

January 2021

Vol. 79, No. 4

**Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on
Saturday, January 23, 2021**



Our Theme for 2020-2021

**Equity & Diversity:
Moving Forward With Respect**

Maria Murphy & Lori Jo Schneider, VPs for Program



Taw Meh, EMBARC

EMBARC is the Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center. Three panelists will present the program:

- **Moriah Morgan**, REACH Program Manager/Interim Waterloo Office Manager
- **Arlene Prather-O'Kane**, RN, Needs Assessment Coordinator and Caseworker
- **Taw Meh**, Program Assistant and Interpreter

Arlene reports, “Our presentation will inform members about who we are in Iowa, when our organization started, and whom we serve. We want to convey a better understanding about the vision of a united refugee organization that understands the strengths and challenges of the community and leads in creating solutions.” EMBARC provides support “from and for refugees” through advocacy, education, and community development. EMBARC’s two main offices are located in Des Moines and in Waterloo. See more information about EMBARC at <https://www.embarciowa.org/about/#our-story>.

Join our Zoom program on **Saturday, January 23, at 10:00 a.m.** The meeting will be hosted by Iowa AAUW at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2017201809?pwd=WXcyREhjcllOZINQMUmZjlcU0RQQT09>

Mission:

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

Vision: Equity for all.

Diversity Statement: AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

Board of Directors:

Co-Presidents

Karen Agee & Amy Hoyer

Co-Presidents Elect TBA

Co-Vice Presidents for Program

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**Maureen White*

Leadership Development Director

** Maureen White*

*appointed

Interim Editors: *Karen Agee & Ardelle Brown*

Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity (CV3D)

Judy Beckman and Mary Dove

On November 9, 2020, Cedar Valley Discuss Discover Diversity (CV3D) gathered with the help of Zoom to discuss *The Mathematician's Shiva* by Stuart Rojstaczer. Thank you to Kathryn Rogers for leading our discussion to 11 CV3D members.

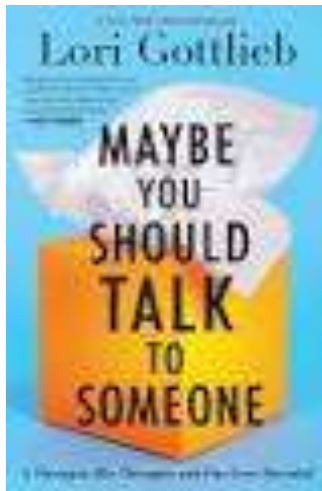
CV3D takes a holiday break and did not meet in December. Happy 2021, which means we will resume our book discussion!

We will gather through Zoom on Monday, **January 11, 2021**. CV3D will discuss Lori Gottlieb's memoir, *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone*. The discussion will be held at **4:30-5:30** via Zoom. An email invitation will be sent out on Friday, January 8, 2021, with the link to join our discussion on the following Monday.

Do you think you are surrounded by idiots? Maybe you should talk to someone. Are you a young newlywed diagnosed with cancer? Maybe you should talk to someone. Are you an older person who finds life meaningless? Maybe you should talk to

someone. Are you stuck in a cycle of bad relationships and alcoholism? Maybe you should talk to someone.

Gottlieb invites us into her world as both a clinician and patient. She opens up the world of what intense psychotherapeutic treatment is like. Her candor, wisdom and humor will have you hooked after the first page. And, after experiencing 2020, in my humble opinion we all need to talk to someone. I so enjoyed reading a memoir about a therapist pursuing therapy to help her deal with her own issues. We hope you are ready to talk to someone! Join on Monday, January 11, through Zoom as Anne Schuessler leads our discussion.



All Cedar Valley residents are invited to read and discuss this book with the CV3D AAUW Community Action Project. For further information contact Dr. Judy Beckman by e-mail at drjudy.beckman@cfu.net or

Mary Dove at elybound1982@gmail.com, co-chairs of CV3D.

Literature Group

Joan Bunkofske

The Literature Group will also meet via Zoom on Monday, January 11. Mary Dove will host the Zoom meeting at 1:15 on January 11 so that members can discuss the books they have been reading and want to recommend to others.

Fourth Fridays With Friends

Ardelle Brown & Linda Morgan

Let's try it! **Friday, January 22, at 10:00 AM** at the Cedar Falls HyVee coffee area.

Bridge for Education

Ardelle Brown & Claudia Kaestner

In 1970 Mildred Ulrich correctly foresaw that playing bridge would help develop camaraderie with the branch while, at the same time, bring continuing resources to the scholarship fund, then called the Fellowships Fund.

The bridge group has continued to meet twice a month—until 2020!!

Legislative Public Forum

Maureen White

AAUW Cedar Falls-Waterloo is a co-sponsor of the Legislative Public Forum. Due to COVID-19, each forum will be held virtually until a time when it is safe to meet in person again. Information about how to view the Forum will be provided closer to the scheduled date. All legislators in Black Hawk County and surrounding legislative districts are invited to attend.

Mark your calendars for 4:30-6:30 PM on **January 22, February 12, February 26, March 12, March 26, April 9, and April 23**. All are Friday dates. Topics for each forum will be announced at a later date.

Scholarship Recipient Graduates from Allen College

Marilyn Drury



Olivia Charley

2020 Tuition Scholarship Recipient

One of our tuition scholarship recipients this past year has completed her

degree. Olivia Charley of Reinbeck, IA, graduated from Allen College in December with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and RN license. Congratulations, Olivia!

The Scholarship committee (Marilyn Drury, Nancy Henderson, and Linda Morgan) will be issuing the call for applicants for 2021 tuition scholarships soon. Please be ready to pass this opportunity along to those you know who may qualify.

The tuition scholarship was instituted in 2011 and has been awarded to 18 women. Applicants should be planning on attending the University of Northern Iowa, Hawkeye Community College, or Allen College.

“We Rise” Dedicated

Maureen White

The sculpture *We Rise* was dedicated at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, December 15, 2020. It's located in front of the Black Hawk County Court House near the corner of 5th and Mulberry. Due to COVID-19 restrictions and to provide for the safety of those present, attendance was by invitation only.

We Rise is one of two sculptures commissioned by the Cedar Falls-Waterloo 19th Amendment Centennial Committee to commemorate all suffragists and to serve as a reminder that the work for women's rights is not done. The committee aimed to commission artwork by women artists.

Artist Sarah Deppe (shown with *We Rise*, right) received a Bachelor of Fine Arts with sculpture emphasis (2011) from the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls and a Master of Fine Arts, sculpture emphasis (2016) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her works have been exhibited or commissioned in Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin. Sarah currently works in Madison, WI.

According to Sarah, *We Rise* is symbolic of the growth of women's rights, emphasizing the diverse women that have contributed and those that are still working toward equality. This sculpture is composed of female profile

silhouettes representing diverse women in both the past and present, merging together all the women fighting for equal rights. The silhouettes of women's profiles are stacked in an upward movement, getting larger as they rise to emphasize this growth.

AAUW Cedar Falls-Waterloo was one of the early contributors toward the \$37,000

fundraising goal, with a generous donation of \$3000. Many members donated as well. As we said after the dedication of *The Binding*, this project would not have been possible without the support of the branch and members, as well as all the other donors. The committee thanks you for your gifts in support of this project. Both artists have received payment for their work and most other expenses paid. When weather allows this spring, a plaque will be installed for each sculpture as well as lighting. Final estimates

for those expenses are pending, so additional fundraising may be required to cover those.

Kay Thrall and Arlene Prather O'Kane represented AAUW Cedar Falls-Waterloo on the committee, which is chaired by Maureen White. Barbara Brown initiated the project and was co-chair until her sudden death in August 2019.

Photo by Maureen White



Longtime Newsletter Editor Sheryl Bewyer Retires

Ardelle Brown

Sheryl Bewyer, longtime editor of this branch newsletter, has retired and put down her editor's pen and laptop.

Sheryl first took on the position in 1994—26 years on the job of publishing print and online newsletters. Thank you, Sheryl, for volunteering and serving!!



Can You Serve as President Elect?

Past Presidents Kay Thrall and Arlene Prather-O'Kane, chairs of the nominating committee this year, **seek candidates for president elect** (or two individuals to serve together). Please consider serving in this position, unfilled since July 1.

Nominate yourself and/or a friend to serve AAUW Cedar Falls-Waterloo in this role. The job description is available on our Branch website (<https://cedarfalls-ia.aauw.net/resources-2/resources/>)

Historian

Ardelle Brown

This Cedar Falls-Waterloo AAUW branch is approaching its centennials. The Waterloo branch was founded in 1922. (More about that in the February newsletter.) Three years later, 36 women—women of Iowa State Teachers College and other women in Cedar Falls who were eligible for membership in AAUW—met in the faculty room of the College one afternoon in March 1925 to apply to AAUW to establish a branch. Then in December of 1925 the Cedar Falls branch was founded.



In Memoriam

Neysa Picklum, AAUW Cedar Falls-Waterloo Branch member since 1957, died on December 29, 2020. Neysa's obituary is pending at the Richardson Funeral Home website.

The photo to the left shows Neysa, newly elected president, with Stacy Van Gorp, newly elected vice-president for programs, at the April 2000 awards banquet.