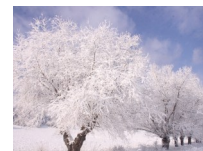


## THE HEART OF THE ARROWHEAD

WINTER 2024/25

AAUW Hibbing Branch Newsletter



### In this issue:

- ◆ President's Message
- ◆ 2025 Calendar
- ◆ Regional Events
- ◆ National News
- ◆ Hibbing Branch News & Extras
  - Literature Group
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- ◆ Branch Officers & Committees

*HAPPY HOLIDAYS*

*AND A*

*MERRY NEW YEAR!*

***"I believe the rights of women and girls is the unfinished business of the 21st century."***

***– Hillary Clinton***

### Contact:

Sara Merfeld, AAUW-Hibbing  
Branch President  
merfeldsara@gmail.com

### President's message —

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays everyone!

Hopefully you are all staying safe and warm this winter season as we face a much more typical December than last year.

2024 brought us some wonderful times together, especially the celebration of our 100th year and another incredible book sale.

I am looking forward to our 101st year, more book sale fun and memories, and a host of new programs.

Wishing you a happy holiday season filled with love and joy,

*Sara*



## **AAUW-Hibbing Branch Calendar: 2025** (updated time/location on AAUW Hibbing FB page)

DATE	MEETING	TIME	LOCATION
Jan. 18	Board	TBA	TBA
Jan. 18	General	TBA(brunch)	TBA
Feb. 20	General	TBA	TBA
Mar. 13	General	TBA	TBA
Apr. 4,5,6	BOOK SALE		
May 15	General	TBA	Valentini's
June	Board	TBA	TBA

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS: AAUW Hibbing Branch Book Sale**

Preparations continue for the AAUW Hibbing Branch Book Sale. Books donations resume March 2025 or call Barb with any additional questions.

We are collecting puzzles and audio books, too.

Hauling date: March 29

Sorting: March 29- April 3

Selling: April 4, 5, & 6

For more information call Barb @ 218-340-2639

### **SAVE THE DATE: AAUW MN ANNUAL MEETING/CONVENTION**



**APRIL 25-26,2025**  
**HORMEL INSTITUTE**  
**AUSTIN, MINNESOTA**



## NATIONAL NEWS

### Website Theme file project update

Number of sites completed: 322

We have completed a prioritized list of branch websites who responded to our outreach regarding the website theme file update. There are a further 164 websites that are now in a queue to be updated. These remaining websites belong to branches and states on our multi-site that were not responsive to our request for information. As a reminder – we emailed branch presidents and site resources contacts (if we had one on file).

**Planning for our next Member Gathering has begun** – Tentatively holding February 5<sup>th</sup> from 4-5pm ET. I'd welcome any suggestions on topics or questions! I'll be organizing an internal planning meeting in early January.

**Reminder: Request for Fellow and Grantee Sponsorship information** should be sent to [fellowships@aauw.org](mailto:fellowships@aauw.org) and allow for a 2 week turnaround. The directory link can be found here: <https://my.aauw.org/fellowshipsandgrantsdirectory> - the directory does not have sponsorship information, which would be requested separately via [fellowships@aauw.org](mailto:fellowships@aauw.org)

**Past Webinars/Recordings:** Please visit our YouTube channel and/or our webinar page on the website

Link to YouTube: [AAUW - YouTube](#)

Link to webinar page on our website: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/>

### National Board, Staff and Committee Matching Gift Campaign Update

We achieved our \$100k Goal!

### Branch Survey / 5 Star Information

Email notifications have been sent to branches to inform them of their earned stars and thank them for participating in the Branch Survey

State Presidents will be sent emails this week (coming from Gloria and with Cherie Sorokin copied) recognizing branches that earned stars and acknowledging/recognizing branches that participated in the survey this year.

Reminder: Five Star information can be found on our website here: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/5-star-program/>

### NCCWSL

We do not have information about the 2025 NCCWSL yet – we are still waiting on that information to share from NASPA

NASPA's Website: [www.naspa.org](http://www.naspa.org)

## HIBBING BRANCH NEWS & EXTRAS

### LITERATURE GROUP (Dates, time, location are flexible; 2:30pm unless noted)



Book Title	Date	Location
Grover-LeGarde: <i>Night of Memory</i>	1/21/25	Sylvia Lehman, 337 Mesabi Drive, Hibbing
Pataki, Allison: <i>The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post</i>	2/18/25	Barb Wojciak, 3320 1st Ave., Hibbing
Baker, Ellen: <i>Hidden Life of Cecily Larson</i>	3/18/25	Kathy Antilla (Location pending)
To be named	5/20/25	Kathy Laffin, 22150 Kodiak Rd., Nashwauk
To be named	June ?	Gretchen Wright, 13165 Watson Bay Rd, Side Lake

**TEXT** Patty Miller for Zoom meeting connection or additional information. 218-966-2023.

### COLLEGIANS AND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**Congratulations to all who have recently been recognized by AAUW for your contributions to your academic pursuits.**



Emma Jensen is a Senior at Nashwauk-Keewatin High School.

Tresa Baumgard, who is a senior at Chisholm High School

Amara Aimonetti is a Senior at Cherry High School

### URGENT! Stay Connected: Re-Subscribe to AAUW Emails

Are any members missing out on vital updates and important announcements from AAUW?

Ensure they stay connected by re-subscribing to AAUW emails to receive publication such as Membership Matter and Washington Update. Simply forward or click on this link, [aauw.us/emailoptions](https://aauw.us/emailoptions) to re-subscribe and guarantee that they receive the latest news, webinars, and opportunities from AAUW.

## AAUW-Hibbing Branch Officers: 2024-25

<b>President</b>	<b>Sara Merfeld</b> merfeldsara@gmail.com
<b>VP Membership</b>	<b>Marcella Schwecke</b> marcella@gmail.com
<b>VP Programs</b>	<b>Gretchen Wright &amp; Becky Kapella</b> gretchenbw@gmail.com   beckykapella@gmail.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Kathy Laffin</b> kathylaffin49@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Julie Takkunen</b> julie.takkunen@gmail.com

### Like & Follow AAUW on FB.

Follow AAUW-Hibbing

Follow AAUW MN

Follow AAUW

**Don't forget to mail the newsletter to a friend or prospective member.**

**Print/address/fold/stamp/mail - It's that easy!**

## AAUW-Hibbing: Committees & Chairs

**Programs,** Gretchen Wright & Becky Kapella

**Public Policy,** Nancy Erickson

**By-Laws,** Sara Merfeld

**Membership,** Marcella Schwecke

**Book Sale/AAUW Funds,** Barb Wojciak

**Scholarships,** Shanna Eskeli & Sara Merfeld

**College/University Liaison,** (vacant)

**Cultural Interest,** Mary Enge & Peggy Vidmar

**Historian,** Mary Petron

**Special Projects,** vacant

**Reservations,** Pam Rooney & TBA

**Future Collegians,** Sue Moody & Lynn Stish

**Literature,** Patty Miller

**Special Funds,** Jeannie Brandstrom

**Sunshine,** Marilyn Kaeli

**Publicity,** (vacant)

**Newsletter Editor/FB Administrator,** Jan Carey



HIBBING (MN)  
BRANCH

*The Heart of the Arrowhead:* AAUW-Hibbing branch newsletter is compiled by Jan Carey and member contributors. Published four times annually. c2024

*Heart of the Arrowhead*: AAUW-Hibbing Branch Newsletter is compiled by Jan Carey and member contributors. c2020

**The Heart of the Arrowhead**  
**403 Highland Drive**  
**Hibbing, MN 55746**

PLACE  
STAMP  
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