

THE PINE WINTER 2024



FROM the DESK of JAN CAREY, AAUW MN President



The year 2024 is going to be a year to remember!

Our memories kickstart, as we stand with our partner ERAMN and Rally for ERA at the state capitol Monday, February 12, 2024. The rally begins at 10am in the Rotunda, followed by visits with legislators. The legislative goal is the passage of a MN ballot initiative to amend the MN Constitution to guarantee equality under the law.

The most significant, memorable action will take place from April 3, 2024–May 15, 2024, when AAUW members will vote to change the National by-law membership requirement. AAUW would open membership to any individual who supports AAUW’s important mission of advancing equity for women and girls. The degree requirement would be eliminated.

Another memorable action will occur as a result of the November 2024 election. Advocacy will be of key importance for AAUW MN members. Even though AAUW is a non- partisan organization, AAUW is political. Public Policy Priorities guide decision-making and choices at the ballot box. City, county, state elections are of equal importance to the names on the national ballot. Research the candidates. Learn if they reflect AAUW Public Policy Priorities and the mission of AAUW. State ZOOM meetings delivered by Kelsey Waits, VP Public Policy, Pat Powers, VP Membership and AAUW MN president keep members informed on important issues, procedures, events at the State and National levels. The meetings are recorded to be viewed at

any time. Please remember to inform branch members of the information from these ZOOM meetings.

We will continue to make memories by announcing AAUW MN Branch activities and events. As AAUW MN Facebook administrator, I will post branch activities and events.

Please send them to Jan Carey (jmcfree@aol.com). I will distribute them to Sandra Martell, AAUW PINE editor and Teresa Sagen, AAUW MN Website manager. The ultimate goal is to use our Communication Platforms to reach our members and potential AAUW MN members for membership growth.

And finally, many memories will be made April 26-27, 2024. MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR APRIL 26-27, 2024! AAUW MN will conduct its Annual Meeting (conference) at The Confluence Hotel, Hastings, MN. The AAUW MN board with assistance by a Hastings Branch 'team of members' are tweaking the schedule which, of course, will include: Resolutions, Election of 2024/25 officers, honoring Legacy members and a host of other announcements. The speakers will make this a memorable meeting. The speakers and guests have been selected to coincide with the meeting theme: *Confluence=Inclusion, Collaboration and Empowerment*. Don't miss this time to socialize, network and learn. WATCH YOUR EMAIL BOXES for more announcements and information.

Please remember, urgent messages, time-sensitive requests from national or state will be delivered via TEXT Messaging to Branch Presidents/Leaders. Please watch for messages that may pop-up from Jan Carey 218-966-7159. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me.

AAUW members believe in Advancing Equity for Women and Girls. It's that simple. We can achieve equality by fostering inclusivity, by collaborating with like-minded organizations and by empowering each other to move forward and collectively advocate the mission of AAUW.

Moving Forward ~ Collectively Advocating,

Jan Carey, AAUW MN President

AAUW MN ANNUAL MEETING

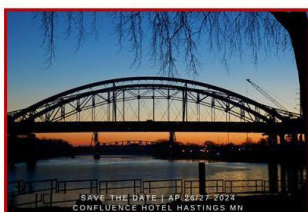
“Confluence = Inclusion, Collaboration, Empowerment”

The Confluence Hotel & Conference Center

Hastings, MN

Keynote speakers presenting the issues of the day alongside

AAUW Mission-based Advocacy.



Book Your Hotel: [Confluence Hotel](#) (651-432-0202): There is no room block. Rooms will be discounted 15%, but you must mention the AAUW State Meeting when booking. Book before March 27 for AAUW discount.

Other Hotels: [Nichols Inn](#) (877-324-0295): 2400 Vermillion Street (Hwy 61), Hastings, Minnesota
[Country Inn and Suites](#)(855-516-1090): 300 33rd Street W, Hastings, MN

Speakers for the Annual Meeting



Karen M. Kedrowski is Director of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics and Professor of Political Science at Iowa State University. She holds degrees from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities and the University of Oklahoma. Her fields of study are American Politics and Civic Engagement, with special interests in gender and health policy. Previously, Karen Kedrowski was a long-time faculty member at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Karen Kedrowski is also the author of a free online high school curriculum titled "The Equal Rights Amendment at 100 Years: History and Current Issues."

Megan J. Peterson is the Executive Director of Gender Justice and Gender Justice Action and a seasoned leader in the gender equity and reproductive freedom movements. She was brought into Gender Justice by its founders in 2016 and in 2022 started the 501c4 sister organization, Gender Justice Action, to engage in political work. Under her leadership, Gender Justice has experienced significant growth and increased state, regional, and national impact. Previously, Megan Peterson was Deputy Director for the National Network of Abortion Funds (NNAF) where she expanded its network of grassroots abortion funds, led coalition campaigns to repeal the Hyde Amendment, and significantly increased its donor and foundation funding.



She has also served as Director of Development and Communications for Pro-Choice Resources (now called Our Justice) in Minneapolis and as a patient advocate at Planned Parenthood in St. Paul. In college she worked with the National Organization for Women in Washington, DC and the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund (now called Legal Momentum). She lives in the St. Paul part of Minneapolis (Longfellow) with her pre-teen son and two dogs.

Panel of Women Entrepreneurs

A Panel of Hastings women entrepreneurs will discuss being in business in Hastings.

Dr. Rachel Allgor, Journey Audiology and Hearing Care

Nicole Sindelar, Hastings Golf Club

Barb Hollenbeck, Second Childhood Toy Store

Michelle Tjomsland, InMotion Reality

Jan Fox, Spiral Brewery

Sara Lawrence, Muse2320 Fiber Company

ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM
Confluence Hotel Ballroom

Friday

2:00 pm Registration Opens

3:00 pm The City of Hastings is offering a tour of historic city hall,
walk the river trail, shop downtown, see Vermillion Falls

5:00 pm Social Hour, Cash Bar, Bid on Silent Auction Items

6:00 pm Buffet Dinner

7:00 pm Speaker Megan Peterson

8:30 pm Continue Social Hour, Bid on Silent Auction Items

Saturday

7:30 am Breakfast

8:30 am Welcome from Hastings Branch and Mayor Mary Fasbender, Flag Ceremony featuring active
Military and Veteran women, Introduction of AAUW MN President Jan Carey by Hastings Branch President
Lisa Hedin

9:00 am Business Meeting 10:15 am Break

10:30 am Business Meeting

11:00 am AAUW Speaker Professor Karen Kedrowski 12:00 Buffet Lunch

12:30 pm Congresswoman Angie Craig Video (MN 2nd District)

1:30 pm Closing of Silent Auction

1:30 pm Hastings Panel of Women Entrepreneurs, Jan Hertel -moderator

2:30 pm Closing Remarks

The program is subject to include brief presentations and announcements from Suzanne Willhite, ERAMN co-founder; Michelle Witte, executive director - League of Women Voters of Minnesota. Pre-recorded video statements by Sen. Tina Smith, Sen. Amy Klobuchar, US House Rep. Betty McCollum, and MN Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan.

Annual Meeting Resolutions

Resolutions Process:

AAUW MN State by-laws, Article XVIII, Sec. 4; f 1-6 provides:

“The resolutions committee shall consist of at least three members, including the state public policy vice president, the committee chair and any additional members appointed by the state president. One member shall have served on the previous convention resolutions committee. The committee shall screen all resolutions submitted prior to the convention.

1. Resolutions on AAUW MN policy and program and all other resolutions to be proposed at the state convention may be initiated by any branch member, the state Board of Directors, state standing or special committees, or the resolutions committee.

2. Proposed resolutions shall be presented in writing to the resolutions committee at least sixty days in advance of the state convention with a copy sent to the appropriate state officer or committee chair affected by the resolution information.

3. The resolutions committee shall be authorized to reword, clarify, or combine submitted resolutions and send them to the branches at least thirty days before the convention. (Thus, there is adequate time to return resolutions to the committee before the convention.)

4. The resolutions committee shall report the approved resolutions to the state convention and recommend suitable action to be taken on them with a majority of the convention accredited delegates present and voting required for adoption.

5. The resolutions committee shall submit the unapproved resolutions without recommendation to the state convention with a two-thirds vote of the accredited delegates present and voting required for adoption.

6. Resolutions may be presented from the floor for discussion by a two-thirds vote of the convention accredited delegates present and voting with a three-fourths vote of the convention accredited delegates present and voting for the adoption of such resolutions.”

What is a Resolution? By definition it is: a formal expression of opinion, will, or intent voted by an official body or assembled group. AAUW resolutions should reflect AAUW Public Policy Priorities and mission of AAUW. Here is an example from the American Library Association:

WHEREAS, The free exchange of ideas and information is the foundation of a democratic society; and
WHEREAS, Democracy demands that there be no compromise of the rights of citizens to choose what they read, see, and hear; and

WHEREAS, Library users should be protected from invasion of privacy; and

WHEREAS, The names of individuals using libraries should be confidential; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That censorship be actively resisted; and

RESOLVED, That all library patron/user records be secure from access by individuals, government agencies, or officials; and be it further

RESOLVED, That appropriate legislation be enacted.

Resolutions Timeline:

February - March 2024: Branches create Resolutions

March 7, 2024: Deadline to Submit Resolutions to AAUW MN Resolutions Committee chair for review by the Resolutions Committee

March 8 - March 20, 2024 - AAUW MN Resolutions Committee reviews submissions, communicates findings with maker of resolution, resolutions edited if needed & finalized for publication.

March 28, 2024: Resolutions published to AAUW MN Branches 30 days prior to AAUW MN Virtual Annual Meeting/Convention. Please note that additional opportunity for submission is allowed with a call for resolutions from the floor of the meeting/convention. If proposing an amendment from the floor, you are required to provide a written or digitized version of your resolution if delegates vote to hear the full resolution. AAUW resolutions should reflect AAUW Public Policy Priorities and mission of AAUW.

Submit Resolutions using the Submission Form (template below) to:

Kelsey Waits, AAUW MN Resolutions Committee chair

6873 Odell Ave S

Hastings MN, 55033

or

kelsey.waits@gmail.com (preferred)

AUW MN RESOLUTIONS TEMPLATE AND HELPS

(Information in parentheses includes helps for each section.)

WHEREAS...

(This section provides background, explaining the need and rationale for the resolution. **Resolutions should be written as they relate to AAUW's national and state Mission and Public Policy.** There may be several reasons for the resolution. Pick those strongest and most pertinent in support of the resolution. Each "Whereas" ends with "and" to lead into the next "Whereas" until ready to begin the Therefore section.)

THEREFORE...

(This section is the actual resolution, what you want to have accomplished. It begins with "Therefore be it resolved that..." a certain action will take place, such as equal pay for equal work in all state agencies.)

IMPLEMENTATION...

(This section includes, according to state bylaws, action to be taken on the resolution. This section moves the resolution forward and directs the action to be taken to achieve the proposal. For example, the action might direct the state board on behalf of all members to write a letter to the Governor requesting him to budget monies to be directed towards equal pay for equal work in all Minnesota state departments and agencies.)

RESOLUTION SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

Submitted by branch, committee or individual(s). Circle one.

Contact name _____ Branch

Affiliation _____

Contact email _____ Phone _____

COMPLETE & RETURN 60 days prior to the AAUW MN State Convention



AAUW MINNESOTA STATE CONVENTION
April 26-27, 2024



Confluence Hotel 200 2nd St W, Hastings, MN 55033

Confluence = Inclusion, Collaboration, Empowerment

Registration

Name (Please Print) _____

Phone # _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip code: _____

Branch: _____

Email: _____

Convention Information (please check all boxes that apply):

Branch Member		State Board Member		College/University Student		Visitor Guest	
Member at Large		Past State President		College/University Representative		Legacy Circle	

The annual State Convention fee, \$130, includes Friday banquet, Saturday breakfast and lunch and featured speakers. Please note any dietary restriction here: _____.

Checks are preferred. Registration should be postmarked by **MARCH 31, 2024**.
Make checks payable to: AAUW Hastings. Mail the registration form & check to:
Renee Souza AAUW Hastings, 874 Bahls Drive, Hastings, MN 55033.

FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Name on Card: _____

Billing Address same as above or: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Card No. _____

Expiration Date: _____

Security Code: _____

Participation in 2024 AAUW Annual Art Contest: Empowering Women in Art

Two AAUW MN Board members have submitted artworks to the 2024 AAUW Art Contest. Jan Carey submitted watercolors *Nesting: an abstract* and *On a Street in Galway Ireland*. Kelsey Waits submitted *Summer Sunset Over Minnesota's Northwoods* and *Strength in the Face of Adversity*. Aside from Board members, branch members have also submitted entries. New Brainerd member Carl Benjamin entered *Glen* and *Quiet Birch* and Lynne Torsher entered *Sunrise on Poplars*. We apologized if any AAUW MN Art Contest participant is missing, please let us know." From February 5, 2024 through February 16, you may vote for up to 10 selections at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/art-contest/>.

Board Meeting November 28, 2023 (ZOOM)

The purpose of the meeting was to prepare for the 2024 State Meeting. The Board is taking responsibility for the annual meeting with assistance from the Hastings Branch for local aspects of the meeting. The Board approved a contract with the Confluence Hotel, Hastings, MN as the site of the AAUW MN 2024 Annual Meeting on April 26-27, 2024. The Board also adopted the Theme of the Annual Meeting "Confluence = Inclusion, Collaboration, Empowerment", reviewed a draft budget, discussed speakers and assigned members responsibilities for the work ahead.

Board Meeting February 3, 2024 (ZOOM)

President Jan Carey reported that at a Branch Presidents Zoom meeting, there had been discussion of College/University student memberships and whether lifetime memberships are being discontinued. The latter is not true. National will publish a C/U page by the end of Feb or early March to clarify membership for students of a C/U member.

Vice President for Program Karen Kirkwood reported that the Board has received eleven (11) applications for NCCWSL grants. AAUW MN will provide each branch \$1,000 to support them in sending students to NCCWSL.

Vice President Public Policy Kelsey Waits lead a discussion of plans for the Feb 12 ERA Rally at the state capitol. AAUW has a table; Hastings Branch is bringing a sign; Hastings will bring public policy & membership brochures; Ely has signs for members to hold; and Jan Carey and Kelsey Waits will take photos of AAUW members at the ERA Rally.

Vice President Membership Pat Powers reported that 2024/25 proposed nominations to date are:

President – Kelsey Waits

VP Public Policy – No Nomination, but Jan Carey is willing to be appointed to complete Kelsey's position for one year, if approved by the new Board

VP Funds – Barb Watson Liukkonen

VP Membership – Vacant

Nominating Com – need 3 members from membership at large and 1 alternate

Annual Meeting. The board discussed the plans, budget and status of preparations for the Annual Meeting.

Branch Upcoming Activities, Events etc.

Minneapolis

February 12, 2024

9:30 – 10:30 Long Range Planning - What Will the Minneapolis Branch Look Like in Ten Years?

Sheila Lind – Chair of Long-Range Planning Committee

10:45 – 11:45 Equity and Inclusion - Antisemitism and White Nationalism Today

Brandon Schorsch, Jewish Community Action

1:15 – 2:15 Public Policy - Gun Violence Prevention in Minnesota:

New Laws and What's Next

Maggiy Emery, Executive Director, Protect Minnesota

Rochester

Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.(zoom only)

A roof over our heads - who is left out in the cold?

Speakers: Dave Dunn, director of Olmsted co. Planning department and the Olmsted co. Housing Redevelopment Authority; Jeff Urban; State Senator Liz Boldon

St. Cloud

February Program - Tech Savvy

February 24th, 2024
Saint Cloud State University



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

REGISTRATION for fifth- through eighth-grade girls interested in attending the 2024 Tech Savvy is now open.

THE EVENT: Bring a friend or friends and join us on St. Cloud State University's campus for this one day event! Attendees can choose from a wide variety of fun, engaging, interactive workshops that help you explore and learn about the STEM field, and if it might be a perfect fit for your future!

ATTEND: Cost is \$10 (includes materials, lunch, swag, and raffle tickets for sponsored prizes). Sign up early, as space is limited!



Ely

January 9, 5:30 pm - Lisa Pugh will discuss her nearly 4,000 mile canoe trip from the headwaters of the Missouri River down the Mississippi to the Gulf.

February 13, 5:30 pm - Beth Peterson, Minnesota Senior State Director with Vote Run Lead, will discuss the political power of women as voters, candidates, and leaders to create and sustain an equitable democracy.

March 12, 5:30 pm - Kelly Klun, Klun Law Firm (and AAUW branch member!) will discuss estate planning.

Brainerd

Water – We are the Protectors

Saturday, February 24, 2024 – 10:30 am

Elizabeth Maboutchom, Director of Development and Education,
Northern Waters Land Trust

Combating Financial Stress

Saturday, March 9, 2024 – 10:30 am

Kiimberly Pilgrim, Meta 5 Program Director, Central Lakes College

Hastings

The AAUW Hastings Branch is a proud sponsor of Hastings Reads, a community-wide reading program that seeks to encourage reading and discussion of books and the ways in which they can help us understand the lives and experiences of ourselves and others. This year's theme is "It's going to be okay!" Featured titles include Adib Khorram's Darius the Great Is Not Okay, Sharon M. Draper's Out of My Mind, and Ty Chapman's Looking for Happy. For a full list of events, see the Hastings Reads website

<https://sites.google.com/site/mnhastingsreads/>



Hibbing - No Limits: Angelique Fredrickson, retired biochemist and corporate program manager, shares her adventures in adaptability while pursuing a second career after retirement. Feb 15, 2024. Check out Hibbing's Facebook page to join Hibbing in celebrating 100 years see.

Owatonna

Why Vegan?

Tuesday, February 13th, 7:00 PM via Zoom

Civil Rights lawyer Lori Peterson has been a life-long advocate for animals. She will share information regarding how animal agriculture harms animals, people, and the planet. She will also show us how, contrary to popular mythology, it is easy to live a vegan lifestyle! The Zoom call will open up at 6:30 for sharing vegan experiences, socializing and fellowship.

St Paul

Feb 13, 2024 11am

Minnesota Women: Where Do We Go From Here?

Sharon Sayles Belton, VP Government Affairs and Community Relations at Thomson Reuters and former Mayor of Minneapolis

Feb 27, 2024 11 am

Elections in 2024

David Triplett, Ramsey County Deputy Director, Department of Property Taxes, Records, and Election Services

Duluth

Women of Influence

Co-sponsored by American Association of University Women Duluth Branch (AAUW)

Free and open to the public.

"Ondamon"
("leads from there" in Anishinaabe)

Featuring LeAnn Littlewolf

Thursday, February 15, 2024

(Please note event time change)
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Schedule

6:00 Traditional Anishinaabe Opening Ceremony

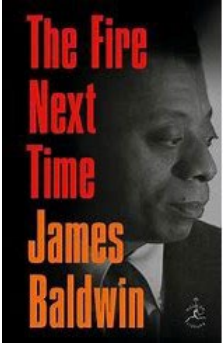
6:30 Speaker Presentation

7:00 Socialize and Explore Indigenous Culture

The Dr. Robert Powless Cultural Center
American Indian Community Housing Organization

Branches Are Reading

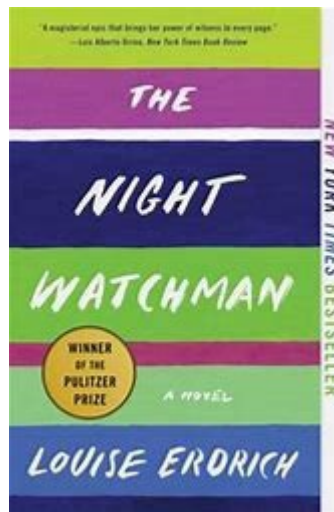
Austin



The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin

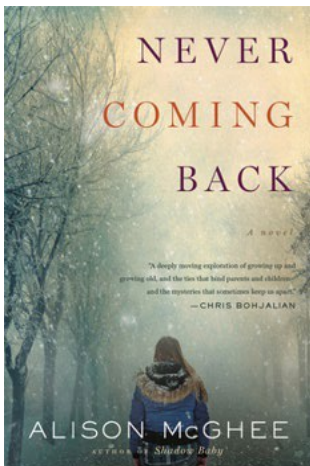
The Night Watchman

By Louise Erdrich

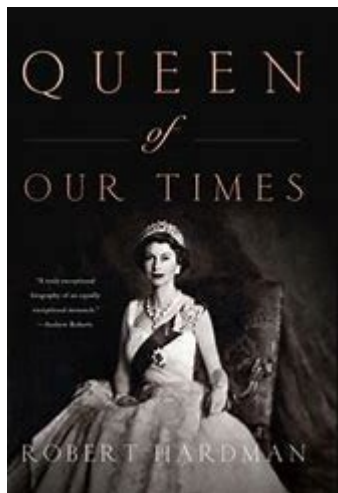


Never Coming Back

By Alison McGhee



by

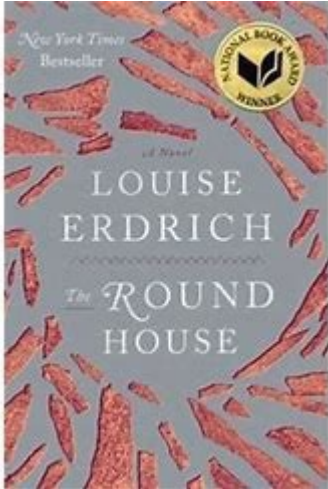


Redwing

Queen of Our Time

by Robert Hardman

St Paul



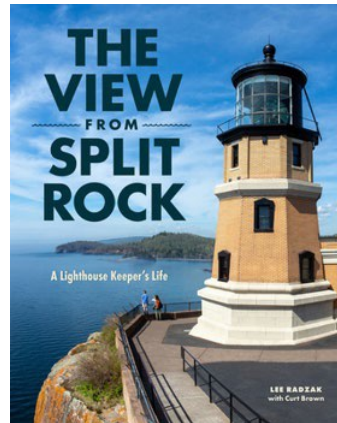
Round House

by Louise Erdrich

Brainerd

The View from Split Rock: A Lighthouse Keeper's Life

by Lee Radzak



National Webinars (Watch now or watch again.)

"Legacy and Impact: Celebrating Lobby Corps,"

Watch the Recorded Event Here: <https://youtu.be/3BN9WoCmIU0>

CEO, Gloria Blackwell, emphasized the significant impact of our collective efforts and highlighted the critical role of the AAUW's Policy and Advocacy work and Lobby Corps.

Jessica Miller, Archivist, provided a captivating presentation on the rich history of our Lobby Corps, shedding light on its significant impact on advancing AAUW's mission.

Meghan Kissel, Senior Director of Policy and Member Advocacy, moderated a lively panel discussion featuring three Lobby Corps members: Becky Gaul, Stephanie Abbott, and Sandy Lawrence. They shared their motivations for joining Lobby Corps, their experiences on Capitol Hill, and their favorite moments as Lobby Corps members.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Board Members

President Jan Carey, jmcfree@aol.com

VP Membership, Pat Powers, pat.pow01@gmail.com

VP Program, Karen Kirkwood, KarenSKirwood@cs.com

VP Public Policy, Kelsey Waits, kelseywaits@gmail.com

VP AAUW Funds, Rajani Sohni, rsohni@gmail.com

Treasurer-Beth Nienow, bethnienow@charter.net

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<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.MN>

 aauw.org

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.National>

Sandra Martell

Editor

February 9, 2024