



Faribault Branch Communiqué

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

~ December 2024 ~



Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Holiday greetings to each of you.

Happy birthdays to May and Carol. Amazing. Sorry I couldn't attend the fun time for your birthdays.

I'm looking forward to our Holiday celebration in conjunction with our 100 Years Anniversary Celebration on December 16 at 1:00.

As we move into this holiday season, please be safe, warm, content, and healthy.

Mary Niermann- President

Our December Program



100th Anniversary And Christmas Party

Deadline to Signup is Tuesday, Dec. 10

If you have not signed up for the Christmas Party and 100th Anniversary of Faribault AAUW Party and plan to attend, contact Pauline Schreiber by text or phone, 507-602-0876, or email, stpauline818@gmail.com. You can pay at the door. The meals is \$15, that includes tip for the Cathedral Women who are making the meal.

The party is at 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 16 in the Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior. The 100th Anniversary Program will begin at around 2 p.m. The committee organizing the program includes: Kathy Larson, Pat Rice, Pauline Schreiber, Pat Umbreit, and Liz Hartman.

Silent Auction

We will, also, be holding our annual silent auction at the party. Those with items for the auction should arrive early, maybe 12:50 a.m. so that bid sheets for item can be filled out. We hope to eat as close to 1 p.m. as possible.



We will continue the **tradition** of bringing peanut butter to be given out to attendees of the Community Café at the Cathedral.

Merry Christmas

Happy Birthday to you!!



Two of our lovely AAUW ladies were recently honored with special birthday celebrations!

Carol Quail turned **90** and her party, at Faribault Senior Living, was given by friends and family.



May Bottke turned **100** and her circus themed birthday party was held at Pleasant Manor and was given by her Delta Kappa Gamma and AAUW friends.



Tuey, the Juggler, is ably assisted by Bailey Grubish

A special moment!



May with some of her AAUW and Delta Kappa Gamma friends Musician, Diane Larson



Dear AAUW Sisters,

Thank you to everyone who came to celebrate my 100th Birthday at Pleasant View Estates! It was so special to have the Circus Theme!!! I loved the well-known juggling act performed by Tuey! Thank you for the circus treats, special music on the piano and accordion by Diane Larson, and the beautiful birthday cards! I loved seeing you!!! You really made my day!

Love you all!

May Bottke

Membership

HURRAH!! We will be celebrating our **100th. Anniversary of our Faribault A.A.U.W. Branch** at our December 16, 2024 meeting! Like the commercial says, "We've come a Long Way"! But we still have a lot of work to do to accomplish our A.A.U.W. MISSION - to advance gender equity for women and girls through research. education and advocacy.

Are you trying to find that perfect gift for a family member or friend? Remember that a "gift of a membership" can introduce someone to our active A.A.U.W. The Faribault Branch group of ladies is a wonderful way to start the New Year! No knick-knacks (that we don't need anymore) -haha- or other gifts that fill our homes- they really don't have the impact that our A.A.U.W. worthwhile camaraderie and all our community projects provide! We have accomplished a lot together: many scholarships, events and projects that have supported our Faribault girls and women for 100 years.

For only \$55 for a first time AAUW member is a bargain!

Contact: Kathy Larson, Membership Vice President, for more information:

1- 507 - 332 – 2525 kathyhilgerslarsen@gmail.com

Thank you! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

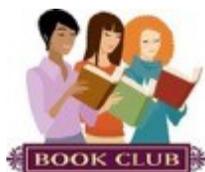
Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report: our current balance is \$14,427.89 with the \$1500 for AAUW Funds going to the Greatest Needs Fund.

We grossed \$5501 at the Halloween Breakfast, total expenses for the Legion and SAL were \$2229.28 So our net came to \$3271.72. And a belated thank you to Gail Kielmeyer and Krista Swanson for picking up the muffins which was much appreciated!

Karen Rasmussen

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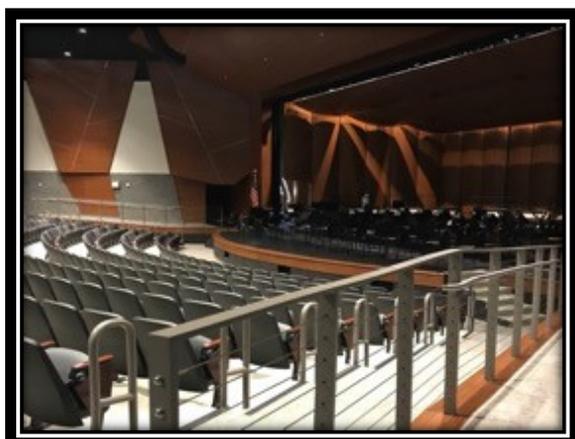
BOOK CLUB NEWS

Two carloads of book club members headed to Owatonna to have a tour of the new Owatonna High School on November 21st hosted by Shelly. We were all awe struck by the grandeur of the building.

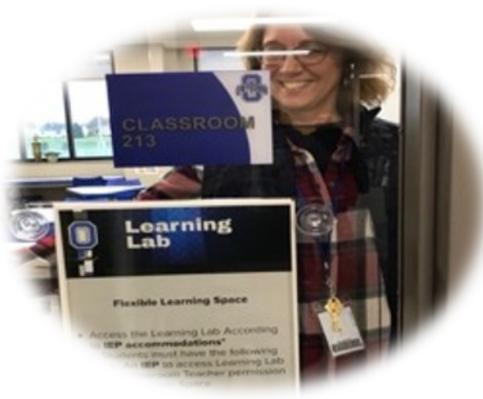
We then headed to Shelly's home for our discussion of Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt. The book was enjoyed by all of us.

December will be our annual Christmas book club potluck lunch at the Real Life community room on Thursday, December 19. Our book is 'Tis the Season! by Lorna Landvik.

Barb Dubbels



The beautiful theatre in the Wenger Performing Arts Center



Shelly in her Learning Lab classroom



Discussion of our book and tasty treats, in Shelly's cozy living room, cap off a fun afternoon in Owatonna

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Social Time

Our coffee/treats/eats at Janna's for this month will be Saturday, December 21st at 11:00.

Hope to see you there!

Thanks, Sue Olson

Looking Ahead

- The Spring Annual State Meeting will be in Austin April 25-26th with a Silent Auction for AAUW Funds.
- Pat Rice would like our branch to consider donating to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Please read through this information so we can be ready to vote on this at the January meeting.

A little background from the Imagination Library Website:

In 1995, Dolly Parton launched an exciting new effort, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, to benefit the children of her home county in East Tennessee, USA. Dolly's vision was to foster a love of reading among her county's preschool children and their families. The new program gave each child a specially selected book each month. By mailing high quality, age appropriate books directly to their homes, Dolly wanted children to be excited about books and to feel the magic that books can create. Moreover, she could ensure that every child would have books, regardless of their family's income.

Since its launch, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has set and surpassed many goals and milestones. National replication, which started in 2000, allowed more and more communities to adopt the program.

The first book order in 1995 totaled just over 1,700. Today, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library sends more than one million books per month to children around the world inspiring them to Dream More, Learn More, Care More and Be More.

From the Rice County Imagination Library Website:

Sign up your child for Imagination Library books!

A Free Book Every Month

Children who are read to during the first years of life are much more likely to learn to read on schedule -- and there are many other benefits, too.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library helps families develop children's early literacy skills by providing free, high-quality books to children from shortly after birth until their fifth birthday. A new, age-appropriate book arrives each month, addressed to the child. As children become old enough to understand, they are thrilled to get their monthly book in the mail.

By providing age-appropriate books each month, Imagination Library:

- Increases young children's access to books
- Provides a print-rich environment in the home
- Fosters parents and children reading together
- Drives language and pre-literacy skills
- Introduces shapes, colors, letters, numbers, and concepts
- Encourages a love of reading

Sign Up!

Rice Area United Way sponsors and administers Imagination Library in the Rice County area. The program is free to families of all income levels who live in these communities: Dundas, Dennison, LeCenter, Faribault, Lonsdale, Kilkenny, Montgomery, Morristown, Nerstrand, Northfield, Warsaw and Webster.

You can register a child for Imagination Library [online at ImaginationLibrary.com](http://ImaginationLibrary.com) -- look for "Check Availability" and enter your information. If you are unable to register online, please call us at 507-664-3510 with the following information: child's name, date of birth, address, parent name and parent email address. Books will start arriving 8-12 weeks later.

Please note that we cannot register children before they are born.

If you have any questions, [contact Rice County Area United Way](#).

To find out if Imagination Library is offered in another region, use Imagination Library's [Find My Program](#) tool.

Support Imagination Library

Imagination Library is free to children, but only when caring adults donate. For \$30 a child, you can sponsor a year of books! For \$150 you can sponsor a child for all 5 years prior to kindergarten!

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library makes it cost effective to sponsor a child, charging just \$2.10 a month per child plus the cost of brochures.

Your gift has a permanent impact on children and meets an important community need. We are proud to reach as many kids as possible by collaborating with organizations including local school districts, hospitals and clinics, ECFE, the Northfield Area Family YMCA, and Rice County Public Health. If you would like a supply of Imagination Library brochures to share with your clients or customers who have an eligible child, please let us know.

[**DONATE NOW.**](#)

Special Thanks to Literacy Champions!

We would especially like to thank grantors who have made Imagination Library possible for children in Rice County:

WINGS (Women in Northfield Giving Support)

Faribault Rotary

Northfield Rotary

Allina Health

Mayo Health System



Secretary's Report

NOVEMBER MINUTES

The Faribault Branch of AAUW held a business meeting November 25, 2024, following the Circus Theme 100th birthday party for May Bottke. It was co-sponsored by AAUW and Delta Kappa Gamma because May is a long-time member of both. Local juggler, Tuney (Steven Wilson), provided the entertainment. The party was held at 2 p.m. at Pleasantview Estates where May lives.

Branch President Mary Niermann could not make the party or meeting because she was ill.

Program V.P./Secretary Pauline Schreiber conducted the meeting. She asked if there were any corrections or additions to either the Secretary's or Treasurer's reports printed in the branch's emailed newsletter. Hearing none, she announced both approved as printed.

AAUW Funds V.P. Liz Hartman asked members which funds they wanted the Branch contribution to go to. There are a number of options this year. In the end, it was decided to designate the \$1,500 donation from the Branch to go to the Greatest Needs Fund. Pat Rice made the motion to do so; JoEllen Schultz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer Karen Rasmussen gave a final report on the Halloween Breakfast Fundraiser. After expenses, the Branch netted \$3,371.72. Members thanked her and Kathy Larson; the co-chairs of the event, for their hard efforts and attention to details that helped make it a great success.

IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Members Pat Rice and Bailey Grubish suggested Faribault AAUW give a donation to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library that provides a book a month to youngsters to inspire them to read. Schreiber suggested that a description of the program be in the December newsletter and members vote on the idea, and amount of donation, at the next business meeting. Members agree to that.

Schreiber passed around a signup sheet for the Monday, Dec. 16 Holiday Party and 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Branch to members. It will be 1 p.m. at the Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviors and the Women of the Cathedral will be providing the meal. The cost is \$15. A Committee of Pauline Schreiber, Liz Hartman, Pat Rice, Kathy Larson and Pat Umbreit are preparing a program to celebration the Branch's 100th Anniversary.

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.