

2020-21 Branch Officers

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FALLS NOTES



AAUW-River Falls, WI

aauwriverfalls@gmail.com

Branch Newsletter:

October 2020

Our next regular AAUW meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10 and will feature Prof. Cyndi Kernahan, University of Wisconsin – River Falls on Systemic Racism.

The speaker for our AAUW November meeting will be Dr. Cyndi Kernahan, Professor of Psychological Sciences and Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls.

The title of her talk will be Race and Racism. Cyndi Kernahan specializes in the area of race, bias and prejudice and is the author of the book, *Teaching about Race and Racism in the College Classroom: Notes From a White Professor*.

Cyndi will define racism in all of its complexity and discuss some of the impacts that racism has on people's lives and their life chances. She will also give suggestions for how to be antiracist. There will be time for questions and a list of resources for learning will be provided.

Please join us on Tuesday, Nov. 10 - Business Meeting at 6:30; Program at 7:00.

All attendees, both for the business meeting at 6:30 and the program at 7:00 **MUST REGISTER** in advance to receive the link for the meeting.



To register, please click on the following link.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZMpdeigrDsoE9EYFcZqwV1Udfp6ghbJI-8u>. You will receive a registration confirmation via email, along with the link to join the meeting.

Since we are using registration for our meeting you may feel free to share the registration link with others who may be interested in joining for the program. If you have questions, send them to aauwriverfalls@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Suzanne Hagen, Branch President

During October's early snows and our society's difficult times, I am very encouraged by our branch's great start to the program year.

Moving Forward. We are adaptable, adjusting typical fall events to pandemic realities. We have moved our meeting format to Zoom, with many thanks to Elaine Baumann. We organize substantive, relevant programs (e.g., financial advice for women, COVID updates and guidance, systemic racism awareness) attended by both members and non-members. Kudos to our dynamic program duo, Catherine Flowers and Gwen Paulson! We are making potentially productive connections with AAUW-Eau Claire, and we warmly welcome their members to our Zoom programs. Our membership is strong and growing, with an excellent rate of member renewals and new members joining. And we remain faithful in supporting scholarships, NCCWSL participants, STEM awareness, literacy education, and public policy actions.

Fostering Friendships. We also want to keep cultivating and celebrating the rich friendships among our members. Please continue to notify [Karen Brohaugh](#) of important member occasions (birthdays, accomplishments, etc.) and special support needs so she can send cards on behalf of the branch. And we will have a celebratory – although distanced – December meeting focused on enjoyable music and good fellowship.

Managing Funds. At our Oct. 23 Board Meeting, we discussed approaches to the live auction we traditionally hold at the December meeting. That has raised \$800-1000 annually for the branch. This year we are planning an “un-auction.” In lieu of donating and bidding on items, we ask you to consider a donation to the branch on a par with what you might pay for your successful item bids in years past. There will be a few other “holiday highlights” so watch for more information. Kay Montgomery is heading a small committee to brainstorm further fundraising ideas, potentially to implement this spring. I know she would appreciate creative suggestions, so please forward your good ideas to her.

Stay safe, be well and thank you for all you do supporting AAUW's mission of equity for women and girls.

RIVER FALLS BRANCH BOARD MINUTES – October 22, 2020

AAUW BORAD MEETING - Virtual via Zoom Respectfully submitted - Gretchen Toman

Attending: S Hagen, E Baumann, L Davis, A Gustafson, B. Peterson, K Montgomery, G Paulson, K Morgan, M Olle-LaJoie, C Flowers, G Toman

Minutes:

Lorraine announced that there won't be any Girls In Science event this academic year.
Minutes of July's board meeting were approved by consensus.

Gwen said **programming** is set and that we will be singing at the December meeting.
Eau Claire's branch would like to attend our programs virtually. A discussion ensued on how best to include them, how to make the Zoom link available to anyone who would like to join.

We can't refuse anyone (freedom of speech), but Zoom host can control participants who might be unduly disruptive. Elaine and Suzanne will work on getting a registration process set up so that everyone who is interested can register and automatically have the link sent to their email address. The Falcon Daily on the UWRF campus and the Community Ed site are also potential connecting points for posting info on our programs.

Fundraising We have donated \$1,000.00 to AAUW National in the past at the end of each year.

Since our normal fundraiser activities are cancelled, with no fundraising possibilities on the horizon, there was discussion on whether to cut back the amount of our donation, or to keep our donation at the same level as we have in the past. We have about \$4,200.00 total in our operating expense budget; \$2,500.00 in travel, and \$2,200.00 in scholarship funds.

In December we will give out \$550.00 for the CVTC scholarship and if NCWSSL goes, we will need funds for that as well.

It was moved and seconded that we still donate \$1,000.00, pulled from the travel budget, to National this year because of all the work they are doing to continue to educate members.

We will bring the motion to the general meeting in November.

Several ideas were floated for fundraising: a monthly donation campaign, personal sponsors (for NCWSSL), an at home gala, a TED talk speaker, a virtual happy hour, or an un-auction.

There will be a small committee comprised of Kay, Lorraine, Gwen, Ann, and one or two non-board members to further plan and organize a fundraiser. Perhaps we could get facial coverings with the AAUW logo or Uff Da! printed on them as gifts for donors.

We could do events to coincide with March 8th, International Women's Day or Equal Pay Day in April, even opening it up to a community fundraiser.

In December it was suggested to focus on the program and just donate what you might have spent at the auction in another year.

Legacy Circle Ann G. presented information on an opportunity to make a planned gift to AAUW. This makes a commitment to helping women and girls even after we pass, done through the Legacy Circle. You can do this in many ways, any amount: through your will, a living trust, life insurance beneficiaries, etc. A financial advisor can help you do this. The money is not spent until after AAUW receives it. It's a win-win because there is no estate tax on gifts to charitable organizations, so your heirs aren't taxed on that amount, nor is the organization.

We have 3 Legacy members in our branch: Ann Gustafson, Kay Montgomery, and Jeanne Zirbel.

Other Items We are doing well after a few phone calls on membership renewals. And we have new members to our branch in spite of COVID.

Policy reminders from Barbara Peterson. Does anyone need help getting to the polls? Reach out to three people to see if they have already voted or intend to vote, if they need a ride to the polls. Reminder of the importance of donating to legislators. Think of giving to candidates even outside your district who you believe embody the AAUW values and principles. Post-election the Legislature will redistrict the State. Watch.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15

****ACTION ITEM for NOVEMBER 10 MEETING**

At our October 23 Board meeting, we discussed and then recommended that the branch donate \$1000 before Jan. 1, 2021 to National AAUW's Greatest Needs fund. We have made a December contribution to AAUW in that amount for several years. The donation would be taken from the very healthy \$2500 balance in branch travel funds. (Note there are no plans for in-person conventions in the coming year.) This action will be on the Nov. 10 agenda for all-member discussion and action.

Before that meeting, please spend some time on the national website, [AAUW.org](https://www.aauw.org), to see the many ways funds are being used: webinars on current issues, training in leadership and career development, public policy advocacy, education support, advancing women's economic security, and other initiatives.

RIVER FALLS BRANCH MEETING MINUTES – September 8, 2020

Secretary, Gretchen Toman

Virtual meeting via Zoom included 17 members and 8 guests

Suzanne Hagen, President introduced two guests: Bridget Finke and Laura Haugen

Motion to approve the Secretary's minutes from May, 2020's meeting – approved.

Motion to approve the Financial Report submitted by Treasurer, Tina Kelly - approved.

President's Report

Cancellation of all fall 2020 events (including, but not limited to, the book sale [rescheduled to Spring], the STEM event, Moose Lodge Brunch, and our holiday auction) due to the pandemic, as mentioned in the Aug. newsletter. The cancellation is consistent with guidelines recommended by AAUW National. Please consider making a donation to our funds based on what you might normally donate through the auction, brunch, etc.

There is a probable increase in national membership dues set to go into effect July, 2021.

The increase would be between \$3.00 - \$7.00 annually.

Upcoming Programs: Oct. a panel of knowledgeable people discussing COVID-19.

Nov. A discussion on Systemic Racism

Membership – Kendra Morgan said they have done some extra advertising of our events and some networking among working professional women to increase involvement in AAUW by working women. We've had good responses for membership renewal so far. Please take care of that soon, if you haven't already!!

Lorraine Davis shared the new NCWSSL dates of May 26 – 29, 2021.

Several people have already expressed interest in being part of the Scholarship Committee.

New Business Two Motions were voted on:

Literacy fund title and clarification - Lorraine Davis/Jean Johnson

Motion 1

To establish the AAUW-RF Heritage Fund, which incorporates the Ethel Johnson fund for literacy education, as a vehicle for memorials and donations to fund literacy grants within Pierce and St. Croix Counties.

*Passed with 16 aye votes

Motion 2

When the budget permits, the branch will provide \$200 annually for the Heritage Fund and will implement the grant process when the fund balance reaches \$2000.

*Passed with 17 aye votes

Purpose of Heritage Fund. Memorials and donations to the Heritage Fund will further the goals of the Ethel Johnson fund and honor the lives of others through literacy education.

Suzanne clarified that only when the Heritage Fund reaches \$2,000 will we solicit applications and then distribute grants. Previous grant amounts were \$250. - \$500. Per grant.

Barb Peterson congratulated us on great participation in the **Public Policy** forums held via Zoom on Aug. 25th and 27th. There were 170 attendees over the two nights for programs that included Fair Maps, Public vs. Private Education and Discerning between real and fake news.

The sessions were recorded and will be available for listening soon. Barb will send a link for those who wish to access these.

How to get out the vote? Talk to your friends, volunteer for a phone bank, encourage absentee ballots. The August newsletter had some very helpful information on how to apply for a mail-in ballot. If you haven't received your ballot by October 1st, contact your County Clerk.

Suzanne will schedule an Executive Board Meeting in late September to address any new issues.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m. for the program.

AAUW PUBLIC POLICY NEWS

Barb Peterson, Chair

Tuesday, November 3rd 2020 is the Presidential Election.

In recent years AAUW-WI has been unsuccessful in encouraging our legislators to adopt issues that improve the condition of women and children in this state. It is unlikely to change until and unless we change the way our state divides legislative districts. Wisconsin ranks as the worst for gerrymandered districts. There are two excellent videos that explain how redistricting was handled in WI in 2011. I suggest you view them so you can better understand the unfairness of our current situation. Here is how you can do that:

1. The WI Farmers Union has published a 3-minute video that briefly describes how gerrymandering took place in WI. I am giving you the page that leads to the video. That page has some prime ideas for how to change the way redistricting is done. Click on the video at <https://www.wisconsinfarmersunion.com/fairmaps>
2. A documentary titled *Slay the Dragon* gives a very thorough history of how redistricting in WI was achieved behind closed doors in utter secrecy in 2011. It also follows a successful grass-roots challenge to redistricting done in Michigan. There is hope for change! This documentary is approx. 2 hours long though it exposes the culprits who drew “election safe” districts in WI. I paid \$4.99 to watch it (rental for 1 month) on Amazon Prime. It is worth \$5 and your time.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF OUR LEGAL ADVOCATE

National AAUW Statement on Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg



America lost one of our most beloved role models tonight, a pioneering jurist and iconic feminist who blazed new trails, not only in her own life, but in the lives of the countless women she championed — and inspired. On behalf of AAUW and its members and supporters who recognized Justice Ginsburg with a 1999 AAUW Achievement Award, we extend our condolences to her family, her colleagues and to every American whose lives and hearts she touched. The nation owes it to her – and to all women – to honor her final wishes and refrain from naming

a replacement until after a new president is inaugurated.

Dear AAUW Friends,

As women struggle for equal treatment in the law and at the workplace and home, RBG took up our cause. We will greatly miss her advocacy. What a stellar role model

she has been. I recommend that you view the RBG documentary with your family when you can.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zo-Uw_n2KF0 – this is the trailer. The film is available on Hulu and Amazon Prime.

FINANCE REPORT

Tina Kelly, Finance Chair

AAUW-River Falls Finance Report: August 24, 2020 – September 24, 2020

Checking balance 8/24/2020	\$ 8777.23
Receipts AAUW Membership Dues Contribution to General Fund	\$ 166 30
<i>Total receipts (8/24/2020 – 9/24/2020))</i>	\$ 196
Disbursements AAUW Dues	\$ 144
<i>Total disbursements (8/24/2020 – 9/24/2020)</i>	\$ 144

Balances 9/24/2020

Checking: \$8829.23

Savings: \$2382.47

Total: \$11,211.70

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2020-21

Unless you are a life member, joined as a first time member after March 1, or renewed this spring, your current membership expired June 30, 2020.

Membership dues are:

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

\$13.00 – state dues

\$11.00 – branch dues

\$83.00 - Total

You may renew on line at aauw.org.

Or with a check for \$83, payable to AAUW-RF, and mailed to:

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

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE AAUW LEGACY CIRCLE OPPORTUNITY?

In the past months, I have been thinking about AAUW and its best kept secret! AAUW is an organization that has remained vibrant in spite of a virus that has kept us from our “usual” branch activities. ***Are you aware you may make an impact on AAUW that will benefit AAUW long into the future?*** I am referring to a Planned Gift or Bequest.

Planned gifts or bequests are gifts that you designate in your will, estate, or trust. By making a planned gift to AAUW national, you become a member of the Legacy Circle, receive the beautiful Legacy Circle pin, and affirm your commitment to women and girls. These gifts ensure the strength, relevance, viability of AAUW well into the future.

It is easy to make a planned gift to AAUW! You may include AAUW in your will or trust, name AAUW as a beneficiary in your insurance policy or retirement account, establish a charitable gift annuity, or select from among a range of deferred gift options.

Just complete an enrollment form and mail it to AAUW, or give it to me to submit to the national office. ***The form does not ask for the amount of your legacy gift.*** As you make your plans, AAUW hopes you will consider the importance of AAUW’s work and the significance of AAUW in your life. We would then ask that you be as generous as possible.

Seize the opportunity today! Think about AAUW and what has been accomplished and what is planned for the future. ***Become a member of the Legacy Circle.*** If you have any questions, would like an Enrollment Form, or would like to contact me directly, I may be reached at agus905@gmail.com or by phone at 715-425-2516. I would love to talk with you.

Ann Gustafson

AAUW Legacy Circle Team

AAUW HERITAGE FUND

The **Heritage Fund** is a re-titling of the previously named **Ethel Johnson Memorial Fund**. By board recommendation and member vote at the September branch meeting, the new title was approved and encompasses memorials honoring many individuals. The fund will be used for grants that promote literacy. By so doing, we continue to honor Ethel’s passion for literacy education and the life she lived as a teacher, mentor, traveler, and friend. Names of individuals memorialized with donations will be published in the branch newsletter and in the annual branch membership directory.

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

NEW MEMBERS

Membership Vice President, Kendra Morgan

New Member – Lauren Haugen



Laura Haugen grew up in Rice Lake, but currently lives in River Falls with her two boys (Jake-8, Vinnie-6). She's been in the community since 2005, and graduated with a BS in Marketing Comm from UWRF. Laura is a new Publisher with Best Version Media. She's looking to launch her first magazine, River Falls Living, this autumn. In her free time, you'll find her at the barn with her equine friends, or discovering something new to do with her boys. Laura is excited to be a part of AAUW, and really appreciated Kendra introducing her to the group!

2020-21 BRANCH DIRECTORY

Please check your contact information as listed in the 2019-20 directory. Email any changes or updates to [Suzanne Hagen](#) by **November 15**. New members, information from your applications will be added also. (Note that the directory is sent in hard copy to members only.)

We hope to mail the directory by Dec. 1.

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Yolanda Dewar, Chair

OCTOBER 2020 INTERNATIONAL NEWS

GWI reminds States of their Commitment to Women as a Means to Building Sustainable Peace

On 21 September, GWI joins the international community in observing the International Day of Peace. The COVID-19 crisis has ravaged the entire world. Peace processes are upended in every geographical region. On International Day of Peace, established in 1981 by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly as a global day of non-violence and ceasefire, GWI seizes the opportunity to remind Member States of their commitment to the 2000 landmark UN Security Council Resolution 1325 that specifies the vital role of

women in peacebuilding and stresses the importance of their equal participation in all peacebuilding efforts. Aligning with this year's UN theme "Shaping peace together", GWI underscores that peace cannot be achieved without women's participation. Women represent a minimal share of the people involved in peace processes: they made up only 3% of mediators, 4% of signatories, and 13% of negotiators of peace processes between 1992 and 2018, according to UN Women. On the occasion of International Day of Peace celebrated annually on 21 September, GWI is releasing a press release urging Member States, institutions and peacebuilding organizations to include women as actors of peace on local, national, and international levels.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>

2 Win Nobel Prize In Chemistry For Developing Method For Genome Editing, from SCIENCE , 10/07/2020

French scientist Emmanuelle Charpentier and American Jennifer A. Doudna were awarded the prize

STOCKHOLM (AP) — French scientist Emmanuelle Charpentier and American Jennifer A. Doudna have won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for discovering one of gene technology's sharpest tools: developing a method of genome editing likened to "molecular scissors" that offer the promise of one day curing genetic diseases.

The recipients were announced in Stockholm by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

"There is enormous power in this genetic tool, which affects us all," said Claes Gustafsson, chair of the Nobel Committee for Chemistry. "It has not only revolutionized basic science, but also resulted in innovative crops and will lead to ground-breaking new medical treatments."

Gustafsson said that as a result, any genome can now be edited "to fix genetic damage."

Gustafsson cautioned that the "enormous power of this technology means we have to use it with great care" but that it "is equally clear that this is a technology, a method that will provide humankind with great opportunities."

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/2020-nobel-prize-for-chemistry_n_5f7d8cbac5b61229a059c6e3

GWI at the 45th session of the Human Rights Council (HRC45)

HRC45 held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva. The session opened on 14 September and closed on 6 October 2020. GWI's written statement addressing HRC45 on Distance learning and digital technologies as a strategical and challenging turn towards inclusive access to education for women and girls has been accepted by the United Nations (UN) Geneva and is now available on the GWI website. The statement is co-signed by Canadian Federation of University Women, Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO), Latter-day Saint Charities, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, Women-Graduates USA, and Zonta International, and stresses the need for governments to ensure that e-learning will not broaden existing digital inequalities. GWI acknowledges the promising possibilities of dis-

tance learning as a means towards equal, safe and inclusive access to education for all and especially critical for women and girls. At the same time, however, GWI warns that implementing distance learning necessitates overcoming crucial challenges. The statement makes strong recommendations about dedicating resources to ensure decent learning conditions for all students displaced from their education, especially to women and girls.

<https://graduatewomen.org/>

Afghan mothers' names to be included on children's ID cards, from BBC News, 18 September 2020

Afghan mothers will have their names printed on their children's national identity cards, after a campaign to challenge taboos around women's names.

President Ashraf Ghani just signed into law an amendment long sought by women's rights campaigners. Until now, Afghan law dictated that only the father's name should be recorded on ID cards. Using a woman's name in public in Afghanistan is traditionally frowned upon and can be considered an insult.

Some women have suffered beatings for perceived indiscretions such as using their names to obtain prescriptions.

But a campaign launched three years ago under the hashtag #WhereIsMyName garnered high-profile support from celebrities and members of parliament.

It called for mothers' names to be included alongside fathers' names on national identity cards, and benefited from nearly two decades of progress on women's rights in Afghanistan since the toppling of the Taliban in 2001.

A social media campaign saw activists introduce themselves using their names and their mothers' names.

Laleh Osmany, founder of the #WhereIsMyName campaign, told the BBC Afghan service that she was "overjoyed" at the result.

"There is no doubt that this victory is the result of persistent campaign. The government also stood by the citizens, and I express my gratitude to the president himself and his deputies for their support and men and women who supported our campaign and raised their voice, and congratulate all equal rights campaigners on this victory."

The Afghan cabinet's legal affairs committee said "the decision to include the mother's name in the ID card is a big step towards gender equality and the realization of women's rights".

The decision came amid concern that progress could be set back in the coming weeks as the government attempts to reach a peace agreement with the Taliban.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-54018913>

Switzerland votes to create nationwide paternity leave, from The Hill, BY ZACK BUDRYK - VIA THE NEW YORK TIMES 09/27/20

Switzerland approved a voter referendum enacting paid paternity leave, The New York Times reported.

Swiss fathers previously were given a single day off after their children were born. Under the referendum, they will receive 10 days of paid leave, making Switzerland the last Western European nation to guarantee paid paternity leave.

Parliament approved the paternity leave mandate in 2019. But conservative Politicians collected more than 50,000 signatures opposing it, so Swiss laws required it be put directly to voters. About 60 percent of voters approved the measure, with French- and Italian-speaking parts of the country more likely to back it.

Any fathers using the leave will be entitled to 80 percent of their salaries, although companies will be given the option of extending the length of leave or increasing the salary percentage, according to the newspaper. The new law is set to take effect Jan. 1.

Patricia Purtschert, a gender studies professor at the University of Bern, noted that the law would only apply to biological parents.

"It does not apply to adoptive or same-sex parents," she said, according to the Times. "There are still quite a few people who are parenting that won't profit, from the start at least."

Switzerland has lagged beyond other countries in the region on women's rights and gender equality, only giving women the right to vote in 1971. Married women were required to obtain their husbands' permission to work outside their homes until 1988.

<https://thehill.com/regulation/labor/518505-switzerland-votes-to-create-nationwide-paternity-leave>

Women's issues at UN: Still 'too low down on the agenda'By JENNIFER PELTZ, Associated Press, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

UNITED NATIONS — Addressing the U.N. General Assembly Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina noted a milestone: the 25th anniversary of the Beijing women's conference that produced a global roadmap for gender equality and a ringing rallying cry that became part of the event's official declaration: "Women's rights are human rights."

The international community has "come a long way to ensure gender equality" since then, Hasina said, but "we need to strengthen our resolve and mutual cooperation."

Hasina didn't really have to say more to show that there was still a long way to go. She was one of nine women among the more than 180 presidents, premiers, monarchs and ministers who spoke at the planet's top diplomatic meeting this year.

While the U.N. is preparing for a separate summit to mark the anniversary of the landmark female empowerment plan, women's rights were a steady thread but hardly a top theme of leaders' remarks at the world body's signature assembly.

Some leaders took time to recall the 1995 conference, detail domestic initiatives or lament that progress toward female equality is lagging or even retreating. Yet with the coronavirus pandemic shoving numerous other issues out of the spotlight, many speakers gave the status of women and girls a passing mention, if any, even as the U.N. warns that the virus crisis is exacerbating gender inequities.

"If the General Assembly statements are a kind of snapshot into what the world is prioritizing at the moment ... this is too low down on the agenda," says Rachel Vogelstein, who runs the Council on Foreign Relations' Women and Foreign Policy Program.

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2020-09-29/womens-issues-at-un-still-too-low-down-on-the-agenda>

On World Teachers' Day 2020, GWI celebrates teachers' resilience and leadership in crisis

Marked annually on 5 October since 1994, World Teacher's Day (WTD) commemorates the efforts made by teachers worldwide to progress education for women and girls. WTD provides an annual occasion to take stock of achievements and raise awareness around challenges facing teachers and their role in the achievement of the global education targets. This year WTD will be celebrated with the theme, "Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future", which highlights both the unprecedented challenges brought force by the pandemic in the world of education and the key role of teachers in building resilience and shaping the future of education and the teaching profession in times of crises and beyond.

<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldteachersday>

International Day of the Girl 2020: "My voice, our equal future"

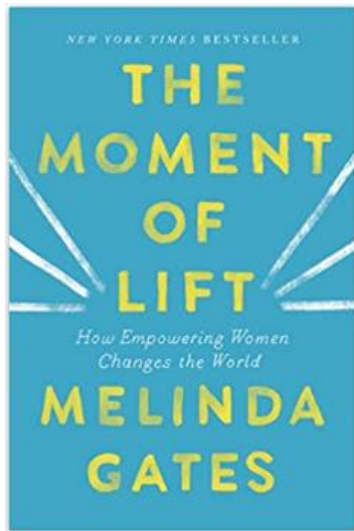
In 2011, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly passed a resolution adopting 11 October as the International Day of the Girl (IDOG). This day, synonymously known as International Day of the Girl Child, Day of Girls and International Day of Girls, is celebrated annually and serves to promote the recognition of girls' rights. It is a reminder to the international community of the unique challenges girls face around the world and particularly highlighting issues concerning gender inequality. This year, GWI aligns with the UN International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to celebrate girls' abilities to act for their own fate with the theme "My voice, our equal future".

<https://www.unicef.org/gender-equality/international-day-girl-2020>

-Other information and events –

15 October	International Day of Rural Women, Global
17 October	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, Global
24 October	United Nations Day, Global
17 November	International Student's Day, Global
19 November	World Toilet Day, Global
20 November	Universal Children's Day, Global
25 November	International Day - Elimination of Violence against Women, Global
25 Nov-10 Dec	16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, Global
9 December	Anti-Corruption Day, Global
10 December	Human Rights Day, Global
18 December	International Migrants Day, Global
20 December	International Human Solidarity Day, Global

Articles of Interest:



Listen to the audio or read Melinda Gates' book about her work helping women around the world.

It is called MOMENT OF LIFT and is available at the Public library.

River Falls Branch: 2020-21 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 p.m. Our meetings through Dec. 2020 will be via **Zoom** unless the health and safety situation improves significantly.

September 8 – Kendra Morgan, branch member and Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, on **Financial Security for Women**.

October 13 – Alison Page (CEO of Western WI Health; previously chief safety officer for Fairview Health Services) and AZ Snyder, Pierce County Public Health officer on **“Life in the Time of Covid”**

November 10 Prof. Cyndi Kernahan, University of Wisconsin – River Falls on **Systemic Racism**

December 8 – Katharine Grant, **Focus on Music: “Using Your Voice”**

January 16 or 23, 2021 (Saturday) – Business Meeting at 1:00 p.m. Program at 1:30 - STEM program & presentation of awards to Middle School essay contest winner(s)

February 9 – Carole Mottaz, Community Member, on **Strategies For Community Action**

March 9 – Jane Hoffmann, River Falls educator and Historical Preservation Committee member - **“Down on Main Street: A Historical Tour.”** Local History/Video presentation (& model unit for engaging elementary students)

April 13 – Gay Ward & Margaret Phinney (UWRF Education Dept. faculty) **“And Justice for All”: Exploring Social Justice and Social Responsibility through Children’s Literature** (Also annual business meeting and officer elections)

April 23-24 – AAUW State Convention, Madison, WI

May 11 – Final gathering of program year and installation of officers



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.