

# ITANYAN

*"To grow by reason"*



NORTHEAST METRO BRANCH

VOLUME 34, NO. 4

JANUARY, 2012

## MISSION STATEMENT:

**AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.**

**Reminder:** Please remember the **board meeting**, Thursday, January 26, 7:00 PM at Joan Macheledt's. If you cannot attend, please send a committee report to Joan or Jan. Thank you.

## JANUARY PROGRAM

**January 12, 2012 meeting:  
6:45 PM at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church,  
1965 County Road E, White Bear Lake**

Treats Kathy Burleson, Barb Qualey.

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### Auction Results

Thank you to Doris Morrison for her wonderful organization of the brunch and auction, to everyone who helped out that day, to everyone who brought and especially to everyone who bought. You all made the auction a success. We made \$2,161.90.

Linda Ruggles, Treasurer

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Joy Mueller is our speaker.

CHSFS believes that every child has a fundamental right to security, opportunity, permanency and a loving family. In an ideal world, all children would be fortunate enough to enjoy these basic rights in their communities, with their birthparents. In that ideal world, inter-country adoption would not be needed. In reality, there are more than 140 million orphaned and abandoned children.

CHSFS' first priority is to strengthen families. In every country where CHSFS has an adoption program, the agency is committed to creating and sustaining a range of education, health, nutrition and socio-economic development programs to help parents and extended families care for their children.

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When birth families cannot stay intact and where children cannot have their needs met by relatives, CHSFS believes children should first be placed with a family in their own country and culture.

Our speaker will address gay and lesbian adoptions.

# Minutes of the November, 2011 NE Metro AAUW Meeting

Our branch meeting was preceded by a program by Allison Stapley, Math Specialist & Pre-algebra Teacher at Laura Jeffrey Academy in St. Paul.

The branch meeting was called to order at 7:50 PM by co-president Jan Femrite. There were 14 members in attendance.

The agenda was approved.

*Treasurer's report:* Linda reported \$304.48 in checking and \$3067.92 in savings.

*Membership:* Gail reported that Century College is already an Institutional Member of AAUW. She wondered why we didn't learn about this, and who could get the word out. LouAnn said that she would look into a state contact. To be active, we'd need a liaison to the school, which would be quite a bit of work. Joyce wondered if Carolyn Odegard may have signed them up. Most students probably don't even know the opportunity is available to them.

Directories were distributed to members who were present.

*Century College scholarship:* Nancy reported on the scholarship award dinner and that the branch's recent awardee was in attendance. She brought the evening's program to pass around, showing how many scholarships are given out and in which areas.

*Program:* Robbie reported the upcoming program on GLBT adoptions and immigration.

*Itanyan:* LouAnn asked if everyone received the holiday auction sign-up. Three of the State officers plan to attend the holiday auction this year.

There will be no *Itanyan* in December, but the deadline for the January *Itanyan* will be December 20<sup>th</sup>.

LouAnn also gave an update from the State Board. The board faces an issue; no one wants to hold the 2013 State AAUW convention. Doris and LouAnn think our branch may be able to host it, especially if we can partner with the St. Croix branch, and would like members to consider this opportunity.

*LAF-EF:* Doris asks for nominations for charities the branch would like to contribute to send to her by November 15. The deadline for the holiday auction is November 28.

Nancy asked if we would be willing to pay for the ticket of our scholarship recipient. Jan volunteered to cover her costs.

Doris asks that members planning to donate items worth \$50 or more to alert her, as the Lakeshore Players (the auction's entertainment) would like to include some auction items as part of their show.

## Unfinished Business

Kathy is offering a \$tart \$mart workshop at Hamline on November 15. This workshop helps undergraduate women to devise a budget, research the salary range appropriate for the job position they are applying for, and negotiate for an equitable salary to help close the wage gap. She will submit a write-up for the *Pine*.

## New Business

Robbie reported a request from the MN Society for the Blind. However, the branch is holding off on committing to donations until Doris has collected the nominees for our branch's charitable giving this year. If the branch plans to support a NCCWSL candidate again this year, the deadline is April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Jan reported that her brother-in-law, Nels Femrite, has created a sign for our branch to use at the church and other events. Kathy will send a thank-you to Nels.

The AAUW sexual harassment study has been released. The branch would like to provide a copy to the Women's Studies chair at Century.

Robbie is going to Arizona, but Chris Koentopp has volunteered to be the alternate program chair.

Nancy F. reported that she had the State website links updated so that the contact information there is correct. She asked how far back we'd like the *Itanyan* to go. It was agreed that one year of *Itanyans* would be sufficient. LouAnn will make a CD of the material so our branch has a digital archive.

The next board meeting will be January 26<sup>th</sup> at Joan's house.

## Announcements

Joan thanked everyone for supporting Amani ya Juu.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathryn Burleson, Secretary

## Greetings From Your Presidents

Our Holiday Auction Brunch was once again beautiful and successful thanks to the efforts of the many people who donated and purchased items and those who volunteered their time. A most special "Thank you" to Doris Morrison who did a superb job of planning and organizing the event.

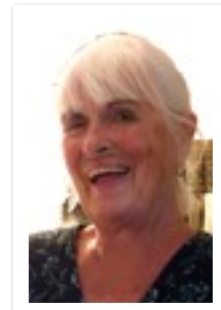
Monies raised at this event enable us to support the AAUW mission through our scholarship at Century College as well as other charitable donations. In addition to the National AAUW Education Foundation and Legal Advocacy Fund, members have nominated the following as potential recipients for this year's funds: NCCWSL, Day at the Historical Center (to be used for girls), Girls in Math, Lakeshore Players, and Deep Portage. We will vote on the recipients at the January branch meeting.

"Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School," the nationally heralded report recently published by National AAUW, is another step toward advancing equality for women and girls. This report is now available for down loading at <http://www.aauw.org/learn/research/upload/CrossingtheLine.pdf>.

We are looking forward to a successful year in our branch and wish all of you also a successful and happy New Year!



Jan Femrite and Joan Macheledt



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## **Vitamin F .....** (Especially important at this time of year when we think of friends and hopes for the next year.)

Why do I have a variety of friends who are all different in character? Some of them can even be considered marginal? How do I get on with them all?

I think that each one helps to bring out a "different" part of me. With one of them I am a polite, good girl. I joke with another friend. I sit down and talk about serious matters with one of them. With another I giggle at every silly thing. I have my wine with one and dance with another. I listen to one friend's problems and give her advice. Then I listen to another advising me.

They are all like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, when completed they form a treasure box. A treasure of friends! They are my friends. They understand me better than I do myself, who support me through good days and bad days. They are like colorful anti-depressants that I take on different days. Real Age doctors tell us that friends are good for our health. Dr. Oz calls them Vitamin F (Friends) and counts the benefits of friends to our well being. Research shows that people in strong social circles have less risk of depression and terminal strokes.

If you take Vitamin F constantly, you can be up to 30 years younger than your real age. The warmth of friendship stops stress and even in your tense moments, it decreases the chance of a cardiac arrest or stroke by 50%. I am so happy that I have a stock of Vitamin F!

In summary we should value our friends and keep in touch with them. We should try to see the funny side of things and laugh together, not forgetting to open our mouths big to swallow the floating vitamin F!!!!...

**Thank you for being one of my vitamins!--**

## **Thanks to our members and friends we had another successful Holiday Brunch!**

This year we had 64 reservations which exceeded the count from last year. Of the 64 reservations, 23 were members. *Thank you to those who attended and thank you to those who invited family and friends* without everyone's generosity we would not have reached our goal. Our proceeds once again exceeded \$2,000.

There were so many wonderful silent auction donations that we had to add another table to display all of the items. *Thank you to members and their friends who donated items.*

Oak Glen's staff did a great job at making us feel welcome and accommodating any of our requests. I sent Bob an e-mail expressing our appreciation. After e-mailing a "Thank you" I heard from Lakeshore Players Radio Road Show thanking us in return as they had a lot of fun performing for us.

*A Very, Very Special Thanks goes to all of the members and friends to helped pull the event together and worked at it;*

**LouAnn Hoppe** – A BIG Thanks for being MC – you always add a festive feel to the event!

**Clara Gray** and **Joni Henry** – Thanks for designing and making name tags plus greeting our attendees while handing out the tags and numbers!

**Kathy Burelson, Jan Femrite,** and **Joan Macheledt** – Thanks for monitoring tables, assisting members with their item placement and disbursing auction items! Kathy also thanks for making the bid sheets.

**Chris Koentopp** and your niece **Shelley Kueppers** – Thanks for setting up table sections and all of the other last minute tasks you stepped in to help with the morning of the event! You volunteered to be a runner and you did so much more! People like you who arrive and volunteer to help where ever you are needed are much appreciated.

**Robbie Johnson** – Thank you for stepping up and taking charge of making sure the auction items were disbursed to the correct recipients as tables closed!

**Linda Ruggles** – Last on my list but definitely extremely important , Thank you for attending to the financial aspects from collecting the money,

## **Asanti Sana**

A very heartfelt "Asanti Sana" (Thank you very much) to everyone who supported my Amani project this fall. The products I sold in the seven shows I did in my homes and at our branch meeting raised funds to pay thirteen monthly salaries for women. You should all be very pleased with your support for this cause.

Joan Macheledt

## 2011-2012 Charitable Giving Nominations



In the October Itanyan our Treasurer, Linda Ruggles, gave members insight on reasons to pre-select where charitable donations should be given by NE Metro, MN, AAUW Branch. At the October Branch meeting it was decided as Funds Chair that nominations for giving should be solicited from members via the November Itanyan. The article requested nominations be submitted to me for collection.

The nominations received from three members are as follows with the dollar amount and reason for the nomination if it was provided by the nominee;

- \$350 NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders)  
Reason: because of the training, encouragement it offers to future women leaders
- \$ -- Girls in Math
- \$50 Lakeshore Players  
Reason: Supports summer workshops for young people and provides community support and exposure
- \$50 Deep Portage  
Reason: Supports girls' summer science camp
- \$ -- Day at the Historical Center (Could be the same as the nomination below)
- \$50 History Day to be used for girls

***Our Charitable Donations Budget for 2011-12 is \$500. As the Funds Chair I propose that at the January Branch meeting the \$350 for NCCWSL be accepted as it had the most nominations and three other areas for donations be selected from the nominations with the plan to donate \$50 to each.*** Next year your nominations will be requested prior to our September meeting so as the decision can coincide with our budget.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doris M. Morrison  
Funds Chair

From:laf ([LAF@aauw.org](mailto:LAF@aauw.org)) Sent: Thu 12/15/11 3:27 P M

As Funds Chair I received the excerpt below from LAF which caused very mixed emotions for me. Does it do the same to you? - Doris Morrison

### Case Update

On November 19, oral arguments were held for the LAF-supported case [Cioca v. Rumsfeld](#). The plaintiffs are 28 current or former members of the military who allege that they were raped by coworkers and that the defense secretary's failure to act on the issue of sexual assault in the military amounts to a violation of their constitutional rights. On December 13, a U.S. district court judge [granted](#) the Department of Defense's motion to dismiss the case, which argued that the Supreme Court has found that members of the armed forces cannot sue the military for injuries incurred while serving, including sexual assaults.

In the next month, Susan Burke, the lawyer for the plaintiffs, [will file an appeal](#) and ask the appellate court to overturn the dismissal. Since filing the original lawsuit in early 2011, Burke has heard from 400 other survivors, many of whom could be part of future suits. Burke will meet with the LAF Committee in early January to discuss the case and its importance.

## Book Club

Book Club meets on Saturday mornings at 10:00. Refreshments are served and lively discussion of literature follows. It's a lovely way to spend a few hours and we invite all to join us for as many of the discussions as possible. You need not be a regular member if you choose to attend. All are welcome. Call the hostess if you plan to attend. And we hope you will!

Jan 14 Joan Henry, The Call of the White by Felicity Aston (Buy on line or borrow from one another, is not at the library. LouAnn's is available.)

Feb 11 Betty Werner, The Jefferson Key by Steve Berry

Mar 10 Clara Gray, The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skoet



## Gourmet Club

The Orient Express was the inspiration for a holiday dinner hosted by Ted and Janet Brownell. The guests were assigned tables in specific “dining cars” and the food was served by “waiters.” Ted was the head “porter” and shared his great knowledge of trains and model trains. The atmosphere and food will be remembered for a very long time.

Gourmet Club is a great way to become acquainted with others on a personal level and also to learn about other cultures through food. To join email Donna Wen at: [rydbwen@cpinternet.com](mailto:rydbwen@cpinternet.com) or call at 651-636-2401.

Feb. 18 Iceland, Hosts: Gray, Ruggles

Apr. 21 North Africa, Hosts: Hoppe, Willroth

June TBA barbecue picnic, Caribbean theme

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## Our Scholarship Winner

Melissa Roberts is the recipient of our 2011-2012 Scholarship Award. She has sent a note to us all. She, her husband, Dave, and daughter, Addison, live in White Bear. Melissa's email: [Kaiyacali@Yahoo.com](mailto:Kaiyacali@Yahoo.com)



*Dear Northeast Metro American Association of University Women Scholarship donors,*

*Thank you so very much for choosing me to be the recipient of your wonderful scholarship. This will allow me to take a full course load without the worry of how I will pay for it. This is a wonderful gift that will benefit me and my family now and in the future. I will be able to graduate in a faster time period.*

*Thank you and my best,  
Melissa Roberts and family.*

## Information Available Regarding AAUW

AAUW - Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy ...

Since 1881, AAUW has been the nation's leading voice promoting education and equity for women and girls.

[www.aauw.org/](http://www.aauw.org/)

AAUW - Issues

Position papers on AAUW public policy issues. ... Issue advocacy isn't just about AAUW lending its name to an issue, or speaking up on Capitol Hill. ...

[www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue\\_advocacy/actionpages/](http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy/actionpages/)

AAUW Minnesota

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

[www.aauwmn.org/](http://www.aauwmn.org/)

To access our page click on "Branches" on the left column.

Click on "Northeast Metro"

Double click on "Itanyan"

For information about our branch you may contact any of our elected officers.

## Officers: 2011-2012

Co-Presidents:

Janice Femrite, Joan Macheledt

Co-Vice Presidents for Membership:

Gail Van Horn, Nancy FitzGerald

Vice President for Programing:

Robbie Johnson

Treasurer: Linda Ruggles

Secretary: Kathy Burleson

AAUW Funds Chair: Doris Morrison

Newsletter Editor: LouAnn Hoppe



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