



**Itanyan** a Native American word meaning "To grow by reason"

February 2018 issue

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**February monthly meeting**

Monday, February 12, 2018  
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. February Program: Women Nobel Prize winners  
8:00 p.m. Branch meeting  
9:00 p.m. Adjourn

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**Words from the President**

I suspect that whether or not the groundhog sees his shadow on February 2, we will have six more weeks of winter. That seems to be true in Minnesota even though days of 40+ degrees come often enough to encourage many of us to stay here and not either move south permanently or escape south during winter months. Those extra weeks of winter provide us with options. We can hunker down and do some more of the leisurely indoor winter things like reading, crafts of all kinds, and enjoy hot cocoa/tea OR we can use these days to "think spring" and plan the months ahead with activities that energize us.

Let me suggest that you use a couple of those days to once again give some thought to our "What If" list from last year. As you learned at the January meeting, we do have nominees willing to serve leadership positions which will be needed for 2018-2019 but they have indicated they are only willing to serve for that one year. Will we have women willing to step up in the following year? Will we have grown the branch with new members? If not, where do we see ourselves in 2019-2020? Where do you see yourself in relationship to AAUW in 2020?

As we celebrate women Nobel prize winners at our February meeting and plan ahead for a partnership with the LWV for our March meeting, don't forget to consider those questions. Much will depend on the answers we give. Even if the groundhog goes back underground, we must stay above ground and plan for the future - - even if the weather is chilly!

*Submitted by Vernita Kennen, Branch President*

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**Program for February 12, 2018**

Janet is putting together a program for our February 12th meeting about Women Nobel Prize Winners with emphasis on women recipients. She will present some general information about the Nobel Foundation, the awards, and the selection process, as well as speak about some of the women Nobel Laureates. She has some interesting observations about what her research revealed.

*Submitted by Janet, Program Co-Vice-President*

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**ALERT!!!! Dues Increase**

Our dues for the next year are increasing by \$10.00. National has increased their dues to \$59.00. This will make our dues \$88.00(AAUW \$59, State \$9, Branch \$20).

Note that \$56.00 of AAUW dues is tax deductible.

Lifetime Membership has increased to \$1180.

Student dues have gone to \$18.81, which we do not show on our renewal and new membership form.

*Submitted by Christine, Membership Co-Vice-President*

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**Program for March**

On **Monday, March 19, 2018** AAUW Northeast Metro Branch is sponsoring a program with the League of Women Voters and Common Cause Minnesota which is open to the public.

Our program, a forum on "Fair District Maps," will be held on MONDAY, MARCH 19. Please note the change of date and place. Tom Horner, Independence Party candidate for Governor in 2010, Susan Brower, Minnesota State Demographer and Anastacia Carrera, Executive Director of Common Cause MN will be on the panel discussing the topic of mapping new voting districts following the next census. This is a joint meeting with the League of Women Voters and Common Cause Minnesota that will be held at **WHITE BEAR LAKE HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH CAMPUS, 3551 McKnight Rd. from 7 to 9 p.m.** Please plan to attend and bring guests who may be interested. We will have no business meeting.

*Submitted by Janet, Program Co-Vice-President*

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**Branch meeting minutes**

The pending January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 branch meeting minutes can be viewed in the Members Only section of our web pages at <https://nemetro-mn.aauw.net>

The branch meeting minutes are listed as pending until approved at the next branch meeting, February 12th, 2018.

*Submitted by Joan, Co-Secretary*

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**Board meeting minutes**

The pending January 3, 2018 board meeting minutes can be viewed in the Members Only section of our web pages at <https://nemetro-mn.aauw.net>

The January Board Meeting minutes are listed as pending until approved at the next board meeting which will take place April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

*Submitted by Doris & Janet, assigned as acting Co-Secretaries for the meeting*

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**2018 MN AAUW Convention Resolutions**

Be aware that MN AAUW convention resolutions are due mid-February, 60 days prior to the convention April 27-28; Vernita has more information if you wish to submit one. Any member is eligible to do so. The state convention will be held in Faribault this year. We will be receiving information about numbers of delegates from our branch and other important plans soon. Stay tuned -- and consider if this will fit into your calendar this year.

*Submitted by Vernita*

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**National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month**

Each January, the country marks National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, with the intention of raising awareness for the estimated [20.9 million victims](#) of [human trafficking](#) around the world. [Seventy-one percent](#) of victims of trafficking are women and girls; 72 percent of female victims are trafficked for sexual exploitation. Traffickers use violence, debt bondage, and other forms of coercion to manipulate victims into engaging in commercial sex acts or labor services [against their will](#). Though awareness of this issue has increased in recent years, human trafficking is consistently underreported due to its covert nature, low community awareness, lack of law enforcement, limited resources for victim recovery, and societal blaming of victims. The Super Bowl has brought added scrutiny to this issue, but it is something that goes on every day in our communities and we need to stay aware and informed.

*Submitted by Vernita*

Combining an Excerpt from "AAUW Action Network" [advocacy@aauw.org](mailto:advocacy@aauw.org) sent Tuesday, January 23, 2018 1:23 with thoughts from Vernita, our branch president.



**“PROGRESS REQUIRES ACTIONS NOT JUST WORDS”**

On January 30, President Donald Trump delivered his first State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress. As the president laid out his goals and plans, it is an opportunity for advocates to assess plans/goals and make plans to hold our elected officials accountable to them.

Use the chart below to check if you heard any of these words - - and what action might be needed as we work to attain AAUW's policies and priorities for all women and girls.

IF THE PRESIDENT MENTIONS	IT'S VITAL THAT WE	TAKE ACTION NOW:
<b>EDUCATION</b>	Protect Title IX and its commitment to equity in education	<u>Stand with AAUW to keep Title IX strong!</u>
<b>THE FEDERAL BUDGET</b>	Support programs that are critical to women and families' economic security, education, and civil rights	<u>Urge Congress to pass a budget that supports women and families.</u>
<b>THE ECONOMY</b>	Close the gender pay gap and ensure that all workers receive equal pay for equal work	<u>Ask your lawmakers to support strong, effective legislation to close the gender pay gap!</u>
<b>IMMIGRATION</b>	Stand up for the rights of young immigrants	<u>Tell Congress to pass a clean DREAM Act.</u>
<b>WORKERS</b>	Enact policies that protect American workers and bolster our economy	<u>Show your support for paid family and medical leave!</u>
<b>HEALTH CARE</b>	Guarantee access to quality, affordable health insurance for all Americans	<u>Tell Congress: Don't repeal the Affordable Care Act.</u>

**As AAAUW members we are given an opportunity to hear directly from authors through Adelante!**

Last month *The Gilded Years*, by Karin Tanabe, offered me new perspective of obstacles black people encountered “passing” as white. It is a novel based upon a true story about an African American student at Vassar College in 1897. Don't have time to read the book now? The authors' discussion is archived for members to hear. When registering you have the opportunity to ask the author a question.

*Submitted by Doris*

**Book readers'** invitation, an excerpt from the email sent by AAUW Branch Relations on 1/30/18 to Commemorate Black History Month with an Adelante Book Discussion!

Join us on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm ET as we talk with 1984–85 [AAUW American Fellow](#) and University of Georgia Professor Emerita [Patricia Bell-Scott](#), Ph.D., about her new book, *The Firebrand and the First Lady: Portrait of a Friendship: Pauli Murray, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the Struggle for Social Justice*, a close-up portrait of “[the enormously important friendship between two activist crusaders.](#)”

When 28-year-old Pauli Murray wrote a letter to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his wife, Eleanor, protesting southern segregation, she could not have known that it would start a friendship that would last for 25 years. But that is exactly what happened after First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt responded to the letter. *The Firebrand and the First Lady* provides the first substantive study of how two social justice activists — one the granddaughter of a mixed-race slave, the other a woman whose ancestry made her eligible for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution — formed a relationship that helped change the course of race and racism in the United States. [Register now](#) to join us as we discuss the riveting history of how a brilliant writer-turned-activist and the first lady of the United States forged an enduring friendship.

**Please help AAUW make this event a success by registering.**

Submitted by Doris

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**INTEREST GROUPS**

**Book Club** will meet at the home of Joni on Tuesday, February 20 at 10 AM. We will be discussing *The Essex Serpent* by Sarah Perry. Everyone is welcome, but please let the hostess know if you are coming.

**Gourmet Group**

The next tentatively planned gathering will be at Taste of India Restaurant in April, 2018 with the date and time to be determined.

To be added to the Gourmet Group email list, phone Donna at 651-636-2401 or Janet at 651-765-4990.

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**Continuing to send positive thoughts and prayers - -**

We know that our friends Nancy and Robbie continue to face serious health issues. And others in our branch (and some spouses) are also having health concerns especially during the cold weather and the flu season. Our well wishes go out to all of our friends facing these tough times.

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