

In this issue:

1. September 11, 2017 branch program
2. Branch President's message
3. June Program
4. June branch minutes, pending approval
5. August board minutes, pending board approval
6. Summary of the "What Ifs..."
7. Financial notes
8. 2017-2018 AAUW Northeast Metro Branch-Nancy Jo Hendrickson Legacy Scholarship recipient
9. 2017-2018 AAUW Northeast Metro Branch Scholarship recipient
10. Interest Groups: Book Club and Gourmet

September monthly meeting

Monday, September 11, 2017
St. Stephen Lutheran Church
1965 County Road E., White Bear Lake, MN
(This facility is accessible to persons with disabilities.)

Schedule

6:45 p.m. Welcome – grab a beverage, and connect with friends
7:00 p.m. September Program: Neighbors Helping Neighbors
8:00 p.m. Branch meeting
9:00 p.m. Adjourn

Words from the President:

I am looking forward to being together again in September and hope you are, too. Thanks to each of you who took time for thought and response to the "What If" questions. The Board discussed the responses at length (no names attached) at our August board meeting; you will find an abbreviated summary of the responses in this *Itanyan*. Consider them carefully and be ready to make some necessary decisions during the coming year. The (unapproved) minutes from the Board meeting are on the website now. Our most urgent discussion item was the 2017 Holiday Brunch and Auction; the Board decided it is not possible for us to hold the event this year.

A reason for those of us in AAUW to celebrate is that 2017 is the 100th anniversary of AAUW International Fellowships Program. These began as the Latin American Fellowship to support Latin American women studying in the United States. From that beginning the International Fellowships program has grown to encompass the entire globe. Raise a toast to our efforts for women's education everywhere in the world.

Be watching for articles in print, on TV, and on the radio about the efforts of leaders in Minnesota to leverage the attention given to the Super Bowl to crack down on sex trafficking, provide more emergency shelter beds and increase street outreach. Bus drivers, hotel workers, and all Super bowl volunteers will receive training on how to identify sex trafficking. This coalition of government and community leaders will be working in the upcoming months and, more importantly, expect to continue their efforts after the Super Bowl. Human trafficking has been one of our AAUW focus areas for several years - - keep listening, watching, reading, and learning how you can be involved in working to end it.

Submitted by Vernita Kennen, Branch President

Program for Sept. 11, 2017

Have you ever wondered about the little building at the back of St. Stephen's parking lot? It is run by an organization named Neighbors Helping Neighbors, and it has no connection with St. Stephen except proximity. Cindy Burroughs manages the thrift shop and will speak to us at our September meeting. She will tell us about the history of the organization, what they do, and how she became part of it. She will also tell us about the organizations they work with and give us some information about poverty in the suburbs.

Submitted by Janet, Program Co-Vice-President

Program plans for 2017-2018 thus far...

SEPT. 11: Cindy Burroughs, "Neighbors helping Neighbors"

OCT. 9: Maria Nhambu, author *America's Daughter*

NOV. : Tentatively, a representative from Lakeshore Players

DEC.: To be determined after September branch meeting

JAN.: Subject: Metro Council comprehensive plan for housing
Speaker, Anne Kane, Community Development Director, WBL

FEB.: Tentative joint meeting with LWV forum on redistricting

MAR.: Women's History Month considering subject of women Nobel prize recipients
Presenter, Janet branch member

APR.: Immigration. Panel discussion led by book club who read *The Leavers* by Lisa Ko
A novel about a boy left behind when his mother, an illegal alien from China, disappears

May: Technology program. Tentatively on social media through the Ramsey County Library system

Submitted by Janet and Joni, Program Co-Vice-Presidents

Branch meeting minutes

The pending June 12th, 2017 **minutes** can be viewed in the Members Only section of our web pages at <https://nemetromn.aauw.net>

June branch minutes were emailed to all members June 17th, 2017 and are listed as pending until approved at the next branch meeting, September 11th, 2017.

Submitted by Jan, Co-Secretary

Board meeting minutes

The pending August 16th, 2017 **minutes** can be viewed in the Members Only section of our web pages at <https://nemetromn.aauw.net>

August board minutes were recently completed and have not been previously sent to branch members.

Submitted by Joan, Co-Secretary

SUMMARY OF THE BRANCH RESPONSES TO THE "WHAT IF" QUESTIONS . . .

Twelve of the seventeen members of our branch (excluding our two scholarship recipients) responded to the posed questions. The responses came via e-mail, snail mail and telephone conversation.

What IFs about a 2018 Holiday Brunch/Auction – A majority of responses said we should not hold the event. Many felt it was a burden to put on and quality of items has gone down. Suggestions included planning another December gathering for members as well as seeking other ways to raise funds for Century scholarships and in support of AAUW. (Many of the responses arrived before we knew that the 2017 event would need to be cancelled.)

What IF we need to raise funds in another way – Personal financial contributions could offset income from the event; use our reserve funds; hold a virtual fundraiser; and others who said they were not sure!

What IF we cannot find leadership – Several suggested the branch disband; ask NOW for people willing to take on the positions of Program VP and Treasurer; go to a bare bones organization; fewer branch meetings

What IF regarding speakers for such a small membership – Many felt we were not being fair to outside speakers or even to our own members when we ask them to prepare a presentation for such a small group;

spend time in discussion with each other; attend outside programs as a group which has several drawbacks like scheduling, carpools, needed flexibility, etc.

What IF we didn't have a branch in Northeast Metro - All but one indicated they would maintain membership in AAUW, some at national level and others joining other branches; many mentioned sadness at the loss of the shared camaraderie and discussion; some are already life members

What IFs about Book Group and Gourmet – respondents who are currently part of these groups indicated each could, and probably would, continue to meet without the umbrella of AAUW; the example of the investment club has shown us this is possible.

Submitted by Vernita Kennen, Branch President

Financial notes

The impact of canceling the Holiday Auction Brunch was reviewed at the board of directors meeting. My analysis indicates that we have sufficient funds for two years. We have sufficient funds to maintain our branch as we have historically done including offering Century College scholarships and programs.

The budget details will be reviewed at the September branch meeting.

Submitted by Linda

2017-2018 AAUW Northeast Metro Branch-Nancy Jo Hendrickson Legacy Scholarship

Maria Lupita Reyes is the second recipient of the AAUW Northeast Metro-Nancy Jo Hendrickson Legacy Scholarship. She was born in Reedley, CA and came to Minnesota as a 3 year old. She graduated from Park High School in Cottage Grove. She said that while in high school an EL (English Learner) teacher really helped her to develop her confidence and encouraged her to aspire to higher education.

After completing her summer studies at Century she will graduate in August and go to the University of Wisconsin of River Falls in September where she will study to become an elementary school teacher. In middle school she realized that she wanted to become a teacher and return to the area where she grew up and teach. One of her most important goals is to gain more public speaking skills. She also wants to gain the ability to be able to help students in the EL classes. Maria was involved in the AVID tutoring program in the South Washington middle schools, which helps students develop skills that will help them to be successful in their studies. At Century she was involved with Movimiento Latino which welcomes all students who are interested in learning about the Latino culture. She was active in the Multicultural Student Center where all students can gather, make friends and ask for help, if needed. She stated that over the past two years she has worked hard to achieve her goals and will continue to do so at River Falls. She has a cumulative GPA of 3.83 and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Maria is fluent in Spanish thanks to the continued teaching of her grandfather and spending 6th grade in Mexico with her grandparents. Her grandparents now live in the Twin City area. She has a part time job translating information into Spanish for an area plastics company.

We extend our congratulations to her on being the 2017-2018 AAUW Northeast Metro Nancy Jo Hendrickson Legacy Scholarship recipient and wish her success in her future.

Submitted by Nancy, Liaison to Century College for annual branch scholarships

2017-2018 AAUW Northeast Metro Branch Scholarship

Mariah Sletten is the 33rd recipient of the AAUW Northeast Metro Scholarship. She graduated from Perpich Arts High School where she developed skills specifically in the areas of ceramics and drawing.

Century awarded her a Creative Writing Certificate. She will enroll at Metro State in the fall where she will study professional writing concentrating on editing. Since she is financially responsible for her living expenses her classes will be mainly on-line as she will have to work many hours.

Mariah currently works at the Minnesota Sword Club where she acts as manager and takes care of membership and orders. The club includes fencing and long sword fighting as well as Historic European Marshal Arts (HEMA).

During the summer she is involved with the Renaissance Fair in Glenwood, WI where she helps friends with their craft booth. This year she and her mother will have a booth selling bread with their homemade compound butter.

We wish to congratulate Mariah on being the 2017-2018 AAUW Northeast Branch scholarship recipient and wish her a very successful future.

Submitted by Nancy, Liaison to Century College for annual branch scholarships

INTEREST GROUPS

Book Club will meet at the home of Joni on Tuesday, September 19th at 10 am. We will be discussing the series of mystery books by Elliot Roosevelt. Everyone is welcome, but please let the hostess know if you are coming.

Gourmet Group plans for 2017-2018

Gourmet Group meets in members' homes several times a year, including a total gourmet group gathering at Christmas/New Year's and a picnic in June. Food is planned by a committee and recipes are assigned. Cost is equalized among the participants. No one knows how the dishes are supposed to taste, so no judgment is made. Just fun!

- September 17 Sunday night at 5 PM, Machledt & Ruggles, MN Heritage Food
(Sorry but reserving for the September gathering has already been closed.)
- January 1, 2018 Monday night 5 PM, Brownell, French Cuisine
- April 2018, Date to be determined, Taste of India Restaurant
- June 10, 2018 Sunday night at 5PM, Hoppe, South American Food

To be added to the Gourmet Groups email list, phone Donna at 651-636-2401 or Janet at 651-765-4990. Planning Committee members are Linda, LouAnn, Donna and Janet.

<i>AAUW has been empowering women since 1881</i>	AAUW Mission Statement: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. <p>-----</p> AAUW 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.
For more ► information about AAUW check out our web sites	https://www.aauw.org/ - AAUW national level https://aauw-mn.aauw.net/ - AAUW-MN state level https://nemetro-mn.aauw.net/ - our local northeast metro MN branch