



Faribault Branch Communiqué

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



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AAUW Presidents' Message ~ January 2017

Happy New Year! It doesn't seem possible that it is already January, 2017. According to historians, January is named after Janus, the god of the doorway. He is usually shown with an image of a face that looks forward and backwards at the same time. January is the time to reflect on the events of the previous year and look forward to the opportunities that a new year brings.

Reflecting back to December, many positive comments were made about the holiday event held at the Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior. The success was due to the efforts of many members. The cloister area with its festive atmosphere was reserved by Emily Nesvold. Pauline Schreiber and Emily Nesvold provided the "special recipe" apple cider. The table cloths for the serving tables as well as the seasonal plates and napkins were furnished by Mary Lillquist. A holiday music sing-along was accompanied by May Bottke on the keyboard. A competitive game of Bunco was organized by Colleen Rolling, which was no easy task due to the number of members and guests in attendance. Finally, there was an abundance of scrumptious food available compliments of our members. The conversation and laughter was invigorating.

Looking forward, there will be many volunteer opportunities for the members this year. First, Kathy Kasten will need members willing to write articles for Women's History Month. These articles will be published in the Faribault Daily News during the month of March. Next, the book sale, which is our major fund raiser, will be held during the third week of April. Sorting books, advertising, sales, and clean-up are just some of the areas where volunteers are needed. Perhaps, assisting with the selection of scholarship recipients might be of interest to you. There will be two opportunities to do so this spring. Finally, co-chairpersons Pauline Schreiber and Cyndy Harrison, have met to work on plans for 2018 AAUW state convention to be held in Faribault. At our January meeting, they will make a report on the plans at this point and suggest ways in which the members can assist.

On Saturday, January 7th, a cold but sunny day, eleven members and two guests gathered at a warm and cozy room in the Upper East Side for a painting party. In the mix were a mother and daughter team as

well as a grandmother, mother, daughter team. Suzanne Schwichtenberg guided the group in the painting of dandelions with fireflies. After the session, a picture was taken of the group displaying their creative works. Of course, food and non-alcoholic drinks were also provided. The next social event will be a necklace party held on February 11th from 10:00 a.m. to noon at Glass Garden Beads. This is a chance for fun, laughter, and a social time with AAUW friends. Isn't laughter supposed to be good for your health?

The January AAUW-Faribault branch meeting will be held at District One Hospital lower level on January 23rd. The membership business meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the program starting at 7:15 p.m. The program is titled "From Ethiopia to Faribault: A Young Woman's Story" featuring Ardo Ibrahim. Some members met her at a book club meeting and found her to be a delightful young woman. The board meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. in one of the classrooms.

The AAUW e-newsletter featured an interview with a 105 year old woman named Martha Ann Miller. She stated that 2016 was a historic moment for her because she saw a woman on the presidential ballot 96 years after she saw women gain the right to vote. She also shared what it was like to advocate for women's issues since she joined a Virginia AAUW in 1944. When she entered the work force in the 1930's, sexism and inequality were prevalent. When asked what goal she has for AAUW, she stated, "Same pay for same work." The fact is that over 120 years ago, AAUW (then known as Association of Collegiate Alumnae) published its first report on the pay gap. The wages of degree-holding women and their male counterparts were examined. The wheels of change do move slowly, but we still need to continue to advocate for equality.

Membership News

- **Pat Otis** is back at her home in Faribault. She is looking forward to getting out more and joining the Monday morning coffee group again.
- **Christy Dore** flew to Arizona in December to spend some time with her sister.
- In the middle of January, **Judy Graham** will be traveling with her niece and great-niece to London for 10 days. Since she has been to London several times, she will be acting as a tour guide.
- Our condolences to **Jill Fagerlund** whose mother passed away on December 21, 2016 at the age of 99 years. Jill was a former member of AAUW.
- Thanks to **AAUW Faribault Branch members** who donated 21 jars of peanut butter and two containers of jelly to the Community Café.
- Remember to let us know what **YOU** are doing!

Calendar of Events

Monday, January 23, 2017 at District One Hospital, Branch Meeting

- Board meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- Membership business meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- Program featuring Ardo Ibrahim at 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at HyVee

- Book Club
- Supper at 5:45 p.m.
- Discussion at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 11, 2017 at Glass Garden Beads

- Necklace Party
- 10:00 a.m. to noon

Submitted by Cyndy Harrison and Pat Fuchs, Co-Chairs



Hosting the 2018 AAUW Convention

The 2018 Convention Planning Committee Co-chairs Pauline Schreiber and Cyndy Harrison met Jan. 5, and came up with a strategy of planning for the 2018 Convention that Faribault volunteered to host. The pair laid out a list of committees needed for various aspects of the convention. They will give a report at the January meeting at which there will be a list of committees for members to sign up for serving on.

One committee that needs to begin soon is the bag committee, which will be comprised of those interested in sewing bags for the convention made with scraps from Faribault Woolen Mill fabric. The committee would also take charge of asking mill officials if they are willing to donate material scraps for the project. So, if you like to sew, this would be an early project for you. The committee would also design the bag.

There will be many ways to help in planning for the convention. And, of course, all members will play a role in putting on the April 2018 convention. The date is tentatively set at April 27-28, 2018. We are putting on a two-day convention rather than a three-day one like in Duluth. It will begin at 1p.m. Friday with registration opening and an afternoon welcoming activity hosted by Faribault branch, and end by 4 p.m. the 28th.

Cyndy and Pauline suggest that offering a walk to benefit the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund would be nice at the end of the convention. It might be a wildflower walk at River Bend Nature Center, and those participating could collect donations for their participation. There will be a committee for that possible *event too*.

Submitted by Pauline Schreiber and Cyndy Harrison

Secretary's Report

AAUW Faribault Branch Meeting - Dec. 19, 2016



The December meeting of the AAUW Faribault Branch was called to order by Co-president Pat Fuchs at 7:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior's Cloister. She thanked members and guests for attending our annual holiday party and bringing the delicious treats.

Secretary's Report: Approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Julie Olson reported that we had raised \$461.00 at November's silent auction for the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF).

Committee Reports:

- **Membership:** Pat welcomed guests, Sayaka Chou and Wendy Williams, and new member, Anne Wieber. Pat Rice reported on Bette Kaul's memorial service and mentioned how important AAUW and its mission was to her.
- **Social:** Kirsten Grunnet will be sending out an email about the paint party on Saturday, Jan. 7th from 2:00 - 4:00 at the Upper East Side's *Gallery on the Go*. There is a \$26.00 fee. On February 11th there will be a necklace party with Sue Klumb at *Glass Garden Beads*.
- **Program:** Mary Lillquist announced that the January 23, 2017 Branch meeting is *From Ethiopia to Faribault: a Young Woman's Story* by Ardo Ibrahim.
- **Halloween Breakfast:** Pat Fuchs and Karen Rasmussen met with the club manager. Later, they will be meeting with the Sons of the American Legion regarding arrangements for the Oct. 29, 2017 fundraiser.

Old Business:

- **New Signage:** Co-president Cyndy Harrison will show the design at our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned. A holiday music sing-along accompanied by our own May Bottke followed. Members then played a lively game of Bunco and the evening ended with Colleen Rolling awarding prizes to the winners (and some losers).

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Hildebrandt secretary

Membership Memos

Continuing our list which is from the AAUW poster "79 examples of how women are still treated unequally," research shows that:

26. Mothers are the sole or primary breadwinners for a record 40% of households today, compared with 11% of families in 1960.
27. After becoming fathers, men see a 6% **increase** in earnings, even after controlling for factors such as hours worked and marital status, while new mothers see a 4% **decrease** per child.
28. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, on an average day, 22% of men do housework—such as cleaning or laundry—compared with 50% of women.
29. Forty-three percent of men do food preparation or clean-up on an average day, compared with 70 percent of women. Men are slightly more likely to do lawn and garden care than women—12 percent compared with 8 percent.
30. Outright sexism is less common today than in the past, but research shows that unspoken bias still results in unfair treatment, especially for women leaders.
31. Women hold 19% of the seats in the U.S. Congress (104 out of 535).*
32. About a quarter of state legislators in the United States are women.*
33. The percentage of women on all U.S. corporate boards has been stuck at about 12% for the past decade.

34. Out of the Standard and Poor's 500, only 5% of the CEO's are women, and only 17% of the board seats are held by women.
35. Adding women to a workplace can increase creativity and productivity, which contributes to the bottom line.
36. Women are 45.4% of associates in the legal field, but only 15% are equity partners.
37. Only one in five (19%) mayors of the 100 largest cities in the United States is a woman.*
38. There are only six female governors in the United States—that's about 12% representation.*

Sometimes people aren't members because they have never been asked. Be brave, ask someone to join us!

Submitted by Membership co-vice presidents: Kathy Larson and Karen Rasmussen

*Statistics may have changed slightly with the recent election.



Treasurer's Report

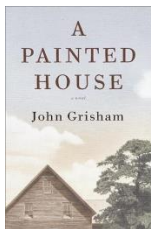
December 31 finds us in good financial shape: Checking \$121.11, Savings \$6737.55. Happy New Year!

Submitted by Julie Olson

Book Club News

In January, February and March, AAUW Book Club will meet at the HyVee Market Grille on the third Tuesday of each month. Members who wish to eat dinner should come at 5:45 (the half-price appetizer and beverage menu ends at 6:00). Those who would like dessert or discussion only may come at 6:30. All AAUW members are welcome!

The AAUW BookClub met in December and shared a Thai dinner. Some of us read parts or all of *All the King's Men* by Robert Penn Warren. Most of us agreed that the book was wordy and excessively descriptive. We discussed the political issues as the book is believed to be based on the life of Huey Long, Governor of Louisiana from 1928-1932.



The January 17 book is *A Painted House* by John Grisham. A complete genre change for Grisham, this is a coming-of-age story set in 1950's Arkansas. The group will meet Tuesday, January 17, at HyVee.

Submitted by Barb Dubbels and Gloria Olson

The Faribault AAUW Branch Newsletter is published from September to May during our program year. The Editors are Emily Nesvold and Liz Hartman. Because of different operating systems and formats, articles other than Google Docs, should be submitted within the text of an email, not as an attachment. Items should be sent by the 10th of the month to either Emily enesvold@gmail.com or Liz ethartmanariz@gmail.com on alternating months. A reminder email will always be sent out.