



Grand Rapids Timberline

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT
AAUW GRAND RAPIDS
BRANCH MEMBERS

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FROM THE PRESIDENT – Welcome to a new program year!

I am very pleased to be writing my first Grand Rapids AAUW newsletter article. I feel honored to be able to serve you. With your help and feedback, the officers and board together will do our best to provide great programs and leadership through the issues and challenges that lie ahead.

At our August 25th board organizational meeting, we reviewed the excellent schedule of programs put forth by the program committee. We are in for another great year of learning and growing.

Remember guests are welcome at every meeting. We need to share an organization we believe in.

So, welcome to the beginning of our 2014-2015 AAUW program year!

Serving you, Marj Lavalier

Explanation of Annual AAUW Dues

from Cheryl Vogel, Treasurer

For **Grand Rapids Branch members**: National (\$49); State (\$9); Local (\$12)

For **Dual Members**: National is paid through the primary branch; State (\$49) & Local (\$12) are paid to both branches

For **Lifetime Members**: National Dues (\$0); State (\$49) and Local (\$12) are still required

For **Charter Members**: Dues are \$0

Members who need to pay dues (full amount) should send their payments to:
Cheryl Vogel, 20401 Mishawaka Shores Drive, Grand Rapids, MN 55744

The PAID status is printed on our dinner program sign-in sheet, so if there is an error, please notify me. My phone number is 763-229-8098. Thanks.

**** BRANCH NEWS ****

September 15 Dinner Program

Location: United Methodist Church, Grand Rapids

DINNER: 5:45 PM **PROGRAM:** 6:45 pm

MENU: Glazed Baked Ham, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Vegetable, Homemade Dinner Roll, Dessert

Reservations due to Charmayne Nelson by September 10. Call 326-4178 or email charnels@paulbunyan.net

TOPIC: Medical Anthropology

SPEAKER: Dr. Sylvia Olney will speak about medical anthropology and methods of healing. Sylvia taught at ICC and is now teaching at Bemidji State. She is a native of Australia and has studied widely in her fields of interest. She speaks regularly to professional groups about medical anthropology. She has studied physical healing and how we in the USA differ in our illnesses from other parts of the world and in the past. She is a captivating speaker and a woman of wide interests. We have much to learn from her.

USED BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER

We are having our biannual Book Sale fundraiser to raise money for our scholarship funds one month early—at our **Sept. 15** meeting. So **bring your used books** (good reads/no reference books or manuals) and your cash to this meeting.

October 20 Dinner Program

This program will be a forum for the current candidates for School District 318. **The symposium will go from 5 to 6 PM.** Dinner and the business meeting will follow. The public will be invited to the symposium. This change in our schedule is necessary because there is a school board meeting beginning at 6:30 the same evening. This very important election does not have a large numbers of candidates as we had two years ago. The school district has many important decisions to make in the coming two years about student success and facilities management. The symposium will give us an opportunity to ask questions and hear about a variety of opinions. You are urged to bring guests and tell your neighbors and friends about it. It will be run in a structured format that we used two years ago.

November JAR Fundraiser

At our November dinner meeting, we will host a "silent auction with a twist" to raise monies for scholarships and have some fun. **Think of interesting things to bring in a jar or bottle.** Maybe potable or edible, such as wine or jam. But... let your imagination run wild. How about a knitted pair of mittens in a jar, a book of stamps, fresh flowers from your garden, or whatever you dream up. Raffle tickets will be sold at the November meeting. We hope everyone will bring one (or more) item for the auction. Details to follow in coming newsletters.

QUOTABLE

“If women are expected to do the same work as men, we must teach them the same things.”

— Plato, *The Republic*

** INTEREST GROUPS **

Any member can start a new interest group. Current interest groups are open to any member. Each group decides on its meeting time, calendar of meetings and subject or purpose of the group.

BRIDGE

There is only one Bridge group playing now on the first Thursday, 12:30 PM at Grand Rapids State Bank community room. If you are interested in playing bridge, contact Sandra Nyvall at sandra.nyvall@gmail.com or 218-327-1009.

Sept. 4: Mary Singsank, hostess

Oct. 2: Carol Rasmussen, hostess

Nov. 6: Sandra Nyvall, hostess

CREATIVE ART

Open studio for painting is held at the MacRostie every Tuesday, 10 AM through the afternoon. Free for members; nonmembers pay \$5. Margaret Z. Morris sends an email to those interested each week, including if this group will not meet some weeks. Bring your lunch. This is open for anyone of any level of painting or any media. We have watercolor and acrylic, and welcome other media. No cost or instruction, learning from each other and having fun. Margaret's email: ipaint@paulbunyan.net or phone 999-9683.

LITERATURE – Monday group

Group meets on 1st Monday at 10:00 AM at Grand Rapids State Bank (community room). Contact is Jan Hill, 246-9791.

Sept. 8 - Jan Hill, hostess, *The Stranger* by Camilla Lackburg

Oct. 6 - Hostess to be determined, *Me Before You* by JoJo Moyes

Nov. 3 - Nancy Raymond, hostess, *The Paris Architect* by Charles Belfoure

LITERATURE – Wednesday group

Group meets at 10:30AM on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, Grand Rapids Library, September-May. Contact is Barbara Zimmer, 327-0911.

Sept. 10 - *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt

Oct. 8 - *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

PUBLIC POLICY GROUP

The Public Policy Group will meet on Thursday, September 11, 4 to 5:30 PM in the KAXE meeting room. We welcome new members. This meeting will focus on organizing the candidate forum, choosing the required questions for the candidates, and planning our general course of studies for the year.

AAUW does not endorse any candidate or political party. The organization is very interested and involved in public policy that fosters our public policy agenda. One of these is support for a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity and diversity.

Read the **AAUW Outlook** magazine and find out about public policy issues important to women and girls. The complete program and backup information is available at www.aauw.org. AAUW retains a strong lobbying presence at the national level. It keeps track of legislation that affects women and girls (such as Title 9), renewal and improvements of laws, the voting records of legislators, and talking to administrative and legislative members about initiation of legislation.

WALKING & TALKING

The Walking Group is still on our summer walking schedule of Wednesday mornings at 9 AM. The regular fall/winter schedule is Tuesday afternoons. We meet at 1 PM and walk for 1 to 1½ hours and then have coffee. The group is open to all members and is a "come when you can" group. We talk as we walk so this is not speed-walking, but does get us out and about. The group decides on walk locations and members are notified weekly of the plan. We generally walk in the Grand Rapids area, especially fall and winter, but have taken a few "road trips." If you want to join the group, email Karen at k.karls@yahoo.com

WRITING GROUP

Group will meet on September 18 at the home of Marge Koch at 2PM. We welcome new members; contact Marge at 326-3521 or email Marilyn Rossman at mbro@paulbunyan.net. If you are interested, we have been writing memoir pieces and plan to spend some time at each meeting writing. Many of us have been putting off writing down memories or explanations of old pictures. This is a good opportunity to start. The group is flexible in its plans. Marge has good cookies available.

****AAUW NEWS****

Northland Get Together – September 13, Brainerd

Join your Northland AAUW (NE MN AAUW branches) sisters at the annual Northland Get Together on Sat., Sept. 13, 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM, Northland Arboretum, 14250 Conservation Drive, Brainerd. The keynote presentation is "Wild for Monarchs" by Eleanor Burkett, Extension Educator. Cost is \$25, which includes a morning snack and lunch. The deadline for RSVPs is Fri., Sept 5. Questions? Jean Schaeffer at 218-839-9714 or jean.schaeffer@yahoo.com. See attached reservation form. **Marj Lavalier and Jan Hill are planning to attend.** Others may want to carpool.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS – Best Wishes!

4 – Jan Miland 5 – Cyndy Agle 6 – Margot Chatterton
7 – Sharon Phelps 9 – Pat Mortenson 10 – Laura Ringold
14 – Nancy Salmi 16 – Jan Bilden, Jean Hoshal 17 – Allison Friesen
21 – Betty Brandt 26 – Mac Custer

AAUW GRAND RAPIDS BOARD MEETING **August 25, 2014, 10:00 AM, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church**

Attendance: Marj Lavalier, Jan Miland, Marilyn Rossman, Cheryl Vogel, Lynette Eck, Jan Hill, Nancy Raymond, Karen Karls, Cyndy Agle, Mac Custer, Karen Wennen.

The meeting was called to order by President Marj Lavalier

Secretary's Report from May 2014 was read and approved with one correction, son-in-law instead of son of Jean Halvorson, for June meeting speaker.

Treasurer's Report: \$8,451.37 in the general fund, with \$500 for scholarship, \$1,615 for NCCWS. The endowed scholarship fund is \$25,956.77, un-endowed is \$2,348.11. 78 members have paid dues.

Several items discussed included having fundraiser money designated with the amount, the per person charge for an event should be enough to cover the cost. The kinds of memberships along with the budget should be published in the newsletter.

Marilyn Rossman presented a tentative schedule for the 2014-2015 programs. Karen Karls talked about what information she needs about program speakers to be included in the newspaper article each month.

Cheryl mentioned that it would be good to have a purpose statement for the officers and the committees published at the beginning of the year.

Cyndy Agle reported that the food committees and menus are planned for the year. It was mentioned that Deb Cleven deserves more money with a donation suggested to be paid in the spring.

Karen Wennen reported that Margaret Pecha is leaving the historian committee after doing a lot of good work. Karen welcomes any photo donations and will have materials available at some meetings for members to enjoy.

Nancy Raymond reported for the hospitality committee. They will continue to have mixers at the meetings and will have a current member adopt a new member.

It was decided that the scholarship committee should meet with the finance committee and educate the membership on exactly where the money is used.

There will be at least one new member added to the website committee.

Marilyn Rossman reported on the status of National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). It was decided to form a committee, Marilyn Rossman, Jean Hoshal, Jan Miland, Jan Hill, and Marj Lavalier, Nancy Raymond and Karen Karls to keep a college connection and make recommendations.

Cyndy told about the November fundraiser and said to look for articles in the newsletters.

The book sale will be in Sept. with the next one in April. A cookbook and recipe donation will be held in March.

The next board meeting is September 22, 4PM, at the Public Utilities building.

Respectfully submitted, Jan Miland, Secretary

ADVANCING EQUITY FOR WOMEN & GIRLS – FOR MORE INFORMATION
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION www.aauw.org
AAUW MINNESOTA www.aauwmn.org