



Hastings Branch

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.
November 2011



President's Message

Glenda Schnirring

November marks the beginning of a season for serious thought and reflection.

Writing on Election Day evening prompts me to offer AAUW's sincere congratulations to member Lisa Hedin for her successful bid at winning a seat on the Hastings School Board. Lisa follows a number of AAUW members who have served many terms in this important capacity. We are also grateful for the passage of the levy which had the support of many AAUW members.

Friday, November 11, is Veteran's Day, a day marked by the cessation of World War I on the eleventh hour of the eleventh month in 1918. This war was to be the war to end all wars. We collectively pause to honor, respect, and be thankful for the men and women who have and who continue to protect our freedom through their service to our nation.

Thanksgiving Day, proclaimed by Abraham Lincoln in 1863, is a day of thoughtful reflection on all that we are provided by living under the governance that we're entitled to choose.

Looking at what's new is a research accomplishment released this week by AAUW National called *Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School*. A study of this depth on this issue has not been done in ten years. This tool will provide significant help to middle and high school venues where this issue is affecting student's development and safety.

Lastly I bring our emotions to that of celebration and pride as I announce that November has been declared National AAUW Month across the country. Our founding organization marks its 130th Birthday on November 28th. Through the years women and girls have benefited by being given the right to vote in 1920, the Social Security Act of 1935, Equal Pay Act of 1963, and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In more recent times, Title IX of 1972 gave girls equal opportunity in sports, the Violence Against Women Act in 1994 and the Affordable Care Act of 2010 are but a few legislative laws that have become a part of women's quest to lead and achieve on schedule with their counterparts.

Our Hastings Branch of AAUW is proud to represent the mission of AAUW to its members and to those in the community with whom it connects. Our membership is on a nice continual climb thanks to many of you. This month's program about the Pillsbury's of Minnesota as described by Lori Sturdevent promises to be another stimulating evening. Think about bringing a guest.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all.

November 28

The Pillsburys of Minnesota

Lori Sturdevent, Author

Lori Sturdevent, Star Tribune editorial writer and columnist, is the author of books about Minnesota's heroes and heroines. Her topic for the November 28 meeting will be her latest book, *The Pillsburys of Minnesota*, which she wrote with George S. Pillsbury. Author Sturdevent will tell us about one of Minnesota's most prominent families and its impact on Minnesota history.

Lori will begin speaking at 7:30 p.m. instead of the usual 8:00 p.m.

Copies of her new book will be available for purchase at the meeting.

Upcoming Events

- November 14.....Book Club
- November 28..... **General Meeting**
- December 5.....Book Club
- December 12..... **Holiday Social**
- December 15.....Gad-Abouts

Hastings Branch

2011-2012 Programs

September 26, 6:00 p.m.SALAD SUPPER
Charging the Little Gray Cells
Reading Your Way to Well Being
Dr. Toni McNaron

October 24, 7:00 p.m.
Our Schools~Our Future
Tim Collins, ISD 200 Superintendent
Introduction of
ISD 200 School Board Candidates

November 28, 7:00 p.m.
The Pillsburys of Minnesota
Lori Sturdevent, Author

December 12, 6:30 p.m. .
Holiday Social
Gathering at The Emporium
213 2nd Street E, Hastings

January 23, 6:00 p.m.CHILI SUPPER
An American Judge in Kosovo
From Conciliation Court to War Crimes
Judge Karen Asphaug

February 27, 7:00 p.m..... COMMUNITY INVITED
Understanding Dementia
William Orr, PhD MD & Shelley Wagner RN-BC
Co-sponsored with Regina Medical Center

March 26, 7:00 p.m.
Four Unreasonable Fears
that Hold Women Back
Ember Reichgott Junge
Former MN State Senator

April 23, 6:00 p.m.....SPRING SOCIAL
Improvisation with
Andy and Mandy Langenfeld
Social at Hastings Country Club
2015 Westview Drive, Hastings

May 21, 7:00BOOK SALE!
Entering the Tech Zone: Jobs of the Future
Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Pres. And CEO, MN
High Technology Assoc. MHTA & former Speaker
of the MN House of Representatives

All meetings, except December and April,
will be held at
St. Philip's Lutheran Church
15th Street and Pleasant Drive
Hastings, MN 55033



Annual AAUW Holiday Social

Monday, December 12, 2011

6:30 – 9:00

213 EAST 2ND STREET (Note location!)

The Emporium

Music by *Tom Jung*

Appetizers and Refreshments provided by members

Sign up at November meeting!!!

Please bring unwrapped gifts for women of Lewis House

Shop Historic Hastings and then come and relax with food, wine, and music!

Questions: Contact Carol Hirsche 437-7424, or Diane Saed 437-7192

Membership

Cindy Toppin & Jane Driscoll

Welcome New Members!

We'd like to welcome two new members this month. First we welcome back Vivian Perry. She has been a Hastings area resident for many years and a former school board member. Vivian is a graduate of Kent State University. We also warmly welcome Joann Bergman, a retired teacher from the Chicago area. Mother of Spencer Johnson, Joann has recently moved to Hastings and is a neighbor to the Goderstads. She is a graduate of DePaul and Northwestern Universities.

At last count, our membership is at 97 paid members, and growing! We encourage all members to invite guests to a meeting and encourage them to join our group!

Book Club

Shirley Tammen

Main Street, the classic novel written by Minnesota native Sinclair Lewis will be the Monday, November 14th selection. A young, idealistic city girl meets and marries a country doctor and moves to his small Minnesota town, where she hopes to sophisticate the people living there. Elaine Wilbur will host this meeting. Elaine lives on Ravenna Trail. We will meet at Green Mill parking lot at 6:45 to car-pool.

Infidel by Ayaan Hirsi Ali is the selection for discussion on Monday, December 5. A forthright memoir of a bright young girl growing up amid revolution and religious restraints, Ali, one of Europe's most controversial political figures, narrates her geographical journey from Mogadishu to Kenya and her desperate flight to the Netherlands to escape an arranged marriage. Ramona McCullough will host this December 5 meeting. Those wanting to car-pool should meet at Regina Medical parking lot at 6:45.

Gad-Abouts

Ramona McCullough

The December event for Gad-Abouts is a trip to the Minnesota History Theatre in St. Paul to see *Civil War Christmas* on Thursday, December 15. Lunch after the 10:00 A.M. play will be at the St. Paul Hotel. Plan to meet at 9:00 A.M. at the usual parking on Frontage Road across from Super America. It is still possible to add spaces for interested members. At present there are 25 members planning for this event. Call Ramona McCullough at 437-5227 to join this Christmas event.

The January event will be a trip to the Weisman Museum on the University of Minnesota campus on Wednesday, January 18. A guided tour is arranged for 11:00 a.m.. Lunch will follow. Plan to sign up for this event at the November meeting.

Historian

Trudy Cragg

The young lady who received the AAUW scholarship in 2003... where is she now? KRISTA CRUSE, daughter of AAUW member Susan, received her undergraduate degree in chemistry from Gustavus Adolphus in 2007, where she continued her athletic success as a track star.

She is now at Michigan State six months away from completing a PhD in Nuclear Chemistry which is the study of radioactive elements and nuclei of atoms. MSU houses the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory which is the leading isotope research facility (atom smasher) in the U.S. The impact of nuclear research for daily life has implications in medicine, weapons, and energy. She hopes to continue doing research possibly in one of the 18-20 federal government national laboratories. She was thrilled to be a presenter at a nuclear conference in Brussels, Belgium earlier this year. Krista's husband is also in the PhD program at MSU in electrical engineering.

Community

Margaret Goderstad

The LeDuc Historic Estate Hastings Artists Show and Sale

Just in time for holiday shopping is the Hastings Artist Show and Sale at the LeDuc Historic Estate on November 5-13, 2011, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission to this event is FREE; however, there will not be guided tours of the Estate, but the Museum Shop, which is filled with wonderful books and gift ideas will be open for shopping. More than a dozen talented painters, photographers, carvers, potters, fiber artists, and more are gathered in one place. Come and enjoy this outstanding show.

Victorian Holidays at the LeDuc Historic Estate

During the first two Saturdays and Sundays of December the LeDuc Historic Estate will be open for guided tours from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. each day. The elegantly decorated Victorian house is a "must see" during the holiday season. Regular tour rates apply and an added bonus is that guests will have an opportunity to shop in the Museum Shop. A gourmet Victorian Dinner, complete with entertainment is planned for Sunday, December 4. Please call 651-437-7055 for details or check website: www.dakotahistory.org.

Hastings Public School Foundation

Submitted by Leslie Nielsen

Hastings Public Schools Foundation was launched in 1997 by a group of people who, in their passion for education, believed that given opportunities to be innovative, the teachers in Hastings schools could make their students more successful. The Foundation was formed with two main goals in mind: create a permanent endowment to fund innovative classroom programs and to empower teachers to think outside the box and dare to dream....."What If.....". Through the generosity of donors like you, Hastings parents,

grandparents, businesses, community members and District 200 staff members, the endowment fund is now at 1.25 million dollars.

To date, the Foundation has received grant requests for creative new ideas in teaching totaling approximately \$625,000. We have been able to fund nearly \$400,000 of those requests which have given students incredible opportunities to learn in their classrooms and beyond. We continue to work toward increasing the endowment fund, with a goal of saying 'Yes' to even more teachers and students for many generations to come.

Hastings Public Schools Foundation is also honored to partner with individuals who wish to create opportunities within more defined parameters. For example, we are currently working with a donor who has made a multiple year commitment to fund innovative programs in the District 200 Math and Science departments. Hundreds of students are directly impacted each and every year due to this generosity – but all 5000 of our students are also impacted as their teachers are given opportunities to dream of new ways to explore the mysteries of math and science.

Please do not hesitate to contact either Jean Langlais (651-271-3542) or Leslie Nielsen (651-437-3184) if you have any questions – we are both passionate about the endless possibilities for this foundation and the teachers and students it serves. We would be honored to have you join our efforts in strengthening the endowment fund.

Give to the Max Day – November 16

Submitted by Cindy Toppin

Hastings Family Service is participating in Give to the Max Day which is November 16th. HFS serves one in every eight people in the community. We are now in the midst of the "Bring the Mission Home" capital campaign. A successful campaign will reduce operating expenses, freeing up additional dollars to directly serve local families in crisis. Thanks for your support!

Hastings Reads 2012

Submitted by Shirley Tammen

The Civil War: Why We Remember is the theme chosen for the Hastings Reads 2012. It will be the 150 anniversary of that horrendous time in our US history, hence the focus for 2012's theme. The selections chosen all revolve around the battles fought in that conflict.

Elementary selection: *B is for Battle Cry* by Pat Bauer

Middle grades: *Iron Thunder* by Avi

Teens and adults: *The Widow of the South* by Robert Hicks

Listed below are some of the events being held during the month of February, 2012. AAUW is one of the sponsors of Hastings Reads

- Saturday, February 4. Spenser Johnson, local Civil War historian, will discuss the Civil War and why we remember at the LeDuc Estate at 2 pm.
- Sunday, February 12. A special showing of the movie *Gone with the Wind* will be presented at 1 pm at the Marcus Theater in Hastings.
- Tuesday, February 21. Community will enjoy refreshments while discussing Robert Hicks' *The Widow of the South*. Allan Cotter, librarian and facilitator of the Civil War Book Club will lead the discussion.
- Friday, February 24. Pat Bauer and David Geister, author and illustrators of *B is For Battle Cry*, will share their love of history and literature with families at the Hastings Y. There will be pizza, books and fun for all. Membership to the Y is not necessary. The event will be held from 6-8 pm.
- Sunday, February 26. Families with children grades 2-8 are invited to attend the play, *Almost to Freedom*, at the Steppingstone Theater. Admission is \$12 and can be purchased at Hastings Community Education. The bus will leave at 1:30.
- Wednesday, February 29. Avi, an award-winning author of numerous young-adult books, including *Iron Thunder*, will spend the day at the middle school speaking to all students. In the evening he will read and perform from his books in the middle school auditorium at 6:30 pm.

Brochures and other literature highlighting all of the events will be distributed in January 2012.

Black Dirt Theater

Submitted by Maggie Langenfeld

On November 18-20 at the Hastings Middle School Auditorium, Black Dirt Theater will present, "'Tis a Gift: Stories of Gratitude from Hastings," an original 90-minute play filled with music, art, and theatrical vignettes. Black Dirt Theater has spent the past few months gathering stories from the people of Hastings based on the theme of gratitude.

Performances at the Hastings Middle School Auditorium will be on November 18, 19, and 20. Friday's show will be at 7:00 pm. at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$12.00 for adults, and \$8.00 for children and seniors. Tickets can be purchased at the door, in advance at the YMCA, online by following links on www.blackdirttheater.com, or 1-800-838-3006. Follow Black Dirt Theater on Facebook or Twitter for news and the latest updates on this and other projects.

This exciting project is funded in part, by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008. Black Dirt Theater is a non-profit organization that uses theatre to engage, inspire, and connect people of this area.

Upcoming Interesting Conservations

Inver Hills CC, Fine Arts Room 292

November 17, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Electing Our President: It All Begins in

Iowa Inver Hills President Tim Wynnes, a lifelong student of government and a former Iowa citizen, will share history and his perspective on the role Iowa has played in determining the president of the United States. Local scholars of public policy have been invited to join the conversation.

December 1, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

How Healthy is our Health Care System? Join a diverse panel of health care professionals and advocates, and become more informed citizens to join a public debate that will continue into the 2012 election and beyond.

AAUW Mission Statement

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

AAUW Vision Statement

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

Minnesota State Website

www.aauwmn.org

Treasurers Report

Nancy Kerestes

This past month several bills were paid for visibility and hostess supplies. A \$100 donation was made to the Hastings Public School Foundation in lieu of a speakers' fee in October. Our current checkbook balance is \$4038.30.

AAUW Hastings Branch - General Meeting Minutes October 24, 2011

Glenda Schnirring welcomed members and guests to the evening program and invited everyone to stay for the entire evening. School Board Candidates Russ Rohloff, Lisa Hedin, Dan Greil, Kyle Latch and Vince O'Brien each were granted 3 minutes to address the question: What personal assets and talents and pertinent life experiences would you bring to the District #200 Board of Education, which will make you an effective, contributing school board member? Superintendent Tim Collins then spoke on the Our Schools ~ Our Future, and took numerous questions from the audience.

PRESIDENT: Glenda Schnirring called the business meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. She started the meeting by sharing four items recently highlighted by AAUW nationally. 1. Be attentive that Title 9 regulations can be threatened by budget cutting in education. 2. Legislation to redefine the Federal role in local schools through the No Child Left Behind is currently in committee. 3. The Teacher and First Responder Bill (part of President Obama's Jobs bill) has failed to pass the Senate. Consider discussing this issue with your Senator. 4. Elementary and Secondary Education Anti-Bullying and Anti-Discrimination legislation is being developed by Senator Harkin. This legislation enumerates protected categories – sex, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, and religion

SECRETARY: Lisa Hedin. September business meeting minutes reported in the October TWIG approved.

TREASURER: Nancy Kerestes. Treasure's Report as contained in the October TWIG opened for audit.

MEMBERSHIP: Cindy Toppin and Jane Driscoll. New members and guests at the meeting were introduced.

GAD-ABOUTS: Ramona McCullough and Jeanne Mamer. The December outing is a trip to the History Theater for *A Civil War Christmas*. The show will begin at 10:00 am and lunch at the St Paul grill will follow. Cost is \$22 payable in a check made out to Ramona McCullough

TWIG: Mary Memelink. The November TWIG newsletter will not be distributed until around the 10th because of how late the first Monday of the month falls. There will not be a December TWIG, so any time sensitive articles need to be submitted for the November newsletter.

BOOK CLUB: Shirley Tammen. The next book group will be held on Monday, November 14 at Elaine Wilbur's (17164 Ravenna Trail). Carpools will leave the parking lot behind Green Mill at 6:45 pm. The book being discussed is *Main Street* by Sinclair Lewis. The December book group will be on the fifth at a location to be determined. The book to be discussed is *Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali. Contact Shirley for a copy as two book kits have been checked out from the library.

PUBLIC POLICY: Kay Leadholm. November 8 is Election Day. Contact Kay if you have questions about your polling place. Absentee ballots are available at the School District Office by contacting Deanna Werner. The ballots can be mailed out, or can be completed at the District Office. Absentee balloting closes 24 hours before the election.

LEGAL ADVOCAY FUNDS: Peg Horsch. No report.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: Harvest Haunting will take place at the LeDuc on Saturday, Oct 29 from 5-9 pm. Contact the LeDuc to reserve a space for a cellar tour. Also at the LeDuc between November 5th and 13th there will be an art sale daily from 10-5. Hastings Reads is nearly final, with a theme of the Civil War. All events will take place in February. The 1939 film *Gone with the Wind* will be screened at the Marcus Theater on Sunday, February 12 at 1:00 pm. Diane Saed will be leading a Writer's Workshop (Triple E – Expertise, Enthusiasm, and Encouragement) starting November 3 at the High School. Dr. Mona Roach will be leading a course on December 3 at Caring Hands on Chinese Energy Medicine that you can do for yourself. Give to the Max Day, an online charitable giving day, is November 16. Hastings Public Schools Foundation will have a two for one match that day. A note will be provided in the November TWIG.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Lynn Moratzka. Notice the bookmark available at the table in the entryway containing program information – topics and times – for the entire year. Take one and keep it nearby throughout the year. The tri-fold flyers are for members to share with prospective new members. Take one to share. The November program is Lori Sturdevent talking about the

Pillsburys of Minnesota, the topic of her new book. The Holiday social will be held at the Emporium on December 12.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. There were approximately 80 attendees.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Hedin – Secretary

Hastings AAUW Board Members

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- Gad-Abouts:
[Romona McCullough & Jeanne Mamer](#)
- Garage Sale:
[Pat Powers & Deb Saunders](#)
- School Supply Drive:
[Cathy Sery & Mary Ellen Olson](#)

Newsletter Information

If you wish to submit an article, news item, correction, or want to change the way you are receiving the newsletter, please contact Mary Memelink, Newsletter Editor
: Email: mmealink@aol.com or hastingsaaauw@gmail.com or
Phone: 651.437-8204

