
2017-18 Branch Officers

President:

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Treasurer:

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FALLS NOTES



AAUW-River Falls, WI

Branch Newsletter

Summer 2017

Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 12

We will gather for our meeting at **6:00 PM** for the Pot Luck at the **COMMUNITY ROOM at the First National Bank, 104 E Locust Street, 6:30 PM** for our AAUW business meeting and the program presentation at **7:00 PM**.

*Any person referring a person who actually joins AAUW will be eligible for a **prize drawing** which will be held at the September 12 meeting. **We need you to send the name, e-mail address, snail-mail address, and phone number for any potential member.** We, the Membership Committee, will do the rest -- contacting and inviting them to the Coffee and Scones event and/or to the kick-off meeting on September 12.*

PRESIDENT' S COLUMN

Lorraine Davis, Branch President

I look forward to a productive year as president of the River Falls Branch of AAUW. Programming will revolve around the following theme: "Awareness and Advocacy", a topic well-suited to our unsettling times. Programs have

been have selected to enhance our knowledge of and agency to support the mission of AAUW-- to advance equity for women. We have resources to help us: a strong tradition of branch effectiveness, support of the National and State Organization, commitment of a capable Board of Directors and a talented, caring membership.

Four goals for the branch this year are: develop a process with other community groups to hold all-inclusive candidates forums, promote a viable college chapter of AAUW, and enhance member involvement in the advocacy of AAUW issues with action. The fourth goal is to strengthen ongoing initiatives: the book sale for scholarships, science essay award for middle school students, Girls in Science STEM Conference, and promoting national emphases such as Pay Equity and Title IX.

All of us are busy (even in retirement!)...but we all have skills and expertise that can be put to good use. I want to thank those who have "stepped up" to serve on the Board this year. Two board positions have yet to be filled-- fundraising and communication. Consider these or working on some the shorter-term projects that will be scheduled during the year.

AAUW does good things! It does meaningful work that makes a difference! We need to get that word out about us. This can done by maintaining the strength of our local branch through meaningful activities and your involvement.

SEE YOU AT OUR FIRST MEETING (a potluck, of course) ON SEPTEMBER 12th in the new community room of the FIRST NATIONAL BANK!

Many of our Branch members contribute a great deal to our community. If you know of any members who have been recognized for their achievements, let Magdalena Pala (magdalena.e.pala@uwrf.edu), our secretary, know and she will send a letter of congratulations on behalf of AAUW. Let's celebrate one another.

CARDS FOR SALE



We have reissued notecards recreating the pen and ink drawings of past member, Helen B. Walker.

The new cards are of two of Helen Wyman's flower prints and are packaged in groups of eight.

They are available from Suzanne Hagen for \$10.00.

A great gift!!!! A great support for AAUW efforts!!!!

BOOK SALE NEWS 2016

Jane Matthews

Book sale dates are Thursday, October 12, Friday, October 13 and Saturday, October 14 and Thursday, October 19, Friday, October 20 and Saturday, October 21.

Dick's Market and Family Fresh Market are the two donation sites. Barrels will be out in early September.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Ann Gustafson, Co-Membership VP

Jean Loudon, CO- Membership VP

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

SUMMER – 2017

Way to go AAUW-RF members – we ended the 2016-17 fiscal year with 61 members! It is YOU, the members of our affiliate, who joined, rejoined, and invited others to join us, who were a key to our growth.

The AAUW-River Falls Membership Committee has been meeting throughout the summer to plan for the coming year. This year's committee consists of Ruth Lee, Sue Danielson, Suzanne Hagen, Valerie Malzacher, Jean Loudon, and Ann Gustafson.

We will start the year with a Coffee and Scones event on Saturday, September 9. Invitations are being sent to potential members. This will be an opportunity for individuals who are interested in AAUW to talk with the committee to learn more about who we are and what we do and, if they choose to do so, to join.

However, *we do need your help now!* In AAUW, every member is considered to be a part of the Membership Committee. You are the resource that helps people become interested by bringing them to a meeting or program or by telling them about AAUW's research and projects. Now is the time we are asking you to provide the Membership Committee with names for possible members. **We need you to send the name, e-mail address, snail-mail address, and phone number for any potential member.** We, the Membership Committee, will do the rest -- contacting and inviting them to the Coffee and Scones event and/or to the kick-off meeting on September 12.

Please contact one of the following Committee members with your potential members' names and contact info:

Ruth Lee, ruth.a.lee@icloud.com, Suzie Danielson, suzied40@hotmail.com, or Ann Gustafson, agus_mbrshp@yahoo.com. In order to give the committee enough time to contact potential members, please

send the information by AUGUST 31. *Any person referring a person who actually joins AAUW will be eligible for a prize drawing which will be held at the September 12 meeting.*

PROGRAM NOTES

Elaine Baumann and Faye Perkins, Co-Chairs

September 12 -

We will gather for our meeting at **6:00 PM** for the Pot Luck at the **COMMUNITTEE ROOM at the First National Bank, 104 E Locust Street, 6:30 PM** for our AAUW business meeting and the program presentation at **7:00 PM**.

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Yolanda Dewar, Chair

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Believe it or not, Saudi Arabia was just elected to the U.N. women's rights commission By Amanda Erickson, World Views, 5/3/2017

Saudi Arabia was approved as a member of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women for a four-year term, starting in 2018. Twelve other nations were also selected. Membership is determined by the 54 nations in the U.N. Economic and Social Council. Generally, a vote is not called and countries are approved unanimously.

The United Nations defended the decision, saying in a statement that it works with all member states to advance gender equality and female empowerment. Saudi Arabia's interest in occupying one of the Commission's seats allocated to the Asia-Pacific region is an indication that the country wants to play an active role in the work of this important body.

Macron Pulls 'a Trudeau' and Fills Half his Cabinet with Women, By Jenavieve Hatch, World Post

Recently elected French President Emmanuel Macron has delivered on his promise to take gender equality seriously.

Macron announced that among the members of his 22-person cabinet, 11 of them are women. From his list of 577 new lawmakers' names as candidates for France's upcoming parliamentary elections, 223 of them were women.

Japan's Princess Mako to Give up Royalty for True Love, *News Real Clear Life Staff*

Plans are underway for Princess Mako to become engaged to commoner Kei Komuru, a law firm worker and graduate student, Komuru and the princess, both 25, met five years ago when they were students at the International Christian University in Tokyo. The engagement won't be official until there's a ceremonial exchange of gifts, but the news has sparked fresh concerns about the shrinking size of the imperial family. It currently has 19 members; only three of whom can ascend to the throne: Crown Prince Naruhito, his younger brother Crown Prince Akishino, and Akishino's son, Prince Hisahito.

Sofia Coppola Wins Best Director at Cannes, Becoming Only the Second Woman to do so

Coppola won the Best Director award for *The Beguiled*: she is only the second female director in the festival's 70-year history to win the award. The last time that happened, the award went to Soviet director Yuliya Solntseva for her World War II film *The Story of the Flaming Years*—in 1961. Coppola also has the distinction of being the first woman to win Best Director who attended the festival as a child the year her father's film won the Palme d'Or.

Women Just Made History at the UK Election, 06/09/2017

U.K. Women are enjoying a historic moment in British politics. Voters in the United Kingdom elected a record number of female politicians to office than ever before, but equality in Parliament is still some way off.

Women now represent just over 30 percent of the U.K.'s 650 constituencies.

History made with First Woman to captain Queen's guard, The Telegraph, by Hannah Furness, Royal Correspondent

When Captain Megan Couto calls out her oh-so-familiar drill commands, she will make history. The 24 years old, five foot two-and-a half tall, will become the first woman to command the Queen's Guard in its 180 years at Buckingham Palace.

Captain Couto, who serves with the Second Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (2PPCLI), will be the face of equality in the armed forces: taking on responsibility for the ceremonial Changing of the Guards before any British woman has even been allowed into the infantry.

Israel Freezes Plan for Mixed-Gender Prayer Space at Western Wall, 6/25/2017, by Jeffrey Heller; Editing by Gareth Jones, Reuters

JERUSALEM, - Israel's government formally suspended plans for a mixed-gender prayer space at Jerusalem's Western Wall, bowing to opposition from Orthodox Jewish politicians to reforms at one of Judaism's holiest sites. The wall is officially administered by an ultra-Orthodox rabbi.

All-Girl Robotics Team in Afghanistan Risked Death to Compete in U.S., but were initially denied one-week travel visas to the U.S. WORLD NEWS, 07/01/2017, By Sebastian Murdock

A group of six teenage Afghan girls with a passion for science trekked 500 miles from their home of Herat to the violence plagued capital city of Kabul all with the hope of competing in the U.S.

The girls had hoped to take their robot to the *FIRST Global Challenge*, an international robotics competition happening in Washington, D.C. Initially, their visa request was rejected as President Donald Trump continues his crack down on travel from other Muslim-majority countries to the United States

However, after a backlash, the U.S. State Department allowed entry to the all-girl Robotics Team, and the robot the teens created will get to compete in D.C.

Jordan abolishes 'marry the rapist' loophole, by ALESSANDRA MALDONADO

Jordan's cabinet has repealed a highly contentious clause that allowed rapists to escape persecution. The Jordanian Parliament has voted to abolish a controversial law allowing rapists to evade punishment if they marry their victims, a decision that has bolstered the rights of women in a country that seems to remain wholly discriminatory against women.

This achievement is a result of the concerted effort of the civil society, women's rights and human rights organisations in Jordan," said Salma Nims, secretary-general of the Jordanian National Commission for Women.

8/16/17: Lebanon follows Jordan's steps:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/aug/16/lebanon-axes-law-allowing-rapists-escape-justice-by-marrying-victim>

HUGE GENDER PAY GAP AT BBC. [HuffPost]

In an open letter to the British broadcaster's director, 40 of its top female stars demanded the BBC reduce its gender pay disparity. A report revealed that the network's top-earning female employees were paid significantly less than their male counterparts. The British broadcaster revealed that the top four male hosts on the network make four times as much as the top four female hosts.

Why Afghan women are campaigning for their names to be heard

By Patrick Evans BBC News

In Afghan society it is the custom that women's names should not be uttered publicly. Afghan women are generally only referred to as the mother, daughter or sister of the eldest male in their family. Using the name of a woman is frowned upon and can even be considered an insult. According to a report by Thomson-Reuters,

Afghan law dictates that a mother's name should not be recorded on a birth certificate. A woman's identity is not even mentioned in their funeral, not written on their funeral cards and doesn't appear on their tombstones, they remain unidentified even after death.

But Afghan women's rights activists are seeking change by using social media with a campaign called #Where-IsMyName, which has been used over 1,000 times in the last few days.

Afghan men, who feel embarrassed to mention the name of their wives, have inherited this superstitious tradition from older generations. However, they do not know the reason. They only think it is the way because they have heard so from elders.

Hiding women's name has nothing to do with Islam. Had it been the case, why everyone knows the names of Islam's prophet's wives?

THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT SPONSORS A STEM PROGRAM FOR WOMEN

According to The Hollywood Reporter, the movie “Hidden Figures” is the first to ever inspire a publicly funded exchange program in the history of the U.S. State Department, which is sponsoring a STEM program. Called “HiddenNoMore,” the program will reportedly bring 50 women working in math and science from 50 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America to convene in the United States.

The State Department was inspired to launch the program after nearly 80 embassies across the world requested screenings of “Hidden Figures.” #HiddenNoMore, which will be run through the department’s **International Visitor Leadership Program**, will invite participants to spend three weeks discussing the importance of women in STEM at organizations across America.

Two BokoHaram girls graduate from High school World Post 6/15/17

THANK YOU FROM CVTC AAUW SCHOLARSHIP WINNER KRISTINE BEIL

Dear American Association of University Women,

I want to thank you for choosing me as the 2017 recipient of the American Association of University Women–River Falls scholarship. I am grateful for the opportunities the award will provide me. Receiving this scholarship will help reduce my financial burdens while attending school. Balancing work, kids, and school has been challenging, but is worth the struggles. This fall will be my last semester at Chippewa Valley Technical College for the Human Resources program. I am excited about the career opportunities obtaining my degree will offer.

Once again, thank you for your investment in students like me.

Sincerely,
Kristine Beil

TWELFTH ANNUAL WOMEN IN MATH AND SCIENCE ESSAY CONTEST

All River Falls eighth graders are invited to participate in this annual essay contest. Students are asked to research a woman in a field of math or science who has made a significant contribution in her field. There are written guidelines given to participants to help with the writing of the essay. Essays will be judged by a panel of teachers and awards will be given to winners of \$50.00 each at a presentation in January. This year the contest is listed in the River Falls Community Education booklet along with information going directly to schools. For more information, email Jean Johnson at jeanajohnson@gmail.com.

FINANCE REPORT

Suzanne Hagen, Finance Chair

AAUW-River Falls Finance Report
June 27, 2017

Checking balance 5/20/2017	\$ 4514.62
Receipts:	
Membership Renewals	250.50
Membership Renewals	316.00
Membership Renewals	219.00
General contribution	25.00
Total receipts (5/20/17-6/27/17)	810.50
Disbursements:	
AAUW National – dues	490.00
AAUW WI State – dues	143.00
AAUW Funds contribution	400.00
K. Montgomery - postage	4.05
J. Matthews - flowers	21.10
Total disbursements (5/20/17-6/27/17))	1058.15

Balances 6/27/2017
 Checking: 4266.97
 Savings: 1657.78
 \$ 5924.75

Encumbered funds:

Scholarship fund balance = \$981.77 (reflects balance of payments for 2017 NCCWSL attendee; airfare and expenses)
 LAF = 12.00

Travel
 State = \$1032.60
 National = \$1167.78

Total encumbered funds: \$3182.15
 General operating funds: \$1084.82

Suzanne Hagen
Treasurer

**AAUW-River Falls Finance Report
 July 31, 2017**

Checking balance 6/27/2017	\$ 4266.97
Receipts:	
Membership Renewals	196.00
Membership Renewals	146.00
Natl. Dues Reimbursement	22.00
General contribution	25.00
Total receipts (6/27/17-7/31/17)	364.00

Disbursements:	
AAUW National – dues	147.00
AAUW WI State – dues	52.00
Travel-Matthews	850.00
Travel-Zirbel	850.00
UWRF-Just Local table rent	45.00
<i>Total disbursements (6/27/17-7/31/17))</i>	1944.00

Balances 7/31/2017

Checking: 2686.97
Savings: 1657.78
\$ 4344.75

Encumbered funds:

Scholarship fund balance = \$981.77 (reflects balance of payments for 2017 NCCWSL attendee; airfare and expenses)
LAF = 12.00

Travel
State = \$0 (State balance added to national travel fund at end of fiscal year)
National = \$2200.38 - \$1700 (National travel expense, Matthews & Zirbel) = \$500.38

Total encumbered funds: \$1494.15
General operating funds: \$1192.82

Suzanne Hagen
Treasurer

BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Magdalena Pala, Co-Secretary

Minutes of the RF AAUW Affiliate Executive Board meeting
June 28, 2017

The meeting was called for 1:30 pm by Lorraine Davis at her home.
Present: Lorraine Davis, Ann Gustafson, Suzanne Hagen, Elaine Baumann, Cheryl Maplethorpe, Magdalena Pala.

Discussion involved:

- Future changes to affiliate bylaws
 - Article XII, Section 1 - omit “but not be limited to” in the first line; we should have five standing committees: program, membership, public policy, fundraising, and communication.
 - communication committee would include newsletter, emailing, social media (Facebook, webpage, etc.);
 - fundraising committee would oversee AAUW funds, book sale, fundraising for affiliate needs;
- Combining current Addendum to the Affiliate Bylaws and Policy Sheet
- Form of annual report - a timeline is needed for the next coming person/affiliate president with an overview what worked, what are the issues, what is the calendar, and so.
- Need to define/create job description for each committee. It should facilitate finding committee chair and members. So far the following commitments are in place:
 - Book Sale - Jane Matthews
 - Scholarship, Food Project - Jeanne Zirbel
 - Science Essay - Jean Johnson and Sue Danielson
 - Public Policy - Barb Peterson
 - STEM Project - Rellen Hardke

Hostesses - Ruth Lee

5. Structure of monthly meetings - it was suggested that hostesses greet newcomers, chat with the speaker.

Other topics:

Ann Gustafson talked about work and plans of membership committee.

Lorraine Davis suggested organizing group of young women on campus who signed for e-membership.

Elaine Baumann presented many program suggestions for next (2017/2018) year. On November 14, 2017 we will have presentation by an internee during WWII. Jay Matchett from Our Neighbors Place will be invited. Cynthia Kernahan (Psychology, UWRF) will talk about “Implicit Bias”.

Lorraine Davis presented following ideas to improve candidate forums (or fora)

- tie-up many local organizations (Lion Club, Optimist Club, Chamber of Commerce, AAUW, others)
- plan way ahead to reserve room at City Hall
- involve representative of League of Women Voters (Sandy Linehan).

Suzanne Hagen showed the drawings by Helen Wyman that could be used for fundraising.

It was suggested that we send a card to members celebrating certain milestones (e.g., retirement). It would be secretary’s duty. First missives are to go to Valerie Malzacher and Elaine Baumann.

Next Board meeting will be at Lorraine’s place on Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at 1 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Magdalena Pala

2017-18 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Meetings begin at 6:30 and programs begin at 7:00 at the River Falls Public Library unless otherwise noted.

September 12 - Meet in the COMMUNITTEE ROOM at the First National Bank, 104 E Locust Street, 6:00 Pot Luck Salad Dinner, our business meeting at 6:30 PM, program presentation at 7:00 by Michelle Stage, our NCCWSL delegate.

October 10 – Dr. Cynthia Kernahan - Implicit Bias

BOOK SALE - October, the 12nd through the 14th and the 19th through the 21st

November 14 - we will have presentation by John Suzukida - American Japanese Internment during WWII.

November 12 – Moose Lodge Breakfast Fund raiser

November 14 - John Suzukida - Japanese Citizen Internment Experience

December 12 - Holiday Gathering – Auction Fund Raiser– Susan Hagen’s house, 2464 Golf View Dr., RF

January 13 (Saturday) - STEM Award luncheon – Noon – Women in Science. Location to be determined

February 13 - Jay Matchet - Director, Our Neighbors' Place

March 13 - TBD

March 31 – (Saturday) 2017, Girls in SCIENCE event at UWRF

April 10 – TBD

May 8 – Annual Meeting - installation of new officers and year wrap-up



AAUW's MISSION STATEMENT

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

AAUW's VALUE PROMISE

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

VISION STATEMENT

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.