

WILLMAR BRANCH AAUW

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

PLEASE JOIN US!

TUESDAY, MAY 22 – 6:00 P.M. (note change of day and time)
ANNUAL SPRING DINNER AT THE OAKS (Eagle Creek Golf Club)

We'll gather at The Oaks for a "dutch treat" meal and fellowship as we celebrate another banner year in AAUW. All Life Members of 50 years or more (and there are six) will be recognized, and we have asked them to share a favorite memory from their years in AAUW. Contact Carla Buzzeo if you have not registered: 212-8468 or email at augiegurl@hotmail.com. What a great way to end the year! We'll be sending a pizza party to the girls at the group home on Friday night as a treat for them.

OUR USED BOOK SALE WAS A W-O-W!!

Thanks to all of you who worked a shift at our book sale and to those of you who also donated and/or purchased books. We ended up with \$1,543.75 for our scholarship obligations AND the added plus of advertising AAUW as an organization that promotes literacy and reading. At a buck-a-book, that's a lot of books! We are set to hold next year's sale at the Community Center again. The dates are Wednesday, May 1 (set up), Thursday and Friday, May 2 & 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 4 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. We hope to have a few more members helping with the take down, loading up boxes of leftover books to take to Good Will, New 2 You, and the Skylark Mall. Children's books are going to the food shelf to be distributed in food baskets to families that may not have many books in their homes. Some books are also going to the "little libraries" around town, and many books will be saved for next year's sale.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

The AAUW Association dues have been increased by \$10 to \$59 (\$56 tax deductible). State and Branch dues remain the same at \$9 and \$12 respectively. The total bill for 2018-19 = \$80. (New members joining at an AAUW event can join for \$50.50.) Names of members renewing before or at the May 22 dinner meeting will be entered in a drawing for a prize! If you cannot attend the meeting, please send a check made payable to: Willmar AAUW and mail it to me at 8780 45th Ave. N.W., Pennock 56279.

Dee Rosenbrook, Membership Chair

*Note: Check your program booklet for your correct information, and let Jeanette Carlson know of any changes: carlsonj2@charter.net or 320-212-2267 (cell).

)

STATE CONVENTION

Our 2018 state AAUW convention was held on Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28 in Faribault. Jeanette Carlson and Beverly Crute served as delegates from Willmar. We especially enjoyed a tour of the woolen mill and the opening presentation from the National speaker, Kendra Davis, Senior VP for Advancement and Partnerships. We came home with three awards:

Membership: for an increase of 5 new members in 2017

Membership: for an increase of 10% or more last year

AAUW Funds: 4th in MN Top Ten Per Capita Giving

Also, the Willmar Branch was given a \$500 grant check to assist us in sending Muna Abdulahi of Willmar, a sophomore at the U. of MN, to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders at the U. of Maryland the end of May.

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. The board appointed a Nominating Committee to seek out candidates for these offices. Members include Rebecca Harberts, Marlys Larsen, and Margaret Fleck. If you are considering filling one of these offices, give Rebecca a call (320-262-3369) and 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!!

FROM THE GIRLS AT THE GROUP HOME.....

"I liked the Christmas party very much, and I loved the gifts very much. I'm glad I got to do that with you! It was fun."

"Thank you so much for the Christmas party. I really liked it. I also liked listening to you ladies sing. You all made my Christmas this year amazing. Thank you for the treats, and the presents were really nice."

"Thank you so much for the awesome Christmas party you gals threw for us. It was very enjoyable. I loved the singing and the diversity. The treats were delicious. I am very grateful for the gift I got from winning Bingo. You all are great ladies."

"Thank you so much for taking the time to set up all those treats and putting those gifts together for us! I had the best time playing Bingo with all my peers and AAUW members. I also enjoyed the little concert of Christmas music. I enjoyed how we sang in many different languages. My favorite was Feliz Navidad. It reminded me of Christmas at my dad's."

"Thank you for the amazing Christmas party. Everything was a blast, and I appreciated the delicious treats and the gifts."