



# Hastings Branch

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



## President's Message

Glenda Schnirring

My message in TWIG is usually written just in time for the editor's deadline. I watch and look in earnest for a take off point that will stick with me and hopefully with you.

Today was a great day for me. I was a guest at a Mayo Foundation luncheon and sat in the audience of Carrie B. Hruska, Ph.D. in Radiologic Physics at Mayo. She's been with Mayo 10 years. Just when I had promised myself I would rest the topic of breast cancer there are two reasons I must share what I heard today and why it makes me so proud.

Dr. Hruska described her research in creating a Molecular Breast Imaging device which is proving to help women with dense breast tissue. You need to ask if you have this condition at your next mammogram. If you do, an MBI follow-up would provide a high energy gamma ray review of the tissue which would provide deeper detecting. Dr. Hruska told me my two undetected lobular tumors would likely have been seen on an MBI. I feel no regret about my outcome because I'm on to treatment and all will be well in time. I'm just happy for those who follow me.

Listening and observing Dr. Hruska today lifted my heart immeasurably because of what this young budding research scientist, who stayed with a STEM study track of science, technology, engineering and math, has and will still accomplish for mankind. It just doesn't get better than that.

Hastings AAUW Branch is on a successful path too as it receives dues from renewing and new members. Our story through programs and advocacy alone sells AAUW as the organization with a heart for knowledge and an extending hand to others to "come along and be inspired with us".

We'll be "in our own kitchen" on October 24, from the standpoint of AAUW's unrelenting interest in education. We'll welcome the men and women who have filed as candidates for the November 8th Hastings School Board election. We will start at 7:00 p.m. with candidates beginning their messages at 7:15 p.m. sharp. Please arrive by 7:00 if you can. Superintendent Collins will be our keynoter at 7:45 which we look forward to with great interest and anticipation. Our business meeting will follow. We're off to a great start, see you October 24.

*October 24*

## Our Schools ~ Our Future

Education in the Hastings School District will be the focus of our meeting on Monday, October 24, at 7:00 p.m. There are four open seats on the District 200 Board of Education with six candidates running for those positions: Jerry Baum, Dan Greil, Lisa Hedin, Kyle Latch, Vince O'Brien, and Russ Rohloff. Since only one candidate, Dan Greil, is an incumbent, a change in membership on the board is guaranteed. This means the November 8 election will be a very important one. We will have a chance to meet the candidates and to hear them speak. Following their presentations, Superintendent Tim Collins will discuss the state of education in District 200—defining the changes and challenges facing our schools. He will then answer questions from the audience.

This meeting will be open to the public, so please invite friends and neighbors who are concerned about quality education.

### Evening Schedule

- 7:00 Social and Refreshments
- 7:15 School Board Candidates
- 7:45 Superintendent Tim Collins
- 8:30 Business Meeting

### Upcoming Events

- October 10 ..... **Book Club**
- October 15 ..... **Gad-Abouts**
- October 24..... **General Meeting**

## 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, 7:00 p.m.  
**Holiday Social**  
Gathering at The Emporium  
213 2nd Street E, Hastings

January 23, 6:00 p.m. .... **CHILI SUPPER**  
**Bosnia**  
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, 7:00 ..... **BOOK 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

## Membership

*Cindy Toppin & Jane Driscoll*

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Welcome New Members!

We would like to welcome nine new members to our thriving organization! First, we welcome Linda Bindman who actually joined us last spring. She has degrees from SUNY at Stony Brook, New York and UW River Falls and is a middle school math teacher here in Hastings. Two of our new members are retired teachers, Joanne Bartron who recently retired from HMS and Susan Maier. I'm sure many of you already know Jan Junkman, a retired RN, who returns to us after a few years' hiatus, and Vivian Perry, a former school board member. Another two members come to us with medical backgrounds. Susan Nelson is a family nurse practitioner with Allina Medical Clinic, and Cindy Wagner is an occupational therapist. Finally, we welcome two Dakota County employees, Andrea White an attorney and Lisa West a Senior Project Manager.

We look forward to getting to know all of you!

## Book Club

*Shirley Tammen*

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*Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese is the chosen book for Monday, October 10. Orphaned at birth by the death of their mother and disappearance of their surgeon father, twin brothers fates are forever entwined as they come of age as Ethiopia hovers on the brink of revolution. Marty Grosenick will host this meeting. Her address is: 2500 Southview Place.

*Main Street*, the classic novel written by Minnesota native Sinclair Lewis will be the Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> 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, so most might like to car-pool. We will meet at Green Mill parking lot at 6:45.

## Gad-Abouts

*Ramona McCullough*

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The first outing of the season for Gad-Abouts is a trip to Celebrate Cannon Falls on Friday, October 14. The trip will include a stop at a potter's studio where you are encouraged to try your hands at the potter's wheel, a Cannon Falls winery for wine tasting, lunch at a local restaurant, and a visit to a farmer's market. Please meet in parking lot between Clancy's and Super America. at 9:15. This is a change from the clipboard. There is still space to attend, so call Jeanne Mamer at 437-2092 if you want to be included. Cost for the day is \$20.00, payable on the day. This includes morning coffee, wine tasting and lunch.

Eight members signed the list for a trip to Chanhassen for Hairspray on Wednesday, November 9. We will leave at 10:00 A.M. for the 11:00 pre-show lunch.

Plans are for a December event to be announced.

## Diversity

*Margaret Cox*

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There is an interesting and funny short video from the Race Bridges website. Storyteller Antonio Rocha from Brazil tells about his experience learning English and some of the confusions that happen when learning a second language!

<http://www.racebridgesforschools.com/videos/?p=508>

## Community

*Margaret Goderstad*

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### More Grave Truths Cemetery Walk

On October 15, beginning at 2:00 p.m., and offered every hour until 8:00 p.m., visitors will be able to take a Lakeside Cemetery Walk where "More Grave Truths" will be explored. Emma LeDuc Claflin, one of the founders of Lakeside Cemetery, will lead a search for her unmarked grave. New information about the LeDuc family and other prominent Hastings families of the time will be revealed. The cost of the tour is \$5.00 and reservations must be made for the hour that visitors wish to attend. Call 651-437-7055 for reservations. Each tour is limited to 15 people and reservations are already filling. Guests should meet at the LeDuc parking lot and

will be shuttled to and from the cemetery. In case of rain, the cemetery walk will be held on October 22. For further information consult [www.dakotahistory.org](http://www.dakotahistory.org).

### Harvest Haunting

On October 29, the ever-popular Harvest Haunting returns to the LeDuc Historic Estate, 1629 Vermillion Street, Hastings from 5-9 p.m. There will be spooky story telling, the readings from Edgar Allan Poe, candlelight walk through the LeDuc cellar and a pumpkin carving contest. Children are invited to bring their already carved pumpkins and enter them in the competition. S'mores ingredients will be offered with marshmallow roasting over an open fire. Treats will be available for young and old alike. Make reservations for the time you wish to take the cellar tour by calling 651-437-7055. Admission cost is \$5.00 per person. Happy Haunting!!

## Garage Sale Thank You!

*Pat Powers & Deb Saunders*

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The BIG SALE happened on September 24th and thanks to all of you it was a very successful day. It was perfect weather and the First Presbyterian Church is a plum site for visibility for the AAUW sale. There were about 50 members who took on responsibility to help advertise, setup, display the goods, work the sale and do the cleanup. And there were lots of members who cleaned out their kitchens, closets, basements and garages and brought in the merchandise for the sale. We also had a very successful bake sale and thank you to all of the bakers. The cakes, cookies, bars and pies all looked very inviting. Thanks also to the members who could not bring goods or participate but made a cash donation. These generous donations brought us to our goal. We have an expectation that all members contribute to the scholarship fund raising. You are still welcome to send a donation.

After the sale, the leftovers were boxed and bagged, and donated to Hastings Family Service, Goodwill, the International Institute and Courage Center. It is an awesome sight to see the bags go to trucks and cars and be delivered and all the infrastructure of the sale come down and move out. The church space was vacuumed and left as it was when we arrived. All done.

The garage sale has many benefits. We raise the funds for the scholarship. We clean out our houses. We provide really great merchandise for the buyers. We donate to multiple charities. But the best thing is the camaraderie of the group working together. Again thank you everyone.

## Treasurers Report

*Nancy Kerestes*

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Currently the garage sale net profit is \$1,961.45. A few more member donations could bring it to our goal of \$2,000.00! A \$100 donation was made to the Hastings Reads program in September. Our current checkbook balance is \$3,800.45.

**AAUW Hastings Branch - General Meeting Minutes**  
**September 26, 2011**

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**PRESIDENT:** Glenda Schnirring called the business meeting to order at 6:55 p.m. She started the meeting by welcoming everyone to the first program of the Hastings AAUW branches 41st year. She also thanked Darla Kimmes for her work organizing the salad supper enjoyed by all prior to the meeting.

**GARAGE SALE:** Deb Saunders and Pat Powers. The garage sale raised over \$2000. Additional income is anticipated from an “invitation-only” baby items sale to be held at Pat’s home. Leftover items were donated to Hastings Family Service, Goodwill, and Courage Center. Many thanks are due to all who helped – donations, set up, sale day, and clean up!

**TREASURER:** Nancy Kerestes. Division of garage sale income was reported - \$580 member cash donations, \$149 bake sale and \$1,471 from sale of donated items.

**SECRETARY:** Lisa Hedin. Minutes from the September business meeting will be available in the October TWIG, which is sent to members electronically.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Cindy Toppin and Jane Driscoll. Glenda thanked all for their membership, and confidently stated that no one would regret their membership in the organization. She also shared how important it is to her personally that this 41-year old organization remains strong and vibrant, and important component is to constantly refresh and build membership. There are 30 AAUW branches in the state of Minnesota and Hastings is very fortunate to have one that is so robust. Five new members, who joined at the meeting, were introduced.

**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 program is developed from ideas provided by the membership, so keep your ideas coming. The program is also aligned with organizational mission of promoting education and equity for women and girls.

**TWIG:** Mary Memelink. The TWIG newsletter is distributed electronically during the first full week of the month. Please let Mary know if you change your email address or do not receive copies of the newsletter.

**GAD-ABOUTS:** Ramona McCullough and Jeanne Mamer. The October event is an outing to Cannon Falls and includes four components – Frog Creek Pottery (demos and hands on: dress to get dirty) coffee and baked goods will be available, Cannon River Winery Tour and Tasting, Main Street Tavern for lunch, and Ferndale Market and Farm Store with cooking demonstrations. The excursion begins at 10:00 am at Frog Creek Pottery and will cost \$20 inclusive. Please bring your fee in small bills so it can easily be distributed to the multiple vendors. A trip to the Chanhassen Dinner Theater on Wednesday, November 16 for \$52 is being considered, but 15 participants are needed. Watch the TWIG for more information.

**BOOK CLUB:** Shirley Tammen. The next book group will be held on Monday, October 19, 7:00 pm at Marty Grosenick’s, 2500 Southview Place. The book being discussed is Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese. The November book will be Main Street by Sinclair Lewis. Book group meets on the second Monday of a month, exclusive of the summer.

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:** Hastings Reads is nearly final, with a theme of the Civil War. The adult and High School Book will be Widow of the South by Robert Hick, the teen book is Iron Thunder by Avi, and the children’s book is B is for Battle Cry by Patricia Bauer and David Geister. The author of the teen book is scheduled to speak to students and the community. Work is being done on a screening at the Hastings Theater of the 1939 film Gone with the Wind. Hastings AAUW Branch has donated \$100 to Hastings Reads. On October 15 at Lakewood Cemetery, there will be a public program, “More Grave Truths” where the LeDucs, their neighbors and contemporaries will speak from the grave.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** Cathy Sery and Mary Ellen Olson. Three hundred fifty seven students from 190 families were provided school supplies through Hastings Family Service. Thanks to all who donated. All these students attend Hastings are schools.

**LEGAL ADVOCAY FUNDS:** Peg Horsch. The branch donates \$1000 to National AAUW for legal advocacy work. On 28 September, Peg will participate in a conference call about those funds. Watch the TWIG for information.

Maggie Langenfeld introduced the first speaker of the 2011-2012 program year, Dr. Toni McNaron speaking about “Charging the Little Gray Cells: Reading Your Way to Well Being”. Dr. McNaron encouraged all attendees to read “hard things” that answer the question “how” and get at language.

Following the speaker Lynn Moratzka instructed members to watch the TWIG for information about upcoming Interesting Conversations hosted by Inver Hills Community College. In addition, in November representatives of the Hastings AAUW Branch will be at Hamline University observing Smart Start, a mentoring program targeting young women at the beginning of their professional lives. Finally, Glenda encouraged all attendees to support the young people in their lives who are starting a new school year, to give them encouragement and an empathetic ear.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. There were approximately 65 attendees.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Hedin – Secretary

**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](http://www.aauwmn.org)

## 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](#)
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## Did you know?



### The AAUW logo was designed to show:

- ◆ **W** stands for Women.
- ◆ Overlapping triangles represented our three corporations, the Association, the Educational Foundation, and the Legal Advocacy Fund; all working interrelated toward equity and education for women and girls.
- ◆ Equidistant lines represent equity.

### *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

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