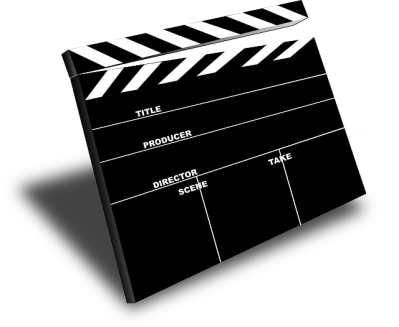
Our Mission: To honor women and girls, empowering them through education, service and leadership development.

**President’s Message**

Welcome back as we continue to celebrate another great year! Welcome back to another year of interesting programs, community service and our fun interest groups. Last month we enjoyed meeting new members at our annual Wine & Cheese membership meeting. I would like to thank Catherine Haslag, Jill Maxfield and Catherine Lemons for planning and hosting such a great event. As our new year begins, I would like you to consider what is the most important thing to you about AAUW? Is it the friendships? The interest groups? The mission? Knowing that we are helping women and girls achieve their greatest potential? All of the above? Whatever your response is to that question, we are working on things for this year that we think you’ll enjoy. We plan to continue many of the things that we all love: our active book groups and other varied interest groups; opportunities for making new friends; supporting scholarships, fellowships and funds for AAUW programs; and fun events like our House Tour, the Women’s History Month project and Spring Book Sale. Along the way, we will need your help, so we hope you’ll respond when we ask for volunteers. As with most organizations, a few people do much of the work, and we would like to spread that around so that more of you can be involved in our mission! I hope your summer has been relaxing and replenishing. We look forward to communicating more with you about upcoming activities.

~Courtney Wyant, President

**October Program – Arrival: Finding Home**

Whether your family came to the United States in the 1800's or the 2000's, we've all managed to find a way to create a home for ourselves and our families. KSMQ Public Television is proud to present "Arrival: Finding Home."  This documentary follows the challenges and sacrifices of five persistent and resilient families as they first arrive in their new country.  They overcome daunting odds with strength and determination, believing that anything is possible in order to create a new home.

 AAUW and Riverland College are proud to bring this program to our community on October 13th. The program is open to the public and will be held in the Frank W. Bridges Theater on the campus of Riverland.  Members of the cast will be available for questions after the movie. Social time will begin at 6:30p with the program beginning at 7pm.

Jill Maxfield and Catherine Haslag, Programs Co-Chairs

**Small Groups**

**AM Book Group**

Morning Book Group will be reviewing an old favorite, "Treasure Island" by Robert Louis Stevenson.  Please join us if you are able at 9:00 a.m. at Barley's on Thursday, October 15.

**First Friday**

First Friday Luncheon will be this Friday, October 3rd. We will meet at 11:30 at the Old Mill.  Please let Dorothy Krob know if you will be joining at sdkrob@live.com.

**PM Book Group**

Evening book group will be at the home of Peggy Benzkofer on October 20th at 7:00 p.m.  We will discuss *Alias Grace* by Margaret Atwood.  Please RSVP to Peggy at pjbenzko@gmail.com.

**Knitting & Handiwork**

We continue to meet most Saturdays at the Coffee House on Main at 9:30 AM. You need not be able to knit/ do handiwork to attend!

**Travel Group**

The AAUW Travel Club is going to travel to Lanesboro, MN to visit and tour some farms and workshops in the Amish Community on Wednesday, October 14th.  We look forward to this adventure and learning about their culture.  Please let DedaRae know if you plan to attend or if you have questions about this exciting outing.

DedaRae Graber

**Great Decisions**

Great Decisions will discuss *Brazil In Metamorphosis* on October 26th, 1:00 PM in Room C 123 at Riverland.

**PUBLIC POLICY**

Evelyn Guentzel

In June of 2015 AAUW reaffirmed the following PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM: the mission is to advance equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research, speaking to women’s needs, aspirations, and concerns across the life span.  In the words of AAUW,  "…..the Public Policy Program (PPP) is adopted every two years by every-member vote, establishes the federal action priorities on which AAUW members across the country focus their advocacy efforts and guides the work of the national staff. States and branches should also use the PPP to inform their advocacy efforts on state and local issues. The adoption of the PPP is the culmination of a process involving state public policy chairs and many other AAUW members. Leaders regularly solicit feedback and members complete surveys online and through an every-member publication. Staff also recommends likely congressional action. In the fall of even-numbered years, the AAUW PPP Committee uses this information to develop a proposed PPP based on viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential distinctive contribution. Read the complete program online.  
  
We have a history that goes back to 1881 and it continues to evolve. In 1914 AAUW began accrediting colleges and universities on the basis of gender equity for students and faculty members. Its main purposes were to make it possible for women to become AAUW members and to pressure colleges and universities to elevate the educational standards for women.  Here is the gender equity quiz:

1. Are all courses of study open to women?

2. Are there women members on the board of trustees?

3. Is there provision through halls of residence or other buildings for the social life of women students?

4. Is there a gymnasium specially provided for the women students?

5. How many women are there on the faculty with a rank higher than that of instructor?

6. What is the relationship between the salaries given to women members of and faculty and those given to men of the same rank?

7. What is the academic rank of the dean of women? Does she give instruction in college classes?

If the school had a score of 6-7, its female students were eligible for membership in AAUW!

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| **AAUW Monthly Financial Report** | | |
| **August 31 - September 24, 2015** | | |
|  |  |  |
| **Period: 8/31/15 - 9/24/15** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Opening Balance:** |  | **$7,905.58** |
|  |  |  |
| **Income:** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Dues Received | 366.00 |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Income:** | **$ 366.00** | $8,271.58 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Disbursements:** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Scholarship funding | 2,000.00 |  |
| Dues Paid | 318.50 |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Disbursements:** | **$2,318.50** |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Closing Balance 9/24/15** |  | **$5,953.08** |

*Mission Statement*: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

*Vision Statement:* AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

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AAUW Southern Highlights

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