

December 2024 / January 2025
Volume 74, Issue 4

HIGHLIGHTS

LWV ROCHESTER HAS INVITED
US TO ATTEND

MEET & GREET
WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS

SATURDAY, DEC. 14 AT 9:30 A.M.

ST LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1884 22ND ST NW

PARKING LOT IN REAR OFF 20TH ST NW

THERE WILL BE NO GENERAL

MEETING IN DECEMBER OR

JANUARY

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE
FEBRUARY, 2025



ROCHESTER (MN)
BRANCH



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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS-ROCHESTER

MEET & GREET WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS

Saturday, December 14 from 9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

We have new representation on the Rochester City Council, Olmsted County Commission, and Rochester Public School Board. Who are they and what do they hope to accomplish?

Guests will be newly elected City Council members Dan Doering (Ward 6), Nick Miller (Ward 2), Randy Schubring (City Council President), and County Commissioner Bob Hopkins (District 6). City Council member-to-be Andy Friederichs (Ward 4) is unable to attend, but will provide a message. Rochester Public School board member-to-be Stephanie Whitehorn has been invited and we hope she can attend.

The format is informal meet and greet. Guests will start with a short introduction. Then you will be able to meet the new electees and have the opportunity to mingle and munch on holiday treats.

We hope you can attend to learn more about our local electees, to socialize with LWV and AAUW members and supporters and enjoy holiday treats. Bring your friends!

This event is free and open to the public with no registration required.

MEMBERSHIP

For information,
please contact

Kathy Lawrence

507-285-9331

or

Jo Trachy

507-269-0091



LOOKING AHEAD

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Representatives from NAWIC (National Association of Women in Construction) SE Minnesota will introduce us to their personal roles in the construction world. A variety of education choices, their efforts to climb the “construction ladder,” what they have learned from their experiences, as well as their plans for the future will be discussed. Please join us to welcome Katie Reinhart of Kraus Anderson and Jessi Hanson of Benike.

There will be more details about the meeting coming in the February newsletter.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY

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.

AFTERNOON READING—WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11—1:00 PM

Book: **Sipsworth** by Simon Van Booy
Discussion Leader: Kay Karsell
Host: Julie Troutman 3210 Hill Court SW 254-6689
Chair: Judy Auger (judy_auger@msn.com, 282-7922)

WORDS WORTH—WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11—1:30 PM

Book: **The Reading List** by Sara Nisha Adams
Leader: Mary Ann Kleis
Homestead—1900 Ballington Blvd NW #308
Chair: Mary Ann Kleis 507-251-4741

BOARD MEETING—MONDAY, JANUARY 6—7:00 PM —ZOOM

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

READING PLUS—MONDAY, JANUARY 6—9:00 AM—ZOOM

Book: **The Final Witness** by Paul Landis
Discussion Leader: Judy Argue
Chairs: Ruth Stroebel (507-271-3240; ruthstroebel@yahoo.com) and Carol Hartley (916-712-8899; chartley2@comcast.net)

BETWEEN THE LINES—TUESDAY, JANUARY 7—1:00—ZOOM

Book: **The Wind Knows My Name** by Isabel Allende
Chair: Karen Krueger brkck@charter.net

AFTERNOON READING—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8—1:00 PM

Book: **I Cheerfully Refuse** by Leif Enger
Discussion Leader: Janet Richert
Host: Joyce Walker/Rita Zeman 2931 Stone Park Dr NE 507-990-1773
Chair: Judy Auger (judy_auger@msn.com, 282-7922)

WORDS WORTH—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8—1:30 PM

Book: **Once Upon a Town** by Bob Green
Leader: Kathy Lawrence
Homestead—1900 Ballington Blvd NW #308

READING WITH A PURPOSE—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22—2:00

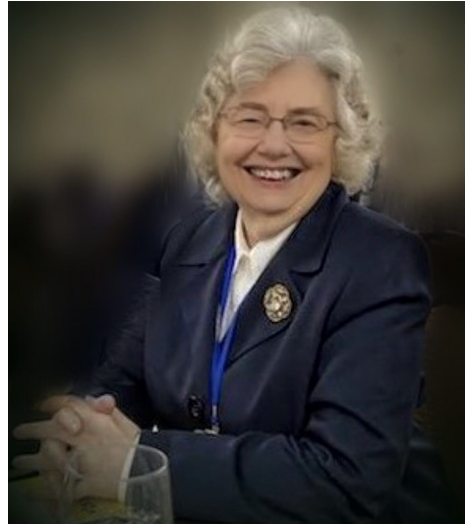
Book: **The Frozen River** by Ariel Lawhon
Discussion Leader: Ione Schloegel
Host: Rosemary Bradshaw, 2205 2nd St SW, Apt 233
Discussion Leader: Julie Caesar
Chair: Julie Ceasar (288-9209; rstgardner@gmail.com)

US FOREIGN POLICY —THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 —1:00 PM—ZOOM

Topic: #4 Technology Denial and Sino-American Rivalry
Chair: Sara Staab (jeff.sara.staab@gmail.com)
If you ordered the 2025 Great Decisions book, please send a check for \$30 to Ruth VanVugt, 3530 Meadow Ct NE, Rochester, MN 55906

FROM THE
PRESIDENT—
BARBARA
KNUTSEN

Barbara Knutsen
bknutsen45@gmail.com
507-285-5122
507-535-9175 (cell)



You will notice that we are not having a general meeting in December or January.

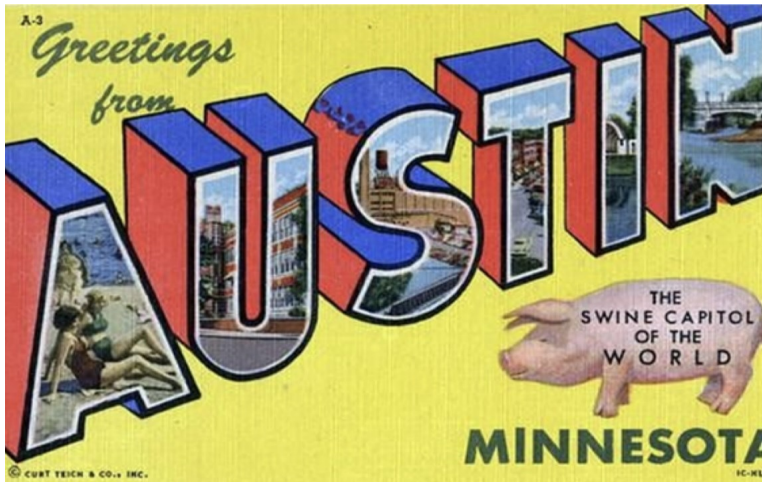
This decision was made several years ago due to low attendance at these meetings. We are in the process of planning the February meeting. Should it be on a Saturday, on the third Wednesday evening, or should it be via Zoom? I have noticed that our evening meetings have been attended by about 30 members, which is 30% of our total membership. While we appreciate the support of AAUW through dues, participation in our interest groups, and donations, what is preventing the others from joining us? Would daytime work better? Another night? I would welcome feedback going forward with planning our general meetings. Please call or email me at bknutsen45@gmail.com. Our Program Vice Presidents have done an excellent job planning our general meetings, but if you have a topic you would like presented, we would appreciate hearing from you as well.

The board is currently awaiting an update from national AAUW on the status of the spring National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) event. Rochester branch has a long history of sending a student leader, and UMR has been wonderful in selecting our participant. Many of you heard Heidi Nguyen share her experience at last spring's conference.

May you receive the gifts of love, joy, health, and happiness this holiday season.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

SAVE THE DATE!



AAUW MN State Meeting
April 25-26, 2024
Austin, MN

The AAUW of Minnesota Board Needs You! Our vision—Equity for all Will you get on-Board?

Joining the AAUW of Minnesota State Board will connect you with terrific members from around the state who work to promote AAUW's mission—To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. It's time for you to share your talents!

We are seeking candidates to serve on the state board of directors for the following positions:

- President-Elect** 2025-2026 (one year term and becomes President 2026-2028)
- Vice President Program** 2025-2027 (a two-year term)
- Vice President Public Policy** 2025-2027 (a two-year term)
- Treasurer** 2025-2027 (a two-year term)
- Nominating Committee** 2025-2026 for 2026 elections (3 members and 1 alternate)

All you need is a strong belief in the mission of AAUW and a willingness to learn and grow. Rewards for state service include leadership development, camaraderie, and teamwork with other leaders. **An applicant may be self-nominated, nominated by your branch or branch board of directors, or any individual.**

Contact any Nominating Committee member to express your interest in a position or get a nomination form or email aauwminn@gmail.com. If you have questions, contact the Nominating Committee or board members who currently hold the position in which you are interested.

	Branch	Email
Mary Chorewycz	St. Paul	marychorewycz@gmail.com
Teresa Sagen	Ely	tkpagen@gmail.com
Karen Kirkwood	St. Paul & St. Cloud	KarenSKirkwood@cs.com
Kelsey Waits	Minneapolis & St. Paul	kelsey.waits@gmail.com

Contact Beth Nienow if you are interested in learning more about the Treasurer position.

AAUW ROCHESTER

626 GATES LN SW

ROCHESTER, MN 55902

Web sites:

National AAUW:

www.aauw.org

MN AAUW:

aauwmn.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.

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