



Another Successful PME



On September 7th the St. Paul Branch hosted approximately 45 prospective members at a wine and appetizer event that included an

informational program about the benefits of membership. Speakers included President Jane Tschida, Program Vice President Katherine Cram, Scholarship Trust trustee Betty Johnston, and Membership Treasurer Pam Johnson. In addition Karen Kirkwood talked about the mission and programs of the national American Association of University Women and the organization's important advocacy of equal rights for women and girls.

Chef Christophe's appetizers were delicious, many current members joined the gathering, and approximately 30 women are new members of our Branch with more applications still arriving. So, as you see new faces this fall, introduce yourself and welcome these women to our special St. Paul AAUW.



Sandy Crum and Peggy Hall, Membership Chairs, pictured here with new member, Kitty Kilmer, at the Prospective Member Event.

Victorian Tea for Scholarship Trust Returns

Please join AAUW St. Paul members Evon M. Spangler, Rachel Schromen, and Andre' Leavitt on November 5, 2016 from 2 – 4 p.m. for a Victorian Tea benefiting the AAUW Scholarship Trust. The event will take place at Spangler and de Stefano, PLLP, 962 Saint Clair Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105. To RSVP, please send your non-refundable \$100 check to the AAUW Scholarship Trust, 990 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105. Your check is your reservation. Space is limited, so please reserve your place now. The event is being generously sponsored by Spangler and de Stefano, PLLP, Schromen Law, LLC and Time Travels, Inc.

--Evon M. Spangler

Action Fund—Ideas for Use?

The AAUW SP branch has an Action Fund that receives a percentage of our investments to make charitable donations to St. Paul non-profit organizations that support and advance equity and opportunities for women and girls, the Scholarship Trust, and AAUW national funds.

This year we have \$10,000 to distribute to such organizations. If you would like to be on the committee to suggest where these funds should go, let me know at oeltjenbruns@comcast.net or call 952-890-4025. If you don't want to participate in the committee, but have suggestions, let me know that as well and your suggestions will be considered by the committee.

Once we have some suggestions, the ideas can be shared via email and at a meeting coordinated with an AAUW meeting so you don't have to make an extra trip to a meeting. The time commitment would not be very great. Feel free to ask me questions about it at a meeting, or via email or phone.



Take a Walk in Our Lovely Yard

As you all know, it was a wet summer. The lawn and plants thrived and look lovely, but planned installation projects were greatly delayed.

Work continues on the driveway and is set to begin soon on an improvement of the walkway from the northwest corner of the curved entrance driveway to the back lawn. While most AAUW members seldom, if ever, take this walk, it does provide a beautiful entry for brides who are celebrating an outdoor wedding. You may wish to take this stroll someday when you have a little extra time at 990.

Please let me know your thoughts on any issue related to the property. You can also use one of the 'work request' forms available in the Branch Office if/when you observe an item/area that you believe needs attention.

- Mary Chorewycz, Property Committee Chair

Volunteers Needed! Helpful Partners—Wednesday— September 28th, 10 am—Noon

Contact Alice Faribault if you can volunteer in this newly added activity for members of our branch. This will take place at the **Kids in Need Foundation** (Roseville). Check it out at www.kinf.org. The mission of the organization is to ensure that every child is prepared to learn and succeed by providing free school supplies nationally to students most in need.



-Alice Faribault, afaribault@gmail.com

Scholarship Trust Hosts Strategic Planning Retreat

The Scholarship Trust will host its first Strategic Planning Retreat on Monday, September 26, 10a-2p. The program includes the results of scholar visits, the proposed Strategic Plan, estate giving to the Scholarship Trust and a presentation by Krystal Stackhouse on our scholar's generation, the Millennial.

Since 1911, the Trust has educated more than 400 women. The Branch and Trust are strong, the members have been wonderfully supportive, but an organization cannot rest on its past, it must strive to be better. The scholarship trustees are striving for continuous improvement in order to progress in the 21st Century. New ideas and new programs move an organization forward. Analyzing our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats allows for the continued improvement of our organization and mission to educate women, empower women to achieve living wage employment, and assist women in their pursuit of happiness in a rapidly changing society. Meanwhile, we must also financially secure our resources to ensure the future of our mission.

Many of our emeriti trustees have asked how they may continue their involvement in the Trust. Non-profits involve emeriti trustees by asking them to serve as advisors, perform as good will ambassadors, and promote the cause by talking about their work. The trustees, emeriti trustees, the Branch board and membership, donors, scholars and alumnae, collectively participate in the life of the Trust to ensure its success. Thank you!

-Kim Blair, Chair

A Lovely August Tea

Eighty-five members and guests attended the afternoon tea on Wednesday, August 10. The doors opened at 1:30 PM with piano music by Jim Andrews, Tea Party crossword puzzles and quizzes, a history exhibit of our AAUW branch and lawn games. Jayne Becker, manager of the Alexander Ramsey House, was our speaker and she shared delightful stories and details of Victorian courtships and weddings.

The fabulous menu by Chef Christophe Bellanger included an assortment of scones, a wild rice and cranberry salad, delicious sandwiches and desserts of mini rhubarb pies, baby strawberry napoleons and mini ganache and meringue tarts. The tea was donated by Betty Johnston and prepared by Carol Barry. Flowers were beautifully arranged by Diane Glynn and Joanne Wang, and programs were designed and donated by Doreen Nystedt. A variety of door prizes were given away at the end of the afternoon.

The annual August Tea is organized by the Ways and Means Committee to raise money for the Scholarship Trust and the AAUW Funds. This year there was a profit of \$1,244. Thanks to all of the people who attended and all of the committee members who worked so hard to ensure the success of this event!

-Kathy Andrews, Ways and Means Chairs



*Wedding gowns, hats,
conversation, yard games - all
a part of the August tea.*



Notes from Business Committee

We begin with alerting members to the many hats worn by our manager, Brian Quist. He manages the business (including all staff), offers technical help at AAUW meetings, and reports directly to AAUW's House and Finance committees as well as to the Business Board. Brian has been with AAUW for 11 years.

A couple of interesting points:

The Club's current success is documented in its excellent Facebook rating of 4.4 out of a possible 5 points. This illustrates the satisfaction of brides and their guests with the SPCC experience. Brian suggested that members "like" the Facebook page and read the Facebook comments. He provided one random example, *"Thank you for making my cousin's wedding an incredibly beautiful and unique event! Your staff was amazing and very attentive and the whole experience was fantastic!"*

Two of our current staff will be married at SPCC. Four staff members, in total, in the last several years have done so.

*-Jane Frazee & Juliana Simmons,
Business Board Chairs*



We won a trophy!

The five-member AAUW "Change Makers" team won 3rd Place at the annual "Trivial Perusal" of Women's History sponsored by the MN Women's Consortium in August. This FUNdraiser was held in connection with Women's Equality Day. Teams were from various member organizations of the Consortium. St. Paul Branch members of the AAUW team were Dallas Lindgren and Karen Kirkwood. Other team members were Sharon Bigot, team captain, and Ann Vanvick, both from Minneapolis Branch, and Dave Kirkwood, St. Cloud Branch.



Brian's Eventful Summer

As our members know, summer is the time of many weddings at College Club. This summer it was also the time of inconvenience for us, because next door on Summit Avenue hundreds of people gathered to demonstrate and support *Black Lives Matter* in front of the Governor's mansion.

Unfortunately, this had an impact on the standard operation of using the front entryway of the house for wedding parties and guests, which the police didn't approve of during the protests! Brian and the staff are to be commended for the tactful, professional manner in which they made accommodations so that the wedding day for each group was memorable and without stress. The front entry and street were inaccessible for about 4 weeks. Wedding parties were escorted through the alleyway and into the back entry of the house. Wedding parties were all very understanding.

One wedding party consisted of 200 guests. Brian rented vans and hired two drivers to transport guests from and to the church where wedding guests had parked. He asked for permission from the police to park the vans the night before in our driveway. Within 5 minutes BLM posted on social media pictures of vans and stated that the police had brought in Paddy Wagons to haul everyone off. He immediately moved the vans to the back sandwiching them in the back drive and told the police captain about the post. Bravo to Brian for his quick action under unusual pressure. There is a saying for people who brave such happenings and it is called "grace under pressure."

And another AAUW Year Begins:



Photo from July Branch Board Meeting, Presided over by new President, Jane Tschida

Club Members News Items and Reminders

Coffee and Conversation Tuesdays

Beginning in November, you are invited to arrive early on Tuesdays - any time after 10:00. Meet your AAUW friends, or introduce yourself to members you don't know. Feel free to mingle in any open areas. You'll have plenty of time to register for lunch, and catch Branch Business Meetings at 10:30 (second Tuesdays) and announcements at 10:45.

--Katherine Kram, Program Chair

Tuesday Morning Start Times

We all know that our speakers/programs officially start at 11:00 on Tuesdays. However, a relevant detail is that before the speaker there's an important time of Announcements on most Tuesdays, starting at 10:45. And on the second Tuesday each month, there is an important Branch Business Meeting starting at 10:30. We hope you'll attend this part of the day, and that you'll plan on being seated five minutes before the start time. Thank you.



2016-17 Membership Directory Changes

Changed your **contact information**? The next Branch Directory will be prepared and printed soon, so be sure to send any changes to Carol Sheggeby csheggeby@gmail.com by October 1st.

Important University Club Policy Change for AAUW Members

Effective October 1st, 2016, AAUW and the University Club of St. Paul no longer have a reciprocal club agreement. Due to this change, the University Club would like to extend a special offer to AAUW members to waive the start-up fee to any AAUW member who wishes to also be a member of the University Club. This offer extends to all membership types and expires on December 31st, 2016. For more information, please reach out to Sue Katsiotis at 651.222.1751 or

skatsiotis@universityclubofstpaul.com

Book Sale: Ongoing and Events

Welcome to a new season at AAUW St. Paul. This is just a reminder to members old and new that we hold a major fund-raising event mid-April: our Spring Annual Used Book Sale. Sale dates for 2017 are: Thursday, April 6 through Sunday, April 9. This sale is open to the public and funds raised provide financial support for scholarships to young women, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund and the AAUW Foundation. We gladly accept donations of new and gently used books throughout the year, except during the month of April.

This past season approximately 3,200 books were sold, netting over \$5,500 for the AAUW projects listed above.

Watch for other Book Sale events throughout the coming year and please visit our below stairs library to browse and buy.

Thank you to all of our members for the support and assistance we received during the past year.

-Julie Hanson & Sharon Ahern,
Book Sale Chairs

Quotes From Author Kent Krueger

“Always read something that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.” -*P.J.O'Rourke*

“Fiction is the lie through which we tell the truth.”
-*Camus*

“Anyone who says they have only one life to live, must not know how to read a book.” - *Anon*



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The **Timely Report** is a branch newsletter that is published bimonthly, except over the summer. It is distributed via email, with some hard copies available at Tuesday meetings the same week they are sent out. They are not sent by USPS. All are invited to submit articles or photos that are relevant to the branch, preferably articles no longer than 150 or 250 words. Send articles or questions to Carol Sheggeby at csheggeby@gmail.com

AAUW websites:

St. Paul: <http://aauwstpaul.org>

MN: <http://aauwmn.net>

Association : <http://www.aauw.org>

Association email: connect@aauw.org