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WILLMAR BRANCH AAUW

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.
APRIL 2018

PLEASE JOIN US!

MONDAY, APRIL 16 - 6:45 P.M.

BETHEL CHURCH (use south door)

PROGRAM: "GIRLS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE"

Co-President Beverly Crute has arranged for NICK CLASEMANN and TYLER STEEN, who are STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) teachers at Lakeland Elementary school, to update us about STEM programs at our new school. This is a major topic for AAUW branches all across the country, and we look forward to learning how STEM programs are being taught right here in Willmar.

Jeanne Whitney will also be introducing us to our Young Woman of Achievement, AMY HANEY, a student at the DREAM Technical Academy.

Come to the meeting, and bring a friend!

Refreshments will be served by Dee Rosenbrook, Marsha Milani, and Kathy Vruwink. Rumor has it that Marsha's daughter is visiting from Tonga and that we will be treated to Tongan pineapple upside down cake and special teas.

STATE CONVENTION

Our 2018 state AAUW convention is set for Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28 in Faribault. Our Willmar branch is entitled to four voting delegates. Jeanette Carlson and Beverly Crute (a past state president) will attend. We are looking for two additional delegates. You can go online to register (<https://www.smore.com/pn7a5-2018-state-convention>) or contact Jeanette Carlson for a registration form (212-2267). Registration forms will be available at the April meeting. There is money in our budget to assist with the fee.

USED BOOK SALE

We have scheduled our annual used book sale for May 2 to 5 at the Willmar Community Center. Setup is on Wednesday starting at 5:00 p.m. Our sale runs Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon with "tear down" after that. Our volunteer signup sheet is filling up, but there are two slots open: Friday from 12 Noon to 3:00 p.m. and Saturday at 12 Noon for the "tear down." If either works for you, email Jeanette Carlson at carlsonj2@charter.net. All proceeds go for scholarships. Also, there will be posters available at the April meeting....take a few to put up in a public spot of your choice. Many thanks!!

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MEMBERSHIP DUES UPDATE

Our Association dues will rise to \$59 (up \$10) for the coming year (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019). I have not heard anything about state dues (\$9) or local dues (\$12) rising. As you invite new members to join, remind them that ½ of the Association dues is reduced if joining at a meeting. Either our April or May meetings would be good times to invite a prospective member. At this time then, our dues are \$80 for the coming year. Remember, \$56 of our Association dues are tax deductible.

Dee Rosenbrook, VP Membership

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

It is time for a transition to new officers for the next two years. We are looking to fill the office of President or Co-Presidents and Vice President or Co-Vice Presidents for Membership. Jeanette has served for 10 years, and Beverly for 6 years. Dee has also served for many years, and our membership has remained steady. Not too many branches can claim that distinction. If you are considering filling one of these offices, give one of us a call to learn more about the responsibilities. It has been our experience that branch members are very cooperative and willing to step in and help in all ways possible. We look forward to sharing the tasks with more members to keep our branch viable and thriving. We've been great for 71 years and still going strong!!

NOW HERE'S A MAN WHO UNDERSTANDS WOMEN.....

"I think women are foolish to pretend they are equal to men. They are far superior and always have been. Whatever you give a woman, she will make greater. If you give her a sperm, she will give you a baby. If you give her a house, she will give you a home. If you give her groceries, she will give you a meal. If you give her a smile, she will give you her heart. She multiplies and enlarges what is given her."

William Golding, British Novelist, Playwright & Poet (1911-1993)

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Do you sing in a choir? or did at one time? This novel is for you: The Chilbury Ladies' Choir. It's a fictional story set during WWII in a small town on the English coast, not far from Dover. The men are all off to fight the war, so the church vicar declared that there would not be a choir at the church any longer. You can't have a choir without men. That's where the ladies come in. "Of course we can!" they declared. And they did. The novel is composed of letters and journal entries, so we become well acquainted with each member of the choir. There is intrigue, heart-rending escapades, and a real feel for what the English population went through during that war. Being part of the ladies' choir helped everyone sustain hope at a difficult time. The author is Jennifer Ryan who lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and two children. Originally from London, she was previously a nonfiction book editor. This is her debut novel. I highly recommend it! (Jeanette Carlson)