



NEWS FOR AND ABOUT AAUW – GRAND RAPIDS, MN BRANCH

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FROM THE PRESIDENT – Leadership opportunities

What a great turnout—about 35—we had on January 20th for our first daytime meeting over lunch. The cold weather we have been experiencing doesn't seem quite so "biting" during daylight hours. We hope for another bright and sunny day for our February 17th luncheon. Thus far, most comments about moving from evening to day during the coldest months have been extremely positive. Women are terrific at adjusting and "going with the flow".

We had to cancel our January Board meeting but business was light for the month anyway. The main issue to be carried out was submitting our two wonderful candidates for the NCCWSL convention in June. Usually, only one candidate might be chosen from a particular Branch but the State advisor said to go ahead and submit them both. So, we hope for at least one. This is a state wide competition so there is a possibility of many applications, or if Grand Rapids is fortunate, very few!

Also in January, the President selects a nominating committee. On the even years, we select a new President, Secretary, and Vice President of Membership. This year we will also have to consider the position of Treasurer as well.

The committee has been selected and our bylaw process: 1) to announce the committee in February; 2) the committee announces their selections in March; and 3) we vote on the officers nominated in April. I urge our members to willingly consider accepting a leadership position if asked, or better yet...volunteer!

A position on our AAUW Board is an honor, enlightening and truly worth the commitment. Please be positive if approached...the experience is worth it!

Sincerely . . . Jan Hill

QUOTABLE

"I've come to believe that each of us has a personal calling that's as unique as a fingerprint – and that the best way to succeed is to discover what you love and then find a way to offer it to others in the form of service, working hard, and also allowing the energy of the universe to lead you."

- Oprah Winfrey

** BRANCH NEWS **

February 17 LUNCH Program

Location: Sawmill Inn, Grand Rapids

Lunch: 11:30 AM

Reservations: Charmayne Nelson, 326-4178 or charnels@paulbunyan.net

TOPIC: *Women's Movement: Not Your Mother's Feminist Agenda*

SPEAKER: Kathleen Nuccio, PhD, will bring us up to date on the feminist movement. She is a retired professor who taught Social Work and Feminist Studies at Ohio State University, UMD, and colleges in Alabama, Pennsylvania and other places. She is a member of the ICC faculty teaching theory of feminism. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in Social Work and received a doctorate degree in Women's Studies from Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania.

This program promises to be a lively presentation with interesting discussion. Please join us and bring guests. **We must call in our reservations count to the Sawmill on Thurs., Feb. 13.** Questions? Call Marilyn Rossman 326-6775.

RSVP to Charmayne Nelson (at the phone number or email address above) **by Feb. 13.** Lunch is off the menu for up to 30 people. If more than 30, there will be a limited menu for a fixed price.

Grand Rapids Branch AAUW Programs 2013-2014

March 17 – Keisler House and how it fits in with our local Mental Health Care programs. Jan Hatch, AAUW member who is on the local NAMI board, will be part of the program. Location: Methodist Church at 5:30 PM.

April 21 – Hunger, Food and Northern Minnesota. Emphasis on School Lunch Programs. AAUW members are urged to read the community book: "Omnivore's Dilemma" by Michael Pollen. At this meeting: Used Book Sale fundraiser for scholarships. Location: Methodist Church at 5:30 PM.

April 11-12 – AAUW State Convention in Minneapolis

May 19 – Susan Hawkinson and Nancy Johnson: Creating a poetry book for children. Susan has written a book called "Tina Christina Sestina" and worked with Nancy's 4th grade class for ideas, art and critique. Location: Ruttger's Sugar Lake Lodge at 5:30 PM.

June/July/August – To be decided later.

Share your AAUW program ideas

If you have suggestions for summer programs or for next year, please call either Joanne Bakken, 326-3564, or Marilyn Rossman. We will have a meeting in April to plan for the summer. If you have a daughter/granddaughter, or son/grandson, with an interesting career or expertise who might be visiting, let us know so we can explore a program possibility.

**** 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.

LOVE TO PLAY BRIDGE

The Snowbird Bridge Group has merged with this group and there are not enough members around for the winter months so the group will not meet again until May. Location will probably move from members' homes to 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 (in Hawaii until May).

CREATIVE ART

Open studio for painting is held at the MacRostie every Tuesday, 10 AM through the afternoon. Free for members and 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 (note time change to half hour earlier) at Grand Rapids State Bank (community room). The Jan. 6 meeting was cancelled due to extreme cold and rescheduled to February.

Feb. 3: "Flight Behavior" by Barbara Kingsolver

LITERATURE – Wednesday group

Group meets on 2nd Wednesday at 10:30 A.M. at the Grand Rapids Public Library. Contact is Barbara Zimmer, 327-0911.

Feb. 12: "The Round House " by Louise Erdrich

March 12: "Turn Here Sweet Corn" (Community Read book) by Atina Diffley

PUBLIC POLICY GROUP

The next meeting is **Feb. 27, 4:00-5:30 PM at the KAXE meeting room.** At our January meeting, Carol Digby, a teacher for the Grand Rapids school district talked about the Common Core Curriculum efforts in our school. It was very interesting, informative and encouraging about education. The February meeting will have a follow-up discussion about school district finance. Then we will make plans for the rest of the year. Those attending received a list of possibilities to consider and are encouraged to email or call Marilyn Rossman about your choices. If you need a list of them or would like a copy of the handout that Carol Digby gave us, call Marilyn Rossman at 326-6775 or email mbro@paulbunyan.net

SCRABBLE ANYONE?

This group meets on the **third Thursday at 9:00 AM to noon at River Grand** in the lounge. Come and play. Bring a scrabble board if you have one. We end by noon. Contacts: Margaret Z. Morris, 999-9683, and Barbara Zimmer, 327-0911.

WALKING & TALKING

The Walking Group's 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

The group will meet on **Thurs., Jan. 20, 2:30-4:00 PM at the home of Marge Koch.** All are welcome to participate. Questions: Call Marilyn Rossman at 326-6775 or email at mbro@paulbunyan.net

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS – Best Wishes!

2 – Shirley Jacobson 3 – Barbara Zimmer 5 – Sarah Copeland, Lynn Uzelac
6 – Diane Levar 12 – Pat Anderson
19 – Linda Bauer, Carole Erickson, Sonia Larsen 20 – Marilyn Clark
22 – Harriet Mattei, Colleen Nardone 24 – Sandra Nyvall 25 – Sandee Krough
26 – Ann Clark

**** AAUW NATIONAL NEWS ****

Recent AAUW Research Studies on Pay Equity

Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earnings of Women and Men One Year after College Graduation explores the earnings difference between female and male college graduates who are working full time one year after graduation. The report provides an "apples to apples" comparison by looking at the gender pay gap after controlling for various factors known to affect

earnings, such as occupation, college major, and hours worked. It also examines one immediate effect of the pay gap on many women: high levels of student loan debt burden.

Download the full report at <http://www.aauw.org/files/2013/02/graduating-to-a-pay-gap-the-earnings-of-women-and-men-one-year-after-college-graduation.pdf>

You've probably heard that men are paid more than women are paid over their lifetimes. But what does that mean? Are women paid less because they choose lower-paying jobs? Is it because more women work part time than men do? Or is it because women tend to be the primary caregivers for their children? AAUW's *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap* succinctly addresses these issues and explains the pay gap in the United States; how it affects women of all ages, races, and education levels; and what you can do to close it.

Download the full report at <http://www.aauw.org/files/2013/03/The-Simple-Truth-Fall-2013.pdf>

AAUW GRAND RAPIDS MEETING MINUTES **January 20, 2013, Sawmill Inn, 11:30 a.m.**

Our first lunchtime meeting went very well. Our speaker was Carrie Fowler, a counselor at Grand Rapids High School. She spoke of the many programs that our district offers to educate all our students and to get the 23 credits that they need to graduate. Some examples are the Area Learning Center (ALC), the Teen Parent Program (TAPP) and the International Baccalaureate Program (IB). Our questions for Carrie and our comments concluded the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Mac Custer, Secretary

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