



Faribault Branch Communiqué

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



AAUW Presidents' Message ~ February 2018

“The February sunshine steps your boughs and tints the buds and swells the leaves within.”

- *William C. Bryant*

I find this quote very telling of where we are in preparing for the state convention! As I shared with you all at our last meeting that I had told the state board in January, it is a full chapter working on the convention. It's February and we have all completed so much work for the conference and we are about to have our time to shine. **However, there are a couple of things we need to do now:**

We will have a flyer of what ladies may do in town once they are here (*either before registration time or during that afternoon*). Please add your information to the next available line in the document. Click [here](#) to add your information to **“What to Do in Faribault”**

Take a look at our **digital flyer** for the State Convention [here](#). If you see anything that needs to be changed, please email my cyn dyharrison@msn.com as soon as possible. This information will be going to all Minnesota Chapter presidents and in The Pine.

Our first quarterly birthday celebration took place this past Wednesday with five chapter members in attendance! The next celebration will take place on Wednesday, May 2 at 5:30 at HyVee! (*This might be a good time to celebrate a successful convention too!*) Thank you to Sue Olson who organized this celebration.

Our next Saturday morning coffee will be Saturday, February 17 at 10:30 at Bluebird Cakery! Let's use this time to find a movie time too! I am looking forward to a great conversation!

Hoping to see all of you on Monday, February 26!

- State Steering Committee to meet at 5:00

- Officer Meeting at 5:30
- General Meeting at 6:15

Stay warm,
Cyndy Harrison

Quarterly Birthday Bash



Our first Quarterly Birthday Bash was held with five gals at the Gran Plaza on Feb. 7th. None of the attendees has a birthday the first quarter of the year, but had a delightful time recalling past birthdays. Two reminisced about having their birthdays within two days of Christmas. Sue Olson would like to develop a list of all the members' birthdays, month and day. You can email your info to her at: susieolson@frontier.net.

She has reserved the back room at the Hy-Vee for the first Wed. in May, the 2nd, at 5:30 for the next Birthday Bash. Hope to see even more members then!

Submitted by Karen Rasmussen

Membership Memos:

The month of February we celebrate our birthday as a Branch having been established on Feb. 25, 1925. So we thought it might be interesting to look back on the timeline of AAUW over the years:

- November 28, 1881 **Founders Meet** to discuss needs of college-educated women to broaden opportunities and assist other women in higher education.
- January 14, 1882 **Association of Collegiate Alumnae (ACA) Is Formed**
- 1885 **First Research Report Issued** that established, contrary to popular belief, that women's health is not adversely affected by attending college.
- 1907 **ACA Begins Study of Equal Pay** on its 25th anniversary.
- 1913 **Report of Civil Service Jobs and Pay** finds that women are paid about 78 percent of what men are paid who are similarly employed earn.
- March 1921 The Southern Association of College Women, **SACW** (founded in 1903) **and ACA Merge to form AAUW**, the American Association of University Women.
- May 8, 1945 **Pay Equity** AAUW supports the first federal pay equity legislation.
- June 1949 **Revision of Bylaws** AAUW revises its bylaws to state that the only requirement for membership is a college degree, thereby reaffirming that women college graduates of all races are eligible for membership.
- 1981 **Legal Advocacy Fund Established** to support women who seek justice in terms of sex discrimination in higher education.
- June 1987 **AAUW Admits Men.**
- 1993 **Family Medical Leave Act** passes through hard work of AAUW lobby corps.
- June 2005 **Membership Expands** to include graduates who hold an associates or equivalent degree from a qualified educational institution.

- January 29, 2009 **President Obama Signs Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act** to make it easier for workers to seek redress for sex discrimination on the job.
- June 17, 2011 **One Member One Vote** for first time ever, AAUW members could vote in a popular election for national officers and bylaws revisions rather than through a delegate system. Over 10,000 ballots were cast.

Remember, give one of your business cards to an eligible member and invite them to be part of an organization striving for equity and education for women and girls.

Sometimes people aren't members because they have never been asked.

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

State Convention



Cyndy and Pauline hope branch members have looked at the online and downloadable information on the 2018 State AAUW Convention. If you have suggestions, or see a spelling or grammar error missed, email Cyndy.

The information goes in the winter Pine that comes out March 1. The hope is that most people signing up for the state convention will use the online registration form and send in a check to Julie Olson. A paper form will be accepted, also. However, the online form automatically places a convention-goer's information into a spread sheet, making information easy-to-access for registration purposes.

Karen Rasmussen and Pat Fuchs have volunteered to be the "registration duo." However, many hands will be needed to fill convention bags and set up for registration during the convention.

So, we are approaching "the race" of holding the state convention, Friday-Saturday, April 27-28 in Faribault. But we have a way to go yet working out final details.

We will have more information for you at the branch business meeting in February.

Submitted by Pauline Schreiber

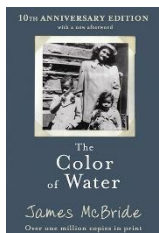
Treasurer's Report



Not a lot of action in January: Checking, \$131.86, Savings \$4218.21. There will be a lot of action, however, during the next couple of months, with the Big Convention taking shape!

Submitted by Julie Olson

Book Club



The AAUW Book Club met on January 16 at the HyVee Market Grille for supper and discussion of James McBride's *The Color of Water*. This New York Times bestseller is a well written memoir that tells the story of James McBride and his white, Jewish mother Ruth. It is also a tribute to his mother who fled the South, landed in Harlem, married a black man in 1941, founded a church, was twice widowed and raised 12 children in New York City. We were amazed by the descriptions of poverty and suffering and that all of those children graduated from college. Some of us were surprised to learn that we had read this book several years ago!



We will meet again on February 20 at the Market Grille at 5:45. This month's book is *Good Night, Mr Wodehouse* by Minnesota author, Faith Sullivan. All branch members are welcome!

Submitted by Gloria O.

Women's History Month



The theme for Women's History Month in March has been chosen: Nevertheless, They Persisted. We will be honoring our six local women who have been members for more than 50 years. Look for the articles in the weekend edition of the Daily News beginning March 3. Thanks to our six members who will be interviewing and writing.

Submitted by Kathy Kasten

Program



The AAUW meeting will be held at District One Hospital lower level classroom on Monday, February 26, 2018. Beginning at 7:00 p.m. the program entitled "Warden Speaking" will feature speaker, Kathy Halvorson, warden at MCF (Minnesota Correctional Facility)-Faribault. According to a 2010 report, MCF-Faribault is the largest prison in Minnesota by population with around 2000 offenders and 630 staff members. Kathy started her Department of Corrections career as an officer at MCF-Shakopee. She was also the first woman to lead the MCF-Red Wing in its 122 year history. We hope to see you at the meeting and that the weather will be more favorable than last month. Remember to enter through the Emergency entrance and proceed to the elevators if you arrive after 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by Mary Lillquist, Sue Willcott, and Pat Fuchs

Secretary's Report

AAUW Branch Meeting, January 29, 2018 District One Hospital



A combined branch board meeting was called to order by President Cyndy Harrison. Announcements were made, including that member, Mary Anderson has broken her wrist. John Hagen, husband of member Diane Hagen, is doing well in his recovery from a recent stroke. Pat Fuch's husband is home following heart related issues. Our well wishes are sent!

Secretary and Treasurer reports were printed in our most recent newsletter. Emily Nesvold made a motion that the secretary's report be accepted as printed, with Karen Rasmussen seconding the motion. The treasurer's report is approved, subject to audit. Julie Olson stated that our check to national LAF has not been received or cashed in the five weeks since issue. A stop payment order has been made and a new check will be issued.

Programs and Committees:

Membership: Mary Lillquist shared that March is a great time to join, only \$48.50. Kathy Larson encouraged members to ask people if they would care to join. Two possible new members were noted. The February program is to be presented by the warden of the Faribault Correctional Facility.

Karen Rasmussen shared that anyone interested in submitting artwork for the national competition must submit entry by this coming Sunday. Cyndy Harrison will send out a reminder.

Social events: Karen Rasmussen told about the recent painting party where four members and six guests painted a fall scene. Go to Facebook to see their results! Sue Schwichtenberg, host, has generously donated a painting party for five to the state silent auction, a \$150 value. She just asks for gas money if traveling is required. Pat Rice stated that more silent auction baskets are welcome! The quarterly birthday party will take place at 5:30, Wednesday, February 7th, HyVee back room. We will be celebrating January, February, and March birthdays, but all members are welcome! Sue Olson will reserve the room.

Coffee time, February 17th, 10:00, Bluebird Cakery. Coffees are held the third Saturday of the month. All members welcome. Information to be in newsletter.

Minnesota History Theatre: Crack in the Sky play. Nothing is planned at this time. Possible dates are February 11, 18, 25, and March 4. A brochure was routed.

State Convention: Pauline Schreiber passed around a signup sheet for volunteers to be in charge of breakfast refreshments on Saturday. Cyndy Harrison recently presented our convention plans to the state committee. Our plans were well received. One hundred twenty AAUW members are expected to attend. Our planning committee met tonight, prior to our branch meeting.

Women's' History Month: Kathy Kasten shared that this year's articles will spotlight our own women who have been members for fifty or more years: May Bottke, Betty Harmsen, Carol Quail, Shirley Norgaard, Julie Olson, and Joan Koonmen. Kathy is trying to make contact with Suzanne Rook, of the Faribault Daily News, to make sure they will run the articles. Colleen Rolling will also contact Suzanne Rook.

Scholarships: Karen Rasmussen asked for a volunteer to help her in the process, as Karen will be out of town when deadlines are due in late March. Colleen Rolling offered to assist. We will be awarding \$2,750 in scholarships: two \$1,000 scholarships at large, and one \$750 scholarship to South Central College. Shelly Rockman coordinates the South Central scholarship. Our past presidents review the applications.

Book Sale: May 30th through June 4th. Details will be in the newsletter. Books are already being donated. Pat Rice and Mary Lillquist will start early sorting at the Congo, where we have books stored. Kathy Larson shared that Karen Hoffman said that they may be able to hold Kids' Karnival at the same time as our sale, even though our sale will be held later this year

Public Policy: Pauline Schreiber reminded us that this is an election year. She has secured the following dates for forums should membership wish to hold them: October 4, 11, and 18. The following are up for election: state representatives, county sheriff and attorney, two county commissioners, and school board.

Halloween Breakfast: Karen Kittlesen and Kathy Larson will chair this event. We will have the same plan as last year, working with the Sons of the Legion. We will need to sign a contract to secure the date.

New Business: The deadline for newsletter articles is February 10th and are to be submitted to Emily Nesvold.

Pauline Schreiber stated that the convention bags have been completed. A second work day was held on Martin Luther King Day. Six members participated. One hundred thirty bags have been completed.

Emily Nesvold asked if we are giving to the River Bend Nature Center and to STEM Camp again. We will discuss this next month. We do not have a deadline to donate, so may wait to see what our finances are after our book sale.

Ruth Hildebrandt has put together a silent auction basket for Ruth's House Gala, on behalf of our branch. Thanks, Ruth!

Tri-Branch Luncheon: We have received no information yet. Cyndy Harrison will inquire.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: Gloria Carter, secretary

Program: New Year, New Skills, by Cyndy Harrison. An introduction to Google. See Cyndy's email of January 29th for the link to learning about Google.

Branch Meeting, February 26
"Warden Speaking,
by Kathy Halvorson
7:00 pm. District One Hospital

State Convention Meeting, 5:00 pm
Board Meeting 5:45 pm
General Meeting 6:15 pm

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.