

WILLMAR BRANCH AAUW

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.
APRIL 2015

PLEASE JOIN US!

MONDAY, APRIL 20

6:45 P.M.

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH (use south door)

“Technical Academies of Minnesota: MinnWest Technology Center”

TAMMIE KNICK, a board member for the DREAM Academy at MinnWest, will give us an update on the recent activities at the new school in our community. If you were to visit the “classrooms”, you would see what a unique approach the DREAM Academy has to our children’s education. Even the desks are special with each student’s work area designed to show his or her creativity. The classrooms are pods led by a teacher to include a dozen or more students in each pod. VP Program Marsha Milani will also share a few highlights of research done by the national AAUW on why there are so few women in STEM careers. Education of women, particularly in STEM fields, is a priority goal of the AAUW.

Refreshments will be served by Louise Thoma and Betty Schneider. Don’t miss it!
And bring a friend.

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IT’S BOOK SALE TIME!!

Our annual used book sale is set for May 6-9 at the Community Center. If you can help out, please give a call to Betty Schneider (796-2710) or email her at betspicer@yahoo.com:

WEDNESDAY, May 6: Setup – Carla Buzzeo/Kathy Vruwink/Dee Rosenbrook/Marion Nordin/
Sam Aakre

THURSDAY, May 7

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Susan Mattson/Jeanette Carlson

12:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Shirley Bosch/Marion Nordin

3:00 to 5:00 p.m. –

5:00 to 7:00 p.m. – Sam Aakre/Beverly Crute/Kathy Vruwink

FRIDAY, May 8

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Dee Rosenbrook/Jeanette Carlson

12:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Marsha Milani/Louise Thoma

3:00 to 5:00 p.m. – Barb Little/Becky Romosz

5:00 to 7:00 p.m. – Becky Romosz

SATURDAY, May 9

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Louise Thoma/Jeanette Carlson

12:00 p.m. Tear Down – Barb Little/Jeanette Carlson

BITS AND PIECES.....

It is time to nominate new branch board officers for two-year terms. The nominees are:

Co-Vice Presidents Program – Vicki Melbye (1 Year) and Sam Aakre (2 Years)

Secretary – Carla Buzzeo

Treasurer – Louise Thoma

Elections will take place at the April 20 meeting.

Our branch will have two delegates attending the state AAUW convention in Austin on April 10-11. They are Co-Presidents Beverly Crute and Jeanette Carlson. We have the honor of receiving the state board grant on Saturday morning for our Campus Action Project in the amount of \$422. These dollars will fund our first visit with the girls from the group home to Ridgewater College. The follow-up survey shows the girls are interested in future visits to such program areas as EMT, Health Careers, Vet Tech, and Law Enforcement.

Please make the following correction in your program booklet:

Samantha Aagre email address: saswanberg@gmail.com

State AAUW President Sharon Bigot reminds all of us to VOTE in our AAUW National Election. Members will need their member # and PIN # in order to vote. Both numbers can be found by your name/address label for the spring/summer 2015 Outlook magazine. Online voting begins April 15. We will be voting on 12 proposals to our AAUW Public Policy Program, 5 proposed amendments to our Bylaws, AAUW National President, Vice President, and 10 Directors---the full slate for the AAUW National Board of Directors.

Also, be aware of a possible major change to our Bylaws: Proposal 1---*Eliminate the Degree Requirement for Membership*. This has been defeated when brought up in past conventions.

Two general and opposing ways to look at this proposal:

For: We should eliminate all barriers to membership.

Against: We advocate for girls and women to obtain equity through education.

Shouldn't we set an example by promoting higher education degrees for members?

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What are You Reading?

In 1854 at a peace conference at Fort Laramie in Wyoming, the Northern Cheyenne chief requested of the U.S. Army authorities the gift of 1,000 white women as brides of his young warriors in exchange for an equal number of horses. The peace conference collapsed, the Cheyennes went home, and, of course, the white women did not come. In this novel they do. One Thousand White Women by Jim Fergus tells the story of Mary Dodd who was released from an "insane asylum" in the East to head West where any life would be better than the one she was living. How do we know her fate? From her journals. What was especially interesting was how much influence women yielded in the Cheyenne community and were regularly consulted on all subjects that concerned the welfare of the people. It's an interesting read.....and maybe even true! (Jeanette Carlson)