

Winter 2016
Volume 45 Issue 1



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.



AAUW OF MINNESOTA

2016 STATE CONVENTION

Lighting the Way with AAUW

April 29–May 1, 2016

AAUW Duluth Branch and AAUW of Minnesota State Board cordially invite all AAUW members of Minnesota to attend the 2016 State Convention at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Duluth, from Friday, April 29, through Sunday May 1, 2016. Registration will begin on Friday at 3:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn and Suites and continue on Saturday from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Free parking in the ramp is available. We will begin with an optional reception on Friday from 7:00–9:00 p.m. at the Kitchi Gammi Club, a Duluth landmark located at 831 East Superior Street.

The convention will begin Saturday morning and will feature Duluth Mayor Emily Larson as the keynote speaker.

After lunch, members will attend workshop sessions and hear our LAF speaker and National AAUW speaker. The silent auction will continue throughout the day, ending at 6:15 p.m. Silent auction items can be brought to the Lyric I room between 6:45 and 8:15 a.m. Our entertainment after the banquet will feature Strikepoint, an energetic eleven-member handbell ensemble directed by Bill Alexander.

A block of rooms with a special rate is being held for AAUW at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Duluth, 200 West First Street. Contact 218-722-1202 or 800-477-7089 or www.holidayinn.com/duluthmn. The convention registration form, agenda and speaker bios are all found in this issue!

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AAUW MN STATE CONVENTION

Keynote Speaker

Emily Larson



*Bored Games/Board Games:
Breaking the Mold of Expectation and
Changing the Face of Leadership*

Mayor Emily Larson is the first female mayor of Duluth. She has served as president of the Duluth City Council, Duluth economic development commissioner, a board member of the Great Lakes Aquarium and on the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission. She has owned a small business that specializes in boosting the effectiveness of non-profit organizations. Client lists and projects include Local Initiatives Support Corporation and its Duluth at Work economic development model, United Way of Greater Duluth's Delegation on Educational Outcomes, and the co-development of an evaluation tool to measure the effectiveness of the recently opened Steve O'Neil Apartments-the first supportive housing model of its kind for homeless families in Minnesota. She has also served on the advisory committee that developed the Duluth Energy Efficiency Program (DEEP). Mayor Larson has an undergraduate degree from St. Scholastica and a master's degree from UMD. She is also a graduate of Intermedia Arts Community Leadership Institute.

AAUW MN STATE CONVENTION

AAUW National Board Member

Eileen S. Hartmann



Eileen S. Hartmann, a native of County Wicklow, Ireland, is a long-term advocate for education and women's rights. She earned her master's degree at Nazareth College of Rochester, New York, and has taught English, designed courses for educators, and worked as a sales representative for a cultural exchange program. Eileen was president of AAUW of New York from 2008 to 2012. Elected to the national board in 2013, she served as liaison to the Branch Programs Resource Committee and as co-chair of the Voter Engagement Task Force. In 2012, Eileen was elected to the National Women's Hall of Fame. She is the program vice president of the AAUW Fairport Area (NY) Branch, secretary of the AAUW Empire State Virtual Branch, and a trained \$tart \$mart facilitator.

AAUW MN STATE CONVENTION

Ojibway Welcome

Linda LeGarde Grover



*Historical and Contemporary Female
Leadership of American Indian Women*

Linda LeGarde Grover is a member of the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe and associate professor of American Studies at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. She is a fiction writer, poet and columnist. Her research fields include American Indian family life and educational histories, and traditional American Indian female leadership in history and contemporary times. Linda is author of the research-based novel, *The Road Back to Sweetgrass*, and short story collection, *The Dance Boots*, as well as a forthcoming poetry collection, *The Sky Watched*.

AAUW MN STATE CONVENTION

Silent Auction



A Benefit for AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

Attention all branches! As is tradition at the AAUW State Convention, Duluth will host the annual silent auction on Saturday, April 30, to raise money to support the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. We're asking every branch to contribute items for the auction and even though the convention is still two months away, it's not too soon to start thinking about what would make great auction items. Are there any quilters or knitters in your branch? Is there a fabulous destination in your branch's community that would provide a gift certificate to encourage others to visit your city? How about jewelry makers? Themed baskets are always a hit, too! Ideas include: tea time, morning coffee, wine & cheese, spring gardening, books, and ethnic foods. The silent auction will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2016, in Lyric Room I at the Holiday Inn. Duluth Branch members will be there from 6:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. on Saturday morning to assist with your auction items. The auction will be open at many points throughout Saturday and will close at 6:15 p.m. that evening. Winners will be able to pick up their auction items from Duluth Branch members from 6:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Registration Form

Participant Information (please print)		
Name:	Phone #:	
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Branch:		
Email:		

Convention Information (check all that apply):

☐ Branch Member ☐ College/University Student ☐ Member at Large ☐ Visitor/Guest
☐ State Board Member ☐ Past State President ☐ College/University Representative

REGISTRATION OPTIONS

Full Convention Registration:

(includes Saturday's continental breakfast, lunch, and banquet)..... \$ 115 _____

Student Full Convention Registration: (registration fee is waived)..... \$ 62 _____

Saturday Only Registration: (no meals)..... \$ 53 _____

Saturday Individual Meal Options

Saturday Breakfast (continental breakfast with fruit)..... \$ 11 _____

Saturday Lunch (salad and sandwich buffet)..... \$ 16 _____

Saturday Dinner (banquet)..... \$ 35 _____

Saturday Banquet Only: (for all spouses and guests)..... \$ 35 _____

Friday Night Reception: (not included in the Convention Registration)... \$ 15 _____

(7-9 p.m., Kitchi Gammi Club – 831 E. Superior Street, Duluth)

TOTAL \$ _____

* Workshop registration is on the back/next page of this form.

Registration is DUE on or before March 31, 2016. No refunds will be given after April 15, 2016.

Make check payable to: AAUW Duluth Branch

Mail registration & workshop forms with payment to: Marilyn Toscano, 24 Garden Street, Duluth, MN 55812

Saturday Banquet Dinner Choice: (please choose one)

Your Dinner Choice: ☐ Herb Roasted Pork Loin or ☐ Northwoods Walleye with Lemon Butter

Guest Dinner Choice: ☐ Herb Roasted Pork Loin or ☐ Northwoods Walleye with Lemon Butter

List any special dietary needs: _____

Optional Events for Sunday, May 1, 2016: Please make your own arrangements for these events. A handout with more details about the optional events is included in the State Convention materials.

Tour of Glensheen Mansion Tour of Duluth Play at the Duluth Playhouse Sunday Morning Walk/Run (free)

Convention site: **Downtown Duluth Holiday Inn & Suites**, 200 W First Street, Duluth, MN 55802

1-218-722-1202 or 1-800-477-7089. Holiday Inn convention rates will be available until March 30, 2016.

Questions: Contact Mary Ann Lucas-Houx, Maryannhoux@gmail.com, 218-525-5040.

AAUW MN STATE *Convention Workshop* Sessions 1 will be held from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

AAUW MN STATE *Convention Workshop* Sessions 2 will be held 3:45 to 4:45 p.m.

***Please indicate your first and second choice for each time period.**

Workshop Sessions 1

2:30–3:30 p.m.

Session 1A

_____Criminal to Victim

A lobbyist perspective and involvement in having the law change for young girls involved in sex trafficking from being identified as criminals to being identified as victims.

Session 1B

_____You CAN Make a Difference: Shedding Light on Gun Safety Reform

It is easy to feel helpless about doing something to prevent gun violence. Armed with information and facts, you CAN make a difference.

Session 1C

_____Historical and Contemporary Female Leadership of American Indian Women

This session identifies the role of American Indian women in tribal societies as stewards of knowledge, tradition and society and how that role has impacted leadership today.

Session 1D

_____Storytelling and Stigma: Reproductive Freedom

Reproductive rights are under attack. Learn how Planned Parenthood is part of a national movement to destigmatize reproductive health and build power through storytelling.

Session 1E

_____Duluth: Beacon of the North

This session sheds light on a vibrant, welcoming city and showcases local women leaders. Duluth was named in the 2014 *Outdoor Magazine's* Best Outdoors Town and was winner of the "Best Town Ever" competition the same year. Meet local women who demonstrate why Duluth is Minnesota's Beacon of the North.

Session 1 F— Part 1 (A two part session)

_____Big Blue Frog: Reducing Unconscious Bias in AAUW

Want to be more effective in helping end racism and sexism? In this workshop we will review the value of building multicultural organizations and gain skills for interrupting racism and sexism. We will plan action steps to address unconscious bias in our personal lives and branches.

Workshop Sessions 2

3:45–4:45 p.m.

Session 2A

_____Criminal to Victim

A lobbyist perspective and involvement in having the law change for young girls involved in sex trafficking from being identified as criminals to being identified as victims.

Session 2B

_____You CAN Make a Difference: Shedding Light on Gun Safety Reform

It is easy to feel helpless about doing something to prevent gun violence. Armed with information and facts, you CAN make a difference.

Session 2C

_____“You’ve Come a Long Way, Baby!” Have We?

This session looks at gains women have made professionally and academically and contrasts these gains to the stark economic disparities American women still experience. The underlying reasons for the persistent gender wage gap will be explored. The special economic fragility of single mothers and older women will be highlighted.

Session 2D

_____Storytelling and Stigma: Reproductive Freedom

Reproductive rights are under attack. Learn how Planned Parenthood is part of a national movement to destigmatize reproductive health and build power through storytelling.

Session 2 E

_____Such a Pretty Face: How Cosmetics Impact Your Health and the Environment

Your skin is the body's largest organ, yet many people don't think twice about the potential toxic effects of soap, make-up, fragrances and body sprays. Purchases should be about your health and the impact on the environment.

Session 2 F— Part 2 (Continued from session 1)

_____Big Blue Frog: Reducing Unconscious Bias in AAUW

Want to be more effective in helping end racism and sexism? In this workshop we will review the value of building multicultural organizations and gain skills for interrupting racism and sexism. We will plan action steps to address unconscious bias in our personal lives and branches.

2016 AAUW OF MINNESOTA STATE CONVENTION

Lighting the Way with AAUW

Friday, April 29

2:00-6:30 p.m..... State Board Meeting: Holiday Inn, Lyric Room
 3:00-8:00 p.m..... Registration: Holiday Inn, Lobby
 7:00-9:00 p.m..... Reception: Kitchi Gammi Club, 831 East Superior Street, Duluth

Saturday, April 30— All events are at the Downtown Duluth Holiday Inn and Suites

7:00-3:00 p.m..... Registration: Lower Level Conference Center
 7:00-8:00 a.m..... Continental Breakfast Served in Great Lakes Ballroom area
 6:45-8:15 a.m..... Silent Auction Setup: Lake Ontario Room in Lower Level
 7:45-8:15 a.m..... Parliamentary and Resolutions Information: Lake Erie Room
 8:30-9:00 a.m..... Opening Ceremonies: Great Lakes Ballroom
 Call to Order: Sharon Bigot, State President
 Flag Ceremony: Senior Girl Scouts
 Welcome from Duluth Branch Co-Presidents, Wendy Williamson and Marilyn Toscano
 Welcome from Duluth Mayor, Emily Larson
 Ojibway Welcome from Linda LeGarde Grover
 9:00-9:45 a.m..... Keynote Speaker: Mayor Emily Larson
 Bored Games, Board Games: Breaking the Mold of Expectation and Changing the Face of Leadership
 9:45-10:00 a.m.....Break
 10:00-11:30 p.m.... Business Meeting: Great Lakes Ballroom
 11:30-12:30 p.m..... Break and Silent Auction: Lake Ontario Room
 12:30-1:30 p.m..... Lunch: Great Lakes Ballroom
 Awards
 NCCWSL Recipient Thank You
 1:30-2:15 p.m..... LAF Speaker
 2:30-3:30 p.m..... *Lighting the Way with AAUW* Session I
 1A—Criminal to Victim: Sex Trafficking
 1B—You CAN Make a Difference: Gun Reform
 1C—Historical and Contemporary Leadership of American Indian Women
 1D—Story Telling and Stigma: Reproductive Freedom
 1E—Duluth: Beacon of the North
 1F—Big Blue Frog: Reducing Unconscious Racial Bias in AAUW, Part 1
 3:30-3:45 p.m.....Break
 Silent Auction Open: Lake Ontario Room
 3:45-4:45 p.m..... *Lighting the Way with AAUW* Session II
 2A—Criminal to Victim: Sex Trafficking
 2B—You CAN Make a Difference: Gun Reform
 2C—You’ve Come a Long Way, Baby
 2D—Story Telling and Stigma: Reproductive Freedom
 2E—Such a Pretty Face
 2F— Big Blue Frog: Reducing Unconscious Racial Bias in AAUW, Part 2
 4:45-5:00 p.m. Break and Silent Auction Open: Lake Ontario Room
 5:00-5:45 p.m.....AAUW Speaker: Eileen S. Hartmann
 5:45-6:15 p.m.....Silent Auction: Lake Ontario Room
 5:45-6:45 p.m.....Social Hour: Lake Erie Room, Lower Level
 6:15 p.m. Silent Auction Closes
 6:15-6:30 p.m.....Silent Auction Winners Pick up Items
 6:45-7:45 p.m.....Banquet: Great Lakes Ballroom
 7:45-8:15 p.m..... Awards
 8:15-8:45 p.m.....Entertainment: **Strikepoint**— Hand Bell Choir
 Sunday, May 1, continued on next page...

2016 AAUW OF MINNESOTA STATE CONVENTION

Lighting the Way with. A UW

... continued from page 5

Sunday, May 1

- 7:15-8:00 am..... Optional: Sunday Morning Walk/Run, The Skywalk and Canal Park
Meet near The Greenery Cafe on the second floor
- 8:00-9:00 am..... Breakfast on your own: Options within the hotel complex include
Porters Restaurant, The Greenery Cafe, and Subway
- 9:00 am..... Second Business Meeting, if needed, in Great Lakes Ballroom

Optional Activities: Contact the organization for your reservations—see page 10, in this Pine issue.
Brunch and Theater: Performance of *42nd Street* at the Duluth Playhouse
Tour of Historic Areas of Duluth
Glensheen Mansion Tour

2016 AAUW OF MINNESOTA STATE CONVENTION



Friday Night Reception at the *Kitchi Gammi Club*

The Friday night reception will be held at the Kitchi Gammi Club located at 831 East Superior Street, from 7 to 9 p.m. The site of the club was chosen in 1911 for its unobstructed view of Lake Superior. The club is regarded as one of Duluth's true landmark structures and has been described as one of the last buildings built which embodies so many ancient handicrafts and so much detailed handwork in metal, wood and stone. The clubhouse was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. A delightful social evening has been planned with a cash bar, hors d'oeuvres, a history lesson and a few surprises. This is an optional activity with a \$15 charge. Parking is free at the Kitchi Gammi Club and shared riding is encouraged.

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Banquet Entertainment by *Strikepoint*

Strikepoint is an energetic eleven-member handbell ensemble led by player/coach Bill Alexander. Noted for capturing the enthusiasm of audiences with a dynamic style and accessible music, Strikepoint's concert can range from Bach to Lady Gaga and include both familiar and new. Strikepoint's recordings have been featured on national and Minnesota public radio stations and other broadcasts. Annual summer tours have taken the group throughout the continental U.S. as well as to England, Scotland, Japan, Canada, Hong Kong and Hawaii. Strikepoint has been the featured ensemble at national conferences and seminars.

2016 AAUW OF MINNESOTA STATE CONVENTION

Workshops



You've Come a Long Way, Baby!

Have We?

Barbara Battiste

"You've come a long way, baby!" This 1968 Virginia Slims cigarette ad touted the liberation of women. We were no longer

kitchen drudges, but instead were workplace professionals—free to do anything we wanted. Presumably, that included smoking cigarettes. Well...how far have women really come since the heady days of the Second Wave of Feminism?

This program looks at the gains women have made professionally and academically and contrasts these gains to the stark economic disparities American women still experience. The underlying reasons for the persistent gender wage gap are explored, the special economic fragility of single mothers and of older women is highlighted, and legislative activities will be discussed.

Barbara Battiste is director of the Minnesota Legislative Office on the Economic Status of Women. The statutory mandate of this non-partisan office is to study and report to the legislature on all matters related to the economic status of Minnesota women. Barbara has been involved in public policy on women's economic issues for many years—as public policy director for Women Venture, policy advisor for the Minnesota Women's Consortium, and policy advisor for the Pay Equity Coalition of Minnesota. Barbara has a master's degree from the University of Minnesota with a focus on public policy and political science. Her master's thesis was the design of a pilot project to enable older women to overcome lack of marketable job skills and age discrimination and to secure meaningful employment.



Criminal to Victim: Sex Trafficking

Jeff Bauer

Jeff Bauer's work and career span the realms of government, business, politics, education, nonprofit community work, development, and

civic engagement. He has worked both on statewide campaigns and in state government, served as the executive director of an urban agriculture and microenterprise organization, founded two private international foundations, started a fine art publishing company, created and managed numerous community partnerships, and done years of community work with children and families. He currently serves as the vice president of public affairs at The Family Partnership in Minneapolis where he helped lead a successful effort to pass a Safe Harbor law in Minnesota and to obtain some of the most significant state investments in the country for shelter, services, and training to protect children from trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. He is also a national racial equity trainer for the Baltimore-based Race Matters Institute.

Jeff has been recognized with many awards for the impact of his work, including a Minnesota Jaycees "Ten Outstanding Young Minnesotans" award, the Foundation for the Improvement of Justice national award, the Children's Law Center's "Rosalie E. Wahl Justice for Children" award, and several others.

A summa cum laude graduate in political science from the University of Minnesota in 1997, Jeff holds a master's degree in public policy from the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, where he received the Arthur Naftalin Award for Public Service.



*Peg
Lonnquist*

*&
Susana
Pelayo-Woodward*



Big Blue Frog: Reducing Unconscious Racial Bias in AAUW

Want to be more effective in helping end racism and sexism? In this workshop, we will review the value of building multicultural organizations, learn why we all have unconscious/implicit biases, understand what is meant by "white privilege" and gain skills for interrupting racism. Finally you will plan action steps to address racism in your personal lives and in your branch.

For over 40-years Peg Lonnquist has worked toward social justice and against sexism, racism, homophobia and ableism. Since 2007, she has served as the director of the Women's Center at the University of Minnesota. Under Peg's leadership, the Women's Center successfully coordinates numerous educational events, advocates for institutional change, and provides scholarships and awards. Peg has presented over 400 workshops and courses in the U.S. and internationally, on topics including women and racism, intergalactic leadership, how to be Minnesota nice and assertive, happy at work, and how to be outrageous. Peg is also the vice president for membership on the AAUW of Minnesota Board.

Susana Pelayo-Woodward is the director of the Office of Cultural Diversity at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. She has worked at UMD since 1992 and has taught in the Women's Studies Department since 1996. Susana came from Mexico City at the age of 18. Her background as an immigrant and the help she received along the way have fueled her passion to fight for human rights, racial equality, and peace and justice issues. She is an advisor and member of Amnesty International, and a member of National Chicano Studies, the UMD Diversity Commission and the UMD Commission of Women.

2016 AAUW OF MINNESOTA STATE CONVENTION

Workshops



Joan Peterson



Mary Streufert

Shedding Light on Gun Safety Reform: You CAN Make a Difference

Hardly a day goes by that gun violence is not in the news. Most days it may involve one or two people. Too often it is a mass shooting involving four or more people. Responses to gun violence are a political hot topic after President Obama's executive orders issued in January. It will be an issue in the Minnesota legislative session and the upcoming presidential election. Armed with information and important facts about the issue, you can make a difference. This session will share ways to keep children and teens from accessing guns, the causes of gun violence, and ways to get involved with solutions.

Joan Peterson serves on the Board of Trustees of the Brady Campaign/Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence. She first came to the board as the representative of the national Million Mom March chapters and has remained on the board, serving on the Organizing and Chapters Committee of the board. Joan is the co-president of the Northland Brady/Protect Minnesota Chapter and chair of the board of Protect Minnesota, working to end gun violence. Joan got involved in the issue of gun violence prevention after her sister, Barbara Lund, was killed in a domestic shooting in Minnetonka, Minnesota, in 1992. She has worked for reform since she attended the 2000 Million Mom March.

Mary Streufert has worked with and for non-profits for over 30 years in Minnesota. Currently in her retirement she serves as the co-president of the League of Women Voters, Duluth, and the co-president of the Northland Brady/Protect Minnesota Chapter.

Duluth: Beacon of the North

This session sheds light on a vibrant, welcoming city and showcases local women leaders. Meet the women who will demonstrate why Duluth is "Minnesota's Beacon of the North."



Emily Vikre, PhD, is the co-founder and president of Vikre Distillery, a craft distillery in Duluth, making award-winning whiskey, gin, vodka and aquavit from the Lake Superior watershed. She is also a food writer and photographer, a columnist for Food52.com, a regular contributor to Minnesota Public Radio, and a contributor to several other publications including *Lucky Peach*. She blogs at fiveandspice.com. Emily holds a PhD in food policy and applied nutrition and an MS in nutrition communication from the Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, and a BA from Carleton College. She has also taught as an adjunct professor at the Friedman School and the University of New England School of Public Health, teaching classes on theories of behavior change and organizational theory.



Pakou Ly coordinates communications and media relations for the City of Duluth and also has over 16 years of experience as a policy analyst and grants manager for federal, state, and city government. During the June 2012 flood that ravaged parts of Duluth, Pakou's work focused on coordinating and disseminating public notifications regarding the status and progress of flood response and recovery efforts. She is actively involved with community notification and public engagement processes for multiple city projects.



Anne Dugan, executive and artistic director, has served the Duluth Art Institute off and on for a decade and has held past positions as curator and education coordinator. She has also worked as director for the Carlton County Historical Society and in the education department at the Walker Art Center. She holds a master's in art history from Columbia University in the City of New York with a focus on contemporary and new media art. She is the festival director for the Free Range Film Festival, and she owns and operates an organic farm and CSA with her husband in Wrenshall, MN.

2016 AAUW OF MINNESOTA STATE CONVENTION

Workshops



Naomi Yaeger and Rebecca Bischoff

Such a Pretty Face: How Cosmetics Impact Your Health and the Environment

Naomi Yaeger and Rebecca Bischoff are a mother/daughter team who share their passion to save the environment. Their talk, “Such a Pretty Face,” will explain how health and beauty products impact your body and the environment. Your skin is the body’s largest organ, yet many people don’t think twice about potential toxic effects of soap, make-up, fragrances and body sprays.

Rebecca is a 2010 graduate of Northland College with a major in environmental science. She is very particular about the health and beauty products she uses. Rebecca works as a fitness instructor. Currently Naomi is the editor of the weekly newspaper, the Duluth Budgeteer News. Naomi is a former Green Team representative and has done many presentations on environmentally friendly actions people can take on the individual level and what we can do as a nation. Becoming environmentally conscious has changed their lives. They now think twice when shopping for everyday things like health and beauty products, clothing and food. If having a cup of coffee means using a Styrofoam cup, they go without. Purchases are no longer just about the product, but about the health ramifications of the product and how much waste will need to be disposed after the product is brought home. Caring about the environment is not just about trees and exotic animals. It is about caring for the world’s people.

Read about their environmental challenges and adventures on their blog, *Ask Prof. Cricket*, <http://ask-cricket.blogspot.com/>, and view Rebecca’s eco-friendly lifestyle tips on Facebook. Search for EcoBodyLove.



Anne Hoyt Taff

Allie Carlson-Stehlin

Story Telling and Stigma: Reproductive Freedom

Reproductive rights are under attack. Over the past four years, hundreds of laws have been introduced with the intent of limiting access to reproductive health care and services. To combat these attacks on women’s health and their devastating consequences, we must take on the enormous stigma surrounding reproductive health issues. Join staff from Planned Parenthood to learn how the organization is part of a national movement to destigmatize reproductive health and build power through storytelling.

Anne Hoyt Taff, senior development officer, Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, joined Planned Parenthood in 2013, with a background in law and nonprofits. In her role, Anne manages a portfolio of donors, assists with strategic fundraising initiatives and planning, and serves as the fundraising lead for the Planned Parenthood Action Fund. Anne has a passion for advocacy work and relationship building.

Allie Carlson-Stehlin, Minnesota public affairs manager, Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, began her Planned Parenthood career in Maryland before joining the Minnesota team in 2013. Allie manages several programs aimed at engaging supporters in the advocacy and mission of Planned Parenthood and has worked with hundreds of volunteers to activate patients, young professionals, supporters, and the general public. Allie’s passion is empowering supporters to make a difference in the health of our community.

2016 AAUW OF MINNESOTA STATE CONVENTION

Optional Activities

We have highlighted three optional activities that we recommend.

Information is provided on each, but reservations need to be made by you on an individual basis.

Reservation information is provided and we also recommend you check the web site for additional information.



The Duluth Playhouse

42nd Street is a musical presented by the Duluth Playhouse. A brunch and show will be presented on Sunday, May 1, 2016. *42nd Street* is a big bold musical set in 1933. Peggy Sawyer arrives in New York City from Allenstown, PA, with her sight set on becoming a Broadway star. Facing adversity from all directions, the young but talented performer learns about show business and discovers which relationships are most important in life.

The Duluth Playhouse is located at 506 Michigan Street in the Historic Union Depot. A cash bar is available at noon, brunch at 1:00-2:00 p.m. and the play is at 2:00 p.m. The brunch is located in the lower level in "The Underground." The cost for an adult is \$55 for brunch and the play. Play only is \$30. Information is online at www.duluthplayhouse.org. For reservations call 218-733-7555 and identify you are with the AAUW convention.



Glensheen Mansion

Glensheen Mansion, the Congdon Estate, is a historic museum located at 3300 London Road and is operated by the University of Minnesota, Duluth. The mansion sits on 7.6 acres of waterfront property on Lake Superior. It is built in the Jacobean architectural tradition, inspired by the Beaux-Arts style of the era. It has 39 rooms and its 1908 collection is intact, giving you the opportunity to view the life of one of Minnesota's most influential families. The formal terraced gardens and English-style landscape, the working gardens, the tennis court, bowling green and carriage house are featured in the tour. Glensheen was also the site of the murders of Elizabeth Congdon and her nurse. The movie, "You'll Like My Mother," was filmed at Glensheen. For information and reservations, visit www.glensheen.org or call 218-726-8910.

Duluth History Bus Tour

Hop aboard a comfortable tour bus for a two-hour history adventure through Duluth. Explore the architecture, stories, and historic relevance of Duluth's past with our knowledgeable history guides. View historic images of Duluth on our flat screen television and experience the historic hot-spots that have all but disappeared from the landscape. These hidden gems and lost sites provide some very interesting opportunities to experience Duluth's rich history. The research has been done so you are provided an accurate account of Duluth's history in order to better understand Duluth's future. The maximum number of participants for the tour is 13: tickets are \$29. A four-hour extended tour for \$45 is available which includes Glensheen, Skyline Drive, and the Depot. Additional information is at www.theduluthexperience.com/duluth-history-tours.





TECHNOLOGY

By
Mary Ann Lucas Roux,
Vice President Program

Technology, for some of us, is moving so fast we can't keep up with it. Branch members who work with technology everyday sometimes speak a language we can't understand! We may have members who do not own a computer but would like more information. We are aware that AAUW does use technology in many ways, including for programs. Does your branch need a basic program on social media for those less familiar with technology? For the novice, it may be defining social media, identifying terminology and a demonstration of how it is used. A program could be designed using the AAUW handbook, "A Social Media Handbook for AAUW Branches," which explains the basics, identifies how your AAUW branch could use social media for community visibility, networking with other branches, keeping in touch with members and supporters, and using AAUW state and national resources for programs. "How to Use Social Media for Advocacy" is another AAUW resource for program planning. It has ideas of using social media strategy to advocate for local, state, and national issues. Good program ideas can be identified by connecting with the AAUW national site (AAUW.org.). Check out audio and video presentations, as well as PowerPoint presentations. This is a good time to be thinking about using technology in your program planning for 2016-17.



TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2016

Equal Pay Day — the symbolic day when women's earnings "catch up" to men's earnings from the year before — is a powerful occasion to raise awareness and organize action around the gender pay gap in your community.

BEST FEMINIST SUPER BOWL COMMERCIALS

By Mary Petron, Vice President Public Policy

Held in San Francisco, Super Bowl 50 was a hard-fought battle between the two best teams in football. But while the athleticism and competition of the game are often enough of a draw for viewers, many also tune in for entertainment provided by the year's most witty, captivating, and even poignant commercials.

Women are the fastest-growing **demographic** among the National Football League's more than 150 million fans. With women representing more than 50 percent of **breadwinners** in U.S. households and nearly 45 percent of the football fan base, brands advertising in the Super Bowl have taken notice.

Because of women's significant purchasing power — and because ads **cost** \$4.5 million per 30 seconds during last year's Super Bowl — more brands are rejecting sexist and hyper-sexualized portrayals of women and opting for messages specifically geared toward women. Here are some of the most empowering and women-friendly commercials from Super Bowls past.

ALWAYS' "LIKE A GIRL"

Click here to [watch video on youtube](#).

Although feminine hygiene ads may have previously seemed out of place during football's biggest game, the Always brand's entry into the market in 2015 proved successful. Lauded as **one of the best** commercials of Super Bowl 49, the company's "Like a Girl" ad defied stereotypes about what it means to run, throw, or fight like a girl. Instead of being an insult, this inspiring ad turned #Likeagirl into the ultimate compliment.

GOLDIEBLOX'S "ROCKETSHIP"

Click here to [watch video on youtube](#).

In 2014, Goldieblox won software company Intuit's "Small Business, Big Game" contest and became the first small business to air an ad during the Super Bowl. Goldieblox, founded by Stanford-trained engineer **Debbie Sterling**, used its 30 seconds in the spotlight to showcase the company's construction toys that encourage girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (**STEM**). The commercial not only made history but also aimed to disrupt the pink aisle and inspire a future generation of female engineers.

THE AAUW OF MINNESOTA STATE BOARD'S RECENT PARTICIPATION IN MINNESOTA COALITIONS

By Sharon Bigot, President

The AAUW of Minnesota Board signed on to a letter from the Fair Courts Minnesota Coalition asking US Senate leadership to schedule a confirmation vote on Judge Wilhelmina Wright and to act on federal judicial vacancies. The Coalition believes that gender parity in the courts cannot be achieved if new judges are not appointed. I'm happy to report that Judge Wilhelmina Wright has now been confirmed.

AAUW of Minnesota is an active participant in the planning for the 2016 Women's Economic Security Summit (WESS). This will be the third WESS for Minnesota. The 2014 Women's Economic Security Summit in January 2014 resulted in the passing of the 2014 Women's Economic Security Act, signed into Minnesota law on Mother's Day. This act represented great progress for women and families in Minnesota, but there was still more to be done. The 2015 Women's Economic Security Summit was held on January 29, 2015. Several hundred women and men attended. The three main general issues addressed by the 2015 Minnesota Coalition for Women's Economic Security are:

- Ensure affordable, accessible childcare for all Minnesota families (support the Kids Can't Wait campaign).
- Provide additional opportunities for working families to fulfill their caregiving responsibilities.
- Place and retain more women (who are increasingly the primary breadwinners for their families) in non-traditional, high-wage jobs.

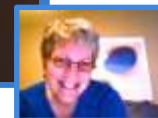
The Minnesota Coalition for Women's Economic Security continues to be an ally for issues of reproductive justice, retirement security, transportation accessibility, and the ERA. A full list of policies is available at <http://www.mnwesa.org>. Click on The Legislation.

The 2016 Women's Economic Security Summit will be held on March 3. Watch the Minnesota Women's Consortium website at <http://www.mnwomen.org> for updates.

Register for our 2016 AAUW of Minnesota State Convention in Duluth: April 29-May 1!
I hope to see YOU at Convention!



AAUW of Minnesota State Board



Left to right...

Sharon Bigot, Carrie D'Andrea, Lisa West, Jan Paulsen, Mary Petron, Mary Ann Lucas-Houx, Mary Jo Dickinson, Jan Bensen, Carol Sheggeby, Gail Glashan, Peg Lonnquist

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC SECURITY SUMMIT

By Sharon Rigot, President

Join us from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Thursday, March 3 (a light breakfast and lunch will be provided) to hear state legislators, community leaders and advocates discuss the policies we need now to break down barriers to economic equality. Reducing barriers is not just the right thing to do; it is needed to build a stronger economic foundation for all of us.

The Women's Economic Security Summit will feature three core panels, each highlighting an important narrative in our work for gender equity:

1. Why Race and Disaggregated Data Matters, led by the Black Women's Business Alliance
2. Gender, Race, Class and Immigration at the Intersections of Asian American Women's Lives, led by the Coalition of Asian American Leaders
3. Financial Ramifications of Intimate Partner Violence, led by the Mankato Committee Against Domestic Abuse

After lunch, we will break out into additional panel presentations to engage more directly with specific policy issues. Potential topics include women and workplace policies, childcare, the Equal Rights Amendment, and women entrepreneurs' access to capital.

With your involvement and support, we can build on the success of the 2014 Women's Economic Security Act and continue to make our movement more inclusive, more representative, and thus more effective.

The 2016 Women's Economic Security Summit is possible with sponsorships from the Women's Foundation of Minnesota, WomenVenture, Black Women's Business Alliance, Isuroon, AARP-MN, Gender Justice, AAUW-MN and the Center on Women, Gender and Public Policy.

For more information on the Women's Economic Security Summit Agenda for 2016 and the 2014 Women's Economic Security Act see: mnwesa.org

WHEN

Thursday, March 3, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (CST)

WHERE

Minnesota Senate Building - 95 University Avenue W., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Registration is FREE, but if you want to attend you must register at
www.eventbrite.com/e/2016-womens-economic-security-summit

Organizers of 2016 Women's Economic Security Summit

**Minnesota Women's Consortium, the Legislative Office on the Economic Status of Women, and the
Minnesota Women's Economic Security Coalition**

For more information about the Minnesota Women's Consortium, visit www.mnwomen.org.
For more information about the Legislative Office on the Economic Status of Women, visit www.oesw.leg.mn.
For more information about the Minnesota Women's Economic Security Coalition, visit www.mnwesa.org.

THE MINNESOTA WOMEN'S CONSORTIUM'S CELEBRATION 36

By Sharon Rigot, President

The Minnesota Women's Consortium held their *Celebration 36* at Hamline University's Anderson Center on January 28, 2016. This year's celebration theme was *Wonder Women of Our Time*.

Honored for their extraordinary work and heroic activism were the Duluth Women's Health Center, Bo Thao-Urabe and Peggy Flanagan.

The **Duluth Women's Health Center** was established in 1981 to provide comprehensive reproductive health care service in northeastern Minnesota. In 1983, WHC became an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides abortion and reproductive health care for patients from not only northern Minnesota, but northern Wisconsin, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and western Ontario. WHC has been active in a family planning special project and is a partner in the Minnesota Department of Health Sage Cancer Screening Program. WHC belongs to a variety of abortion and reproductive organizations and has been a plaintiff in several Minnesota court cases on abortion rights. At *Celebration 36*, WHC was honored, "For their resilience during a tumultuous time of state and national politics, their dedication to providing quality and comprehensive reproductive care and choice to those in Duluth and the surrounding area, and their activism in advancing reproductive rights for all." The Duluth WHC's award was accepted by their executive director, Laurie Casey, who has been on their staff from their beginning in 1981.

Bo Thao-Urabe is currently the network director for the Coalition of Asian American Leaders (CAAL), a network of cross-sector, cross-generational, and cross-ethnic leaders working to advance equity for Asian Minnesotans. She is also the chief operating officer for RedGreen Rivers, a social enterprise connecting Southeast Asian women artisans to the market. Bo was appointed by President Obama as a commissioner to the White House Advisory Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islanders. At *Celebration 36*, Bo Thao-Urabe was recognized and celebrated, "For her lifelong commitment to national and international equity, her extraordinary career of service and advocacy, and her plethora of formal and informal leadership roles."

Peggy Flanagan is the Minnesota House Representative for District 46A (St. Louis Park, Golden Valley, Plymouth and Medicine Lake). She also serves as the executive director of the Children's Defense Fund-Minnesota, has worked successfully on the campaign to raise Minnesota's minimum wage, and co-chairs Minneapolis Mayor Betsy Hodges' *Cradle to K Cabinet*. Peggy worked eight years at Wellstone Action and was the director and founder of the Native American Leadership Program. She is a citizen of the White Earth Nation of Ojibwe. At *Celebration 36*, Representative Peggy Flanagan was recognized and honored: "For her extraordinary sense of justice, her drive to connect marginalized communities to systems of power and her role as a progressive leader and advocate."

Celebration 36 also included an introduction from Dr. Fayneese Mill, president of Hamline University; an opening keynote address by Dr. Artika Tyner, a public policy and leadership professor at the University of St. Thomas College of Education, Leadership and Counseling; and a concluding keynote address by Pam Sartell, president and CEO of The Sartell Group, a team of 21 employees in her downtown Minneapolis software development firm.

Mayor Coleman of Saint Paul declared January 28, 2016, as *Lorraine Hart Day* in Saint Paul. Lorraine Hart has been a staff member of the Minnesota Women's Consortium for the past 32 years. The full proclamation was read and Lorraine received a standing ovation!



AAUW WILLMAR HOSTS CAMPUS ACTION PROJECT

By Jeanette Carlson, AAUW Willmar Co-President

"I learned that I really have a chance."

"I will make college a goal of mine."

"I want to go to college more now."

These are just a few of the positive statements from residents of the Prairie Lakes Girls Group Home after they spent a day at Ridgewater College exploring STEM fields as part of Willmar AAUW's Campus Action Project (CAP) funded by the AAUW of Minnesota State Board.

On November 6, 2015, eight girls and their counselor, along with AAUW Willmar Co-President Jeanette Carlson and college rep Kim Boysen, began the day touring the Veterinary Technology Department led by a female instructor and the department chair, Dr. Balay. The girls were introduced to the surgery center, the labs and classrooms, played with the cats, used stethoscopes to listen to the heart of Dr. Balay's pet dog Casey, and found out that jobs abound in the vet tech field.

Kim Lippert, chair of the Agriculture Department, led the next tour. After an introductory PowerPoint presentation, four female students shared how they came to the decision that Ag was the field they were choosing to go into and what they expect to be doing when they graduate. Two female students demonstrated how to separate silage in order to feed dairy cows. They presented the girls with gift bags, t-shirts and more.

A complimentary lunch in the college cafeteria was made possible by the CAP grant, followed by a session in the computer lab, led by Dawn Bjork, the career counselor. She introduced the girls to a career exploration program that can be accessed at their group home or at school.

The 'frosting on the cake' was a visit to the Jennie-O Turkey Store in Willmar. The president of the company, along with several colleagues, greeted the girls in the entry and showed them to the boardroom where a panel of women employees in STEM careers explained their education paths, described their careers, and how they benefit the company. The day ended with a tour of the resource and development department led by a female food scientist who created new products in the labs and test kitchens. The girls were treated to more gift bags, and the Willmar Branch received eight boxes of books for their spring used book sale!

This "taste of college" event was the third visit to Ridgewater College. Earlier visits included cosmetology, food service, and health careers, especially nursing. "We have enough funds for one additional visit next spring," said Carlson, "and the girls indicated in their surveys that they would like to explore photography and law enforcement, to name a few."

Jane Hedman, community outreach coordinator at the group home, wrote, "Thank you so much for setting up the event at the college. Once again our girls felt very special and learned a lot."



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

By the Nominating Chair, Rose Cyert

The Nominating Committee presents the following candidates for election at the 2016 AAUW of Minnesota State Convention in Duluth.

:



PEG LONNQUIST

Vice President Membership 2016–2018

Peg is currently completing her first term as AAUW Minnesota VP Membership. Since 2011, Peg has been the University of Minnesota representative to AAUW. Through her office, she has been affiliated with the NCCWSL committee, 2009-2012, and was co-sponsor of Elect Her at the U of M. Peg has been director of the Women's Center/Office for Equity and Diversity at the University of Minnesota since 2007. Her experience includes school teaching, 1976-1980, and service to girls and women. Early work was also in Spanish and Ibero-American studies. Later studies and employment featured learning opportunities and women's leadership. Her PhD (1995, UM) was in educational policy and administration with a feminist studies minor. Community activities include the Girl Scouts, YWCA, and leadership programs. She is currently a mentor for a housing/residential life program.



VERONICA JOHNSON

Vice President AAUW Funds 2016–2018

Veronica has belonged to AAUW over 30 years. She is a member of the Minneapolis Branch and serves on various committees and on the board. Veronica joined AAUW in Lexington, Kentucky in 1983, and has participated in AAUW in North Dakota, Arizona, California and Texas in various positions, including branch president and as LAF VP for AAUW Texas. Nationally, Veronica served as co-chair of the 2003 local arrangements for the AAUW Convention, was a member of the 2005 Convention Procedure Committee, and chair of the Convention Procedure Committee in 2007. Veronica attended the University of Minnesota where she received her BS degree. She received HR certification from University of Texas. Professionally, Veronica was program director at the YWCA prior to her lengthy and successful career with IBM in various management positions. Veronica continues to contribute to the community through the League of Women Voters, Columbia Heights Sister City, as a volunteer with a senior program in Columbia Heights, and U of M student events. She is also on the U of M College of Education and Human Development Dean's Advisory Board.



LISA WEST

Secretary/Historian 2016–2018

Lisa is completing her first term as AAUW Minnesota secretary/historian, and her second term as AAUW Hastings secretary. Lisa is the senior project manager for Land Conservation in Dakota County, specializing in conservation easement and land acquisitions. She has spent over 27 years in government service. Locally, she volunteered on comprehensive plan, solid waste and university extension committees. Her career began with a B.S. in geography at UW-Eau Claire, where her daughter recently graduated and swam. While a student herself, Lisa was a swimmer, achieving All-American status in swimming and academics. She was captain of the 1983 swim team that won the first national championship (male or female) Eau Claire had ever received. Lisa's son swam at UW-River Falls, while majoring in geography. The apples don't fall far from the tree in this family! Lisa enjoys her involvement in AAUW and would be pleased to serve another term as secretary/historian.



BETH NIENOW

Nominating Committee 2016-2017

Beth is nominated for another term on the AAUW MN Nominating Committee. She has served the Rochester Branch in several positions and is currently completing her second term as branch president. Beth was co-chair of the 2013 AAUW Minnesota State Convention. Beth received a BA in English from Hamline University, an MA in Library Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, an MA in English from Minnesota State University-Mankato, and is working on her PhD at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota.

She is a reference librarian at Rochester Public Library and has worked in public and academic libraries in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Tennessee.

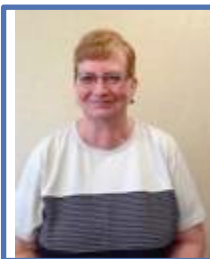


CAROLINE OWENS

Nominating Committee 2016-2017

Caroline served as AAUW Minnesota co-president from 2012-2014 and completed two terms on the AAUW Audit Committee. She has been active in the Ely Branch and is currently serving as treasurer after years of service as secretary and newsletter editor. Caroline earned a BA from Grinnell College and an MBA from George Mason U. She is a retired CPA and worked as an auditor for public accounting firms, and as controller and VP of finance in the real estate and software development sectors. Girl Scouts has always been a part of her life. In addition to leading Girl Scout troops, she has served on council boards in Hawaii, Monterey, CA, and

Washington, DC. She has been president and treasurer of the Board of Directors of North St. Louis Habitat for Humanity.



JAN PAULSEN

Nominating Committee 2016-2017

Jan is currently completing her second term as Minnesota VP AAUW Funds. She has been an active leader in her branch serving as legal advocacy chair, VP Membership, and AAUW Funds VP. Jan has a BA from Hamline University and is retired from the Robbinsdale School District. She taught fifth and sixth graders for 35 years. When she retired, she switched from working with children to serving senior adults. She is president of Pilgrim Guild, a seniors' church group. She is national rep for Multiple Connections, a support group for mothers of multiple birth children. She is active in RARE, the Robbinsdale retired teachers group.



SHARON BIGOT

Nominating Committee Alternate 2016-2017

Sharon is currently completing her term as AAUW of Minnesota state president and represents AAUW MN on the Minnesota Women's Consortium Board. She has previously served on the AAUW MN Board as VP Membership and as secretary. Sharon has been active in AAUW since 1984. She has held many offices in the Minneapolis Branch, including two terms as branch president. Sharon's wide variety of interests include doing tours as a docent at the Minneapolis Institute of Art and volunteering in the Como Park Conservatory and Japanese Gardens.

AAUW NORTHEAST METRO HOSTS WEBINAR

Learn how we did it!

Many NE Metro Branch members experienced their first webinar on Monday, January 11, as the program portion of their monthly meeting. The speaker, Elizabeth Holden, AAUW grassroots advocacy manager in Washington DC, emailed the branch when planning the event, "I think your idea to introduce members to the webinar technology is a great one - AAUW members are really able to expand our advocacy reach through technology and the Internet!"

Most members attending were present at the branch meeting and program which took place at the White Bear Lake Branch of the Ramsey County Library System. One member, unable to physically attend, phoned into the meeting. The newly renovated library offered a room with a computerized projector system connected to the Internet allowing us to see Holden's PowerPoint presentation as she was speaking to us. (A PowerPoint presentation would be similar to slides or overheads projected in the classroom which teachers used in the latter half of the last century.) Elizabeth forewarned us when planning the webinar that connecting two audio systems between two different computer systems is still a little tricky. At her suggestion, we planned to use our cell phones, set on "Speaker," to hear the audio portion of Holden's program. The glitch that occurred was feedback with too many cell phones in one room. We discovered a wireless microphone in the room. Improvising, one cell phone was placed by the microphone and the excess cell phones were turned off.

Following Holden's formal presentation, which was about AAUW advocacy work, including opportunities for branch involvement, the webinar was opened up for informal discussion with her. Members got to know her a little as a person through open discussion. Results of our branch wand conference calling: members increased their computer skills by learning how to participate in webinars, barriers to technology were broken down, and members on their own attended the GOTV (Get Out The Vote) Webinar offered later that week by AAUW.

How did we, a local Minnesota branch, get a program speaker from the AAUW office in Washington, DC? (Note: Elizabeth was actually at home at her computer when presenting to us.)

We submitted a Speaker Request form. Go to AAUW.org > Log in > select "Home Page" if you are not already there > in the search box to the upper right of your screen enter "Speaker Request" > select "How to Select a Speaker for your AAUW Event: AAUW." Read the information and directions provided > Select "I'm Ready to Fill Out the Form" button and proceed to fill out the form. Note they would like you to make your request at least 90 days prior to your event.

Why did NE Metro offer a webinar program to its member?

David Kirkwood presented the idea of online/virtual branches at a Minnesota state convention a few years ago. NE Metro selected a committee to research over last summer the concept of "going virtual" to encourage membership, especially younger membership. At our peak, NE Metro membership was over 70; now it's at 25.

The committee concluded it would advantageous for our branch to work towards a "virtual presence," as technology is used by youth and is the future, rather than becoming a full virtual branch, which right now for our current members is too intimidating. The committee brought to the branch three goals which were agreed upon: 1. Maintain web pages with current and up-to-date data. 2. Help our members and branch grow and develop by providing comfortable technology experiences for members. 3. Dispel member's fears of using technology by offering at least one program a year using technology. Polling our members, the committee discovered less than half of us had experienced a conference call or webinar. Since September, AAUW has offered webinar and/or conference call sessions on the topics of the Supreme Court, Membership 101 and Getting out the Vote. Our members now know how to attend such offerings.



Elizabeth Holden
Grassroots Advocacy Manager
AAUW Washington DC



Branch members grab refreshments prior to the webinar.



Doris Morrison
January Webinar Program Facilitator
Online/Virtual Research Committee
NE Metro Branch Funds Chair



Branch members socialize a bit waiting for the webinar to begin while those setting the program up work through the glitches.

Gail Van Horn wrote three overviews of branches in our state to acquaint readers of The Itanyan, the Northeast Metro Branch newsletter, with other branches. Enjoy!

BRANCH SPOTLIGHT

Gail Van Horn

President, Northeast Metro Branch

AAUW ST. CROIX VALLEY

Our closest branch neighbor is the Stillwater-based St. Croix Valley Branch. The branch began in 1947 and has 36 members from Stillwater, Afton, Woodbury, Lake Elmo and Hudson, WI. This makes it the 18th in size of Minnesota's 30 branches.

Margaret Boettcher of Stillwater, current St. Croix Valley Branch president, was unavailable when I researched this article (November 2015), so the group's webmaster (there is no newsletter), Pam Johnson of Stillwater, agreed to meet with me. She served as president from 2004-06, and has served as Program Committee chair, treasurer and Scholarship Committee chair. She also served AAUW of Minnesota for three years as state treasurer and finance chair. She holds dual membership with the St. Paul Branch. Professionally, she has been employed as fundraiser and grant writer for the Washington County 4-H, and has worked for Imation, IBM and John Deere in various test and manufacturing engineer positions. She holds bachelor's degrees in industrial management and German from Purdue University, where she studied German at the University of Hamburg during her junior year abroad. Branch member Nancy Rustad of Afton is a past national AAUW president and current board member at Solid Ground shelter, which Northeast Metro Branch has supported.



Interest groups include a Gourmet Group, which has met four times a year at members' homes since 1990; Movie Group, which meets every month year-round in members' homes followed by a facilitated discussion and preceded by an optional social hour; and Adopt-A-Highway. Twice a year AAUW St. Croix Valley picks up trash along a three-mile stretch of Osgood Avenue in Oak Park Heights, and has provided this community service since before 1990.

The branch has monthly evening meetings, September through May, at various sites. Check the website for up-to-date information.

The St. Croix Valley Branch was instrumental in making Stillwater the antique store hub that it is today. For 20 years, the branch sponsored "The Antiques Show," held at the National Guard Armory. "We brought in antiques dealers, provided lunch and ran the show by ourselves," Johnson said. "All members were expected to participate." She noted that this was before development of the current PBS television show, "Antiques Roadshow," and before Stillwater had such shops. Other fundraisers of the past include a silent service auction where members offered home-cooked meals, gardening assistance and other expertise, and a wine tasting event that the group held for five years. St. Croix Valley Branch has awarded scholarships to area high school seniors (currently Stillwater High School) and to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

Johnson said that the branch recently discontinued its only fundraiser and has not replaced it, putting the future of their scholarship program in jeopardy. "I think we would have greater impact by directing our money toward sponsorship of public radio and TV shows related to AAUW causes," she said. "If we joined with other Twin Cities or branches statewide, we could get our name out there."

This year's programs include *It's Not Your Mother's or Father's Workplace Anymore*, a riverboat tour of the new St. Croix Crossing bridge, a pizza and salad dinner with conversation about AAUW, *The Little Free Library Story*, a holiday gathering and tour of Rivertown Inn Bed and Breakfast, *Minnesota Pay Equity Updates*, *How to Write Your Life Stories*, *Books are Us*, *Current Issues in Climate Change* and the *St Croix River Water Monitor Program*.

Sources: Website <http://stcroixvalley-mn.aauw.net/>, Interview with Pam Johnson, Nov. 18, 2015

BRANCH SPOTLIGHT

Gail Van Horn

President, Northeast Metro Branch

AAUW HIBBING

Hibbing is best known for its famous resident, Bob Dylan, the founding of the Greyhound (Jefferson) Bus line and as home of open pit iron ore mining. The city has a population of 16,301 (2013) and is situated in the Arrowhead's St. Louis County.

Hibbing Branch AAUW is widely known for its annual book sale, which set a record this year with its proceeds of \$19,600 by selling more than 70,000 books in three days. How do they do it? Member Jan Carey joked, "The members work like animals. They are focused." Included in the total book sale earnings is \$2,000 from a Kentucky bookseller who purchased all 20,000 leftover books. Additional donations from various businesses paid rent for the National Guard Armory, after-hours custodian fees and insurance, allowing the branch to use the profits from the sale for scholarships and fellowships. Community involvement in the book sale includes special education students with their teachers and parents, who enjoyed purchasing books in a quiet, friendly atmosphere a day ahead; high school students from Eveleth-Gilbert shopping at the sale; and a class from Lincoln School whose members each went home with a book. Some book sale customers who realized they were getting great deals added donations. A book sale customer told a member that his apartment building had burned down and he lost everything. He purchased books on all three days of the sale. On the final day, he was very excited to find his favorite book, a classic that had been destroyed by the fire.



Mary Petron and Kathy Burleson

"The Heart of the Arrowhead" is the title of the Hibbing Branch's newsletter. Mary Petron, mother of Metro Northeast Branch's Kathy Burleson, is the current public policy chair of both AAUW of Minnesota and AAUW Hibbing. Hibbing is tenth largest of Minnesota's 30 branches. Branch committees include Book Sale, Cultural Interest, Donations, Book Sale, Fund Raising, Future Collegians, Literature, Newsletter, Public Policy, Reservations, Scholarship and Sunshine.

Last year's meetings covered topics such as safe schools, book sale, sexual harassment, Kayak Lady and Title IX at the local school district. Recent social activities included a day trip to the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre to see "Mary Poppins," followed by shopping at Rosedale Mall. The branch presents \$100 Future Collegian Award scholarships to high school seniors during monthly meetings. Awards are based on academic achievement, character, extracurricular participation, leadership and community involvement. The scholarships are funded by money raised at the annual book sale. In addition, all Future Collegians compete for a \$1,000 scholarship that is awarded at the end of the school year.

The branch contributed to the National AAUW Dr. Jane Skinner American Fellowship in honor of Theresa Nelson Cox, Hibbing's Named Grant Honoree, a tireless worker at the book sale. She brought treats for workers during sorting and selling, and brought her husband to pack books until the end of the sale. She also brought new members to work at the sale.

A second Named Grant went to Norma Schleppegrell in appreciation of her significant contributions to the mission of AAUW. The monetary portion of the Named Grant was donated to the MN Past Presidents American Fellowship and the Dr. Jane Skinner American Fellowship. The fellowships have supported landmark research on gender bias in education, sexual harassment in schools and pay inequities for women, as well as other areas pertinent to women and girls.

As a charitable activity, the branch operates a Birthday Bags program. When a member's birthday falls within the month of a branch meeting, the member is asked to create a non-gender-specific gift for a young person through the Salvation Army.

Another branch program is the annual AAUW Foundation Tea in December. Attendees bring appetizers or desserts to share. Musical entertainment is provided by the Hibbing High School choral ensemble. Members most recently donated \$170 to the national Educational Foundation program, which provides Educational Foundation fellowships, research grants and research projects.

Sources: AAUW Minnesota 2015 State Convention Program, Hibbing Branch website: <http://aauw-mn.aauw.net/branches/hibbing/>

BRANCH SPOTLIGHT

Gail Van Horn

President, Northeast Metro Branch

AAUW MINNEAPOLIS

In 1889, a group of Minnesota women college graduates banded together in the first local branch of what was then called the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, later renamed the American Association of University Women. The Minneapolis Branch celebrated its 110-year anniversary in 2015.

The Minneapolis Branch of AAUW is the second largest in the state. It owns and operates its own building, the Gale Mansion, built in 1912 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It has been the Minneapolis Branch home since 1947 and is available for weddings, parties, meetings, recitals, memorial receptions and other special events. Original owners of the mansion were attorney Edward Chenery Gale and Sarah Pillsbury Gale, daughter of Governor and Mrs. John S. Pillsbury. As patrons of the arts, the Gales were leaders in the development of the Minneapolis Institute of Art, located a block from the mansion.

The branch engages with the community through a college scholarship fund, civic contributions, volunteer activities, and alliances with other area groups. The group holds topical, in-depth, daytime and evening programs.

Branch officers for 2015-2017 include both daytime and evening presidents, daytime and evening membership co-vice presidents, daytime and evening program vice presidents, a marketing vice president, development vice president, treasurer, and daytime and evening recording secretaries. There are both a day and evening director at large.

Programs

On Mondays between September and May, the branch offers three unique daytime programs with lunch prepared onsite by an executive chef. The first program begins at 9:30 a.m. and the second program follows at 10:45 a.m. There are brief announcements prior to a noon lunch. The third and final program of the day begins at 1:15 p.m. Recent topics have been: Ending Homelessness, Preserving our Historic Structures, Harnessing the Immune System for Cancer Therapy, and Brazil's Metamorphosis.

Monthly special interest groups meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 9:30 a.m and include Book Discussion, Handwork/Crafts, Travel, Hot Topics (current events) and a Writers' Group. In addition, a Great Decisions presentation includes a background and analysis of issues provided in a 25-minute DVD program distributed by the Foreign Policy Association, a 90-year-old organization committed to the importance of education in a democracy.

Evening programs are held monthly on Tuesdays from April through November. A book discussion group often meets before dinner. The bar is open at 5:30 p.m., dinner is served at 6 p.m. and the program begins at 7 p.m. A fall program focused on Minnesota's vanishing moose population.

Community Outreach

Twice yearly, branch members "shower" the families at Passage Community with needed household supplies. Passage Community, a transitional housing program for 17 homeless families, is located in the Gale Mansion neighborhood.

Career clothing drives for men and women are also held in the spring and fall. They provide an opportunity to recycle gently used clothing and accessories including shoes, purses, and belts to help build a wardrobe for someone entering or re-entering the workforce or returning to school.

Branch members recently assembled small "welcome bags" for residents of Heartland Girls' Ranch in rural Minnesota, a haven for adolescent girls who have been trafficked, exploited or abused, resulting in behavioral or emotional problems. The organization uses horses to help in the healing process. The bags are given to the girls as they enter the Heartland Program to make them feel cared for and welcome. The evening group conducted a service project making sandwiches for delivery to homeless persons.

Annually, the Scholarship Fund awards two four-year scholarships to young women graduating from the Minneapolis Public Schools.

Branch Library

The branch library provides novels, nonfiction books, mysteries, biographies, memoirs and a limited number of DVDs to members. It sells used books donated by members. Proceeds allow the branch to buy more books for the collection.

AAUW MINNESOTA CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2015-2016

July 2015

- 1 Start of New Officer Terms and Fiscal Year
- 18 State Board Meeting

August 2015

- 1 Criteria, Applications, and Deadlines for Fellowships and Grants Available Online
- 26 Women's Equality Day
- 29 State Financial Records Review
- 30 Pine Deadline

September 2015

- 8 President's Mailing to Branches
- 15 Nominations Open for State Board Offices

October 2015

- 11 Eleanor Roosevelt's Birthday
- 21 Deadline for Board to Branch Contacts (October 1 – October 21)
- 24 State Board Meeting

November 2015

- 15 Deadline for Nominations for State Board Offices

December 2015

- 15 Deadline for AAUW Funds to Jan Paulsen

January 2016

- 1 Half-Year Dues Accepted for New Members
- 15 Pine Deadline
- 15 Deadline for Convention Resolutions Submissions
- 16 State Board Meeting

February 2016

- 1 Deadline for NCCWSL Applications to State
- 15 Deadline for Young Women for Equity Applications to State
- 15 Deadline for AAUW MN Branch Project Grants Applications
- 15 Convention Mailing to Branch Presidents, Past State Presidents, College/University Reps, Committee Chairs, and State Board
- 15 Credentials Chair Notifies Branches of Number of Delegates
- 15 President's Mailing to Branches

March 2016

- 8 International Women's Day
- 15 15-Month Dues Accepted for New Members

April 2016

- 8 Equal Pay Day
- 15 NCCWSL Early Registration Deadline
- 29 State Board Meeting
- 29–May 1 State Convention in Duluth

May 2016

- 15 Pine Deadline

June 2016

- 2–4 NCCWSL 2016
- 30 Deadline to Submit Branch Officers' Names to State and National
- 30 Deadline for 2016-2017 Dues

AAUW MINNESOTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ELECTED OFFICERS

President

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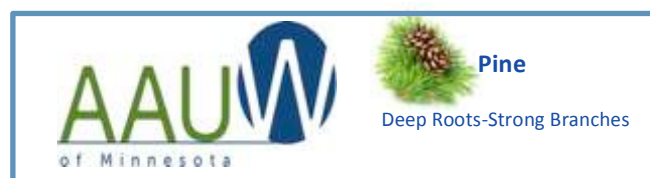
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View the Pine along with more AAUW Minnesota information at:
<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>

Please submit articles for the AAUW MN Pine to...Gail Glashan
gwglashan@gmail.com
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...or mail to Gail Glashan
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Pine

Deep Roots—Strong Branches

American Association of University Women

Gail Glashan

AAUW MN Pine Editor

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Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

AAUW Value Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Vision Statement

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

Diversity Statement

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

