

Grand Rapids Timberline

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT AAUW GRAND RAPIDS
BRANCH MEMBERS

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May 2024

MISSION: AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research education and advocacy.

May 20, 2024

Location: Forest Lake Restaurant Downstairs Social/Registration: 5:00-5:45 PM Dinner: 5:45-7 PM

Menu: Chose one of the following meals:

Basil Chicken Linquine Walleye Almandine 6oz Sirloin Steak

Meal includes:
Garden or Ceaser Salad
Bread loaf
Asparagus
Rice pilaf or Baked potato
Chocolate cake

Cost of \$30 includes tax and tip.

Food Chair: Jan Hill

Program: 7 PM

Program Topic: Northern Pine Trio

Northern Pine Trio came together in the fall of 2023. Having crossed paths through the Reif Center and the Grand Rapids Players, Marina Whight, Emily Slaubaugh, and Amy Leigh Koivisto began working on material to perform at Emilly's open mic at Klockow Brewing. This included working out harmonies as they weave their voices in song while covering genres from folk, country, theatre, and film. A native of the Grand Rapids area, Marina Whight started on stage at the age of four. She plays guitar and harp and has performed with several groups from the area. Since 2011, Marina has recorded and performed with Pat Surface and Spiritwood Music. Marina retired from a 43-year career in Elementary Education, giving her more time to devote to music, theater, and dance.

Emily Slaubaugh, AKA Ditty Wish, has performed solo in northern Minnesota for about four years. She's been involved in different local bands and community events including the performances of the Grand Rapids Players. Emily also hosts a community open mic at Klockow Brewing where musicians, comedians, poets, and storytellers can share their talents.

Amy Leigh Koivisto has been singing since she could talk, according to her family. Although she is most often seen acting on local stages in Grand Rapids, Virginia, and Duluth, singing is her first love. In recent years, she has discovered her flair for figuring out harmonies on the fly.

President's Message:

Greetings AAUW members.

What perfect timing to have Bonny Siegford, Itasca County Extension Master Gardener, speak at our April dinner. I hope you're all thinking about your gardens for this summer with great ideas to incorporate native plants, I certainly am.

I would like to welcome our new board officers for 2024, President: Sue LaVelle, Secretary: Vicki Holmstrom, Programs: Anita Firman and returning, Membership: Janis Johnson. Thank you, ladies, for taking the time to volunteer and keep the Grand Rapids AAUW Chapter awesome!

Laurie Clausen, President

***Travel Treasures SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Our Book Fair added \$113 to our fund, and Travel Treasures brought in \$43. Great job!

- Jean Gardner traveled to Arizona and brought back several items. A hand weaved coaster, fancy soap and prickly pear cactus gummy bears.
- Laurie Clausen brought liqueur filled chocolates from Curaco.

- Marj Lavalier was in Jamestown ND and donated salted carmel popcorn.
- Anita Firman found an olive shell at the Gulf Shores and made it into a beautiful necklace.
- Lily Winter donated one of her beautiful handmade necklaces.
- Marlys Mestemacher brought the first daffodils from her garden.

Thanks to everyone for participating. We will have Travel Treasures at our May meeting.

Marlys Mestemacher Jean Gardner

Nothing is more beautiful than a person who is secure in the unique way that God made her!

INTEREST GROUPS

***LITERATURE

The Monday Morning Lit Group will meet on May 6th at 9:30 AM in the private dining room at Majestic Pines. Judy Gorham will lead our discussion of LADY TAN'S CIRCLE OF WOMEN by Lisa See. (This book is a "fascinating and provocative novel about a remarkable woman of 15th Century China, Lady Tan, who is guided by her grandparents in the medical mysteries and treatments of the time. She forges her own path despite strict protocol for a high-born woman's behavior and responsibilities.") Coffee will be provided. For more information, contact Nancy Salmi @ 218-326-3147 or nsalmi@earthlink.net.

***WALKING & TALKING

The Walking Group walks on Tuesdays at 1 PM. The locations change from week to week but will be in the Grand Rapids area. The group is open to new members interested in walking. If you would like to join us, send your email and cell number to Karen Karls at k.karls@yahoo.com.

You will receive an email with the weekly walk location. Members walk when they can or want to; no need to RSVP. We generally walk for about an hour. If the weather is very dreadful, we may cancel and will let you know. However, we are a hardy group of women who value the fresh air and exercise as well as companionship.

***SUNSHINE & CARING

If any member of AAUW needs a bit of sunshine because of illness or a sympathy card, please let me know and I will send a card from AAUW. You can email me at: cyndy.agle@gmail.com.

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'Would love to restart a **Scrabble Group** that ended several years back. Anyone interested please email Juliet Jones at <u>kcjones50@yahoo.com</u> Thanks so much!' Juliet

Meet a Member - Patricia A. Mahoney

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Greetings! I'm that member of AAUW who is proud of her association with the national organization and a member of the Grand Rapids, MN branch- but doesn't attend meetings! That is not because I don't like them. It is rather because the mileage to get to and from the meetings is a stretch for this driver! You see - I now live in Lindstrom, MN - and it's a bit of a commute!

Why you might ask, don't I move my membership? The answer is simple! I did belong to the Minneapolis AAUW for a while, but with my work schedule at the STAR TRIBUNE, I could seldom make meetings. But when I retired from the newspaper, sold my home in Minneapolis and moved "North", I found the GR group and liked what I saw and heard. I joined the Grand Rapid branch and have been a member for more than a decade. The caliber of members and the variety of activities in which they are engaged was/is exceptional. I miss active participation in the work of the group but with friends I know as members, I stay in touch and support programs with my annual membership.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION - I was born in Hastings, MN, raised in Minneapolis, lived there for decades, attended school there (Kindergarten through University), married and raised two marvelous children there. I had wonderful opportunities to learn and love a variety of careers there. I also got divorced there.

CAREER NOTES- I graduated with a Bachelor of Science with distinction in Education from the University of Minnesota (Mpls. Campus). I was active in student government and an officer in the Minnesota Student Association. I was chosen for membership in PHI BETA KAPPA.

- Taught 11th grade English at Hopkins Senior High until the "rule" that required female teachers to end their teaching careers as soon as they got pregnant and started "showing"- kicked in.
- Revised my career direction and found myself managing two bridal specialty stores in the Twin Cities area, which led me to the position of Training

Director for National Bridal Service, headquartered in Richmond, VA. In that role I traveled to various Bridal Salons throughout the US and gave semi - annual sales training seminars. In addition, I wrote and graded a sales training course for store owners and employees.

 Was fortunate to be hired by the MINNNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE to come on board to manage the Newspaper in Education program. That led to a variety of managerial positions over a twenty-year period. My final role was the position of Director of Consumer Sales. I loved all aspects of the newspaper and the roles I was lucky enough to hold.

The lure of retirement tempted me to explore more options. With my children settled (both married and parents of two children each) I was free to travel and explore. I moved to Northern Minnesota with a very special friend and began a wonderful new life.

A proud member of AAUW/Grand Rapids!

Patricia A. Mahoney

Membership dues for 2024-25 are being collected now.

The dues are \$100.00 for 2024-25. All members that have paid by the May meeting will be entered in a drawing for a free membership.

A check can be mailed to our treasurer:

Julie Skallman

PO Box 5163

Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Karen Karls shared that the recent focus on women's basketball reminded her of **Charmayne Nelson**, one of our AAUW members who died at age 90, in 2021. Charmayne grew up in Iowa and played in the Iowa Girls State Tournament. This was a time when girls sports was not a common thing. She had stories to tell about those early experiences. She taught Phy. Ed in Iowa for a few years before moving to MN with her husband. I think Charmayne would be so happy to see the opportunities for women and especially the accomplishments of Caitlin Clark and the University of Iowa.













Myrna Peterson shared that she grew up in Iowa and has been following Caitlin Clark for 8 years! Her mom played basketball in high school competitively back in

the 1930s. Her dad was even her coach in high school – but she assured us that they didn't start dating until two years after she graduated from high school.
Women's sports, especially basketball, began slowly but have been huge in Iowa now for many years - thanks to women pioneers like **Charmayne Nelson**.

Congrats to our new officers that will start their new position on July 1.

President: Susan LaVelle
Vice President/Membership: Janis Johnson (re-elected 2nd term)
Co-Vice President/Programs: Anita Firman
Secretary: Vicki Holmstrom

Use me God!
Show me how to take who I am,
Who I want to be,
And what I can do.

And use it for a purpose Greater than myself!

...Martín Luther KingJr.

We will be honoring our **Lifetime Members** at our May meeting. A Lifetime member has been a member for 50 consecutive years. Congrats to Karen Karls who is our newest Lifetime Member.

The members that will be honored are:

Sharon Burt - Dody Davies - Shirley Jacobson - Karen Karls Harriet Lucia - Colleen Nardone - Marilyn Rossman

2024-2025 AAUW YEARBOOK and DIRECTORY

Our AAUW yearbook and directory for 2024-2025 will head to the printer the first week of September. Please check your individual entries to be sure that all of your information is correct. For some members we are missing information on what your college degree is in. If you would like to share that bit of interesting information, please let me know. Those of you who are in charge of committees will need to send your information/changes for the coming year.

Please send information to Vicki Holmstrom (<u>agiledog5@aol.com</u>) by August 30. Thanks!

That is a photo of the basket the Grand Rapids branch is taking to the State Meeting. It is wrapped with a sign but i wasn't sure the items would show. It's called **Gifts From Grand Rapids**. All items are locally produced.

Terri Friesen, Marlys Mestemacher and Karen Karls donated items.

Note the magnet with the red shoes.

Output

Description:



AAUW Notecards

Did you receive your AAUW notecards?

We had a winner from one of our Northland branches.

The card featured her Granddaughter wearing a hard hat while visiting a mine and was one of only 4 winners for 2024.

It was done by Pamela Rooney from the Hibbing branch.

Grand Rapids AAUW Board Meeting Minutes Monday, April 15, 2024 – United Methodist Church

Laurie Clausen, president, presided over the meeting. Attendees included Karen Karls, Dianne Anderson, Janis Johnson, Marlys Mestemacher, Terri Friesen, Kathleen Spencer, and Helen Ahlbrecht.

Secretary's report: Marlys Mestemacher moved the minutes from the previous board meeting be approved as read. Karen Karls seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report: \$100 has been donated to the scholarship fund since our March 2024 Board meeting. Twenty-nine members have contributed a total of

\$2285 for this fiscal year. A \$20 honorarium was contributed to scholarships. \$3300 was transferred to our GRACF scholarship fund as approved at the last board meeting. Karen Karl made the motion and Janis Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Kathleen Spencer Moved the \$1100 set aside for the Minnesota North – Itasca Engineering camp be released for the new engineering event planned in its place. Karen Karls seconded the motion.

Communications: Karen Karls submitted an article to the Herald Review about the upcoming meeting and program. There was also a discussion for the need to submit program information to Karen for these articles well in advance of the general meeting scheduled.

Programs: Ways to improve the efficiency of program planning and communication were discussed. Anita Firman has taken steps to get input from the membership for suggested topics of interest. A planning meeting is scheduled for April 23.

Educational Opportunity/Scholarship: Scholarship applications have been reviewed and candidates selected. Awardees include Amy Glass / Psychiartric Nursing; Lacey Paulley / Vet Tech; Roni Davis / RN. Each student receives \$1500. Meghan Meyer / Accounting & Finance received a \$4000 scholarship funded by the Lonson Family. Helen Ahlbrecht will be connecting with Charlie Black regarding the Minnesota North Scholarship. A discussion was held to assess possible changes in scholarship application requirements. Suggestions include lowering the GPA requirement, lowering the age requirement, revising wording to address advanced degrees, continuing with funding for \$1500 per scholarship, and continuing to include "certificate" in the eligibility description. Kathleen will provide a revised description for the application. Finally, we need to assess how to identify the Lonson scholarship given its unique funding,

New Business: Cyndy Agle will acknowledge our Life Members at the May general meeting. The June Board meeting will include outgoing and incoming board members. The meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2024 in the Yellow Room At United Methodist Church.

Adjournment: Helen Ahlbrecht moved the meeting be adjourned. Marlys Mestemacher seconded the motion.

Minutes respectfully submitted by	
Dianne Anderson, Secretary	

AAUW Grand Rapids MN Branch General Meeting Minutes Monday, April 15, 2024 – United Methodist Church

The Grand Rapids branch of AAUW met at the United Methodist Church on Monday, April 15th, 2024, for a social hour, Used Book Sale Scholarship Fundraiser, dinner and program. There were 45 attendees as well as two community members attending the program.

President Laurie Clausen opened the business meeting with the reading of the AAUW Mission Statement and then conducted the election of officers for the 2024-2025 business year. Officers for the upcoming year include:

President – Susan LaVelle VP/Membership – Janis Johnson Co-VP/Programs – Anita Firman Secretary – Vicki Holmstrom

The April Used Book Sale Fundraiser earned \$113 while Travel Treasures garnered \$43.

Kathleen Spencer introduced the speaker for the evening's program. Bonnie Siegford, Itasca County Extension Master Gardener presented a program entitled Beautify Your Landscape with Native Plants.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Dianne Anderson, Secretary



EASY REFRIGERATOR PICKLES

2 cups sugar 1 cup white vinegar Heat to dissolve and cool

7 to 9 cups sliced, unpeeled cukes (smaller cukes work the best)

1 cup sliced onions

Put in container (ice cream bucket works well)

Sprinkle with:

2 tablespoons salt

1 tablespoon celery SEEDS

Pour cooled liquid over, stir and store covered in refrigerator. In a few days can be put into smaller jars, keep refrigerated.

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Alice Stark - May 5 Donita Soucek - May 17

Websites for local, state and national AAUW information:

Our Grand Rapids AAUW blog: http://grandrapidsaauw.blogspotcom/

MN AAUW website: http://aauw-mn.aauw.net
National AAUW website: www.aauw.org

ADVANCING EQUITY FOR WOMEN & GIRLS - FOR MORE INFORMATION

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION www.aauw.org
AAUW MINNESOTA www.aauwmn.net