



Faribault Branch Communiqué

Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.



~ February 2024 ~

President's Message

Dear fellow members. I'm not sure how to greet you this month. Enjoy spring? Enjoy Winter? Enjoy Climate Change? Not too sure what is going on here. Just so everyone is doing well.

We are asking that everyone read through this monthly newsletter. Though some of it may seem repetitive it is a good way to keep informed of what our organization is planning and doing.

I'm looking forward to hearing from our book sale people and our Women's History Month writers at our February meeting on Monday, February 26, at the Rice County Historical Society. Someone from Curbside Recycling, in Northfield will be our speaker at this meeting.

Submitted by Co Presidents-
Mary Niermann and Carmen Tripp (from her get away in Texas)

February Meeting



Monday, February 26

Rice County Historical Society

2:00 Business Meeting

2:30 Program: Curbside Composting

Every Monday morning, before 8, I put this bucket out on the curb to be picked up by someone from the Curbside Compost Cooperative in Northfield. The journey of the contents of my bucket, from Faribault to an organics recycling facility in Shakopee, is a fascinating one!

Come to the meeting on the 26 to hear about how Curbside Compost got started, when the program included Faribault, what can be composted (we'll basically accept anything that was living in our lifetime) and lots of information on the recycling facility.

I'm not sure, at this time, which of the Northfield team will be with us but the two women that spoke to our GROWS garden club last summer were so knowledgeable and passionate about what they do to help keep things out of the landfill!

Liz Hartman

The **Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC)**, a federally recognized Native American tribe, opened the SMSC Organics Recycling Facility in 2011.

FARIBAULT AAUW BRANCH MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE



Looking for a Super Valentine's Day Gift for a family member or a dear friend? Why not introduce them to our AAUW Faribault Branch

Organization!! \$55.00 for a first-time membership is a BARGAIN. Now that our monthly meetings are at 2:00 pm, it might be more convenient for some people.

We are celebrating our "99th" year since our AAUW was established on February 25, 1925, right here in Faribault with Ellie Hutchinson as our first President.

We have formed strong friendships over the years and have accomplished a lot together! We have provided numerous scholarships for Faribault girls and women. The " Friends of the Library" and "Grows", two wonderful community groups, were organized by AAUW members.

Due to our work, the Faribault Airport has been dedicated and renamed for Liz (Betty) Strohfus. Liz was a Military Airline Pilot and served in World War I I. This major accomplishment honors our women in the military.

In addition, we have had many book sales, workshops for girls, and awarded the Faribault Senior High School female senior athletic scholarship each year.

Please contact: Kathy Larson for more information 1-507-332-2525
kathyhilgerslarson@gmail.com

Thank you, Submitted by Kathy Larson: Membership Vice-President



Treasurer's Report

I will be submitting \$1500 this week to the AAUW educational foundation greatest needs per our budget. We also own \$25 to Rice County Historical Society for use of their facilities for our meeting in January After these expenses, our balance will be \$13,779.65

JoEllen Schulz, Treasurer



BOOK CLUB NEWS

Our next book is The Gown by Jennifer Robson. We meet Thursday, February 15 at 2pm. Not many copies in the system so we'll have to share.

Next on our alphabetical list to choose are Liz in March, May, Ruth Hildebrant, and June, Kathy Kasten. April is poetry month.

Barb Dubbels

Social Time



Hi Members,
Let's meet for coffee and treats at Janna's on Saturday, February 17th at 10:30. Hope you can join us!

Sue Olson Thanks, Sue Olson



Nort Johnson, President/CEO of the Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce, introduced by Julie Olson, spoke to the Branch on economic development activities in downtown Faribault.



February 7th at Gran Plaza. Our members with winter birthdays: Kathy Kasten Jan. 18, Jo Ellen Schulz Jan. 20, Gloria Carter Feb. 1, Bonnie Becker Feb. 22, Emily Nesvold March 22 and Sue Stout March 27 were unable to attend so the above members celebrated by "proxy"!!



Secretary's Report

Minutes for Jan. 22, 2024 Faribault AAUW Meeting

The Faribault Branch met at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 22, 2024 in the Carlander Program Room at the Rice County Historical Society. Lead Co-President Carmen Tripp convened the meeting with Jr. Co-President Mary Niermann nearby. Tripp first asked if there were any additions and corrects to the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports that were printed in the emailed December newsletter. Hearing, none they were accepted as printed.

Book Sale

Book sale

Tripp talked about the need to get a date, most likely in May, for the Branch's final two-day used book sale. Pat Rice, head of the book sale committee, said she would hold a book sale committee soon and will be working at getting a date for the sale by contacting official at the Faribault West Mall.

March, Women in History Month

Pauline Schreiber said a theme was needed for this year's Women in History Month articles for the Faribault Daily News. Liz Hartman presented the idea to tie the theme to a tribute to the Branch's more than 50 years of holding a used book sale. After a discussion, it was agreed to write about Minnesota women authors. Kathryn Speulda will again be the editor of the articles and arrange with the FDN editor for the publication of the series. Speulda said only four articles are needed and they will be ran one a week in the newspaper for the month of March. Rice and Schreiber volunteered to write an article for the series. Schreiber and Speulda will be contacting members not at the meeting who have written articles in past years.

Hastings to Host Statewide Conference

Tripp announced that the MN AAUW Annual Conference will be April 26-27 in Hastings at the Confluencr Hotel & Conference Center. Hastings is close enough to Faribault that members could drive back and forth without staying over.

Tri-Branch Luncheon

Julie Olson reported on the Tri-Branch Luncheon Faribault is hosting on Saturday, April 20 at the Faribault Golf Club. Speakers for the event have been secured by Tri-Branch Luncheon Committee Chair Barb Dubbels, who was unable to at the Jan. 22 meeting. Olson said the speakers for the event will be Pat Bauer and Dave Geister, who grew up in Wisconsin but have lived in Minnesota a combined seven decades. The married pair create history storybooks for children. Bauer is the writer and Geister is the illustrator. They received a grant to create their latest boo, "Making Minnesota," which is an activity book as well as providing stories on Minnesota history. The grant from the "Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment," that provides dollars for cultural heritage as well as environmental concerns, is allowing the book to be provided free to educators who use them in their classrooms.

Bauer was honored in 2017 with a Lifetime Achievement Award for Social Studies; Geister in 2019 with the Friends of Social Studies award from MCSS. For several years, they taught a course for teachers at Hamline University entitled "Using Historic Sites to Teach about Minnesota History.

Schreiber, from the Program Committee, pointed out that there is no regular Branch meeting in April. The "program" is the Tri-Branch Luncheon and she hopes most members will attend. The cost will be announced soon, Olson said, but there needs to be another meeting with Patti LaBeau, who is providing food for the event, before the prize is finalized.

Scholarships

Karen Rasmussen announced that there is now a Faribault AAUW Scholarship application form on the Branch's website. The deadline to apply is June 1. The information says, "one or more" \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded, giving the Branch leeway in deciding how many scholarships to award.

Committee Reports

Membership VP Kathy Larson said that if anyone has an idea for a new member, give her the name and contact information and she would contact them about becoming members of AAUW. If new members pay after March 16, the cost is \$55 and good through the 2024-2025 program year.

Old Business

After Tripp asked if there was any other business, and hearing none, Schreiber made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Niermann seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Speaker

Nort Johnson, President/CEO of the Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the Branch on economic development activities in downtown Faribault. He said the Chamber is now manager of the Faribault Industrial Corporation, a long-time local group of investors promoting industrial development in town. Over the past 1 1/2 years, \$700,000 has been invested in renovating downtown buildings. The Chamber, the Faribault Industrial Corporation, the Faribault Industrial Corporation, the Faribault Economic Development Authority and private investors are all working together to get new businesses in downtown buildings and rental housing on their second and third floors. He, also, spoke about the Chamber Trust that provides grants for educational programming.

Submitted by Secretary Pauline Schreiber

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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.