



Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

## Fargo-Moorhead (F-M) Branch

### President's Comments

The name of Branch that describes our local F-M AAUW organization has been changed, by National AAUW, to Affiliate. Our March Affiliate meeting will be held on Monday, March 13, 2017 at the Biltmore Inn on Main, Fargo beginning at 5 pm with a social hour, 6-6:45 pm dinner, 6:45-7:15 pm business meeting and program from 7:15-8 pm. I know our March presenter and she is a compelling speaker and a competent and compassionate woman. Ruth Anna Buffalo, a member of the Mandan Hidatsa Arikara Nation and a descendant of the Chiricahua Apache Tribe, was born and raised in Mandaree, North Dakota on the Fort Berthold Indian reservation. Ruth is a member of the "Dripping Earth Clan" from the matrilineal Hidatsa clan-ship system. She carries her late grandmother Ruth Bolman's Hidatsa name, Mia Eh'Desh, meaning Woman Appears. The title of her presentation is "Personal Accomplishments as a Female and Ethnic Minority."

She earned her Master's degree in Public Health from ND State University; in addition she earned Master degrees in Management and Business Administration from the University of Mary. Buffalo, in 2016, was the first American Indian woman to be endorsed as a Democratic-NPL candidate for the ND Insurance Commissioner.

She is a new Board member to both the ND Human Rights Coalition and the ND Planned Parenthood Advisory Committee. Ruth is a 2011 Alumni of Tri College Women's institute and 2016 Alumni of the Center for Technology & Business Women's Leadership program. A member of the WE-Rise Planning committee it is her hope to help more women get involved in public service.

Currently Buffalo lives in Fargo with her husband and four children. She is a small business owner in addition to being actively involved in the community.

There are many exciting things going on with our F-M AAUW Affiliate and I am so proud of all of our members. Look forward to seeing you on March 13, 2017.

Susan Rae Helgeland  
**F-M Branch President**

**F-M AAUW BRANCH BUSINESS AGENDA**

March 13, 2017 - 6:45 to 7:15 pm

Biltmore on Main, Fargo

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

**Call to Order and Welcome:** Susan Rae Helgeland, President

**Approval of Agenda** - (additions, deletions, changes).

**President's Comments:** April program – April 10, 2017, our own Evelyn Quigley will give us a presentation on Pay Equity. April is “Pay Equity” month.” Compliments on Newsletter – thanks to Sara Lindberg for facilitating a getting to know our members interview and article and thanks to Kathleen Nelson for submitting an article on MN each month and thanks to Editor, Liz Cambron for producing a quality product!

**February Affiliate Minutes approved:** Secretary Sara Lindberg (as printed).

**Financial Report: Finance Officer** - Liz Cambron (as printed). Sponsorship of one Tri-College participant announcement.

**Continuing Business:** Jeremiah Program Volunteer sign- up sheet – possible future venue change in December and May – focus on greeting folks at 5:45 pm at Affiliate meeting to improve a welcoming environment.

**New Business:**

**Public Policy:** Sandy Sidler.

**Book Club:** Chair Jan Jackson (as printed).

**Announcements:**

**Adjourn:**

## February 13 F-M AAUW Affiliate Meeting Minutes

Present: 17 members, guests and speaker

President Susan Helgeland began the meeting by inviting everyone to recite the AAUW mission statement and to introduce herself. The agenda was approved. Susan announced the March 13 program speaker will be Ruth Buffalo discussing her “Personal Accomplishments as a Female and Ethnic Minority.”

Other announcements from Susan were: Ashley Baggett’s daughter Genevieve’s birth, the AAUW Outlook magazine’s article on school vouchers, the We Rise legislative event in Bismarck March 12-23 (visit [www.werisend.com](http://www.werisend.com)) and Kathleen Nelson’s appointment to the F-M Board as liaison to Minnesota. She also listed the Nominating Committee members Liz Cambron, Carol Sibley and Juliann Garrett. The Fundraising Committee members are Liz Cambron, Joan Justeson and Sara Lindberg.

The previous meeting’s minutes were approved.

The Treasurer’s Report showed a beginning balance of \$3063.95 and an ending balance of \$1176.15.

Sara Lindberg announced a new feature in the newsletter called Meet a Member, which will give brief biographical sketches of F-M AAUW members in an effort to get to know each other better and foster cooperative efforts in activities and committees.

Alexa Ducioame gave an update on the Jeremiah Program. The building is expected to be ready in the fall. All women to be accepted in the program must take empowerment training. Evelyn Quigley has visited Jeremiah Centers in Minneapolis and commends the program, not only for women but also for their children. She said when women graduate they are expected to obtain good jobs and there is a good follow-up process. Verlaine Gullickson moved F-M AAUW support the Program and offer help in providing food and/or child care during the empowerment training. Evelyn Quigley seconded the motion; the motion carried. AAUW Members who want to help in this effort should email Alexa to volunteer.

Public Policy Chair Sandy Sidler drew attention to the AAUW Legislative Update available online.

Verlaine Gullickson presented copies of the by-laws containing the mandated changes.

One such change is the designation of each group as an “affiliate” instead of a “branch.”

Book Club Chair Jan Jackson announced the February 27 meeting will discuss Uprising by Sally Armstrong at 7 p.m. at the Moorhead Public Library.

Susan introduced Kristen Benson, PhD, Associate Professor of Human Development and Family Science at NDSU, who spoke on the “Experience of Parents Raising Transgender and Gender Expansive Children.”

Ms. Benson, who is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and a Certified Family Life Educator, has done extensive research in the field and counseling of children and parents in families where kids don't fit in the binary gender identity.

Ms. Benson cited the Family Acceptance Project run by Caitlin Ryan, which posits the idea that some children express transgender identity by age 3. She also described some findings from the U.S. Transgender Survey of 28,000 participants in 2015 which included a high incidence of suicide, psychological distress, poverty and unemployment. But Ms. Benson stated that supportive families can relieve these conditions. Some states provide no legal protection for transgender children but there are support groups such as Trans Youth Family Allies who work for school policy changes, supply educational materials for medical providers, write blogs and lobby state legislators.

Ms. Benson said the Internet is a good resource for information, and also referenced the Parents of LGBTQ Kids organization in Fargo-Moorhead.

**Sara Lindberg, Secretary**

## AAUW Minnesota News

The winter edition of the Minnesota Pine is available on the Minnesota AAUW website. The Pine profiles AAUW programming in various Minnesota cities. There is news about STEM events happening in Northfield, tech events occurring in St. Cloud and the Duluth affiliate's experience with offering mentors to increase their membership.

The 2017 Minnesota State AAUW convention will be held in Willmar on April 28-29. We are recruiting delegates to attend to represent the Minnesota members of the FM affiliate. Many training sessions are planned covering marketing, leadership and funding AAUW programs. Our Moorhead affiliate is allowed 3 delegates. In the latest issue of the Minnesota Pine, there is extensive coverage of convention activities and a registration form. Registration is due on or before April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Hotel accommodations will be at the Best Western Willmar. The hotel must be contacted directly and reservations made before April 7<sup>th</sup>. Hotel contact information and room rates are included at the bottom of the registration form.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Susan Helgeland. As President of Fargo-Moorhead, she must certify attending delegates.

Guests at one of the convention sessions will be Irene Wallin and her colleagues that comprised the Willmar 8. In December of 1977, 8 women tired of being paid less than their male counterparts doing similar work went out on a strike which lasted for two years. This is important history as we are still struggling for equal pay and on April 4<sup>th</sup> will celebrate Equal Pay Day. AAUW has created "Fight for Pay Equity, a Federal Roadmap." According to this document, Minnesota congressional district 7, has a 76.7% earnings ratio, compared to 81% overall state rating.

The Minnesota Legislature continues in session and last week the House passed the uniform minimum wage bill which would limit cities and counties from establishing minimum wage and sick leave policies in their communities. At this writing, HF180 has no companion bill in the Senate. Supporters of the minimum wage in the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul have said an increase would lessen wage disparities for low income earners (read women).

<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net/files/2012/07/AAUW-MN-Winter-2017-Pine.pdf>

## Meet an F-M AAUW Member

### Verlaine Gullickson

Verlaine Gullickson of Fargo earned a BS degree in English Education from NDSU and an MS degree in Women's Studies from Minnesota State University, Mankato. She retired from the South Dakota Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and has since worked as a contracted consultant for Wiconi Wawokiya, Inc. and the Native Women's Society of the Great Plains. Previously, she worked for ND Insurance Commissioner Earl Pomeroy and Lt. Governor Ruth Meiers.

Verlaine enjoys traveling and has visited 47 states, 10 Canadian provinces and several European countries. She also likes to quilt and read. Her favorite books recently are *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman, *LaRose* by Louise Erdrich and *The Stuff of Thought* by Steven Pinker.

Verlaine believes the most important issues AAUW should focus on are gender equity, and equal access to education for women and girls worldwide. She plans to continue to participate in the F-M AAUW Annual Book Sale.

### Evelyn Quigley

Evelyn Quigley of Fargo has spent 50 years as a full-time health care professional, with a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from Minnesota State University Moorhead, and a Master's Degree in Nursing Administration from the University of Washington, Seattle. She was employed at Sanford Health in many capacities including accountability for operations, patient care services, and community engagement. She retired in 2015 but continues as Facilitator for a Stroke Survivor Group at Sanford. Evelyn has volunteered for numerous organizations in Fargo-Moorhead and is currently a supporter and advocate for the Jeremiah Program. Her favorite pastimes are reading, volunteering, cooking and entertaining.

After membership in AAUW for three years in the past, Evelyn rejoined F-M AAUW in 2012. She believes the group is gaining strength in our community and with developing research we can prioritize critical issues and establish partnerships with other groups. Her personal goal is to be an active F-M AAUW participant by attending meetings, recruiting new members and working on advocacy projects. She will be presenting the April program on Pay Equity.

Evelyn highly recommends the film "Spotlight" as thought provoking and an excellent framework to discuss ethics.

The best advice she ever received was from her father, who instructed her to "always state your point of view, because it may give someone else the courage to speak up as well."

# Join AAUW!

Don't miss out on your chance to **SAVE!**  
 Join the Fargo-Moorhead Branch to receive membership at a discounted rate for new members! Contact us for more information.

Join by	Membership type	Price ND	Price MN
March 15	15 months (Renewal included)	\$36 <b>BEST DEAL!</b>	\$35.50 <b>BEST DEAL!</b>

Checks can be made out to FM AAUW.

You only get a deal this lucky once a year!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

AAUW BOOK CLUB

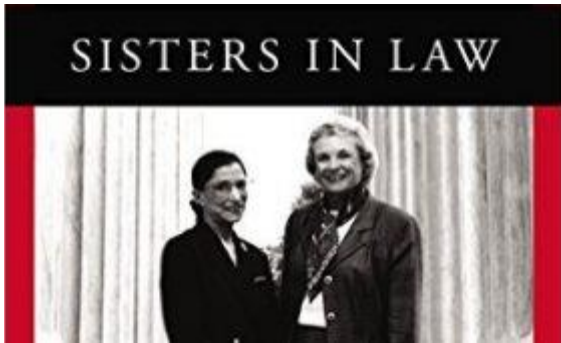
2016-17

All meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Moorhead Public Library

March 27	Being Mortal, Atul Gawande, MD
April 24	Indian Bride, Karin Fossum
May 22	Book Selection for next year

AAUW Events

**Join Our Online Chat with the Author of a New Book on Justices O'Connor and Ginsburg**



March 28, 2017

Time: 8:00 p.m. ET

Location: Online (You just need to [register.](#))

Cost: Free

**facebook**  
*Update*

- Author talk on 3/28 about Sandra Day O'Connor & Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- Disney Princesses as Women's Rights Activists
- Gloria Steinem & Dorothy Pitman-Hughes photo
- AAUW #ProtectTransKids
- American Girl to release its 1<sup>st</sup> Boy Doll
- Photos from our last meeting
- Tri-College University call for applications
- Jeff Sessions confirmed as AG; AAUW concerned
- Betsy DeVos confirmed for ed; AAUW concerned

Teach your daughters to worry less about fitting into **GLASS SLIPPERS** and more about **SHATTERING GLASS CEILINGS.**

A **mighty** GIRL



**F-M AAUW 2016-17 PROGRAMS & DATES TO REMEMBER**

March 13	“Personal Accomplishments as a Female & Ethnic Minority” Speaker: Ruth Buffalo, Mandaree, ND
April 10	“Pay Equity” Speaker: Evelyn Quigley, F-M AAUW
May 8	F-M AAUW Annual Meeting and Potluck, Moorhead Public Library

The public is welcome to attend our meetings. The format is 5-6 p.m. Social Hour; 6-6:45 p.m. Dinner; 6:45-7:15 Business Meeting; 7:15-8 p.m. Program

**Fargo-Moorhead Community Announcements**

- **North Dakota Womens Network WE Rise: Women Empowered 2017-**  
03/13/2017 8:00 AM North Dakota State Capitol. -  
<http://www.ndwomen.org/events/we-rise-women-empowered-2017/>
- **Women’s History Month Lecture & Launch of Cordopedia**  
**March 29, 7:30pm, Barry Auditorium, Concordia College**  
Dr. Mary Dana Hinton, President of the College of St. Benedict, will deliver a keynote address “Mission Driven Leadership for Women.” Prior to Dr. Hinton’s lecture, beginning at 7:30pm, will be the launch of Cordopedia, a digital encyclopedia of Concordia history developed by Joy Lintelman and Lisa Sjoberg, which has an initial focus on women of Concordia. This women’s history month event is organized in honor the late Dr. Margaret Callsen, a long-time member of FM AAUW, and whose gift to Concordia College supports undergraduate research in humanities and social sciences.
- **Pioneer Orabel Thortvedt presentation**  
**6:30-8:30pm Thursday, March 30th Comstock House, Moorhead**  
The first Callsen scholar spent the Kaitlin Preusser, a senior at Concordia College, will discuss her research on one of Clay County's most important pioneer women, Orabel Thortvedt. Attendees will hear about Thortvedt's life, have a chance to tour the house, and enjoy a beer from one of Fargo-Moorhead's local breweries.  
Refreshments will be provided by Red Raven Espresso Parlor. <http://www.mnhs.org/event/2649>

Interested in joining or have an  
announcement for the newsletter?  
Contact us!



**F-M AAUW ELECTED OFFICERS**

Susan Helgeland, President  
Alexa Ducioame, Vice President  
Sara Lindberg, Secretary  
Liz Cambron, Treasurer  
Margaret Schneider, Membership Chair

**WEB SITES**

[www.fargo-nd.aauw.net](http://www.fargo-nd.aauw.net)  
[www.facebook.com/FMAAUW](https://www.facebook.com/FMAAUW)  
[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

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