



# Grand Rapids Timberline

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT  
**AAUW GRAND RAPIDS**  
BRANCH MEMBERS

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Volume 49, Issue 3

November 2024

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

**November 11, 2024**

**Location:** United Methodist Church

Social/Registration: 5:00-5:45 PM Dinner: 5:45-6:30 PM

**Menu:** Sweet and Sour Pork, Rice, Dinner Salad, Lemon Cake  
Cost \$15

**Food Chair:** Vicki Holmstrom

**Food Committee:** Ellen Edvenson, Jean Hoshal, Martha Lentz, Louise Koglin  
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**Business Meeting:** 6:30 PM

**Program:** 6:45 PM

**Program Topic: "Personal Journey to Leadership" Kathleen Annette, MD, PhD**

A lifelong resident of rural Minnesota, Dr. Kathleen Annette is a recognized leader at local, regional and national levels. She is a member of the White Earth Tribe and honorary member of the Red Lake Tribe. Although retired for four years, she has found "retirement" to mean being busy with new and inspiring experiences.

The first woman of her tribe to become a physician, she worked with the Indian Health Service serving in many leadership roles including serving as the Acting Director of Field Operations which was a national position. She worked with tribal nations throughout the country. Dr. Annette retired from health services in 2011. A long-time partner of the Blandin Foundation, serving as a board member for 12 years, in 2011 she was selected as Blandin Foundation President and CEO. She retired in 2020.

Dr. Annette is the recipient of many honors and awards, including the National

American Indian Physician of the Year Award, two Presidential Meritorious Awards, and a Presidential Distinguished Service Award. As a fairly new "retiree" she continues to serve on Foundation Boards, learn and take up new hobbies, reads voraciously and is enjoying life immensely.

**\*\*RSVP to [AAUWRSVPGrandRapids@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWRSVPGrandRapids@gmail.com) by Monday, November 4, 2024**

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### **President's Message**

Hello Friends!

Our Branch met on October 14 for our regular monthly meeting. After dinner our speaker, Aaron Brown of Balsam, spoke about Northern Minnesota History. Mr. Brown is a writer, college instructor and a radio speaker.

Six members of our AAUW branch attended the Northland Gathering in Ely on October 12th. The Presentation was about Advocacy, and the different services that are available in the Ely area. All the different branches also shared what they do for fundraisers throughout the year. The Northland Gathering will be held in Grand Rapids in October of 2025.

October was 'Bring A Guest Month', and the used book sale. We had seven guests attend the meeting. At the end of the meeting four of these guests became new members. They are; Carolyn Chase of Grand Rapids, Carolyn Gaarder of Grand Rapids, Deb Page of Cohasset and Alexandra Mack of Grand Rapids. Welcome to all of you!

There were a lot of wonderful books available. The money from those sales went toward scholarships.

I hope you all had a chance to view the fall colors and ate lots of candy for Halloween.

Our next meeting is November 11th at the Methodist Church.

Susan LaVelle, President



### **\*\*\*Travel Treasures**

Thank you, members! We added. \$118 to our Scholarship Fund!

The biannual used books sale brought in \$81. The remaining books were donated to Friends of the Library. The next used books sale will be at our April meeting.

Again, many wonderful Travel Treasures were donated, and we raised \$37.

- Sandra Nelson brought a beautiful mosaic trivet/cutting board from Mallorca, Spain.

- Julie Skallman was in Uzbekistan and brought a lovely red scarf.
- From the Upper Peninsula via Duluth, Norma Eppinga donated trinary toast.
- Kathleen Spencer had more adventures, this time to Iceland. She donated lovely note cards and a chocolate bar.
- An AAUW meeting was held in Ely. Karen, Julie, Kathleen, Susan, Nancy and Linda attended. They brought back a crowd favorite, Dorothy Molter Root Beer.

Again, thank you all so much! Keep AAUW in mind on you next adventure.

Marlys Mestemacher  
Jean Gardner

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**On Saturday, October 12th, Grand Rapids AAUW Branch members attended The Northland Gathering in Ely.**



**Kathleen Spencer, Nancy Raymond, Linda Johnson, Susan LaVelle, Julie Skallman and Karen Karls**



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*Jumping for joy is good exercise!*  
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**\*\*INTEREST GROUPS\*\***

**\*\*\*LITERATURE**

The Monday Morning Lit Group will meet on Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 AM in the private dining room at Majestic Pines. Nancy Salmi will lead the discussion of Marie Benedict's THE MITFORD AFFAIR, a novel based upon the lives of the six

Mitford sisters during the 1930s. Brilliant, eccentric and beautiful, the sisters dominated the English political, social and literary scenes. Embroiled in intrigue and scandal, Diana and Unity Mitford were devoted fascists and became members of Hitler's inner circle. Appalled, Nancy Mitford worked to prevent an alliance between Great Britain and Nazi Germany before the start of World War II. We will, also, choose our books for the first few months of 2025 and, following our meeting, we will go to the Grand Rapids Area Public Library to choose our book for December from the library's "Book Club Bags". Coffee will be provided. For more information, or if you would like to attend the meeting, please contact Nancy Salmi @ 218-326-3147 or [nsalmi@earthlink.net](mailto:nsalmi@earthlink.net).

**\*\*\*WALKING & TALKING**

The group is on its fall/winter schedule of walking on Tuesday afternoons at 1 PM. The locations change from week to week but are generally in the Grand Rapids area. We walk for about one hour and then may gather for coffee. We are hardy women and always walk outside but we are not speed walkers so you can set your own pace. Group members receive a notification of the location of the walk. Members walk when they want to. No need for RSVPs. If the walk is cancelled for any reason (potential weather threat) you will be notified. The group welcomes new members interested in walking. Send your name, email address, and cell phone number to Karen at [k.karls@yahoo.com](mailto:k.karls@yahoo.com).

**\*\*\*SUNSHINE & CARIN**

If any member of AAUOW needs a bit of sunshine because of illness or a sympathy card, please let Nancy Raymond know, she is our SUNSHINE & CARING contact. She will send a card from AAUW. You can email her at: [nmraymond14@gmail.com](mailto:nmraymond14@gmail.com).

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*Welcome New Members!*

Please add our new members to your directory—  
there are blank pages in the back of the book.

Carolyn Chase  
140 Per Lane  
Grand Rapids, 55744  
651-357-5713  
[cchase007g@gmail.com](mailto:cchase007g@gmail.com)  
Referred by Marva Jean Hutchins

Deb Page  
34603 Rebel Beach Rd.  
Cohasset, 55721  
612-619-4237  
[page.deb.52@gmail.com](mailto:page.deb.52@gmail.com)  
Referred by Susan Lynch

Carolyn Gaarder  
2060 SW 8th St, Unit 408  
Grand Rapids, 55744  
701-730-0499

Alexandra Mack  
2165 Benson Drive  
Grand Rapids, MN  
520-237-3564

[Carolyngaarder@hotmail.com](mailto:Carolyngaarder@hotmail.com)  
Referred by Pat Anderson

[ljcamack@att.net](mailto:ljcamack@att.net)  
Referred by Laurie Clausen

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**AAUW Grand Rapids MN Branch General Meeting  
Minutes for October 14, 2024**

The Grand Rapids branch of AAUW met at the United Methodist Church on Monday, October 14, 2024, for social hour, dinner and program. There were 45 attendees including 5 guests.

Before the dinner, Cyndy Agle, standing in for Janis Johnson, asked members to introduce guests they had brought for 'Bring a Guest' month. Four of the guests joined after the meeting.

Pam Friesen introduced the speaker for the evening's program. Aaron Brown, a local writer, college instructor and podcast producer, presented "Thumping the Tub", a collection of election related stories from Northern Minnesota in the early 1900's.

After our speaker, President Susan LaVelle opened the business meeting with the reading of the AAUW Mission Statement.

Our meeting was held a week early this month because of the Methodist Church's coat distribution that will be taking place next week. Marva Jean Hutchens announced that volunteers are still needed for the event.

6 of our members attended the AAUW Northland Gathering in Ely. Programs centered on advocacy and welcoming members to the community.

Several members suggested we might enjoy watching the PBS show Miss Friman's war. It is a PBS series inspired by a true story of class and women's struggles in the early 1900's.

Travel Treasures brought in \$37 and book sale \$81 for the scholarship fund.

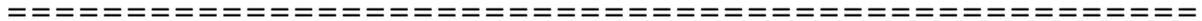
Minutes respectfully submitted,  
Vicki Holmstrom, Secretary





**Contact information changes:**

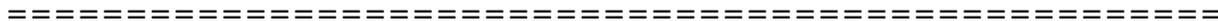
**Emilie Zasada's** new address 7615 NW Skillings Dr., Corvallis, OR 97330



At the December meeting, **Anita Firman** will be doing  
**an interactive scarf tying experience!!!**

Anita's mother was a buyer for Maison Blanche in New Orleans  
and Dayton's in Minneapolis.  
Her scarves are from all over the globe!

Anita will have many scarves of all shapes, sizes and fabrics  
that will be available to use or buy!  
She will donate proceeds which will go to the Scholarship fund.  
Plan for a fun evening!!!



- Linda Lonson - November 13
- JoAnn Bakken - November 14
- Susan 'Sue' Mattson - November 16
- Dorothy 'Dody' Davies - November 23
- Carolyn Chase - November 25

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**Websites for local, state and national AAUW information:**

Our Grand Rapids AAUW blog: <http://grandrapidsaauw.blogspot.com/>

MN AAUW website: <http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>

National AAUW website: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

**ADVANCING EQUITY FOR WOMEN & GIRLS – FOR MORE INFORMATION**

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

AAUW MINNESOTA [www.aauwmn.net](http://www.aauwmn.net)