April 2022

Vol. 80, No. 7

Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on

Monday, April 25, 2022

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

Linda Morgan & Pauline Harding

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Co-Vice Presidents for Membership Shelia Bullock & Beebs Downing

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Maureen White

Diversity Director Sharon Silva

Leadership Development Director

Maureen White

Newsletter Editors: Karen Agee & Ardelle Brown



2021-2022 MEETINGS

THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM THEME:

Keeping You Informed—caring for ourselves & others

Monday, April 25, will bring us back to the Woman's Club in Cedar Falls. We will not have a program, per se, as this will be our annual awards banquet.

Our dinner menu will be chicken marsala, broccoli salad, and a lemon bar. The vegetarian option will be a chef salad. Coffee and tea are included.

A selection of wines will be available to purchase during the 5:00-5:30 social time. We look forward to seeing all of you there.



Lori Schneider & Maria Murphy Co-Vice-Presidents for Programs

April 25, 2022

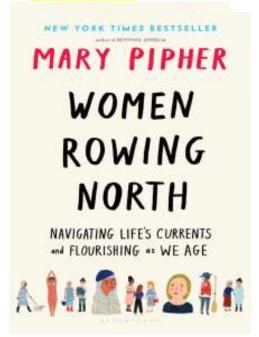
Monday evening, Cedar Falls Woman's Club 304 Clay St., Cedar Falls, IA Gather at 5:00, Awards at 5:30, Dinner at 6:15

\$\$ Also bring cash or check for the monthly scholarship "birthday fundraiser." \$\$ To reserve a dinner (\$15), RSVP to Mary Ellen Beckman at <u>AAUW.CFW.RSVP@gmail.com</u> or 319-269-1893 (specifying chicken or salad) by <u>Monday, April 18</u>

Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity (CV3D)

Judy Beckman and Mary Dove

On Monday, April 11, CV3D will gather to discuss Women Rowing North: Navigating Life's Currents and



Flourishing as We Age, by Mary Pipher. The discussion will be held 4:30-6:00 as a hybrid meeting: members have the option to gather in person at the Cedar Falls Public Library conference room or to attend through Zoom. An email invitation will be sent out on Friday, April 8, with the link to join our discussion through Zoom.

Mary Pipher comes full circle with her latest book. Her 1994 bestseller, *Reviving Ophelia*, helped us understand adolescent girls. In *Women Rowing North*, Pipher shares her insights on how older women can navigate the issues they face as they grow older. "If we can keep our wits about us, think clearly, and manage our emotions skillfully," Pipher writes, "we will experience a joyous time of our lives. If we have planned carefully and packed properly, if we have good maps and guides, the journey can be transcendent."

We hope you join us on April 11 to discuss *Women Rowing*North. Even if you haven't read the book, please join us. We

want to hear your thoughts on how you have navigated life's currents as you have aged. Do you agree with Pipher? What would you add to help women deal with life's challenges as we grow older?

Judy and Mary would like to thank Anne Schuessler for leading the discussion on March 14 on *Hamnet: A Novel,* by Maggie O'Farrell, and Karen Agee for coordinating the Zoom meeting. For further information, contact CV3D co-chairs Judy Beckman (drjudy.beckman@cfu.net) or Mary Dove (elybound1982@gmail.com).

Literature Group

Joan Bunkofske

The literature group will meet at 1:15 PM on Monday, April 18, at Joan Bunkofske's home. Kay Thrall will be the co-hostess and also will share a book. Joan will encourage people to read *Before We Were Yours*, a historical novel. This book documents the real-life scandal behind the novel. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Bridge for Education

Ardelle Brown

Good news: Prairie Wind Western Home Communities has re-opened, at 5313 Caraway Ln, Cedar Falls. Mary Franken has reserved the Library for us to play on **Thursday, April 21 at 12:30 PM**. Hurrah! we had two tables last month and hope that will continue. We plan to continue to play on the third Thursday of each month. Let's top up our contributions to the scholarship funds!

Great Decisions to Discuss Outer Space

Gloria Tollefson

Since the launch of Sputnik in 1957, more countries have joined the space race—China, India—along with commercial companies such as SpaceX. After watching a 30-minute DVD on this topic, we will discuss "How will the United States fare in a crowded outer space?"

JOIN US on Tuesday, April 19 at 7:00 PM in the conference room at the Cedar Falls Public Library.

Legislative Public Forum

Maureen White

AAUW Cedar Falls-Waterloo is a co-sponsor of the Legislative Public Forum, a series of conversations with state legislators on specific topics and general issues. All legislators in Black Hawk County and surrounding legislative districts are invited to attend.

A forum is scheduled for Friday, April 8, 4:30-6:30 PM in person at the Van G Miller Adult Learning Center, 120 Jefferson Street, Waterloo. Friday's topic will be human services issues. The legislators are happy to see people face to face, so feel free to put on a mask and attend in person, if you can, or view at https://www.facebook.com/cvlforum.

Fourth Fridays With Friends

Ardelle Brown and Linda Morgan

Fourth Fridays with Friends will meet at the College Square HyVee at 10:00 AM on Friday, April 22, near the coffee area. It will be a lovely warm day, we just know it will, and we can all share our plans for Spring.

Presidents' Notes

Pauline Harding and Linda Morgan

Our branch will be well represented at the AAUW Iowa conference in Des Moines this weekend: 10 members and one guest will be attending on Saturday, April 9, at the Hilton Garden Inn/Urbandale. In addition, our members will be contributing about a third of the 18 or so baskets to be raffled off to raise funds for AAUW IA initiatives. Many thanks to these dedicated members!

Be on the lookout for summer activities for AAUW members. We'll keep you posted!

Treasurer Pat to Help With *@!*:-(AAUW Website at April Meeting

If you have been struggling with the AAUW website and seek assistance getting in to renew your membership, be sure to see Pat Higby during the 5:00-5:30 social time at our April 25 meeting. She will provide individual and small-group assistance to members seeking to log on and renew membership.

Waverly Visits Us, and We Visit Waverly



Photo by Ardelle Brown

Dr. Vicki Edelnant spoke on world-wide learning for women through Road Scholar at the March 19 brunch at Wartburg College, where 18 members of the Cedar Falls-Waterloo branch were guests of the Waverly Branch.

Dr. Edelnant, a retired educator and public speaking teacher, has traveled with Road Scholar three times, including visits on camera safari in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Botswana.

The Waverly Branch extended an invitation to our branch members to attend this brunch after noting that we had often invited them to our spring brunches in past years. The Waverly Branch has been meeting via Zoom for two years but hosted this event in person.



Photo by Karen Lehmann, Membership VP of Waverly Branch

Scholarship News!

Marilyn Drury, Scholarships Chair

Please remember to let friends, relatives, and acquaintances know about our scholarships' availability. The application and guidelines are on our website, https://cedarfalls-ia.aauw.net/, under Activities/Scholarships. **May 1** is the deadline for applications to be received.



At our April awards banquet, Sarah Miller, a two-time AAUW CF-W scholarship recipient, will speak to us briefly about her journey to her upcoming graduation from Allen College this spring. With the aid of our scholarship, she is completing the first step in her radiography career. Sarah stated in last year's application that, "AAUW showcases how women through history have paved the way for today's working women. I hope that throughout my career I can advance to new positions and not have my gender be a stumbling block for better opportunities."

We look forward to hearing from Sarah and being with friends.

Garden Sale Set for Saturday, May 14!

Ardelle Brown



We had a good time at last year's event and sold a lot of plants and other garden items. Let's do that again!

Put Saturday, May 14, on your calendar for this year's spring plant and garden sale to raise funds for scholarships. The sale will again be held at 2117 Rownd Street in Cedar Falls—Ardelle's garage.

Specific information will be coming to your email soon: what kinds of plants you may want to share from your own gardens, when to deliver plants to the sale, how to sign up to help with the sale, and how to prepare your vehicle to take home loads of plants from the sale!



Betsy Brant (r) hands over a wad of money to Pat Higby (I), in May 2021



Bev Lundy and Judy Fogdall discuss plants in May 2021

Reparations in the News

Sharon Silva, Diversity Director

The topic of Reparations (particularly for damages from enslavement) has rarely been in the news for years but seems to be picking up speed and spreading recently (right along with renaming sports mascots and relocating certain monuments and sculptures). I believe it was Georgetown University, founded by Jesuits, that was the first prominent university to create a reparations program in 2019. Since then, others have followed. (For the story, Google "georgetown university reparations" and choose your source.)

Listed churches in this article include Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Evangelical Lutheran, as well as United Church of Christ. These are predominantly white denominations, which is the point, of course.

"But now, some churches across denominations are acknowledging that their wealth was often built off of enslaved labor and are committing parts of their endowments to reparation funds."

And they are not just opening checkbooks. They are actively studying the unpleasant and embarrassing histories that have been ignored and covered over, and giving respectful and weighty discussion to what should be appropriate responses.

They've also been holding monthly webinars and creating educational resources for their congregations.

"We want to have grounded learning, both biblically and theologically, around why reparations are due," the Rev. Velda Love, minister for racial justice at the United Church of Christ, said. "It is not just writing a check from churches."

These efforts are thought to constitute the most sustained church activism since Black churches were on the front lines of the civil rights movement.

For the full article:

https://www.nbcnews.com/news/nbcblk/churches-played-active-role-slavery-segregation-want-make-amends-rcna21291

Furthermore, if you like to follow politics: the latest from Congress in report Mar 23, 2022

The House might pass a long-ignored bill to study reparations for slavery. Why now?

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/03/23/reparations-commission-house-congressional-black-caucus/

For the disapproving arguments you can simply Google "against reparations" and pick your most favored source.

Members, if you have something to add or comment, please feel free to contact me with it. sharon.silva1@gmail.com or 319 830-2741.

Also I am seeking Branch members (beyond board members who have already expressed interest) to serve on the diversity committee to guide our work next year. Let me know how you would like to participate.