
2017-18 Branch Officers

President:

Lorraine Davis 715-629-7392
ldavis4762@aol.com

President-Elect

Suzanne Hagen 715-425-1471
Suzanne.hagen.1@gmail.com

Co-Program VP:

Sue Danielson 715-425-9082
suzied40@hotmail.com

Co-Chairs Membership VP:

Suzanne Hagen 715-425-1471
Suzanne.hagen.1@gmail.com

Ruth Lee 715-425-7094
ruth.a.lee@icloud.com

Co-Secretaries:

Maureen Olle-LaJoie 715-222-7384
Maureen.olle-lajoie@uwrf.edu

Magdalena Pala 715-425-2613
Magdalena.e.pala@uwrf.edu

Treasurer:

Tina Kelly 715-307-4120
tk36698@gmail.com

PROGAM LEADERS

Public Policy Chair:

Barbara Peterson 715-425-5638
lbpeters@dishup.us

International Rel.:

Yolanda Dewar 651-459-3843
yolandadewar@gmail.com

Historian:

Jeanne Zirbel 715-425-2669
jeanne.zirbel@gmail.com

Newsletter:

Cheryl Maplethorpe 715-307-8036
cheryl.kay.maplethorpe@gmail.com

Book Sale Chairs:

Jane Matthews 715-425-2442
jjmatthews@Baldwin-telecom.net

Science Essay Contest:

Jean Johnson 715-425-7826
jeanjohnson@gmail.com

Sue Danielson 715-425-9082
suzied40@hotmail.com

Jeanne Zirbel 715-425-2669
jeanne.zirbel@gmail.com

University Liaison:

Maureen Olle-LaJoie 715-222-7384
Maureen.olle-lajoie@uwrf.edu

Scholarship:

Jeanne Zirbel 715-425-2669
jeanne.zirbel@gmail.com

FALLS NOTES



AAUW-River Falls, WI

Branch Newsletter

aauwrf@gmail.com

April 2019

Next regular meeting will be May 14 at Suzanne Hagan's House, 2464 Golf View Dr. in River Falls.

Wine tasting is 5 – 6:30. A \$10 donation per person is requested which will go to the AAUW Branch operating budget. If you did not sign up at the April 9 meeting, give Susanne a call (715-425-1471) or email her at Suzanne.hagen.1@gmail.com to let her know you are coming or just show up. She says she will not run out of wine.

PLEASE BRING A FRIEND TO THE WINE TASTING!

The **Potluck dinner** will start at 6:30. Beverages and a sandwich bar (bread and cold cuts) will be provided.

The meeting will start at 7 p.m.

Invite potential new members.

PRESIDENT' S COLUMN

Lorraine Davis, Branch President

This marks the last newsletter of my presidency. I have enjoyed the position because it has given me a greater appreciation of the mission and power of AAUW as a local and national organization. We have accomplished a great deal. The many things undertaken by River Falls Branch have been accomplished through the hard work of the Board and other volunteers. Programming, fundraising, and new and continuing endeavors have been impressive. So many of you have helped with tasks, both large and small. Thank you.

I have been impressed by the national's willingness to divert funds from administration by downsizing and altering delivery in order to maintain its viability in this era of change. Information and programmatic distribution systems are undergoing dramatic reorganization. A na-

tional convention is no longer a “given” because the last two have operated with significant losses. Instead, funds will be used to develop extensive virtual programming and convening to engage more members. The national is going to support the mission of gender equity by helping local branches and states thrive and network. It will focus resources on court cases, research and efforts to promote voting and other civic participation.

This year I again had the opportunity to be involved in the 4th annual Girls in SCIENCE event held Saturday on campus provided youth in grades 3-9 with hands-on science experiments as they worked with UWRF students, faculty, scientists, and researchers. Over 130 students attended the STEM program. Branch members provided lunch for presenters. Special thanks to Elise Nooney, JoAnn Prout, Yolanda Dewar, Gretchen Toman, Karen Brohaugh, Teresa Jonas, Susan Koosmann, and Ruth Lee who contributed to the feast, so enjoyed by those who partook. Thank you, JoAnn for staying with me to host.

Professor Rellen Hardtke was amazing in her organization of the event.

This year 19 scholarships totaling \$523 were awarded--monies provided by Allina Health and St Croix Valley Foundation.

As many of you know, I have been promoting a community celebration of the 100th year since the Ratification of the 19th Amendment (Woman's Suffrage) on June 10th, 1919. A committee has been formed to that end. Members of AAUW, Tuesday Club, UWRF, RF Public Library, Pierce County Historical Society, and River Falls Historic Preservation Committee are all involved.

Thus far the mayor will proclaim June 10th Ratification Day in River Falls. A speaker will highlight events leading to ratification on June 19 at the River Falls Public Library as part of the community event. Activities will be occurring throughout the year in town and at UWRF acknowledging the year long struggle to make it a part of the Constitution—August 18th, 1920.

You can help by combing through your possessions to see if you have any artifacts or ephemera from that period (1900-1919). Please let me know if you have any.

Look for more information as the date approaches.

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE - Kendra Morgan will be the new administrator for our AAUW branch Facebook Page. We had some difficulties with our old page so the best solution was to create a new page with the URL: <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.RiverFalls> . Please **"like it."** by clicking at the top left side under the title. Also, if you have any events or information which are relevant please send your postings to moke1202@outlook.com. Thank you, Kendra, for assuming this responsibility.

Also, we continue to work on making our Facebook page effective and for that we need everyone's support. If you have things to share, contact Kendra Morgan moke1202@outlook.com

We also must prepare for the May meeting at Suzanne Hagen's home, 2464 Golf View Drive, River Falls. That **May 14** meeting has **TWO Events** for the Program Year Finale!



Wine Tasting – 5:00 p.m.

Our May meeting will be a **POTLUCK SUPPER** beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14 at Suzanne Hagen's. **Please bring an appetizer, salad or dessert/fruit.** A sandwich bar will be provided. As always, there is no monetary donation to this event.

Again this year there will be an informal **WINE TASTING** beginning at 5:00 p.m., also at Suzanne Hagen's. Learn a little about wine & exercise your nose, eyes & palate! Guests are welcome. (It has been a popular event and usually garners some

new members for us! \$10 donation to AAUW per person is requested. All donations go to our branch treasury.



If you plan to attend the wine tasting and do not sign up at the April 9 meeting, please RSVP to Suzanne by May 5 (715-425-1471 or suzanne.hagen.1@gmail.com)

RIVER FALLS BRANCH MEETING MINUTES – April 9, 2019

Maureen Olle-LaJoie and Magdalena Pala, Co-Secretaries

At RF Public Library - April 9, 2019

Lorraine Davis called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

She introduced recipient of Outstanding Western Wisconsin Woman award Mary Conroy-Johnson.

The minutes from the March meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

The treasurer's report was approved as published in the newsletter.

President's Reports

Lorraine reminded us how important it is to get acquainted with the AAUW Work Smart on line program. The election of National Officers and approval of changes to policy statements are approaching. Lorraine encouraged us to look up those changes.

Committee for Celebration of Ratification of 19th Amendment by Wisconsin includes River Falls Public Library, UWRF Library and University Archives, and the Tuesday Club. There will be a city-wide celebration in June. Since the amendment didn't go into effect until August 1920, the UWRF Library and University Archives are looking at having displays and possible events during the school year as well.

Girls in SCIENCE is this Saturday, April 13th. The section for younger children is full and closed; the middle school section still has openings available.

The state convention is on April 26th and 27th. Suzanne Hagen is attending.

Leadership Symposium on UWRF campus was canceled due to low enrolment.

Committee Reports

Sue Danielson described the May meeting. It will take place at Suzanne Hagen's place and will start with wine tasting from 5-6:15 pm. The pot-luck and installation of officers will follow. A \$10 contribution is suggested. Funds raised by the wine tasting will go to the general fund of the Branch.

Sue also called for any programming ideas (speakers, topics, focus, etc.).

On April 15, from 10 am till 5 pm, there will be a meeting of Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee in the Riverview Ballroom in the University Center at UWRF. Everybody can register for a 2-minute time slot to talk. There will be free parking in Lot Pay 1, near North Hall. Written testimonies are also accepted electronically via e-mail at BudgetComments@legis.wisconsin.gov.

Ruth Lee thanked the people who planned and worked on Pay Equity Day. Ruth and Kendra Morgan ordered AAUW t-shirts to wear for the event on campus. The few left were made available for purchase at the meeting and orders for more were taken. If you would like an AAUW t-shirt, contact Kendra.

Old Business

Ethel Johnson Memorial Fund – ideas for raising money are needed. Jean Johnson has an article about the fund ready for submission to the paper.

New Business

Election of Officers - the following slate of candidates was approved (Kay Montgomery/Faye Perkins): Kendra Morgan for VP of Membership and Gretchen Toman for secretary.

Lorraine Davis encouraged members of the Branch to help new President (Suzanne Hagen) and many new officers in the upcoming year.

Announcements

Kay Montgomery informed the attendees about a commuter train initiative. The train would connect St. Paul and Eau Claire. The meeting is scheduled for April 24 at 7 pm in the River Falls Public Library. On April 13 the new softball field will be dedicated to Faye Perkins. The celebration will take place at 12:30pm in the Page Arena due to inclement weather predictions.

On April 26 the Rotary Club has its anniversary dinner at the Kilkarney. Kendra has tickets for sale. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

After short break, Mary Conroy-Johnson received award and certificate of recognition as a Role Model for Equity.

The presentation by Agnes Ring, Executive Director of the Family Resource Center of St. Croix Valley followed.

Next meeting is on May 14, 2019 at 5:00 pm at 2464 Golf View Drive, River Falls.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Magdalena Pala and Maureen Olle-LaJoie, Co-Secretaries.

Girls in SCIENCE event offers hands-on experiences



The 4th annual Girls in SCIENCE event held Saturday on campus provided over 130 youth in grades 3-9 with hands-on science experiments as they worked with UWRF students, faculty, scientists, and researchers. The program was supported by UWRF, AAUW, Allina Health, St Croix Valley Foundation, Fox Den Used Books, Family Fresh, River Falls School District, WESTconsin Credit Union, Best Maid, Bruesewitz Graphics among others. Photo by Pat Deninger, UCM staff.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES - Suzanne Hagen, Vice-President Membership

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2019-20

IT'S TIME -- to renew your membership in our River Falls' AAUW branch for 2019-20. As a member this past year, you know of our many accomplishments.

Please renew your membership if you have not already, at our **May 14 meeting** to keep our branch strong and vibrant.

Membership dues are:

\$59.00 – national dues (\$56 of which are tax deductible)

\$13.00 – state dues

\$11.00 – branch dues

\$83.00 - Total

If you are a renewing Life Member and do not pay national dues, your dues total is \$24.00.

For those of you paying by check, make check payable to AAUW-RF and give or mail to:

Tina Kelly
AAUW
W9908 State Road 35
Hager City, WI 54014-8343

FOR THOSE WHO PREFER TO PAY ONLINE, the membership renewal process has changed. It is explained in the renewal message sent to you in early May. You no longer will access the AAUW website.

You only need to click the highlighted link in the email to renew. **Going to the website and logging in is no longer required. Just click and renew.**

If you have not renewed by May 15, you will receive the email from AAUW national with updated and streamlined instructions for e-renewal. And, of course, you can renew by check to Tina through June 15.

Thank you for your commitment to our organization. Here's to another successful year in improving the lives of girls and women nationally and worldwide that your membership dues and our fundraising efforts make possible.

Thank you,

Tina Kelly. Treasurer
tk36698@gmail.com

FINANCE REPORT

Tina Kelly, Finance Chair

AAUW-River Falls Finance Report - April 25, 2019

Checking balance 3/28/2019	\$ 5894.32
Receipts Dues	\$83
<i>Total receipts (3/28/19 – 4/25/19)</i>	\$ 83
Disbursements None	\$ 0
<i>Total disbursements (3/28/2019 – 4/25/2019)</i>	\$ 0

Balances 4/25/2019

Checking: 5977.32

Savings: 2519.71

Total \$ 8597.03

Notes:

Savings total includes \$860 for Ethel Johnson Memorial Fund

Pictures of awards given:



Agnes Ring, executive director of the Family Resource Center of St Croix Valley, provided an overview of the services of this non-profit whose mission is to strengthen children, families and communities by offering comprehensive support to families.

Our branch awarded two 2019 Role Model for Equity Award



Dr. Stacy Johnson
River Falls School Board President



Mary Conroy-Johnson
One of the founders of the free clinic

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](mailto:magdalenae.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!!!!

ETHEL JOHNSON MEMORIAL

Submitted by Jean Johnson, Committee Chair of **The Ethel Johnson Memorial Fund**

The Ethel Johnson Memorial honors a woman dedicated to learning. AAUW wishes to remember Ethel for her many roles of service to our organization and the community. Her life is an example of what education and a spirit of giving can inspire in all of us. The fund will be used for grants that promote literacy, such as books for the food shelf or the public school back pack program. By sustaining this memorial, AAUW continues the values by which Ethel lived as a teacher, mentor, traveler, and friend.

Please send your monetary support to Tina Kelly, W9908 State Rd 35. Hager City WI 54014 or donate at our monthly AAUW meetings.

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Yolanda Dewar, Chair

A Liberal Thaw in Eastern Europe

“Anti-populist reformer Zuzana Caputova has offered a “ray of hope” for liberalism in Eastern Europe”, the *Financial Times* writes, after the anti-corruption lawyer won Slovakia’s presidency with 58% of the vote in a runoff. She’ll become the country’s first female president.

Her “values could not be more antithetical to those of populist strong men in power elsewhere in the region”, the *FT* writes. Her social politics cut against the grain, too. She supports gay marriage and abortion rights at a time when Europe sees a sharp cultural divide across the former iron curtain.

Britain is in the Midst of a Victorian-style Statue Mania, From The Economist

For years Victorian Britons built statues and monuments to national heroes. As American cities pull down statues, usually of Confederate leaders, British cities are quietly putting statues up. The past seven months, have seen new statues of Emily Wilding Davison, Annie Kenney, and Emmeline Pankhurst, all British political activists and members of the British suffragette movement, have been erected.

Bronzes of Margaret Thatcher and comedian Victoria Wood will go up soon. Why is this old art form so in demand? One answer is that the British are rushing to redress the imbalance: “there is an appetite for rectifying the lack of women”, observes Hazel Reeves, who created the statue of Emmeline Pankhurst in Manchester. Ms. Reeves has also been commissioned to make one of Mary Anning, a paleontologist denied her due by Victorian men, to be erected in her home in Dorset.

Human Rights Lawyer, Amal Clooney, fights for ISIS Sexual Violence Survivors, From British Vogue and The Huffington Post

The activist and Human Rights lawyer **Amal Clooney**, delivered a passionate speech on preventing **sexual violence** being used as a weapon of war at a UN meeting in New York on April 23. Clooney challenged the UN members to vote in favour of a resolution against **sexual violence** in conflict as America tried to veto the measure. The Human Rights lawyer demanded justice for victims of an “epidemic of sexual violence” in conflicts, especially rapes and other abuses perpetrated by Islamic State extremists in Iraq and Syria.

The rights activist told the Security Council that if the U.N.’s most powerful body cannot prevent the prevalence of sexual violence in wars all over the world, “then at least it must punish it” and make justice a priority. Clooney, who was representing Yazidi survivors (an ethnic Kurdish group) of sexual violence, sat next to human rights activist Nadia Murad Basee Taha. Murad, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, was raped and tortured by members of ISIS and her family were murdered. “This is your Nuremberg moment. Justice isn't inevitable. It doesn't just happen. And it doesn't stand a chance if people in power, including those at this table, don't make it a priority,” Clooney said, urging the members to vote in favour.

Unfortunately, the resolution adopted by the council after they spoke was watered down to win approval, and, while it made some advances, it failed to take the significant actions they urged. The resolution eliminated long-used language on providing “sexual and reproductive health care” to survivors of rape and abuse, “to avert a veto from the Trump administration”. It also eliminated a

positive reference to the International Criminal Court's work in prosecuting alleged perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict.

French Ambassador Francois Delattre told the council after the vote, that eliminating the reference to sexual and reproductive health of victims of sexual violence "is unacceptable and undermines the dignity of women."

Taiwan's President challenged, From The Economist

Tsai Ing-wen, Taiwan's president, was challenged for her party's nomination in next year's presidential election by Lai Ching-te, a former prime minister. No sitting president has faced a primary before.

Finland to hold Elections

Finland looks like a good summation of today's contradictory politics: In recently held elections, the country's far-right party (which has turned even more nationalistic), surged down the stretch and showed populism is alive and well, The Economist writes. At the same time, the country moved left, as Social Democrats vaulted over centrists to soon form a coalition government, and "**women will now hold more seats in Parliament than at any point in history**", the Atlantic Council's Leo Michel notes.

If those colliding trends sound familiar, there's one notable difference: In Finland, politics are not a "blood sport", Michel writes, and the election proceeded in a respectful tone. Despite the same tectonic shifts seen elsewhere, it's a country where "the art of compromise is still practiced."

Afghan Female Musicians push back against the Taliban, By Eltaf Najafizada, Bloomberg News (via Mpls Star/Tribune)

Fresh from a sold-out concert tour of the U.K. and Sweden, Afghanistan's first female conductor is convinced music can help deliver peace to her war-torn country.

At just 22, Negin Khpelwak has already stared down threats and intimidation from her conservative relatives, who wished she would take on any career but music. Now, like many other of her fellow citizens, she is watching peace talks between the U.S. and the Taliban with growing alarm.

"We can bring freedom, peace, and honor to Afghanistan", said Khpelwak, who leads the country's first all-female Zohra Orchestra, which played classical Western and Afghan music at the World Economic Forum in Davos. "Women can't go back to the dark days-they can break our instruments, they can ban music, but they will never take it from our hearts."

Women have won hard-fought gains in politics, business and education since 2001 pushing back against the country's male-dominated society. Now, Khpelwak is at the Afghanistan National Institute of Music, and that world is alien to her. "Music is part of our life and music is our passion", she said.

- Did you Know?-, from Graduate Women International (GWI)

The 1924 Conference in Christiania (now Oslo), Norway, was very special for a variety of reasons. One being that at this Conference the Fellowships Fund was created. It was the custom for Norwegian students to reunite on the 25th and 50th anniversaries of the day they entered university. In 1913, a group of old men gathered in Christiania for their jubilee. Incredibly, they decided to fund a research fellowship for a woman. The war interfered with this at first, but the money remained intact. One of the men, father of a Norwegian International Federation of University Women (IFUW)- now **Graduate Women International**-member, contacted his fellow students and together they agreed to donate the money to the then newly formed IFUW Fellowships Fund.

Honoring a Trailblazing Physicist, From Graduate Women International

On April 5, 2019, Google Doodle celebrated Hedwig Kohn, who received a rare teaching position in 1930 with the help of the International Federation of University Women, now GWI. Kohn was a trailblazing physicist who defeated stereotypes many had of women in STEM. She became one of only three women who earned habilitation- the qualification for university teaching in Germany- prior to the Second World War. Kohn left an unforgettable mark on the Physics world, having successfully produced 20 scientific publications on radiometry and flame spectroscopy, and contributed several hundred pages to the Physics textbooks that would be used by the next generations of scientists.

Movie Recommendation, from Yolanda Dewar

As AAUW members, always interested in **education**, I recommend watching the following movie we got via Netflix; *“On the Way to School”* (subtitled), where they show children from different parts of the world going daily through hours-long walks, or on horseback, to reach far away schools. For some, the distance is so far, that they need to be in boarding schools for weeks or months at a time. Neither their families or children mind the arduous walks and rides because they are committed to be educated and reach their goals.

Other Information and Events

April 23 2019, World Book and Copyright Day (Global)

May 28, 2019, Menstrual Hygiene day (Global)

June 12, 2019, World Day against Child Labour (Global)

June 20, 2019, World Refugee Day (Global)

June 23, 2019, International Widows Day (Global)

River Falls Branch: 2018-19 CALENDAR OF EVENTS – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Monthly meetings are usually the second Tuesday of each month September to May with business meetings at 6:30 and programs open to the public at 7:00 at the River Falls Public Library. Exceptions are noted.

September 5 – City Sampler at UWRF, 11-1 pm

September 11 - Regular Meeting: COMMUNITY ROOM at the First National Bank, 104 E Locust Street, **6:00** Pot Luck Dinner, our business meeting at **6:30 PM**, program presentation at **7:00** by our NCCWSL delegates, Jillisa Solberg and Temitope Abiodun

Early September – Book donation barrels placed in Family Fresh, Dick's Grocery store and County Market in Hudson.

October 6 - Sorting of book donations, 9-noon - place TBD

October 29 (Monday) – Regular Meeting: 6:00 promptly at the River Falls Library. 6:30– Presentation by Craig Dudenick about Alice Tregay, unsung heroine of the Civil Rights Movement. Film and Discussion.

October 11 - BOOK SALE - October 11, 12, 13 and October 17, 18, 19, **109 North Main Street, River Falls**

November 6 – Election Day

November 11 – Sunday Moose Lodge Breakfast Fund raiser

November 13 - Regular Meeting: Speaker, Madeline Urameck, Wisconsin Educator and author of How to Make a Life about her friendship with a Tibetan family.

December 7 – Deadline for Middle School Science Essay contest

December 11 - Regular Meeting and Holiday Auction at Suzanne Hagen's House, 2464 Golf View Dr. Bring a meatless appetizer or cookies to share. Starts at 6:30.

January 26, 2018 (Saturday 1 p.m.) – Regular meeting and STEM presentation with Science and Math Essay Awards at the River Falls Library. Katharine Hagen will be speaking about her career in biochemistry.

February 12 - Regular Meeting at 5:01 at Junior's (to take advantage of HAPPY HOUR). Grace Coggio and Krista Cleary will help us learn about Radical Civility.

March 12 - Regular Meeting and Women's History Month presentation in conjunction with the River Falls Public Library. There will also be a presentation of the Role Equity Award. Ruth Bader Ginsberg film to be shown and discussed

April 2 - Equal Pay Day

April 9 – Annual Meeting, Election of Officers, Program is a presentation by Agnes Ring, Executive Director of the Family Resource Center of St. Croix Valley.

April 13– 2019 STEM Girls in SCIENCE

April 26-27 - State AAUW Convention in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

May 14 – Installation and Celebration 5:00 Wine Tasting Fund Raiser, 6:30 Pot Luck Dinner at Suzanne Hagen's House, 2464 Golf View Dr. with a 5 - 6:30 wine tasting for those who would like to participant.

June 10 – 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment by Wisconsin



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.