

## AAUW Northeast Metro (MN) Branch – the final newsletter for our branch

**Itanyan** a Native American word meaning “To grow by reason”

May 2023 issue

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Open the following link to our web pages. Contact Doris if you need assistance –

<https://nometro-mn.aauw.net/calendar/>

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### Administrator’s message

Dear Friends,

Looking back at our history I found that initially our AAUW branch was named the *White Bear Lake Area Branch of the American Association of University Women* and was formed in the United States Bicentennial year of 1976 by 37 members with Jan F. as the first president. The branch grew quickly to 94 members in 1980. At that point 83% of the members were under 45 and 66 percent were employed outside the home. Membership began dwindling in the mid-1980’s, and our name was changed to *AAUW Northeast Metro MN Branch* to better reflect the area we represented. Now 100% of our 11 members are over 65 and, I believe, only 1 is still officially working outside the home.

My introduction to you all was when Susanne M. invited me to a holiday auction brunch. She also sang the praises of the gourmet group and finally convinced me that it was worth joining just for the food. After retiring I could join the book club at last and become more active. Then I learned about the investment club and the group that tutored English at Century College. What a wonderful, smart, active, entertaining, and friendly group of talented women I found!

In my mind there are two enduring legacies from this branch. The first is the “Voices and Echoes” project which involved sixteen years of hard work writing and producing books, teachers guides and videos about women. It must have seemed like an overwhelming task, but with startup money from the branch, sustaining funds from the auction luncheons, and a grant from national AAUW (that came after first proving it was worthwhile), the project was completed. Kudos to all involved. The other legacy is our scholarships for Century College graduates pursuing a four-year degree. Our branch has donated over \$25,000 since beginning the scholarships in 1979. Nancy Jo Hendrickson’s personal bequest to the Century College Foundation for scholarships continues to carry the AAUW name into the future.

It is with sadness but relief that our life as a branch comes to an end. I am happy that we have a plan to stay connected through a monthly morning coffee hour and our continuing book club. I am thankful for the cooperation of everyone and especially Linda and Doris for working so hard, first to keep us going as our numbers dropped, and then for guiding us through the disbandment procedures. I have been honored to be your administrator these last couple of difficult years and appreciate the trust you placed in your board. While it is goodbye to the branch, it is not goodbye to our friendship.

Sincerely,  
Janet

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## **Completing branch duties**

The branch leadership team has been busy since our Annual Meeting back on April 11<sup>th</sup>. preparing to dissolve our branch by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Making sure everything is in order, has been a challenge. Figuring out the process has been time consuming.

The final board meeting took place Monday, May 22, 2023, 2:00 PM at Linda's where we reviewed and divided up tasks. The official documents to disband were emailed last evening May 30<sup>th</sup>. The balance of our checkbook, our only remaining asset, along with copies of the official documents are being mailed to AAUW national. Our records to be archived are being mailed to Sandra Martell, Secretary/Historian/MN Pine Editor for AAUW-MN.

Our archival records have been an issue. Since archiving branch records in 2012 at the Minnesota History Center (MNHC), the parameters of what is accepted and who can archive has changed dramatically. *Only* annual reports of activities and written histories are accepted and all AAUW branch records must be submitted through AAUW-MN. The documents Martell will be trying to archive for us are the Itanyans and meeting minutes. Under an online research list of MNHC records, we have validated our branch donation of documents made by Jan and Joan back in 2012. Adding to the challenge of archiving is the discovery that archiving is not required by AAUW national. An email from an AAUW archivist state the guidelines the branch used in 2012 were simply "guidelines ... if a branch desired to keep their records in archives." Jan and I have re-sorted the branch archival records she kept at her home to be those agreed upon with Martell. They are being mailed to Martell.

Via email branch members approved the April 11, 2023 Annual Business Meeting minutes. The board approved minutes of the May 22, 2023 board meeting.

It is nice to feel everything is in order for the branch to dissolve!

*Submitted by Doris, Communications Liaison*

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## **AAUW Northeast Metro Branch-Nancy Jo Hendrickson Legacy Scholarship**

The 2022-23 recipient is Mohammad Al Nadaf.

*Submitted by Doris, Communications Liaison*

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## **Planning to stay connected with us?**

Reminder; anyone continuing their membership with AAUW should notify me. I will alert you when AAUW is set up to renew your membership. AAUW members can join AAUW-MN if desired. Note, I, Doris, plan to remain a member of both.

## **Reminder to Mark your calendars for the FIRST TUESDAY of every month**

Your friends will be meeting at:

Panera Bread (by Maplewood Mall)

2965 White Bear Avenue

Maplewood

10:00AM