

September 2022

Vol. 81, No. 1

Meeting at 5:00 PM on

Monday, September 26, 2022



2022-2023 MEETINGS

THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM THEME:

Gender and Racial Equity: Are We Making Progress?



Cary Darrah, President and CEO,
Grow Cedar Valley
speaking on

Challenges & Opportunities for Women

September 26, 2022

Monday evening, Cedar Falls Woman's Club
304 Clay St., Cedar Falls, IA

Gather at 5:00, Program at 5:30, Dinner at 6:15

*Bring your art and craft donations—crafted by you
or someone else—and give to Pat Higby,
Jane Close, and Bonnie Smith for November's online
art auction!*

\$\$ Also bring cash or check for the monthly
scholarship fundraiser, "Notable Women." \$\$

To reserve a dinner (\$17.00 this year), RSVP to
Mary Ellen Beckman at 319-269-1893 or

AAUW.CFW.RSVP@gmail.com

(specifying chicken & wild rice or salad)

by **Monday, September 19**

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

President Elect - *open*

Co-Vice Presidents for Program

Maria Murphy & Lori Schneider

Co-Vice Presidents for Membership

Shelia Bullock & Beeks Downing

Vice-President for Fundraising - *open*

Co-Past-Presidents

Amy Hoyer & Karen Agee

Secretary

Nancy Hasenwinkel

Treasurer

Pat Higby

Public Policy Director

Maureen White

Diversity Director

Sharon Silva

Leadership Development Director

Maureen White

Newsletter Editors

Karen Agee & Ardelle Brown

Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity (CV3D)

Judy Beckman and Mary Dove

Join Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity (CV3D) on **Monday, September 12, at 4:30-6:00** to hear



author Erika Billerbeck share her book, *Wildland Sentinel: Field Notes From an Iowa Conservation Officer*. In this book, Erika reflects on her experiences and is honest about what her job as a conservation officer entails, giving us all an opportunity to learn. Her book is part memoir and part history. Readers get Ms. Billerbeck's perspective on being a female in a male-dominated field.

Please join us for this author presentation and discussion! The event is free and open to the public. We will meet at the Cedar Falls Public Library's large conference room on the second floor. Books will be available for purchase at the event.

Bridge for Education

Ardelle Brown

We will continue to play bridge on the third Thursday of each month in 2022-2023.

Play will take place at Prairie Wind Western Home Communities, 5313 Caraway Lane, Cedar Falls.

Mary Franken has reserved the second-floor library for **Thursday, September 15, 12:30-3:00**. No food, but bring your own drink and \$2.00 to contribute to the scholarship funds. It is always good to see everyone and laugh a bit.

Literature Group

Joan Bunkofske

The Literature group will meet at the home of Joan Bunkofske on **Monday, September 19, at 1:15 PM**. Barb Feuerhak will present a delightful book by Rhys Bowen, *The Venice Sketchbook*. Joan Kurt will be co-hostess. All are welcome. Please call (319) 266-8575 if you would like to attend.

Are You a Two-Minute Activist Yet?

Maureen White

The Two-Minute Activist program is an opportunity for AAUW members to make their voice heard by sending a message to their U.S. Senator or Representative asking for support or opposition to an issue at the federal level.

Participants receive from AAUW an email message about the action needed, as well as a

link to send a message. You may send the message as composed by AAUW staff or add your own comments. It's very easy to sign up, and it really does only take a few minutes to send a message to our elected representatives.

To sign up to be a Two-Minute Activist, go to <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

Reproductive Rights

Maureen White

Where does AAUW stand? AAUW has long supported access to a full range of health care services, including comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services, as well as the right of women to make their own informed choices about their reproductive lives without government interference. A statement on protection of reproductive rights first appeared in the 1977 AAUW Public Policy Priorities.

In accordance with these statements, AAUW engages with elected representatives, calls for member action, presents comments and testimony in hearings and issues statements. It

also works in coalition with a number of other organizations in advocating for those priorities.

To read more about where AAUW stands on reproductive rights, go to <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/position-repro/>. AAUW's Quick Facts on this topic as well as other information can be accessed on that webpage. The Quick Facts document was also recently emailed to members.

We understand that our members may hold differing individual beliefs about this subject. You are never expected to take action contrary to your own beliefs.

Presidents' Notes

Linda Morgan

Last year we honored our members and other outstanding women with birthday contributions to the branch scholarship fund at our monthly meetings. This year continue by remembering Notable Women each month and making contributions to the fund in their honor.

My first notable woman this month is Frances Perkins, 1880 – 1965. Perkins was the longest-serving Labor Secretary in US history, serving from 1933 to 1945 under FDR and Truman. She was also the developer of our national social security system and minimum wage. She had worked in labor issues in New York after her 1902 graduation from Holyoke College and then

her Master's degree from Columbia University in New York. Truly a Notable Woman.

My personal notable woman is my older cousin Carolyn Talmage. Now deceased, she would have been 80 on her birthday this week. Carolyn was the first college grad in our extended family. She never was able to break the glass ceiling at a St. Paul, Minnesota, insurance company in the early 2000s, but she made a good life for herself. Truly a Notable Woman.

Hope to see you at our September 26th meeting.

Fourth Fridays With Friends

Ardelle Brown and Linda Morgan

Fourth Fridays with Friends will meet this month at the College Square HyVee at **10:00 AM on Friday, September 23**, near the coffee area.

Whatever the weather, the day we meet will be a good one because we will be together discussing the issues and solving problems.

Scholarship News!

Marilyn Drury, Scholarships Chair



Audrey Dillavou, Madison Stoneking, and Piper Wiedenhoff (l-r). Photo taken by Ardelle Brown at the August 29 Kickoff, Waterloo Public Library.

Three women were awarded scholarships for the 2022-23 academic year. Each received a \$2000 award.

Audrey Dillavou is a sophomore at UNI majoring in Athletic Training and Rehabilitation Services. Piper Wiedenhoff, a senior at UNI, is pursuing a teaching degree in Physical Education. Madison Stoneking is a sophomore at UNI in the Pre-PA/Pre-Med track with a major in Biology: Biological Studies.

Our congratulations go to these three very deserving young women!

When DEI* Initiatives Intersect With Citizen Participation

Sharon Silva, Diversity Director

Perhaps a fair evaluation of the positions of candidates and incumbents and their fitness for public office should not focus on their position on a single issue. Yet there seems to be a clear difference between politicians who believe that a good government is concerned with its impact on the quality of life of its citizens—ALL of its citizens—and those who believe that good government should refuse to concern itself with those impacts in the name of personal freedom and personal responsibility.

There are two events this weekend where your attendance will support social justice and the arts, as well as voter registration, motivation, and education.

Saturday, September 10, 7:00 PM, East High School, Waterloo

“Daughter of the Struggle” Ayanna Gregory presents her one-woman show. It is free of charge and open to the public: https://wfcourier.com/news/local/daughter-of-the-struggle-ayanna-gregory-brings-one-woman-show-to-waterloos-east-high-school/article_9d9bfe52-d952-5e55-bfa5-35810adf91be.html

Sunday, September 11, 4:00-8:00 PM, 829 East 4th Street, Waterloo

Brothaz Barbershop Voter Ready Rally and Block Party, free and open to the public. The purpose of the event is to generate excitement about voting, encourage first time voters, increase voter turnout, and recruit volunteers to help with additional voter registration events. The League of Women Voters of Black Hawk-Bremer Counties will be there to register voters, answer questions, and provide resources for voters. Your attendance at this community event sponsored by a Black-owned small business is a nonpartisan show of support for the vote as a tool of democracy. If you are interested in assisting at upcoming voter registration events, contact Sharon at Sharon.silva1@gmail.com

*Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Memorable Kickoff Event!

Shelia Bullock and Beebs Downing, Co-Vice Presidents for Membership

Thank you to all who helped with and attended our August 29th Fall Kickoff event! And greetings to new members who joined AAUW at the Waterloo Public Library.

It is great to know that we have so many collaborative and enthusiastic members in our Cedar Falls-Waterloo Branch. We certainly have the potential for growth and success in our branch with so many dynamic members directing and participating in our programs.

Special thanks go to our members who brought table displays and information, delicious food, beautiful floral arrangements, plump vegetables, brochures, and friends!



Photo by Pauline Harding

2022 Named Gift Honoree Karen Agee

Bonnie Smith, Named Gift Director



Photo by Ardelle Brown
Named Gift Director Bonnie Smith (left)
and Co-Past-President Amy Hoyer (right)
presenting Named Gift certificate to Karen Agee

Every spring, the Cedar Falls-Waterloo branch recognizes one of our members as a Named Gift Honoree for outstanding support of AAUW, such as serving as a longtime and dedicated officer, making other significant contributions to the branch, making significant financial contributions, or supporting or contributing to AAUW in other ways. The branch donates \$500 to the AAUW Greatest Need Fund in the name of our honoree.

This year's Named Gift honoree, Karen Agee, was introduced by her co-Past-President Amy Hoyer at the April 2022 awards banquet at the Cedar Falls Woman's Club. Karen was very surprised to receive this honor!

Great Decisions to Discuss China and the Quad Alliance

Gloria Tollefson, Discussion Leader

Join us as we meet in the conference room at the Cedar Falls Public Library on **Tuesday, September 20, at 7:00 PM**. Our topic for discussion after viewing the DVD will be rising tensions between China and the Quad alliance (Japan, Australia, India, and the US) over Taiwan. China's strongman, Xi Jinping, is warning President Biden that the US is "playing with fire." Did Pelosi's trip make Taiwan less secure? Join us as we discuss today's most critical global issues!