



Faribault Branch Communiqué

"AAUW's mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

March 2022



Presidents' Message

March blew in on a cold wind but with sunshine, too. We should also try to look for the positive side of life even when the world around us is in turmoil.

This month will be filled with lots of planning. Our Book Sale Committee and the Executive Board will meet before our next members meeting. The days and times

of these meetings will be announced within the next week or so.

Topics to be discussed are the following:

1. We will organize our Book Sale. We are suggesting May 18- May 23 at the Faribo West Mall.
2. The Tri Branch Luncheon, scheduled for April 23rd. It will be hosted by Owatonna.
3. The State Convention in St. Cloud on April 29th. & 30th.
4. Nominations for new AAUW Faribault Branch positions for the 2022-2023 year.
5. Ideas to increase our membership.

We are very happy to report 4 of our members have volunteered to be delegates to the St. Cloud State Convention: Pat Rice, Karen Rasmussen, Mary Lillquist and Kathy Larson.

It will be held April 29th.& 30th.

April 23 the Owatonna Branch will have a ZOOM meeting as the Tri Branch Luncheon because of the Covid 19 Pandemic. Both Owatonna & Northfield Branches felt it was too risky at this time to meet in person and serve food. Steele County seems to have the highest rate of Covid 19 right now. The Zoom meeting information will be listed in the April newsletter.

Thank you to our AAUW members for their articles for March Women's History Month. We appreciate the time and effort you spent writing about these women.

If you still want to order AAUW logo sweatshirts or shirts, you still have time to do so. Just call or email JoEllen Schultz by March 17th. The orders will be sent to St. Cloud on March 21st. JoEllen, 1 - 507 - 330 - 4469 joschultz246@gmail.com)

Plan to be at our March AAUW Branch Meeting on Monday, March 28, 2022 at 6:15. At 7:00 enjoy a wonderful program presented by Sue Garwood, executive director of the Rice County Historical Society. Sue's topic will be IN HONOR of WOMEN, featuring some of the 50 biographies of Rice County Women. Invite a friend to come and learn about this topic and honor women who have contributed to our community!



Happy St. Patrick's, March 17th!!!

Your Co-Presidents" - Kathy Larson & Pat Rice



Secretary's Report

Co-president Kathy Larson called the February meeting of the Faribault Branch of AAUW to order at 6:20 p.m. at the Rice County Historical Society Museum and welcomed the attendees.

Treasurer's Report: JoEllen Schultz reported that we had \$8,059.07 as of Feb. 1, 2022

Committee reports:

- Social Committee: The Third Saturday Coffee Gathering met at *Crack of Dawn* on Feb. 19th and had 15 participants.
- Women's History Month: Articles organized by Kathryn Speulda and written by some of our members will be appearing in the *Faribault Daily News* to celebrate *Women's History Month*.

New Business:

- Spring Book Sale:
 - Possible beginning date May 18th.
 - Service group(s) will be contacted to help with moving books.
 - Specific location at the mall has not been determined. Pat Rice and Kathy Larson will meet with the mall manager to finalize arrangements.
 - Book Sale Committee as listed in the directory (Pat Rice, Liz Hartman, Kathy Larson, Mary Lillquist, Mary Nierman and Judy Graham) will meet for preliminary planning.
 - Members can sign up for shifts at the March meeting. Liz Hartman volunteered to email the schedule to members.
- Tri-branch Luncheon: Owatonna is hosting this annual event on Apr. 23rd. They inquired if we had a preference for in person or Zoom meeting. We await further details.
- State Convention:
 - Kathy announced that Faribault is entitled to have four delegates and one alternate. Our co-presidents volunteered to attend as two of our delegates. Motion by Pauline Schreiber, second by Barb Dubbels to approve Kathy and Pat as delegates. The motion carried. Additional delegates will be sought.
 - Our budget included only \$400 for the convention. The cost is \$135 for the 2 day program per person. The motel would be \$124 for a room. Additional funding may be approved.

- Liz Hartman will send out an email with:
 - The registration form which is due to JoEllen Schulz by Thurs. March 17th.
 - A flyer for the Convention Fundraiser offering T-shirts, hoodies and tote bags. The profits will be donated to AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund. All members may order these items not just those attending, but orders must be prepaid and also submitted to JoEllen.

After a break to celebrate our 97th anniversary with treats and a photo op, Betty Harmsen introduced Zack Roble, social studies teacher and coach at Faribault High School who presented the evening's program on "Bias and Stereotypes", challenging us to examine our implicit biases and address them so we can understand how they are reflected in our society.

The meeting adjourned after a few final announcements.

Submitted by *Ruth Hildebrandt, secretary*



Treasurer's Report

AAUW balance is \$8059.

Submitted by JoEllen Schulz



Social Time

Join us for coffee and treats at Crack of Dawn, 10:30, Saturday, March 19th. Submitted by *Sue Olson*

A Message from Kathy Speulda

Our women's history articles have been sent to the editor of the Faribault paper but there was some mix up so two articles should be published this Saturday. That will be the article on Joan Didion by Pauline and Beverly Cleary by Barbara. I hope this works and the next two weeks are published in a more timely manner.

A Message from JoEllen Schulz

2022 State Convention Fundraiser

Have you ordered your AAUW t-shirt and/or a sweatshirt? Orders need to be in and paid for by Thursday, March 17. Half the cost is donated to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund, and our branch gets credit for those donations

Contact JoEllen to get your order in

Call or text. 507 330 4469

Email joschulz246@gmail.com

Checks can be mailed to

JoEllen Schulz

2125 7th street NW Apt 307

Faribault, MN. 55022

Faribault Daily News Press Release

Written and submitted by Karen Rasmussen



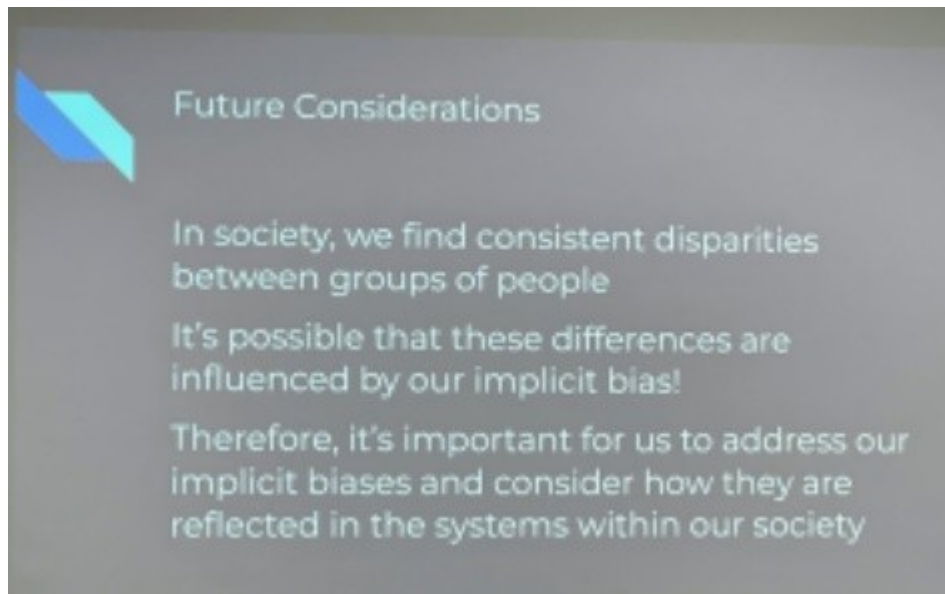
The Faribault Branch of American Association of University Women was established on Feb. 25, 1925 with Ella Hutchinson as its first president. The 97th Anniversary was recently celebrated at a branch meeting. Seated are immediate past president Pauline Schreiber, and co-presidents Pat Rice and Kathy Larson. Standing in back are: Mary Niermann, Liz Hartman, Mary Osborne, Julie Olson, Judy Graham, Barb Dubbels, Gloria Carter, Betty Harmsen, Sayaka Yamazaki, Ruth Hildebrandt, Karen Rasmussen, JoEllen Schulz and Mary Lillquist.

Membership eligibility for AAUW is for graduates who hold associate (2 year) or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degrees from colleges and universities. Our mission is to advance gender equity to women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

Karen's Comments:

Have some photos from the last meeting, 2-28-2022, and the news release to the FDN. However, some of the wording was changed (again) which changed the meaning, e.g., "The group is open to woman" rather than "Membership eligibility for AAUW is for graduates who hold associate (2 year) or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degrees from colleges and universities." Don't want to alienate the editor so I try to keep "minor" corrections to myself.

Zach Roble, FHS teacher of psychology and sociology, had a lively discussion and hands-on activity as he demonstrated his mission statement of being a transformational teacher and coach. We explored the differences of prejudice (prejudgemnt) and discrimination (unjustified negative behavior), how we form stereotypes from cognitive, evolutionary, and emotional roots which create explicit and implicit biases. Implicit bias is our unconscious attitudes towards groups that can impact the way we treat others, even unintentionally. Much of our bias and stereotypes are a result of our brains trying to solve problems as quickly as possible.



Submitted by Karen Rasmussen



Program The speaker, listed in the Faribault AAUW Year Book for the March program, could not make it. Instead, we have a special Women in History Month program. Sue Garwood, Rice County Historical Society director, will speak on the Rice County women's biographies project.

Originally, it was hoped researchers would be able to have 100 bios of Rice County women by 2020 for the 100th anniversary of women winning the right to vote. That did not happen for a number of reasons, with the pandemic shut down playing a big part in it.

This March there are 50 bios completed and Garwood will speak on those women and her hope of continuing the project to get 100 bios or even more.

Women were often overlooked in history books. Garwood wants to make sure women's contributions to local history is not overlooked.

The program committee hopes for a good turnout for this program, set for **7 p.m. Monday, March 28 at the Rice County Historical Society Museum's Carlander Room. And, remember to come at 6:15 p.m. for the business meeting before the program.**

Submitted by Pauline Schreiber



Membership

We are looking for more members to share our AAUW Mission Statement: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

Please consider a friend who would like to join us to achieve these goals. Like the ad said "We've come a long way!" but there still is a lot to be aware of in our society that needs to be

changed for women!

A new member, Sue Stout, has graciously volunteered to write some important issues in our MN legislature for our monthly newsletter. Sue worked as a lobbyist in the nursing field and has firsthand experience about various government topics.

Thank you Sue for your information.

Please contact Kathy Larson for more information: 332-2525

kathyhilgerslarson@gmail.com

Thank you

Submitted by Kathy Larson Membership Chair

Highlights from Last Week at the Capital

A Review of last week in the Minnesota House of Representatives

1. Legislation to prevent voter confusion passes key House Committee

A Minnesota House of Representatives Committee passed legislation this week aimed at eliminating some potential voter confusion related to absentee ballots. According to the bill sponsor [Rep. Jim Nash](#) (R-Waconia), “Everybody I talked to was blown away at the number of pieces of mail that went into their district from organizations on both sides of the aisle trying to get someone to fill out an absentee ballot request form, and saying, ‘The Sierra Fund got me to fill out my absentee ballot,’ or ‘The NRA got me to fill out my absentee ballot.’”

The bill was unanimously approved by the House State Government Finance and Elections Committee which would require committees and private organizations that mail absentee ballot applications or sample ballots to include several notifications, including “NOT AN OFFICIAL BALLOT” and “THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION FROM A UNIT OF GOVERNMENT” on the outside of the mailing.

Representatives from the Minnesota Association of County Officers, Association of Minnesota Counties and League of Minnesota Cities submitted a [letter](#) backing the bill.

The current system, it states, “can result in a voter questioning why they have inefficiently received multiple communications from local units of government and wondering if there is a flaw in the election administration process.

“The quantity of absentee ballot application and sample ballot mailings from 2020 resulted in a high volume of calls and emails to election administrators. While administrators enthusiastically answer questions to clear up confusion and/or anger, administrators prefer to avoid voter confusion/anger in the first place.”

Sponsored by [Sen. Mary Kiffmeyer](#) (R-Big Lake), [SF3077](#), the companion bill, awaits action by the Senate State Government Finance and Policy and Elections Committee.

2. Legislation to provide funding for election security passed House Committee. Election security Bill held over for further discussion

“It’s happening across the country and it’s happening here in Minnesota,” said [Rep. Emma Greenman](#) (DFL-Mpls), who sponsors bills to fund security enhancements and aim to better protect election workers.

[HF3870, as amended](#), would provide \$5 million for local units of government for election security needs. [HF3666, as amended](#), would create legal parameters — including civil and criminal penalties — for interfering with an election official’s performance of duties, such as intimidation, hindering the election process and obstructing access.

The funding bill was approved Friday by the House State Government Finance and Elections Committee on an 8-5 party-line vote. Due to a time constraint, the interference bill was held over for further discussion.

Neither bill has a Senate companion.

3. Increased Funding was proposed to prepare underrepresented student teachers of color

[Rep. Heather Keeler](#) (DFL-Moorhead), sponsored [HF3917](#) that would provide an additional \$8.5 million in fiscal year 2023 for the aspiring teachers of color scholarship pilot program. Its current appropriation is \$1.5 million.

The bill would also appropriate an additional \$1.5 million to underrepresented student teacher grant program in fiscal year 2023 and increase its base amount moving forward to \$2.625 million from \$1.125 million

It was laid over Tuesday by the House Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee for possible omnibus bill inclusion. Its companion, [SF3714](#), sponsored by [Sen. Jason Rarick](#) (R-Pine City), awaits action by the Senate Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee.

Supporters say Minnesota can help overcome the lack of racial, cultural, and linguistic diversity in its teaching force by providing grants and scholarships to underrepresented student teachers of color, and open doors to higher education for minorities putting them on a pathway to success in life.

Grants and scholarships would support hundreds of Black, Indigenous, and people of color teacher candidates already in preparation pathways to finish their licensure programs and become teachers.

Paul Spies, co-founder of the Coalition to Increase Teachers of Color and American Indian Teachers in Minnesota, said 38% of Minnesota students are students of color, but only 7% of teachers.

The state’s acute achievement gap is related to the severe shortage of those teachers, he said.

The problem often is to attract, prepare and retain teachers from underrepresented communities, and it becomes an issue for providing equitable education, he said.

“If students today had equitable access to Black, Indigenous, people of color teachers, there would be approximately 22,000 Black, Indigenous, people of color teachers,” he said. “There are 3,000 Black, Indigenous, people of color teachers.”

4. Health policy panel proposes more money for behavioral health homes

To learn more about this proposal read the following article from Session Daily: <https://www.house.-leg.state.mn.us/SessionDaily/Story/17213>

Highlights from the Minnesota Senate for the week of March 7

1. Funding approved for ALS Research

The Senate Higher Education Committee gave its unanimous support Tuesday, March 8, to a bill providing \$20 million for the advancement of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) research. Sponsored by Senator David Tomassoni, I-Chisholm, who contracted the disease in 2021, and carried by Senator Tom Bakk, I-Cook, the bill was sent to the Senate Finance Committee and will be considered by the Senate Thursday, March 10.

2. Legislation to allow Minnesota Nurses to Join the Interstate Licensing Compact

With a vote of 35-32, the Senate gave its final approval Monday, March 7, to a bill that would allow Minnesota nurses to join an interstate nurse licensure compact; whereby, a nurse licensed in a compact state would be able to work in any of the compact-member states.

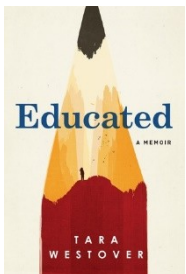
Senator Carla Nelson, R-Rochester and sponsor of the measure, said "Patients do not live and get their healthcare within state lines, and we know that nurses increasingly provide care through telehealth and they should not be limited by state lines either."

Speaking against the bill, Senator Erin Murphy, DFL-St. Paul, and a licensed nurse, said, "Licensure state by state has always been the state's purview. It's how we guarantee our high standards and our high expectations here in the state of Minnesota."

The bill was sent to the House of Representatives for its consideration.

Submitted by Susan Stout

Book Club



The AAUW Book Club met via Zoom in February to discuss *The Chronicles of a Radical Hag* by Lorna Landvik., who has performed as a standup comedian, and writes with humor and seriousness. This novel is about a columnist whose past columns are reprinted while she is in a coma after a stroke. The "radical hag" columns trace a half century of history-making issues.

Our next meeting is on Zoom again on Thursday, March 17 at 2pm. Our book is *Educated* by Tara Westover.

Submitted by Barb Dubbels

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.