



## Faribault Branch Communiqué

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



### AAUW Presidents' Message ~ November ~ 2023

#### Greetings AAUW members.

Looks like we did a great job on the omelet breakfast, again. A heartfelt thanks to all of you who helped in any way.

Here is hoping that you each read through this November newsletter, so we are all aware of the many things our group is involved in over these last months of 2023. Where did that time go? Each of the sub committees below have done a lot of work for us. Thanks to all of you.

Presidents, Mary Niermann and Carmen Tripp



Our **Halloween Breakfast** was a huge success because:

- Members stepped up and volunteered to put up flyers and work that morning which made for great fellowship—everyone's garments/costumes added to the festive décor.
- Thanks to Barb the tickets from InstyPrints were probably a significant amount, but they were so much easier to work with. This would be an expense I think we should cover in the future. We ended up with 400 orange and 100 green printed. Loved having a different color for at the door. Clipped the corner for children, marked them with a C.
- Thanks to Rene` for help calling and getting tickets to members.

- Thank you to those who turned in their presale money at the meeting prior, or at least a day before the breakfast---that was a super improvement! Never want to go back to collecting the day of the event.
- Thanks to Judy (Costco muffins) and Karen (placemats, napkins, coffee creamers, 400+ pieces of candies, and a ream of cardstock to make future flyers) for applying for Thrivent cards
- Thanks to Gail Kielmeyer and her daughter Krista for pricing, bringing samples, and picking up the 50 cases of 6 muffins, 300 that were \$250 (Pumpkin streusel with caramel drizzle, double choc, blueberry)
- Thanks to Carmen who applied to Kwik Trip to get extra muffins (5 dozen, 1 of each kind, individually wrapped).
- Thanks to Kathy for making signs and she and the Hartman's putting them out in the dark and picking them up. And all of Kathy's decorations for the table centerpieces!
- The SAL (Sons of American Legion did a super job making the omelets—guests raved how good they were! And they scooped up the extra 4 dozen muffins.
- The Legion Auxiliary benefited from the use of the tablecloths for the membership dinner the following evening, which they much appreciated.
- We served 320 adults and 3 children, actually 5 fewer than last year. They must have all come at one time as I heard we used all 28 tables. We had 300 presales, 61 adults and 2 kids bought tickets at the door. Our gross proceeds were \$5867, with the cash donations, etc. The Thrivent cards and Kwik Trip/Karen K donation gave us an additional \$600 for muffins, etc., etc.

On the flip side,

- The Faribault Daily News didn't run the article submitted, only brief of SAL omelets on Com. Calendar.
  - We (Kathy and Karen) met with Misty to renegotiate the bill she had made up. Our food expenses are higher than they were last year, sigh, but seems inflation and delivery make the prices much higher. Our costs have gone up approx. \$200 each year from the year before.
  - Bottom line, we made \$3459.32 (needs to be finalized by JoEllen), not quite the \$3500 budgeted, but better than we have previously done. I was bummed, hoping we would clear \$4,000, but not this year.
- The breakfast is \$457.32 less income than the Book Sale was this year.

Questions to be talked about:

- Do we go to one price, no difference for presale or at the door? Presales help determine how many could potentially come and for Legion to order enough food.
- Can we raise the ticket price, especially if it's our only fundraiser? (\$18 or even \$20?)
- We offer extra amenities not at other omelet breakfasts that charge \$15, e.g., muffins, tablecloths, placemats, flavored coffee creamers, Halloween candy, and costumed servers. I think most of the people I talked to would do \$20, but it is a huge increase from the \$15 if that's all we consider. We don't have to decide right now, but I wanted to plant the thought. We can consider how the economy is doing, etc.

Karen Rasmussen, Co-Chair of Halloween Breakfast



**Sons of American Legion crew with Julie Olson and new member, Gail Kaderlik**



**Wishing Pat Rice a Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday!**



**Judy Graham and her great niece, and our newest member, Bailey Grubish**





## November Meeting

Monday, November 27

2 P.M.,

Rice County Historical Society

1814 NW Second Ave.

**Silent Auction for Local  
Scholarships**

**Business Meeting  
Program**

**Speaker: Emily Nesvold  
Occupied Palestine  
in May and Now**

## November Meeting



\* It's a tradition!! We will again have a silent auction at our November meeting. Bring holiday decorations, gift items, baked goods, or other items for your fellow AAUW members to bid on.

Bid high! Bid often!!

\* A business meeting will precede the speaker. Come find out how successful our Halloween Breakfast was.

\* Speaker: Faribault AAUW member Emily Nesvold will give a presentation on her trip earlier this year to Palestine and Israel. She had no idea how timely this program would be when she agreed to give a talk on her trip in August. Now Hamas and Israel are at war.

\* December Xmas Party

Please be ready to sign up and pay for the Christmas brunch at the November meeting. It has been decided to

meet at 12:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 18 at the Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior for a brunch party. The women of the church will be serving us a brunch for \$12 a plate. It will be a stress-free party without having to bring anything. In the spirit of Christmas giving, you can again bring jars of peanut butter to our meeting. They will be given out by the Community Cafe to those who come to the free community suppers served in the Cathedral's Parish House dining room.

A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the November meeting and you can pay for the brunch.

If you aren't able to come to the November meeting but want to attend the December party, please email Pauline Schreiber at [stpauline818@gmail.com](mailto:stpauline818@gmail.com) by Monday, Dec. 11.

From Pauline Schreiber, program committee member

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## Membership

We **WELCOME** another new member - Bailey Grunish from Janesville!! Bailey is the great niece of our member Judy Graham. Bailey graduated from the University of Kansas with a B.S. Degree; a Major in Strategic Communications and a Minor in Leadership. We look forward to getting to know you, Bailey. Our AAUW Faribault Branch has accomplished many achievements following our MISSION : "To advance gender equity for women and girls

through research, education and advocacy."

**Let us be thankful for our many past and present female leaders and members for their hard work and determination that contributed to all the advancements for WOMEN!**

**For any membership information please contact:**

Kathy Larson - Membership Vice-President  
(332-2525) [kathyhilgerslarson@gmail.com](mailto:kathyhilgerslarson@gmail.com).

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### **Treasurer's Report**

Checking balance is \$17,431.82. That balance reflects all income from Halloween breakfast. It does not reflect expenses which will be around \$2400.00. Income from tickets, donations and others will result in a net income from the breakfast of approximately \$3400.00 .

JoEllen Schulz, Treasurer

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### **Book Club NEWS**

The AAUW Book Club met on October 19 to discuss *Between the Lines* by Jodi Picoult and Samatha van leer. This is a young adult novel that combines fantasy with reality. Some felt a bit discombobulated with that writing technique. Samatha van leer is Jodi Picoult's daughter and that factored into the writing style of the book.

Our next book is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. We meet on Thursday, November 16 at 2pm at Barb's.

Barb Dubbels

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### **AAUW Social Time**



Hi Members,

Let's meet for treats and coffee on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 at Janna's.

Sue Olson

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## **Secretary's Report**

October 23, 2023 Business Meeting

Faribault AAUW Branch members met 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 23, 2023 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 beside her. Tripp first asked if there were any additions or corrections to the secretary's and treasurer's reports printed in the emailed Faribault AAUW October newsletter. Hearing none, they were accepted as printed.

### **New Business**

#### **Xmas Party**

Program Committee member Julie Olson introduced an alternative idea for the annual Christmas party. The idea, Olson said, was really that of Betty Harmsen, who was unable to come to the October meeting. Harmsen and Olson recently attended a Sertoma brunch meeting hosted at the Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour. The women of the church provided the brunch for a price per person. Harmsen knew Faribault AAUW Branch will be meeting at the Cathedral on Monday, Dec. 18 for its Christmas Party and thought "Why can't AAUW have a meal, too, provided by the church women?" Olson said it would be a small fundraiser for the church women and allow members to come to the Christmas Party without having to bring a treat or appetizer, as had been the tradition in the past. The 21 AAUW members attending the meeting thought it a good idea. Emily Nesvold made a motion to allow the Cathedral church women to provide a catered brunch for \$12 a plate; Barb Dubbels seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Members, also, supported the Christmas Party starting at 12:30 p.m. instead of the 1:30 p.m. as printed in the Yearbook. Reservations and payment for the party will be made at the November meeting.

#### **Koonmen Tree**

Pat Rice introduced the idea of purchasing and planting a tree (likely next spring) in memory of long-time AAUW member Joan Koonmen. She passed away early this year. After a discussion, Rice made a motion to purchase and plant a tree somewhere on public property in Faribault. Liz Hartman seconded the motion. The motion carried. Rice and Hartman will work with Faribault Park and Recreation Director Paul Peanasky to find a location.

### **Old Business**

#### **Book Sale**

Members have been discussing whether to have another book sale since the end of the 2023 sale in May. Another discussion occurred. This time, the consensus was to support one last book sale to sell those books stored in the basement of the Congregational Church's Parish House. Rice was strongly in favor of having one last book sale. Gloria Olson suggested having only a two-day sale rather than a protracted sale of six days as the

fundraiser has grown in length. Every year it has been harder and harder for members to work at it because we are all getting older and have physical ailments Liz Hartman said but she would be in favor of it if we would bill it to the public as our last one. Julie Olson and Barb Dubbels weren't in favor, at first, of holding another book sale. However, members talked the issue over, and if the sale is shortened up to two days, Olson and Dubbels supported having one last sale. Kathy Larson made the motion to hold a final sale, likely in the spring, and that the details of the sale will be worked out by the Book Sale Committee listed in the Yearbook. Mary Niermann seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Halloween Breakfast**

Kathy Larson reported that she invited the three local scholarship winners to the Halloween Breakfast. She hoped they would show up. Larson and her Halloween Breakfast Co-chair Karen Rasmussen reported that all is set for the 8 a.m. to noon omelet breakfast at the Faribault American Legion on Sunday, Oct.29, a fundraiser for local scholarships. Rasmussen collected money from members who sold pre-sale tickets. Oct. 23 was the deadline to sell pre-sale tickets. Over 200 pre-sale tickets have been sold, it appeared after Treasurer JoEllen Schultz helped Rasmussen tally the dollars collected. Not all members who took tickets to sell had attended the meeting. Those members will be contacted by Rasmussen.

### **Committee Reports**

Membership VP Kathy Larson reported memberships up to around 40. Program VP Pauline Schreiber reported that at the November 27 meeting, a Silent Auction is again planned. Members can bring items they believe their fellow members will bid on. The dollars raised will go to a miscellaneous fund to pay for memorials for members who pass away or other expenses not in the regular budget. Nesvold will give the program that night on her trip to Palestine and Israel earlier this year.

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

### **Speaker**

The program for the afternoon was Diversity and Discipline at Faribault High School. Barb Dubbels introduced FHS Principal Joel Olson, who she had as an elementary student when she was still teaching, many years ago. Olson did a great job of describing how the FHS student body has changed since he attended the school. He is a 1987 graduate of FHS. He has been in education since 1997. He started as FHS principal on July 1, 2022, replacing Jamie Bente, who became Faribault Public Schools superintendent. The high school today is 50 percent non-white. It likely was 98 percent white when he attended. He told how both diversity and discipline are being addressed and efforts made to keep students on track.

Submitted by Secretary Pauline Schreiber

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](mailto:enesvold@gmail.com) or Liz [ethartmanariz@gmail.com](mailto:ethartmanariz@gmail.com) on alternating months. A reminder email will always be sent out.