

March 2023  
Volume 72, Issue 6

# HIGHLIGHTS

AAUW FUNDS LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023

11:30 A.M. SOCIAL TIME & SILENT AUCTION

12:15 LUNCH

12:45 SPEAKER & GENERAL MEETING

ROCHESTER GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

3100 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD SW

CRICKET CLUB ROOM

PROGRAM: CHRISTINE SONG

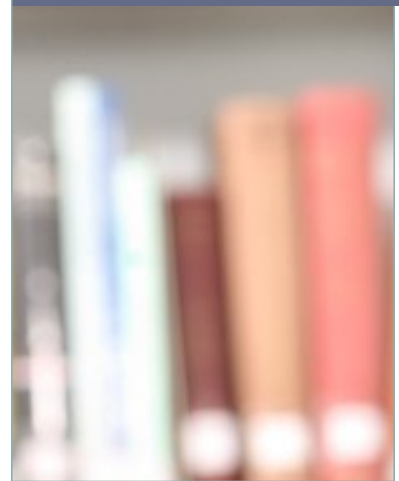
BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY MARCH 10

SARA STAAB, AAUW FUNDS VICE-PRESIDENT



ROCHESTER (MN)  
BRANCH



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For important information about making your reservation for the luncheon

## Luncheon Menu

Chicken salad on a croissant and garden salad

Vegetarian: Wrap sandwich

Mail check for \$26 made out to AAUW no later than March 10 to

Sara Staab

1172 Grey Fox Ave SW

Rochester, MN 55902

Indicate your choice of chicken salad or vegetarian wrap sandwich on the memo line of your check.

### MEMBERSHIP

For information,  
please contact

Kathy Lawrence

507-285-9331

kathy-  
lawrence@charter.net

or

Jo Trachy

507-269-0091

Trachy.jo@gmail.com

### PROGRAM

The annual AAUW Funds Luncheon will celebrate education of women and girls and raise funds for our sponsorship of a college student to attend NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders). Please bring items for the Silent Auction and your checkbook or cash.

Our speaker is Mayo High School student Christine Song. She won first place last year at the North Central Region Junior Science and Humanities Symposium for her research in breast cancer. We look forward to hearing about her research and plans for her further education.

The luncheon will be held in The Cricket Club Room at Rochester Golf & Country Club. Enter through the main club door and take the stairs or elevator to the second floor.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All branch members are invited to participate in any of the following groups. Please let the chair or discussion leader know in advance, if possible. Contact the chair, discussion leader, or host for additional meeting information.

### **BOARD MEETING—MONDAY, MARCH 6—7:00 PM**

Location: Zoom. Board members: Notify Barb if you cannot attend.

President: Barb Knutsen 507-285-5122 (home); 507-535-9175 (cell); [bknutsen45@gmail.com](mailto:bknutsen45@gmail.com)

### **READING PLUS—MONDAY, MARCH 6—9:00 AM**

Book: **The German Wife** by Kelly Rimmer

Leader and Host: Ruth Strobel

Location: ZOOM

Chairs: Gay Segar (507-398-9899; [hilltoplg@yahoo.com](mailto:hilltoplg@yahoo.com)) and Mary Jo Kelly (507-282-7030, [mjcroch@gmail.com](mailto:mjcroch@gmail.com))

### **WHO'S WHO—DOES NOT MEET IN MARCH**

Next meeting: April 4

Chair: Chair: Joyce Wenz ([joycewenz@yahoo.com](mailto:joycewenz@yahoo.com))

### **BETWEEN THE LINES—TUESDAY, MARCH 7—1:00 P.M.**

Book: **What Strange Paradise** by Omar al Akkad

Leader: Rita Zeman

Location: Zoom Contact Karen Krueger ([brkck@charter.net](mailto:brkck@charter.net)) for information

Chair: Tjalda Nauta (617-797-5603; [tjalda.nauta@gmail.com](mailto:tjalda.nauta@gmail.com))

### **AFTERNOON READING—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8—1:00 PM**

Book: **The Last Rose of Shanghai**

Discussion Leader: TBA

Hostess: Susan Arnold Location: 1106 8th St SW

Chairs: Judy Auger ([judy\\_auger@msn.com](mailto:judy_auger@msn.com), 282-7922) and Laura Martin ([martin.laura@mac.com](mailto:martin.laura@mac.com) 289-7895)

### **WORDS WORTH—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8—1:30 PM**

Book: **The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society** by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

Location: Nancy and Kay at Homestead

Chair: Barbara Knutsen (507-535-9175; [bknutsen45@gmail.com](mailto:bknutsen45@gmail.com))

### **US FOREIGN POLICY —THURSDAY, MARCH 23 —1:00 PM**

Majel Hall will lead the discussion of Topic #2 in Great Decisions, War Crimes: What are they? How can they be prosecuted?

Location: ZOOM. Contact Sara for information

Chair: Sara Staab (507-261-9803 [jeff.sara.staab@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.sara.staab@gmail.com))

### **READING WITH A PURPOSE—THURSDAY, March 23—7:00 PM**

Book: **The Salt Path** by Raynor Winn

Discussion Leader: Rosemary Bradshaw

Location: Zoom

Chair: Julie Caesar (288-9209; [rstgardener@gmail.com](mailto:rstgardener@gmail.com))

Board Election

The election will be held at our April General meeting.

Here is the slate of nominees thus far for the positions that must be elected in odd-numbered years according to our Bylaws:

President Elect

Open

One Program VP

Maryette Braithwaite

One Membership VP

Jo Trachy

Treasurer

Judy Argue

Membership Treasurer

Julie Gilkinson

Public Policy Chair

Amy Caucutt

Nominations will be accepted

From the floor with the nominee's consent.

Please consider serving!

## FROM THE PRESIDENT —

### BARBARA KNUTSEN

Barbara Knutsen

bknutsen45@gmail.com

507-285-5122

507-535-9175 (cell)



It was wonderful to see many of you at the February general meeting at Charter House. Everyone enjoyed the social time and being able to be together after a brief hiatus of meetings. I hope we will meet again at the March luncheon. Be sure to bring items for the silent auction and your checkbook or cash to be ready to bid on the items or make a donation that will help us send a student to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

Some topics on my mind:

#### **Rochester Branch now has a website!**

Check it out at <https://rochester-mn.aauw.net/>

Thank you Beth Nienow for pursuing this and for volunteering to be our webmaster.

**Candidate for President-Elect needed:** Voting for Board members will take place in April. At this time we will elect a President-Elect to serve one year on the board getting acquainted with the function of the board and duties of the president, and then will go on to serve two years as President. If Rochester is to continue to be a viable branch, we need willing members to serve on the board.

**AAUW MN State Annual Meeting.** (Previously known as the State Convention) This year the meeting will be via Zoom Saturday, April 29, scheduled for 10-noon. Rochester is entitled to SIX voting delegates, but all members are invited to attend. Please let me know by March 24 if you wish to be a voting delegate or alternate as I need to send the names to the State by the end of the month. The voting delegate and alternate will need to be able to vote electronically. A separate ballot will be sent via email to delegates only. Completed ballots are to be returned to the state president by April 15, 2023.

#### **Tax Time Reminder**

It is tax season so let us remind you that \$64 of your \$67 national AAUW dues are tax deductible. In addition, your \$9 state dues are also deductible. If you desire additional documentation of that, please contact our membership treasurer, Julie Gilkinson. Rochester branch dues are NOT deductible.

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

New member **Patricia Sim** writes, “I was planning to join AAUW at retirement in 2021. My home was in St. Paul, MN. However, in 2022 I returned to Rochester to be close to family. A friend is a member in St. Paul and I was attracted by her stories of the interesting speakers at the meetings. My interest lies in the general meeting, book groups, and meeting with other women of similar interests.”

Welcome, Patricia!

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Long time member **Mona Price** passed away on February 10, 2023 at age 96. Mona grew up in Rochester. Her father, Ed Branley, was editor of the Rochester Post-Bulletin during those years. She graduated from Lourdes High School and the College of St. Theresa where she majored in chemistry. She had a career as a medical technician in addition to raising five children with her husband and participating in numerous volunteer activities and playing bridge, I knew Mona best as a member of the Reading With A Purpose book group. She recommended the most interesting books, usually about other cultures and countries, presenting meticulously researched information on authors and history. I would encourage anyone who remembers Mona to make a memorial donation in her name to AAUW.

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Whether you're a new member or a “seasoned” member of our branch, the Member Spotlight would like to shine on you! Please contact Highlights editor **Beth Nienow** if you would like to be featured or know of member news to be shared.

## NCCWSL REPORT

Each year our branch has the opportunity to sponsor a student to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (or NCCWSL, pronounced Nick-Whistle) usually held at the University of Maryland near Washington, D.C. Last year the conference was held virtually so we were able to sponsor two UMR students. This is what one of those students, **Tessie Burley**, said about the experience:

“Overall it was a really interesting conference that I was grateful to be a part of. The wide variety of speakers and sessions was nice and I enjoyed choosing which ones to attend as they pertained to my personal interests. Of course, I'm sure it would have been even more amazing in person. Having to attend online is the only regret I take away from this experience. Having attended this conference with its focus on female leadership was very eye-opening and I am grateful to have had the opportunity.”

AAUW ROCHESTER

626 GATES LN SW

ROCHESTER, MN  
55902

**Web sites:**

National AAUW:

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

MN AAUW:

[aaumn.net](http://aaumn.net)

AAUW Rochester:

[https://rochester-  
mn.aauw.net/](https://rochester-mn.aauw.net/)

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You are receiving this e-mail as a member of the Rochester Branch of AAUW.

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

Our newsletter mailing address is

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Rochester branch email

[aauwrochmn@gmail.com](mailto:aauwrochmn@gmail.com)

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