



Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Fargo-Moorhead (F-M) Branch

President's Comments

FARGO-MOORHEAD AAUW AFFILIATE 2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT

I am proud to have served as your President for the last three years. I am confident we will have an exciting future under the leadership of our new and existing officers. I am pleased that we are involved in Brain STEM activities and I have highlighted some of our programs this year:

January 14: Saturday Brunch 10 a.m.

“Lived Experience of the Women’s Movement in the 1950’s, 60’s & 70’s”

Speaker: Ashley Baggett, Ph.D. NDSU Professor, History Department and students who conducted interviews with F-M AAUW members on their lived experience.

February 13: “Experience of Parents Raising Transgender & Gender Creative Children”

Speaker: Kristen Benson PhD, Human Development & Family Science Department, North Dakota State University (NDSU).

March 13: “Personal Accomplishments as a Female & Ethnic Minority”

Speaker: Ruth Anna Buffalo, MBA and MS, Mandaree, ND, Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation who is Native American and ran for state wide office, Insurance Commissioner in 2016.

F-M AAUW BOOK CLUB - 2016-17

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Moorhead, MN Public Library

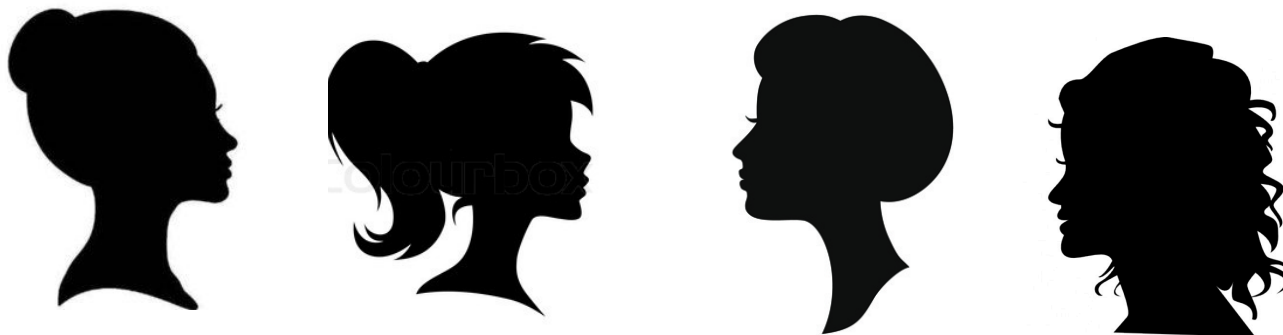
Book Highlights: The Immortal Irishman, Timothy Egan; Notorious RBG (Ruth Bader Ginsburg) Carmin & Kwizhnik.

I am so proud of our Board of Directors and their hard work this year. Also the great Used Book Sale Event last October. I want to mention the future of our organization. We have made an important decision to celebrate our MN-ND border and intentionally focus more clearly on our advantages as a two state Affiliate.

I enjoyed attending the ND State Convention in Wahpeton last month. Alexa went with me to the Reception at the Red Door Gallery and I attended the day long activities the next day at the ND State College of Science. I am impressed with the state leaders we elected and those who are already in existing leadership positions. Our Affiliate received a lot of attention on our Title IX efforts and thanks to our own members who helped to get this information out to the Title IX Directors in ND. The immediate past president, Debbie Alber gave a special presentation. We also had a rich discussion on the importance of our individual participation in the National Election of leaders and policies. We had good attendance and it was great to meet other Affiliate members.

Susan Rae Helgeland
F-M Branch President

2017-2018 BOARD MEMBERS



Have great ideas for the branch?

Want to get involved?

Elections for the 2017-2018 Board will take place at the May meeting. Holding a board position is rewarding and a great way for new members to get involved. If you are interested in a position, please let Liz Cambron know (773) 818-5863 liz.cambron@ndus.edu. All positions will be trained in and are for 2-years.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominees</u>	
President-Elect	Vacant	
Secretary	Amanda Savitt	
Membership Chair	MN Representative: Kathleen Nelson	ND Representative: Rebecca Moore Romaine Kilde

F-M AAUW AFFILIATE BUSINESS AGENDA

May 8, 2017 – 5:30 to 8:00 pm

Moorhead Public Library

AAUW Mission Statement: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Call to Order and Welcome: Susan Rae Helgeland, President

Approval of Agenda - (additions, deletions, changes).

President's Comments: Annual Report – 2016-2017 including the ND State Convention Report. Invitations to Tri-College Leadership Dinner, May 19th 5 pm, and Luncheon at noon of Saturday the 20th at the Comstock Memorial Union at MSUM.

April Affiliate Minutes approved: Secretary Sara Lindberg (as printed).

Financial Report: Finance Officer - Liz Cambron (as printed). Sponsorship of one Tri-College participant announcement.

Continuing Business: Need for Social Media Chair.

New Business: Report from President on ND State Convention; Report on MN State Convention by Kathleen Nelson.; Vote in National AAUW Election (Leaders and Policies). Nominating Committee Report and election of new officers.

Public Policy: Sandy Sidler.

By Laws: Verlaine Gullickson

Book Club: Chair Jan Jackson – Summer Schedule.

Announcements:

Adjourn:

April 10, 2017 AAUW Affiliate Meeting Minutes

Present: 17 Members and guests

President-Elect Alexa Ducioame called the meeting to order. The AAUW mission statement was recited and everyone introduced herself. The agenda was approved.

Alexa passed on President Susan Helgeland's comments, which were an invitation to the annual meeting and potluck on May 8th at the Moorhead Public Library and an acknowledgement of the "Meet a Member" feature appearing in the newsletter.

The March meeting minutes were approved.

Finance Officer Liz Cambron reported the beginning balance in the treasury was \$1174.15 and the ending balance \$804.95. She distributed invoices for next year's dues to members.

Liz announced the Fundraising Committee will begin meeting this summer and encouraged members to offer ideas for events.

Alexa reported that she has signed up F-M AAUW as a volunteer group for the Jeremiah Program but has not been notified of any dates or duties for our services.

Liz stated that the Nominating Committee of herself, Carol Sibley and Juliann Garrett have secured nominations for two Membership Chairs (North Dakota and Minnesota) and Secretary. The position of President-Elect still needs a nominee.

Alexa announced the BrainSTEM event will be held at NDSU on May 16.

Public Policy Chair Sandy Sidler encouraged members to receive the AAUW Washington Update via email. The address to contact is advocacy@AAUW.org.

Sandy also reminded us that April is Sexual Harassment Awareness month.

Announcements: Book Club discussion on April 24, 7 p.m. at the Moorhead Public Library of Indian Bride by Karen Fossum led by Jan Jackson.

Pat Schutt will be attending the AAUW Convention in Washington, D.C., in June, which will include a visit to the ND Congressional Delegation. She asks members to let her know of any comments, questions or issues they would like her to convey.

F-M AAUW member Barbara Sidler is presently at Bethany Homes, 201 S. University Drive, Fargo, recovering from a fall.

The meeting was adjourned.

F-M AAUW Member Evelyn Quiqley presented the program on “Pay Equity.” Evelyn earned a Bachelor’s Degree from Minnesota State University Moorhead and a Master’s Degree from the University of Washington Seattle. She worked in the health profession for 50 years, including at Sanford Health in many capacities such as accountability for operations, patient care services and community engagement. When she was hired as a Vice President in 1988 she was the only female in administration. She began her presentation with a personal story of the casual way she learned she was not being paid as much as her male counterparts, demonstrating the need for transparency in salaries.

The definition of Pay Equity is: A means of eliminating sex and race discrimination in the wage-setting system based on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. In North Dakota, women earn 71 cents for every dollar men are paid, which is 47th in the nation. Minnesota ranks 18th in the U.S. with 81 cents and is one of the best states for equal pay laws. The United States as a whole averages 80 cents and ranks 28th globally among 150 countries. These wage gaps translate into \$10,622 a year or \$431,000 over a woman’s lifetime of lost earnings, having huge ramifications for retirement and longevity. As Evelyn emphasized, “It’s an economic issue!”

AAUW has been working on the pay equity issue since 1913, and Evelyn highlighted some of their excellent tools, including Start Smart, a salary negotiating workshop for new graduates, and Work Smart for promotion and raises in the workplace. A pamphlet, “The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap” has been updated this spring and a Power Point presentation is also available.

Evelyn suggested forming coalitions with other groups to raise awareness of the pay gap and to develop actions to deal with the issue. The following ideas resulted from a discussion led by Evelyn:

Learn more about the recent reinstatement of the ND Commission on the Status of Women and suggest and support appointments to it by the Governor.

Cooperate with Minnesota and learn from their successful efforts such as passage of the Women’s Economic Security Act in 2014.

Use AAUW publications, Power Point presentations and/or workshops in F-M AAUW monthly programs and/or at public meetings.

Invite Human Resources representatives to Affiliate programs.

Educate members about occupational segregation.

Encourage transparency in corporate salaries.

Implement a salary negotiation workshop for prospective college graduates

Track and support the Paycheck Fairness Act, introduced in 2010 and currently under consideration in Congress and state by state.

Evelyn's excellent overview of the issue and spirited call to action are incentives to make Pay Equity a priority for our programs and support in the future.

Sara Lindberg,
Secretary

AAUW Minnesota News

As a Minnesota affiliate member I attended the Minnesota State AAUW Convention on Saturday, April 29th. 27 of the 30 affiliates (branches) in Minnesota were represented so the convention was well attended. I intend to share my experiences from the convention in the next few newsletters.

Minnesota Senator Amy Klobacher was invited to attend the convention but was unable to be in Willmar. She spoke to us via Skype, indicating how much she appreciate hearing from AAUW members from around the state. She started by saying that even though women might be feeling less that hopeful after the last election we need to appreciate the victories. She compared the number of women in the Senate in past years. For instance, in 1999-2000, there were 9 women in the Senate. This session there are 21. Sen. Klobacher spoke about her support for STEM and the belief that we need to continue to advocate to place women in STEM related careers to provide role models for younger girls and women. She is also working on legislation dealing with human trafficking, including the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. The Superbowl is the single largest human trafficking event in the U.S and she believes that the Twin Cities needs to address issues before the event in February.

The morning session consisted of a keynote speaker and business meeting with state board elections and reports. New officers introduced in the Winter Minnesota Pine were formally elected. President, Lisa West from Hastings, V.P. Program, Mary An Lusas-Hoax from Duluth, V.P. Public Policy Jan Carey from Hibbing, Treasurer, Beth Nienow from Rochester and Secretary Truday Severson from Owatonna.

More in upcoming newsletters.

Kathleen Nelson
MN Liason

Meet an F-M AAUW Member

Gini Duval

Gini Duval of Fargo earned a BS degree in Nursing from Northwestern University and an MLA from Moorhead State University. She worked in college health and public health facilities and owned and managed the Food for Thought Bookstore in Fargo before retirement. She participates in the Stephen Ministry at St. John Lutheran Church and likes traveling, gardening and reading. The best book she's read so far this year is A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman.

Gini joined AAUW in Rochester, MN, and has been a member of the F-M Affiliate for about 30 years. She recalls her mother's AAUW interest groups meeting at her house to discuss books, investments and writing. Sometimes they shared their rejection slips but were undaunted. Today Gini believes the most important issue for AAUW to support is public funding exclusively for public education.

The best advice Gini received was from a friend, Ryn Pitts, who counseled her to focus her energy on specific actions. If she were Queen of the World, she would appoint women to deal globally with peace and justice, ecological concerns, the elimination of poverty and a feminist agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AAUW BOOK CLUB

2016-17

All meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Moorhead Public Library

May 22

Book Selection for next year

Meet an F-M Member

In order to get to know our members better, we are excited to highlight our branch members in every newsletter!

Please contact Sara Lindberg to provide your info!
orchella@msn.com

F-M AAUW 2016-17 PROGRAMS & DATES TO REMEMBER

May 8	F-M AAUW Annual Meeting and Potluck, Moorhead Public Library
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The public is welcome to attend our meetings. The format is 5-6 p.m. Social Hour; 6-6:45 p.m. Dinner; 6:45-7:15 Business Meeting; 7:15-8 p.m. Program

Important Dates to Remember

- Membership Renewal by June 30th. Invoices will be given at the April meeting.
- MN State Convention April 28-29

Interested in joining or have an announcement for the newsletter? Contact us!



F-M AAUW ELECTED OFFICERS

Susan Helgeland, President (middle left)
Alexa Ducioame, Vice President (far right)
Sara Lindberg, Secretary (middle right)
Liz Cambron, Treasurer (far left)
Margaret Schneider, Membership Chair (not pictured)

WEB SITES

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