



## Faribault Branch Communiqué

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

### March



### AAUW Presidents' Message ~ March 2017

March brings to mind thoughts of spring and warmer weather. Making the news, though, on March 8<sup>th</sup> was International Women's Day. It commemorates a movement for women's rights which has been observed since the early 1900's. The day is about unity, celebration, reflections, advocacy, and action. In 1908, 15,000 women marched through New York City demanding shorter hours, better pay and voting rights. In 2017, thousands of women staged a one day strike to demonstrate what a day without a woman would be like. In fact, the public school system in Alexandria, Virginia had to be shut down because 300 women had requested the day off. The World Economic Forum predicts that the gender gap won't close entirely until 2186. So to make sure that women move closer to gender equality in the future, every day should be an International Women's Day.

Margaret Thatcher stated, "If you want something said, ask a man; if you want something done, ask a woman." As a result of the diligent work of several members, the resolution in support of naming the Faribault Municipal Airport in honor of Liz Strohfus made it to the Faribault City Council agenda. Many AAUW members attended the council meeting to show their support. Pat Rice, Gloria Olson, and Art Roberts spoke before the council sharing stories about Liz Strohfus and making the council aware of the fact that Liz had received many awards from the military and national organizations but had yet to be honored by Faribault. The Faribault City Council unanimously voted to make official that the airport in Faribault will be recognized as the Faribault Municipal Airport, Liz Wall Strohfus Field. Way to go Airport Naming Committee! What a great idea, Gloria Olson!

The Tri-Branch Luncheon will be held on April 1, 2017 at Owatonna Arts Center, 435 Garden View Lane (formerly Dunnell Drive). The luncheon will be served at noon and is being catered by Torey's Restaurant. The guest speaker is Kao Kalia Yang, author of [The Late Homecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir](#) and [The Song Poet](#). At the February meeting, thirteen members signed up to attend the luncheon. Carpooling plans will be made at the March meeting. Just a reminder that our branch is

responsible for any meal that isn't paid for. The deadline for signing up for the luncheon is March 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested, please send a \$25.00 check made out to Owatonna Branch AAUW to:

Sandi Tobin, Co-president  
Owatonna Branch, AAUW  
1137 Sumac Ave.  
Owatonna, MN 55060

The Tour of Tables, the Hope Center's largest annual fund raiser, is scheduled from noon to 2:30 p.m. on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Two members, Pauline Schreiber and Diane Hagen, will sponsor and organize a table in the name of Faribault's AAUW Branch. The theme will be "Celebrating women who served in WWII, both in the military and the workforce." Members can help by buying tickets to the event or giving a donation to the Hope Center if they are not able to attend.

In order to finalize plans for the book sale to be held from April 20-25, a 9:30 a.m. meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Faribault Coffee Shop. Anyone is welcome to attend this planning meeting. Many hands are needed to make our largest fund raising event a success. Members have already signed up to assist with set-up, sales and clean-up, but there are still time slots available. A special thanks to Dorothy Joy who had the sign-up sheets ready for our February meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at District One Hospital lower level classroom. The board meeting will be held in the classroom and will begin at 5:30 p.m. with Kristin Hegberg talking about the MSAD reading program at 6:15 p.m. If you are not a board member and would like to learn about the MSAD reading program, please arrive fifteen minutes before the regular membership meeting at 6:30 p.m. The featured speaker is Paul Beaumaster who will talk about internet fraud, which is a topic that concerns many of us.

On April 28-29, the 2017 AAUW State Convention will be held in Willmar, Minnesota. The deadline for registration is April 15. Our branch is entitled to four delegates, but hopefully other members will be interested in attending. It will be a chance for us to get to know members from other branches and garner some ideas for the convention our branch is hosting in 2018. Pat Rice is preparing some book baskets for the silent auction. She requests that the members bring items to the March meeting to help complete the baskets. Some suggestions were as follows: popcorn, wine, napkins, socks, candy, note cards, candles, hot chocolate, tea, tablets, etc. This year the proceeds from the silent auction will go to the AAUW Fund for its many projects, programs, scholarships, fellowships rather than just to the Legal Advocacy Fund.

Another update was received from Patricia Fae Ho, AAUW Board Chair, concerning the possible ten dollar raise in national dues. "The Board of Directors will vote on the proposed dues increase at their regularly scheduled meeting to be held on June 13, 2017. Should the increase pass, it would not become effective until the following fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2018."

Wishing you a Happy St. Patrick's Day and leaving you with this Irish blessing.

May the dreams that you hold dearest be those which come true

And the kindness you spread keep returning to you.

*Submitted by Pat Fuchs and Cyndy Harrison, Co-presidents*

**Saturday, April 1, 2017 at the Owatonna Art Center at 11:30 a.m.**

- Luncheon at noon
- Speaker-Kao Kalia Yang. Author

## Membership News

- Our condolences to **Karen Kittlesen**, whose husband, **James**, passed away on February 19, 2017 at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota. A dozen AAUW members and three spouses attended the funeral held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Faribault on March 4, 2017.
- **Kathy Larson** spent a couple weeks visiting friends in Sun City West, Arizona.
- **Pat Rice** will be housesitting for her brother in Mesa, Arizona during the first part of March.
- The first Women's History Month article about the Grimke sisters written by **Diane Hagen** was published in the Faribault Daily News on March 7<sup>th</sup>.
- **Karen Rasmussen** and her husband traveled to Branson, Missouri for a short stay and then will continue to Nashville, Tennessee to join their family for the rest of their vacation.
- A special thanks to **Ruth** Hildebrandt for preparing two baskets for an AAUW donation to the Ruth House's Gala.
- A special thanks to **Kathy Larson** and **Karen Rasmussen** for ordering the new AAUW name tags and assembling them. They look very professional.
- **Mary Lillquist** and **Pat Fuchs** attended the program on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Owatonna Arts Center featuring Dr. Virginia M. Wright Peterson, author of The Women of the Mayo Clinic: The Founding Generation. She was a very dynamic and informative speaker. She even mentioned that Maud Mellish Wilson was from the Faribault area.
- Several members participated in the pottery class at the Paradise's Art Clay Studio on March 4<sup>th</sup>. **Cyndy Harrison** said to look for photos in the April newsletter.



## Calendar of Events

### Monday, March 27, 2017 at District One Hospital, Branch Meeting

- Board meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- MSAD speaker, Kristin Hegberg at 6:15 p.m.
- Membership business meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- Program featuring Paul Beaumaster at 7:15 p.m.

### Tuesday, March 20, 2017 at HyVee

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

### Wednesday, March 21, 2017 at Faribault Coffee Shop

- Book sale meeting at 9:30 p.m.

### Saturday, March 25, 2017 at Paradise Center

- Arts Clay Studio-pottery class (second session)
- 10:00 a.m.-noon

### Saturday, April 1, 2017 at the Owatonna Art Center at 11:30 a.m.

- Luncheon at noon
- Speaker-Kao Kalia Yang. Author

## Table Event Fundraiser for Hope Center

Inspired by Collen Rolling, who last year did a "Table" sponsored by Faribault AAUW for our book sale, Pauline Schreiber and Diane Hagen are co-hosting a "Table" for the noon Sunday, April 9 "Table" fundraiser for Hope Center at the American Legion.

Our theme is "Celebrating Women of World War II." Of course, celebrating Liz Strohfus and AAUW's work with her family to get the airport named after her is part of this celebration. But we will be celebrating all women of the WW II era who helped the war effort; Faribault AAUW member, Rene Perrence's late mother who joined the military in World War II and Pauline Schreiber's mother who worked at the Douglas Aircraft Factory in Long Beach, CA, during the war helping build B-29's, and, all women of the era. **We need 8 members of AAUW to join us at this event. (We'll have a table for 10 with Diane and Pauline being among the 10.) Tickets are \$25 and need to be purchased by March 27.** Contact Pauline Schreiber if interested. Her email is [stpauline818@gmail.com](mailto:stpauline818@gmail.com) or phone 334-9598. Also, they are asking table hostesses for a silent auction basket. It's an option. Not required. But I thought I'd throw it out to members. If someone has a basket, and we get some books, we could get a **basket of books together and promote our book sale.**

## State 2018 Convention Update

Good news. We are receiving woolen mill scrap materials for our convention bags. Pauline will pick them up. The Bag Committee will need to design a bag that can be sewn over the summer months by those on the committee. We will talk more at the March meeting.

Our facilities for the April 27-28, 2018 Convention have been secured.

They will be:

1. The Rice County Historical Society's new Carlander Room and museum for our welcoming event from 1 to 4 p.m. Friday, April 27, with a tour of the woolen mill, offered during that time.
2. Friday night banquet at the Inn at Shattuck.
3. Saturday business meetings, luncheon and silent auction, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

*Submitted by Pauline Schreiber*



## Book Club

Twelve book club "regulars" met at the HyVee Market Grille where it was discovered that the calories listed for the appetizers that we usually order are actually only for ONE serving and the appetizers are meant to serve three! So long to the nearly 1000-calorie quesadillas! Liz may avoid the nachos in the future, too!

Meanwhile, we lightened up(!) with our discussion of Lesley Kagen's debut novel, *Whistling in the Dark*. No one considered it a really "great book" but the nostalgia of the 50's was enjoyed by all of us (except our youngest member!). Many shared some of our own childhood adventures. Most of us agreed that the voice of the young protagonist was much more authentic than that of the boy in last month's *A Painted House*. However several agreed Sally's use of descriptive language was clever beyond her years.

Other readers mentioned the theme of secrets and the surprising revelation of the murderer. Readers also felt the happy ending was wrapped up a bit too quickly and easily.

For March, we will read *Middlesex*, the 2003 Pulitzer Prize novel by Jeffrey Eugenides. BookPage calls it a "big, burly multi-generational saga [and] a wry, unpredictable and ultimately wise book that has much to say about gender identity, family, adolescence and American values. It is funny and poignant and mythical, and very hard to put down."

Newcomers: pick this one up and join us in March!

*Submitted by Gloria O.*

Addendum: When you get to page 140 of *Middlesex*, as I did last week, and read about Diego Rivera's murals in Detroit, you may want to check out this website:

<http://riveracourt.synthescape.com>

*Kathy Kasten*



### Treasurer's Report

Here are February's totals: savings \$4790.73, checking \$12.25. Greetings from Barb Dubbels in Tampa!

*Submitted by Julie Olson*



### Secretary's Report

#### **AAUW Faribault Branch Meeting - Feb. 27, 2017**

The February meeting of the AAUW Faribault branch was called to order by Co-president Pat Fuchs at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room at District One Hospital. Pat offered condolences to Karen Kittlesen on the death of her husband. Funeral services will be held on Sat., Mar. 4th.

**Secretary's Report:** Approved as printed.

**Treasurer's Report:** None

#### **Committee Reports:**

- **Membership:** We have received notice from AAUW that a national dues increase of \$10.00 is under consideration. Kathy Larson also showed a sample of the hanging name badges that will replace our old name badges.
- **Social Events:** The Arts Clay Studio pottery class will be held Mar 4th and 25th at 10:00 - noon at the Paradise Center for the Arts. Because many wish to attend the funeral service, Karen Rasmussen will check if it can be rescheduled for an afternoon session.
- **Program:** Next month's program will be presented by Paul Beaumaster on "10 Ways to Avoid Fraud."

- **2018 Convention:** Pauline Schreiber reported on the meeting of the 2018 State Convention steering committee held on Feb. 16th. The venues include the Rice County Historical Society for the Welcome Center and The Inn at Shattuck for the banquet on Friday, and South Central College for Saturday's convention activities. We need to sign a contract with SCC. Motion by Liz Hartman, second by Emily Nesvold to approve the expenditure and authorize our representative to sign the official contract. The motion carried.
- **Scholarship:** Cyndy Harrison has created an online application form. The deadline is May 1st.
- **Book Sale:** The book sale committee will meet Mar. 21st at The Coffee Shop at 9:30 a.m. Dorothy Joy will again be responsible for the sign-up schedule. The sign-up sheet was passed around and members were encouraged to sign-up for several shifts. Gloria Olson is doing the bookmarks and will order more bags. Pat Rice announced that the sorters need copy paper boxes.
- **Halloween Breakfast:** Pat Fuchs announced that we are confirmed for Oct. 29th omelet breakfast. The details will be finalized in August with the Sons of the American Legion.
- **Women's History Month Articles:** Kathy Kasten reported that our articles will begin next Tuesday in the Faribault Daily News. She thanked members who wrote the articles for their contributions.
- **Airport Field Naming:** The city council has the renaming of our airport to the "Faribault Municipal Airport - Liz Wall Strohfus Field" on their agenda for tomorrow night. Members were encouraged to attend the meeting. Cyndy Harrison has discussed our efforts to honor Liz with a representative of Paul Allen's Flying Heritage Collection and has requested funding.

#### Old Business:

- **Local Summer Camp Scholarship:** Emily Nesvold consulted with the state AAUW Bylaws chair, Sheila Lind, regarding requests for donations from community groups and gender equity issues with local scholarships. We can't sell tickets or financially support non-AAUW events but can inform our members and pass the bucket to support such causes. Since the Faribault Public Schools Summer STEAM Program and the River Bend Nature Center Summer Camp help both boys and girls it is perfectly fine to donate to their scholarship funds as part of our educational equity mission. Motion by Pat Rice, second by Cyndy Harrison that we provide \$500 each to the River Bend Nature Center Summer Camp and the Faribault Public Schools STEAM Program for supplies and equipment, contingent on the availability of funds. The motion carried.

#### New Business:

- **Women's Press subscription for Buckham Library:** Pat Rice informed us that the subscription we donate to the library is due payment. Motion by Pat Rice, second by Emily Nesvold that we renew the subscription for 2017. The motion carried.
- **Request from Deaf School:** We received a request from Kristin Hegberg (a former AAUW scholarship recipient) at the State Academy for the Deaf to fund the purchase of new books for distribution to 107 students to promote summer reading. We will invite her to attend our March meeting to explain more about this program.
- **Tri-Branch Luncheon:** The deadline to sign up for the Apr. 1st Tri-Branch luncheon in Owatonna is Mar. 15th. Members may sign-up tonight. Owatonna has also invited us to their Mar. 2nd presentation at the Owatonna Arts Center with the author of "Women of Mayo Clinic: The Founding Generation," Virginia Wright-Peterson.
- **2017 AAUW State Convention in Willmar:** Pat Fuchs had copies of the registration forms and workshop information for those who are interested in attending. We will be voting on our

delegates at the March meeting. Pat Rice will again create book baskets for the AAUW Funds silent auction. Members are encouraged to bring items to fill baskets to the next meeting.

- **Nominations for 2017-2018 Branch Officers:** Pat asked members to consider possible candidates for the open positions.
- **STEM:** Cyndy Harrison reported on resources that are available from Code.org®, a non-profit dedicated to expanding access to computer science, and increasing participation by women and underrepresented minorities. Teachers have free access to 8 hours of professional development with their training program to begin implementation of this computer science curriculum program in their schools.

Correspondence:

- We received a thank you from the 2017 Ruth's House Hearts Gala for the contribution of two book baskets to their silent auction.

The meeting was adjourned.

Mary Lillquist introduced our speaker for the evening, Deb Peterson, who spoke on Conflict Mediation.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Ruth Hildebrandt, secretary*



### Membership Memos:

After March 15, we will again be offering our half price (National) dues for new members! For just \$43.50, their membership will extend until 6/30/2018. Refer someone to join the mission and the fun! New members are eligible for this price deal if they have not been members for 2 years. Renewals are \$68 and due by 6/15. For each two new members, we receive one free National membership (\$49 value) up to five free memberships.

A pillar of the AAUW Mission is advocating for women and girls through research. Continuing our list which is from the AAUW poster “79 examples of how women are still treated unequally,” AAUW research shows that:

50. **Seventy-six percent of women in the military were sexually assaulted in 2014.**

51. Sixty-two percent of the women in the military who reported their assaults faced retaliation.

52. One in four women who used the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2013 screened positive for Military Sexual Trauma.

53. Forty-four percent of victims of sexual assault in the military were encouraged to drop the issue.

54. Women in the military are more likely to be victims of rape than to be killed in combat.

55. One in seven women (compared with one in 18 men) has been stalked to the point of fear for their lives.

56. Many women are afraid to leave their drinks unattended at a party because they believe someone may drug them.

57. Domestic violence is the most common cause of injury for women between the ages of 18 and 44.

58. One in three women ages 18-34 have reported being sexually harassed in the workplace.

59. Approximately 800,000 people are victims of human trafficking every year. Eighty percent are women.

60. **One in five women is a target of sexual assault while they're in college.**

*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*



## Book Sale

**Help needed for our biggest fundraiser:**

Mark your calendars!!

Sort books Monday – Wednesday, *April 17-19*

Sale: 9:30 to 8:00 PM Thurs. & Fri. April 20 - 21

Sale and activities for kids: 9:30 – 5:00 Saturday,  
*April 22*

Sale: Noon to 5:00: Sunday, *April 23*

Sale: 3:00 to 7:00: Monday & Tuesday, *April 24-25*

Sale: Wednesday, *April 26*

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](mailto:enesvold@gmail.com) or Liz [ethartmanariz@gmail.com](mailto:ethartmanariz@gmail.com) on alternating months. A reminder email will always be sent out.