



Grand Rapids Timberline

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT
AAUW GRAND RAPIDS
BRANCH MEMBERS



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Volume 42, Issue 2 October 2017

October 16 Dinner Program Meeting

Location: Methodist Church, Grand Rapids

Register/Social: 5-5:30 PM **Dinner:** 5:40 PM **Business Meeting:** 6:15 PM

Program: 6:30-7:30 PM

MENU: Roast Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Salad, Candied Carrots, Rolls, Dessert

Cost: \$13

Reservations due to Deanna Ensley by Thurs., Oct. 12. Call 218-301-0315 or email deannaensley@yahoo.com

TOPIC: Education Forward: Elementary Facilities Taskforce Update

The Elementary Facilities Taskforce (EFT) is a community citizen group that was formed in January 2017 to develop a community-based facilities plan for the Grand Rapids Elementary Schools based on the suitability of existing structures to meet the current and future needs of Early Childhood to 5th grade. Mindy Nuhring will update the group on EFT's conclusion and the current status of the issue.

Mindy has served on the District 318 Endowment Fund as the secretary and chair, and currently serves on the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce Board, serves as the co-chair for the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce Workforce Development Committee and an on the Governance Council of the new nonprofit called SPARK, which is a community organization helping to build strong communities and successful youth.

Need a RIDE?

If any members are in need of a ride to our monthly branch meetings, please call Deanna Ensley with your RSVP at 218-301-0315. She will make arrangements with the members who have offered to provide rides.

QUOTABLE

“I am a teacher. It's how I define myself. A good teacher isn't someone who gives the answers out to their kids, but is understanding of needs and challenges and gives tools to help other people succeed.”

- Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, Canada

UPCOMING BRANCH PROGRAMS

November 13 – United Methodist Church, 5:30 pm

Program: Policy & Politics

Presenter: Representative Sandy Layman, Minnesota Legislature

We are encouraging you to **bring a guest for the November 13 meeting.**

Bring a "qualified guest" for pay just \$5.00 for your guest's meal. Reservations will be necessary.

December 4 – Eagles Club, 4:15 pm

Program: Holiday Party & Silent Auction with a Twist

Dinner Buffet

We will be holding our Holiday party at the Eagles Club. This year, we will have a "Dessert Auction with a Twist" to benefit our scholarship fund. Please bring something dessert-themed. Some examples: Gift card to Culver's, fruit basket cookie mix in a jar, cake pan & spatula, cookies, cake, candy, etc.

NOTE: The most popular items are the gift cards. It could be a gift card to Target with a Hershey Bar or a restaurant gift card. It can be any amount...\$5, \$10 or \$20.

If you are unable to attend you can leave your gift item with Janis Johnson or Cyndy Agle.

New Member Orientation

We will be holding a New Member Orientation on October 16 at 3:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church. This is just before our scheduled October dinner and program meeting. New members who have not previously attended a New Member Orientation are invited to come and find out more about AAUW--both nationally and locally. We will cover the various ways that one can become involved. Our Board members are encouraged to attend.

**** INTEREST GROUPS ****

Any member may start an interest group to meet monthly, weekly and for any length of time. The members determine their own agendas and arrangements for meetings. The meetings are open to all AAUW members and their guests. The member directory has information about the current active interest groups.

BRIDGE

This group meets May-December, first Thursday, 11:30 a.m. at Majestic Pines, 1614 Golf Course Rd, and includes lunch in the Bistro. Contact is Betty Akre, 326-5356. We would love to have new members join us. We have lunch at 11:30 and play bridge (strictly "party" bridge) afterward.

EXPLORING OUR COMMUNITY

Field trips to various places of interest. Dates & times TBD. For more info, contact Co-Chairs: Cyndy Agle, 360-9743, candy.agle@gmail.com or Janis Johnson, 326-3595, janisjohnson@yahoo.com

Sat., Oct. 7, 10:00 AM: We will be doing the "Studio Tour...Your Passport to Local Art." There are nine artists featured in the Grand Rapids area that will be opening their doors so we can see their work space, meet the artists, and shop for unique local creations. This event is sponsored by MacRostie Art Center. Meet at the Presbyterian Church at 10 am to carpool. We will have lunch at Fuji at noon, so if you just wanted to check out the event in the morning or join in the afternoon tour, you can!

Wed., Nov. 8, 2:30 PM: Learn about the organ at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids. The pipe organ is known as the "king of instruments". Come and learn about its versatility, uses, history and beauty. This program will be led by AAUW member Jan Bilden, who has spent most of her life on the organ bench.
Note: The organ is in the balcony and is accessed by a stairway. There will be refreshments afterward.

LITERATURE – Wednesday group

This group meets at 10:30 AM on 2nd Wednesday at the Grand Rapids Library River Room, September-May. Contact is Barbara Zimmer, 327-0911, kbzimmer@q.com

Oct. 11: *Lights Out* by Ted Koppel

Nov. 8: *Locally Laid* by Luci Amundsen

LITERATURE – Monday group

Group meets on 1st Monday at 10:00 AM at Grand Rapids State Bank Annex. Contact is Jan Hill, 246-979 or jmhgkh@paulbunyan.net

Oct. 2: *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk* by Kelli Estes. Leader: Nancy Raymond

Nov. 6: *The Cellist of Sarajevo* by Steven Galloway. Leader: Jan Hill

Dec. 4: Annual Brunch

PUBLIC POLICY

Next meeting: Thurs, Oct. 12, 4:00 TO 5:30 PM, KAXE meeting room.

This meeting will be about how changes in our population and culture will affect our public policies. Our guest speaker will be Jessica Mohn, who is part of the 25% of

our population who has a background check which hampers her in many ways — housing, employment, schooling, voting, etc. Currently, she is a student at Bemidji State University, employed at GRACE HOUSE, volunteers at several wellness organizations, and cares for her 4-year-old nephew. Her life story is very instructive and her strong will to remake her life after a terrible childhood will help us understand why a change in our current policies is important for women and girls and families and men. We will spend the first 1/2 hour in planning and discussion, and she will talk to us from 4:30 to 5:30.

This group's purpose is to learn about the background of public policy issues that affect women and girls. We learn about the issues that AAUW promotes in their PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM, which is adopted for 2017-2018- 2019 program years at the national convention. It can be found in your new member book, which was passed out at the September branch meeting and distributed by members to those who did not get the book there. Also in our Grand Rapids Branch book is the blog page, the National AAUW website and the Minnesota AAUW state website. There are weekly email notices from national AAUW about what the national government is doing with our public policy issues.

This year we will be using the national materials for the basis of our efforts. In addition, we decided to read the book ***All the Single Ladies*** by Rebecca Traister and discuss it at meetings, starting in January 2018. We make up our own agenda and subjects of interest. All members are welcome and you can bring guests.

Questions? Contact Jean Halverson, 327-9158 or jehmh@mchsi.com or Marilyn Rossman, 326-6775 or mbro@paulbunyan.net

WALKING & TALKING

Group is flexible and open to all members. The social contact is important and the pace varies; if you are looking for speed-walking and a serious workout, this is not your group. Currently we meet on Wednesday mornings at 9 AM. **In mid-October, we will switch to Tuesdays at 1 PM.**

We walk for 1 to 1 1/2 hours and then have coffee. As the weather cools the day and time will switch to Tuesday afternoons at 1 PM. Switch is decided by the group. We walk in the Grand Rapids area on trails and neighborhood streets. Location changes from week to week as chosen by the group. Group is notified by email of next location. To join the group, call or email Karen Karls (326-2053, k.karls@yahoo.com) with your email address.

Finance Report - AAUW Grand Rapids - MN 6013

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| July 2017 - Sept 2017 – FIRST Quarter Financial Summary - Fiscal Year 2017-2018 <i>(Based upon 09.14.2017 Bank Statement) Prepared by C. Vogel</i> |
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| ❖ 93 members have paid their dues for 2017-2018 Fiscal Year. |
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❖ **Total Cash on Hand: **\$8,384.52**

- General Checking Account: \$6,684.05; Savings Account: \$ 1,700.47

❖ **Total Income First Quarter: \$ 1,818.50**

- **Income:** 2017-2018 Dues: \$1,009; Meeting Fees: \$782; Travel Treasures: \$24; Checking Account Interest: \$3.50; Individual donations: \$0.

❖ **Total Expenses First Quarter: \$ 6,006.83**

- **Expenses:** National Dues: \$4,165.50; State Dues: \$846; Printing: \$374.17 ; Dinner Expenses: \$465; Hospitality Committee: \$8.42; Membership Committee: \$48.71; Miscellaneous Expenses: \$24.03; Meeting Room Rental: \$75.

❖ **First Quarter Net Revenue: (\$4,188.33)**

❖ **Year to Date Net Revenue: (\$4,188.33)**

❖ **Fiscal Year-end Total Donations (2016-2017): \$4,470**

- \$1,470 (ICC STEM Camp – 4 Scholarships);
- \$1,000 to AAUW Fund (Legal Advocacy & Education Funds Specified).
- \$2,000 to Community Foundation Non-Endowed Fund

COMBINED STATUS OF DEDICATED FUNDS: \$ 58,409.04

❖ **Local Scholarship Itasca Community College Foundation: \$30,232 (06.2016)**

- \$ 19,599 – Endowment: Permanently restricted funds
- \$ 11,288 - Temporarily restricted funds: Non-endowed – not yet reflected in report, \$10,573 was transferred from the temporarily restricted fund to the permanently restricted fund, with \$3,000 remaining in the temporarily restricted funds, effective June 2017).

❖ **Community Foundation: Grand Rapids AAUW: Anniversary Scholarship: \$ 28,177.04**

(07.19.2017)

- GRACF (Endowed Fund): \$ 28,177.04
- GRACF (*non-endowed*) \$ 2,568.11

**** NATIONAL AAUW NEWS****

Sept. 22, 2017, Washington DC -- AAUW Chief Executive Officer Kim Churches issued this statement responding to Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos' announcement concerning interim Title IX policy at the Department of Education.

"Today's announcement confirms our suspicions: the U.S. Department of Education's intent is to roll back critical civil rights protections for students.

AAUW is disappointed that the Department of Education has withdrawn the 2011 Dear Colleague Letter on Sexual Violence as well as the 2014 Questions and Answers on Title IX and Sexual Violence. Both were critical guidance tools schools requested to clarify their responsibilities under Title IX when responding to sexual violence. In their place, a new, less robust Questions and Answers guidance document is to be used. This is a blatant rollback from the strong and much-needed guidance that was in place. This ever-changing landscape could potentially sow confusion for schools, administrators and staff, students, parents, and communities."

See more at <http://www.aauw.org/article/doe-rescinds-crucial-title-ix-guidance/>

AAUW GRAND RAPIDS BRANCH MEETING Sept. 18, 2017 United Methodist Church

Marva Jean Hutchens called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Nancy Raymond coordinated a drawing for several Travel Treasures items with winners Donna Crawford and Deanna Ensley.

Cyndy Agle announced and showed examples of "dessert-themed" items for the holiday party scholarship fundraiser.

Juliet Jones explained the "Getting to Know Your Community" October 7th event at MacRostie's Fall Studio Tour.

Marva Jean introduced the speakers, Mike Youso and Kelly Kirwin, and praised Grand Itasca Hospital.

Marva Jean told of recent campaigns and changes to the facility.

1. "Close to Home" Campaign for the infusion center
2. Expanded partnership with Fairview
3. Continued efforts to expand its recruitment efforts in hiring.

Respectfully submitted, Deanna Ensley for Jan Miland, secretary

AAUW GRAND RAPIDS BOARD MEETING Sept. 25, 2017 United Methodist Church

Members present included Cheryl Vogel, Cyndy Agle, Marva Jean Hutchins, Karen Karls, Deanna Ensley, Jan Miland, Nancy Raymond and Marj Lavalier.

A discussion was held about the NE MN regional AAUW Fall gathering in Hibbing. It was well organized with pretty decorations, good food, movement and opportunity to meet new people. A lengthy discussion was held about next year's regional event, which will be hosted by our branch. Nancy, Marj and Deanna will start checking on sites and program. More members will be needed to help with the meeting as plans are made and implemented.

The Grand Rapids Branch has been asked to host the state convention on April 26-27, 2019.

We will have a board meeting on Monday, October 23, 2017.

Cyndy reported that two new members have joined our branch and that there will be a new member orientation held before the October meeting. A motion made by Karen, seconded by Cheryl, to have a member pay \$5 for dinner for a qualified guest brought to the November meeting. Passed.

It was stressed that we need to make everyone welcome at the meetings and not leave anyone sitting or standing alone. We encourage members to bring a guest.

Chery presented the excellent first quarter report. The finance committee has looked at all the details in the budget. There will be copies for the members at the October meeting. A finance meeting will be held the second Monday of October.

It was mentioned that it would be good to have the scholarship recipients at the December meeting. As it is a fundraiser, members can see where some of the money is spent.

A discussion was held about our responsibility to be aware of Title IX issues. We are encouraged to contact our representatives. The names, addresses and telephone numbers are in the directory.

Respectfully submitted, Jan Miland, Secretary

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