



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

OUR AAUW MISSION IN ACTION: MINNESOTA STYLE

By Sharon Bigot, AAUW Minnesota President



I had the privilege of chairing the AAUW of Minnesota 2014-2015 Board of Directors' first meeting on July 26, 2014. I'd like you to know the major items discussed and acted on during that meeting.

1. AAUW Minnesota now has a credit card and the policies and procedures to govern that credit card. The use of the credit card is limited to the treasurer and the president.
2. Stimulated by communication from AAUW National STEM Manager, Ana Kay Yaghoubian, the AAUW of Minnesota board voted to create a new state off-board chair for STEM. An off-board position shares information with the board, but does not have voting rights.
3. There was discussion on the distribution method used for the AAUW of Minnesota Pine newsletter, especially the winter issue of the Pine. The Pine is published in the fall, winter and summer. Typically, the fall and summer editions are emailed to members with email addresses (about 1700) and mailed to those members without email (about 300). The winter Pine is an exception, as it is the state convention registration and information edition and has been mailed to all members (about 2000). Thus, it costs much more than the other editions. It was decided that our \$9 per AAUW member for AAUW of Minnesota dues could be spent in better ways than on postage. Our board passed the following motion: The winter edition of the AAUW of Minnesota Pine will be distributed in the same manner as the fall and summer issues, emailed to all members with email and mailed to those members without email. This change in distribution will save at least \$1000, which will now be available for another use.
4. Our Board agreed to continue the Young Women of Equity Award and to set aside \$5,500 for eleven \$500 NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) scholarships.
5. There was discussion about the board funding grants for branch projects. A motion was passed to approve up to a total of \$1,000 for branch project grants for 2015. The description and application form are in process

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AAUW MN PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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6. Non-elected, appointed board-related committee chairs and committee members were approved.

7. Board members were elected to complete the Nominating Committee.

8. A motion was passed to fund the following partnership contributions/membership dues:

- Minnesota Women's Consortium dues...\$250
- Women Candidate Development Coalition donation...\$200
- Women's Foundation of Minnesota
"MN Girls Are Not For Sale" campaign donation...\$150
- Minnesota Library Association's Committee on Intellectual Freedom dues...\$32

9. Time was given for planning the 2015 AAUW of Minnesota State Convention in Austin.

Board meetings are open to all AAUW MN members. The dates are given in the Pine calendar. Please call me, Sharon Bigot, for the location, if you would like to attend!

YOUNG WOMEN FOR EQUITY

The criteria for this award are:

- A young woman may be nominated for either a high school or college level (up though age 25) award.
- The nominee must have shown leadership in a specific action or event that reflects the **AAUW Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.**
- There must be evidence of the impact of the action or event. The evidence must be specific to the nominee's participation. Measurable outcomes should be shown, if possible. These could include any of the following: number of girls served, results of the event or research as they impact women or girls, any statistical measures of success, *before and after* stories of women or girls benefitting from the action.

The Young Women for Equity Award Committee is chaired by Mikel Clifford. The application deadline is **February 15, 2015**. A full description and the application form can be found under AWARDS on our AAUW of Minnesota website:

<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>



Save the Date!

2015 AAUW of Minnesota Convention

April 10 – 11, 2015

Historic Hormel Home

Austin, Minnesota

Full STEAM Ahead!

**Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math
Now and Into the Future**

*You are cordially invited to attend the
AAUW of Minnesota Convention in Austin~
4:00 p.m. April 10 to 4:00 p.m. April 11!*

Please mark your calendars now for this exciting event!

There may be opportunities to tour the new STEAM Intermediate School or The Hormel Institute (cancer research) prior to the opening sessions. Austin has a brand new Arts Center where we hope to have a reception. And we will be the audience for what may be the last performance of *The Spamettes*.

Watch your mail and email for details, including the registration form, in the winter issue of the AAUW of Minnesota Pine!





USING SOCIAL MEDIA FOR ADVOCACY

By Mary Petron

Social media can have tremendous rewards for your branch advocacy efforts, if you are creative and persistent. Common platforms for advocacy include Facebook and Twitter, but new tools (Pinterest, Tumblr, and Instagram, for example) are unveiled every week. Talk to others about what they are doing, and see how your efforts can fit into, or shape, what already happening. Social media is a conversation, not a monologue.

CREATING A SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY

- Set your objectives. Is your goal narrow (publicizing an event) or broad (building and engaging with a community or coalition)?
- Identify the audience you would like to reach. Are you primarily communicating with people who are already familiar with AAUW and your work, such as your members and volunteers? Or are you reaching out to women you have identified as potential members and supporters?
- Select the social media platforms you plan to use. This decision should be guided by your objectives and intended audience. The most well known platforms, and easy-to-use, are Facebook and Twitter. If you only plan to utilize one or two platforms, we recommend focusing on those.
- Gather resources and materials to share through social media.
- Appoint someone, or a team of people, to manage your social media presence. Although there are no prerequisites for using social media, individuals with backgrounds in communications, marketing, or public relations can be great assets. You will also want to select someone who is comfortable and familiar with technology.

If you would like detailed information, please contact me at mcpetron824@gmail.com.



AAUW FUNDS *Named Gift Honoree Program*

By Jan Paulsen

The Named Gift Honoree program is a wonderful way to recognize branch and state members who do extraordinary things for AAUW and our mission. They have been used to recognize the efforts of outgoing branch and state leaders, to acknowledge outstanding gifts of time or money, and to reward stalwart, longtime members without whom our state and branch work would not be possible.

To participate in Minnesota, a branch must contribute \$750 for each named gift honoree to either the Minnesota Past Presidents American Fellowship #4326, or the Jane Skinner American Fellowship #4203. These are the two Minnesota fellowships that have not become stipend producing. We encourage your branch and its members to direct donations to these fellowships.

All checks should be made out to **AAUW Funds**. In the memo line, place the fellowship number. All contributions are welcome and tax deductible. Contributions for 2014 should be sent in by December 15, or shortly after to be counted in this year's totals. Further questions may be directed to Jan Paulsen, AAUW of Minnesota Funds VP at JLPaulsen@aol.com.



AAUW MINNESOTA NEEDS YOU!

By Teresa Sagen

Consider joining the AAUW of Minnesota State Board - an enjoyable group that gets things accomplished! Share your talents by joining this team effort to implement the AAUW mission.

We are seeking candidates to serve on the 2015-2017 state board of directors for the following positions:

- President Elect, 2015-2016
- Vice President for Program, 2015-2017
- Treasurer, 2015-2017
- Nominating Committee, 2015 for 2016 elections (3 members and 1 alternate)

The members of the Nominating Committee are Teresa Sagen, Ely, chair; Beth Nienow, Rochester; Rose Cyert, Winona; Mary Jo Dickinson, Metro West; Sharon Bigot, Minneapolis (alternate). If you have questions, please feel free to contact any nominating committee member or board member who currently hold the position.

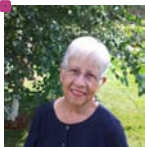
All you need to apply is a strong belief in the mission of AAUW and a willingness to learn and grow. Rewards for state service include leadership development, camaraderie and teamwork with other leaders. **An applicant may be self-nominated, nominated by your branch or branch board of directors, or any individual.** A brief description of position responsibilities and a vita sheet to be used for nominations can be found on the AAUW of Minnesota website:

<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>

Nominations are open for the period of September 15 to November 15, and may be received at any time up to the closing date, mailed to the address below or emailed. Please note that the signature of the nominee is needed on the vita sheet. The nominating committee will present a slate of candidates to the membership at the 2015 state convention in Austin next April.

Please give serious consideration to applying for a state board position. These leadership positions provide a great opportunity for you to share your talents with AAUW Minnesota. We need you. Thank you.

Mail or email completed and signed vitae by **November 15, 2014** to:
Teresa Sagen, AAUW Minnesota State Nominating Committee Chair
13667 Deer Road
Ely, MN 55731
Phone: 218-365-6461



MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE

By Pat Sween, AAUW of Minnesota Representative

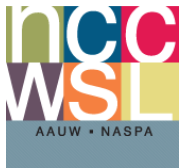
AAUW of Minnesota has been a participating member of the Minnesota Library Association Intellectual Freedom Advisory Committee for the last three years. Preceding that period, AAUW of Minnesota was a founding and long standing member of the Minnesota Coalition Against Censorship, later the Minnesota Coalition for Intellectual Freedom that recently merged with MLA. The Advisory Committee consists of other like-minded organizations that protect individuals' rights to all information. In particular, the committee monitors possible censorship attacks on libraries and schools. When attacks arise against printed material, media, speakers, and art, the committees' groups, with their large number of members, add support and defense of the right to information. The committee also encourages libraries and schools to maintain a clear process for the evaluation of materials or speakers under question.

Since censorship attacks often prevent access to information for women and girls, AAUW national makes intellectual freedom a priority and includes the right to information in its policies. The national organization was a founding member of the National Coalition Against Censorship and has remained a supporting group member since that time.



AAUW NATIONAL UPDATE AND NEW VIDEOS

Dave Kirkwood, AAUW National Director, and Karen Kirkwood, past AAUW of Minnesota Co-President, are visiting the Willmar Branch on September 15. Dave will provide a short update on AAUW National activities and will show two new AAUW videos. Both Karen and Dave will host question and answer sessions. If you would like to include the Kirkwoods in your branch programming, contact Dave at DavidLKirkwood@cs.com.



NCCWSL LEADERSHIP FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

By Mary Parcheta
MN NCCWSL Coordinator

For the past 29 years the National Conference for College Women Students (NCCWSL) has offered unprecedented training and development for college women. Ten Minnesota students were represented among the more than 1000 students who gathered at the University of Maryland, College Park, for NCCWSL 2014. Thank you to branches that sponsored students. At NCCWSL these outstanding women learned from skill building workshops, networked with other college women, heard inspiring keynote speakers and attended the unforgettable Women of Distinction awards ceremony and reception.

Past attendees have returned ready to take on leadership roles at their college campuses. One student came back and joined her sponsoring branch and is now their vice president of membership. Students have made presentations about their experiences at our state convention and at branch meetings. They are anxious to share their experiences with Minnesota AAUW members.

"I want to give a HUGE THANKS to AAUW for this amazing opportunity – I learned skills that I will use in my college and professional life. It was an incredible experience that I hope many others will get to participate in." Hanna Gjermo representing St. Croix Valley branch

We encourage branches to offer this valuable lifelong experience to a deserving student to attend the 2015 conference to be held May 28-30, 2015. The State Board, recognizing the value of this program, has voted to offer eleven scholarships, \$500 to each branch that sponsors a student. The cost per student is about \$850 for registration, room, board, airfare and ground transportation.

The deadline to have applications to Mary Parcheta is February 1, 2015. Questions? E-mail Mary at maryparcheta@gmail.com



Thank you, AAUW Minnesota members, for keeping your email addresses up to date with AAUW!

If your email address changes, please update on the AAUW website: <http://www.aauw.org>
You will need your 7-digit AAUW member number, which can be found above your name and address on the AAUW Outlook magazine

Or...

Contact your local branch treasurer with your current email address and she will register it for you.

PROGRAM AND THE AAUW MISSION

By Rose Cyert



By now I'm assuming that most branches have their programs set for 2014-15, and that the programs keep the mission of AAUW at the forefront: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

How can branches keep the mission alive? There are many resources available on AAUW's website. There are community members who can address **Stem** and **Steam** education. There are a number of ways to support the mission philanthropically. There are local athletic events that promote equity for women and girls that need AAUW's support. There is a need in every community to partner with groups to promote AAUW's mission, whether physically and/or financially. To keep the mission alive, branches must also live the mission. And by living the mission, membership in our great organization will grow! May all branches live the mission and experience a growth in membership in 2014-15. There is strength in numbers! The playing field of equity needs to be cultivated deeply so equity is not an issue for women and girls.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me—
Rose Cyert
VP Program AAUW of Minnesota
507-454-3555
E-mail Rose at zom55@charter.net

MINNESOTA WOMEN'S CONSORTIUM

By Sharon Rigot, AAUW Minnesota President

The Minnesota Women's Consortium had a very successful year at the Minnesota State Capitol! The MWC's policy priorities focused on the Women's Economic Security Act (WESA). WESA was launched at the January, 2014 Women's Economic Security Summit, which was well attended in spite of the blizzard going on outside. This summit kicked off the opportunity for the MN Coalition for Women's Economic Security, of which MWC is a founding member, to campaign to pass WESA. It was signed into law on Mother's Day, 2014, and increases the economic status not only of women, but also of all Minnesotans.

MWC staff gave many presentations and were interviewed on television and radio, including the Judy Corrao Show, MPR, MN2020, Twin Cities Live, and MN Association of Professional Employees, promoting the status of women and of MWC member organizations (like AAUW of Minnesota).

On June 12, the Minnesota Women's Consortium hosted its second annual Trivia Perusal Tournament at the Amsterdam Bar in St. Paul, MN. There were 13 teams and over 100 attendees. AAUW MN was one of the teams. We won sweatshirts as our prize for Best Team Spirit! (see picture below)

MWC will host *Celebration 35* on January 22, 2015, at the Crown Plaza Hotel in St. Paul.

Come join the fun as MWC celebrates its 35 years and the passing of WESA!

~Here are some of the questions asked at the MWC Trivia Perusal~

1. What year did women win the right to vote in the U.S.?
2. What country has the highest percentage of seats held by women in parliament or federal government?
3. Madeline Albright was the first woman to fill which position in the U.S. government?
4. What was the first Olympic event open to women?
5. Alice Walker coined what term, which has become a social theory deeply rooted in the racial and gender oppression of black women?
6. Who was the first woman to run for President of the U.S.?
7. Which female biophysicist was instrumental in discovering the double helix structure of DNA?
8. What comic book heroine was created by psychologist William Moulton Marston, inventor of the polygraph machine?

Answers:

1. 1920
2. Rwanda
3. Secretary of State
4. Figure Skating
5. Womanism
6. Victoria Woodhull
7. Rosalind Franklin
8. Wonder Woman



Best Team Spirit!

**AAUW MINNESOTA
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
2014-2015**

**AAUW MINNESOTA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2014-2015**

July 2014

- 1 Start of New Officer Terms and Fiscal Year
- 26 State Board Meeting

August 2014

- 1 Criteria, Applications, and Deadlines for Fellowships and Grants Available Online
- 23 State Financial Records Review
- 25 President's Mailing to Branches
- 30 Pine Deadline

September 2014

- 15 Nominations Open for State Board Offices

October 2014

- 11 Eleanor Roosevelt's Birthday
- 21 Deadline for Board to Branch Contacts (October 1 – October 21)
- 25 State Board Meeting

November 2014

- 15 Deadline for Nominations for State Board Offices

December 2014

- 15 Deadline for AAUW Funds to Jan Paulsen

January 2015

- 1 Half-Year Dues Accepted for New Members
- 10 State Board Meeting
- 15 Pine Deadline
- 15 Deadline for Convention Resolutions Submissions

February 2015

- 1 Deadline for NCCWSL Applications to State
- 15 Deadline Young Women for Equity Applications
- 15 Deadline for AAUW MN Branch Project Grants Applications
- 15 Convention Mailing to Branch Presidents, Past State Presidents, College/University Reps, Committee Chairs, and State Board
- 15 Credentials Chair Notifies Branches of Number of Delegates
- 15 President's Mailing to Branches

March 2015

- 8 International Women's Day
- 15 15-Month Dues Accepted for New Members

April 2015

- 8 Equal Pay Day
- 10 State Board Meeting
- 10-11 State Convention in Austin
- 15 NCCWSL Early Registration Deadline

May 2015

- 15 Pine Deadline
- 28-30 NCCWSL 2015

June 2015

- 18-21 AAUW Convention, San Diego, CA
- 30 Deadline to submit Branch Officers' names to State and National
- 30 Deadline for 2015-2016 Dues

ELECTED OFFICERS

President

Sharon Bigot – Minneapolis
612-378-2783
aebksfb@comcast.net

Vice President Program

Rose Cyert – Winona
507-454-3555
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Peg Lonquist – Minneapolis
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Vice President Public Policy

Mary Petron – Hibbing
218-263-9497
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Vice President AAUW Funds

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763-529-1986
jlpaullen@aol.com

Treasurer

Carol Sheggeby – St. Paul
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Secretary / Historian

Lisa West – Hastings
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lisa.west@co.dakota.mn.us

College/University Rep

Vacant

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Watch your email for 'BLURBS' announcing new issues of the AAUW of Minnesota Pine!



View the Pine along with more AAUW Minnesota information at:

<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>

Please submit articles for the AAUW MN Pine to...Gail Glashan
gwgglashan@gmail.com
(Email preferred)

...or mail to Gail Glashan
2120 Louis Lane
Hastings, Minnesota 55033



Pine

Deep Roots—Strong Branches

American Association of University Women

Gail Glashan

AAUW MN Pine Editor

2120 Louis Lane

Hastings, Minnesota 55033

<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>



Mission Statement

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

AAUW Value Promise

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

Vision Statement

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

Diversity Statement

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

