



### **A Time to Reflect - 2016 and A Time to Look Forward - 2017**

#### **2016 AAUW Action Network By the Numbers!**

+More than 200,000 messages went out to state and federal legislators.  
+6 states passed new equal pay laws in 2016 - California, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, and Utah.  
+714 resource guides were delivered to Title IX

### **NORTHWOODS NEWS: January, 2017**

For a .pdf or paper copy of this newsletter, please contact [tkswagen@gmail.com](mailto:tkswagen@gmail.com)

#### **Message from Branch President, Pam Brunfelt**

Happy New Year! For many of us 2016 was a difficult year, but we cannot let our disappointment with the events of the past stop us from working hard for women in our community and across the country. National will point the way for us; all we have to do is follow.

Our holiday party was really wonderful. The Prairie Portage Trio entertained us and encouraged us to sing holiday favorites. And we discovered that Jeanne has a beautiful soprano as she carried the melody on *Silent Night*. One of the joys of being a member of AAUW is discovering the talents of our members. Thank you to the program committee for organizing such a lovely dinner.

The girls who attended the STEM camp at Itasca Community College last summer will be our guests at the branch meeting on January 10. They will talk about their experience at the camp. It will be interesting to hear them talk about what they learned. Since Maxine Jacks has moved to Duluth, we only have two hostesses for the meeting. If you would like to volunteer, please let Barb Soderberg know.

coordinators in 29 states.  
+2,200 signatures on AAUW's petition were collected urging Anheuser-Busch to sign the White House Equal Pay Pledge. To date, more than 100 companies have signed on and committed to closing the gender pay gap.  
+ AAUW celebrated 44 years of Title IX.  
+Members organized more than 900 get-out-the-vote events in 46 states.  
+At least 19 AAUW members were elected to state legislatures.  
+12 AAUW delegates attended the White House Women's Summit.  
+The AAUW in the Statehouse newsletter launched with 1,767 subscribers.  
+Members hosted more than 200 Equal Pay Day events.  
+2,786 Lobby Corps meetings were held with congressional staff.  
+AAUW co-hosted 2 congressional briefings on women and minorities in STEM and on sexual harassment in education with the National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education, an important coalition we chair.  
+AAUW testified in support of salary transparency for 63 million workers at a U.S. Equal Employment

This letter is brief because the board will not meet again until February. I hope to see you at the meeting in January. In the meantime, be safe and warm.

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## Upcoming Events

**Ely Branch Meeting and Program  
Tuesday, January 10, 6:45 pm Social,  
7:00 pm Program**  
Planning Committee: Teresa Sagen and Gail Shedly

Join us on January 10 to hear from last summer's STEM Camp participants - Annikka Mattson, Gracie Pointer and Ande Visser. It will be great to hear about this experience directly from them as well as giving them an opportunity to verbalize their thoughts. These young women will likely be our future leaders so any time we can do something to help them reach that goal is positive. The program will take place first (BEFORE our meeting) since it is a school night and, while our speakers are welcome to stay, they may need to get home for homework, etc. We hope you will join us and we look forward to seeing you there!

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## STEM 2017 Meeting Monday, January 9, Noon, Ely Steak House

The next AAUW-Ely STEM Committee meeting will be over lunch at the Ely Steak House, **January 9**, starting at 12 noon. If you didn't receive a specific email about this, and you are interested in being on the committee, please contact Jeanne Tomlinson at [tomlinson.jeanne@yahoo.com](mailto:tomlinson.jeanne@yahoo.com) or (218) 235-8470.

Jeanne Tomlinson

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## Equal Pay Day Committee

The Equal Pay Day committee will be meeting **January 6th** at 10 am. If you are interested in planning activities for the April event, or participating in the event, please contact Mary Setterholm at [Mary.setterholm@gmail.com](mailto:Mary.setterholm@gmail.com) or by calling 612-741-8761.

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## Herberger's Community Days

A big Thank You to everyone who participated

Opportunity Commission hearing.

+AAUW broke the news that 91 percent of colleges likely underreported incidents of campus rape in 2014.

+AAUW leaders in 18 states helped demand better data on harassment in schools. To date, members have received responses from 18 states.

+AAUW tracked 120 pieces of legislation in Congress, and more than 1,050 bills at the state level.

+Action Network members and supporters submitted 8,896 comments to the federal government.

+12,000 young women and girls were empowered through AAUW's Leadership programs in 2016.

### **Challenge for 2017!**

Advocacy isn't just about AAUW lending our name on important issues. It is also becoming aware of important issues and making yourself heard on issues like fair pay, Supreme Court justice nominations, and Title IX. An effective way of participating is becoming a Two-Minute Activist <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>.

Let's do our part to educate ourselves and

in our fall Herberger's booklet sale. We are now into the February sale!

The sale dates are **Thursday February 23 - Saturday, February 25, 2017**. Booklets are available now and at the January 10 branch meeting. They are still \$5 each and are loaded with coupons. Please purchase your booklets since this is our only branch fundraiser, with proceeds going to our local scholarships.

For booklets, questions, and volunteering to help, contact Marge at 218-235-3851 or [ttlmarge@yahoo.com](mailto:ttlmarge@yahoo.com)

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## **Membership News**

### **Welcome Returning Branch Member**

The Branch welcomes returning member, Nan Snyder. Nan's contact information is

Nan Snyder  
PO Box 270, Ely  
218.343.5032  
[whitshell@aol.com](mailto:whitshell@aol.com)

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## **AAUW Dates to Remember**

### **Tuesday, January 10, 2017**

**Ely Branch Meeting - STEM Camp Participants**  
VCC, CL 128

### **Tuesday, February 10, 2017**

**Ely Branch Meeting - TRIO Program, Annette Horvat**  
VCC, CL 128

### **April 28-29, 2017**

**AAUW Minnesota State Convention**  
Willmar, MN

### **June 15-18, 2017**

**AAUW Convention**  
Washington D.C.

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others about AAUW's Public Policy Program and Biennial Action Priorities:

- To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity
- To achieve economic and self-sufficiency for all women
- To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society

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**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.



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