



Deep Roots-Strong Branches

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AAUW OF MINNESOTA  
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AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.



## AAUW: Bridging the Gap for Women and Girls—Minnesota AAUW State Convention 2011

*Rose Cyert, Convention Co-Chair*

AAUW Winona cordially invites all Minnesota AAUW Branches to journey down the river or across the state to our beautiful city for the Minnesota State AAUW Convention AAUW: Bridging the Gap for Women and Girls, April 29 – May 1, 2011, Riverport Inn and Suites.

The convention begins on Friday, April 29, 2011 with a Welcoming Reception and Eleanor Roosevelt fund raiser at the Minnesota Marine Art Museum on the beautiful banks of the Mississippi River. You'll have an opportunity to view all the wonderful marine art that is on display at the museum, enjoy warm hors d'oeuvres and visit with old friends and make new friends, as well!

Saturday's activities will be held at Riverport Inn and Suites. The **MORNING BEGINS** with our keynote speaker, Rachelle Schultz, President/CEO of Winona Health. Rachelle has more than 20 years experience in healthcare management. At Winona Health, she oversees a 99-bed acute care hospital, a 140-bed nursing home, three assisted living facilities, related healthcare services and much more. She graduated from Georgetown University, and completed her Master's in Healthcare Administration at the U. of M. She is also involved in the community, including serving as Board Chair of the MN Marine Art Museum that we will visit on Friday night! Rachelle will help us become better informed of the current and future status of health care...a topic all women should

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be interested in. Several of our afternoon workshops follow up on the theme of Women's Health.

The **BUSINESS MEETING** completes the morning activities.

**SATURDAY'S LUNCHEON SPEAKER** is LAF Plaintiff Lulu Sun, an English professor, who has alleged sex and race discrimination in the promotion process at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. The title of her presentation is "Awareness, Acknowledgment, and Action: Gender and Race Discrimination in Higher Education." Sun filed two charges of discrimination with the Massachusetts Commission against Discrimination (MCAD), the first in 2005 and the second in 2006. For the first charge, MCAD found probable cause of discrimination based on gender, race, and national origin. In the second charge, MCAD found probable cause of retaliation and of discrimination based on gender, race, and national origin. Sun will seek not only a promotion and damages for the alleged discrimination but also an order from MCAD requiring the university administration to undertake diversity and anti-discrimination training and to actively recruit and promote women faculty, especially women of color.

On January 21, 2011, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund announced that it is awarding monetary support to the case Sun v. University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. AAUW has provided \$3,000 to her case and expects to disburse more soon.

You'll be moved by the impact LAF/AAUW funds do to support women and be moved to donate more financially. You will also have an opportunity to financially contribute to AAUW funds by bringing items for the AAUW Funds silent auction and/or making the highest bid on an item at the late afternoon auction.

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS** will be available for your participation. There is a variety of topics: choose from strictly AAUW information, osteoporosis, social media and/or an introduction to T'ai Chi, Chi Gong and acupuncture. Or feel free to utilize the pool at Riverport.

**LATE AFTERNOON** we are honored to have Linda Hallman, Executive Director of AAUW conduct a town hall meeting for our members. The town hall meeting will be very informative, but do come with your questions, too.

**SATURDAY'S BANQUET** entertainment will be Kenny Salwey, local author and story teller. Kenny spent a portion of his life living on the river and sustaining himself with whatever he could trap or hunt. Kenny will delight you with his tales.

Wake up **SUNDAY MORNING** and enjoy our wonderful Lake Winona bike/running/walking path. Attend a church service of your choice. Schedules will be available. Enjoy a continental breakfast with old and new friends. Return home refreshed as AAUW members to continue the mission, "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research".

## BRANCH PROJECT WALL OF FAME

*by Carol Sheggeby*

Many great ideas for projects and programs are brought to fruition every year in our Minnesota AAUW Branches. This year we'd like to encourage sharing of those projects, especially mission-based ones. Along this line of thinking, you are encouraged to apply for the Association Breaking Through Barriers Award, which rewards three mission based branch or state programs each year with a \$3,000 prize.

A second option is the Mission in Motion award at the state level, which has mission based programs or projects as one of its criteria. See the article elsewhere in this Pine, and online at [aauwmn.org](http://aauwmn.org).

As a third option, this year we plan a "Wall of Fame" at the Winona Convention. There will be display boards with photos and descriptions of special projects done by different branches. This is not a competition, but a place to share and perhaps give other branches ideas for programs and projects.

If you are writing up a project for the Mission in Motion award, or even if you are not, we invite you to participate in our Wall of Fame. If you are interested, please contact Sara Kuether, State Administration officer for details at [saraku@comcast.net](mailto:saraku@comcast.net), phone 651-644-7929.

**Don't hide your successes, let's show them off!**

# President's Column

*by Carol Sheggeby*



*Carol Sheggeby  
MN State President*

As I write this in the January of a brutal Minnesota winter, it's great to have some good things to look forward to – like spring; like a great April MN convention in Winona; like a national AAUW Convention in Washington, D.C.

I don't have to tell you about spring, but I would like to talk a little about the conventions, though you'll read all about them elsewhere in this newsletter. Long ago, when Barb Link first asked me to serve on her State Board, I was encouraged to attend the conventions to get a better understanding of AAUW. I was hooked for life after attending the state and national conventions.

This year we meet in the lovely river town of Winona at the end of April. The Winona Branch is very proud of the beautiful new Minnesota Marine Museum, built next to the river. It's a lovely ambiance, and the Friday event night this year is more than just a welcome, it's a fund raiser for the Eleanor Roosevelt fund and will serve lovely warm appetizers, which could actually be a light supper for you as you come into town for the convention. Read all about the rest of the convention elsewhere in this Pine.

Later, in June, the Association convention in Washington, D.C., promises to be amazing. It's our headquarters, as you know, and it is very gratifying and inspiring to watch our AAUW staff in action, and to join AAUW Public Policy and Government Relations Director Lisa Maatz and company on a trip to Capitol Hill.

I hope you'll take advantage of these opportunities to learn, to have a good time, to be inspired by great speakers and by your cohorts around the state and nation; your AAUW family.

## **Borrowed from Branch President Letter**

Many interesting articles appear in our branch newsletters. Recently Glenda Schnirring, Hastings Branch President, included the following in The Twig newsletter. Thanks to Glenda for allowing me to share it with you.

### **Some Landmark Achievements Accomplished on a National Scale by AAUW in 2010**

- Completed research report on Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, (STEM)
- Started 12 college student teams to implement College Action Projects to better equip women for leadership.
- Provided \$90,000 to five plaintiffs in legal cases which would set significant precedents.
- Through the Legal Aid Fund, created a Title IX compliance tool to be used to measure high school athletic programs.
- Action Fund Lobby Corps made 1,800 visits to Capitol Hill advocating Paycheck Fairness, Hate Crime Prevention, & more.
- 200 women in graduate studies received \$3 million in fellowships, grants, and awards based on their projects and disciplines.

*In equity, Carol Sheggeby, MN State President*



# MISSION IN MOTION Award

## An AAUW Minnesota Branch Award Program

In a several year process of strategic evaluation, AAUW determined that the future growth and success of our organization lies in a strong focus on the organization's mission: "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research." This award recognizes branches that work to incorporate the mission in all areas of branch activity. Branches that satisfactorily complete all four areas will receive the "Mission Powered" award. Satisfactorily completing three areas, branches will receive the "Mission Forward" award, and those branches satisfactorily completing two of the areas receive the "Mission on the Move" award. The one required area for all levels of awards is a three year strategic plan. A strategic plan looks to the future and emphasizes our mission. Long range plans tend to review and rework the past.

Contact Kathy Vruwink, Award Chair, at [kjvruwink@yahoo.com](mailto:kjvruwink@yahoo.com) or at 320-382-6129 for help. To submit an application for the award, complete the following by March 15, 2011

(No more than 150 words per each answer. Please double space.)

- 1) Attach a three year strategic plan.
- 2) We spread and promote our mission when we collaborate with others. Describe a branch project or program in which the branch collaborated with an educational institution (college/university or K-12), a library, or a community-based program for children or youth (preferably one that supports equity). What was the program or project? What was its purpose? Who and how many attended? No more than 150 words.
- 3) Describe three branch programs, projects or events that focused on the AAUW mission. (You may include the program/project described in number 2 as one of the three.) No more than 150 words.
- 4) List at least three steps you took to keep and add new members? What was your percentage of net gain? (Points deducted for membership loss of more than 2%.) No more than 150 words.

Send completed application to:

Kathy Vruwink  
Award Chair  
10341 SE 67th Avenue  
Lake Lillian, MN 56253

by March 31 or submit by Word document (preferred) to [kjvruwink@yahoo.com](mailto:kjvruwink@yahoo.com) by the same date.

## YOUNG WOMEN FOR EQUITY AWARDS

Do you know a young woman who is exceptionally involved in making life more equitable for women and girls? If so, AAUW MN would like to hear about her and recognize her efforts.

The Young Women for Equity Award nominations are now open. The criteria for this award are

- 1) The nominated young woman must be of high school or college age (up through age 25).
- 2) She must be involved in a specific action or event that reflects the AAUW Mission.
- 3) There must be evidence of the impact of the action or event. The recipient(s) of this award will be announced at the State Convention and she will be invited to our convention banquet along with her parents or friend as our guests. Each winner will have the opportunity to speak briefly at the banquet. The award will consist of a framed certificate.

More information and nomination forms are available from

Karen Kirkwood  
13210 Downey Trail  
Apple Valley, MN 55124

or

[karenskirkwood@cs.com](mailto:karenskirkwood@cs.com).

Forms must be returned no later than March 15, 2011.



## AAUW 2011 National Convention

Breaking through Barriers — Advocating for Change  
Renaissance Washington, D.C. Hotel • Washington, D.C. • June 16–19, 2011



## One Member, One Vote – Preview

*by Dave Kirkwood, AAUW Director at Large*

The June 2011 AAUW National Convention is being held in Washington, DC and that means it is time to elect candidates for the board of directors and vote for proposed bylaws amendments, resolutions and the Public Policy Program. New this year is the concept of “One Member, One Vote”, which was adopted by the delegates to the 2009 AAUW National Convention. It provides every member the opportunity to have a personal voice in the process of directing the future of AAUW and the right to vote on all aspects of AAUW governance.

AAUW members are offered the opportunity to vote EITHER with a mailed paper ballot or online. Ballots will be mailed to all members on April 15. If the voter chooses to return mail the ballot to AAUW for counting, it must be postmarked no later than May 31st. Alternatively, the voter can submit an online ballot, which will open May 1st and close June 17th at 9pm Eastern (the first full day of Convention.)

To assist in the election and voting process, a wealth of information is being provided both through our national magazine, Outlook, and the [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) website. The Fall Outlook has an article that describes the One Member, One Vote process. The Winter and Spring Outlook issues will provide candidate profiles and the details for the proposed bylaws amendments, resolutions and Public Policy Program. The same information is also being published online about one month earlier with the addition that most candidate profiles also include videos.

Minnesota has a long history of strong voter participation and we hope that you will exercise your right to participate in the AAUW election and voting.

## NATIONAL AAUW CONVENTION

**JUNE 16 – 19, 2011  
RENAISSANCE HOTEL  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Join us at the 2011 AAUW National convention to celebrate 130 years of AAUW and be part of a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

- Join AAUW members from across the country in advocating for change with a Lobby Day on Capitol Hill
- Be inspired by nationally recognized speakers while you learn new leadership skills and AAUW best practices to take home to your community.
- Play a direct role in our future by participating in AAUW strategic breakout sessions.
- Celebrate the inaugural Breaking through Barriers Awards ceremony featuring innovative AAUW state and branch programs.

For much more information, please visit [www.aauw.org/convention](http://www.aauw.org/convention)

# St. Cloud Branch Presents Two Community Awards

The Branch presented \$1,000 to support women students of ALVA. This program is a leadership development program for 50+ adults. St. Cloud Technical and Community College, Vital Aging Network, Central Minnesota Council on Aging and the Whitney Senior Center have coordinated efforts to foster the goals of discovering lifework, exploring opportunities and barriers for leadership in later life, and building the skills someone may need to be a civic leader. Classes meet one day a month for eight months.

Two St. Cloud members are enrolled in the program.



*Pictured are(L to R) Amy Dinkel-Van Valkenburg, S. Cloud AAUW Branch president, presenting the check to Janet Jacobson, Minnesota VAN representative, and Kathleen Gilbride and Marge Henkemeyer, SCTCC faculty.*

We also have supported Hands Across the World's Learning Together Program. The program trains and pays refugee and immigrant women after they complete 30 hours of training designed for future early child care/family child care providers. Brianda Cediell, director of HAW designed the course topics: caring for our baby, organized play/ reading with children, milestones, early indicators of progress, nutritional information, first aid and CPR, financial information, and SIDS/shaken baby syndrome. The \$1,000 grant will serve as a monetary incentive for mothers who want to gain specific training to be an early childhood caregiver and will serve as an initiation into the work world through reimbursement for students helping and learning in the childcare setting.



## New!

### BRANCH WEBSITE COMPETITION

Our State AAUW Board has a genuine desire to empower and encourage each Minnesota branch to invest in the trend of 21st century communication. You've guessed it - branch websites! At the suggestion of several members, we've decided to initiate a friendly competition, not unlike the yearly newsletter competition. We are developing a list of judging criteria, and will be putting together a committee of members to do the judging. So start planning now. We will release further news about this initiative and the competition as soon as it becomes available. Winners will be announced at convention in Winona.

Please contact Amy Dinkel-VanValkenburg (St. Cloud Branch President) at [amy.dinkel.vanvalkenburg@gmail.com](mailto:amy.dinkel.vanvalkenburg@gmail.com) if you currently have a branch website or are planning one. Questions and ideas are welcomed. Good luck and thank you for getting 'on board'!

# 2011 AAUW State Convention Special Section with Registration Form

## Breakout Sessions Winona Convention 2011

### Session 1

Note: Counterpart sessions are not for counterpart officers only, but for any interested member.

#### **1. COUNTERPARTS I. – YOUR BRANCH AND YOU : INCLUDES AAUW FUNDS AND MORE.**

AAUW Funds V.P.s Julie Olilla and Janet Wettergren would like to demystify AAUW Funds and have members understand their gifting options and the appropriate way to deal with the forms.

Discussion of program ideas will round out the workshop.

#### **2. COUNTERPARTS II. – Reaching Out : Membership and NCCWSL Scholarships**

Membership V.P. Sue Grove will discuss membership promotions offered by AAUW that can be very helpful to your branch. Bring your own ideas for discussion as well.

Past President Mary Parcheta will bring information about the NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Leaders) taking place in June. She will describe the scholarship program that our state AAUW offers to help branches sponsor local young women to attend the conference. We may even have students visit us who have attended the conference!

#### **3. OSTEOPOROSIS AND WOMEN'S BONE HEALTH**

Ann Falkenberg Olson, PhD in nursing research, Nurse Practitioner certified in Women's Health and Family Practice, works in the Winona area. She will speak about her research findings focused on perimenopausal women and bone health. She has presented at national and international conferences, and is happy to be presenting to a group of women motivated to stay healthy, enjoy life and give back to our world!

### Session 2

#### **1. SOCIAL MEDIA – FACEBOOK, WEBSITES, AND YOUR BRANCH**

A panel of members familiar with these areas will discuss the ways social media can be useful to your branch and where to find help concerning this new area. Did you know that AAUW has a Social Media Task Force to help us? We will have information from them and discussion with questions welcome.

#### **2. STRATEGIC PLANNING**

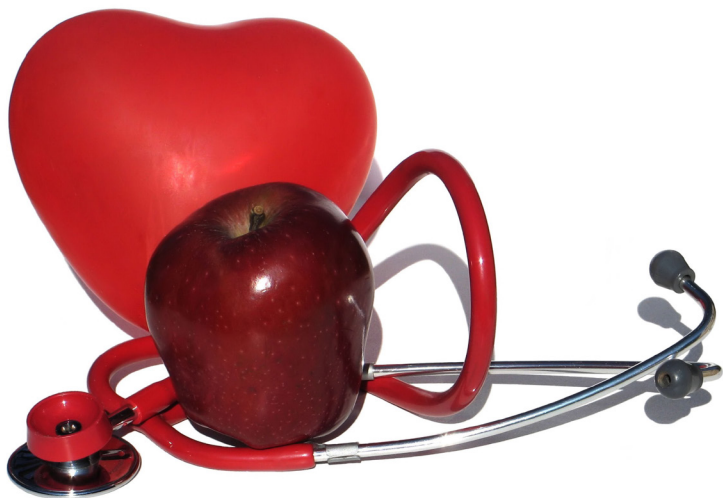
Help your branch develop a Strategic Plan with easy step-by-step helps available in this practical workshop. By the conclusion of the workshop, attendees will have a draft plan in their hands. Branches that have a strategic plan in place are stronger branches. Former State President Pat Sween, Red Wing, has a background in strategic planning and in AAUW leadership.

#### **3. INTRODUCTION TO T'AI CHI CHUAN, CHI GONG, AND ACUPUNCTURE**

T'ai Chi Ch'uan is meditation in motion. Based on the law of nature, it is the perfect exercise. Chi Gong is the art of utilizing breath, posture and simple exercise to accumulate energy (Chi) and enhance the healing of the mind and body. Bahieh Habibi-Wilkinson has a Master's degree in Counseling from Winona state University where she teaches as an adjunct faculty member. She has been playing and teaching T'ai Chi for 30 years.

Acupuncture expert, Jade Fang will introduce the group to her specialty as well.





## 2011 AAUW State Convention

### Special Section with Registration Form

## Rachelle H. Schultz, Keynote Speaker “Building Bridges vs. Building Blocks”

Rachelle H. Schultz, President/CEO of Winona Health, has more than 20 years of experience in healthcare management. At Winona Health, she oversees a 99 bed acute care hospital, a 140 bed nursing home, three assisted living facilities, physician clinics, home care and hospice programs, retail pharmacies, a foundation and related healthcare services.

From 1990 - 2002, Schultz worked with Banner Health System, a multi-state nonprofit healthcare system. During her tenure there, she directed rehabilitation services for a children’s center, served as administrator for a skilled nursing facility, directed regional home care/hospice services and was appointed CEO/Community Administrator of Lookout Memorial Hospital and related healthcare services in Spearfish, SD.

In her years as an administrator, Schultz has a proven record of accomplishments. They include organizational restructuring that resulted in greater efficiencies to successful completion of building projects, development and implementation of strategic plans, physician recruitment, and new product line development. Service excellence, continuous performance improvement and team development are key components of her successful working style.

Schultz graduated from Georgetown University with a B.A. degree in Economics and then completed her Master’s in healthcare Administration at the University of Minnesota. She is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and was invited to be a member of the Minnesota’s State Quality Improvement Institute in 2008. Schultz serves on the Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI) board and is a board director for the Minnesota Hospital Association. She is also involved in the community as Board Chair for Winona National Bank and Board Chair of the Minnesota Marine Art Museum located in Winona, Minnesota.



## Heads up! Coming to 2011 State Convention!

As was previously announced, the popular silent auction will be held at the 2011 convention in Winona. By vote of the Minnesota board of directors, proceeds will be divided equally among all five PEARL categories of AAUW Funds.

Look for information, both by U.S. Mail and e-mail, in the near future.



# Bridging the Gap for Women and Girls: Winona State AAUW Convention 2011 Agenda:

## Friday, April 29

- 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. State Board Meeting at Riverport Inn & Suites
- 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Welcoming Reception and E.R. fundraiser with hot appetizers at Minnesota Marine Art Museum

## Saturday, April 30

- 7:00 – 9:30 a.m. Registration in the Riverport Inn Lobby
- 6:30 – 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 7:15 – 8:00 a.m. Branch Presidents Counterpart Meeting & Breakfast
- 8:15 – 8:30 a.m. Opening Ceremony  
Girl Scouts Flag Presentation  
Welcome by Carol Sheggeby,  
MN AAUW President,  
Joan Greshik, Winona AAUW President  
and Debbie White, Winona City Council
- 8:30 - 9:15 a.m. Keynote Speaker Rachelle Schultz,  
CEO of Winona Health  
“Building Bridges vs. Building Blocks”
- 9:15 – 11:15 a.m. Business Meeting and Awards
- 11:15 – 11:45 a.m. Break and Silent Auction Setup
- 11:45 - 1:15 p.m. Buffet Lunch -  
Speaker LAF Plaintiff Lulu Sun, Awards
- 1:30 – 2:15 p.m. Workshop Session I, 3 workshops - see list
- 2:30 – 3:15 p.m. Workshop Session II, 3 workshops – see list
- 3:15 – 3:30 p.m. Break
- 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Town Hall Forum with  
AAUW Executive Director Linda Hallman
- 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Silent Auction and Social Hour
- 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Banquet and Awards
- 8:00 p.m. Entertainment – Kenny Salwey –  
Local Author and Storyteller

## Sunday, May 1

- 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast  
Personal Time for Meditation, Church, Walking
- 9:00 a.m. Continue Business Meeting if Required

## 2011 AAUW State Convention

### Special Section with Registration Form



*AAUW Executive Director Linda Hallman will host a “Town Hall Forum”*

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*A woman is the full circle.*

*Within her is the power to  
create, nurture and transform.*

*Diane Mariechild*

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# AAUW Minnesota State Convention – April 29 – May 1, 2011

## AAUW: Bridging the Gap for Women and Girls

Riverview Inn and Suites, 900 Bruski Drive, Winona Minnesota  
1-800-595-0606 \$69.99 per night, Deadline March 29, 2011

To register: By March 15, 2011, send this form and a check payable to: AAUW Winona  
Mail to: Barbara Shields, 56 Mt. Vernon Court, Winona MN 55987

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City /State/ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

*An attendance list of those registered by deadline will be printed for convention distribution only.*  
*Check here if you **do not** wish to be included.* \_\_\_\_\_

### Convention information: Circle all that apply:

Branch member      Past State President      State Board member  
College/University student      C/U Representative      Member at Large      Visitor/ guest

Voting Status: The Credentials Chair administers status for the Convention. Branch Presidents will notify the Credentials Chair of their delegates and alternates. Past State Presidents and current board members are already delegates.

Continental breakfast included daily with stay.

Convention Registration \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Late Fee (after 3-15-11) 10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Friday, April 29:

Welcome Reception and E.R. Fundraiser - with warm appetizers  
Minnesota Marine Art Museum 25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday, April 30

Sandwich Buffet Lunch and Speaker 16.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet Dinner and Entertainment 25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

*Circle choice of entrée*

Penne Genoa (Vegetarian)      Chicken Kiev      Baked Sole w/ Crab Stuffing  
*(Appropriate substitutions available for those with special dietary needs)*

Total Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday afternoon breakout sessions

*Please indicate first and second choice for each session.*

#### Session 1: 1:30

\_\_\_\_\_ Counterparts I – *Your Branch and You*: Includes AAUW Funds and more  
\_\_\_\_\_ Counterparts II – *Reaching Out*: Membership; NCCWSL Scholarships  
\_\_\_\_\_ Osteoporosis: *Women and Bone Health Study Results*

#### Session 2 : 2:30

\_\_\_\_\_ Social Media Panel – *Facebook, Websites, and Your Branch*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Strategic Planning : *Building for the Future*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Introduction to *Tai Chi, Chi Gong, and Acupuncture*

# AAUW Minnesota Candidates for Office:

## Co-President Elect



**TERESA K. SAGEN**

Teresa is a member of the Ely Branch and has served as Branch President

since 2008. She has also held the positions of Vice President of Program and Public Policy. At the State level, Teresa was elected to the Nominating Committee, has served on the "Mission in Motion" Awards Committee and has been a delegate to State Conventions for many years. In 2009, she attended the AAUW National Convention in St. Louis, MO as a Branch delegate.

Teresa attended the University of Alabama, where she received a B.S. and M.A. in English and Library Science and an Ed.D. in Special Education and Research. Her professional experience includes over 30 years in education as a high school and community college instructor, assistant professor at the University of Iowa, and educational consultant for the State of Iowa.

Teresa is active in the Ely Community, serving on the boards of community organizations, such as Friends of the Ely Public Library and WICOLA (White Iron Chain of Lakes Association). She frequently volunteers for the Ely-Winton Historical Society, reviews grants for the Ely Area Community Foundation and until most recently, served as treasurer of the 6th Senate District.



**CAROLINE OWENS**

In 2004, Caroline Owens joined the Ely Branch of AAUW, serving as

secretary for four years and as newsletter editor for the past five years. Three years ago, when she was an interim accounting instructor at Vermilion Community College, she established a connection between the Ely Branch and VCC. VCC is an AAUW College/University Partner member, and currently 120 students are e-affiliate members. She has been a delegate to two state conventions and was a delegate to the 2009 national convention.

Caroline earned a BA from Grinnell College and a MBA from George Mason U. She is a CPA, she worked as an auditor for public accounting firms, and as controller and VP of finance in the real estate and software development sectors.

Girl Scouting has always been a part of her life. She served as Chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of the Governance Committee of the Girl Scout Council of the Nations Capital. In Minnesota, she has become active in the Ely community, and also in the broader iron range community. She currently is a member of the church council. She has been chairman of the

Finance Committee and a member of the Board of Directors of North St. Louis Habitat for Humanity for seven years, and is currently serving her second one-year term as President.

## Treasurer



**DIANE HELLIE** is currently President of the Rochester branch of AAUW. She has also served

as public policy vice president, secretary, program chair, newsletter editor, and science fair chair. On the state level, she has served as membership chair, nominations chair, and on the minutes condensing committee.

Diane has worked at IBM for 32 years as a software engineer reviewing computer design for the IBM i computer and writing computer documentation. She enjoys using social media such as Facebook to connect with other people and share information.

Diane is interested in public policy issues affecting women and girls. She is newsletter editor for the League of Women Voters and active in United Methodist women. She enjoys quilting, reading, international films, swimming and traveling.



## Other MN Candidates for Office:

### **V.P PROGRAM 2011-13—**

Leslie Agard, current VP Program

### **V.P. PUBLIC POLICY 2011-13—**

Char Kahler, current VP Public Policy

### **V.P. AAUW FUNDS 2011-13—**

Position still open!

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE—**

Susan Moody, Hibbing and Karen Kirkwood, St. Paul.

### **OTHER NOMINATING COMMITTEE POSITIONS OPEN.**

## WANTED, WANTED

We have an opening for a AAUW Funds person and/or persons. This position is a one year term with the option of running for an additional 2 years. Not only would you have the opportunity to fill this important position but serving on the State Board with some wonderful women where many decisions are made for Minnesota AAUW. Julie Ollila and Janet Wettergren currently have this position and would be happy to answer any questions you might have regarding what all is involved. We urge you to give this serious consideration.

## Moorhead Branch Celebrates



*Irene Hogan, Margaret Callsen, Helen Rudie, Yvonne Condell, Gwen Pitsenbarger*

The Moorhead Branch celebrated the 80th Anniversary of the group in September. Current, past and prospective members were invited. In recent years, the Branch has joined with the Fargo, ND Branch for programming and conducting the annual book sale. Proceeds of the sale are used to fund scholarships and other activities that support women and girls on a local and national level. Locally, the two branches sponsor scholarships at MN State University at Moorhead and ND State University. They also sponsor other events such as an art show featuring local women artists.

## AAUW FUNDS REPORT

*by Julie Ollila and Janet Wettergren*

### CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Once again, we have wonderful news to report to all Minnesota AAUW members. Because of your strong support of AAUW Funds in 2010, we exceeded 2009 giving by several thousand dollars. The \$53,000 total figure is preliminary at this time, until Minnesota records are reconciled with those at the national office. The final figure will likely be higher, because of gifts sent by members in response to AAUW's direct solicitations. These are individual gifts that don't cross our desk, so we get the information about them some time after they're made. A full report will be published in the state convention booklet.

A second piece of good news is that we have completed the Mona McMahon Research and Projects Grant. We appreciate all of the branch support through the 10 years it took to raise the \$35,000+ to fulfill the stipend-producing requirements. This Grant was created by the Winona Branch in 1999, following Mona's death. Initial gifts were made by the Winona Branch and Mona McMahon's family. Appropriate to the AAUW mission, educational equity for women and girls was her special interest, and she enjoyed a long career as a college educator in Minnesota.

### THANKS!!



## NCCWSL – National Conference of College Women Student Leaders

*By Mary Parcheta*

*St. Croix Valley Branch*

Calling all Minnesota AAUW members..... All of you must know a young woman who is an outstanding individual with personality plus, drive and leadership skills. We know they are out there and we would like to invite them to apply for a scholarship to attend this wonderful leadership conference to be held June 2-5, 2011 at University of Maryland College Park. In 2008 we sponsored the first student from Minnesota. Her experience was incredible with the comment, "this was as valuable as a 3 credit college course." She came away with lasting friendships and many networking opportunities. Last year we had four students attend and their comments were the same. I hope you read the write up by one of them, Brandi Schembri, in the PINE last summer. I am personally going to ask two of my High School team captains from two years ago to apply this year. They were outstanding leaders of my team.

AND best of all, the State Board has voted to allocate a \$500 reimbursement/scholarship to each attendee from Minnesota. It is estimated the total cost to sponsor a student would be approximately \$750 which would include registration, lodging, meals and a stipend for travel expenses. Some members of my branch chose to underwrite the additional cost (over the amount reimbursed by state) which is a tax deductible expense. The goal for this year is to send ten students from Minnesota. A second goal of this program would be to have students bring back to campuses what they learned about AAUW and the work AAUW has done to pave the way for their future.

Send names of selected students to  
Carol Sheggeby or Mary Parcheta by April 1.

The early bird registration is April 17, 2011.

If you have questions or a suggested application form to give to applicants, please contact Mary at [mparch01@aol.com](mailto:mparch01@aol.com).

## 2010 – 2011: AAUW OF MN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Fellowship Awarded to AAUW Student Speaker

OWATONNA, Minn. (May 10, 2010) –When she addressed the Minnesota state convention of the AAUW, held in Owatonna last spring, twenty-four-year-old Erica Schultz told of the burden and joy her love of science has been in her life. The audience was visibly moved. As a girl, Schultz said she felt ostracized by her peers for her interest. As far back as the second grade she remembers a girl exclaiming, “Erica’s a boy” when she was drawing an alien and space ship in art class.

But Schultz stayed to true to herself, and her perseverance has paid off. Schultz, who graduated from Owatonna High School in 2004 and later from Macalester College, in St. Paul, was recently awarded a National Science Foundation Fellowship.

In application essays for the fellowship, she cited the AAUW talk as one of the ways she’s influenced others to encourage girls and women in science, whether or not they are in the sciences. She believes the talk is a reason she was chosen for the award. “They [the foundation judges] look for ways you’ve impacted the community at large,” she says.

“People don’t realize that girls are discouraged from going into science and math because they are considered ‘boy’ interests.” Encouragement doesn’t have to be big. “The little things people have said to support me along the way have made a huge difference.” Receiving the fellowship is big encouragement – and that’s important, too. It will fund the remaining three years of her Ph.D. program in synthetic organic chemistry at the University of California-Berkley, ground-breaking research and international travel to present her research.

Her research, while still underway, has the potential to shed new light in the fight against cancer. Schultz hopes to provide support to others, saying she would like to be a professor so she can encourage people to study science – especially young women. Women who could just make a significant difference in conquering life-threatening diseases, or perhaps be the first humans on Mars.

## MN PINE IS MOVING TOWARD EMAIL DISTRIBUTION

We are exploring use of listserv services to distribute the MN Pine to those who have email and would like to receive a color copy of the newsletter. It will be quicker, more convenient and more attractive. Postal mailed copies will be sent to those who do not share an email address.

In order to assure that we have the most current and preferred email addresses, we ask that all membership chairs and branch members update their email address by contacting Association. This can be done online at:

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Or mailed to:

AAUW 111 Sixteenth St. NW,  
Washington DC 20036

Do Not send it to the MN Pine editor.

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*Woman must not accept; she must challenge. She must not be awed by that which has been built up around her; she must reverence that woman in her which struggles for expression.*

*Margaret Sanger*

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# Cuba Adventure

by Sandy Wollschlager, Red Wing Area Branch

In November I joined a delegation to Cuba sponsored by AAUW. We met with female leaders in education, the arts, politics, law, etc. Fifty women from 20 states brought a broad perspective of life experiences to the many meetings we had with Cuban women. It was a professional research trip to gather information on gender equity and the role of women in Cuba.

Why Cuba? Last year The White House Project put out a report entitled “Benchmarking Women’s Leadership.” The report shows that on a global scale, the U.S. ranks 71st out of 189 countries in terms of the proportion of women in their national legislatures. And yes, Cuba is ahead of the U.S. Research has demonstrated that achieving critical mass of women being in at least one-third of leadership positions is essential to moving beyond basic gender discrimination issues. Cuba has already achieved this milestone. By contrast, in the U.S., the percent of leadership positions held by women is 18 percent—with a high of 23% in academia and a low of 11% in the military.

Right before we left, the United Nations passed the 19th Resolution (non-binding) calling for an end of the U.S. trade embargo on Cuba with a vote of 187-2 (Israel was the only country to vote with the U.S.). I suspect it will be increasing pressure by big business that will lift it.

For me, I wanted to see Cuba’s quaintness, and I wasn’t disappointed. The streets of Havana are like a living car museum. Outside our hotel, there were a couple of rows of phone booths in use. There are no commercial billboards anywhere. Every restaurant had live music during meals. The once beautiful mansions owned by former sugar barons are now a little south of shabby chic. These mansions were ‘redistributed’ and are now split into multiple apartments. Many are falling down around the people’s ears, yet people are out on the balconies like there’s nothing to worry about.

Cuba is a poor country. The U.S. State Department website listed the average monthly salary is \$18, or yearly earnings of \$216. A Cuban guide confirmed this, but added that all levels of education, health care, rent and a basic food basket are provided free. Although there is some satellite communication, the vast majority of Cubans aren’t connected to any online social networks. Real life social networks seem alive and well in Cuba, however. Everywhere we went, we saw people enjoying the company of other people—conversing together, making music together, and repairing a car together. The Cubans have been trying to make a point that there’s a difference between being rich and having a rich life.

In conclusion, the Cuban women we met all emphasized the same core values, and very little had to do with the political system. Women are strong contributors to society.



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*People are like stained-glass windows.*

*They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within.*

*Elizabeth Kübler-Ross*

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# AAUW OF MINNESOTA CALENDAR 2011

## February 2011

- 1 President's Mailing to Branches
- 1 Early Registration for NCCWSL Conference Opens
- 15 Deadline for Resolutions for State Convention
- 15 Convention Mailing to Branch Presidents, State Past Presidents, C/U Reps, Committee Chairs & State Board
- 15 Credentials Chair Notifies Branches of Number of Eligible Delegates

## March 2011

- 1-31 Board to Branch Calls
- 8 International Women's Day
- 15 15-Month Dues Accepted for New Members
- 15 Deadline to Register for State Convention (Late Fee after this date)
- 15 Deadlines for Mission in Motion Award, Young Women for Equity Award Applications
- 15 Deadline for Convention Booklet Assignments, Best of Branches Articles
- 29 Deadline for Hotel Reservations for State Convention

## April 2011

- 12 Equal Pay Day
- 15 NCCWSL Scholarship Applications & Early Registration Deadlines
- 29 State Board Meeting in Winona
- 29-May 1 State Convention in Winona

## May 2011

- 15 Pine Deadline
- 18 NCCWSL Registration Deadline

## June 2011

- 2-4 NCCWSL Conference in Maryland
- 17-19 AAUW National Convention, Washington, D.C.



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