

Branching Out

MISSION: Advancing equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research



Join us for our Annual Holiday Tea!

Our annual Holiday Tea will be held Saturday, December 9th from 2:00 – 4:00 pm at Grand View University this year. We'll be in Room 103 in the Rasmussen Building, located on the corner of E 14th and Boyd.

Cookies will be in abundance! In addition to celebrating the holidays, we will once again be collecting money for the AAUW Fund. Our entertainment will be provided by Kantorei, Grand View University Choir's a capella group. They will be singing a festive array of Christmas Carols.

We hope you plan to join us. Friends and family are welcome to come as well.

Save the Date! Thursday, March 8, 2018

We will meet at Pagliai's Pizza on Merele Hay Rd. to have another postcard writing event! Bring your ideas and the things you want to tell your local, state, and national politicians. We'll supply the postcards and stamps.



100 Years!

The year 2020 will mark the 100th anniversary of Women's Suffrage.

The League of Women Voters is looking for people who would like to brainstorm, collaborate, and help plan celebratory events. If you are interested, in helping plan the 2020 celebration, please contact our own Ann Gale at

ann.gale9@gmail.com

In Memoriam

Longtime branch member, Janet Wilson, died on Sept. 11, 2017. She was an active member of the Contemporary Literature and International Relations groups. The Contemporary Literature Book Group made a donation in Janet's name to the local library.

Daring Discussions, at Nov Meeting

We met on November 6th to eat and learn. Using the Daring Discussions model created by the Women's March, we heard about the history of White Nationalism and learned how to discuss issues that may feel uncomfortable, but which are vitally important. Everyone went away with an action plan to discuss important national issues with our families and loved ones.



AAUW Des Moines Year in Review

The Des Moines branch has been extremely active this year. We have met many new friends and made an impact on our communities. We learned about the New Leader Council, hosted a postcard-writing event, met with women from Belarus, and volunteered to bring meals to the Young Women's Resource Center of Des Moines. Also, members of the Des Moines branch have donated \$663 toward various AAUW funds. Thanks for a great year!

Annual Meeting set for June 11, 2018

We hope you can join us for our annual meeting, set for June 11, 2018. Ann Gale, President of AAUW Iowa, will discuss what has been going on at the state level in AAUW.

We will meet the Grand View University in the Prairie View Conference Room on the 2nd floor of the Student Center.

Save the Date for the State Convention

AAUW Iowa will hold its state convention in Fort Dodge April 20-21, 2018. The theme this year is "Truth and Consequences." They will be looking for items from each brand to put on a "brag table," so put on your thinking caps for ideas of items to contribute.



1977 Women's Conference Banner Donated to Branch

Marilyn Farr recently presented a banner from the historic 1977 National Women's Conference held in Houston to Faith Sherman for the Des Moines Branch of AAUW. Attended by 2000 delegates and 15-20,000 observers, the Conference met to form a "Plan of Action" to advance some significant changes in American women's lives. The Conference was chaired by Bella Abzug. Planks of the Plan included support for the Equal Rights Amendment, education reforms, women's reproductive rights, sexual orientation freedom, and rights of the disabled, minority, and aging women. The National Plan of Action was submitted to President Jimmy Carter and Congress in March 1978. In response, the President established the National Advisory Committee for Women, and Congress granted

an extension for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. The ERA, however, failed to pass in 1982 by which time 35 of the required 38 states had ratified it. Iowa was one of the states that did not pass the ERA.

Iowa's delegation to the Conference included Representative Willie Glanton, Betty Durden, Kappie Spencer, and Senator Minette Doderer. Nancy Norman and Marilyn Farr, who served as treasurer, attended as observers.

The Iowa banner was designed by Curt Sytsma and made by Marilyn Farr. It was in Betty Durden's keeping until her daughter, Barb Davis, passed it on to Marilyn Farr. Our AAUW Branch intends to donate it to the Iowa Women's Archives in Iowa City.

CONTACT US

The Leadership Team is at your service.

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- Faith Sherman (wsherman41@gmail.com)

Upcoming Dates

Nov. 6: Daring Discussions @ Grand View University

Nov. 15: Contemporary Literature Book Group. Contact Joanne Page

Dec. 9: Holiday Tea @ Grand View University

Dec. 13: Contemporary Literature Book Group. Contact Joanne Page

March 8: Postcard Event @ Pagliai's Pizza

March 26: International Relations Group. Contact Joanne Page

March 28: Contemporary Literature Book Group. Contact Joanne Page.

April 20-21: AAUW Iowa state convention

AAUW Des Moines

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