

## September 2025

Vol. 84, No. 1

Meeting at 5:00 PM on

**Monday, September 22, 2025**

**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:**

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*Maureen White &  
Nancy Hasenwinkel*

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*Ardelle Brown & Mary Dove*

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Public Policy Director  
*Nancy Henderson*

Diversity Director *Susan Langan*

Leadership Development Director  
*Maureen White*

Send articles for next newsletter by Oct 7  
to editors Ardelle Brown & Karen Agee



### **Speaking Truth to Disinformation**

Chris Martin, Professor of Digital Journalism  
University of Northern Iowa

**Monday, September 22, 2025**

Diamond Event Center South  
5307 Caraway Lane, Cedar Falls

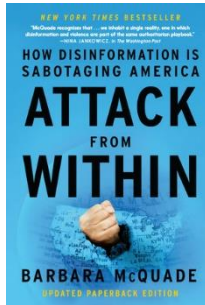
Gather at 5:00, program at 5:15, dinner at 6:15

Our main dish will be marinated chicken thigh and fried rice. The vegetarian option is fried rice with vegetables. Service will also include a spring mix salad (with carrots, cucumber, red onion, and cheddar) and brownies. Coffee, iced tea, and lemonade will be available, and wine can be purchased by the glass.

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 (and **specify vegetarian or chicken option**) by **Monday, September 15.**

## Cedar Valley Discuss and Discover Diversity (CV3D)

*Judy Beckman, Ardelle Brown, and Mary Dove*



CV3D has an interesting reading list for us to discuss again this year. We kick off our year on **Monday, September 8** with a guest discussion leader, Steve Corbin. Steve will lead the discussion on *Attack From Within: How Disinformation Is Sabotaging America*, by Barbara McQuade.

Disinformation in the US now threatens our democracy, according to author and University of Michigan law professor Barbara McQuade. But she believes we have tools and strategies to fight back.

Our discussion leader, Steve Corbin, is an emeritus professor of marketing at the University of Northern Iowa and a contributing columnist to 246 newspapers and 48 social media platforms in 45 states. He receives no remuneration, funding, or endorsement from any for-profit business, nonprofit organization, political action committee, or political party. His independent website about Iowa politics is available on Bleeding Heartland

We will meet **4:30-5:30** at the Cedar Falls Public Library laboratory room (in person; no Zoom option) to discuss the book. We hope you can join us as we discuss *Attack From Within*. Come even if you have not read the book. All are welcome.

### Important Updates

If you have a change in any of your contact information, such as email address, please be sure to **provide it to Mary Dove by September 11** so that we have the correct information in the 2025-26 Yearbook. The Yearbook will be available at the September 22 dinner meeting.

To assure you receive important information, provide contact updates to AAUW at <https://my.aauw.org/personalsnapshot>. Click on "My Contact Information" on the left side of the page in order to make changes.

### Literature Group Meeting

*Joan Bunkofske*

The literature group will meet on **September 15 at 1:15** at 1706 Cottage Lane, Cedar Falls. Everyone is welcome! Questions? Phone 319 290 9089 for more information.

## Great Decisions to Discuss the Future of NATO and European Security

*Gloria Tollefson, International Affairs Director*

Great Decisions will resume meeting, after a summer break, on **Tuesday, September 16, 7:00-8:30 PM**, in the conference room of the Cedar Falls Public Library. Bring a friend!

Our topic will be “The Future of NATO and European Security.” European security is more uncertain than it has been in decades. Putin’s war with Ukraine and our uncertain role as leader of NATO and military security provider should be a concern to all Americans. After watching a 30-minute DVD, we will discuss these questions: What are Europe’s options? What will impact its options? What are America’s stakes in NATO and Europe’s strategic dilemmas? **JOIN US AS WE DISCUSS TODAY’S MOST CRITICAL ISSUES!**

## Bridge for Education

*Ardelle Brown*

Bridge players will gather on **Thursday, September 18, 12:30-3:00**, on the 2nd floor of the Prairie Wind Western Communities, 5413 Caraway Lane, Cedar Falls. Each of us donates \$2 to play, and the money goes to the scholarship fund. I will be emailing regular participants to see if they can play, and new players are always welcome. Just let me know if you are interested.

## Join the AAUW Action Network!

*Nancy Henderson, Public Policy Director*

Be a good advocate for women and girls: Sign up for the **Two-Minute Activist** through AAUW today! Join AAUW advocates in the fight for equal pay, equity in education, paid leave, protections against sexual harassment, and more.

Sign up to get regular alerts on when and how to engage, including sending letters to your legislators, writing letters to the editor, and other timely calls to action.

Click on this [link](#) or go to the web address [aauw.org/act/action-network-join/](http://aauw.org/act/action-network-join/).

## Wednesday 4 Women & Wine (W4WW)

*Jane Close and Bonnie Smith*



**Please Join Us!**

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

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

## Fourth Fridays With Friends

*Ardelle Brown and Linda Morgan*



Fourth Fridays with Friends will meet at **10:00 AM on Friday, September 26**, near the coffee area at College Square HyVee in Cedar Falls. Hope to see you there. We learn a lot from each other and laugh a lot, too.

## Candidate Debates

*Maureen White, Co-President*

Our branch, along with Northern Iowa Student Government (NISG) and Women of Action, is again cosponsoring city candidate debates prior to the November 4 elections. The Cedar Falls mayor and city council candidate debates are scheduled for **Monday, September 29, at 6:00 PM** at the Cedar Falls City Hall and will be televised on Cable Channel 15. UNI political science professor Chris Larimar and Allison Rank, Director of UNI's new Center for Civic Education, will moderate.

The Waterloo mayor and city council candidate debates will be held on **Thursday, October 9**, with time, location, and moderators yet to be determined.

## Recipients of the Branch 2025-2026 Scholarship Awards

*Marilyn Drury, Scholarship Committee Chair*



Please welcome Shelby Jenkins of Waterloo and Naomi Macke of Cedar Falls to our organization as our scholarship recipients this year. Both were able to attend our kickoff and talk with us about their current and future plans.

Shelby (on left) is a first-generation, nontraditional student who earned a Liberal Arts degree emphasizing social work at Hawkeye Community College (HCC). She is attending the University of Northern Iowa this fall to study social work and psychology. Shelby plans to earn both a BA and an MA in social work.

Naomi is attending HCC this fall. She has worked in health care for 17 years and plans to complete her RN degree at HCC next year. Naomi's eventual goal is to continue her education to earn a BSN or MSN.

## The Way Up Conference: A New Relationship

This past year, AAUW-Iowa and The Way Up-Iowa have worked out a partnership to collaborate on The Way Up Conference. At the Cedar Falls-Waterloo Branch kickoff meeting, Doreen Hayek (branch member and longtime Way Up board leader) shared information about the new collaboration and suggested that we access this information from their website:

For over thirty-five years, The Way Up Conference has been hosted in the state of Iowa to assist leaders in higher education institutions as they continue to develop their leadership and administrative skills and expertise. Now as never before, higher education is challenged on so many fronts with the understanding of the importance of knowledgeable personnel, growth of all individuals, and persevering together in the continuing quest for quality and excellence in higher education.

The theme of this year's conference is "Onward and Upward: Supporting Leaders on The Way Up." It will be held at the Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center in West Des Moines, **Thursday - Friday, November 6-7, 2025.**

More information about the conference schedule and registration information can be found here: <https://www.kirkwood.edu/thewayup>

## Officers Elected at April 2025 Awards Meeting

At the April awards banquet, four offices were up for election. Members of the Branch elected Maria Murphy and Lori Schneider to a two-year term as co-Vice-Presidents for Fundraising (2025-2027). Members also elected Treasurer Mary Fogarty to a second term (2025-2027).

Sharon Walker was elected President Elect for 2025-2026 in preparation for election as president next year.

Also elected were co-Vice-Presidents for Membership Deanna Brandsberg and Amy Hoyer (2025-2027). This will be their first term as co-VPs in this role.

Many thanks to these AAUW members for renewing or taking on new leadership roles in the branch!



Mary Fogarty



Amy Hoyer & Dee Brandsberg



Maria Murphy & Lori Schneider



Sharon Walker

## Save These Dates!

*Nancy Henderson, Public Policy Director*

**Cedar Valley Legislative Public Forums** have been scheduled for the next Iowa session:

January 23, 2026

March 13, 2026

February 13, 2026

March 27, 2026

February 27, 2026

April 10, 2026

Forums will be held 4:30-6:30 PM on these six dates—all Fridays—at Hawkeye Community College Van G. Miller Adult Learning Center, 120 Jefferson, Waterloo.

## Branch Members Visit African-American Historical & Cultural Museum

On Wednesday, August 6, 13 Cedar Falls-Waterloo Branch members enjoyed lunch at Rodney's Kitchen and then toured the African-American Historical & Cultural Museum—the “boxcar museum”—located on East Fourth Street at Adams Street in Waterloo. The collections are fascinating and very well displayed, and staff members Kimberly Krough and Ryan Madison provided an interesting experience. Unfortunately, the museum has been unable to accept some donations, such as works of art, because space is limited.

The museum was initially founded in 1996 by Ada Tredwell and Ruth Anderson to narrate the “rich historical narratives of African Americans in the region.” With recent acquisition of 501(c)(3) status, the museum now can take tax-deductible donations (see their website, at [aahcmuseum.org](http://aahcmuseum.org)) and will be able to expand both their collection space and their collections. We thank Shelia Bullock and Ardelle Brown for coordinating this experience for us.



L-R: Nancy Hasenwinkel, Elaine Bruns, Judy Fogdall, Shelia Bullock, Gloria Tollefson, Rita Waggoner, Jane Close, Bonnie Smith, Karen Agee, Maureen White, Beeks Downing, Linda Morgan, and Ardelle Brown



## September TV Dinners

Generous single-serving meals, assembled in oven-safe tins for you to take & bake in your home oven - from the freezer to the table in 60 minutes or less. They can also be stored in the freezer for up to 3 months, before baking.

New selection of entrees available each month. Baking instructions included on packaging.

Email orders to [rachel@rachskitchen.com](mailto:rachel@rachskitchen.com), Facebook message or call 319-827-2165 by Sept. 10th to ensure selection.



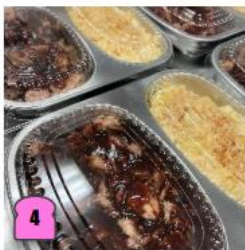
1 Spaghetti Squash Alfredo Bake  
Garlic Bread



2 Chicken Parmesan Meatballs  
Garlic Bread



3 Timber's Meatloaf  
Green Bean Casserole



4 BBQ Smoked Pork  
Mac & Cheese



5 Hawaiian Chicken  
Sugar Cookie



6 Pot Roast-Carrots-Potatoes  
Oatmeal-Raisin Cookie Bar



7 Steak, Eggs & Pepper Jack  
Casserole/Chocolate Muffin

1. **Spaghetti Squash Alfredo Bake/Garlic Bread \$16** - (vegetarian) Roasted spaghetti squash with spinach & Alfredo sauce, topped with mozzarella cheese. Includes slice of homemade bread with mild garlic butter.

2. **Chicken Parmesan Meatballs/Garlic Bread \$16** - Ground chicken meatballs smothered in a rich red pasta sauce, parmesan & mozzarella cheeses. Includes a slice of homemade bread with mild garlic butter.

3. **Timber's Meatloaf/Green Bean Casserole \$17** - Beef & pork mixture smothered in a unique & tangy sauce. Classic side-dish of green beans in a homemade mushroom gravy with french fried onions.

4. **BBQ Smoked Pork/Mac & Cheese \$17** - Slowly smoked pork butt, smothered with Rach's sweet bbq sauce, matched with our delicious baked mac & cheese with cracker topping.

5. **Hawaiian Chicken/Sugar Cookie \$17** - Marinated and grilled chicken thighs, with grilled pineapple, peppers & onions over top white rice and drizzled with Rach's teriyaki sauce. Soft sugar cookie with packet of vanilla frosting.

6. **Pot Roast-Carrots-Garlic Mashed Potatoes/Oatmeal-Raisin Cookie Bar w/Cream Drizzle \$17** - Tender chunks of beef, carrots & garlic mashed potatoes paired with oatmeal-raisin cookies with packet of cream filling to drizzle over top after baking.

7. **Steak, Egg & Pepper Jack Casserole/Chocolate Muffin \$17** - Chunks of grilled flank steak, eggs, pepper-jack cheese with shredded hash browns. Paired with chocolate muffin.

Please note the **Wednesday, September 10**, deadline for ordering TV dinners this month!!