



Grand Rapids Timberline

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT
AAUW GRAND RAPIDS
BRANCH MEMBERS

EDITOR: Myrna Peterson
myrnakay67@gmail.com
(218) 301-6028



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



January 20, 2025

Location: United Methodist Church

Social/Registration: 11:30 – 11:45 AM Lunch: 11:45 AM – 12:30 PM

Menu: Taco Bar, Carrot Cake
Cost \$13

****RSVP to AAUWRSVPGrandRapids@gmail.com
by Monday, January 13, 2025**

Food Chair: Nancy Salmi

Food Committee: Judy MacAlpine, Terri Friesen, Cheryl Vogel

Business Meeting and Program: 12:30 PM

Program Topic: "Walking a Way or Two: Portuguese Camino & West Highland Way" Sally Hagman, AAUW Member and Traveler

Sally grew up in Detroit Lakes, attended St. Olaf College and participated in the Urban Studies program and the Global Program which included a five-month study around the world. Once graduated she worked in Washington, DC with a lobbyist, and at an environmental camp in New York State for a year. With her parents and brother, Sally traveled to England, Ireland, and Northern Ireland visiting relatives and exploring family roots. The travel bug was born.

She taught Social Studies and became a Guidance Counselor at Forest Lake High

School. In 1983-84 Sally and her husband Dave Hagman, also a teacher, exchanged teaching positions with two teachers in Liverpool, England through the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program. After moving to Grand Rapids in 1991, they looked for ways they could expand the world for their two children. They spent two years in England teaching at the American Community School in suburban London.

Over the years, Hagmans have hiked, biked and backpacked in Europe and the US. Sally loves looking around herself as she travels, relishing the natural world and human customs and traditions, feeling it is a feast for her senses. Sharing the experiences with others adds to the enjoyment of the feast.

Two recent walking trips have been special and memorable and are the focus of this program. In spring 2017 Dave and Sally hiked the 100 km West Highland Way in Scotland, and in March 2024 they hiked 105 km of the Portuguese Way of the Camino de Santiago in Spain.

President's Message

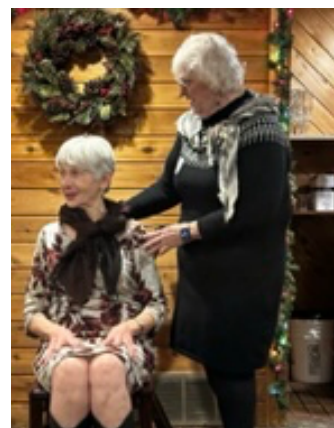
Hello Friends!

On December 9th AAUW met at the Forest Lake Restaurant for our annual Christmas gathering where we had delicious choices for dinner.

Following dinner, Anita Firman put on a demonstration of ways to tie a scarf. There were many choices of color, design, and styles of scarves. Scarves of your choice were available to purchase. Fun was had by all.

We will meet next in January of 2025. Have a Blessed and Happy Holiday.

Susan LaVelle,
President





*****Travel Treasures**

A big thank you to Anita Firman. What a wonderful presentation she gave on her beautiful scarfs. Plus she donated \$70 from sales of her scarfs to our Scholarship Fund! What a fun evening we had.

We added another \$45 for scholarships with Travel Treasures.

- Jean Gardner has been traveling many places: She donated Tea from China Town in San Francisco, Napkins from Holland, a coin purse and Garadelli chocolates from San Francisco and a beautiful necklace from Iceland.
- Marlys Mestemacher donated: Christmas tea from Montréal and items from the Grace House silent auction.

'See you at our January meeting!

Marlys Mestemacher

It's a good day to try something new!

****INTEREST GROUPS****

*****LITERATURE**

The Monday Morning Lit Group will meet on January 6, 2025, at 9:30 A.M. in the private dining room at Majestic Pines. Jan Bilden will lead our discussion of JAMES by Percival Everett. The novel is "...a reimagining of the adventures of Huckleberry Finn as told from the enslaved Jim's point of view". According to the author Ann Patchett, the book is "Funny and horrifying, brilliant and riveting. Who should read this book? Every single person in the country". Coffee will be provided. For more

information, contact Nancy Salmi at 218-326-3147 or 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.

*****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.



Grand Rapids AAUW Treasurer's Report

Thank you to all of the members who have contributed to our scholarship fundraising so far this fiscal year. As of the December meeting we have raised \$1775. \$500 of it was placed directly into our Endowed funds at the Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation (GRACF) and is earning interest toward future scholarships. The remaining \$1275 will be added to our spendable balance at GRACF and used to fund 3 \$1500 scholarships for non-traditional women.

We have adequate funds in the spendable balance at the ICC foundation to again support a \$1500 scholarship at Minnesota College North.

Linda Lonson has again donated \$4000 for the Karen Lonson Memorial AAUW-GRGM scholarship in a business-related field. We are honored that she has chosen our organization to play a role in her desire to recognize her mother and our former member this way.

Our scholarship committee members will be busy in the new year working with GRACF and Minnesota College North to review applicants and select our recipients.

I continue to accept scholarship donations of any amount at any time. We want to be able to maintain this level of support for women and girls in our community next year. Checks can be sent to me at PO Box 5163, Grand Rapids, 55744. Please write the check to AAUW and write "scholarships" on the memo line.

Julie Skallman, Treasurer
Grand Rapids Branch AAUW



CONGRATULATIONS!!!

AAUW celebrated its 143rd Anniversary in November!



CLOSED FACEBOOK PAGE

Our branch has a "Closed Facebook Page" as a way to stay connected with branch members and our activities. You must be a current Facebook user and then ask to be an accepted member to this closed Facebook page. No other Facebook members will see our posts. (page 8 in our directory)

Contact: slquern@aol.com



Terri Friesen - January 11
Jean Gardner - January 19
Alexandra Zimmerman - January 25
Marian Barry - January 27
Louise Koglin Fideldy - January 27
Karen Wennen - January 27
Diane Anderson - January 31



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