



Grand Rapids Timberline



NEWS FOR AND ABOUT
AAUW GRAND RAPIDS
BRANCH MEMBERS

EDITOR: Arlene Wheaton,
Arlene@honeybearwoods.com
(218) 327-1411

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Summer 2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT – New leadership on board, new opportunities

Writing my last article for this newsletter is a bittersweet feeling. I can't believe my two-year term is over. In the beginning it seemed formidable, but your Board is made up of members who care so much for the mission of AAUW that they make sure things keep going well and in the right direction. I know we have our officers in place now until our elections next April but, trust yourself and take a position and you will benefit so much. Also, remember everyone is welcome at each of the Interest (Walking, Lit, Public Policy, etc.) groups. Not all of them will meet during the summer but some will be, so consider treating yourself to a new experience.

Our May 16th meeting at the Eagles was a wonderful evening with a great turnout. Everything about the evening was perfect, the arrangements (thanks to Cyndy Agle and her committee), the food and our program of Beth Bily speaking about her ownership of two newspapers—*BusinessNorth* and *Scenic Range Forum*—and how she began her journalism career. She is quite the entrepreneur!

Our **summer programs** will be held on our usual meeting date, the third Monday of each month in June, July and August. See program details on page 2 of this newsletter, so keep it for reference through the summer.

We will have a **board meeting on June 13**, 10:00 am, United Methodist Church.

If you have not already renewed your AAUW membership, please do so NOW. **Send your dues check for \$75 made out to AAUW to Cheryl Vogel, 20401 Mishawaka Shores Drive, Grand Rapids, MN 55744.** As treasurer, she needs to send in our renewals to the national AAUW office by June 30. It is much easier for her to send ONE check vs. sending several when renewals trickle in after July 1. Thank you for complying with this annual deadline.

If you have any changes in your information (new email, phone, address) for our member directory, please send it to **Lynette Eck** at ice26@mchsi.com so she can update our book for its reprinting this Fall.

Sincerely, Marj Lavalier

**** BRANCH NEWS ****

Summer 2016 Branch Programs

Programs for June, July and August are informal and guests are encouraged. We will request a small donation to cover the cost of refreshments. Meetings are in the afternoon and at private sites. Questions: Call or email Marilyn Rossman, 326-6775 or mbro@paulbunyan.net ***Reply for attending is very important so we can gauge seating and food.***

****Monday, June 20** - Monday at 3:00 to 5:00 PM

Home of Carol Rasmussen, 20639 Mishawaka Shores Trail, Grand Rapids

Program: **Fitness for All of Us**

Presenters: **Lynette Eck**, Bone Builders Exercise Program, and **Betsy Johnson**, Get Fit Itasca County (walking trails and bike trails and health information and...all kinds of projects for health and fitness)

RSVP by Fri., June 17, to:

Carol Rasmussen: 326-8601 or carolrasmussen38@gmail.com

Nancy Eltgroth: 999-5053 or elthgroth@paulbunyan.net

****Monday, July 18, 2:00 to 4:00 PM** (note change in time from May newsletter)

Blandin Foundation meeting room, 100 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids

Program: Presented by Sonja Merrile, Director of Grants for the Blandin

Foundation. Sonja is a native of Denmark and thus an "immigrant worker." Her career path is interesting and her knowledge about foundation work and what and how the Blandin Foundation works will be a delightful presentation. The foundation building has been remodeled and parking space enlarged, so we can have a tour of the facilities.

RSVP by Fri., July 15 to Marilyn Rossman: 326-6774 or mbro@paulbunyan.net

****Monday, August 15, 4:00 PM - Home of Jan Mary Hill - Potluck Supper,**

tour of her beautiful gardens and delightful presentation by her daughter, Dr. Kara Hill, is a celebrated, award-winning architect who is a world traveler and former university teacher. We have heard her several years ago and everyone wanted to hear her again. She will talk about buildings and the impact of development of ideas about building.

Jan's home is 33802 Deer Lake Road, Deer River. Directions to her home will be in an email and available when you make your reservation. Meet at the parking lot at the Community Presbyterian Church to ride share at 3:30.

Bring a dish to share and RSVP by Fri., Aug. 12 to:

Marilyn Rossman: 326-6775 or email mbro@paulbunyan.net

JoAnn Bakken: 326-3564 or email jbakken@paulbunyan.net

QUOTABLE

“If you get, give. If you learn, teach.” – Maya Angelou

Welcome NEW Members!

Deanna Ray Ensley

Norma Eppinga

Tina Murphy

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISERS

Silent Auction with a Twist from Cyndy Agle

We will be holding our Jar/Bottle "silent auction with a twist" in December. If you see a unique item in your summer travels that could be put in a bottle/jar, or you are creative and make something that could be put in a bottle/jar, keep us in mind as the funds will benefit our scholarship fund. NOTE this change: Please bring only **ONE item**.

Travel Treasures from Nancy Raymond

If you are traveling this summer or in the next year, pick up an item (inexpensive) from the area that one of us might like. Contact me if you have something (syrup from Maine, wine from Napa Valley, etc.) and I'll bring post-its and the basket to our next meeting. Chances are \$1, and it may not raise big money for scholarships, but it's fun and it does add up. If you are like me on a trip, I don't need anything, but it's still fun to shop. This way you shop for AAUW scholarships. I'm going to South Africa in March, so I'll bring back a necklace or something. *Cheryl's earrings from Mexico brought in \$20 in December...Jan Hill won them.*

**** 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

Group meets May-December, first Thursday of the month at the Majestic Pines bistro.

LITERATURE – Monday group

Group meets on 1st Monday at 9:30 AM at Grand Rapids State Bank Annex. All members are welcome. Contact is Jan Hill, 246-9791 or jmhgkh@paulbunyan.net

June 6: "A Man Called Ove" by Fredrik Backman; Leader: Nancy Raymond

July 11: "Hissing Cousins" by Marc Peyser/Timothy Dwyer; Leader: Nancy Salmi

Aug. 1: "Giants in the Earth" by O.E. Rolvaag; Leader: Shirley Jacobson

Aug. 29: "Once We Were Brothers" by Ronald Balson; Leader: Sharon Quern
(because of Labor Day, we meet in late August)

LITERATURE – Wednesday group

Group meets at 10:30 AM on 2nd Wednesday, Grand Rapids Library, September-May. No meetings June-August; next meeting is Sept. 14. Contact is Barbara Zimmer, 327-0911 or kbzimmer@q.com

PUBLIC POLICY

Tentative plan for August Road Trip

We are planning a road trip to the Marcell Experimental Forest Project, SPRUCE, funded by the Department of Energy. Here is an excerpt to describe more about this project:

"Through collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy and Oak Ridge National Lab, a large experiment is installed to test the effects of increased soil and air temperature and elevated carbon dioxide levels on northern peatland ecosystems. The experiment provides a platform for testing mechanisms controlling vulnerability of wetland ecosystems to important climate change variables. The Forest Service's Marcell Experimental Forest in Northern Minnesota is hosting the Spruce and Peatland Under Climatic and Environmental Change (SPRUCE) experiment..."

To read more about the project, go to

http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/disturbance/climate_change/spruce/

A future email will provide more details about when/where/etc. All are welcome, including spouses.

WALKING & TALKING

The walking and talking group meets Wednesday mornings at 9 AM. Location is planned week to week and the group is notified by email. We welcome new walkers to join us whenever they can. We walk for 1 to 1 1/2 hours and then have coffee. We generally walk in the Grand Rapids area but have taken road trips to other parts of the county. Walkers of all levels are welcome but know that the talking is a part of the experience so we are not a race-walking group. If you want to be added to the group, send your email to k.karls@yahoo.com.

NE MN AAUW Fall Gathering

The annual Fall Gathering of the NE Minnesota AAUW branches is set for **Sat., Sept. 10, 9 AM to 2 PM in Ely**. The cost is \$25, which includes a lasagna and salad lunch. This is a great opportunity to meet and share with our AAUW sisters in Brainerd, Duluth, Ely, Hibbing and Virginia. Some of our members have carpooled to this event in the past. RSVP deadline is Aug. 26.

See sign-up form attached to this email (or enclosed with print copy of newsletter). If you don't have a printer and need a print copy mailed to you, contact Arlene Wheaton, 218-232-4989.

FINANCE Report: Grand Rapids Branch

- ❖ **\$75.00 Dues should be paid by June 30, 2016.**
 - National: \$49; State: \$9; Local: \$17 (\$5 increase).
 - Mail checks written to AAUW Grand Rapids to:
Cheryl Vogel, 20401 Mishawaka Shores Drive, Grand Rapids, MN 55744

| May 2016 | April 2016 |
|--|--|
| <i>Based upon 05.09.2016 Bank Statement</i> | <i>Based upon 04.13.2016 Bank Statement</i> |
| General Checking Account: \$6,973.33 | General Checking Account: \$6,973.33 |
| Savings Account: \$ 1,697.93 (03.31.2016) | Savings Account: \$ 1,697.93 (03.31.2016) |
| ❖ Total Cash on Hand: \$8,671.26 | ❖ Total Cash on Hand: \$8,671.26 |
| Income - Meeting Fees: \$ 980; Travel Treasures: \$20 | Income - Meeting Fees: \$ 598; Book Sale: \$114; Travel Treasures: \$13; Anita Firman's Cards & Jewelry: \$18 |

COMBINED STATUS OF DEDICATED FUNDS: \$59,113.34

Local Scholarship ICC Foundation: \$31,403 *Update received May 31, 2016*

- \$ 19,088 – Endowment: Permanently restricted funds
- \$ 12,315 - Temporarily restricted funds

Community Foundation: Grand Rapids AAUW

Anniversary Scholarships: \$ 27,710.34

- GRACF (Endowed Fund): \$ 25,616.17
- GRACF (*non-endowed*) \$ 2,568.11

YTD Total Donations in Fiscal Year 2015 – 2016: \$1,600

\$ 50 (AAUW Education Fund 09.28.2015)
\$ 750 (AAUW Education Fund, 12.2015)
\$ 750 (AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, 12.2015)
\$ 50 (Community Education Fund memorial 01.2016)
\$1,600

Two \$1,000 Scholarships awarded, as well

**AAUW GRAND RAPIDS BRANCH MEETING
May 16, 2016, 6:00 PM, Eagles Club**

The meeting was called to order by President, Marj Lavalier. Jean Hoshal introduced the Foundation scholarship winner, Aimee Love. Aimee read her thank-you letter to us, which gave details about her life and educational pursuits.

Marj gave birthday greetings to the May birthday members.

There are three positions open for the coming year; we would welcome volunteers.

JoAnn Bakken talked about the program evaluation survey she asked to be filled out; she then collected the completed surveys at the meeting.

Nancy Raymond talked about the AAUW state convention. She wants every member to have a business card for our branch, which can be used to recruit new members.

Our wonderful president, Marj, gave beautiful handmade items to board members and had kind things to say about each one. An example was an apron with money, bills, as a pattern in the material given to Cheryl, our treasurer. Jan Hill gave outgoing president, Marj, a bag of goodies as a thank you for her outstanding job as president.

Respectfully submitted, Jan Miland Secretary

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