



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

April 2018 issue

Volume 40 No. 7

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April monthly meeting

Monday, April 9, 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. April Program
8:00 p.m. **Branch Annual meeting** – Changes to branch bylaws proposed and officer elections
9:00 p.m. Adjourn

Words from the President

April is upon us with an early, and probably chilly, Easter ahead. April also brings our annual meeting on April 9 and it will be a time for us to be forced to make some serious decisions about our future. As my grandfather would often say "it's time to fish or cut bait!" This will not come as a surprise to any of us; we have been thinking and talking about the "What ifs" during this past year. Decision day, our own D-Day, is at hand.

The Board meets on April 4th at 10 a.m. at Janet's and will no doubt bring some recommendations to the April branch meeting. Remember, any member is welcome to attend a board meeting; just let me know you intend to be there so we have a chair for you.

Be thinking once again of those "What ifs" as we approach the April meeting. Leadership, programming, interest groups, scholarships, and individual abilities and involvement all come into play as we prepare to make decisions. What will be your part in the future?

Doris and Linda will be our branch delegates to the MN AAUW convention in Faribault April 27 and 28. We look forward to hearing from them at our May meeting about actions taken there and the challenging programs in which they were able to participate. And stay alert for information from AAUW about your individual member vote about proposed changes to our bylaws. Voting will open on April 25, 2018, and close June 9, 2018, at 9 p.m. ET.

Submitted by Vernita Kennen, Branch President

Program Information for April 9, 2018

Our April program will be a discussion of the book, *The Leavers* by Lisa Ko and its relevance to today's immigration issues. Branch Book Club members will guide the discussion. This book is a novel about an undocumented Chinese woman who is deported leaving behind her American born son. Come prepared to share your thoughts. The program has been advertised as open to the public. Since our branch annual meeting follows the program we will do our best to keep the discussion within the time line.

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

Branch meeting minutes

The pending February 12th, 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 will also be our Branch Annual Meeting on April 9th, 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>.

Based upon AAUW WASHINGTON UPDATE email dated March 23rd, 2018

Omnibus Funding Bill signed . . .

The funding bill has been signed and will keep the government open through the end of September 2018 (which doesn't sound that far away, does it?) Very last minute negotiations were needed once again to bring the bill to a vote and to the President's desk.

AAUW was pleased to see a \$175 per student increase to the maximum Pell Grant award, an increase in funding for child care on campus, and protection for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. The bill also contains a funding boost for the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Education and clear language from Congress that efforts to reduce OCR regional office and staffing are unacceptable. The bill does NOT include funding for vouchers. Health programs will be funded without damaging riders to limit women's access to reproductive health care, which were under consideration during the past few weeks.

Dreamers were once again left behind in this legislation. The bill does NOT include an extension of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) or for the Dream Act which AAUW supports.

Submitted by Vernita, Branch President

Reminder - IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM AAUW - - AND UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP VOTE

[Voting will be 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.

We can discuss this further at our April meeting.

Submitted by Doris, Communications Chairperson

Reminder - Nominations for Officers

(Announced in the March, 2018 Itanyan)

The 2018 nominating committee of Joan M., LouAnn H., and Joyce A. respectfully submits the following candidates for these positions as Northeast Metro AAUW elected officers:

Treasurer: Linda R.

Program Vice Presidents: Janet B. and Joni H., serving as co-vice presidents

Submitted by Joyce, Nominating Committee

Reminder - Notice to members of proposed amendments to branch bylaws

(Announced in the March, 2018 Itanyan)

As one of the 3 candidates for office this year who have said that they will serve **only one year**, I believe we need to have a change in the bylaws. The current bylaws say in "*ARTICLE IX OFFICERS, Section 1 Officers, c. Elected and appointed officers shall serve a term of two years ...*" I propose the word **shall** be replaced with the word **should** to amend our bylaws.

Additionally I think a serious discussion of reorganizing or disbanding needs to be pursued at our 2018 annual meeting. In April of next year we will need to fill all the officers' positions and there do not appear to be enough willing and able members to do so. This has been discussed before but I think it is now at a critical juncture. We need to decide (not just discuss) if and how to move forward and to make a plan for doing so.

Respectfully submitted - Linda R, Treasurer

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INTEREST GROUPS

Book Club will meet at the home of Joan M on Tuesday, April 17 at 10 AM.
We will be discussing *Revolutionary Summer* by Joseph J. Ellis.
Everyone is welcome, but please let the hostess know if you are coming.

Gourmet Group

The next gathering will be at Taste of India Restaurant on April 15, 2018 at 1:00 PM.
Donna will be emailing Gourmet Group members for their reservations.
To be added to the Gourmet Group, please, email Donna W or Janet B.

Dates to note

- April 4, 2018 branch board meeting
- April 9, 2018 monthly program followed by annual branch meeting
- April 15, 2018 Gourmet Group gathering
- April 17, 2018 Book Club meeting
- April 25 to June 29, 2018 AAUW Vote by membership on amendments
- April 27 – 28, 2018 AAUW MN State Convention
- 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*

Continuing to send positive thoughts and prayers - -

A reminder that our friends Nancy and Robbie continue to face serious health issues. 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.

<i>AAUW has been empowering women since 1881</i>	AAUW Mission Statement: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. ----- 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://nemetromn.aauw.net/ - our local northeast metro MN branch