

March, 2024
Volume 73, Issue 5

HIGHLIGHTS

ANNUAL SPRING EDUCATION LUNCHEON

Saturday, March 16

Rochester Golf & Country Club

Cricket Room

11:30 Social Time

12:15 Lunch served

12:45 Speaker and branch meeting

Speaker: Michael Olson, recipient of the Mayor's
Educational Excellence Award

Lunch Menu

Vegetable Wild Rice Soup and choice of sandwich
Turkey and Havarti with Herb Aioli on Sourdough

OR

Roasted Vegetable & Fresh Mozzarella on Focaccia

\$26

RSVP BY MARCH 1

Call or email Sara Staab

Jeff.sara.staab@gmail.com

507-261-9803



ROCHESTER (MN)
BRANCH



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Annual Spring Education Luncheon

Our speaker is Michael Olson, the recipient of the Mayor's Educational Excellence Award. "The Folwell Elementary School teacher was recognized for work to address student needs academically, behaviorally, and emotionally, while also finding new ways to educate those in his fifth-grade classroom." (Post-Bulletin, Dec. 1, 2023)

February Zoom program recording

For those of you who were not able to attend the Zoom meeting on February 21 and for those who wish to review the contents, following is the YouTube link to the recording of the combined LWV/AAUW program on Homelessness in Olmsted County:

https://youtu.be/5ZUZZ_2dmfs

A timely reminder



Dues for 2023-2024 are \$111 (\$30 local dues, \$9 state dues, and \$72 national dues) \$69 of the National dues amount + the \$9 for the State dues is tax deductible, so \$78 total.

~Julie Gilkinson, Membership Treasurer

INTEREST GROUPS CALENDAR

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 4—7:00 PM

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

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

READING PLUS- MONDAY, MARCH 4--9:00 AM

Book: *The Dictionary of Lost Words* by Pip Williams

Leader: Ruth Stroebele Location: Zoom

Chairs: Ruth Stroebele 507-271-3240 ruthstroebele@yahoo.com and Carol Hartley 916-712-8899 chartley2@comcast.net

WHO'S WHO--NO MEETING IN MARCH

April book is *The Book of Gutsy Women* by Hillary Rodham Clinton and Chelsea Clinton

BETWEEN THE LINES—TUESDAY, MARCH 5—1:00

Book: *Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club* by J. Ryan Stradal

Leader: Rita Zeman, Location Zoom

Co-chairs: Karen Krueger brkck@charter.net and Pat Espeset patespeset@gmail.com

AFTERNOON READING—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13—1:00

Book: *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus

Host: Lynn Torsher 1403 Weatherhill Ridge Ct SW, 287-0631

Discussion Leader: Susan Arnold

Chairs: Judy Auger (judy_auger@msn.com, 282-7922) and Laura Martin (martin.laura@mac.com 289-7895)

WORDS WORTH—WEDNESDAY MARCH 13—1:30

Book: *The Dictionary of Lost Words* by Pip Williams

Location: Homestead, 1900 Ballington Blvd NW #308

Discussion Leader: Barb Knutsen

Chair: Mary Ann Kleis makleis@aol.com

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY—THURSDAY, MARCH 28—1:00

Maryette will lead the discussion of Topic #5 NATO's Future, Anyone who is interested but isn't on the Foreign Policy email list can email Sara at jeff.sara.staab@gmail.com for information about the meeting.

READING WITH A PURPOSE—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28—2:00

Book: *The Life She Was Given* by Ellen Marie Wiseman

Host: Ione Schloegel 2837 Wellington Ln SW 288-3295 ischloegel@charter.net

Discussion Leader: Julie Caesar (288-9209) rsgardener@gmail.com)

MEMBERSHIP

For information,
please contact

Kathy Lawrence

507-285-9331

kathy-lawrence@charter.net

Or

Jo Trachy

507-269-0091

Trachy.jo@gmail.com



FROM THE PRESIDENT —

BARBARA KNUTSEN

Barbara Knutsen

bknutsen45@gmail.com

507-285-5122

507-535-9175 (cell)



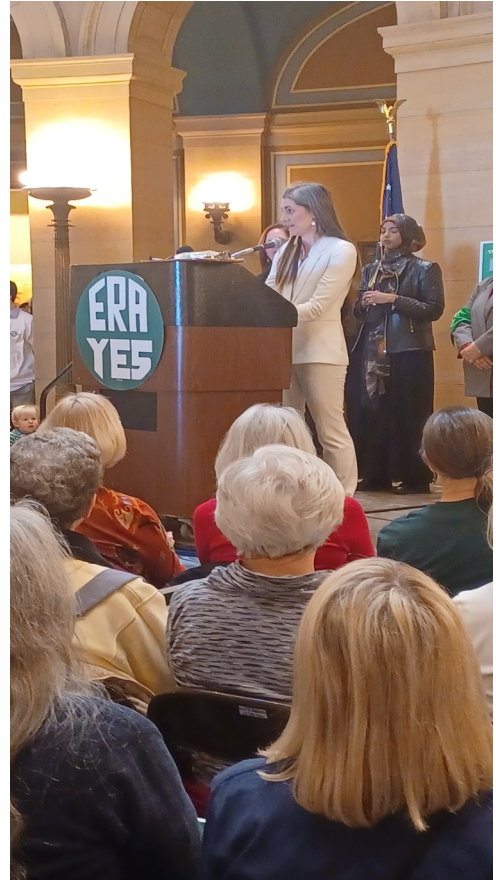
I want to thank Marilyn Stewart for hosting a beautiful, informative event promoting an AAUW scholarship for UMR. Thank you, also, to her co-hostesses, Wendy Shannon and Ann Lund. Lori Carrell, chancellor of UMR, gave a wonderful overview of UMR and future endeavors and current students told of their experiences attending UMR. As a result of the initial \$10,000 from Rochester AAUW savings, and checks and pledges received at the event, we are well on our way to funding an endowed scholarship of \$25,000. Thank you to all our generous members. A committee of Nancy Brubaker, Lucy Bahn, Beth Nienow, Amy Caucutt, along with Wendy Shannon will be meeting with the UMR Development department to determine the criteria for the scholarship candidate. Lori Carell pointed out that the money that is given to a student each year is the interest that is generated from the fund, so it is likely that this scholarship will be awarded for the first time to a student in the fall of 2025.

At our general meeting in April, we will elect officers for 2024-2026. According to our by-laws, one Program Vice President, one Membership Vice President, AAUW Funds Chair, and Secretary are elected in the even-numbered years. These current board members have agreed to continue in their positions, but if anyone would like to volunteer to serve, we would be happy to accommodate her. Up for election are: Program Vice President Rosemary Bradshaw, Membership Vice President Kathy Lawrence; AAUW Funds Chair Sara Staab, and Secretary Lucy Bahn. There was no President-elect candidate last year. As a result, I am willing to serve two more years as some of my predecessors have done. I would also encourage anyone to volunteer to be co-president with me in preparation for their own term.

Finally, I want to invite all of you to attend the AAUW State Annual Meeting April 26-27 at Hastings, MN. Our branch is allotted 6 delegates, based on our membership number, and Sara Staab and I are planning to attend. That means we need 4 more people to agree to be delegates, but every member is encouraged to attend. Registration is \$130, and hotel is \$220 plus tax. Please see the MN Pine issue for details and forms. Reservations for both are due by March 31. If you need any further information or forms to submit, please let me know.

I hope by now everyone has reserved their lunch at the Country Club for Saturday, March 16. Please contact Sara Staab if you would like to attend.

SPOTLIGHT



AAUW members from our branch and from around the state joined with ERAMN for a rally for ERA at the state capitol rotunda on February 12.



Dressed in red and other vibrant colors, branch members learned about the possibility of creating an endowed scholarship for a UMR student.



AAUW ROCHESTER

626 GATES LN SW

ROCHESTER, MN
55902

Web sites:

National AAUW:

www.aauw.org

MN AAUW:

aaumn.net

AAUW Rochester:

[www.facebook.com/
AAUW-Rochester-
Minnesota-](http://www.facebook.com/AAUW-Rochester-Minnesota-)

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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

AAUW Rochester MN

626 Gates LN SW

Rochester, MN 55902

Rochester branch email

aauwrochmn@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE

April 26-27, 2024

AAUW MN ANNUAL MEETING

“Confluence = Inclusion, Collaboration, Empowerment”

The Confluence Hotel & Conference Center

Hastings, MN

Keynote speakers presenting the issues of the day alongside
AAUW Mission-based Advocacy.



MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW! VISIT <https://aauw-mn.aauw.net/> and AAUW MN FB