



Faribault Branch Communiqué

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

December 2021



PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE



December has arrived putting us into a fast, flurry of events. Watching the fireworks and the Faribault Winterfest parade really gave me some Holiday excitement! Of course, the mild weather that night added to the enjoyment.

After the Covid19 turmoil of the last two years it's time to be thankful for our blessings. We'll have the opportunity to reflect on our friendships and achievements at our Holiday Gathering. Please come and celebrate with your **AAUW**

Sisters at Our Annual Holiday Gathering at the Cathedral of our Merciful Savior's Cloister at 6:00 pm. Members provide hors d'oeuvres and a jar of peanut butter to donate to the Community Cafe. Share a Christmas memory.

Be sure to read the attachments to our AAUW Newsletter for the various programs and grants that our national AAUW offers.

In closing here is a poem to ponder:

God Bless Your Christmas

God bless your Christmas wherever you are
And keep your courage bright;
For the spirit of men/women is the candle of God,
And it burns on the brightest night.

God bless your Christmas wherever you are
And keep you strong in faith;
For the spirit of God is the refuge of man/woman
And the light in his dwelling place.
Author Unknown

Submitted by Co - Presidents Kathy Larson & Pat Rice

Secretary's Report



Faribault AAUA Nov. 22, 2021 Branch Meeting

Co-president Kathy Larson called the November meeting of the Faribault Branch of AAUW to order at 6:33 p.m. and welcomed the attendees.

Treasurer's Report: JoEllen Schulz reported that we took in \$4,962.25 at the door at the Halloween Omelet Breakfast fundraiser for local scholarships. After expenses, we will make a profit of \$3,156.67, a record

for this now traditional event. Our current balance in checking is \$7,971.35

Social Committee report:

- Our first Birthday Celebration since Covid was held at Basher's on Nov. 3rd; we had three tables of "birthday" gals and well-wishers celebrating October, November and December birthdays.
- The third Saturday Coffee gathering at *Crack of Dawn* met Nov. 20th and had 10 participants.

Annual Christmas Gathering,

- We will hold our traditional holiday party on Dec. 20th at the Cathedral Cloister beginning at 6:00 p.m.
- Members will provide hors d'oeuvres and are asked to bring a jar of peanut butter to donate to the Community Café.
- Our entertainment will be members sharing a Christmas memory.

Celebrations of the Evening:

- Co-presidents Kathy Larson and Pat Rice treated members to mini-cupcakes to help us celebrate our 140th anniversary of AAUW.
- All who were present sang *Happy Birthday* to May Bottke to help her celebrate her 97th birthday this next Sunday, Nov. 28th. Her daughter, Mary Osborne, shared birthday cookies with her fellow members.

The meeting adjourned.

Program Chair, Pauline Schreiber then introduced our speaker for the evening, Becky Ford, director of Faribault Youth Investment who presented information about AmeriCorps service programs in Rice County,

Following the program, AAUW members participated in the annual silent auction to raise money for scholarships.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Hildebrandt, secretary

Book Club



The AAUW Book Club met Thursday, November 18 to discuss *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein. The book narrated by Enzo, a dog owned by a car racing individual, prompted conversation about how important animals are in our lives. We all loved the book.

Our December meeting will be a 12 pm lunch on Thursday, December 16 at the Dubbels home. The book is *Swede Hollow* by Ola Larsmo.
Submitted by Barb Dubbels

Social Time



Join us for coffee and treats at the Crack of Dawn, 10:30 on Saturday, December 18th.
Submitted by Sue Olson

Treasurer's Report



Our November silent auction was filled with goodies to purchase so that with many generous contributions we have increased our income by \$344. Our bank balance is currently over \$8200.
Submitted by JoEllen Schulz

A Message from Marj Helmer



Christmas gift idea! Marge Helmer's book, "Bits & Pieces 2: An Anthology by the Maple Grove Writers' Studio. Fiction and nonfiction by the group Marge Helmer (Marj) started four years ago. See and buy the book from Amazon.

Christmas get-together sounds wonderful. I hope to make it there, weather permitting and my driver is willing. Love you all. And keep up the good work, especially now with the current Roe v. Wade Supreme Court challenges. Don't forget to write those year-end gift checks to Planned Parenthood. Love

Marge

BUY OUR BOOK NOW! You only have a short time, so read a short story from the anthology. Relax and enjoy. Available on Amazon.

Books by Marj Helmer
Maple Grove Writers' Studio Anthology 2
mhelmer.author@gmail.com

Holiday Party



**At the Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior
Cloister
515 2nd Avenue NW, Faribault
December 20
6:00 pm**

Please bring a dish to pass, some peanut
butter for the Community Café, and a
Christmas memory
Submitted by Mary Niermann

A Message from Teresa K. Sagen, AAUW MN Administrative Assistant

Hi All

Attached is the **AAUW MN Helping Our Branches in 2022** Booklet that lists the grants and awards that are available to Branches in 2022. Almost all of the grant/award applications are due in March 2022 except NCCWSL applications that are due January 30. Notice that the NCCWSL info has "Pending" since we don't yet know the conference date nor do we know if it will be in person or virtual.

Please feel free to share the booklet widely with your other Board and Branch Members!
Teresa

Community News:

Two of our AAUW members were featured on Channel 9 last week. Pat Rice and Pat Unbreit were interviewed about the annual lefse making tradition at First English Church. They have been part of the tradition for many years.

We are so proud of our two ladies for their outstanding work on many Faribault community and AAUW committees over the years! Bravo! Pat and Pat !

Submitted by Kathy Larson



Membership



Remember that a gift of a year membership to our AAUW Faribault Branch would be a wonderful way to introduce a relative or friend to our active AAUW group of gals!! **For only \$50 for a first time member it's a bargain!** We have accomplished a lot together : scholarships, events and supporting our Faribault girls & women. The camaraderie and friendships we have formed over the years are priceless.

Contact Kathy Larson for more information: 332 - 2525

kathyhilgerslarson@ [gmail.com](mailto:kathyhilgerslarson@gmail.com)

Thank you,

Submitted by Kathy Larson - Membership Vice President

This newsletter is accompanied by 2 attachments: 1. A News Release of May Bottke's 97th Birthday Celebration and the Faribault Branch 140th Birthday submitted by Karen Rasmussen 2. The AAUW MN Helping Our Branches in 202 document. Please check them out!

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