



Faribault Branch Communiqué

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



November ~ 2024

President's Message

Thanks to all of you for your help during the forums and the Halloween breakfast. Wow! We are a great group of women. I have heard many comments on the organization, the welcoming, the costumes, the dedication and the power of our organization. Go girls.

I'm looking forward to our program committee's celebration of our very own May Bottke's 100 year birthday on November 25th. Please note: we will be at Pleasant View Estates, not the Historical society.

Please be thinking about signing up for the celebration of our branch's 100th year in December. Enjoy this month's newsletter.

Mary Niermann-President



Secretary's Report

The Faribault Branch of AAUW met at 5:30 pm Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024 in the Faribault City Hall Public Meeting Room. President Mary Niermann convened the meeting. She first asked if there were any corrections or additions to the September minutes printed in the emailed newsletter. Karen Rasmussen said that the gift card Carmen Tripp received from Kwik Trip to help with the Halloween Breakfast was for \$100 rather than \$50, and a Thrivent gift card was used to pay for the printing of the tickets. Also, the Christmas party is on Monday, Dec. 16 not Nov. 16. With those correc-

tions, Niermann pronounced the minutes approved as printed in the newsletter. The Treasurer's Report was also printed in the newsletter. Hearing no corrections or additions, Niermann pronounced the report approved as printed in the newsletter.

Signature Card Charge

Rasmussen, treasurer, said the signature card on Faribault AAUW's bank account needs to be changed. Former treasurer JoEllen Schultz and former finance officer Julie Olson names need to be taken off and Rasmussen's and President Mary Niermann's names added to replace them. Pauline Schreiber made a motion to approve the signature card change on the bank account. Pat Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Membership

Membership VP Kathy Larson and Treasurer Karen Rasmussen said they are still trying to get dues from a number of last year's members who haven't paid.

Yearbook

Pat Umbreit, Yearbook editor, said that a few changes to the 2024-2025 Yearbook were printed in the October newsletter. If there are additional changes, let her know. She, also, said she has volunteered to host the May 2025 Spring Picnic.

Programs

Program VP Pauline Schreiber said the November program will be a co-celebration of May Bottke's 100th birthday with Delta Kappa Gamma at Pleasant View Estates. Barb Dubbels is working on arrangements for the 2 pm Monday, Nov. 25 party.

The 100th Anniversary of Faribault AAUW will be celebrated at the Christmas Party that is 1 pm Monday, Dec. 16 at the Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour. She asked for volunteers to help her plan the program. Volunteering were Pat Rice, Liz Hartman, Kathy Larson and Pat Umbreit. The Cathedral Church Women will provide a meal for the Christmas Party at \$15 a plate. There will also be a silent auction at the party.

Old Business

Pre-sale tickets for the Halloween Breakfast were available for members to pick up.

Rasmussen asked that members contact her with the number they sold by Oct. 20.

Rasmussen asked members to drop off the money from their pre-sale tickets to Gail Kaderlik at her office at 1st United Bank by noon, October 23. She also passed around the Halloween breakfast volunteer helper signup sheet, again, to fill holes in some assignments.

Adjournment

Mary Lillquist made a motion to adjourn; Karen Rasmussen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Program

The program was the second night of two local candidates' forums organized by AAUW. The mayor candidates' forum was 6:30-7:20 pm In the City Hall Council Chambers. The city council candidates' forum, was 7:30-8:40 p.m. Member Cheryl Freund was the moderator for the night's forums.

Submitted by Secretary Pauline Schreiber



Treasurer's Report

We have a bank balance of \$18,463.75.

This includes dues renewals that have not yet been submitted to National, and we haven't yet settled with the Legion and the SAL. The 990-n postcard has been filed.

Recovering from a brain injury is taking a toll on my time and energy with lots of headaches, OT, PT, and neuro optical appointments, but this week was better

than last.

Karen Rasmussen, Treasurer

Halloween Breakfast Recap by the Numbers:

220 tickets were presale at \$18 for \$3960.

55 tickets were sold at the door for \$1100.

With donations, tips, and selling muffins and milk (\$441), we grossed \$5501.

250 adults (no kids' tickets) were served (about 70 less than the previous two years).

25 people paid \$18 and were no-shows, \$450 for us.

We need to tweak the bill with the Legion....we should net about \$3000.

(Misty is out the whole month of November, so haven't been able to respond to her bill.)

Thanks to all who sold tickets, paid for tickets, Gail for helping to distribute tickets, Barb for the printing of the tickets, all who came to work and those who came to eat, Kathy, Liz and Tom for the signs that were posted that day, Kathy for sharing her Halloween decorations, those who put up flyers, Judy for getting a Thrivent card to pay for muffins, Karen's Thrivent card paid for the placemats, napkins, coffee creamers, and a twiddle-bit of the ticket printing, Carmen who asked for \$100 in product from Kwik Trip and the request was honored so she picked up 61 individually wrapped muffins, 3 gallons of orange juice and 1 gallon of milk, and all those who brought bags of candy.

Karen Rasmussen, Breakfast Co-Chair

Halloween Breakfast Pictures





November's Birthday Luncheon



Membership

Our HALLOWEEN BREAKFAST this year was another chance for everyone to see our AAUW MEMBERS show camaraderie and volunteering while raising funds for the SCHOLARSHIPS we offer Women and Girls.!! Thanks to all of who participated in any way such as : ordering or picking up large muffins, working the day of our breakfast, putting out publicity signs or notices, getting the breakfast tickets made, selling tickets, keeping track of the tickets sold, organizing the breakfast itself, buying juice or milk, cleaning up afterwards and the many other jobs people did. It takes a lot of us members to accomplish another successful scholarship fund raiser! By working together, our Faribault Community can publicly see **our effort and commitment** to help provide SCHOLARSHIPS right here in FARIBAULT!

This is what makes our membership stronger - it follows our MISSION: "To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.. EDUCATION is being emphasized

Please think of asking a family member or friend to join our dedicated AAUW Faribault Branch! Remember sometimes all it takes is asking to make a person welcomed. Tell her about some of the positive projects we do and stress how we enjoy having fun together!

Thank You, Kathy :)

REMEMBER: First time Membership Dues = ONLY \$55.00

For any membership information please contact:

Kathy Larson - Membership Vice-President

(1- 507- 332-2525) kathyhilgerslarson@gmail.com



Legacy Letters

Our Branch Legacy Letter Writers

Celebrating 100 Years in our Faribault AAUW Branch

Legacy Letters

Four members of our Branch, and presenter Margie O'Loughlin, met on October 28, at the Rice County Historical Society, for a workshop on Legacy Letters. Margie explains "legacy writing as "a way to tell a story to someone you care about—and put it in the

form of a letter."

Margie was highly qualified to guide our workshop as she has worked for several Minneapolis and St. Paul community newspapers as a freelance writer and photographer (800+articles published). In addition, she offered creative writing classes to groups of older adults across the Twin Cities for years. Classes include memoir writing, writing from prompts, writing through the decades, and writing through the lens of gratitude."

This workshop was set up after Margie contracted COVID and was unable to speak at our September Branch meeting.

The purpose of the workshop was to reflect upon the upcoming 100th anniversary of our Faribault AAUW Branch and to use some of Margie's questions, below, to write our personal legacy letters to our Branch.

□ How do you see the AAUW making a difference in the lives of women and girls in Faribault?

- How long have you been an AAUW member, and why do you continue?
- Why is it important that this is a women's organization, as opposed to an open community organization?
- What kind of relationships have you formed here?
- How would you describe the Faribault AAUW to a person of a younger generation?
- What contribution would you most like to be remembered for?
- Is there one word you can think of that summarizes the way you feel about your AAUW experiences over the years?

Starting in January, in honor of the 100th year of Faribault AAUW, we would like to

feature a Legacy Letters Column in our newsletter. Each month, members will have an opportunity to submit personal stories , in the form of letters, about experiences and feelings concerning membership in AAUW and our Faribault Branch.

We hope that our December program, a look back on many of the amazing things our Branch has done to lift up the lives of women and girls and our community, will inspire each of you get that legacy letter written and into our newsletter!



Christmas Party

A sign up sheet for Faribault AAUW's Christmas Party and 100th Anniversary Party will be passed around at the November dual celebration of May Bottke's 100th Birthday with Delta Kappa Gamma. The Christmas party is 1pm, Monday, Dec. 16 at the Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour. The cost for the meal, prepared by the Cathedral Church Women, is \$15. You can sign up and pay at the door, or pay on Nov. 25 when you sign up. Use a check or exact cash. There will be an envelope to put the money in.

Thank you,

Pauline Schreiber, Program VP

A Message to all from Kathy Kasten,

First of all, thank you to all the book club members who were able to join together at our home in Northfield on October 17. It was so wonderful to be together with you!

Secondly, I meant to tell you then about a book I have written. It is described as an autobiography but it is not that all-encompassing. I would instead say it includes snippets of my life. ANYHOW, the Northfield Public Library has a copy that is available to the public. If you have interest, you can request it through your local library. Here is the description:

A collection of life stories

Author: Kathleen Ramona Schlappe Kasten

Publication: [Claymont, DE] : Storyworth, [2024]

Physical Description: 387 pages : color illustrations ; 24 cm.

Summary: A collection of stories from the author about growing up and living in Minnesota and Iowa.

Subject: Autobiographies

Kasten, Kathleen Ramona Schlappe

Genre: Autobiographies

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Book Club

Book Club members will carpool to Owatonna High School on Thursday, November 21. We will meet at the Buckham Memorial Library parking lot between 2:30 and 2:45 to plan on arriving at the OHS at 3:15 to meet with Shelly for a tour of the high school. After the tour we will go to Shelly's for the discussion of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt.

Owatonna High School
1455 SE 18th St.

Shelly Rockman
323 Prospect St.

If you wish to skip the tour, meet at Shelly's at 4PM. *Thank you. Barb*

Let's Celebrate 100 Years with May

AAUW and DKG will have a joint meeting at Pleasant View to celebrate May Bottke's 100 birthday at 2pm on Monday, November 25. It will be with a circus themed party. Tuey Wilson will perform for us. Liz Hartman has written a song for all of us to participate in with Diane Larson playing the piano. Circus themed treats will be served

Pat, Kathy and Liz celebrating May's Birthday at the American Legion



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.