

Northwoods News e

September, 2016

AAUW Ely Branch Celebrates 90 Years

The AAUW Ely Branch, organized in 1926, is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. With an active group of over 40 members, the branch focuses on mission-based programs and activities. The branch continues to partner with Vermilion Community College (an AAUW C/U Partner), with two members participating on the VCC Advisory Board, two members on the VCC Foundation Board and a VCC staff member on the AAUW Ely Board; by providing an annual scholarship to a nontraditional woman student attending VCC; by sponsoring a VCC student at NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) at the University of

NORTHWOODS NEWS: September, 2016

For a .pdf or paper copy of this newsletter, please contact tkswagen@gmail.com.

Message from Branch President, Pam Brunfelt

This is my first letter as president of the Ely Branch, and I want to thank you for allowing me to serve you for the next two years. I know we will continue to provide important leadership on the issues that matter to women.

I would like to thank Laura Moberly for her service as president. She led us well and during her presidency we began several new programs. Her thoughtful leadership was vital to our growth and success. If you get a chance, thank her for all she did for the Ely branch.

The biggest event of the fall is the Northland gathering on September 10 at the Grand Ely Lodge at 9:30 a.m. The program will feature the story of Dorothy Molter. Sarah Guy Levar, the Executive Director of the Dorothy Molter Museum, will present "Root Beer Lady: The Story of Dorothy Molter." Dr. Sara Evans, emeritus history professor from the University of Minnesota and a renowned scholar of women's history in the United States, will reveal why Dorothy Molter matters. Her luncheon address is titled: "Out in Front: Dorothy Molter and Changes in Women's Lives in the Twentieth Century." Do not miss this opportunity to hear Dr. Evans explain the evolution of women's roles and how Dorothy Molter was in the vanguard of the monumental changes we all experienced during the past century. Barb Soderberg, Darlene Nemanich and Pam Fossum have put together a wonderful program. Thank you.

The second big event this fall is our 90th anniversary as an AAUW chapter. In 1916 the women in Ely who had college and university educations decided they needed to join together to advance opportunities for women and to form long-lasting connections between professional women in the area. Remember, Ely in 1916 was just barely 20 years old and was on the edge of a hard industrial frontier. Many of the professional women had few ties to the community and social isolation was a serious issue for women who were often single. Since that beginning, the Ely branch has continually advanced the causes that matter to women. We will celebrate those wise women in October.

Finally, we need someone to fill the publicity position on the board. I will be asking for help, but if you want to volunteer, just let me know.

2016-2017 Ely AAUW Program

Since the Ely Branch is hosting the **Northland Gathering on September 10**, there will **NOT** be a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 13. Our regularly scheduled meetings will begin October 11 when we celebrate the Ely Branch 90th Anniversary.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming AAUW Ely Branch

Maryland; and by organizing Equal Pay Day activities at the College.

The Ely Branch continues to encourage young female students in STEM fields. A STEM workshop for girls in grades 5-8 has become an annual event popular with students. Also, this year, the branch partnered with EMPOWER, a local women's group, to sponsor three 6th graders at a weeklong engineering camp at Itasca Community College in Grand Rapids, MN.

Ely Branch members have been actively involved in AAUW nationally and at the state level. At the national level, several members have participated in national committees – Audit Committee, Program Committee, and Fundraising Committee. At the state level, branch members have participated on the AAUW MN State Board and Committees including 3 past state presidents, website manager, bylaws

meetings. Check your membership booklet (to be distributed at the October meeting) and in the monthly Northwoods News for details. All meetings are at VCC and on the second Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted

- October 11: 90th Anniversary Celebration, **GEL**, Phyllis Olson and Katherine Scheur
- November 8: Book/Article Review - First Ladies (Choose your favorite or one you are interested in.) Discussion moderator - Pam Brunfelt
- December 13: Entertainment by Prairie Portage Trio, **GEL**
- January 10: STEM/Engineering Camp Participants
- February 14: TRIO Program, Annette Horvat
- March 14: Women's Mental Health, Laurie Hall
- April 11: Annual Meeting
- May 8 (**Monday**): Entertainment by Studio North, **GEL**

Upcoming Events

VCC Campus/Community Connection Day Wednesday, September 7, 10:30am-1pm

Ely area businesses, community organizations, churches and service groups will reach out and connect with Vermilion students. If you are available to represent our branch at a designated table, please contact Pam Brunfelt ASAP at [218.365.5727](tel:218.365.5727) or pam.brunfelt.moh@gmail.com

Adopt-a-Highway Litter Pick-Up and Breakfast Friday, September 30, 9:00am, Taste of Ely

Thanks to those of you who responded to my "email poll" to decide on the date for our fall litter pickup this year. September 30 looks like our best date for the best possible turnout. We'll meet at the Taste of Ely for breakfast at 9am. We'll get organized after we're done eating, hand out vests & maps and then head out to our section of Highway 169. We have always completed our clean-up by noon, sometimes by 11 if we have lots of people. Come join us for some fun & exercise. Even if you can't help with the litter pickup - join us for breakfast. It's a great time to catch up on lots of local news! Submitted by Jeanne Tomlinson

Herberger's Community Days Wednesday, November 9 - Saturday, November 12

Booklets are still \$5 each with a \$10 coupon inside plus new this year, a coupon for up to 30% savings day pass and a Yellow Dot coupon for up to 30% savings!
We have initially 150 booklets to sell, and they are available now. Call or

committee member,
VP of AAUW Funds,
and Historian.

For more information
about the Ely Branch,
contact President Pam
Brunfelt
(pam.brunfelt.moh@gmail.com) or Phyllis
Olson, VP Membership
([218-365-5693](tel:218-365-5693) or
olsonpr@frontiernet.net).

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

Value Promise: By
joining AAUW, we
belong to a community
that breaks through
educational and
economic barriers to that
all women have a fair
chance.

email Marge to reserve your booklets. ([218-235-3851](tel:218-235-3851),
ttlmargin@yahoo.com). All proceeds from booklet sales are used for
branch scholarships awarded annually so please participate in our only
fundraiser of the year. Last year's proceeds funded a VCC scholarship,
a scholarship to NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women
Student Leaders) at the University of Maryland, and scholarships to an
Engineering Camp at Mesabi Community College. Submitted by Marge
Forsberg

Recent Events

NCCWSL 2016 at The University of Maryland (excerpts from letter submitted by Megan Olson, scholarship recipient)

Dear AAUW Ely Branch,
I would like to thank you for the scholarship to attend the National
Conference of College Women Student Leaders. This scholarship meant
a great deal to me and I wouldn't have been able to attend this
conference had it not been for you. This conference allowed me to meet
girls around the country and make several meaningful connections
throughout my time there. I want to tell you a little bit about my time at
the conference as it was something I am overjoyed to have taken part in.

Overall the conference had several different components that allowed for
a full-on immersion into learning about leadership and how we can
become effective leaders. In the fall I will be a junior here at the
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. I am pursuing a Bachelor of
Science in Microbiology with a minor in History. For future plans I am
considering either attending medical school or graduate school with a
focus on cancer biology research. This conference has really helped
'strengthen my leadership toolbox', with varying tools, tips, and methods
for not only becoming a leader but also for being an effective leader. I
cannot stress enough how important and amazing this conference was.
It is incredible that I was able to go and I wish all girls would be able to
attend this conference because it was one of the best experiences that I
have had. Thank you so much again for the scholarship, I greatly
appreciate it and cannot express my gratitude.
Thank you so much, Megan Olson

For photos and Megan's complete NCCWSL recap follow the link below:
https://gallery.mailchimp.com/f05eafb64ffa363ab35f82d56/files/NCCWSL_Megan_Thank_You.pdf

Also attending NCCWSL in June was branch member, Teresa Sagen,
who, along with two other AAUW Minnesota members attended
the 2016 NCCWSL Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony and
Reception.

Other Branch News

Membership

- If you have not renewed your membership, contact Jeanne Tomlinson ASAP. The AAUW membership year is July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017. Membership dues are \$65.00. (National \$49, State \$9, Branch \$7). (Honorary Life Time members pay \$7, and Paid Life Time members pay \$16.). Tax information: \$46 of the national dues is tax deductible as a charitable contribution. The remaining \$3 is not because it supports the AAUW Action Fund.
- **Membership is Everyone's Business!** As we head into fiscal year 2017, remember that everyone can help recruit new members to AAUW. The AAUW website has many [great resources](#) to help you get started. And coming soon: recruiter pins! Members who recruit five or more new members to AAUW throughout the course of the fiscal year will receive an exclusive lapel pin!
- We are fortunate to welcome our two newest branch members - Sarah Guy-Levar and Nancy Leba. Thanks go to Sarah and Nancy and to all our members for believing in the mission of AAUW in promoting the equity of women and girls.

Kudos and Thanks

- Thanks to Shelley Frederickson for her many years of service as our branch newsletter editor!
- Kudos to Annette Horvat as the recipient of VCC's 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Although mentioned in our May newsletter, let's once again offer kudos to our branch president who was recognized as 2016 Outstanding Educator - one of 35 faculty within the MnSCU system to be recognized.

In Memory

Sadly, we lost one of our long time branch members, Linda Wright, in June. Although Linda lived in the Twin Cities area, she always faithfully continued her branch membership and supported our many mission-based efforts.

AAUW Minnesota Call for Nominations

Consider advancing equity for women and girls on the state level. AAUW MN is looking for both board and committee members. AAUW MN board members are elected at the state convention and their terms begin July 1, 2017.

President Elect: During this one-year term, the President Elect becomes acquainted with the responsibilities of the state president and AAUW Minnesota, and assists the president as requested. On July 1, 2018 the President Elect begins a two year term as President.

Vice President Program: Assists branches develop AAUW programs; chairs the program development committee, chairs the state convention

program committee; serves on the finance, public policy and membership committees. Two year term

Vice President Public Policy: Assists branches with public policy; chairs the public policy committee; serves on the program and convention resolutions committees. Two year term

Treasurer: Deposits dues and other receipts, and disburses funds for approved expenses; prepares financial reports; serves on the finance committee. Two year term

Nominating Committee: 3 members and 1 alternate; 1 year term

For more detailed information about these positions and AAUW MN committees, read AAUW's Bylaws and State Standing Rules on the AAUW MN website in the "About Us" drop down menu. <http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>

Let's continue our tradition in the Ely Branch of sharing our time and talents with AAUW MN. Look for more information on the AAUW MN website and in the next edition of The Pine. Caroline Owens is Chair of the Nominating Committee and will gladly answer questions or provide more details. cjtowens@aol.com 365-2522

Dates to Remember

Saturday, September 10, 2016

AAUW Northland Get Together
Grand Ely Lodge

April 28-29, 2017

AAUW Minnesota State Convention
Willmar, MN

June 15-18, 2017

AAUW Convention
Washington D.C.

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