
2019-20 Branch Officers

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FALLS NOTES



AAUW-River Falls, WI

aauwrf@gmail.com

Branch Newsletter:

January 2020

Next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 11

The February Meeting will be held at Food Pantry

What a great opportunity to see the new River Falls Food Pantry! Our business meeting will be at 6:30 and at 7:00, Candace will give us a tour and update us on the great work of this terrific community organization. Please bring an offering for the pantry, either a food item or a donation to help the ongoing work of the pantry. The address is 705 St. Croix St. and is just behind the American Legion. There is plenty of parking and visitors are welcome.

Guests are welcome.

PLEASE BRING A FRIEND

PRESIDENT' S COLUMN

Suzanne Hagen, Branch President

A Leadership Invitation. When I was a graduate student (many years ago), Marie, a friend and fellow student, was researching women's leadership and communication. She described our leadership style as "prepping a meal in a farm wife's kitchen." That phrase today is heavy with sexism and a narrow, stereotypical view of women farmers' work. However, the image is instructive: everyone steps up, pitches in, brings her resources (hot dish, then and now), serves a great meal and then tidies up the aftermath. This captures, I think, women's collegial, shared, participatory leadership approach in contrast to men's characteristically hierarchical, often top-down style.

All of us bring great leadership resources to our branch; we see that in our many successful initiatives throughout the year. To keep growing our leadership capacities, I ask you to do two things in the next month. **First please check out the winter issue** of [Badger Briefs](#), the AAUW-Wisconsin newsletter. (*Briefs* is no longer mailed in hard copy form. If you didn't receive a link to this in previous email from AAUW national, please let me know.) Important *Briefs* segments include:

- National AAUW priorities & events, including celebrations of the 100th anniversary of Women's Suffrage and the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act
- Upcoming leadership webinars on Jan. 28 (AAUW election priorities) and Feb. 14 (stories of individual AAUW members) – accessible to all through the national [AAUW website](#)
- Announcements of our state convention, LaCrosse, WI April 17-18 and a first-time Regional Convention, E. Moline, Illinois, June 18-20.
- Reflections on developing one's leadership capacity

Second, please assist, respond, volunteer and engage as we form a nominating committee and develop a slate of potential branch officers for 2020-2022. At our April annual meeting we will be filling the positions of President Elect (assumes President's Office July 1, 2021), Finance VP (i.e., Treasurer), and Program VP. Pooling our branch's great leadership capacities always moves us closer to the goal: equity for women and girls!

A Thank You from Ann Gustafson:

Dear Members of AAUW-River Falls,

Thank you for honoring Bob by the donation to AAUW. He became a part of AAUW when I joined. When AAUW welcomed men as members he was one of the first to join our branch and became active. He enjoyed his role as auctioneer at the annual Christmas auction.

Our sons and I are deeply honored by this donation.

Thank you!

Ann Gustafson, Todd, Brent, and Kyle.

District IV Meeting Update, Nov. 16, LaCrosse, WI.

The recent District meeting focused primarily on planning for the **April 17-18, 2020 AAUW-WI convention** at the LaCrosse Radisson. Our planning committee representatives are Sue Danielson, Ann Gustafson, Maureen Olie-LaJoie and Barbara Peterson.

The convention theme is "Reflect on the Past, Prepare for the Future". Several good topics and speakers are being firmed up. We also had a tour of the Radisson facilities which seem to be excellent and should serve us well. It's great to have the convention only a two hour drive away!

Please put it on your calendars and plan to attend **April 17-18, 2020**. Our travel fund will provide reimbursement for lodging, convention registration, mileage and convention-sponsored meals.

The meeting also included an overview of national AAUW's 5 Star Branch Program which we've agreed to pursue. This program recognizes outstanding AAUW branches. We have already met several benchmarks for this designation.

Suzanne Hagen and Ann Gustafson will keep you updated on the 5 Star Branch Program efforts.

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE - Kendra Morgan is the administrator for our AAUW branch Facebook Page. Our new page has 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

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS:

Magdalena Pala: Email – palaatuwrf@yahoo.com

Gay Ward: Address – 1820 River Ridge Road, #7, Hudson, WI 54016

RIVER FALLS BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Gretchen Toman, Secretary

AAUW MEETING JAN 25, 2020

Called to order at 1:05

Welcome new member Karla Thoennes (UWRF Director of Residence Life) and visitor Arianna

Secretary's report – Minutes of the Dec. 10, 2019 meeting to be approved at the Feb. meeting
Finance Report Dec. 31st totals.

President's Report – Suzanne encouraged us to look at the Badger Briefs, now sent via e-mail, as it is full of good information. If you did NOT receive this, let Suzanne know.

Committee Reports

*NCCWSL for 2020 - applications for scholarship deadline is end of January

*Role Model Award – Elaine Baumann heads this and welcomes applications through 1/27

*STEM program will be April 18 - We will provide up to \$500. scholarship money for those who couldn't otherwise afford to attend. Registration fee is \$11.00 plus another \$11.00 for t-shirt. Yes, boys are allowed to attend!

Motions were put forth, voted on and approved:

- 1) to using our own \$500.00 for the STEM scholarships and
- 2) to maintain a \$500. Minimum in our encumbered scholarship fund.

* Ann G. explained the AAUW Legacy Circle, those who have planned a bequest to AAUW from their estates upon their death, either in a named percentage of the estate or a fixed sum. We currently have 3 members participating. Ann presented Kay Montgomery an AAUW tote for being one of the members. Jeanne Zirbel is the other.

*State Convention in LaCrosse planning – Ann & Suzie went in Dec. Progress is being made.

*Public Policy – Barb Peterson gave a handout on voting dates and shared flyers to look at to inform ourselves about some of the candidates to fill Sean Duffy's seat in St Croix County.

Old Business

AAUW National 5 Star Branch program

Suzanne mentioned that we are progressing well. More discussion will be necessary in March.

New Business

Branch Strategic Planning – the Board had its first discussion on this today and will talk more in March. There may be a survey for members later.

Adjourned 1:28

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Toman

MEMBERSHIP NOTES – Kendra Morgan, Vice-President Membership

Membership Note: Phyllis Jaworski, a branch member from Hudson, is sharing information about AAUW's mission and our branch activities with her networks of friends, parents, and colleagues in the Hudson area. We hope to see guests from Hudson at our spring meetings. We know you'll welcome them warmly. This is an excellent opportunity to expand our AAUW network; thank you, Phyllis!

Fund Raising Success! Thanks to all the enthusiastic bidders at our holiday auction in December. We raised \$1045 to add to our operating funds!

FINANCE REPORT

Tina Kelly, Finance Chair

AAUW-River Falls Finance Report

December 02, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Checking balance 12/31/2019	\$ 9078.26
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Receipts	
Membership Dues	\$ 83
Book Sale	25
Note Cards	40
Auction	1045
Contribution to General Fund	72
<i>Total receipts (12/2/2019 – 12/31/19)</i>	\$1265
Disbursements	
AAUW Renewal Fees	\$ 72
CVTC Scholarship Fund Donation	525
AAUW Contribution Scholarship Fund	500
AAUW Contribution Greatest Need	500
<i>Total disbursements (12/2/2019 - 12/31/2019)</i>	\$1597

Balances 12/31/2019

Checking: \$8746.26

Savings: \$1714.94

Total: \$10461.20

AAUW will be cosponsoring this STEM event again this year. Please alert your friends and family of this wonderful event. Registration will be coming out in the Community Education Spring bulletin.

Girls in SCIENCE Event 2020

Seeing, Creating, Inventing, Exploring, Naming, Cooperating, and Experimenting. Meet UWRF professors, scientists, and science students; and experience four hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities. New topics added! All welcome. Light snack provided, please bring a water bottle. Please indicate t-shirt size (Youth S/M/L or Adult S/M/L/XL/XXL). Space limited. Scholarships available via Allina Health. For scholarship info, grouping requests, and questions, email rellen.hardtke@uwrf.edu or call 715.425.4230.

Date: Saturday April 18, 2020

Grades 3–6: 8:15 am–12:15 pm (8am check-in, 12:20 pick-up)

Grades 6–9: 1–5 pm (12:45 check-in, 5:05 pick-up)

Place: 160 Hagestad Hall, UWRF, 262 E Cascade Ave, RF

Fee: \$19 (+\$11 for t-shirt, optional)

PUBLIC POLICY

Barb Peterson, Chair

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND SUPPORT YOUR CANDIDATES
2020 is an election year. Our nation is 243 years old but we women have had voting rights for only 100 of those years. AAUW encourages you to exercise your voting rights!

Reminder of important election dates:

Pierce County and [St. Croix County](#) dates:

Spring Primary - [February 18, 2020](#)-[7th District](#) & WI Supreme Court

Spring Election & Presidential Preference - [April 7, 2020](#)

[Final Election for 7th District Representative](#) - [May 12th, 2020](#)

Fall Primary - [August 11, 2020](#)

General Election - [November 3, 2020](#)

On [February 18th](#) there will be a primary for the [vacant 7th District House](#) seat once held by Sean Duffy. The candidates are listed here:

<u>Name</u>	<u>City of Residence</u>	<u>Party Affiliation</u>
Tom Tiffany	Minocqua	Republican
Jason Church	Hudson	Republican
Lawrence Dale	Eagle River	Democrat
Tricia Zunker	Wausau	Democrat

AND

Wisconsin Supreme Court (All Voters state wide)

The term of [Wisconsin Supreme Court](#) Justice [Daniel Kelly](#) will expire on July 31, 2020. Kelly was appointed to the court in 2016 to succeed [David T. Prosser](#), who retired on July 31, 2016. Kelly announced on May 28, 2019, that he would seek a full ten-year term in 2020.

A nonpartisan **primary election** for the Wisconsin Supreme Court to select **two candidates** is scheduled for Tuesday, [February 18, 2020](#).

Primary Candidates will be:

Daniel Kelly (nonpartisan)
Edward A. Fallone (nonpartisan)
Jill Karofsky (nonpartisan)

April 7th is the Wisconsin presidential primary. **This is also the date for the non-partisan city, township and county elections and the WI Supreme Court.**

May 12th - St. Croix residents will vote on the 7th District Representative.

August 11, 2020 Fall Partisan Primary to select candidates for the General election.

November 3rd 2020 - Presidential Election

There is ample time for you to get out the vote for candidates that represent your issues. Please remind people of these election dates.

Thank you, Phyllis Goldin:

Member Phyllis Golden has shared multiple copies of her father's book, [An Affair with my City](#), with the branch. Max Goldin's selected works are a compendium of his wisdom, humor and life experiences in Winnipeg and reflects the prestigious writing awards he received. Email Lorraine Davis (Ida-vis4762@aol.com) if you would like a copy.

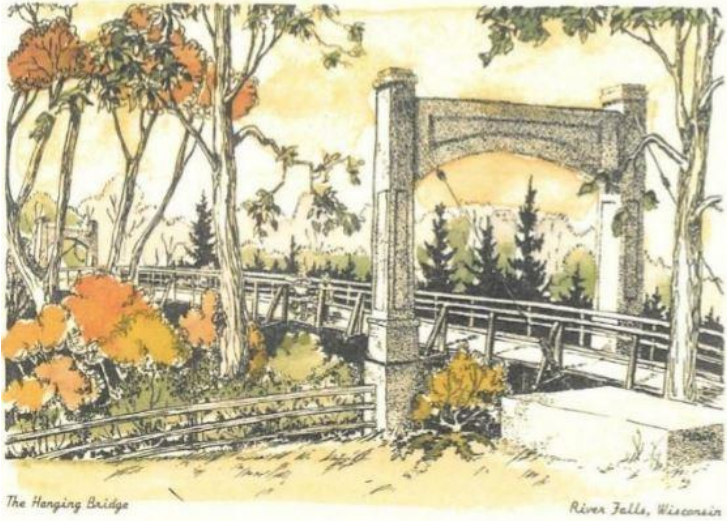
PROGRAMS

Sue Danielson, VP Program Chair

February Meeting held at Food Pantry

What a great opportunity to see the new River Falls Food Pantry! Our business meeting will be at 6:30 and at 7:00, Candace will give us a tour and update us on the great work of this terrific community organization. Please bring an offering for the pantry, either a food item or a donation to help the ongoing work of the pantry. The address is 705 St. Croix St. and is just behind the American Legion. There is plenty of parking and visitors are welcome.

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 [Gretchen Toman](mailto:gretchentoman@gmail.com) (gretchentoman@gmail.com), 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. Wyman.

The cards show four views of River Falls' bridges 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.

Ethel Johnson Literacy Grants

The first set of Ethel Johnson Literacy Grants has been announced by the River Falls Branch of AAUW. Twenty-four excellent grant applications were reviewed by a committee of Jean Johnson, Sue Danielson and Lorraine Davis. There were requests of over \$8000 for the available \$2400. Eight grants were awarded on merit of objectives and population served.

Requests were from both Pierce and St Croix Counties and varied in grade level, school location, and curriculum. Not all literacy program proposals were school based.

The grant was named after AAUW member Ethel Johnson who taught in the public schools until she was 70. She touched the lives of many and in honor of her memory; her friends have established this fund to promote her greatest educational love, literacy.

The awards committee is grateful to those donors who made this project possible. Additional donations to sustain the fund can be made in her honor to Ethel Johnson Fund, c/o Jean Johnson, N8048 1094th St, River Falls WI 54022

Winners:

Becky Fortney, Prescott Second Grade
Jennifer Langer, Prescott Elementary
Terrance Neumann, New Richmond Senior High Science
Tracy Preece, New Richmond grade 3-5 Literacy Coach
Kara Rowan, River Falls Montessori
Lacey Sheridan, New Richmond Special Services
Candice Skow, River Falls Rocky Branch Title 1
Kristin Taipale, New Richmond Early Childhood /4K

The committee acknowledges the worth of all applications. The wonderful response renews our commitment to raising funds for the Ethel Johnson Literacy Fund.

How They Used Their Grants

Candice Skow - Title 1 Reading teacher, Rocky Branch Elementary, River Falls School District

Dear AAUW-RF supporters, I'd like to tell you how thrilled I was to be selected to receive the Ethel Johnson Literacy Grant money to purchase high interest literature for my students. My 4th and 5th grade students have debates about which book should be our next. It is wonderful to see them SO excited.

These book sets include free on line comprehension activities. we have used Venn diagrams to compare, KWL charts (know, want to know, what I learned), Photo Scrapbook graphic organizers to draw pictures and add captions, and Just the Facts charts. My main objective, getting students excited about reading while building comprehension skills, has been met. I have never seen my students so excited about reading. My current students as well as future students for years to come will benefit from these books. On a personal note, the books and the enjoyment they provide has been invigorating. I also glad I applied.

With deepest gratitude,
Candice Skow

Kristin Taipale - Speech-Language Pathologist, New Richmond School District

With the Ethel Johnson Literacy Grant funding I was able to purchase books for use with my preschool age students that engage and allow for interactive learning. By using lift-the-flaps and pull tabs, these books give children control over the actions on the pages, expanding vocabulary, social language skills, and comprehension skills while also helping teach sequencing and story development. Children can learn so much by interacting with the stories. It is my hope they will have many fond memories of reading these books. I found the grant process to be appropriately rigorous and user friendly. This entire experience has been wonderful. I am truly grateful for the materials that were made possible through this grant and for the learning that will take place as a result.

Acknowledgement of persons honored with monetary gifts to the Ethel Johnson Literacy Grant.

The students of today benefit from their generous lives.

Deep thanks to all who gave in memory of the following:

Anne Anderson
Pearl Crank
Bob Gustafson
Ethel Johnson
Lee Matzek
Roberta Wunrow
Dee Nelson



Attention AAUW Members: There is still time to place your order for the navy blue AAUW t-shirts. They are regular cotton t-shirts with the white AAUW logo printed on the front (see photo). The shirt is optional but will be used to increase awareness at our tabling and volunteer events. The cost per shirt is \$10 which can be paid by cash/check to Kendra before or at pick-up.

* * *

Please contact Kendra Morgan at 715-450-6870 or moke1202@outlook.com with your size if you are interested in getting an AAUW t-shirt. She has three orders waiting and will send in the order when she gets a total of 12 orders, so help out your fellow AAUW members and order an AAUW t-shirt now.

JANUARY 2020 INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Norway Sticks with Pro- oil Policies, by Mikael Foster, Bloomberg News, Dec.19, 2019

Norway has handed political control of its most important export to a former justice minister who's raised doubt about climate science and whose actions last year almost toppled the government.

The appointment of Sylvi Listhaug as petroleum and energy minister, overseeing the oil industry in Western Europe's biggest crude and gas-producing nation, means business as usual for the Conservative-led government's mostly pro-oil policies. It also highlights the country's contradictions as one of the world's biggest fossil-fuel exporters and a would-be leader in the fight against climate change. The 41-year-old, who until now was minister for the elderly and public health, replaced Kjell-Borge Freiberg, who took the position in mid-2018. Read below:

<https://business.financialpost.com/pmnl/business-pmn/norways-new-oil-chief-has-a-history-denying-climate-science>

AGW member Prof. Cheryl Praeger wins Australian Prime Minister's Prize for Science

Mathematician Emeritus and member of **Australian Graduate Women Inc. (AGW)**, Professor Cheryl Praeger of the University of Western Australia has received the 2019 Australian Prime Minister's Prize for Science of \$250,000 for her contributions to pure mathematics. She studied at Oxford University, for which she had won a scholarship, and in 1983, she became one of the first female professors of mathematics in Australia. This led her to partake in many different programmes and committees, such as the curriculum development council of the Australian government. Prof. Praeger's work spans decades and more than 400 journal publications. She sets a brilliant example of what



women can achieve in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

<https://graduatewomen.org/>

GWI to host parallel event on women and corruption at CSW64 session

As a follow-up to the 9 December [press release](#) for Anti-Corruption Day, **Graduate Women International** announces to hold a parallel event during the 64th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW64). The event will take place on 11 March, 2020, at 2.30 pm at the Church Center (10th Floor) across from the UN in New York. The parallel event is co-sponsored by the [Women's UN Report Network \(WUNRN\)](#) and [NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva](#). Seizing the CSW64 theme, this Women and Corruption parallel event is unique in that it will address corruption through a GENDER LENS. Women are targeted disproportionately as victims of corruption, and yet rarely in the discourse of corruption are women considered. Women experience corruption in specific ways, which greatly impact gender inequality. Panellists will assess the impact of gendered corruption, root causes and plausible recommendations. The parallel event will also examine how corruption impedes the implementation of the [12 Critical Areas of Concern](#) formulated within the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#) (1995).

— GWI at the United Nations —

The 75th session of CEDAW reviews Bulgaria, Pakistan and Zimbabwe

From 10-28 February 2020, the 75th session of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) will be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. CEDAW is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The CEDAW Committee consists of 23 experts on women's rights from around the world.

During this session, the Committee will review and address concerns and

recommendations, among others, regarding the submission of the CEDAW reports by GWI affiliates in Bulgaria, Pakistan and Zimbabwe

22 Men own more wealth than Africa's 326 Women, Oxfam says, by Charles Riley, CNN Business, January 20, 2020

Global inequality is “out of control” because of biased economic systems that exclude many women while allowing billionaires to amass huge fortunes that do little for society, according to Oxfam International. The charity is calling on governments to implement policies that ease the burden on women who provide care for children and the elderly, often for little or no pay. Oxfam suggests higher taxes on the wealthy, and more spending by national governments on child-and health care.

Oxfam's annual report on inequality was released ahead of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, which each year brings together many of the world's most influential people. Read below:

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/01/20/business/oxfam-billionaires-davos/index.html>

— Other information and events —

20-31 January	Universal Periodic Review Working Group, 35th session, United Nations, Geneva
24 January	International Day of Education, Global
6 February	International Day of Zero Tolerance of Female Genital Mutilation, Global
10-28 February	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 75th session, United Nations, Geneva
11 February	International Day of Women and Girls in Science, Global
24 Feb-20 March	Human Rights Council, 43rd session, United Nations, Geneva
1 March	Zero Discrimination Day, Global
8 March	International Women's Day, Global
9-20 March	Commission on the Status of Women 64th session, New York
7-8 May	Generation Equality Forum Mexico
25 May-5 June	International Labour Conference, Geneva
7-10 July	Generation Equality Forum Paris
18-20 September	Centenary of the French Association of University Women (AFFDU)

River Falls Branch: 2019-20 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 6 – City Sampler at UWRF campus, 11-1 p.m. AAUW table on mall will share information.

September 10 - Pot Luck Dinner and business meeting **6:30, 7:00** program presentation National Conference for College Women Student Leaders speaker – UWRF student Faith Velez, COMMUNITY ROOM at the First National Bank, 104 E Locust Street

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

October 8 – Business meeting: 6:30, 7:00 - Iron Jawed Angels film co-sponsored w/library. River Falls Public Library

Book Sale dates – two successive weekends in October (possibly Oct. 11-13 and Oct. 17-19)

November 10 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. River Falls Moose Lodge Breakfast Fund raiser

November 12 - Business meeting 6:30 p.m., Program at 7:00 p.m. - Civil Conversations – speakers Krista Cleary and Grace Coggio, First National Bank Community Room

December 10 – Holiday gathering at 6:30 p.m. at Suzanne Hagen's House, 2464 Golf View Dr., Brief business meeting and auction **(Please bring auction item and appetizer or cookies to share.)**

January 25, 2020 (Saturday) – Business Meeting at 1:00 p.m. Program at 1:30 - Women in STEM – guest speaker River Falls City Engineer, Crystal Raleigh, Presentation of Women in Science essay awards, River Falls Public Library

February 11 - RF Food Shelf update and tour, business meeting will be at 6:30 and at 7:00 there will be a tour and update and Location 705 St. Croix St. and is just behind the American Legion.

March 10 – Business meeting at 6:30 p.m. Program at 7:00 p.m. – Student Debt: Update and Implications for Students, Parents and Grandparents – Panel discussion. Role Model for Equity Award presented River Falls Public Library

March 31 - Equal Pay Day

April 14 – Business (Annual) Meeting at 6:30 p.m. (Election of officers for 2020-2021) Program at 7:00 p.m. – Economic Security for Women – Speaker: Kendra Morgan, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones.
River Falls Public Library

STEM Program: Girls in SCIENCE at UWRF – Date to be determined

April 16-17 - State AAUW Convention in LaCrosse, Wisconsin

May 12 – Year-end business meeting and pot luck dinner, Installation of officers and Celebration, 6:30 p.m. at Lorraine Davis's House



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.