



Faribault Branch Communiqué

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



AAUW Presidents' Message ~ December 2017



, “Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing, but of reflecting.”

-Winston Churchill

This is not one of Sir Winston Churchill’s most commonly known quotes, but what a fabulous observation he made, as it is what we all do this time of year; rejoice and reflect.

This year, as in years past, this chapter has experienced both loss and wonderment. One emotion is not better or worse than the other, they both just are. They are life and the best part is, we are here to share in life together, no matter which happens.

Just reflect on my own memories of our time together this year, I have come away from each meeting along with the Halloween Breakfast, and the third Saturday coffee, more enlightened, and just so happy to share each of the experiences with all of you.

Let’s contemplate both things in which we rejoice along with experiences in which we may reflect upon and take a moment or two to share them with your AAUW sisters at our annual Christmas party.

I look forward to seeing all of you on December 18!

Wishing you all a joyous & reflective holiday season!

Warmest Regards,
Cyndy Harrison



Program

On Monday, **December 18th**, our annual holiday gathering will be held at the Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior's Cloister beginning at 6:00 p.m. Members are asked to bring hors d'oeuvres to share during our social time. Following the social time, we will sing Christmas carols with music provided by May Bottke. Colleen Rolling has agreed to once again organize the game of Bunco. There is sure to be plenty of competition and laughter. Members are requested to bring jars of peanut butter for people who attend the Community Cafe' on Tuesday, December 19th. We hope that you will join us for this very festive event!

Submitted by Mary Lillquist, Sue Willcutt, and Pat Fuchs



Membership Memos

November 28 was a big day for AAUW — [our birthday!](#) During this season of giving thanks, we honor the group of visionary women who founded AAUW in 1881, 136 years ago.

According to **AAUW Washington Update** advocacy email dated 12/1/17, it goes on the say: "On that day, [Marion Talbot](#), then a recent graduate of Boston University, and [Ellen Swallow Richards](#), the first woman graduate of the [Massachusetts Institute of Technology](#), invited 15 alumnae from eight colleges to a meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. Among the first generation of women college graduates, these pioneering women struggled with a lack of career opportunity. In founding AAUW, they discussed how they would join together to help other women break through educational barriers and attend and graduate college as well as assist those who had already graduated.

"The rest is history. Today, AAUW boasts 170,000 [members and supporters](#), more than 100 [student orgs](#), and 800 [college and university members](#). Our community engages in amazing advocacy work—in 2017, AAUW members and supporters voiced their support or opposition to at least 325 state bills, submitted more than 10,000 comments to the U.S. Department of Education in support of strengthening and protecting Title IX, and sent over 270,000 messages to lawmakers. We look forward to many, many more years of advocating for women and girls!"

AAUW Faribault Branch is one of the more than 1000 branches. Now that the November 30 deadline for members to renew or be dropped from our membership rolls has past, we have the figures for our current membership. For the membership year 2017-2018 we have 43 members and 9 Life members for a total of 52. This includes 6 new Shape-the-Future members.

Thanks for your continued support of our Branch and the mission of AAUW. After 136 years there is still work to be done.

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



Women's History Month

It isn't too early to think about Women's History Month coming up in March. If you would like to be a part of choosing the topic for this year or simply have suggestions for a topic, please speak to Kathy Kasten or send her an email. kathleengarykasten@gmail.com

Submitted by Kathy Kasten



Book Club News

"Whenever you read a good book, somewhere in the world a door opens to allow in more light." Vera Nazarian

November's book was *How Green Was My Valley* by Richard Llewellyn. Huw Morgan, son of a miner in a South Wales mining village, narrates the story of his family dealing with changes in the mining industry throughout his youth during the reign of Queen Victoria. Huw seems destined to be the one son who will have a formal education and a better occupation. He chooses to follow in his family's footsteps but watches as the mining industry destroys the environment and has many adverse effects on his family.

Needing a lighter read, we chose *A Redbird Christmas* by Fannie Flagg for December.

Submitted by Barb Dubbels



Secretary's Report

FARIBAULT AAUW BRANCH MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 27, 2017, 6:30 PM DISTRICT ONE HOSPITAL

The meeting was called to order by Cyndy Harrison, president. Cyndy expressed her thankfulness to have been welcomed into our group. Cyndy announced that it is May Bottke's birthday tomorrow. May will be 93, or is it 39?

Christy Dore gave us an update on her sister, Karen Rasmussen's condition following surgery. Karen is now home to continue her recovery. Results are positive. Karen is overwhelmed by the outpouring of support.

The secretary's report was published in the recent newsletter. Pauline Schreiber moved to approve the report as printed, motion seconded by Christy Dore. The treasurer's report was also approved as printed, with Judy Graham making the motion. Both motions carried.

Kathy Larson introduced our newest member, Mary Niermann. Mary taught at Lincoln Elementary for 34 years. She has already been involved in several AAUW activities. Welcome, Mary!

Pat Fuchs, chairman of our Halloween Breakfast, thanked all who made the event a big success. Pat will be taking a year off from heading the event. A successor will be needed.

Pauline Schreiber gave an update on progress on the bags that are being assembled for the State Convention. Good progress has been made.

Two coffee socials have been held. We will be going to a movie on New Year's Eve, followed by a meal at Harry's in Lakeville.

Cyndy shared that District One Hospital is now locking their front door at 6 pm, hence the need for us to come in through the Emergency Room entrance tonight. Our next meeting will be at the Cathedral of our Merciful Saviours' Cloister.

Pat Rice shared information about the Legal Advocacy Fund, which mainly supports women in law-suits. Last year our branch donated \$200 to the fund from the proceeds of our Silent Auction. We are holding our Silent Auction tonight. Members were encouraged to bid competitively.

Ruth Hildebrandt shared that we need to let South Central College know how many scholarships we intend to give. Paperwork indicating our intent to give is to be completed by December 15th. We can choose to add more scholarships later, depending on our budget. Money is to be paid by June 30th. The scholarships are to be awarded on April 23rd.

Kathy Larson asked if anyone can listen to the speech by a Legal Advocacy recipient at the State Convention. Cyndy is not sure if we will have such a speaker, but we have applied to have one. Kathy, Liz Hartmann, and Cyndy spoke of the stress these recipients have gone through in pursuing their legal battles.

The group sang Happy Birthday to our May Bottke. Refreshments were served. Bidding continued on Silent Auction items. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Gloria Carter, secretary

Program: Goats: Nature's Lawnmowers, by Jake Langeslag. So educational and entertaining!

Treasurer's Report



Here are our current balances: checking \$218.00, savings \$4191.06, including \$1000.00 from the State for convention expenses. See you at the Christmas party!

Submitted by Julie Olson

[Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

**Holiday Party, Monday Dec. 18,
6:00, at Cathedral Cloister. Please
bring an hors d'oeuvre and some
peanut butter!**

January Meeting: Monday, the 22nd; "New Year, New Skill" by Cyndy Harrison, District One Hospital.

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.