

# ITANYAN

*"To grow by reason"*



NORTHEAST METRO BRANCH

VOLUME 34, NO. 3

NOVEMBER, 2011

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

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## NCCWSL

### National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

Leadership for Today and Tomorrow  
May 31–June 2, 2012 • University of  
Maryland, College Park

We are seeking applicants for a complete scholarship to the NCCWSL conference. Ideal candidates will be in the second or third year of college, be leaders among their peers and available on the dates above. The State Board is providing \$500 per student and our branch is contributing the additions several hundred dollars. If you would like to nominate someone, contact Joan, Jan or Kathy.

See the MN *Pine* and the national website for much more information. **Early bird registration opens on February 1, 2012!**

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## NOVEMBER PROGRAM

**Thursday November 10 , 2011 meeting:  
6:45 PM at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church,  
1965 County Road E, White Bear Lake**

**Hostesses:** LouAnn Hoppe, Linda Ruggles  
We will be celebrating the 130th anniversary of AAUW.  
**Please bring a mug for your beverage.**  
**Joan Macheledt will be bringing African women's  
crafts to sell starting at 6:30.**

**Speaker: Allison Stapley -  
Math Specialist & Pre-algebra Teacher**

Allison Stapley has eight years of teaching experience in Houston, TX. All has been in schools of choice, including seven years at engineering magnet schools and one year at in International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme. She earned her BA in Education with a minor in physics from Gustavus Adolphus College, and a MS in Education from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, TX. Allison has worked as a science teacher, campus science specialist, engineering teacher, and math teacher. Throughout her experience she has worked with students in several programs including; Future City Competition, Botball, Young Astronauts Club, and Young Inventors Club. She has also provided professional development for teachers in the area of engineering and curriculum development. Allison has assisted schools in writing winning award and grant proposals, including both state and national magnet awards.

Allison Stapley will address the topic of girls' attendance at an all girls middle school and their performance in content area subjects. She is a teacher at the Laura Jeffrey Academy in St. Paul.

**NE Metro AAUW**  
**Branch Meeting Minutes 10/13/2011**

Our branch meeting was preceded by a program by Marianne Hartley, a social worker and hospice nurse at HealthEast. She discussed hospice care. More information for those who would like to learn more about hospice care in MN can be found at <http://mnhpc.org/>

The branch meeting was called to order at 7:52 PM by co-president Joan Macheledt. There were 15 members and 1 guest in attendance.

The agenda was approved.

*Treasurer's report:* Linda reported \$1165.04 in checking and \$3067.15 in savings. Discussion of the Century scholarship followed; the \$750 is due this month.

*Membership:* Gail and Nancy have received their stamper made to label AAUW materials with our branch information. However, they were disappointed to see that all materials from AAUW fail to spell out the name of the organization on the fliers, and thus anyone unfamiliar with AAUW will not know what it stands for. General discussion followed, and it was noted that those at the national level recognize the branding approach of referring to our organization as "AAUW" is not working and will likely resume using the entire name in the future.

Gail brought up the Institutional Membership (\$130 for schools who are new college and university partners) as a way of recruiting students to AAUW. This may be an option for both Century College and Hamline University as a way to get new young members involved in AAUW. Who would pay for the \$130 fee is still undetermined.

The membership directory will soon be printed and distributed to members. There was a discrepancy between the number of reported members versus those who have actually paid, and who should be receiving materials such as directories and *Itanyans*. Discussion followed on how to reach out to past members who have not renewed their membership. Some former members still think we meet on Tuesday nights, and our change in meeting time from Tuesday to Thursday might allow those with Tuesday conflicts to attend.

*Program:* Robbie reported on the upcoming programs, adding her rationale for why we should invite speakers on controversial issues such as GLBT adoptions and immigration.

*Itanyan:* The deadline for submissions is September 20<sup>th</sup>. Gail mentioned that she can send the newsletter to potential members, although it is always available on-line at the State website.

LouAnn read a thank-you letter from the History Day recipients who received scholarships from our branch last year to attend a conference. The MN Historical Society also sent her a book in the mail, "Sisterhood of War," that was passed around.

*Public Policy:* Jan and Joan are still searching for someone to serve as chair.

*Hospitality:* Kathy passed around the hospitality sign-up sheet—we still need people to sign up for the spring meetings. She also discussed again the responsibilities of the rotating hospitality chair, and a sheet detailing these duties will be included in the hospitality box.

#### Unfinished Business

*Holiday brunch:* Doris has reserved Oak Glen as the holiday brunch site for Saturday, December 3. She encourages members to think of items to bring for the auction. She is also working on leads for entertainment, and intends to have the plan in place prior to the release of the November *Itanyan*. The holiday brunch registration form will be printed in the November *Itanyan*, and invitations will be sent to former members of our branch.

Clara mentioned that we still need to determine what to do with archival materials from the branch. We are not sure if the MN Historical Society is still accepting these types of materials.

NCCWSL will be held May 31-June 2 at the University of Maryland—College Park. State will need to know by April 1 who the branch nominees are so that branches can be reimbursed before the students register for the conference. The idea is to make the funds available for the students so that branch members do not have to pay and then be reimbursed for the registration fees/travel arrangements. Our branch should be considering candidates to nominate.

This was followed by a discussion of whether we want to spend \$300 of our branch money to support a NCCWSL candidate, or if we would rather spend that money on other charitable donations. Doris will put an article in the *Itanyan* calling for members to nominate charities for our branch to support this year. As a branch, we would like to be purposeful in our charitable giving, and by having members provide a justification for their nominee that includes why our branch should support the cause will make our donations more meaningful.

Continued from page 2

The committee formed at the last State convention to investigate the feasibility of a biennial State convention sent a survey out to members to collect data. The survey is due October 25.

#### New Business

Kathy intends to offer a Start Smart 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. Funding of the workshop (\$300 each semester it is offered) has been problematic, and it was suggested as a possible candidate for branch charitable giving. Kathy reported it would be too late to support this year, but maybe in future years the branch could consider it.

#### Announcements

Lynda Halbert reported that she has a new job! She is working at East Suburban Resources in Stillwater, and passed out invitations to an upcoming event.

Century College Recycling Day is October 15-16, and they will take anything. The public is invited.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathryn Burleson, Secretary



### **President's Message from President Jan Femrite**

The recent award of the Nobel Peace Prize to three African women is inspiring and thought provoking. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Leymah Gbowee, and Tawakul Karman, whose ages range from 73 to 32, are fighting for the rights of women and girls in Africa against overwhelming odds.

We need not look as far away as Africa, however, for inspiration. In our own branch, Joan Macheledt, two years ago when she was 76, went to Africa with a group called Soulfari Kenya. Joan, the only woman and the oldest person, traveled with four men whom she had not previously met to Nairobi, Kenya, where they worked in an orphanage and visited the Amani ya Juu center. At our November meeting, Joan is once again going to be offering Amani ya Juu handmade items, the sale of which helps marginalized women improve their sewing and marketing skills and sustain a consistent income.

Closer yet to home, inspiration comes in the form of Doris Morrison, who worked this summer on the Women Build-Habitat for Humanity project in the Twin Cities. Women Build, managed by Doris' daughter, teaches women the skills they need to build the shells of two homes in the summer and finish them in the winter. (Doris learned to use a nail gun!)

Let's all be personally inspired by these women, who stepped out of their comfort zone and didn't let gender, or age, or overwhelming odds stand in the way of taking the steps to help other women and girls, and if individually we can do things, together we can do so much more.

Jan

# Support an Organization or Cause Through Your Nominations!

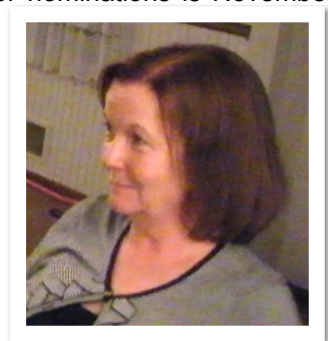
There is a call to our Northeast Metro MN AAUW Branch Board of Directors by the Association, AAUW Minnesota and our branch membership to be more cognizant of donations made by our branch. *The goal of donations is to support through our contributions organizations or causes that follow the mission and goals of AAUW either as an association or branch.* It has been agreed that donations should be selected at the beginning of a fiscal year rather than ad hoc throughout the year. In the October 2011 Itanyan Linda Ruggles, Branch Treasurer, provided a history of Charitable Giving requesting a plan be determined for this year. It was decided at the October branch meeting that all members be allowed to submit a request for a donation for the current 2011-2012 year.

As the Funds Chair for Northeast Metro, MN, AAUW the task of collecting your nominations for donations by our branch this year falls in my court. The more nominations for a particular charity or organization there are, the simpler the selection becomes. The only donation that is set in our budget with its own line item is the scholarship to a Century College student. In addition to the Century College scholarship, there is an "Other scholarship/contributions" budget of \$500 to be split between nominations. If you have a suggested dollar amount to donate for any of your nominations, please include that in your e-mail.

**Please submit your nomination(s) along with a sentence or two on how you feel the donation meets our mission to my e-mail address [DorisMMorrison1@msn.com](mailto:DorisMMorrison1@msn.com) for consideration.** Deadline for nominations is November 15<sup>th</sup>. (See the back page of the Itanyan for the AAUW missions.)

If you feel more comfortable talking with me about your nomination feel free to call me at 612-850-3239.

Doris Morrison  
Funds Chair



## Holiday Brunch Volunteers Needed

- To acquire treasures as donations for the annual silent auction such as;  
*Art, afghans, books, baked goods, candles, caramels, carvings, dolls, extravagant wines, fudge, figurines, games, hats, intricate stitchery, jewelry, jellies or jams, knitted baby blankets, linens, luscious candies, mittens, nuts spiced, oval place mats, pillows, pot holders, pottery, quilts, rugs, sculptures and stuff, tapestries, theme baskets, umbrella, Viking tickets, wreaths, Xbox, yoga mat, zebra print bags ... as just a few thoughts to get ideas flowing.*
- To perform Tasks or provide supplies prior to during the event

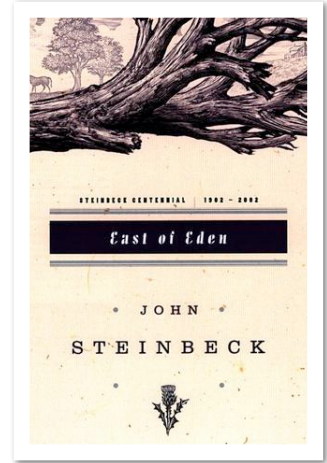
**Send an e-mail today on any tasks you can help out with to:  
[DorisMMorrison1@msn.com](mailto:DorisMMorrison1@msn.com)**

Task or supplies	Volunteer
Make Name tags	1
	2
Check-in table	1
	2
Runners during auction	1
	2
Arrange items on auction tables	1
	2
	3
Prepare list of attendees assigning auction number, pencils, ribbon to section tables, table numbers	Doris Morrison
Bid sheets	Kathy Burleson
MC	LouAnn Hoppe

## 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!

- Nov. 12 Linda Ruggles, East of Eden by John Steinbeck
- Dec. 10 Janet Brownell, Loving Frank by Nancy Horan
- Jan 14 Joan Henry, The Call of the White by Felicity Aston
- Feb 11 Betty Werner, The Jefferson Key by Steve Berry
- Mar 10 Clara Gray, The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks  
by Rebecca Skoot
- April 14 Everyone will bring a book to recommend and do a  
5-10 minute summary of the book and its author.
- May 12 Jeannine Bohlmeier, Eccentric Islands by Bill Holm
- June 9 ? A trip to Bayfield, WI with a Kent Kruger or Nevada Barr book about Lake  
Superior



## Gourmet Club

Gourmet club is open to all members and their guests. Menus are planned by committee and recipes are assigned to members. Meals are usually about five courses with appropriate drinks. Each person keeps track of expenses and the cost is divided by the number attending. It is a great way to become acquainted with others on a personal level and also to learn about other cultures through food.



To attend a dinner call or email Donna Wen at:  
[rydbwen@cpinternet.com](mailto:rydbwen@cpinternet.com) or 651-636-2401.

- Dec. 11 Dinner on the Orient Express Host: Brownell
- Feb. 18 Iceland, Hosts: Gray, Ruggles
- Apr. 21 North Africa, Hosts: Macheledt, Willroth
- June (either the 10th or 17th) picnic, Caribbean theme

## 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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