasurer's Report: Beth Nienow advised that since the last meeting, some additional dues and interest added to revenue. Expenses were paid for stationary & supplies including the ZOOM license and a donation was made to AAUW Funds. Also, a pass through from National to St Cloud Branch was paid for Tech Savey. The report was filed.

Financial Review Report: Committee chair Caroline Owens, acknowledged the work of other committee members Jan Bensen, Deanna Ensley, Janice Quist and Beth Nienow. The committee found the records to be in good order and the applicable procedures being followed. A few suggestions were made. On a motion made by Teresa Sagen to approve the Finance Committee's Report, no second required, the report was unanimously approved.

President's Report: Jan Carey has been participating in the following committees and planning committees associated with events: Central States Regional Meeting to be held in St. Louis; and AAUW National

Advancement Committee, which is working on membership and coordinating with equity and inclusion committee. See their webinar on May 10, 2023.

Membership: Pat Powers advised that membership is still declining statewide. Now that membership registration goes directly to National, she gets a report from National about each new member. Pat is sending a note to each welcoming her. Renewals by checks are problematic. It is better to pay by credit card directly to National or to pay by check to a branch whose treasurer pays National using the branch credit card.

Programs: Saundra Martell moved and Beth Nienow seconded a motion to approve a Program Action Grant for Duluth in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) for Northland Get Together in Oct 2023.

Saundra Martell moved and Pat Powers seconded a motion to pay five hundred dollars (\$500) each to St Cloud Branch members Jan Benson and Hannah Niels to prepare and present a program at NCCWSL and \$250 for them to make a video of that program to be used throughout the State. This grant will be paid as a Strategic Action Grant. It was unanimously approval.

Pat Powers moved to provide one-thousand dollars (\$1,000) to Red Wing Branch to continue a program providing assistance to improve the reading skills of third grade students. Kelsey Waits seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Public Policy: The success of the postcards sent to legislators regarding ERA has led to more postcards being produced by Kelsey Waits on the subjects (1) Gender Equity, (2) Investments in Education and (3) Reproductive Healthcare. So far about 2,000 postcards have been distributed by branches.

Resolutions Committee: The Resolutions Committee has approved two resolution to be presented to voting members on the state annual meeting ballots. Ely submitted a resolution favoring equity and diversity and Minneapolis submitted two motions. One supports the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) at the Minnesota and the other supports ERA at the national level.

Funds: Rajani Sohni will send certificates for AAUW Funds Named Honorees to Branches to be given the honorees.

Education Chair/NCCWSL – Seven branches have requested NCCWSL Grants to send nine students. The grants are in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) each. The branches sending students are Brainerd, Ely, Red Wing, Hastings, Duluth, Rochester and Minneapolis.

Nominating Committee: Pat Powers reported that the Nominations Committee for 2023/24 State Officers needs three more members from branches. Mary Chorewycz of St Paul will continue serving. There is no nominee for Program Vice President. Board members will continue to solicit nominees for these positions.

Old Business: Teresa Sagen moved that the State donate one-thousand dollars (\$1,000) to support the AAUW Regional Conference. Pat Powers seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

New Business:

2023 AAUW MN State Annual Meeting - April 29, 2023 Report: Teresa Sagen reported that delegates from eleven branches have been reported to her. The deadline is March 31st. Twelve branches constitute a quorum. Jan Carey has requested a letter of welcome from Gloria Blackwell.

Activities, Events etc. of Branches Around the State

Austin Great Decisions, War Crimes: What are they? How can they be prosecuted?

Duluth May 16th – Annual Meeting



Ely is celebrating its 96th year! The Branch is in the midst of a multi-year educational project launched in 2021 called “Awareness... Then Change.” This

initiative is designed to increase understanding, honor the heritage of the area, and set the stage for supporting policy and social action to reduce risks and support the resilience of Indigenous women and children.

Faribault

- April 22 - Tri-Branch Luncheon with Owatonna and Northfield.
- April 24 - Tracy; Corcoran, Director of Teaching and Learning, Faribault - Teach What, Says Who?
- May 29 - Annual Picnic

Hastings

- April 24th - Writing and Collaboration with Women Leaders Lori Sturdevant, Reporter and Editorialist
- April 29th - AAUW State Convention Viewing Party
- May 22nd - Book Sale and Minnesota's Changing Demographics and How We Kept a Congressional Seat by Susan Brower, State Demographer

Hibbing –The book sale will be held at the Armory May 5, 6 and 7.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

AAUW BOOK SALE

MAY 5, 6, 7, 2023

HIBBING ARMORY

2310 BROOKLYN DRIVE
ACROSS HWY 169 FROM MINNESOTA NORTH
COLLEGE—HIBBING

FRIDAY MAY 5 9:30AM—8:00PM \$ 1 PER BOOK	SATURDAY MAY 6 9:30AM—5:30PM .50 PER BOOK	SUNDAY MAY 7 9:30AM-2:00PM \$ 2 PER BAG
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Minneapolis

- April 24th Plus Children Drive (Recycling gently used casual and career clothing and accessories to help build a wardrobe for someone entering or reentering the workforce or returning to school. Also clothing for children from infant to teen age boys and girls.)
- May 1 - Passage Community Spring Collection:

(Twice yearly, the Branch collects household supplies for families at the Passage Community, a transitional housing program for 17 homeless families run by Simpson Housing Services.)

- **May 8 Legal Advocacy Fund Plaintiff to Speak**

Programs by Legal Advocacy Fund plaintiffs are always among the highlights of AAUW National and State conventions. Delegates come away inspired. As an AAUW Funds chair over the years, it was always frustrating that members who did not attend conventions missed this. Thanks to Zoom, **Dr. Audrey K. Miller** whose case was adopted by Legal Advocacy Fund in December 2021 will speak to the Minneapolis Branch on Monday , **May 8** at 10:45.

Dr. Miller, an expert in gender violence, trauma, and forensic psychology,



was a tenure-track Assistant Professor of psychology at Sam Houston State University. Despite her excellent performance reviews and nominations for university awards, Dr. Miller was denied promotion and tenure after she expressed concern to administrators about discriminatory

treatment that she and other women in her department had experienced. She will tell her story and also tell us about her research.

We invite members throughout the state to join us.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84609433364?pwd=SVd5UXNUd2Z1cVkwWTRSUXhmcDFmZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 0943 3364

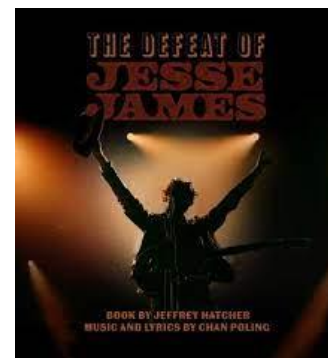
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Owatonna

- May 2nd - Panel discussion with Andrea Marshall, Kate Swanson, & Kjersten Hailey about Teen Mental Health Crisis.

Saint Paul

- April 20 and 21 - Spring Book Sale
- May 11 - History Theatre Outing to see the production of The Defeat of Jesse James

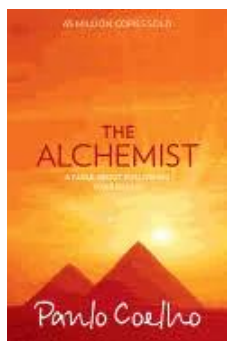


St Cloud

- May 19th - Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Hisham Bravo Groover of the St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra and Bob Johnson, Executive Director of the Paramount Center for the Arts will be guests for the Branch's tribute to the arts and artists.

BRANCHES ARE READING

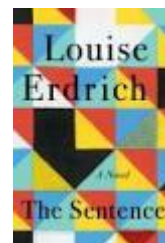
Austin



The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho

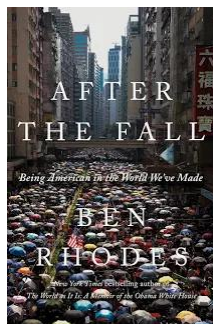
Brainerd

The Sentence by Louise Erdrich

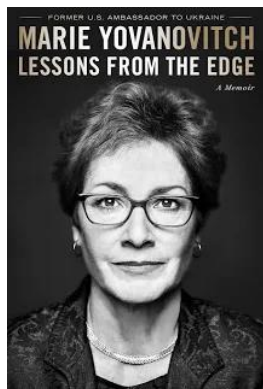


Hibbing

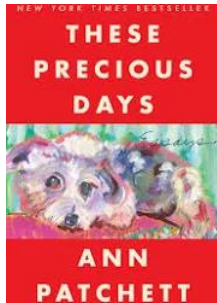
After the Fall by Ben Rhodes



Minneapolis



Lessons From the Edge by Marie Yovanovitch



Owatonna

These Precious Days by Ann Patchett

Rochester

What Strange Paradise by Omar al Akkad



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