

Where to Find . . .

Page

About Our House.	19
Book Lists for Discussions.	11
Branch Officers and Board Meetings	5
Directory Changes and Additions	34
Guest Policy	16
Holiday Lights	17
Leadership Message	2

Editor's Note . . .

Because all winter programs through the month of February will be held on Zoom, specific information pertaining to meetings or luncheons at the Gale Mansion has been omitted.

Program Topics

- The Arts
- Environment
- Education
- Fair Play
- Health
- Literary Pursuits
- Public Policy
- Science and Technology
- Women's Voices

Focus Days

- March 29: Native Voices
- May 3: International Day: South Africa

Leadership Message

From the President . . .

Impressed and grateful are the first two adjectives that come to mind when I reflect on our AAUW members and activities this past spring, summer, and fall. Indeed we have adjusted and reinvented almost every aspect of our organization. Our planning and work has allowed us to remain engaged, strong civic advocates for women and girls.

I treasure our resumed “normal” program schedule for the year. Each Monday provides us with interesting speakers as well as a chance to see and be with our members. The Program Committee has streamlined a process for presenters and the Technology Committee assists so that our online programs run smoothly. For me this is a welcome day of almost regular Mondays and an antidote to pandemic isolation.

The Community Outreach Committee transitioned to curbside drop off/pick up times for donating to Groveland Food Shelf, Passage Community and From Me to You clothing ministry. The Environment Committee coordinated the distribution of Vote Climate lawn signs.

We were quickly pushed into adapting to our virtual conditions. The Technology Committee has worked diligently to have our Zoom meetings and Gala be so successful. It takes incredible time to make certain that all of our guest speakers are comfortable with an online format and to have it all function smoothly. ClickBid, which was

piloted at last year's Gala, is again the mainstay of our fundraising site. The Bylaws have been amended to reflect the current necessity of virtual meetings and voting. Our electronic newsletter is more urgently needed, and now we do two emails weekly, one with Zoom invitation links and one with news and the recording links. To collect and gather signatures of members on required documents we now use DocuSign to electronically sign. I am extremely proud of the incredible response from our members in adapting to the new technology.

Our fall Gala is just one example of our ability to work with the changed circumstances. The committee chair, Becky Farber, led a team that re-imagined and implemented our successful virtual fund raiser. The theme "Women of Action: Past, Present and Future" aptly describes us. Our virtual program allowed us to honor women of the past, share and remember past galas, and have some fun while creating new memories online. Thank you to all the Gala Committee members who worked for months to make this possible. We thank you, our members, for your generosity and support of our mission as we surpassed our original goal.

The Scholarship Board continues to provide nine women graduates of Minneapolis Public Schools with scholarships to a college or university as well as a mentor from our AAUW. Our member mentors are in touch with the scholars as they adjust to the changing conditions of their university life during the pandemic.

Continued on page 4.

The Gale business remains closed due to the pandemic except for a few small ceremonies while Karen Hancock, our office and events manager, continues to work with prospective clients so that as COVID-19 policy allows, we will again host memorable, beautiful parties and weddings. Our Gale Mansion home has also needed maintenance. We now have a new water heater, and the concrete steps on the south porch have been repaired. Although we can't meet in person, we are caring for the building so it will be ready when we all can return. With no income from the Gale business, our budget is tight, and it is the membership dues and donations that will keep us moving forward. Thank you.

Diane Boruff, President
Minneapolis Branch AAUW 2020-2022

***The AAUW 2020 Virtual Gala
Was a Success!!!!***

We would like to thank all our donors. It was their generosity that contributed to our success. Our organization appreciates it.

We would like to thank the sponsors for their support: The Kenwood, Fhima's Minneapolis Restaurant, and Dale Studios. They truly helped to make this endeavor exciting.

We would especially like to thank the members of the Gala Committee for all of their work and energy during this challenging time. It was truly a TEAM effort and every member gave so much to its success.

***Officers of the Branch
2020 - 2021***

President	Diane Boruff
Evening Vice President	Julie Ollila
Membership Co-Vice Presidents	Becky Farber Kathleen Kohler
Program Development Vice President	Karen Ringsrud
Marketing Vice President	Leslie Swenson
Development Vice President	Sheryl Sostarich
House Management Vice President	Ellen Hughes
Treasurer	Sheila Lind
Secretary for Recording	Jennifer Johnson
Director at Large	Carol Sheldon

***Board of Directors
2020 - 2021 Meeting Dates***

Officers, Directors, Program Development Assistants, Topic Chairs, and Chairs of Standing Committees have a vote. All members are welcome to attend.

Wednesday, January 6, 2021	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, February 3, 2021	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, March 3, 2021	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, April 7, 2021	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, May 5, 2021	9:30 a.m.

Nominating Committee . . .

In accordance with AAUW Bylaws, the branch will elect new officers during the 2021 March business meeting for the following positions:

Elected for two-year terms:

Treasurer
Membership Vice President
Development Vice President
Marketing Vice President

Elected for a one-year term:

Director at Large

The Nominating Committee (listed below) has completed the slate of officers. The committee met each week this past fall, and the candidates were narrowed to a final slate. The list of nominees will be presented to all members during the 2021 February business meeting and voted upon at the March business meeting.

Thank you for your participation in maintaining our branch's excellent leadership.

Sharon Bigot (Chair)	aebskfb@comcast.net
Rae Cornelius	rae.cornelius@gmail.com
Doris Grimes	DLW5400@aol.com
Ellen Hughes	ellen_hughes@comcast.net
Mollie Keys	mkeys11291@aol.com
Rosemary Lawrence	rosemarylawrence7@gmail.com
Nancy Sjoquist	nsjoquist@gmail.com
Peggy Woodbury	peggyjwoodbury@gmail.com

Sharon Bigot, Nominating Committee Chair

Membership . . .

On a beautiful fall day several years ago I, Kathleen, found myself retired and at loose ends about what to do with the years ahead. Believe it or not the next day a former colleague called and invited me to an AAUW meeting! It was just what I needed. After a busy career, AAUW has filled my life with new friends, new adventures, and new ideas. The world is changing rapidly, and our fabulous lectures keep us informed and up to date on everything from science to music and so much more.

One of our previous topics was about loneliness and how it is affecting both young and old. Loneliness has become a huge problem among people of all ages. This was true before the pandemic but has been exacerbated during the months we have remained at home—especially among people in our age group. The Gale Mansion was closed and our meetings suspended. But because our members are creative and hardworking, we have three programs every Monday followed by a question and answer period. How is this accomplished? Zoom meetings have been implemented, and over 100 members attend each Monday.

Because we are life-long learners, because we value our AAUW friends, because we believe in equity for women, we belong to AAUW. This organization means a lot to us, and therefore we like to share it with longtime friends, family members, and former colleagues. We ask you to invite them to join AAUW for a winter full of new ideas.

Becky Farber, Membership Co-Vice President
Kathleen Kohler, Membership Co-Vice President

Video Meeting Etiquette . . .

There is just no substitute for good manners in all of our daily interactions, and they're certainly appreciated more than ever in public meetings. Join early—up to five or ten minutes before the meeting start time.

- **Stage your video area.**

People aren't just seeing you, they're also seeing whatever the camera is pointed at behind you. Position your camera in a stable position, focused at eye level if possible. This helps create a more direct sense of engagement with others. Arrange it so that your camera isn't facing a window or a traffic throughway. Check your appearance on the little camera shot that appears just before you join the group.

- **More light is better.**

Video quality is improved with more lighting. Make sure the light is to the side or in front of you; being backlit makes you harder to see. Everyone is actually on camera, so try to avoid distractions for others.

- **Try to look into the camera.**

If you're presenting or asking a question, looking into the camera will give the appearance of eye contact with your audience.

- **Check your own tech options before you start.**

Put your hand up if you want to speak. Do this under "Participants."

- **Stay on mute if you're not talking.**

Background noise can be very distracting. If you aren't sharing anything at the moment, press mute until you do.

- **Don't eat during the meeting.**

It can be a little unsettling watching other people eat. Hold off if you can, or turn off the video and audio.

- **Stay focused.**

Avoid multi-tasking and keep unnecessary movements to a minimum. It can be easy to forget that people can hear and see you.

How to Join a Zoom Meeting . . .

Step 1: Watch this video: "Joining a Zoom Call for the First Time." Please do not skip this video—it walks you through step by step: <https://youtu.be/9isp3qPeQ0E>

Step 2: You are welcome to join any of the meetings. If you follow the instructions successfully and try to join the meeting before the appointed time, you will find yourself looking at yourself, but no one else is there. Click on the Leave Meeting button to exit. Join again five or ten minutes before the meeting begins.

Step 3: If you were not successful in getting into the meeting, you can email one of the Technology Committee members to arrange a time when one of them can call and help you.

Nan Beman: n.beman@me.com

Alice Heth: aheth@comcast.net

Esther Fabes: fabes002@umn.edu

Carol Sheldon: cvsheldon@gmail.com

Leslie Swenson: kline012@umn.edu

Joanne Tracy: jtracyhome@comcast.net

Ann Vanvick: alvanvic@gmail.com

Nell Wegmann: nwegmann@mac.com

House Management Committee . . .

Even though the Gale Mansion is closed, maintenance tasks go on, and we had an expensive one this fall when the hot water heater developed a leak, and we had to replace it for \$10,000!

Other improvements were made as well. Because we expect to hold very small weddings and other small events, we need the building to look good, so we had the carpet in the coat room and on the stairs leading to the lower level shampooed to very good effect.

In addition, we had the steps from the lawn to the terrace on the south side of the building repaired, closing the four-inch and ever-widening gap between the terrace and the steps.

Snow removal from the entrance to the Gale and our sidewalks along both Stevens and 22nd Street will again be done by Rick Stafford, one of our faithful kitchen staff.

Our beautiful Gale Mansion continues to wait for our return, and we all look forward to again joining our friends on Mondays at the Gale.

Ellen Hughes, House Management Vice President

Committee Meetings . . .

No regular committee meetings are listed in this Bulletin. Zoom links for committee meetings will be listed in the Sunday newsletter. If your committee would like to arrange a Zoom meeting, contact Esther Fabes and she will assist you. Please schedule it on a day other than Monday.

Monday Literature . . .

- September ***American Dirt***
Jeanine Cummins
- October ***This Tender Land***
William Kent Krueger
- November ***The Dutch House***
Ann Patchett
- January ***The Giver of Stars***
Jojo Moyes
- February ***The Night Watchman***
Louise Erdrich
- March ***Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine***
Gail Honeyman
- April ***Hum If You Don't Know the Words***
Bianca Marais

Monday Nonfiction Books . . .

- September ***The Righteous Mind***
Jonathan Haidt
- November ***The Library Book***
Susan Orlean
- February ***Hidden Valley Road***
Robert Kolker
- April ***Educated***
Tara Westover

Tuesday Evening Literature . . .

- November ***Never Coming Back***
Alison McGhee
- April ***Cry, the Beloved Country***
Alan Paton
- May ***Untamed***
Glennon Doyle
- June ***The Book of Lost Friends***
Lisa Wingate
- August ***The Genius of Birds***
Jennifer Ackerman

Minneapolis Branch Scholarship Fund

AAUW Scholarship in the Time of COVID-19

The deadline for applications from Minneapolis Public High School girls for AAUW 2020-2021 scholarships was February 7, 2020. We received 48 complete applications. The nine members of the Scholarship Board each read all of the applications. However, instead of voting at the Gale, COVID-19 closure forced us to vote by email. Email voting resulted in four top candidates who were each interviewed though Zoom by the same three Scholarship Board members. The winners for the scholarships are Kao Chang of Henry High and Eleanor Craig of Edison.

Kao Chang continued her summer her job at the University of Minnesota Neurosurgery Department. She is attending the University of Minnesota, Rochester, enrolled in their nursing program. Her orientation was done virtually through video modules and mini quizzes. Most of her courses this semester will be online, but her statistics course is in-person.

Eleanor Craig lost her job as a Hennepin County Library youth officer specialist when the library closed in March. In addition to our scholarship, she received a President's merit-based scholarship from Loyola University in Chicago where she is studying communications and international relations. Eleanor originally planned to live on campus, but Loyola has closed the campus down. All of her classes are online. Getting an apartment in either Minneapolis or St. Paul is a future possibility if Loyola continues having its campus closed.

Most of the classes for the other seven scholars are online. However, any labs such as biology or chemistry are in person. The St. Thomas University, St. Paul scholar participates in their in-person choir. They sing outside, socially distanced from each other. Two upper-class

nursing students have in-person clinical experiences in local hospitals. The mechanical engineering student (going to Drexel University, in Pennsylvania) began a six-month work project with a construction firm in Boston in September. She will learn about building houses and business buildings. Three of our scholars are living at home and the rest are in apartments.

AAUW Minneapolis is currently helping to support nine young women who are graduates of Minneapolis Public High Schools: two freshman, two sophomores, three juniors, and two seniors. The third junior is our first Nadia Christensen AAUW Minneapolis scholar. We sent checks to scholars' universities/colleges this August (2020) for a total of \$34,400.

Please consider donating to the AAUW Minneapolis Scholarship Fund! Donations can be made to our growing endowment fund or to our general fund. The AAUW Scholarship Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Sharon Bigot
President, AAUW Minneapolis Scholarship Fund Board



Eleanor Craig



Kao Chang

Monday, December 7, 2020

9:30 - 10:30

ENVIRONMENT

on Zoom

Proposed Copper Mining in Northeast Minnesota and Potential Impacts on the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW)

Speaker: Chris Knopf, Executive Director, The Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness

The Boundary Waters is the most visited wilderness area in the United States, and within its boundaries are 1,100 lakes, 1,200 miles of canoe routes, and 1,090,000 acres of wilderness. Knopf will discuss the efforts of foreign companies to open copper-sulfide mines adjacent to the BWCAW and the potential toxic effects of acid runoff to its beloved pristine irreplaceable waters and wilderness.

Diana Kamp

11:00 - 12:00 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY on Zoom

**Artificial Intelligence:
Will a Chatbot be a Future Companion?**

Speaker: Dr. Maria Gin, Distinguished Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Minnesota

Artificial intelligence has made incredible progress and has reached the point where it will impact our lives in many ways. Today Gin will talk about chatbots, programs that can answer questions, give us reminders, and more. Will these be among our future companions?

Marilyn Listvan

12:00 noon ANNOUNCEMENTS

1:15 - 2:15 THE ARTS on Zoom

Conservation Treatment of a 370 Year Old Painting

Speaker: Rita Berg, Paintings Conservator, Midwest Art
Conservation Center

Learn how a discolored, grimy painting, which hung for years in an obscure space at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, was brought back to life through conservation. Berg, a paintings conservator at Midwest Art Conservation Center, will discuss the treatment of *The Holy Family and the Infant St. John*, by Spanish painter Mateo Cerezo the Younger (1635-1685). She will introduce principles of art conservation, a profession devoted to the preservation of artifacts for the future.

Rosemary Lawrence

Guest Policy . . .

AAUW Minneapolis welcomes guests! You are invited to share the Zoom link with a friend who you think would be interested and would enjoy our program. To welcome our guests please do the following:

- Invite with the Zoom link. You can cut and paste the pertinent information or forward the entire email. Please remind your guest not to share the link via social media.
- Please send our president, Diane Boruff, an email stating that you have a guest so we can introduce guests at 12:00 noon before the announcements. Please include your guest's email address.
- Also, please send membership chairs, Kathleen Kohler and Becky Farber, your guest's name and contact information so they can welcome them. We encourage our guests to join us as members.

Bulletin Deadline

January 6 is the due date for
March, April, May, and Summer Bulletin items.
Thanks.

Marilyn Oliphant 952-469-4387
mloliphant@charter.net

Monday, December 14, 2020

Holiday Lights on Zoom

9:30-10:30 **Refreshments and Social Time** on Zoom

Make yourself comfortable with beverage and a cookie.

Discussion Groups on Zoom

Group Options:

- These are a Few of my Favorite Things

- I'm Leaving on a Jet Plane

(Favorite Winter Travel Destinations)

- Food Glorious Food

(Sharing Favorite Winter Comfort Foods/Recipes)

- Discussion of Favorite Winter Escape Books

11:00 - 12:00

Program

on Zoom

Baibi Vegners and Dan Wascoe

Enjoy a delightful morning listening to American classic popular songs, from ragtime to the Beatles, presented by vocalist Baibi Vegners and pianist Dan Wascoe who have performed as the duo Nuance since 2007.

1:00 - 2:00 **Subtext Bookstore of St. Paul** on Zoom

Sue Zumberge will recommend great holiday gift books and will prepare a book list and store information for members to encourage book ordering online. Booklists will be emailed ahead of time to members.

GUESTS ARE WELCOME!

Mary Kay Heruth and DeDe Scanlon
Holiday Lights Committee Co-chairs

Monday, January 4, 2021

9:30 - 10:30 LITERARY PURSUITS on Zoom

Hidden Recipes, a Holocaust Memoir

Speaker: Eva Moreimi, Author

Moreimi shares the story of her parents, Ica and Ernő, Czechoslovakian survivors of the Holocaust. While her fellow inmates were telling stories about their lives when food was abundant before the war, Ica secretly wrote down hundreds of their recipes. This is their story of endurance, the will to survive, courage, faith, and finding joy and happiness again.

Jill Wolpert

11:00 - 12:00 WOMEN'S VOICES on Zoom

**Perspectives on Chronic Sorrow From an Author,
a Psychologist, and a Bereaved Daughter**

Speaker: Martha Bordwell, PhD, Counseling Psychologist,
Writer, and Author of *Missing Mothers:
A Memoir*

A normal response to an abnormal situation may include ongoing feelings of sadness or sorrow. Bordwell relies on personal experiences, as well as twenty-five years of counseling others, to define and discuss chronic sorrow. She offers coping skills and draws parallels between chronic sorrow and the emotional challenges we are all facing as the pandemic continues to alter our lives.

Pam Kaufman

12:00 noon ANNOUNCEMENTS

1:15 - 2:15 EDUCATION on Zoom

Minnesota Education 2020-21

Speaker: Erin Golden, Education Editor for the Star
Tribune

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic and national reckoning over racism and inequality, the 2020-21 school year is unlike any other for students and educators in Minnesota. Teachers, students, and families are adapting to fast-changing conditions in a year when teaching and learning might be happening in a classroom—or at the kitchen table. The changes forced upon everyone by the pandemic will have wide-reaching implications for schools, from funding to addressing (and exacerbating) Minnesota’s persistent achievement gaps.

Lora Opsahl

About Our House . . .

Welcome to the Gale Mansion. We are proud of this historic building, which has been the Minneapolis Branch home since 1947.

All doors are locked for security and energy conservation. To gain admittance, press the intercom button at the front door and state your name as a member or guest to gain access. Please make arrangements prior to arrival by emailing Karen Hancock at events@galemansion.com.

The beautiful Gale Mansion is available for weddings, parties, meetings, and other special events. Please encourage others to consider this facility for their special event needs.

Monday, January 11, 2021

9:30 - 10:30

FAIR PLAY

on Zoom

**The American Empire in Decline:
Where Do We Go From Here?**

Speaker: Lawrence Wilkerson, Professor of Government and Public Policy, College of William and Mary

The American Empire is at a crucial crossroads. It is similar to the moment in historical time when our predecessor, the British Empire, confronted fully its own demise in the immediate form of President Dwight Eisenhower's refusal in 1956 to condone, let alone support, Britain, France, and Israel in their invasion of Suez in order to take over operation of the Suez Canal. At that moment, as Eisenhower would later write, the United States took over responsibility for the Levant region. Since then, the United States has taken on the globe. That burden alone, but many other things as well, threatens our own demise unless we make serious changes swiftly.

Lil Lindsey

11:00 - 12:00

THE ARTS

on Zoom

**Contemporary Women Artists:
Essential Voices in Mia's Collection**

Speaker: Debbi Hegstrom, Senior Educator, Docent Program, Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia)

Women artists have added their voices to art-making throughout time and across cultures. With great diversity of style and subject, they have critiqued social roles, relations between men and women, how women are viewed, and the cultures in which they live. After a brief

nod to the past, Hegstrom will focus on the contemporary artists in Mia's collection and their contributions to current essential conversations.

Susan Tasa

12:00 noon ANNOUNCEMENTS
BUSINESS MEETING

1:15 - 2:15 HEALTH on Zoom

Arthritis and Its Treatment

Speaker: Dr. John T. Schousboe, MD, PhD,
Rheumatologist, Park Nicollet Clinic

Arthritis is a major cause of disability, particularly as we age. In this talk, Schousboe will describe the major types of arthritis, how health care providers distinguish them to establish a diagnosis, and provide an overview of how the major types of arthritis are managed to reduce pain and disability.

DeDe Scanlon

Thank You, Program Topic Chairs and Committee Members

Your time and dedication to learning and advocacy for AAUW priorities have produced another great year of programs.

Thanks for all you do.

Monday, January 18, 2021

9:30 - 10:30 PUBLIC POLICY on Zoom

Immigration Policy and Incarcerating Asylum Seekers

Speaker: Marissa Hill-Dongre, JD, Director, Immigration Response Team; Assistant Director, International Student and Scholar Services, University of Minnesota

Hill-Dongre is an immigration attorney with years of experience across a broad spectrum of immigration cases. She will discuss current events in immigration law and policy, and will provide insight into many immigration-related events. She will also address what additional changes we may face going forward.

Nan Beman

11:00 - 12:00 EDUCATION on Zoom

Innovate to Educate

Speakers: Deb Mallin, Founder, Visionary, and Board Chair of Literacy Matters Foundation
Tammie Follett, Executive Director

Students who do not read proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to leave school without a diploma. Struggling readers are disproportionately low-income students and students of color. Literacy and achievement gaps are vast. The learning program, Mighty Doodle, uses leading edge technology instruction in a lesson format delivered on an iPad for this generation of learners.

Lora Opsahl

12:00 noon ANNOUNCEMENTS

1:15 - 2:15 ENVIRONMENT on Zoom

**Wants of the West:
H. W. S. Cleveland and the Grand Rounds**

Speaker: Bradley Agee, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Landscape Architecture, University of Minnesota

Horace Cleveland, a landscape architect, was a driving force in shaping the early Minneapolis landscape. He provided a framework to guide city development, emphasizing the conservation of the Pre-European landscape. As a result, Minneapolis is a distinctive city due to its water, green spaces, commerce, and public access. His approach to natural landscape design can be seen in projects such as the Grand Rounds in Minneapolis.

Leslie Swenson

Help the Groveland Food Shelf

Join the members of AAUW to help the Groveland Food Shelf. February is the month of greatest need.



Food and checks will be collected at the Gale on **Wednesday**, February 3 **and** February 10 from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Checks should be written to the Groveland Food Shelf.

Monday, January 25, 2021

Special interest groups meet the fourth Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m. Due to Zoom scheduling, we will only be offering book discussions during the choice time on the fourth Monday. Literature group discussions will be held monthly, and nonfiction book group discussions will be held in February and April. Committee chairs are Elaine Kirk and Sheryl Sostarich.

The list of books selected for this year is found on page 11 of this Bulletin. Discussion of the book is facilitated by a branch member.

9:30 - 10:30 LITERATURE DISCUSSION on Zoom

***The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes**

Discussion Leader: Karen Gray

This is a beautifully written historical fiction novel about the 1930's Horseback Librarian program in Kentucky, started by Eleanor Roosevelt. Five resilient, compassionate, and independent women face many difficulties as they ride horses and mules in order to enrich the lives of those to whom they bring literacy and libraries in rural Appalachia.

11:00 - 12:00 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY on Zoom

Sleep

Speaker: Keith Fridel, PhD, LP, Sleep Psychologist, Health Partners, Park Nicollet Clinic

Trained as a clinical research scientist, Fridel uses modern empirically-supported treatments with established scientific support to determine how to treat people with sleep issues like insomnia and sleep apnea. He will explain the scientific research and common misperceptions about how to get a better night's sleep. With three decades in the field of sleep medicine, he is uniquely qualified as one of only 200 full-time behavioral sleep medicine specialists in the United States.

Pat Deckas Becerra

12:00 noon ANNOUNCEMENTS

1:15 - 2:15 LITERARY PURSUITS on Zoom

Northernmost Adventure

Speaker: Peter Geye, Local Author

One reviewer felt that Geye should receive the Nobel Prize for winter and be declared poet laureate of snow! His latest book, *Northernmost*, is his fourth novel set in our northern wilderness, written with passion, knowledge, and authority. It is rich in history, adventure, and love.

Vicki Dunn

Monday, February 1, 2021

9:30 - 10:30

THE ARTS

on Zoom

AAUW Artistic Gardens

Speaker: Video Presentation compiled by Jean Heidenreich and Ann Vanvick

What could be more delightful, in mid-winter when snow covers the ground, than to view beautiful, colorful pictures of the 2020 summer gardens of AAUW members? Many responded to the weekly newsletter invitations, prepared by Jean Heidenreich, by sending pictures of the flowers and decorations in their gardens, yards, patios, decks, and porches. Today's program is the resulting picture show created by Jean and Ann that includes quotes and music. Enjoy!

Jean Heidenreich and Ann Vanvick

11:00 - 12:00

WOMEN'S VOICES

on Zoom

Impact and Innovation with the Women's Foundation of Minnesota

Speaker: Gloria Perez, President and Chief Executive Officer, Women's Foundation of Minnesota

As the first statewide women's foundation in the country, the Women's Foundation has been driving gender and racial equity since 1983. Through grant-making, research, and public policy, the Foundation invests in economic opportunity, safety, and leadership to create a world where women, girls, and all people hold the power to create and lead safe and prosperous lives.

Peggy Pluimer

12:00 noon ANNOUNCEMENTS

1:15 - 2:15 HEALTH on Zoom

Why are Health Care Costs in the United States so High? What Can We do About it?

Speaker: Anne Jones, MA, BSN, RN, Vice-Chair,
Board of Health Care for All Minnesota

What is the impact of our multi-payer system on health spending in the United States and in Minnesota, on overall health outcomes, on individuals, families, and businesses? How did we get here? What are some of the barriers to change? What are the principles and features of a comprehensive, affordable, high quality health care system that would cover all Minnesotans? How can you help us fix the way we pay for health care in Minnesota and the United States?

Carrie D'Andrea

**Remember to Donate to the
Groveland Food Shelf**

Wednesday, February 3 and
Wednesday, February 10

Bring items and checks to the Gale between
9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Checks should be written to the Groveland Food Shelf.

Monday, February 8, 2021

9:30 - 10:30

EDUCATION

on Zoom

Influential and Unapologetic

Speaker: Qorsho Hassan, Minnesota 2021 Teacher of the Year

Hassan will share her journey in education, including pitfalls, pushbacks, and triumphs. This is a call to action for white educators and allies to actively support, empower, and learn from teachers and students of color.

Lora Opsahl

11:00 - 12:00

PUBLIC POLICY

on Zoom

A Movement to End Homelessness in Minnesota

Speaker: Craig Freeman, Community Connection Manager, Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative

We do not need to tell you that there is an affordable housing crisis with significant racial disparities in Minnesota, and there is much hand wringing over what to do about it. Studies have shown that our society has the resources we need to ensure that everyone has a safe, warm place to call their own. Beacon's vision is that all people have a home. We simply haven't stood up as one and demanded that our leaders make housing a priority. Beacon is working to build a movement that does just that.

Joyce Prudden

12:00 noon ANNOUNCEMENTS and
 BUSINESS MEETING

1:15 - 2:15 FAIR PLAY on Zoom

**Artificial Intelligence (AI)
Big Data, and the Age of Surveillance**

Speaker: Thomas Hanson, Diplomat in Residence,
University of Minnesota, Duluth

Hanson will present a brief history of artificial intelligence (AI), including Minnesota's important role in the early stages of its development. As it evolves further in a sea of big data, AI has great potential for use and abuse by governments and the private sector that should be of concern to every citizen.

Dorothy Lilja

Member Pictures Available Online

To see the photos: go to the AAUW branch website:

minneapolis-mn.aauw.net

From your computer: menu ribbon across the top of the
page:

Click on Current Members then click on
Member Gallery

From your smart phone: click on Menu, scroll down.
Click on Member Gallery

Password: members 34!

Monday, February 15, 2021

9:30 - 10:30

ENVIRONMENT

on Zoom

Environmental Ethics

Speaker: Richard Painter, S. Walter Richey Professor of Corporate Law, University of Minnesota Law School

What are our duties to protect the environment and what is our moral responsibility toward animals—or do humans always come first? How do you decide which is most important: jobs and livable wages or preserving nature for future generations? Issues and arguments are ongoing over the consumption of natural resources, destruction of forests, environmental pollution, food insecurity, and harms to animals and biodiversity by individuals and corporations. Painter will discuss these ongoing challenges and help us understand how to approach some of the difficult questions faced while trying to save our planet.

Beverly Erickson

11:00 - 12:00

PUBLIC POLICY

on Zoom

China: Where Are We Now and Where Are We Going?

Speaker: Joan Brzezinski, Executive Director, University of Minnesota China Center

Over the past decade, tensions in the United States and China relationship have increased and grown more and more antagonistic across a wide spectrum of activities from education and research, to human rights and geopolitical developments, to trade and tariffs. The road ahead has numerous obstacles. United States and China exchanges face new and difficult challenges. Is the United States and

China relationship headed for a total breakdown or possible conflict? The development of an equitable, peaceful, and sustainable relationship is crucial.

Veronica Johnson

12:00 noon ANNOUNCEMENTS

1:15 - 2:15 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY on Zoom

**Finding Loren: The Life, Death, and Discovery
of a WWII P-47 Fighter Pilot**

Speaker: Gretchen Hintz Wronka, Retired Hennepin
County Librarian and History Buff

This presentation describes one family's quest to find their father, grandfather, and great grandfather, a P-47 fighter pilot, more than 70 years after he was shot down over northern Italy during the decisive Po River Battle. First Lieutenant Loren Hintz's death remained clouded in mystery for more than 70 years until his family, along with a dedicated group of passionate Italian aviation enthusiasts and archaeologists, located and excavated the crash site. What they discovered will amaze you and surely inspire the latest generation to cherish and honor all those from the Greatest Generation.

Alice Heth

Monday, February 22, 2021

9:30 - 10:30 MONDAY BOOK DISCUSSIONS on Zoom

LITERATURE DISCUSSION

The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich

Discussion Leader: Elaine Kirk

Set in the 1950s, this novel is based on the real-life experience of the author's grandfather who worked as a night watchman and skillfully carried the fight against Native dispossession from rural North Dakota all the way to Washington, D.C. It is also the story of a variety of intriguing characters whose lives intersect in supportive and challenging ways.

NONFICTION BOOK DISCUSSION

Hidden Valley Road by Robert Kolker

Discussion Leader: Sheryl Sostarich

This is a story of an American family with twelve children, six of whom were diagnosed with schizophrenia. This book is a history of the science of schizophrenia from the era of institutionalization and lobotomy, to the search for genetic markers for the disease.

11:00 - 12:00 LITERARY PURSUITS on Zoom

Somewhere in the Unknown World

Speaker: Kao Kalia Yang, Author

Yang, award-winning Hmong American author and former guest to AAUW, will speak about her newest book, *Somewhere in the Unknown World*, a collective memoir of refugee stories. The book centers on fourteen refugees from wars of the last fifty years, across space and time. Hear Yang read from her newest book and engage in a conversation about home, courage, and the tribulations of love and belonging.

Muriel Thompson

12:00 Noon ANNOUNCEMENTS

1:15 - 2:15 EDUCATION on Zoom

A Tale of Two Countries

Speaker: Jim Grathwol, Parent Peer Educator for National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Minnesota

The COVID-19 pandemic is reshaping our world and the United States in ways we are just beginning to understand. At home, the United States' response to the pandemic has demonstrated that sound governance is a matter of life and death. The impact of the pandemic has revealed the disparities that define American society: an institutional bias to deny citizens who are black, indigenous, or people of color their inalienable rights to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." As we walk forward into 2021 and beyond, federal, state, and local governments will legislate to reshape public policy in response to what we have learned from this experience.

Kay Kessel

