

**April 2024**

Vol. 82, No. 7

**Meeting at 5:00 PM on  
Monday, April 22, 2024**



Cedar Falls-Waterloo (IA) Branch

## 2023-2024 MEETINGS

THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM THEME:

### Hot Topics

Monday, April 22, will bring us back to the Woman's Club in Cedar Falls for our annual awards banquet. We look forward to seeing everyone there!



Maureen White and Louise Conklin  
Co-Presidents 2023-2024

*April 22, 2024*

Cedar Falls Woman's Club

304 Clay Street, Cedar Falls, IA

*Gather 5:00, Meeting/Awards 5:30, Dinner 6:15*

The agenda will include recognition of past officers, a vote to amend the branch bylaws, election of new officers, presentation of the annual Named Gift Honoree award, and more!

*Our dinner menu will be chicken marsala with fruit plate and lemon bar. The meat-free option is vegetable stir fry. Coffee and tea are included. A selection of wines will be available (\$7/glass) during the 5:00-5:30 social time.*

To reserve a dinner (\$20 at the door), RSVP to Mary Ellen Beckman at [AAUW.CFW.RSVP@gmail.com](mailto:AAUW.CFW.RSVP@gmail.com) or 319-269-1893 (specifying vegetarian or chicken option) by **Friday, April 12.**

**Mission:** AUW 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

*Louise Conklin & Maureen White*

Co-Vice Presidents for Program

*Maria Murphy & Lori Schneider*

Co-Vice Presidents for Membership

*Jane Close & Bonnie Smith*

Vice-President for Fundraising--*open*

Co-Past-Presidents

*Linda Morgan & Pauline Harding*

Secretary

*Nancy Hasenwinkel*

Treasurer

*Mary Fogarty*

Public Policy Director

*Nancy Henderson*

Diversity Director

*Susan Langan*

Leadership Development Director

*Maureen White*

Newsletter Editors

*Ardelle Brown & Karen Agee*

## Your Ballot is Coming! Your Ballot is Coming!

*Karen Agee, AAUW of Iowa Co-President*

Your national AAUW Board of Governance, state AAUW of Iowa Board, and Cedar Falls-Waterloo Branch board support the elimination of the degree requirement for membership. We encourage you to vote YES to better align AAUW with our mission. Opening our membership to everyone who supports the mission demonstrates our commitment to inclusion. In 2021, 63% approved this change nationally, but 67% must vote yes to amend the bylaws. In 2021, 81% of Iowa voters and 86% of our branch members voted in favor, showing how strongly we approve this change—but only about a third of us voted.

Please vote! Voting will begin on **Wednesday, April 3**, and continue through 11:00 AM on May 15. Look for an email by April 3 from [vote@simplyvoting.com](mailto:vote@simplyvoting.com). It will contain your ID and PIN. If you don't find it in your inbox, check your spam folder. No email on file at national AAUW? You will receive a paper ballot by mail. No paper ballots will be sent during the voting period.

For more information about AAUW's reasons for seeking this change, please see [OpenUpAAUW.org](http://OpenUpAAUW.org). You will find multiple perspectives on how AAUW can best accomplish its mission.

## Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity (CV3D)

*Judy Beckman and Mary Dove*



This year CV3D is focusing on banned books. We thank Anne Schuessler for leading our March book discussion on Sherman Alexie's *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* with 12 members. On **Monday, April 8**, CV3D will gather in person to discuss *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. Join the discussion to be **held 4:30-5:30** in the conference room at the Cedar Falls Public Library.

This futuristic dystopian novel was first published in 1985 and its sequel, *The Testaments*, in 2019. The setting—a totalitarian theonomic state, the Republic of Gilead, which has overthrown the US government—is again relevant in 2024. Narrated by Offred, one of the Handmaids compelled to produce children for a ruling Commander, the novel explores themes of powerless women in a patriarchal society, loss of female agency and individuality, suppression of women's reproductive rights, and the various means by which women resist and try to gain individuality and independence.

*The Handmaid's Tale* has won numerous awards—and since publication has also been banned or faced calls for banning in states across the US and countries abroad. In 2022, the defiant author commissioned an unburnable version printed on fire-resistant paper. Please join us on April 8.

## Literature Group Meeting

*Joan Bunkofske*

Literature group meets **April 15 at 1:15 PM**. We meet at the home of Joan Bunkofske. We chat over coffee and then have a book presentation followed by discussion. This month all may share a book. Everyone is welcome to join us; 319 290 9089 is the best phone number

## Great Decisions Study Group to Discuss Science Across Borders

*Gloria Tollefson*

Great Decisions will meet **Tuesday, April 16, at 7:00 PM** in the conference room at the Cedar Falls Public Library. Our topic will focus on how sharing scientific research with other countries can be beneficial. But what happens when information is controversial and important to a nation's national security? What happens when Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be involved?

This is a new topic for us, and viewing a 25-minute DVD will be followed by group discussion. Join us as we discuss this current global issue!

## Bridge for Education

*Ardelle Brown*

Bridge players will gather on **Thursday, April 18, 12:30-3:00**, in the second-floor library at the Prairie Wind Western Home Communities, 5313 Caraway Lane, Cedar Falls. Each of us donates \$2 to play, and this goes to the scholarship fund. I will be phoning or emailing regular participants to see if you can play, and new players are always welcome. Just let me know you are interested, at [dabrown@cfu.net](mailto:dabrown@cfu.net).

## Bylaws Amendment to Change Terms of Office

*Maureen White, Co-President*

At the November 2023 board meeting, the board supported an amendment to our branch Bylaws to change the term of office for president (or co-president) to two years rather than the current one-year term.

The board recommends approval of the amendment. Amendments to the Bylaws, except those required by AAUW, must be approved by two-thirds of the members voting. Members will have the opportunity to vote at the **Monday, April 22**, annual meeting.

### Article IX Officers

#### Section 3. Terms of Office

- a. Terms of Officers. Officers shall serve for a term of two years or until their successors have been elected or appointed and assume office, except the ~~president/president-elect~~, who shall serve one year.
  - ~~2. The president elect shall be elected annually.~~
  3. 2. The following officers shall be elected in even years: the president, vice-president for program and the secretary. The following officers shall be elected in odd years: the president-elect, the vice president for membership, vice president for fundraising and the treasurer.

What is the rationale for this change? First, it is time consuming and difficult to find those willing to be president-elect or president; it takes time to learn how to do the work of the president, and often the term expires about the time a person is more comfortable doing the job. Electing the president-elect in an odd-numbered year means she would be in that office for one year, then would be on the ballot in the following even-numbered year for president. Also, the new terms of office would mirror those of the AAUW IA board and recent branch board terms when circumstances have required term extensions.

## Election of Branch Officers at April 22 Annual Meeting

*Pauline Harding and Linda Morgan, Chairs of Nominations Committee*

The Nominations Committee for 2024 branch elections has found excellent candidates. At the annual meeting on **April 22**, the Committee will present the following slate for election to office:

Co-Presidents	Maureen White and Nancy Hasenwinkel
Secretary 2024-2026	Dianne Van Gorp
Co-Vice Presidents for Program 2024-2026	Mary Dove and Ardelle Brown
Co-Vice Presidents for Fundraising 2024-2025	Lori Schneider and Maria Murphy

Nominations may also be made from the floor, with permission of the nominee.

## Women in Motion in April

*Jane Close and Bonnie Smith*



**Please Join Us!**

**Wednesday 4 Women & Wine (W4WW)**

**Wednesday, April 24, 5:30 PM**

at The Other Place (OP), 4214 University Ave, Cedar Falls  
Conversation, Drinks, Appetizers, and/or Dinn

## April Scholarship News

*Marilyn Drury*

Thank you to all who have contributed to our scholarship fund this year. And an especially BIG thank you to Rowena Hardinger for her generous contribution of paintings and frames for us to offer at silent auctions each month.

We are in the midst of collecting scholarship applications for this next academic year. If you haven't already done so, please let your friends and relatives know about our scholarship application on the AAUW website. **Wednesday, May 1**, is the deadline for completed applications, including references, academic record, and essay.



One of our scholarship recipients, Audrey Dillavou, will graduate from UNI in May. Congratulations to Audrey! She has been studying athletic training and rehabilitation and hopes to continue her education in another year or two. We wish her the best!

## Fourth Friday With Friends

*Ardelle Brown and Linda Morgan*

Fourth Friday with Friends will meet on **Friday, April 26, at 10:00 AM** near the coffee area at College Square HyVee in Cedar Falls. Ardelle was the **ONLY** one who was there last month because of the awful weather, so she is looking forward to seeing many more on April 26th!!



## Preparing for the Big Garden Sale May 17-18

*Ardelle Brown*



The 2024 Garden Sale is scheduled for **Friday, May 17**, at 4:00-6:00 PM, and for **Saturday, May 18**, at 9:00 AM—12:00 noon. The location will be Ardelle Brown's garage and lawn at 2117 Rownd Street in Cedar Falls. Let Ardelle know when you can provide customer service during this sale, which is so important to our fundraising efforts. Rain or shine, we want to GROW our funds and everyone's gardens.

Bring plants and other garden items to Rownd Street during the week of May 13-17. Yes, please, anything for the garden: plants, garden books, trellises, garden seating, tools, and also house plants. Drop off empty pots for plants any time before May 14.

## Planned Giving to AAUW

*Maureen White*

If you are interested in making a "Qualified Charitable Distribution" to national AAUW, a four-star-rated charity according to Charity Navigator, from your Individual Retirement Account sometime in 2024, here is information to help you.

Federal law allows people aged 70½ or older to make direct transfers of up to \$100,000 per year per person to charitable organizations (such as AAUW) from their IRA, without the withdrawal being treated as taxable income. To start, first contact your IRA custodian and follow their procedures to request a "Qualified Charitable Distribution." The check sent must be accompanied by your name and address information in order for you to receive a written acknowledgement from AAUW national.

Please provide the recipient information below to your IRA custodian, along with AAUW's Tax ID #52-6037388. Direct your check, drawn on your IRA account and made payable to AAUW, to:

### **AAUW**

Attn: Planned Giving – IRA Distribution  
1310 L St. NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005-4399

Before sending, please also notify AAUW at [planned-giving@aauw.org](mailto:planned-giving@aauw.org) so they can keep an eye out for your gift. Be sure to include the amount, your name and address, the designation of your gift (for example: Greatest Needs), and the financial institution sending your gift.