



Faribault Branch Communiqué

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



AAUW Presidents' Message March 2015



Happy "90" Anniversary Faribault Branch of AAUW!!!

- March has arrived with sunshine and spring is around the corner! The *March History Month* writers have given us a great addition to our AAUW Faribault Branch continued celebration of our *90th Anniversary*. By dedicating the newspaper columns to the women of the 1920's, we can understand what their contributions were to our society during the decade our Faribault AAUW Branch was organized. Thank you to all our volunteer member writers. They are doing a fabulous job!
- We are looking towards a New Year, even though it is only March. New members who join after March 15 will be in the new fiscal year of 2015-16 and so paying their half priced national dues, plus state and local would be \$49.50 and membership will be good until June 30, 2016. Also, for each 2 new members who join, we will get one free national membership (\$49 value), up to five free memberships. Wouldn't it be great to get 10 new members?!? Maybe you could treat someone special with a new membership.
- We are also looking to fill various offices in the Branch, *co-president*, *co-program*, *co-membership* and *secretary*. Please consider which opportunity you'd like to try. Elections will be held at the May 18 picnic.
- Our March meeting on Monday, March 23 at the District One Hospital beginning at 5:30 with our board meeting (5:30-6:15 Dining available) and 6:30 with our business meeting. At 7:00 our program will feature the video "The Invisible War" - women in the military. This will be a joint meeting with the American Legion Auxiliary. At our AAUW state convention last year, we

had the privilege to listen to Susan Burke, LAF attorney, speak about the sexual assault cases she filed against the US military. As a result of her work Susan was asked to help give information for the "The Invisible War." Her dynamic presentation was both informational and shocking! Invite a friend to join us that night.

- We would like to challenge each member to bring five items either for the Convention LAF Silent Auction book bags and/or small kid prizes for the fish pond with the Kids' Karnival during the Book Sale. Items suggested are: cocoa packets, teas, coffees, popcorn, bookmarks, sock slippers, wine, wine charms, glasses, mugs and/or small kid items, like Happy Meal toys, little cars, jewelry and hair accessories. Maybe this could be a fun shopping trip to the dollar stores, Wal-Mart, Jo-Ann, etc. A dessert reward that Karen's grandkids claim they would miss at her demise, Pistachio Lust, will be served at this meeting. Emily Nesvold and Gloria Carter are also treat servers.
- The February Board meeting was held at "The Coffee Shop" on Wed. Feb 25, 2015, exactly *90 years to the day* of our Faribault AAUW organization founding date of Feb. 25, 1925. We had some important reports to complete and get a slate of delegates ready to send in for the State Convention, Book Sale updates, and candidates for offices that need to be filled for next year.



- A congratulatory Rory Fry, Branch our *90th Anniversary* read by Kathy will be sent to our accomplishment. Rory. Another, past and present!! some bars and a website for a fun photo!

note from the National AAUW, Relationship Associate, on of the Faribault Branch was Larson. An official document Branch because of this Kathy has sent a reply to thanks to all of our members, We also celebrated with 90th sign - check out our

- We also made the Faribault Daily News with our "Where in the World" photo we took before seeing "God Girl" at the Minnesota History Theatre. We were amazed at the difficulties Rev. Kristine Holmgren experienced as recently as the 1970's.
- Looking ahead to April we have a very busy schedule:

April 10 & 11 the AAUW State Convention will be held in Austin - "Full Steam Ahead" (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math)

April 24 (tentative) Arbor Day - tree planting to commemorate our 90th Anniversary

April 23 - 28 our annual Used Book Sale fundraiser for Scholarships, books for preschoolers, the Educational Funds, etc. Please check the work schedule managed by Dorothy Joy and sign-up a couple times, if possible. We need a lot of help to make it a success!!!

April 25 - Saturday is "Kids' Karnival" with a fish pond & bookmark activities Thanks! :)

April 25 - Tri- Branch Luncheon from 11:00 to 2:00 at the Northfield Senior Center (1651 Jefferson Parkway, Room 103) hosted by the Northfield AAUW Branch. It will feature an artist, Riki Kolbl Nelson, who will speak about her benefit art sale, "70 x 70," to benefit Orphan Scholarship International, which funds education for girls in Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, and India. She decided that a good goal by her 70th birthday would be to create 70 new paintings and donate all proceeds from selling them to this organization. Tickets will be \$20, and the deadline is April 15.

Riki Kolbl-Nelson grew up near Salzburg, Austria and came to the U.S. as a young adult. She has bachelor's and master's degrees in English from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, a B.A. in art from St. Olaf, and a master's of fine arts from the University of Minnesota.

She has worked as an artist and poet for several decades, giving workshops and teaching classes as well as exhibiting her own art here and abroad. She co-founded a local poetry writing and critique group and has had several books of poetry published.

Kolbl-Nelson has taught adult education art classes at St. Olaf and in the art department honors program at the University of Minnesota, as well as classes at Elder hostels and the local Elder Collegium. She has works on exhibit at the Northfield City Hall and at Print and Graphic on Bridge Square.

- April 27 - Our regular meeting - Monday, April 27, will be at "The Loft" in the Bachrach Building on Central, with our board meeting at 5:30, business meeting at 6, social at 6:30 and our special program at 7:00. A Minnesota author, Elizabeth Jarrett Andrew, will present her book, *Hannah, Delivered*. She will discuss the origin of this novel. Please put this on your calendar and invite your friends. It will be open to the public and any Book Clubs in the area.

Convention News:

Members going to the State AAUW Convention in Austin - *April 10 & 11* should send in their own registration or register online. The registration form was in The Pine that was emailed and the deadline is Friday, March 13. The convention will be held at the Historic Hormel house, 208 4th Ave. NW, Austin. Registration will begin Friday 1:30 - 6:30 in the lobby. Two free tours start at 3:30; actual start is 5:30 with a social, 6:30 dinner, 7:30 speaker, Kate Farrar, 8:00 entertainment by the SPAMettes (their final performance) until about 9:30. The Sat. session starts at 7:30 and goes until about 4:00.

We will car pool and come back home on Friday evening after the entertainment. Cost is \$85 for 2 days & \$55 Sat. only - includes meals, Friday only is \$35. Deadline is March 13 - so if you want to go - quickly contact the Austin branch. If you need more information, contact Karen or Kathy. It's a wonderful experience to learn more about what AAUW is doing across the State. We qualify to send 4 delegates: they are Karen Rasmussen, Kathy Larson, Pat Rice and Emily Nesvold, with Diane Hagen as alternate. We can have as many other members as would like to attend.

We know this is a marathon message, but we wanted to relay all these important activities and events. There should be something to interest everyone. Remember to bring your items to get your dessert on March 23!

Co-Presidents: Kathy Larson and Karen Rasmussen

* * * * *



March Branch Meeting

Monday March 23

District One Hospital Classroom

5:30 p.m. Board Meeting

Dining available in Cafeteria from

5:30 to 6:15

6:30 p.m. Business Meeting

7:00 p.m. Program "Invisible War"

(Public Invited)

Program

Our *March branch meeting* will be held on *Monday, March 23* at District One Hospital. Our business meeting will be conducted at 6:30 p.m. with our program to follow at 7 p.m. We will be showing part of the movie, "The Invisible War". It is a documentary about the sexual harassment - and in some cases assault – that women in the military have encountered. An opportunity for discussion will take place following the movie. The Faribault American Legion has been invited to come to our meeting that night. We will also invite the public in our newspaper announcement of the meeting.

Pauline Schreiber and Diane Hagen
Program Co-chairs

* * * * *

Secretary's Report

FARIBAULT AAUW BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY 25, 2015

The February board meeting was called to order by Kathy Larson, president, at 1:00, at The Coffee Shop. The following were in attendance: Kathy Larson, Karen Rasmussen, Pat Fuchs, Pauline Schreiber, Mary Lillquist, Pat Rice, Emily Nesvold, Diane Hagen, and Gloria Carter.

Kathy Larson shared that today is the 90th anniversary of our AAUW branch. We shared in an anniversary treat provided by Kathy. A group picture was taken. The national office sent a congratulatory email regarding our 90 years of empowering women. Kathy sent a thank you to the national office. We are to receive documentation of our anniversary.

We are to submit the names of our state convention delegates and register for the convention by March 13th. The Convention is April 10th and 11th, in Austin, MN. The registration form and schedule can be found in the Pine. We can have four delegates based on our membership of 39. We traditionally send, at a minimum, the co-presidents and the Funds chairman, and then vote on

additional attendees as delegate and an alternate. Pauline Schreiber made a motion that we send Kathy Larson and Karen Rasmussen, co-presidents, Emily Nesvold, newsletter co-editor, and Pat Rice, Funds chairman, as delegates, and Diane Hagen, program co-chair, as alternate delegate. Gloria Carter seconded the motion. The motion carried. We want to strongly encourage as many members as possible to attend the convention, even if it's just for one day. We hope we can interest some of our newer members to attend and experience AAUW on the state level and hopefully reimburse some of their expense. Attendees are to submit and pay for their own registrations by the March 13 deadline. The co-presidents will contact newer members to encourage attendance.

Pat Rice shared information about the "baskets" or our stuffed AAUW Book bags we will donate for the LAF Silent Auction at the convention. Pat has started pulling books for inclusion. Please bring articles to include in the baskets to Pat, or bring to our next branch meeting. Suggested articles include coffee, tea, wine and wine rings, pedometer, socks, candles, cocoa, popcorn and salts, candies, coffee mugs, etc.

April 25th is the date for the Tri-Branch Luncheon in Northfield this year to be held at the Northfield Senior Center, (1651 Jefferson Parkway, Room 103). We are holding The Kids Karnival at our book sale on that day, which will limit the number that will be able to attend. The cost is \$20, and the deadline for signing up is April 15th. Karen Rasmussen will invite attendees to Faribault for next year's Tri-Branch Luncheon, which might be held in the Vintage Ballroom. The ballroom worked well for hosting our recent Tri-Branch events.

The upcoming book sale will be held in the same site as last year. Pat Rice has made the arrangements with Faribault West Mall staff members. There is no longer a supervisor for the sentence-to-serve crew at the county. We will have to find another way to move our books, possibly individuals who have community service requirements at the county or students from Shattuck. Sorters, two at a time, are needed to sort books stored at the Congregational Parish House. Pat and Mary Lillquist will be sorting tomorrow. Books may be dropped off at the mall, beginning on April 6th. Dorothy Joy is managing the work-assignment sheet for the sale. The sign-up sheet will hopefully be published in the March newsletter. Pat Fuchs continues to seek a recycler for unsold books. She has a solid lead with a Northfield recycler, but agreement on price has to be reached. We would not need to pull covers from books with this provider. She has had contact with two other recyclers, but they require covers to be pulled.

Kathy Larson will be making two to three book sale advertising sandwich boards. She has also arranged for us to borrow book shelves again. We will need to pick them up. Pauline Schreiber expressed the need to have guidelines for sorting books into classifications. We will try to have a picture of children looking at our books for sale, sorting books, our AAUW book bags, and/or the grocery cart for donating books put in the Daily News for advertising purposes. Pat Rice has a list of individuals responsible for pre-sales duties. Assignments were also made at the book sale committee's first meeting. Gloria Olson has purchased the bags for our bag-sale event. Letters will be sent to usual repeat customers. We will attempt to compile an email list so we do not have to send as many paper notices next year. This can be done at the sales table during the book sale.

Discussion was held regarding appropriate ways to commemorate our 90th anniversary. Barb Dubbels and Betty Harmsen have been looking into possibilities, including purchasing a commemorative cup or pin. Pat Rice said she would prefer to see a tree be planted, such as at Central Park, to be planted prior to our May meeting possibly on Arbor Day. We could have a short

memorial at the park before the picnic to commemorate, remember and honor those who have served our branch. Board members present today expressed support for the tree idea. We have \$100 budgeted toward the commemoration. We would like to be able to look at branch scrapbook(s) during the May meeting. Cyndy Harrison has offered to do a DVD of the decades since our branch creation. The Historical Society has our archives. This would require a lot of research. No decision has been made. Pauline volunteered to serve on a research committee. Other names suggested were Kathy Kasten, Pat Umbreit, Barb Dubbels and Betty Harmsen. Pat and Kathy reminded us that both GROWS and Friends of the Library found their origins in our local branch.

For Women's History Month in March, articles are being submitted to the Faribault Daily News about women in Minnesota in the 1920's, or what was happening when Faribault was forming our AAUW Branch ninety years ago.

Our members continue to seek empowerment to women. Pat Rice intends to write a letter to actor Patricia Arquette thanking her for her support of equal rights/pay for women in her Oscar acceptance speech at the Academy Awards. Emily Nesvold intends to write to the University of Minnesota, Duluth, regarding their recent termination of the women's hockey coach.

It is the board's responsibility to come up with nominees for offices to be voted on at our May meeting. Board members considered various members to ask for filling the offices of co-president, co-program chair, co-membership chair, and secretary. The co-presidents will call the suggested people and others to see if they are willing to serve. We do not wish to pressure anyone.

Kathy Larson invited board members to attend a Table Tour, to be held at the American Legion, 11 to 2, Sunday, April 19th. Our table will be celebrating the 90th anniversary of our branch. Proceeds will go to the Hope Center. Please get back to Kathy to let her know if you are able to attend.

Pat Rice shared that the American Legion Auxiliary Luncheon is March 28th. Tickets may be purchased from May Bottke.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: Gloria Carter, Secretary

* * * * *

Treasurer's Report

Balances for February 28 are as follow: Checking \$180.95, Savings \$3,423.00

Julie Olson, Treasurer

* * * * *



Each year in March, members of the local branch of the American Association of University Women write columns in the Daily News to honor Women's History Month. This year, in honor of the 90th anniversary of the founding of our Faribault branch, we are choosing to write about Minnesota women who were making news 90 years ago in the 1920s. You may have noticed the introductory article (see below) on Women's History Month last weekend in the Faribault Daily News. This is the schedule for the remaining four articles:

- March 7-8 Wanda Gág written by Gloria Olson
- March 14-15 Lena Smith written by Pauline Schreiber
- March 21-22 Sister Elizabeth Kenny written by Diane Hagen
- March 28-29 Marjorie Child written by Pat Rice

Thanks again to all our wonderful writers!

Kathy Kasten, Educational Equity – Women's Issues

**For those of you who might have missed it, here is the introductory article that Kathy Kasten wrote for the Faribault Daily News.*

Each year in March, members of the local branch of the American Association of University Women write columns in the Daily News to honor Women's History Month. This year, in honor of the 90th anniversary of the founding of our Faribault branch, we are choosing to write about Minnesota women who were making news 90 years ago in the 1920s.

Thoughts of the 1920s may bring to mind "Roaring '20s" and flappers, liberation and even decadence. World War I had ended and women had just been given the right to vote. Much else was happening in that era: In 1925, The New Yorker was first published, Sears Roebuck opened its first retail store, the Chrysler Corporation was founded, masking tape was invented in St. Paul, and the first motel opened in San Luis Obispo, California. Though most women were staying at home, keeping house and raising children, many were appearing on the public scene. Nationally Alice Paul led the campaign for an equal rights amendment. Jeanette Rankin, the first woman elected to Congress, was quoted as saying, "I may be the first woman elected to Congress, but I won't be the last." Margaret Sanger led the movement to legalize birth control and founded the predecessor of Planned Parenthood. Georgia O'Keefe became an acclaimed artist. The first female governors were elected in 1925 in Wyoming and in Texas (27 states have elected women since that time, 19 of which have been since 2000). In Minnesota, women also gained prominence. Gratia Alta Countryman, called the "first lady of Minneapolis," was a nationally-known librarian who led the Minneapolis Public Library from 1904 to 1936. She oversaw the building of 12 branches and added more than 500,000 volumes to their stacks. Rhoda Jane Dickinson, ordained in 1921 by the Congregational Church, was likely the first female ordained minister in Minnesota. Marjorie Stoneman Douglas gained acclaim as a journalist, Maude Kegg was a noted Native American beadwork artist and June Marlowe had become a silent film star. By the 1920s, women were earning 39 percent of college degrees.

Faribault university-educated women were looking to become a more purposeful community resource. Thirty-two women joined together in 1925 to found the Faribault branch of American Association of University Women, a national organization founded in 1881. At its organizing meeting in the Faribault Tea Rooms at 203 N. Central, Ella Hutchinson (known then as Mrs. R. R. Hutchinson) became the first

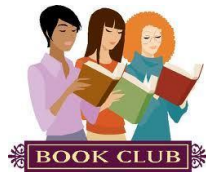
president.

In its 90-year history, Faribault AAUW has been the driving force in many endeavors. Since 1934 it has sponsored public forums for citizens to meet and question political candidates, a project that continues today under the name of "Meet the Candidates." In 1959, Faribault AAUW founded the local Friends of the Library, an organization that continues to be a vital supporter of library events. Since 1971, the branch has conducted a Used Book Sale, which encourages reading and recycling of books through resale and through eco-friendly disposal. Since 1989 AAUW has awarded over 35 college scholarships to local women.

As we celebrate our *90th anniversary* and *Women's History Month*, we will share four weeks of stories about influential Minnesota women in the 1920s. Learn about New Ulm native Wanda Gág, author and illustrator; Lena O. Smith, the first black female attorney in Minnesota; Sister Elizabeth Kenny, who came from Australia to Minnesota to practice the polio treatment she had developed; and Marjorie Child, who developed Betty Crocker for General Mills.

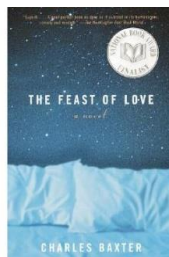
Kathy Kasten is a member of the AAUW and a Faribault resident.

BOOK CLUB NEWS



Eleven true Minnesotans came out on one of the **lowest wind chill** evenings of the winter to discuss the Linda Olsson novel, *Astrid and Veronika*. Although the group was bothered by Astrid's troubled life story, there were many opinions about how it all came to be. Everyone thought the unlikely friendship that developed between the two women was delightful and inspiring. We all appreciated the author's skill with nature/weather to evoke moods. precise word choices and use of

Our next book will be *Feast of Love* us at Perkins on Tuesday, March 17.



by Minnesota native, Charles Baxter. Join Dinner at 6 and book discussion at 6:30.

Gloria Olson

* * * * *



Monday, March 23 March Branch Meeting (District One Hospital Classroom)

5:30 p.m. Branch board meeting

6:30 p.m. Branch business meeting

7:00 p.m. Program "The Invisible War"

* * * * *

This and That

The Community Cafe sent us a Thank You Card for our donation from our Christmas party. It says: ".Dear Friends, Thank you for your donation of \$45.00. Your generosity enables our program to continue to serve fellowship meals in our community".

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.