

Branching Out

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



Join us for our Annual Meeting on June 11th

Join us for the final meeting of the fiscal year on June 11th at 5:30 p.m. in Grand View Student Center, Plaza View Room (2nd floor).

Ann Gale, outgoing AAUW Iowa President, will be discussing her tenure as president and the work they have been doing at the state level. We will also have a brief treasury report and will vote for the new slate of officers for the Des Moines branch.

Below are the names on the ballot this year:

- Ann Gale – President
- Joanne Page – Membership
- Barb Zimany – Treasurer
- Sharon Gee – Leadership Team
- Barb Kester – Leadership Team
- Faith Sherman – Leadership Team

Leadership team members are responsible for planning future meetings and events. All members are asked to serve a one-year position (May-May). All members are encouraged to contact their leadership team members to find ways they can become involved.

Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your membership.

As the fiscal year draws to a close June 30th, it is time to renew your membership in AAUW. Dues are \$69.00: \$49 national, \$10 state, and \$10 local. Life member dues are \$20, and honorary life member dues are free.

Please use the form below to send with your check to Barb Zimany. **Please make check payable to AAUW.**

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

New or Renewal? _____

If New:

College/University _____

Year Graduated _____

Major _____

Date of Birth _____

Send a check for FULL DUES (National, State, and Des Moines). If you are already a national member (dues already paid or gifted through graduation), you can join the Iowa and Des Moines branches for just \$20.

Mail checks made out to AAUW to:

Barb Zimany (AAUW Des Moines Treasurer)
10022 Valdez Dr.
Urbandale, IA 50322

Online payment by credit card is also an option. Go to www.aauw.org/membership.

This payment covers membership at the local, state, and national levels through June 30, 2019.



In Memoriam

Alice McKee passed away on February 14th. Alice served as the President of the AAUW Education Foundation and was a member of the International Federation of University Women. She also served as the first Director of the State of Iowa's Commission on the Status of Women.

Lee (Rosalee) Barns passed away on March 16th. Lee valued learning and reading, was a member of the International Relations group, and an active AAUW member.

Mary Grefe, longtime community activist, particularly in equity and education issues, died on May 10, 2018, at the age of 96. She was state and national president of AAUW. Among her many achievements through AAUW and other organizations were being named an official delegate to an international conference in China in the early 1970s and inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame in 1980.

The Future of AAUW Des Moines

We met on Saturday, May 5th to discuss our branch's future. Amy Getty and Brittany Cottrill-Lloyd from Grand View can no longer serve on the leadership team due to the heavy demands of their fulltime jobs. They plan to focus their energies on sustaining the Grand View C/U AAUW branch instead.

Our branch has been around for over 100 years, however, and everyone hated to see it dissolve. Ann Gale, recently transplanted to Des Moines from Algona, graciously agreed to take on the role of branch President. Barb Zimany agreed to remain at least one more year as Treasurer. Joanne Page agreed to remain on as Membership Chair.

We are considering ways to keep going without draining the energy of our remaining members. Some ideas were: collaborating with the e-branch for regular meetings, maintaining the interest groups (International Relations and Contemporary Literature Book Club), and holding some form of our annual Holiday Tea.

Please join me in thanking Ann, Barb, and Joanne for volunteering! Also Sharon Gee, Faith Sherman, and Barb Kester for volunteering to join or remain on the Leadership Team.

Join the Des Moines AAUW Book Club

Have you always been interested in the Contemporary Literature Book Club, and just not had the time? Join us on Wednesday, May 23rd from 1-3 p.m. if so. Sharon Gee will be hosting – 4323 Grand Ave, #427, DSM.

We will be discussing *Whistling Past the Graveyard* by Susan Crandall. It is "a wise and tender coming-of-age story about a nine-year-old girl who runs away from her Mississippi home in 1963, befriends a lonely woman suffering loss and abuse, and embarks on a life-changing road trip" (Amazon). [You can find out more information clicking here.](#)

If you can't join us then, come to the planning meeting on Wednesday, June 13th, also 1-3 p.m. We will be at Amy Getty's house (804 Grandview Ave, DSM) choosing our books for next year.

BETTY DURDEN NOMINATED FOR IOWA WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

The Des Moines Branch has submitted the nomination of Betty Durden to the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women's 2018 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame. Betty left a rich legacy in advocating for women and girls and for life-long learning. She herself graduated from Drake University after taking some time away to serve in the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) during World War II.

As a mother at home with her three children, she joined AAUW, which launched her early activism. She was Branch president, State president, and attended the 1977 International Women's Conference in Houston. At our 100th anniversary celebration in 2014, we honored Betty with the "Gateway to Equity" award.

Governor Robert Ray asked Betty to set up a Governor's Commission on the Status of Women in Iowa in 1969. She served as State Chair of the Equal Rights Amendment campaign in 1992, which was narrowly defeated.

Betty left behind were her reflections on her life. In 2013 she authored a book *Sanity After Seventy* while residing at Deerfield Residential Community. In her 93 years Betty made a huge difference in her community in many ways, responding generously to requests for her participation and leadership, inspiring others pursue education, accept challenges, and keep working for equity for women and girls. Betty died February 20, 2017.

The selection committee of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women will decide the 2018 Hall of Fame inductees by June 1, and an induction ceremony will be held in mid-August, to which the public will be invited.