



Faribault Branch Communiqué

~ February 2016 ~

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.



AAUW Presidents' Message ~ February 2016

Did you see the photo on the back of the *Outlook*? Our author for December's Book Club, Pearl S Buck was shown. To quote, "Most people know Pearl S Buck as the brilliant author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel The Good Earth. But in her roles as an AAUW Philadelphia (PA) Branch member and national AAUW committee member, she was also a fierce advocate for fair pay, women's work opportunities, and the Equal Rights Amendment. Buck (right) is shown here with Eleanor Roosevelt fundraising for war victims in China." I am including this photo as a reminder that all are invited to take part in our Book Club.



This month I was privileged to feature our Life members in our Branch Cameo Project. We currently have six, four Paid Up life members (Rene` Perrance, Pat Rice, Phyllis Borchert and Marge Helmer) and two Honorary Life members (May Bottke and Joan Koonmen). Both May and Joan are now 60 year members and counting.

I asked Phyllis Borchert to comment of why she became a Life member:

"An AAUW member told me years ago that to become a life member at our age was an extremely smart financial move to make. She was such an intelligent person in the field of Math that I promptly took her advice."

There are 2 types of Life members:

- Paid Up which means paying 20 years' worth of National dues (currently \$49) and continue to pay State (\$9) and Branch (\$10) dues each year.
- Honorary Life members are those who have paid National dues for 50 years. They then become exempt from paying Sate and Branch dues. Paid Up Life members can become Honorary Life members with their 50th anniversary of paying National dues.

***We have the membership records for everyone so check to see if yours are correct, especially if you're getting close to the 50 year mark. There are some errors we have found. ***

I asked Joan Koonmen to comment on a couple of questions I posed to her:

“Significant changes/ improvements in AAUW over the years: I’m now back as a member of the first AAUW branch that I belonged to (La Crosse, WI). The changes that I think have had the most impact are Title IX, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) and Women’s History Month. I also think AAUW’s work with school age girls through camps and STEM events have helped them to see more opportunities, inspired them and have given them confidence that they can do so many things.

Additional info: I was the first chair of the AAUW Art Fair on the Green for the La Crosse, WI branch. The art fair is still going strong and this year will be its 58th year. It’s grown from about 25 artists to almost 100. It’s the branch’s main scholarship fundraiser and last year \$28,000 was given away in scholarships and grants.”

So whether we are a Life member or brand new, there is important work to be done. We don’t know where we are going if we don’t know where we have been.

- We received a very nice thank you from the Lincoln 5th Graders for their Career Exploration Day. “As those of you that were here to volunteer could see it was a huge success. The students thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity and we could not have done it without your assistance.” It was worth it just to hear students say, “Best school day EVER!”

We also have some fun, as well as some serious, times of getting to know each other better:

- The Gallery-on-the-Go was a success with 15 painters. Hoping to make this an annual event.
- Looking forward to the necklace making party on Sat., the 13th.
- Be sure to come for the program on 2/22 about food as medicine. Did you know carrots were first grown for medicine, not for food?
- An opportunity to see what women had to go through to earn the right to vote in Britain. I’ll host viewing of the Suffragette on 2/29 and/or 3/1 in my home at time(s) when have 4-5/time.
- The Minnesota History Theatre has more than a dozen signed up. Still can sign up at next meeting and pay the \$28. This will be Sun., Mar 20th in St Paul.
- Very pleased to have several new members signed up to write articles for “Women’s History Month.” Be watching *FDN* in March for articles about women who were first to serve in public service and government.
- The nominating committee which is the Board will be discussing nominations at our meeting at 5:30 on 2/22 at District One. Members should be thinking of what position you would like to have in the Branch. With co-president and co-vice presidents of programs, membership and AAUW Funds, there is a year to get primed before assuming the lead position the following year.
- Kathy Kasten and I have spent several afternoons diligently bringing our bylaws into mandatory conformance with the National model. They have been submitted to the National office and filed. They have increased from just over 7 pages to a full 11 pages. No vote is necessary.

Quotable quote: *“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” ~ Helen Keller*

Karen Rasmussen, with Pat Fuchs, Co-Presidents

Secretary’s Report

Faribault AAUW Board/Branch Meeting Minutes - Jan. 25, 2016



The January board meeting of the Faribault AAUW was called to order by President Karen Rasmussen at 5:30 p.m. at District One Hospital on Monday, Jan. 25, 2016. The agenda applied to both the board and branch meetings. The branch meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pres. Rasmussen welcomed those attending. She reminded members to put on

their name tags and remember the Buck-it for Scholars.

Secretary's Report: Motion by Emily Nesvold, second by Pat Rice to accept the minutes as printed in the January newsletter. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Pres. Rasmussen read our treasurer's report. Checking balance is \$303.87. Our savings balance is \$5,325.62. Motion to accept the report for audit by Pauline Schreiber, second by Diane Hagen. The motion carried.

Correspondence:

- We received a Thank You from Carolyn Treadway for the peanut butter we collected at December's meeting for the diners at the Cathedral Cafe.
- Email from state president with reminder of deadlines, bylaw changes and asking for branches to consider hosting the 2017 state convention. Pres. Rasmussen will get more information about the facilities needed and a list of expectations. Emily Nesvold and Pauline Schreiber volunteered to check local venues and get back to our membership to make a decision.

Committee Reports:

- **Membership:** As of Dec. 31, 2015, we have 51 members. Our newest member is Sandy Kane. Beginning Mar. 16th, we can begin qualifying for the new *Shape the Future Campaign*.
- **Programs:** Pauline Schreiber reported that members could sign up for our visit to the Minnesota History Theatre on March 20th to see a matinee performance of "Watermelon Hill" A check for \$28.00 should be sent to Julie Olson by the Feb. 12th deadline. Members were asked to indicate if they could drive. Those attending would meet at 12:30 p.m. at a place to be determined to car pool. Those who wish will stop for dinner on the way home.
- **NCCWSL:** We received no applicants. The committee met before the board meeting and discussed how to proceed. Since there was good publicity, they felt we might need to groom potential students to apply. The issue will be revisited in the fall.
- **Cameo Project:** We need 21 more members to submit their profiles. Pres. Rasmussen handed out forms to complete.
- **Book Club:** The Feb. 16th meeting will be held at Hy Vee Market Cafe, 6:00 for dinner, and 6:30 for discussion. *The Invention of Wings* is the February selection.
- **Book Sale:** The dates for the book sale have been determined, Apr. 21st-26th, 2016 at Faribo West Mall. The Kids Carnival will be held on the 23rd. Pat Rice suggested that AAUW buy a table for the Mall using seed money from forming a Thrivent Action team. Dorothy Joy asked members to sign up for several time slots. Set up will be 9:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Apr. 18th - 20th. Shifts are 9:30a.m. - 8:00 p.m. the 21st and 22nd. Sat., the 23rd will be from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, Apr. 24th is from noon to 5:00 p.m. The 25th and 26th will be from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- **Gallery on the Go:** This fun activity was held Jan. 16th. Ten members and 15 guests participated. This may become an annual event.
- **NBC Learn:** Cyndy Harrison reported that she met with the curriculum coordinators of the Faribault School District to explain the resources available through NBC's digital library. South Central College has signed up for a trial of this online resource program.

Old Business:

- **Women's History Month:** Our Faribault branch refined the theme of "Honoring women in National Service or Government," by "honoring Women who were the First in Their Field. . . ." These will be published in the Faribault Daily News. By the end of the meeting all women (Sandra Day O'Connor, Amy Klobuchar, Jeanette Rankin, Shirley Chisholm, Molly Woehrlin and Ann Vohs) were claimed by members who would write the 600 word or less biographies.

- **Career Day at Lincoln Elementary:** The AVID program expanded this activity to include all 5th graders. AAUW members who volunteered were Pat Fuchs, Kathy Kasten, Olga Knapp, Kathy Larson, Colleen Rolling, and Karen Rasmussen. They helped with the carpentry project in the afternoon and/or also in the earlier sessions with local speakers presenting careers in baking-cake decorating, engineering and floral arranging.
- **Halloween breakfast:** We have confirmed the Oct. 30th date for our annual Halloween Breakfast at the American Legion. We will have an itemized bill rather than per plate fee and hope to add a bake sale, craft sale and silent auction. We'll also continue providing the pumpkin muffins, distributing candy and encouraging costumes.

New Business:

- **Glass Garden Beads:** Another activity has been scheduled for Feb. 13th at the new business which has recently opened in downtown Faribault. It is located behind Bluebird Cakery. The cost will be around \$20.00 A sign-up sheet was distributed.
- **Rochester Enrichment Program:** Rene Perrance announced that there will be a Community Education presentation entitled "Sex Trafficking in the Heartland" at Northrop in Rochester on Apr. 27th at 6:30p.m.

The meeting adjourned.

Pauline Schreiber announced that next month's program will be *Eating Healthy: Good Medicine* presented by District One Hospital dietitian, Jenny Kath. After a short break, she introduced our mother/daughter authors: Edna Thayer, *Feisty Lydia* and Tamara Thayer, *A Country Doctor Goes to War* who presented tonight's program.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Hildebrandt, secretary

As of January 31 these are our cash balances: checking \$303.87 and savings \$\$5,368.75.

Please refer any check requests to Karen Rasmussen until February 20. I will be enjoying some extra sunshine!

This spring I will be reviewing our membership rolls to determine if we have some 50- year members to acknowledge. As you know, these loyal ladies are then entitled to free membership in AAUW, all levels. I have already found a few errors in our membership records and need your help to determine who might be in this group. If you think that you might be close to this anniversary, or are just curious about the records in general, please give me a call so that I can follow through on this issue. 334-5488.



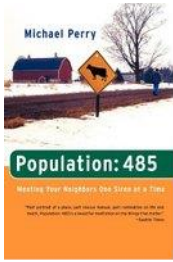
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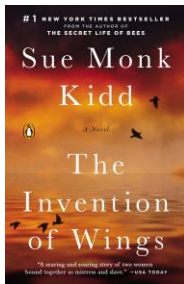
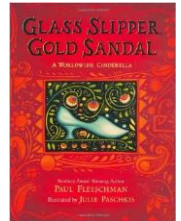
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Book Club



Eight AAUW Book Club members met on January 19 at Perkins to discuss Michael Perry's *Population: 485*. There was a wide variety of observations, from Perry's brilliant writing skills to his ability to capture the feel of small town Midwest life. Those who had personal experiences with volunteer rescue/EMT services felt his stories were realistically true-to-life.

Readers also appreciated the delightful multicultural Cinderella picture book, *Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella* by Paul Fleischman. This composite tale is woven from 17 cultural variations of the Cinderella story. Many of us loved the folk art style illustrations.



Our February book is *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd. Set in the early 1800s in South Carolina this well-researched novel features the rebellious abolitionist Grimke sisters and their like-minded slave servant, Handful.

Remember, we welcome ALL AAUW members. If you are considering attending, *The Invention of Wings*, with over 100 weeks on the NYT Best Seller list, is a great place to start.

NEXT MEETING:

~ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

~ 6:00 FOR DINNER & 6:30 DISCUSSION

~ HY VEE MARKET GRILLE MEETING ROOM (NEW LOCATION)

No matter the weather, book club is always a warm place to be! (And in July, we're really a cool group!)
Gloria O.

Membership



Our AAUW Faribault Branch MEMBERSHIP is always open to more ladies to support our mission to empower and girls and women, to form friendships and enjoy working on service projects together.

Remember to invite any friend to one of our meetings to share our mission and camaraderie. Our Minnesota History Theatre Trip in March would be a great opportunity to invite someone.

For more information on membership: call Karen Kittlesen (334-4900) or Kathy Larson (332-2525) - Membership Vice Presidents

Program



Business Meeting: 6:30 pm

February Program: "Eating Heathy: Good Medicine", presented by Jenny Kath, District One Hospital Dietician. Jenny will show us how what we eat can help keep us healthy. **Where:** District One Hospital Classroom

When: February 22

Board Meeting: 5:30 pm

Presentation: 7:00 pm

Watermelon Hill

Remember that at **12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 20**, those going to the Minnesota History Theater production of "Watermelon Hill" will carpool from the Hwy. 21 truck stop. The play is at 2 p.m. If you still want to go, but haven't signed up, call Karen Rasmussen at 331-0126. The cost is \$ 28.

Book Sale



The book sale dates are as follows:

April 18 - April 20: All day set up and book sorting

April 21 - April 22: 9:30AM- 8:00PM

April 23: 12:00PM - 5:00PM

April 24 -April 25: 3:00PM - 7:00PM

April 26: AM clean up

Please come to the next meeting prepared to sign up to work two or three time slots. This is our big money maker for the year and we really need your help. Work times are 2 1/2 to 3 hours.

Calendar of Events



Good

Medicine District One

Thu Feb 11 - RSVP deadline for Jewelry Party by 8 pm to Karen

Sat Feb 13 - Jewelry Party at 2 pm at Glass Garden Beads (get beverage before)

Tue Feb 16 - Book Club

Mon Feb 22 - Board meeting at 5:30, Branch at 6:30, Program at 7 Eating Healthy

Tue Mar 15 – Book Club

Wed Mar 16 – Start new *Shape the Future* Campaign for half price Natl dues for New Members

Sun Mar 20 – MN History Theatre outing to see *Watermelon Hill* matinee

Mon Mar 28 – Board meeting at 5:30, Branch at 6:30, Program *Women’s Trivia Game*
at 7 at District One

Mon Apr 4 – Start of Book Collecting, Sorting, Moving Books at the Mall

Sat Apr 16 – Tri-Branch Luncheon at The Lodge

Tue Apr 19 – Book Club

Thu Apr 21- Tue Apr 26 Book Sale at Faribo West Mall

Sat Apr 23 – Kids’ Karnival at Book Sale