

AAUW Northeast Metro (MN) Branch

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

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Open the following link to review the information on future meetings and gatherings in our branch internet **CALENDAR - <https://nemetro-mn.aauw.net/calendar/>**

When you have selected the link to open our web page, check out a few other sections on the tool bar like **ABOUT>BRANCH HISTORY**, **ABOUT>SCHOLARSHIPS**, **MEMBERSHIP**, or **MEMBERS ONLY** to see the business meeting minutes, all have had updates or changes in the past few months. If you could use some help getting into **MEMBERS ONLY**, call Doris. Note, the password is on the back of your 2021-2022 branch directory.

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Happy New Year!

Janet B, our Administrator, is currently enjoying the holiday season with family. This message is the comments and information I think she likely would share with you...

Hopefully everyone found joyous, memorable moments during this holiday season!

We are starting the new year with our business meeting on Zoom rather than in person.

The board and volunteers stayed busy during December preparing information for the AAUW Minnesota Convention in April. There are particulars about the event later in this Itanyan and additional information that will be discussed at our January business meeting. Members' input is wanted on what materials should be disseminated. Do we look at this weekend as an overnight "get away" for our branch members?

Repeating Janet's message from our last business meeting, we will discuss how and where we will schedule upcoming meetings and gatherings for the months between this business meeting and the third business meeting. Not knowing what Covid will do makes it difficult to plan, so please be ready to let us know what you think you will be comfortable doing. We will need volunteers to help with gatherings and activities—check your calendars.

Submitted by Doris, Communications Liaison

Business Meeting

Tuesday, January 18, 1:00 PM Our second of four business meetings is scheduled to be on **Zoom**.

- (Yeah! No going out in the Minnesota weather!)

Please confirm your plans on attending or regrets with Doris by January 16th, 2022.

A volunteer will be **needed to take minutes** before the business meeting begins. Our Administrator, Janet is designing the agenda to be user friendly for taking of the minutes. If you already know you are willing to volunteer, please, call or email Janet.

When to expect the Zoom Invitation, a few days prior to the January 18 business meeting watch for the invitation which will contain the link to our meeting. In case needed, remember to jot down the Meeting ID and Passcode #. There have been lots of changes to Zoom since we last used the system. Plan to sign in about 15 minutes early.

Submitted by Doris, Communications Liaison

AAUW Minnesota Convention

The AAUW St Cloud (MN) Branch is hosting the event April 29-30, 2022. With COVID concerns their branch president, Linda MacLeod is doing a wonderful job at getting information out to us. Linda, Janet, and I have received digital packets of materials to share with our branch members; a cover letter describing concerns of the event, the Invitation outlining the event, the fundraiser replacing the silent auction, and registration material.

At the business meeting Janet will go into the unusual request for our branch members' registration for the convention. It is important that you have reviewed your calendar and given consideration on whether you plan to attend.

Submitted by Doris, Communications Liaison

Meetings and Gatherings

Remaining flexible is so important these days. Our branch leadership was thankful to still have the option of Zoom for our last board meeting. Weather was not good causing road conditions to be bad plus a spouse woke up with covid symptoms which meant that leader could not attend in person. We used the Zoom option to conduct our December 7, 2021 board meeting. (If you recall, you were notified by email December 5, 2021 that the board meeting scheduled for January was moved to December 7th, 2021. Note those minutes are posted in the **MEMBERS ONLY** section of our web pages.) There have been lots of changes to Zoom since we last used the system which were evident in getting the board meeting going. Remember to plan on checking in 15 minutes early for the January 18 business meeting.

Gatherings

October Gathering

Our alternative plans for the October Gathering were members coming to my home. Four of our members gathered for a casual session, catching up on the latest news. LouAnn shared pictures of her latest trip out west. We had a fun session.

Submitted by Linda

November Gathering

There was a wonderful turn out to discuss what each of us were grateful for at the November 9th Gathering. Janet B kindly hosted the event at her home. I believe eight people attended; seven members and one guest.

Submitted by Doris

December Gathering

On December 14th our branch met for a Holiday Gathering at Rudy's Redeye Grill in White Bear. There were 7 members and one guest. We had a wonderful time just talking about different subjects, but we liked discussing foods for the holidays and what people were going to be doing during the holidays. The service and food were very good. The restaurant was very busy. We enjoyed our time together. Janet and Christine brought candy for everyone.

Submitted by Christine

Branch web pages update

A request to our consultant Cheryl at Site Resources for updating our web page look came with the response, "National is still using the current theme, which is the look and colors. National is in the process of updating the Branch sites with a fresh look and a new theme, but no date has been announced." With the information of "no date" of the release of a new theme we are proceeding with our own plans. One of the remaining goals is to replace the photos of members in the upper right corner.

Submitted by Doris, Communications Liaison