

February 1, 2025

THE MONTHLY MONITOR

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



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

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TECH SAVVY

Book Club

2024-25 Programs

Membership Matters

And More...

Hello all! In our January meeting we approved the following division of Fundraiser profits amongst our various charitable projects:

Paramount High School Art Exhibition	\$1,500.00
8th Grade Graduation	\$ 125.00
Scholarships for Young Leaders	\$8,000.00

Your Board has been wrestling with a problem regarding the cost of our monthly program meetings. Last year, for all programs, we took in \$2872.79 from the monthly \$20 charge for attendees, while we ended up with a cost of \$3355.95. This meant we had a shortfall of funds in the amount of \$483.17 which had to be supplemented from our Operations & Administration funds (which is only the membership dues allocated to our Branch - currently \$27 per member).

This year so far, with only 3 programs held, our shortfall is already at \$443.86. We know the cost of food has increased considerably over the last two years and it's not likely to decrease any time soon. And Chartwells is now charging a minimum of 20 attendees per meeting. They also charge \$45 per meeting for linens, coffee, and water. More details on the next two pages.

February 1, 2025

More From The Board

Here is the SCSU reconciliation sheets showing all income and expenses for both years.

Event	Member Reservations	Speaker	# Students	Guests	Total Planned Number	Total Planned Amount	Total Actual Diners	No reservations, extra meals	No shows followed	Cash/Check for event (incl. No-shows)	SCSU Facilities	Total Charged by Chartwells Catering	Additional Expenses	Speaker Stipend	Total Chg. For Program	per meal cost	SCSU Costs vs Collected	Comments
09/12/23	19	1	5	3	28	\$560.00	36	8	2	\$562.78	\$49.50	\$562.06	\$25.71	\$100.00	\$737.27	\$15.61	-\$174.49	Tech Charge in Facilities col.
11/08/23	23	1	1	1	26	\$520.00	23	2	4	\$500.00	\$52.00	\$412.49			\$464.49	\$17.93	-\$35.51	Tech Charge in Facilities col.
12/14/23	18			2	20	\$400.00	17	2	5	\$400.00		\$452.53		\$100.00	\$552.53	\$26.62	-\$152.53	Attendees under 20 minimum
03/12/24	14	1			15	\$400.00	14	1	3	\$290.00		\$371.81			\$371.81	\$26.56	-\$81.81	Attendees under 20 minimum
04/09/24	28	1	2	2	33	\$660.00	28	2	3	\$580.00		\$535.22		\$100.00	\$635.22	\$19.12	-\$55.22	Attendees under 20 minimum
05/14/24	28		2		30	\$660.00	28	2	4	\$540.00		\$489.57	\$105.06		\$594.63	\$19.82	-\$54.63	
	130									\$2,872.78		\$2,823.68			\$3,355.95			
NOTE: Chartwells charges minimum of 20 attendees																	-\$483.17	Total Overage for season
Sept. Additional: Candy for desserts																		
May additional: Amazon \$31.06 Microphone																		
Floral Arts \$74.00																		
Speaker Stipends: Sept., December, April																		

Event Date	Member Reservations	Speaker	# Students	Guests	Total Planned Number	Total Planned Amount	Total Actual Diners	No reservations, extra meals	No shows followed	Cash/Check for event (incl. No-shows)	SCSU Facilities	Total Charged by Chartwells Catering	Additional Expenses	Speaker Stipend	Total Chg. For Program	per meal cost	SCSU Costs vs Collected	Comments
9/10/2024	27	1	0	0	33	\$660.00	28	5	5 of 6	\$640.00		\$776.19	\$59.12	\$100.00	\$935.31	\$23.52	(\$295.31)	
11/10/2024	21	2	2	2	23	\$460.00	23	2	3 of 4	\$440.00		\$382.97		\$100.00	\$482.97	\$16.65	(\$42.97)	
12/10/2024	23	4	0	1	23	\$460.00	19	0	3 of 4	\$440.00		\$545.58		0	\$545.58	\$19.99	(\$105.58)	
NOTE:																	-\$443.86	Total Overage for season
Sept: \$51.62 candy																		
\$7.50 parking																		

We've been considering various alternatives to take away this shortfall. We have already voted to cease the Speaker Stipend of \$100 per program and replace it with a Speaker Gift of an AAUW engraved tumbler. (We will, of course, honor any stipends previously promised to speakers.)

However, just ceasing the stipend will not eliminate the shortfall (that leaves us with a shortfall of -\$577.00.)

February 1, 2025

More From The Board

Among the various options proposed are:

- Increase the cost of meals to \$25, which would leave us with \$193 in Ops & Admin funds for the following year.
- Increase dues to \$30 for the Branch, which would leave us a shortfall of -\$868.00 for O&A.
- Increase dues to \$35 for the Branch, which would leave us a shortfall of -\$353.00 for O&A.
- Modify the menu, so that we have hot and/or cold Hors d'Oeuvres and/or a dessert.

Here is the shortfall calculation so you can see the results of each option:

		Income	Expenses as is	Reduce food (using most expenses)	Remove Speaker	Dinner @ \$21	Dinner @ \$30	Dinner @ \$35	Calculations: All O&A Expenses	All Dues Income minus O&A Expenses
Dues	78 current, 25 future= 103 @ \$27	\$2,781.00					\$3,090.00	\$3,605.00		
All O&A Expenses except programs			\$1,950.00	\$1,910.00	\$1,910.00	\$1,910.00	\$1,910.00	\$1,910.00		
Programs Shortfall			\$2,028.00	\$2,012.21	\$1,428.00	\$618.00	\$2,028.00	\$1,028.00		
Overall Shortfall			\$1,604.00	\$1,698.79	-\$177.00	\$193.00	\$568.00	\$333.00	\$3,918.00	\$1,177.00
Income Program Charge	out_20 attendees x 8 programs= 160 meals	\$3,200.00				\$4,000.00			\$3,358.00	-\$577.00
Total Program Expenses			\$1,228.00	\$788.79	\$4,628.00	\$4,628.00			\$2,389.00	\$193.00
Program Shortfall			\$2,028.00	\$2,431.21	-\$1,428.00	-\$618.00			\$3,918.00	-\$868.00
Speaker Stipend	Sept-Nov-Jan-Feb-Mar-Apr @ \$100 2024 8 programs charwell= \$ 3469 - food bev- James CSB-\$589 2023 was only 6 meetings	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$2,211
Catering		\$4,018.00	\$198.79	\$4,018.00	\$4,018.00					\$2,698.79
Speaker Dinners	6 outside speakers are currently scheduled for this year (at \$20 per dinner)	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00					\$193.00
Student Dinners	10 students @ \$10	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00					\$193.00
Additional Misc. Expenses	dinner chocolates and flowers	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00					\$193.00
Square Fees	3% of charges on Square	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00					\$193.00
	subtotal	\$5,228.00	\$788.79	\$4,628.00	\$4,628.00					\$193.00

So you can see the cost of changing the menu from a full meal to a la carte items, here is the cost of some of the alternatives:

ITEM	Cost	Cost * 20	Cost + Additional	Average Food Cost in 2023-2024
Assorted Cookies per Dozen	\$14.79	\$29.58	\$74.57	\$470.61
Husky Logo Cookies each	\$2.89	\$57.80	\$102.79	\$470.61
Fudge Brownies each	\$2.89	\$57.80	\$102.79	\$470.61
Smore's Dessert Bar each	\$2.79	\$55.80	\$100.79	\$470.61
Blondie Dessert Bar each	\$2.79	\$55.80	\$100.79	\$470.61
M&M Blondie Dessert Bar ea	\$2.79	\$55.80	\$100.79	\$470.61
Pecan Dessert Bar each	\$2.79	\$55.80	\$100.79	\$470.61
Lemon Dessert Bar each	\$2.79	\$55.80	\$100.79	\$470.61
Sheet Cake (serves 24)	\$39.09		\$84.08	\$470.61
Goat Cheese crostini	\$3.19	\$63.80	\$108.79	\$470.61
Thai Chicken Lettuce Wrap	\$7.69	\$153.80	\$198.79	\$470.61
Beef Sliders (min. 24)	\$5.39	\$129.36	\$174.35	\$470.61
<i>Additional per Sept. 2024</i>				
Water		\$15.00		
Decaf Coffee		\$14.99		
Linen		\$15.00		
Sum		\$44.99		
Here is the link to our website where you can view the whole menu.				
https://stcloudstate.catertrax.com/inv				

Please contact any member of the Board to let us know how you are feeling about these alternatives. In our next Board meeting, we will be voting to determine which alternative(s) we will propose, and will be asking for a branch-wide membership vote. If you have any other suggestions, we would gladly welcome them!

If you would like the original Excel spreadsheets shown here, please contact Barb Wismer bwismer1040@gmail.com

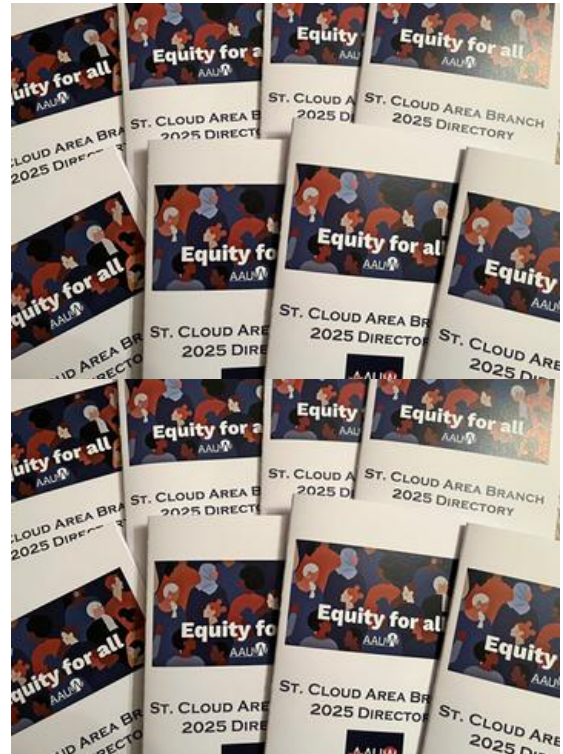
February 1, 2025

Branch Update(s)

The AAUW Membership Directory is ready for you and is **FREE!**

The directories were given out at the December meeting and were available AT THE JANUARY MEETING. If you could not attend the January meeting and would like a hard copy of the directory you can do the following

1. Send a 5x7 self addressed and stamped envelope (2 stamps) to
Kathryn Gainey
1193 59th Ave SE
St. Cloud, MN. 56304
2. You can print out the digital version that was sent to you a couple of weeks ago.



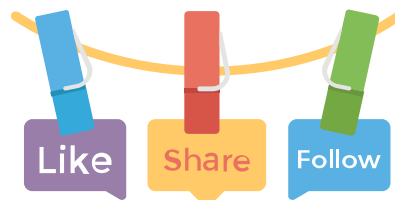
FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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

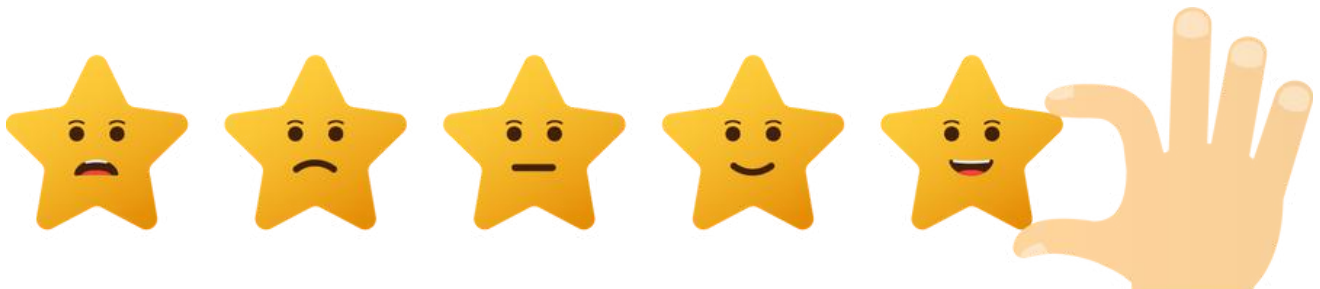
February 1, 2025

Member Feedback



We're starting a new feature in the newsletter and calling it "Member Feedback". If there is anything you wish to comment on (either positive or negative), do please let us know.

Send your comments to Jamie Swenson, jamie_2992@yahoo.com by the 15th of the month, and she'll add it to the next month's newsletter. We're looking forward to hearing from you!



February 1, 2025

TECH SAVVY

Registration for
Tech Savvy
participating girls
is February 7th. Be
sure to share with
your friends, family,
neighbors,
colleagues etc.

CALL for **VOLUNTEERS**
Volunteers must register by
February 7th.

Contact us: techsavvystc@gmail.com

February 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.

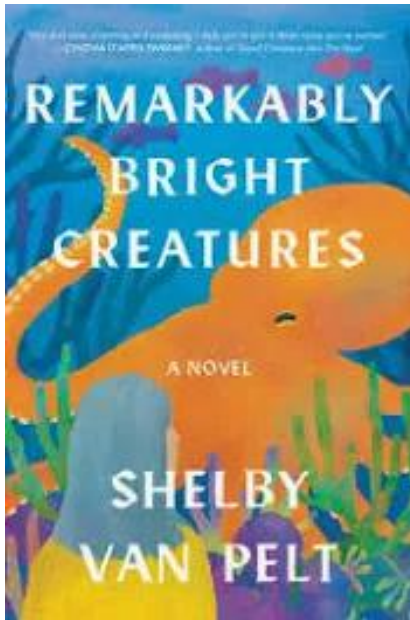
Please considering volunteering.

CALL for **VOLUNTEERS**

Contact us: techsavvystc@gmail.com

February 1, 2025

AAUW Book Clubs

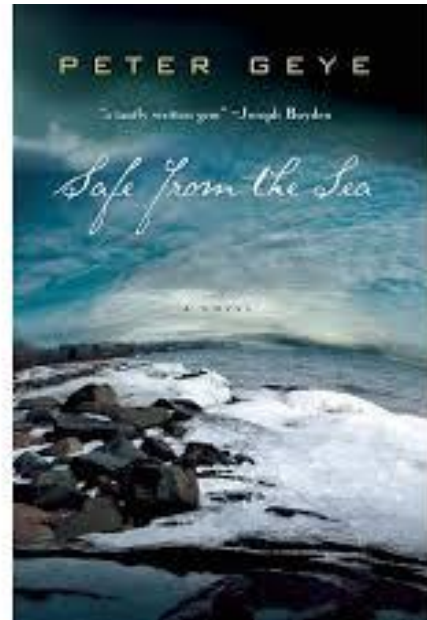


The Thursday AAUW Book Club meets next on Thursday, February 27, @ 6:30p.m. to discuss “Remarkably Bright Creatures” by Shelby Van Pelt.

Hosted by: Trish via Zoom
AAUW members can contact Mary Harlander-Locke if they are interested in joining.

The AAUW’s Wednesday Literature Group meets next on Wednesday, February 5, @ 1:00p.m. to discuss “Safe From the Sea” by Peter Geye (GRRL Book Club Kit)

Hosted by: Molly Ewing
Presenter: Judith Nixon Hook
Want to join in on the fun,
contact Molly Ewing at
320-252-2166



February 1, 2025

AAUW Zoom Member Gathering



You're Invited: AAUW Member Gathering **Wednesday, February 5, 4 p.m. ET**

We're excited to invite you to our upcoming Member Gathering!

At this special event, we will:

- Recognize outstanding supporters and branches
- Share updates on our work in Policy, Fellowships & Grants, and Membership
- Connect with fellow AAUW members

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate our achievements and learn about our latest initiatives.

[Register Now!](#)

We look forward to seeing you there!

- AAUW

February 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.

February 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" |

February 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

February 1, 2025

Message from Membership Matters



Make Your Voice Heard

As an AAUW member, your voice counts. If you need help having conversations surrounding the dues increase with your members, consider AAUW National's value to affiliates such as:

- monthly salary negotiation and financial literacy **trainings**;
- administrative support for branches related to dues processing, Community Hub, 990Ns, branding materials, and the other various **toolkits and resources**;
- advancing AAUW's member-supported policy agenda
- **speakers for branch meetings** and state conventions to provide subject matter expertise and updates;
- **weekly office hours** and support from the Connect Team;
- and many other **benefits**.

February 1, 2025

Message from Membership Matters



It's Time to Count Your Members thru January 31

Check your branch member roster and count your current members in preparation for the official February 1 Count – which includes memberships processed through January 31. Reports available mid-March. Report discrepancies to connect@aauw.org. Watch our [five-minute video](#) on preparing your roster.

Renewals, Dues & Disbursements

- FY25 National Dues: \$72 (National), \$18.81 (Students), \$1,440 (Lifetime). Fully tax-deductible.
- Renewal Notices Reminder: National sends Membership Renewal Reminder emails to lapsing members the week of the 20th and finance officers receive confirmations when members pay online.
- Dues Disbursements: Funds are deposited the following month end via ACH. Check your email for disbursement report from infosf@aauw.org and email connect@aauw.org for bank info updates.

College/University and Individual Member Benefits Just Got Better!

We're excited to share our [2025 Women's Economic Empowerment Initiative \(WEEI\) Webinar schedule](#) with College/University members for students, staff and faculty and now all AAUW members have access to this award-winning programming. [Register](#) and take advantage of these free live trainings today!

February 1, 2025

Message from Membership Matters




Plan for Upcoming Events with AAUW's Speaker Request Form
Planning a state convention, branch meeting, or special program? Use AAUW's Speaker Request Form to invite knowledgeable staff to your event.

🎤 What you'll get:

- Updates on AAUW's national initiatives
- Discussions on policy priorities
- Insights tailored to your audience

💡 Why it matters: An informed speaker can energize your members and deepen your branch's connection to AAUW's mission.

 Act now: Spring conventions are approaching! Submit your Speaker Request Form today.

Members Not Receiving Messages from AAUW

We want to help members who are not receiving AAUW emails get back on our distribution list. If members aren't receiving AAUW emails, please share this [resubscribe link](#).

If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please [unsubscribe](#).

AAUW
1310 L Street NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005
United States

February 1, 2025

Stearns History Museum Event



320.253.8424
info@stearns-museum.org
stearns-museum.org
235 33rd Avenue South
St. Cloud, MN 56301

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Ann Marie Johnson, Community Engagement
Stearns History Museum
(320) 253-8424, ext. 106
development@stearns-museum.org

Exploring History and Culture in Central Minnesota 2025 February event series launches at Sherburne History Center on February 1st

(January 8, 2025) Launching on the first Saturday in February, this year's "Exploring History and Culture in Central Minnesota" February event series features Native American history and culture. The series, which is in its sixth year, engages with the history of communities that have been and continue to be part of central Minnesota. A partnership project of the Stearns, Benton, and Sherburne County historical societies, the three central Minnesota history museums are collaborating for the 2025 series with the American Indian Center at St. Cloud State University, College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University, and Sherburne County Parks.

On Saturday, February 1st, Sherburne County Park Director, Gina Hugo, will discuss *Cultural Competence Through Park Land Development-Two Inlets at Bdé Heñáka-Omasbkooz Zaaga'igaans Regional Park*, at the Sherburne History Center in Becker. The following programs take place on Saturday, February 8th, at the Stearns History Museum in St. Cloud with Professor Ted Gordon and undergraduate research assistant Macy Ellis from CSB/SJU and on Saturday, February 15th, at the Benton County Historical Society in Sauk Rapids with the American Indian Center at SCSU. All programs start at 10:30 am and are free and open to the public.

For more information about the series and the upcoming programs, contact Ann Marie Johnson at the Stearns History Museum (320/253-8424 or development@stearns-museum.org).

END

About Stearns History Museum

Founded in 1936, the Stearns History Museum connects people through the power of history and culture – offering a premier cultural heritage experience in central Minnesota. The museum is nationally accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.



February 1, 2025

Stearns History Museum Event

2025

EXPLORING HISTORY & CULTURE IN CENTRAL MN

American Indian People,
History, & Culture

**SHERBURNE
C O U N T Y**



Feb. 1 - 10:30am

Cultural Competence Through
Park Land Development:
Two Inlets at Bdé Heháka-
Omathkooz Zaaga'igaans
Regional Park

Gina Hugo,
Park Director, Sherburne County

Sherburne History Center
10775 27th Ave SE, Becker



**Sherburne
HISTORY**
center



Questions? Contact Ann Marie Johnson at development@stearns-museum.org or 320-253-8424

February 1, 2025

Stearns History Museum Event

ARCHIVES

Explorer

CATALOGS & DATABASES: WHERE TO START YOUR RESEARCH

Learn how to browse the Stearns History Museum's catalog and other helpful research databases with SHM Librarian
Miranda

6PM

FEBRUARY

5TH

RESEARCH

CENTER



320-223-7461
235 33RD AVE S SAINT CLOUD
ARCHIVEPROGRAMS@STEARNS-
MUSEUM.ORG

February 1, 2025

Stearns History Museum Event

2025

EXPLORING HISTORY & CULTURE IN CENTRAL MN

American Indian People,
History, & Culture



COLLEGE OF
Saint Benedict
Saint John's
UNIVERSITY

Feb. 8 - 10:30am

**Native American Boarding
School Impacts and Legacies**

*Ted Gordon, Joe Farry Professor of
Public Policy and Civic Engagement,
College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's
University*

*Macy Ellis, Undergraduate Research
Assistant, College of Saint Benedict*

**Stearns History Museum
235 33rd Avenue South
St. Cloud, MN 56301**



**Sherburne
HISTORY**
center



Questions? Contact Ann Marie Johnson at development@stearns-museum.org or 320-253-8424

February 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

February 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



February 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



February 1, 2025

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

Calendar

February 2025

- 4 LWVUMRR Swampbuster Webinar, 7pm, Info and [pre-register](#).
- 6 Dialogue & a Drink; 5-7 pm; Crooked Pint
- 12 Unit Meeting, Zoom only, 1:00pm
- 19 Board Meeting, 4:00pm
- 20 Book club, 6:30pm
- 24 *League Lines* deadline, noon

March 2025

- 13 Unit Meeting, Zoom, Mississippi Rm, Library 1:00pm (Thursday)
- 19 Board Meeting, 4:00pm
- 20 Book club, 6:30pm
- 22 Anniversary Dinner, 5:00pm, See page 6.
- 25 *League Lines* deadline, noon

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	

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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					

Save the Date: LWVSCA Annual Meeting, Saturday, April 26, 2025; 11:00am.

February 1, 2025

Obituary



Most of you are aware that Lora Robinson passed away on New Years Day, as a notice was sent out to all current Branch members. Although we don't usually do this, Lora was a member for so long and contributed to our Branch in so many ways, we wanted to memorialize her.

Her daughter, Sandra Robinson, also notified our Branch directly, saying, "I am deeply saddened to inform you that my mother, Lora Robinson has passed. If you would kindly let others know, I would greatly appreciate it!" Our Membership Chair, Pat Obstarczyk, reviewed the records and found that Lora was a member for over 25 years. She was a past President of our branch, and worked in other Board positions as well.

Lora championed the cause of the AAUW Archives, which were at one time housed in her library waiting for a home. She worked closely with Janet Lore and Joanna Pucel, as they initiated the idea of moving AAUW materials out of Stearns History Museum to SCSU. The archives certainly came in handy in 2022, when we planned activities for the State AAUW convention, and honored our Branch's 100th anniversary!

In the Class Action suit *Fish vs. St Cloud State University*, Lora joined the Plaintiff class. Per CaseText, "In 1996, Plaintiffs filed this action alleging gender discrimination in compensation, terms and conditions of employment, and promotion and tenure. In December of 2000, the parties entered into a settlement agreement which was approved by this Court on March 26, 2001." (*Fish v. St. Cloud State University*, Civil No. 6:96-155, <https://casetext.com/case/fish-v-st-cloud-state-university-3>). Joanna Pucel called AAUW in Washington DC and told them they needed to help these women with funding for what they were doing. Funding was granted and they eventually won the lawsuit that went much further than SCSU. They received \$10,000.00 and Lora gave the money to our AAUW branch!

Lora was also a longtime member of the AAUW Afternoon Book Club, and for sure she will be missed. As Kathy Knudson-Mestnik said, "Lora was a unique, strong woman whom I admired...May she rest in peace."

[Read Lora Robinson's Obituary HERE](#)

February 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

Non-Voting Advisory Board



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

Non-Voting Advisory Board



Joyce Hummel
Fundraising
Committee



Kathy Kampa
Fundraising
Committee



Kathryn Gainey
Fundraising
Committee



Cindy Leigh
Fundraising
Committee



OPEN
Fundraising
Committee



OPEN
Fundraising
Committee

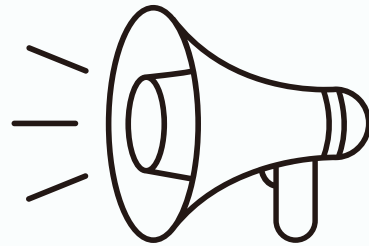
February 1, 2025

AAUW Newsletter Welcomes New Submissions

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?



**LATEST
NEWS**



**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.