



Empowering women since 1881

QC IA
DAVENPORT-BETTENDORF
AFFILIATE

Theme: Empower Women,
Empower Communities

Issue 5

September-October 2020

GENERAL MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

DATES TO NOTE

Due to the corona-virus, most meetings and group activities have been either cancelled or have been taken on-line via ZOOM as noted below.

Literature Group via ZOOM
Sept. 8, 2 p.m.
Homegoing by Gyasi

October 13, 2 p.m.
Underground Railroad by Whitehead

General Meeting via ZOOM:
Sept. 15, 6 p.m.
STARS IN OUR CROWN
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Oct. 20, 6 p.m.
HE, SHE, THEY: FOSTERING INCLUSIVITY

Dining Group
Sept. 19, 6 p.m.
'Picnic on the Patio' Hostess: Bonnie Moeller

Public Policy via ZOOM: Informed Voter's Series,
Sept. 29, 5:30 p.m.
Topic: Civil Rights

Executive Board Meeting via Zoom
Oct 18, 2 p.m.

Dining Group
Oct Date/Time TBD
Hostess: Arlene Vincent

Public Policy Zoom Informed Voter Series Oct .Date/Time TBD
Topic: The Environment

From our Program Vice President, Elaine Kresse: Each month you will get an email Zoom connection code and reminder for your computer or phone meeting: Sign in information will always be sent to your email addresses or texts. Right now we know the fall meetings will be by Zoom. We are still hoping to be cleared to gather in person for the Reciprocity Brunch December 5th.

STARS IN OUR CROWN—September 15, 6 P.M. via Zoom

AAUW Iowa State President Carletta Knox-Seymour will speak with us about the 5 Star Program and the importance of our (state and local) strategic plans for the future. We continue to encourage all members and friends to do Work Smart on line.

HE, SHE, THEY: FOSTERING INCLUSIVITY VIA PERSONAL PRONOUNS
October 20, 6 P.M. via Zoom

Brittany Tullis (she/her/hers) - Associate Professor and Chair, Modern Languages and Cultures and Director, Women and Gender Studies, St. Ambrose University: Academic Director, International Comic Arts Forum; Fulbright Program Advisor/Scholar Liaison; Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Advisor

Brittany Tullis will present a brief presentation on the importance of recognizing and respecting personal pronoun choices. During this meeting, we will also share a concern in AAUW with Title IX, which is being weakened.

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We encourage your branch involvement each month.

Please attend in our General Meetings and participate in our interest groups. We still need a chair for the Jepsen scholarship fund. Taking a small responsibility being on a committee is what makes the branch move forward. Please don't hesitate to join the board committees headed by chairs listed on page 4 of the new directory. We need your ideas.

Elaine Kresse
Vice President, Programs

LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

Theme this year: Empower Women-Empower Community

Dear ladies,

First off VOTE BY MAIL if at all possible. But please VOTE.

I hope all survived the storm, a derecho. It came through and left terrible results. Trees and transformers were down, roads blocked and electricity and Internet out. My hope is that you all are doing all right, considering. On top of that don't forget we are in a pandemic; wear your mask and please social distance.

Again congratulations to our scholarship recipients. You can find news announcement in the *QC Times*, dated August 6th, 2020.

Further, unfortunately, the Black Women's Pay Gap panel forum had to be cancelled. This cancellation was due to the derecho storm. Many panelists were left without electricity and Internet. This made connection impossible. The Black Women's Pay Gap forum will hopefully be re-scheduled for next year.

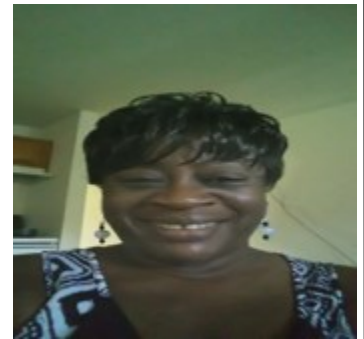
#Blackwomenequalpay

There is some good news. Our zoom meetings were successful due to the attendees present. Thank you all who were able to attend the Zoom dinner. We discussed current events. The dinner theme was Japanese food.

Our executive board and general meetings went well. I'd like to also thank our board for showing up to the Zoom meeting; it's much appreciated. I feel it was successful and productive. These zoom meetings have given me hope that our future programs with Zoom will be even more successful.

Therefore, stay encouraged Davenport Bettendorf branch! Hang in there. We can do this. I'm looking forward to a successful year no matter the challenge.

Janice Harris-Williams
AAUW Davenport/Bettendorf Branch President



A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER, BONNIE MOELLER

Dues for this year were collected from 56 members which brings our checking account balance back up. (Of the \$79.00 dues each member pays, \$10.00 stays with our local branch.)

A gift was sent to the Greatest Needs Fund in honor of Linda Kuehn and Phyllis Thede for their dedicated service to AAUW.

Notice has been received that the National AAUW Board of Directors is proposing an individual member dues increase beginning July 1, 2021 to cover more national expenses. Comments regarding this are welcome until September 25, 2020. Send them to connect@aauw.org. They'll be reviewed by AAUW staff and Board of Directors prior to the Board's vote.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR VP MEMBERSHIP, JEANNE WITHYCOMBE

Our branch membership roster took a big hit this year for many reasons; age and health, new jobs and thus moving, conflicting commitments, and finances. The June total brings us to 56 active members.

Our goal for the coming year is to increase our membership - number wise and inclusive wise. We want to reach out to minority women and those who are younger. Our dreams are high, but practical. The problem is a lack of numbers - needed for leadership, getting the work done, carrying us forward and insuring our future. Success in reaching our goal depends on all of you.

PLEASE, reach out to people you meet and gather with. Peak around corners; keep your eyes open. I met a lady in the grocery store line who expressed interest and then I sent her some information. There are opportunities out there, we just need to see them and reach out to them.

AAUW has been serving women for over 100 years but there is still work to be done. To quote a popular phrase right now "We are all in this together." Thank you for your support.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR VP FUNDRAISING, LINDA PAPLINSKI

Thank you all who made a donation to Birdies for Charity. All of our pledges have been paid. They will be sending out the totals and bonus (a possible 5%) the end of October. Thanks to all who made donations!

Due to the Corona virus, we will not be selling the Dining Out Books this year. If you have any fundraising suggestions, which are "covid-friendly" please forward them to the board or me. Thank you.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PUBLIC POLICY CHAIR, MARIA BRIBRIESCO

The public policy committee deals with the issues that are important to AAUW. The nature of public policy is political. While AAUW is nonpartisan, we are certainly political and we have very clear definite positions on issues like pay equity, racism, immigration, voting rights, etc. Visit National AAUW's webpage and there is a wealth of information and kits to help our local branches and members become activists. Many folks dislike politics, however, politics governs all aspects of our lives and we will have the type of government and community that we want by being informed, engaged citizens. One of my favorites sayings (I heard it at a state AAUW conference) relating to being involved is: "If you are not at the table, you are probably on the menu".

We provided mock caucus training in December and January in a fun, informative way. We also hosted the Legislative Forums held once a month in the beginning of this year, in which the community got to meet and listen to their local and state legislators. Many members of the community participated in these events.

I ask our members to join my committee and/or be supportive by attending our events. AAUW (via yours truly) was instrumental in forming a coalition with other nonpartisan organizations to host a series of virtual town hall meetings entitled "The Informed Voters" program. We had the first town hall in July and the second one was on August 18th and it went very well. **The next town hall is on September 29th at 5:30 p.m. on the topic of civil rights. In October, the topic will be the environment.**

Public policy seeks to inform our membership and the community at large with our events as well as to influence public opinion and policy on the issues near and dear to AAUW. COVID19 is impacting all of us; however, it becomes even more critical for organizations like AAUW to meet the challenge of staying involved and engaged in the midst of the pandemic. We are meeting this challenge with our virtual town halls.

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

3	Christine Turnipseed
5	Janice Hill
7	Stella Herzig

19	Dr. Lisa Killinger
28	Nola Gottschalk



3	Dr .Erica Goldstone
22	Mona Martin
26	Janice Harris-Williams
26	Donna J. Naae

SPECIAL INTEREST & STUDY GROUPS

Below is a listing the September and October meetings of our special interest and study groups. All groups are open to all members. Please let the chair know if you plan to attend a group event, especially for events needing reservations or a head count for meals, supplies, etc. All contact information for the chairs is available in our annual yearbook.

Please contact the Chairs and/or check our website and Facebook page for up-to-date information regarding any additions, cancellations, or changes to our scheduled programs.

Interest/Study Group	September Meeting	October Meeting
<i>Adelante Book Club</i> – Chair: Rosanna Krubsack	No meeting	No meeting
<i>Creative Women</i> - Chair: Terry Collins	No meeting until February	No meeting until February
<i>Eat, Meet & Be Merry Dining Group</i> – Chair: Janice Hill	September 19, 6 p.m. Hostess: Bonnie Moeller	October Date/Time TBD Hostess: Arlene Vincent
<i>Literature</i> – Chair: Angela Chenus	ZOOM September 8, 2 pm <u>Homegoing</u> , by Gyasi	ZOOM October 13, 2 pm <u>Underground Railroad</u> , by Whitehead
<i>Public Policy/Women’s Issues</i> – Chair: Maria Bribresco	ZOOM September 29, 5:30 pm Informed Voter’s Series: Civil Rights. (You must pre-register ; look for email with registration information)	ZOOM October Date/Time TBD Informed Voter’s Series: The Environment (You must pre-register ; look for email with registration information)

PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Welcome Erin Fitzsimmons to our Branch as a new member.
- Dr. Brittany Tullis is our new St. Ambrose representative and a new member of our branch. If you have any questions about the Women and Gender Studies (WGS) program at St. Ambrose, please contact Dr. Tullis. Thank you Dr. Tullis.
- During the last two months, there have been at least 5 letters to the editor or guest column in the Quad City Times, written by AAUW members! Makes me proud to belong to such an awesome group! – Rosanne Krubsack

YOUR VOTE, 2020

[The following Information is from the *Scott County Auditor's Website* ([www. scottcountyiowa.gov/auditor](http://www.scottcountyiowa.gov/auditor)) on early voting]

EARLY VOTING IN SCOTT COUNTY

Early voting, sometimes called absentee voting or satellite voting, is available to every registered voter in Scott County. When casting your ballot early, you do not need to attend your polling place on Election Day. You must be a registered voter in order to participate in early voting.

There are two ways you can Early Vote:

1. Early Voting by Mail (Absentee Voting)

One of the early voting options is to vote by mail, using an absentee ballot, prior to Election Day.

Instructions:

- Click on the Absentee Ballot Request Form on the auditor's website
- Complete fillable Absentee Ballot Request form
- Print form
- Sign and date
- Place in an envelope and mail to the Scott County Auditor

Early Voting (Absentee Ballot) Tracker. See the date your Early Voting (absentee ballot) request is processed, sent and returned. Information updated daily.

Voting by mail is easy – and you can start as early as 120 days prior to an election. Beginning 29 days before the election (October 5th), absentee ballots will be mailed out within 24 hours after receiving your absentee ballot request. Your last day to request a ballot is October 24, 2020, 5 pm. Your deadline to return your ballot is November 3, 2020, 9 pm. or postmarked no later than November 2, 2020. Remember: you can track your Absentee Ballot online.

2. Early Voting in Person (Satellite Voting)

One of the early voting options is to vote in person. Prior to the date of any given election, when ballots are available, you may vote early at the Auditor's Office. On an as needed basis, additional satellite locations may be opened by the Auditor as listed on the website. On Election Day itself, you may **only vote at your assigned polling place** – you can no longer vote at the Auditor's office or the Satellite Locations.

If you have any questions or problems with early voting, please call the Auditor's Office at 563-326-8631.



[Home](#) » [Government](#) » Auditor's Office

- **Request your mail ballot NOW!**
Requests are being mailed NOW!
- **First day for ballots to be mailed: October 5, 2020**
- **Last day to request ballot to be mailed: October 24, 2020 5 p.m.**
- **Deadline to return ballot: November 3, 2020 – 9 p.m. in the Auditor's Office but if mailed must be postmarked November 2, 2020 or sooner.**
- [Track Your Absentee Ballot](#)

AUDITOR'S OFFICE



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**QC IA
DAVENPORT-BETTENDORF
BRANCH**

Newsletter Editors: Steffanie Adams and Carol Wyenn.

Next Newsletter – November-December issue. Articles about AAUW, our programs, or our members will be due October 15th. We encourage all members to submit articles/pictures, which will be of interest to our members. Please contact Steffanie and Carol directly - emails and phone numbers are in the affiliate directory. Thank you.