



Itanyan

a Native American word meaning "To grow by reason"

May 2018 issue

Volume 40 No. 8

In this issue:

1. May 7, 2018 meeting information
2. Branch President's message
3. May Program – *Internet Basics* at the White Bear Library
4. April branch meeting minutes
5. Membership renewal due May 1, 2018 – form is attached to email
6. Notes from convention on the proposed amendments to AAUW Bylaws
7. Reminder to vote on the proposed amendments to AAUW Bylaws
8. Convention summary
9. Interest Groups: Book Club and Gourmet
10. Upcoming dates to note

May monthly meeting

Monday, May 7, 2018
White Bear Lake Library (Community Program room)
2150 2nd St., White Bear Lake, MN
(This facility is accessible to persons with disabilities.)

Schedule

12:45 PM – Get your self settled, ready for class and connect for a few minutes with friends
1:00 PM May program
~2:00 PM break (only coffee is being provided) + AAUW proposed changes to bylaws **vote**
~2:15 PM branch meeting
~3:00 PM adjourn

The times in our schedule depend upon how many questions participants have for the teacher.

Words to the President

Vernita,
We all hope your move is going smoothly!
Sincerely, the Northeast Branch Members

Program Information for Monday, May 7, 2018

This month is our annual technology program intended to help us stay connected with AAUW and each other. Through the Ramsey County Library System, Sarah Achartz will be providing the class on *Internet Basics* for our branch program. Members have expressed an interest in knowing more about exploring on the Internet.

Once again the library is providing us with tablets for those attendees who do not have their own laptop or mobile device which connects to the Internet. If you would like to use a library device, please, contact Doris to reserve one from the library. We want to make sure all attendees can participate.

Jason Lyons, Digital Services Librarian for Ramsey County Library and who is the person who arranges class staffing, provided the background information on our teacher this year;

Sarah Achartz is an AmeriCorps member of the Community Technology Empowerment Program (CTEP) serving in the Ramsey County Libraries. Focusing on adult programs and services, her role is to provide technology instruction and assistance to a diverse adult population. She teaches computer classes, as well as running drop-in and one to one computer and tech help. She is very patient and makes students feel welcome.

If you have any questions about the Internet that you would like addressed, please, send them to Doris so Sarah can be prepared to answer them.

For members who have not voted Online for the AAUW bylaws proposed amendments, if you'd like help, bring your six digit member ID number and know prior to the meeting how you plan to vote on each of the three amendments. Since we have devices available to go Online, those of us who have voted will try to help you connect to the voting site to complete the task.

Submitted by Doris, Communications Chairperson

Branch meeting minutes

The pending April 9, 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 which takes place May 7, 2018.

Submitted by Joan, Co-Secretary

Membership renewal for next fiscal year due May 1st

The 2018-2019 Membership renewal form is attached to this email as a Pdf. You can also find it in the Membership section of our web pages at <https://nemetro-mn.aauw.net>.

Submitted by Christine and Robbie, Membership Co-vice Presidents

When voting on AAUW Bylaws amendments, consider the AAUW Mission statement: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

At convention AAUW National speaker Kendra Davies, Senior Vice President for Partnerships, who oversees the organization's membership, reminded us that focusing on our mission statement is at the core for two of the three interrelated AAUW bylaws proposed amendments; opening board service beyond AAUW membership and eliminating the degree requirement for membership.

Currently requiring a degree is viewed by people outside of AAUW as a "barrier to equity" which fails to fit with our mission. The requirement prevents well qualified people from serving on the AAUW board of directors. There was a great deal of discussion throughout the convention in which attendees offered pros, cons, and stories about whether the barrier of requiring a degree fits our mission. *Noteworthy was Kendra's final question to the audience, "Wouldn't helping your fellow members achieve their degrees while they are within your branch better serve our mission?"*

The motivation to add nonmembers to the board is to get more corporate involvement and funds into AAUW to further our mission.

Our conclusion from the discussions we heard, if the barrier of a requiring a degree is removed, there is no reason to then remove the requirement of being a member to serve on the AAUW board.

Respectfully submitted by Doris & Linda, AAUW-MN convention delegates

Reminder – VOTE on the three Proposed amendments to AAUW Bylaws

[Voting is available online from April 25 - June 9, 2018.](#)

Even though this is not an election year for AAUW leadership, the Board feels strongly that changes are needed. The proposed amendments address creating three-year staggered board terms, opening board service to those outside of the AAUW membership, and eliminating the degree requirement for membership.

Submitted by Doris, Communications Chairperson

AAUW-MN Convention summary

Both of us enjoyed the Faribault Historical Society Museum where we registered Friday afternoon for the 24 hour convention starting April 27, 4PM. The museum houses one of the nicest exhibits either of us had seen considering the size of it. Reflection of our first event, the "Tour of the historic Faribault Woolen Mill," which was founded in 1865, made us realize it is an example of an organization that lost its focus causing it to close its doors in 2009. In 2011 two cousins bought the mill with its 100+ year old equipment when it was on the path of being sold off in pieces around the world. They rehired a handful of prior employees to learn the trade. It is the only facility of its kind starting with raw wool and ending with blankets and shawls. The owners are focused on their mission to protect their internationally known brand. They firmly believe the downfall of the Faribault Woolen Mill back in 2009 was caused by a lack of focus on what they manufactured best, woolen blankets. Having a profitable year is just on the horizon for them. Resent customers include the US army and JC Penneys. The tour fit the underlying message of the convention.

That evening the Banquet was held at "The Inn" at *Shattuck-St. Mary's School Campus* where the keynote speakers Janel Klein (correspondent and on air journalist often seen on KARE TV) and her friend Trisha Volpe (Emmy-award winning journalist and litigation consultant) spoke on effective communication. Awards were given out. Northeast Metro Branch received an award for being in the Top Ten of branches for our per capita contributions to AAUW during this past year. Our prior branch member, Barb Lieukenon-Wonson joined us during the banquet asking that we extend her best wishes to our members. The convention for us continued on Saturday shortly after 9:30 AM. The opening ceremony by the American Heritage Girls presenting the flags was followed by speakers Cyndy Harrison (AAUW Faribault Branch President), Kymn Anderson (Faribault's first woman city council member), Dr. Mitzi Kennedy (South Central College's Chief Diversity Officer) and Jan Bensen (Minnesota AAUW President).

We found the most interesting and spellbinding speaker to be Kendra Davies, the AAUW Senior Vice President for Partnerships mentioned earlier in the Itanyan. She spoke on so many subjects impacting AAUW today; the importance of AAUW focusing on its mission and *not* wavering into other "swim lanes" no matter how compelling another issue outside of our mission may be, the importance of finding ways to connect with the "Millennials" for AAUW's growth and existence, the importance of having a Strategic Plan which all members can take ownership of in AAUW's endeavors to stay mission focused, the importance of AAUW attaining "financial liquidity, adaptability and sustainability" to remain healthy in today's rapidly changing environment, and the importance of the AAUW proposed bylaws amendments vote for AAUW's growth. Our heads were swimming with so much information by the time she was finished. She was extremely positive about our future. Unfortunately, time got away from the convention organizers.

During the business meeting five resolutions were published for consideration plus one was presented from the floor. Of those published, two were on the Dream Act and two were on ERA. All were withdrawn by those who submitted them due to missing implementations required by AAUW-MN Bylaws. A resolution from the floor about the AAUW Bylaws proposed amendments also failed. The resolution that passed which affects us is on the subject of CEDAW and the treaty ratification which was adopted by the UN. We will be asked to raise our branch members' awareness about the subject through programming or articles.

Serving a buffet lunch took longer than anticipated again adding to the time issues. The amount of time to present their information was cut in half for attorneys Sharon Van Dyck and Donald Mark who are working on the case of Portz v. St. Cloud State University supported by AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.

Of the Breakout Sessions during the last hours of the convention, both of us found the workshop on Social Media, which we attended separately, of value. Social media sites are being used by AAUW now and very likely be here in the future as means of quick communication with potential members.

Submitted by Doris and Linda, AAUW-MN Convention branch delegates

INTEREST GROUPS

Due to changes in Book Club's plans for their meeting locations and their book selections, May and June information is provided below.

Book Club will meet at the home of Linda on Tuesday, **May 22** at 10 AM.

They will be discussing *Half Broke Horses* by Jeannette Walls.

Everyone is welcome, but please let the hostess know if you are coming.

Book Club will meet at the home of LouAnn on Tuesday, **June 19** at 10 AM.

They will be discussing *Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu* by Joshua Hammer.

Submitted by Linda

Gourmet Group

The next gathering will be the Gourmet Group's annual picnic.

The event will be in June but the specifics are still in the planning stages.

To be added to the Gourmet Group, please, email Donna W or Janet B.

Dates to note

April 25 to June 29, 2018 AAUW Vote by membership on AAUW Bylaws amendments
April 30, 2018 If needed, contact Doris to reserve a tablet from the library for our May 7 program/class
May 1, 2018 Membership renewal due to Robbie, Membership Co-Vice-President, for next fiscal year
May 7, 2018 1:00 PM monthly program & branch meeting *date and time change*
May 22, 2018 Book Club note the *location and book changes* listed above
June 11, 2018 Salad Super
June 19, 2018 Book Club note the *location and book changes* listed above

Continuing to send positive thoughts and prayers - -

A reminder that our friends Nancy and Robbie continue to face serious health issues. We are thankful at the success of Robbie's treatment. And other branch members or members of their family are also having health concerns. 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>AAUW Mission Statement: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.</p> <p>-----</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.</p>
<p>For more information about AAUW check out our web sites</p>	<p>https://www.aauw.org/ - AAUW national level https://aauw-mn.aauw.net/ - AAUW-MN state level https://nemetromn.aauw.net/ - our local northeast metro MN branch</p>