



NORTHWOODS NEWS

Ely Minnesota Branch Newsletter

January, 2012

Mission:	AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.
Value Promise:	By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Message from Teresa Sagen, Branch President

With the beginning of the New Year, let's reflect on what our Branch has accomplished, and take a look forward to our upcoming programs, events, and activities. The program committee has planned some interesting STEM related programs, including the January presentation on the Soudan Underground Physics Lab. I am excited about the STEM Project we are planning for 5th and 6th grade girls in February. How many of these girls will pursue a career in science, technology, engineering or mathematics? Did we spark an interest? Our Equal Pay Day bake sale at Vermilion Community College always raises awareness among college students about pay inequality. I am proud of the scholarships we award each spring, thanks to your fund raising efforts during Herberger's Community Days. Picking up litter along the highway keeps our area beautiful, as well as keeping us in shape. Our strategic planning process encourages everyone to voice their opinions about where we are going and how to get there. Don't miss the State Convention at Ruttger's Resort near Brainerd. I hope that each of you will be able to participate in these worthwhile efforts, as we continue our mission of "advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research."

January Meeting

Program:	Presentation about the Soudan Underground Physics Lab, by Alan Lipke, Outreach Education Coordinator
When:	Tuesday, January 10, 6:45 PM
Where:	U.S. Forest Service Kawishiwi Ranger Station
Directions:	Highway 169 east of Ely, across from the Wolf Center
Hostesses:	Jeanne Tomlinson and Kellie Serena

Membership

Let's not keep AAUW a secret! Share this newsletter with someone who wants to learn more about AAUW. Tell a prospective member about www.aauw.org. Invite a friend to come with you to our next meeting on January 10th. Lora DeWeese is Vice President of Membership, pdeweese@frontierner.net or 365-2455.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is looking for candidates to fill the offices of President, Treasurer, and VP Program. Please help the committee out by volunteering to serve.

STEM Activity Day

The Branch STEM Committee is moving forward with plans for a STEM activity day, scheduled for February 11 from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM at Vermilion Community College. The next planning meeting is scheduled for January 6, at 1:00 PM at Northern Grounds. Some like to get there early and enjoy lunch prior to the meeting. Everyone is welcome to join this meeting.

Book Discussion

Pam Webster and Gail Sheddy will lead a discussion of *Civilization: The West and the Rest* by Niall Ferguson at our February branch meeting. Pam heard Neal Conan interview Niall Ferguson on NPR's *Talk of the Nation*, and predicts that Ferguson's theories about civilization will provoke a lively discussion. Plan on coming to the February meeting, even if you have not finished reading the book.

Celebrate AAUW Action Network Successes!

In 2011, AAUW was recognized by Charity Navigator for its excellent financial management, transparency and accountability. GreatNonprofits gave a top rating to AAUW for its work in education, social justice and women's empowerment.

Thanks to members efforts and generosity, AAUW

- awarded \$3.7 million to support 239 fellowships and grants,
- released *Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School*,
- conducted a lobby day during the 2011 National Convention,
- sent over 7,000 messages to Congress about the Campus SaVE Act and over 18,000 messages supporting Social Security,
- presented findings from *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics* at national meetings of scientists and educators,
- Awarded 8 Legal Action Fund Campus Outreach Grants,
- Reached over 100 campuses with \$tart \$mart Salary Negotiation workshops

Go to www.AAUW.org to learn more details and additional successes in 2011.

Dates to Remember

January 6	STEM Committee, 1:00 PM at Northern Grounds
January 10	Ely Branch meeting, 6:45 at Kawishiwi Ranger Station
January 23	Ely Branch board meeting, 12 noon at the GEL
February 11	STEM Project, 9:30 AM at Vermilion Community College
April 27 – 29	State Convention at Ruttger's Resort near Brainerd