

WILLMAR BRANCH AAUW

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

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU goes to all of you who helped us make our final meeting of the year such a big success. We had delicious and interesting dishes for our International Dinner, including such specialties as Swedish meatballs and ostakaka, Norwegian flatbread with sausage and cheese, German chocolate cake, Russian blinis, and much, much more. We enjoyed the ladies' quartette, "Special Delivery", and the program on Jeanette's Russia trip.

We honored several individuals, including:

LOUISE THOMA, who stepped down from her 20-year job as treasurer of our branch, and thanks to KATHY VRUWINK for taking over the books and to BECKY ROMOSZ for becoming our Legal Advocacy Fund Chair;

MUNA ABDULAH, the first Somali student to be inducted in the Willmar High School National Honor Society.... be sure to check out her story that appeared on the front page of the West Central Tribune on Friday, May 29. She is our YOUNG WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT for 2015;

CANTE LABLANC, CHELSEY RODRIQUEZ, and KATEY WEIS from the girls group home who have graduated from high school.... Cante was featured on the front page of the West Central Tribune on Saturday, May 23 and received a \$500 Willmar Civic Scholarship. She will go on to Ridgewater College next fall for two years and then transfer to Winona State to pursue a degree in Social Work; and

JEANETTE CARLSON for entering the ranks of 50-Year membership!

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DUES ARE DUE!

This is to remind those of you who have not submitted your dues for 2015-16 to be sure to send your check for \$70.00 payable to Willmar AAUW to: Louise Thoma, 1400 Willmar Ave. SE, #309, Willmar, MN 56201. The deadline is JUNE 15! Keep in mind that few things stay the same over the years, but our dues have not changed for quite a few years. What a bargain!

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GOOD NEWS FROM THE BOOK SALE!!

Betty Schneider reports that we made our goal of \$1,600 from the used book sale in May. That includes about \$1,200 from the sale of books, etc., plus extra donations. This is really good news because it means we can fund our three areas:

National AAUW Scholarships/Fellowships	\$1,000
Ridgewater College Scholarship	500
Willmar Civic Scholarship Fund	100

Thanks to all who staffed the book sale and those who contributed books and extra funds!

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Congratulations to MOLLIE LOU PINTOK, our 2014 NCCWSL delegate who was chosen to speak at the Ridgewater College commencement in May!

NEWS FROM RIDGEWATER COLLEGE

Our scholarship recipient is KALLIE EVANS who is planning on attending South Dakota State University in the fall to pursue a degree in Nursing. She has been on the dean's list several times and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

We are planning a second CAMPUS ACTION PROJECT for June 23. This "taste of college" will include Health Care Programs with a visit to the college in the morning and then a transfer to Rice Hospital for noon lunch provided by our Willmar AAUW branch. The funds come from the special grant we received from the state board. The afternoon at Rice Hospital will include a briefing on what the hospital looks for in health care employees and a visit to the Emergency Medical Service facility with a tour of an ambulance. Your CAP team includes Mary Myers (Ridgewater College), Beverly Crute (Rice Hospital), Jane Hedman (Girls Group Home), and Jeanette Carlson (Willmar AAUW). We could use one or two more AAUW members to come along for all or part of the day. Call or email Jeanette if you are able to help out: carlsonj2@charter.net or 320-212-2267.

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Please make this change in your program booklet for Raeanna Gislason who is moving to Wayzata but will retain her membership in Willmar AAUW:

825 Lake St. E., Wayzata, MN 55391

raeannagislason@gmail.com

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You are reminded to VOTE in our National AAUW election by June 15. You will need your member # and PIN # in order to vote online. Both numbers can be found by your name/address label for the spring/summer 2015 Outlook magazine. Voting will be on 12 proposals to our AAUW Public Policy Program, 5 proposed amendments to our Bylaws, National President, Vice President, and 10 Directors. There is also a proposal to eliminate the degree requirement for membership.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Having lived in Germany for three years after WWII when my father was stationed with the Air Force as part of the occupation forces, I am always interested in all stories that have come from that time period. That's why I was fascinated by Exit Berlin: How One Woman Saved Her Family from Nazi Germany. Just a week after the Kristallnacht terror in 1938, young Luzie Hatch, a German Jew, fled Berlin to resettle in New York. Her rescuer was an American-born cousin and industrialist, Arnold Hatch. Arnold spoke no German, so Luzie quickly became translator, intermediary, and advocate for family left in Germany. Soon an unending stream of desperate requests from German relatives made their way to Arnold's desk. Luzie preserved her letters both to and from far-flung relatives during WWII as well as copies of letters written on their behalf. These letters have been preserved at the American Jewish Committee Archives in New York City, where Luzie found employment, and are the basis for this novel by Charlotte Bonelli. Some families were saved and came to the U.S.A. or to South America. Others were not so fortunate which caused a great struggle for Luzie. Isn't it interesting how letters always make great stories? (Jeanette Carlson)