



# NORTHWOODS NEWS

Ely Minnesota Branch Newsletter

November, 2011

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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.

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## Message from Teresa Sagen, Branch President

AAUW has been breaking through barriers for 130 years, advancing equity for women and girls! AAUW began on November 28, 1881, when Marion Talbot and Ellen Richards invited 15 other college graduates to a meeting in Boston, in order to open doors of higher education to other women, and increase the opportunities to use their education upon graduation. Today, AAUW is a network of more than 100,000 members and donors, 1000 branches, and 500 college/university partners. The Ely branch was formed 85 years ago. Like our national organization, we continue to support women and girls through scholarships, mission based programs, partnering with VCC and other community groups, and special projects, such as introducing girls to STEM fields this year. Thanks to all of you for making a difference in the lives of women and girls! Let's invite other women to join us!

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## November Meeting

Program:	iPad Art Presentation by Cecilia Rolando, Executive Director, Northern Lakes Arts Association. Cecilia has been creating some remarkable artwork with her iPad.
When:	Tuesday, November 8, 6:45 PM
Where:	U.S. Forest Service Kawishiwi Ranger Station
Directions:	Highway 169 east of Ely, across from the Wolf Center
Hostesses:	Pat Merfeld and Maxine Jacks

Invite a friend to this meeting, and offer them a ride. Forward this newsletter to someone interested in AAUW. If you need new membership information, please contact Lora DeWeese. [pdeweese@frontierner.net](mailto:pdeweese@frontierner.net), 365-2455

## **AAUW Anniversary Special**

Graduate students have an opportunity to join the national AAUW organization this year for \$18.81. (Remember the year in which AAUW was organized?) If you know a graduate student, do her a favor and pass this information along to her. Graduate students can join by contacting a local branch or registering online. Go to [www.aauw.org/about/join/](http://www.aauw.org/about/join/) and click on “branch locator” or “Join National.” This would make a great present for you friend or relative enrolled in graduate school. Be sure to tell women considering graduate school about AAUW fellowships and grants. Did you know that AAUW is providing more than \$3.7 million in funding to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations for this academic year? The AAUW web site has more information.

## **Information about the Founding of AAUW**

AAUW has a wonderful online museum. It is well worth your time to take a look, especially since you can do it in the comfort of your home or favorite coffee shop. Go to <https://svc.aauw.org/museum>.

## **Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying members to fill the offices of President, Treasurer, and VP Program. Please help the committee out by letting them know of your willingness to serve.

## **Herbergers' Community Day**

The fall Herbergers' Community Day is November 12<sup>th</sup>. Our presale date is November 5 from 10 AM to 12 noon, and we will be selling coupon books at all three Herberger doors. Selling coupon books to members of our community and at Herbergers during the presale qualifies us to sell on Community Day. Please mark November 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> on your calendars, and plan to volunteer one of these days. Remember this is how the branch raises money for local scholarships, sending a student leader to NCCWSL, community organizations, and AAUW legal advocacy and education funds. Be sure to purchase your coupon book from Marge Forsberg.

## **STEM Activity Day**

The Branch STEM Committee held its second meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup>. The committee decided the event would be for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls, to be held on a Saturday in February or March, and the girls would rotate among three learning/experiment stations. The desired location is Vermilion Community College. The committee is working with VCC, Ely public schools, and Girl Scouts, and has encountered a high level of enthusiasm for this project in the community. The next planning meeting is scheduled for November 14, 1:00 PM at Northern Grounds. Some like to get there early and eat lunch prior to the meeting, and some eat during the meeting. Everyone is welcome to participate.

## **Sunshine Committee**

Don't forget to tell Phyllis Olson about someone who needs to be remembered with a card. [olsonpr@frontiernet.net](mailto:olsonpr@frontiernet.net), 365-5693

## **Legal Advocacy Fund**

Through LAF, AAUW supports select cases involving workplace discrimination or harassment, that have the potential to provide significant protection to all women. In late September, the Board of Directors voted to continue to fund seven ongoing LAF cases, based on their current needs, for a total of \$33,000. Three of these cases are against Feather River Community College in California, and one is against the University of California. Another case is Sun v. University of Massachusetts – Lulu Sun spoke at the AAUW Minnesota State convention. The other two cases are against Wal-Mart and the Department of Defense.

## **Dates to Remember**

November 5	Herbergers' Presale, 10 AM – 12 noon
November 8	Ely Branch meeting, 6:45 at Kawishiwi Ranger Station
November 12	Herbergers' Community Day
November 14	STEM Committee, 1:00 PM at Northern Grounds
April 27 – 29	State Convention at Ruttger's in Brainerd