

January 1, 2025

THE MONTHLY MONITOR

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF AAUW ST. CLOUD (MN) AREA BRANCH



Saint Cloud Area (MN) Branch *Memo From The Board*

IN THIS ISSUE

Memo From The Board

Branch Update(s)

TECH SAVVY

Book Club

2024-25 Programs

Free AAUW Webinars

And More...

Your Board noted again that we are hoping to get a group together to attend the first legislative session of the year in St. Paul on January 14, 2025 in order to support ERA MN. We don't have times yet but save the date if you can join us!

We did not have enough attendees to provide a vote on a pressing financial matter for our Branch. That is, we are losing money on our monthly programs, given the increases in food costs, and what we are paying Chartwells Catering, along with speaker stipends, candy, etc. Rather than raise the dinner cost, we have considered removing the Speaker stipend, and raising our Branch dues from \$27 to \$30 or possibly \$35. Once we have a quorum at the January board meeting, we will be able to present options to all members, including a proposal from the Board for which option we support. So, for now, dinners will remain at \$20 but please know that we are trying to figure out how to manage this shortfall in a way that is best for all.

Tech Savvy (February 22, 2025) is humming along with the planning. All sponsors have been contacted, our AAUW Branch website has been updated, and the marketing postcards have been printed and are being distributed. Registration opens on January 6, 2025. Please note we need more AAUW members to volunteer to help on that Saturday. Please contact Linda Nistler-Schnable to add your name to the volunteers.

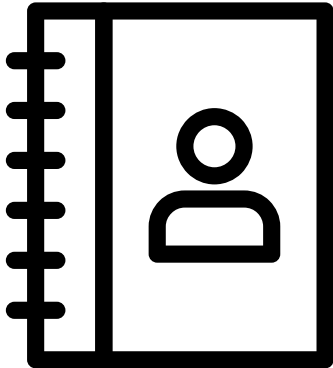
With that, we hope you had a wonderful holiday season and we're looking forward to a prosperous New Year.

January 1, 2025

Branch Update(s)

NEWS

UPDATE



**New Directory
coming soon!**

Jan Sorell and Kathryn Gainey are starting work on a 2024-2025 AAUW Directory. If all works out, we are planning to have it ready for you by the December meeting!

If you are a new member, we may be contacting you for a photo and some information regarding your degrees and work experience.

If you are a long time member you may want to update your information or photo. You can send updates to

kagaine@stcloudstate.edu

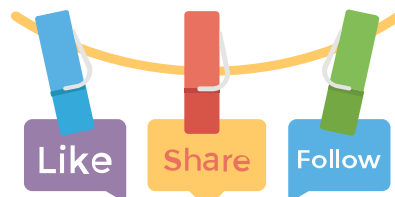
FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

AAUW has some exciting social media updates for the month! First, we just started an Instagram, it can be found with the username: @aauwstcloud. We also are active on Facebook, which can be found by searching "AAUW St. Cloud Area." Check us out on both platforms for updates about our events and photos!

We are happy to have anyone contribute to the social medias and continue to stay active, reach out to Ceci McNair through email: cecimcnair@gmail.com to have any photographs or updates posted! By maintaining an active social media presence, we can find new members and keep the community posted on our events. Thanks so much for your engagement and support!



FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM

January 1, 2025

TECH SAVVY
IS BACK!

TECH SAVVY

Tech Savvy will take place again on **February 22, 2025**. Girls in 5th-8th grade will participate in hands on workshops offered on the campus of SCSU. Workshops are hosted by faculty from St. Cloud State University and the College of St. Benedict, Microbiology, and Blattner Companies. Local businesses partner with Tech Savvy to cover the costs: AMG Printing, Big Oaks Foundation, Granite Partners, and J.A Wedum. The girls pay only a \$10 fee for the day which includes all materials and supplies, a backpack, Tech savvy t-shirt, lunch and snacks. The workshops are designed to be fun: a maker space, Harry Potter wizarding, solving a crime, the planetarium show, solar energy, discovering germs among others. It's a fun day for girls and adults.

Please considering volunteering.

CALL for **VOLUNTEERS**

Contact us: techsavvystc@gmail.com

January 1, 2025

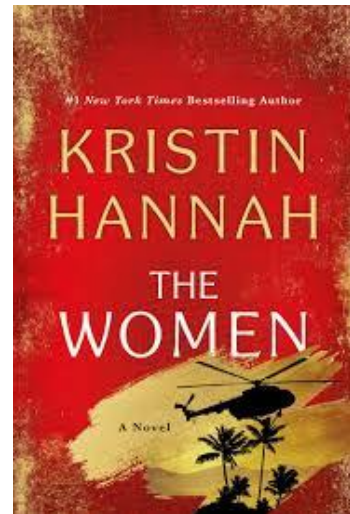
AAUW Book Clubs



The Thursday AAUW Book Club meets next on Thursday, January 23rd, @ 6:30 p.m., via Zoom to discuss your favorite childhood book.

AAUW members can contact Mary Harlander-Locke if they are interested in joining and getting the Zoom link.

The Wednesday AAUW Book club meets on January 8th at 1:00pm at Mary Lou Lenz's home in St. Cloud to discuss and dessert "The Women" by Kristin Hannah. Presented by Bonita Benschoter. RSVP: 320-259-8864 Hope to see you there !



January 1, 2025

January Program

The January 18th breakfast and program? The breakfast will include cinnamon French toast, turkey sausage, breakfast potatoes, scrambled eggs, fresh fruit and pastries with coffee, tea and juice. It should be great!

The deadline for getting reservation numbers to Katey at Chartwells is Tuesday, Jan. 14th at 4PM.

Here's the info for the January AAUW meeting.

Mark your calendars for a Saturday AAUW breakfast and guaranteed interesting presentation. The date, time and place are January 18, 2025, 8:30 AM, in the Alumni Room.

Presenter:

Matt Glaesman
City of St. Cloud
Community Development Director

The City of St. Cloud is currently updating its Comprehensive Plan and 2020 Consolidated Plan which establishes the future vision for physical development of the community. These documents address a broad range of land use matters including: land use & development, housing & neighborhoods, economic development, transportation & mobility, community facilities, and parks & recreation. The presentation will highlight a number of the initiatives successfully implemented during the last decade. The presentation will also introduce a variety of new objectives to be defined and vetted through the community engagement process during drafting the updated Comprehensive Plan and Consolidated Plan.

January 1, 2025

December Program Review

Thank you * Thank You * Thank You *
Thank You* Thank You * Thank you *
Thank You

To the AAUW (American Association of
University Women) for the donation of
toiletry items for the SCSU Husky
Pantry



These are just a few of the items that were collected at the December Meeting of the AAUW held at SCSU on December 10th.

January 1, 2025

HOW TO MAKE A RESERVATION FOR A MONTHLY PROGRAM...

Email: aauwsaintcloud@gmail.com

Subject Line: Reservations

Email Body/Message: Please reserve [#] places for [Name] for the program on [Date]. I am a [Member, Student or Guest] and I require a [Special Dietary Needs] meal.
Thanks!

Deadline to make reservations is ONE WEEK from the date of the program.

January 1, 2025

2024-2025 Programs



Season 2024-2025 Program Schedule

PARKING NOTE: Parking at SCSU is available for free at Lot "C", which is at the corner of 4th Avenue/5th Street. It's about 3 blocks from Atwood Memorial Center. You can use any of the pay lots (4th Avenue Ramp, Miller Pay Lot). To pay to use Lot "L" (directly across from Atwood), you will need to download and use the Flowbird Mobile Parking app.

RESERVATION DEADLINES: Tuesdays, seven (7) days prior to event by 4:00 p.m.

- | | | | |
|----------|-------------------|--------------------|--|
| Tuesday | November 12, 2024 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Atwood Memorial Center
Elizabeth Bayer and Diane Nelson, Annandale Art and Textile Center
Shop for Christmas and support an excellent cause |
| Tuesday | December 10, 2024 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Atwood Memorial Center
AAUW Branch Members "What is it like to live abroad?" Panel Discussion
Holiday traditions Cookie Exchange |
| Saturday | January 18, 2025 | 8:30 am – 10:30 am | Atwood Memorial Center
Matt Glaesman, Community Development Director, City of St. Cloud
"Community Planning: Initiatives Achieved and New Objectives" |
| Saturday | February 15, 2025 | 8:30 am – 10:30 am | Atwood Memorial Center
Cassandra Miles, Executive Director of the Great River Children's Museum
"A Dining Table Conversation: How to Launch a Children's Museum" |
| Tuesday | March 11, 2025 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Gorecki Center, College of St. Benedict
Anita Jones, Family Advocate for the St. Cloud area school district 742
"The Erosion of Voting Rights & Women's Rights-What's the Solution?" |
| Tuesday | April 8, 2025 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Atwood Memorial Center
Ellen Heneghan, Charlotte Stephens, Natural Parks and Trails Coalition
Our Region's Natural Parks and Trails |
| Tuesday | May 13, 2025 | 11:30 am – 1:30 pm | Atwood Memorial Center
Annual Business Meeting plus AAUW National Speaker (Video or Virtual)
"Current Status of AAUW National Lobbying Efforts" |

January 1, 2025

AAUW 2024 Webinar Schedule

These webinars are designed to provide you with the tools and knowledge needed to negotiate better salaries, enhance your career, and achieve financial independence. Whether you're a student stepping into the professional world or a seasoned professional aiming to advance, our webinars offer valuable insights for every stage of your career. Check out our schedule and secure your spot to start transforming your future today. All the below webinars are FREE for students from member institutions.



Webinar	Date	Time
AAUW Work Smart: Know Your Value and Get Paid	Thursday, September 12, 2024	12:00 - 1:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Start Smart	Thursday, September 19, 2024	12:00 - 1:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Money Smart: Smart Foundations	Tuesday, September 24, 2024	12:00 - 12:45 p.m. ET
AAUW Work Smart: Refresher	Wednesday, October 9, 2024	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Work/Start Smart Deep Dive: Developing Your Value Statement	Wednesday, October 16, 2024	12:00 - 1:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Money Smart: Smart Finances	Wednesday, October 23, 2024	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Work Smart: Know Your Value and Get Paid	Tuesday, November 5, 2024	2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Start Smart	Wednesday, November 13, 2024	2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Money Smart: Smart Future	Thursday, November 21, 2024	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Work Smart: Refresher	Tuesday, December 3, 2024	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Work/Start Smart Deep Dive: Developing Your Value Statement	Tuesday, December 10, 2024	3:00 - 3:45 p.m. ET
AAUW Money Smart Deep Dive: Finances-Budget and Credit Management	Tuesday, December 17, 2024	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET

January 1, 2025

ERA MN



MN ERA

We still aren't sure what to expect regarding passage of the ERA, but ERA MN is organizing a rally for the first day of session. This year that is January 14. Let's get together and caravan down to St. Paul to add our support! Wear your AAUW t-shirt if you can.

Please contact Barb Wismer 616-206-8677 if you want to join the parade!

January 1, 2025

ERA MN

Forward Together: Rally for Equal Rights
is the new #Day1forERA!

**MINNESOTANS
FOR EQUAL RIGHTS**



Forward Together: Rally for Equal Rights

JANUARY 14

Minnesota Capitol Rotunda

11:30 AM

Greet Legislators

1:30 PM

Rally

JOIN US TO DEMAND EQUALITY FOR ALL – NO EXCEPTIONS!

January 1, 2025

ERA MN



✅ For the Federal ERA:

➔ Contact the White House here ASAP!

Call: 202-456-1111

Text: 302-404-0880

Email: Your paragraph text

Tell President Biden to please take action on the ERA by instructing the US Archivist to set aside the Trump Administration memo and certify the ERA.

Sample Call:
President Biden,

Please take action on the ERA by instructing the US Archivist to set aside the Trump Administration memo and certify the ERA as the 28th Amendment to the US Constitution. You have the power to do this now!!
THIS WILL BE YOUR MOST IMPACTFUL LEGACY.

January 1, 2025

ERA MN

THE PEOPLE'S MARCH



SAINT PAUL, MN ~ JANUARY 18, 2025

POWERED BY WOMEN'S MARCH MN

WOMENSMARCHMN.COM

Join us for The People's March!

Eight years ago, 100,000+ Minnesotans marched to the Minnesota Capitol to defend and protect women's, immigrants', LGBTQ+ rights, and justice for all. On the eve of a presidency built on repression and divisiveness, we ask you to join [The People's March](#), January 18, 2025 in Saint Paul, Minnesota at the State Capitol!

The freedoms of our families, friends, and neighbors are once more under threat, and we must boldly come together to show our collective strength. We will send a clear and unmistakable message to the incoming administration: We will NOT go back!

Fired up? Follow Up!

Building on the Women's March Minnesota movement, plans include a march to the State Capitol and a rally. As part of the rally, we will connect participants to Minnesota organizations already working to protect our rights - reproductive, civil, transgender, and voting rights and more. Over the next four years and beyond, these partner organizations are going to need our support - volunteering, actions, donations. We'll march and then follow up with action.

More details will be announced in the coming weeks. The weather in Minnesota in January can be unpredictable, but our hearts are stout, our voices strong, and our commitment unbreakable. We will never stop fighting for what matters to women, to our communities, and for our Minnesota future. Please join us! Your voice and your action makes a difference!

March. Let us know you plan to be at The People's March. We'll keep you up-to-date with the latest information. [Let us know you are marching!](#)

Volunteer. Seeking volunteers, marshals, and more for the day of The People's March. [Sign up to volunteer!](#)

Partner. We're seeking non-profit Partners, Endorsers, & Changemakers to uplift and support. Together, we can make a difference. [Let's connect!](#)

Donate. Are you interested in making a gift to cover march expenses? We can't do this alone. [Donate TODAY!](#)

Get your March Merch in time for The People's March on Saturday, January 18, 2025 ~ [ORDER BY DECEMBER 22](#) ~ shirts make great gifts, as well!

Have a question you didn't see answered above? [Email us!](#)

January 1, 2025

HELP NEEDED

A little help from friends, please ...

I'm seeking a review team for the Branch's website.

I'm looking for 4-6 volunteers to assess the site. This is a short-lived volunteer task. One and done.

Even if you don't use the site, you can be helpful.

When you volunteer, I will send you a short list of items to consider about the site. You'll be asked to visit the site and consider it from a couple of perspectives and submit a few notes. Not hard work.

Contact Rene Kaluza at renevk1@gmail.com if you're willing to help. Thanks!

January 1, 2025

Stearns History Museum Event

COMMUNITY SCAN

Bring photos or other documents to be scanned with professional equipment for **FREE**.

View our events page for details on dates, locations, and times!



* Registration required

* No limit on items, but you cannot go over time allotment

* Bring a flash drive, we will have some available for \$5

* Multiple dates and locations!



320-223-7461

archiveprograms@stearns-museum.org

235 33rd Avenue North Saint Cloud, MN



January 1, 2025

Stearns History Museum Event



Stearns History Museum &
Great River Regional Library



COMMUNITY SCAN

VISIT SHM'S EVENTS PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS
OR SCAN THE QR CODE!

MON, 13TH

GRRL Cold Spring/Richmond

WED, 15TH

GRRL Kimball/Clearwater

SAT, 18TH

Stearns History Museum

THUR, 23RD

GRRL Melrose

SAT, 25TH

GRRL St. Cloud

TUE, 28TH

GRRL Albany


FRI, 31ST

GRRL Belgrade/Paynesville

SAT, 1ST

Stearns History Museum

 ARCHIVEPROGRAMS@
STEARNS-MUSEUM.ORG

 320-223-7461



January 1, 2025

Stearns History Museum Event



Elizabeth Maboutchom

Preserving Minnesota's
Natural Heritage

Wednesday, February 12th, 9 am

Join Elizabeth Maboutchom, from the Northern Waters Land and Trust, as she talks about protection strategies in Minnesota crucial for preserving wildlife habitats and maintaining water quality. Learn how conservation efforts can secure the future of our natural heritage and help sustain our outdoor culture and economy.



Free for Museum Members, \$7 for non-members

www.stearnshistorymuseum.org

320-253-8424

January 1, 2025

Whats happening with the LEAGUE of
WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. CLOUD AREA???

Calendar

January 2025

- 8 Unit Meeting, Zoom 1:00pm
- 14 ERA Rally at State Capitol
- 15 Board Meeting, 4:00pm
- 16 Book club, 6:30pm
- 25 **Program Planning; 11:00am, Library, Bremer Room**
- 27 *League Lines* deadline, noon

February 2025

- 6 Dialogue & a Drink; 5-7 pm; Crooked Pint
- 12 Unit Meeting, Zoom, 1:00pm
- 19 Board Meeting, 4:00pm
- 20 Book club, 6:30pm
- 24 *League Lines* deadline, noon

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

January 1, 2025

Meet Your Board Members

Executive Board Members



Barb Wismer
Branch President



Jan Benson
Co-VP Finance



Mary Harlander-Locke
Co-VP Finance



Molly Ewing
Recording Secretary



Kathryn Gainey
Recording Secretary
Alternate



Pat Obstarczyk
Co-VP membership

Executive Board Members



Leah Stanek
Co-VP membership



Jan Benson
VP Public Policy



OPEN
VP Programs



OPEN
VP of
Communications

Voting - Standing Board Committee Chair Members



OPEN
Monthly Program
Chair



Caroline Williams
Co-Social
Chairwoman



Joyce Hummel
Co-Social
Chairwoman



Rene Kaluza
Website



Jamie Swenson
Monthly Newsletter



Cecilia McNair
Social Media

Voting - Standing Board Committee Chair Members



OPEN
Meet-a-Member



Kathryn Gainey
Directories



Kathryn Gainey
Ads & Flyers



Joanna Pucel
Archives



Chris Lepkowski
SCSU Representative



Whitney Court
CSB Representative

Non-Voting Advisory Board



Jan Benson
Tech Savvy Event
Chair



Keshia Anderson-King
JEDI (Justice, Equity,
Diversity & Inclusion
Chair



OPEN
NCCWSL Event Chair



Whitney Court
Scholarships for
Young Leaders



Barb Wismer
Flash Funds Chair



Keshia Anderson-King
8th Grade Graduation



OPEN
Start Smart Event -
SCSU



Christi Siver
Start Smart Event - CSB



OPEN
Student Membership
Liaisons - SCSU



OPEN
Student Membership
Liaisons - CSB



Fay Bolin
Fundraising
Committee



Peggy Lodewyk
Fundraising
Committee



Joyce Hummel
Fundraising
Committee



Kathy Kampa
Fundraising
Committee



Kathryn Gainey
Fundraising
Committee



Cindy Leigh
Fundraising
Committee



OPEN
Fundraising
Committee



OPEN
Fundraising
Committee

January 1, 2025



Do you have a special announcement or event you would like to share with all the AAUW St. Cloud Area (MN) Branch members?

Want it included in our next Monthly Newsletter???

**SEND YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENT DETAILS WITH PHOTOS TO JAMIE SWENSON
JAMIE_2992@YAHOO.COM
BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.**

Disclaimer: There is no guarantee that your information will be shared but we will do our best to get it shared in the following newsletter.

