

# News from the Northwest

May, 2016



**Newsletter of the Northwest Suburban Branch  
American Association of University Women**

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

## **ANNUAL MEETING TIME!**

**Thursday, May 12, 2016**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Des Plaines Elks Club**

**495 Lee St., Des Plaines**

It hardly seems possible, but another program year is coming to a close. We will have our annual meeting at the Des Plaines Elks Club on Thursday, May 12, at 6:00 P.M. We will be able to order from the menu and pay our own checks. After our brief meeting, Rhonda Kalkwarf, one of our new members, will host a *Show and Tell for Adults*. Rhonda is a personal historian and a member of the Association of Personal Historians. Personal historians will be hosting such "Show and Tell" events this month all across the country and abroad to celebrate Personal History Awareness Month.

Remember Show and Tell in grade school? You brought something special to share with your class and then you told them about that something and why it was special to you. Let's do it again! Pick an item you love and bring it with to share your story. Some things you might bring:

- The baby doll you can't bear to part with
- The candlesticks you inherited from your grandmother
- Your favorite souvenir from a long-ago vacation
- The letters your parents exchanged during their courtship
- The sampler you embroidered as a girl
- Newspaper clippings, pictures, jewelry . . . anything of significance to you!

We'll take turns sharing our items with the group and telling the stories about why they are special to us, but if you prefer you don't even have to show and tell – you can just watch and listen.

If you will attend, please let Irene know so that we can be sure to have adequate space. Call at 847-698-3113 or email at [wijinks@aol.com](mailto:wijinks@aol.com). However, don't stay away just because you have not called!

## **FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

We have received some news from Oakton about our scholarship winner:

Dina Margetis is the recipient of the scholarship for the 2015-2016 academic year. Dina is well known on campus for her involvement in student life and cheerful attitude. She is pursuing a certificate in Human Services with a 3.57 GPA, and she was recently recognized as a President's Scholar! Dina and the Oakton Foundation are incredibly thankful for the support your scholarship has offered her, and we look forward to continue awarding the AAUW-NS Scholarship to future students.

As we all know, Oakton as well as other state supported higher education institutions, has been hit hard by the budget stalemate in Springfield. Their state funding has dried up and the MAP program of grants assisting low income students was deferred indefinitely. Even though there has been some movement in this area the past week, full funding has not been restored nor has a long term commitment been assured by the state. Oakton has asked us to consider giving a larger gift next year in light of the 36% increase in tuition costs since 2010 when we started giving \$750 directly to the college to fund a scholarship winner.

Next year we will be able to afford a \$1000 scholarship due to a fund balance we have at Oakton. After that our branch needs to discuss how we can continue to fund this scholarship in the future. Our Bridge Group used to put money into the scholarship fund. Now that they are no longer playing we need to decide if we can do a fundraiser or spend down our savings.

Many in our community rely on Oakton to get a degree which they could not afford otherwise. I heard recently the average age at Oakton is in the 30's. I believe Oakton is changing lives. I look forward to discussing if this challenge is something we can take on for incredible women like Dina.

Cindy Grau

## **NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS**

Kudos to Cindy Grau for an outstanding program for the AAUW-Illinois convention that was held in Schaumburg last weekend. As we know, Cindy gives her all to a task to be done! Kathy Tate Bradish, who presented our February program, presented two workshops at the convention, and our newest member, Lisa Crocco, attended and participated. Merna Folkers also attended the dinner on Friday evening.

On Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, several of our members were involved with the Tech Savvy conference at Oakton Community College. Michelle Smith, who is an engineer, was one of the presenters. Cindy, Rhonda Kalkwarf and Pili Richardson were there to assist.

A correction to what was published last month! New member Lisa's last name is CROCCO. The "C" was omitted in the information that was sent; the rest is correct. Apologies, Lisa.

Anne Evans is doing well after her broken leg and is now able to get around again. We hope that we will see you at AAUW, Anne.

We send our best wishes to Pili Richardson who is having knee replacement surgery. Pili, you will be joining the ranks of bionic women with our wonderful prosthetic joints that keep us moving.

## **TECH SAVVY CONFERENCE**

On Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, over 160 girls, sixth to ninth graders, gathered at Oakton Community College to explore topics that most of us had never even heard of until we were adults (partly because some had not been discovered when we were in school)! As part of AAUW's push to promote STEM subjects, the girls had the opportunity for hands-on participation in workshops presented by women who are active in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Sponsored by Oakton and Triton Community colleges and cosponsored by AAUW through branches in the north/northwest suburban area, the conference gave the girls the chance to learn more about fields that might offer possible career choices for them. Our branch is proud that we helped sponsor this event through our direct monetary contributions and by the help that was provided by several of our members. The *Daily Herald* carried a half-page article with pictures in the edition of Sunday, April 17, so the work of AAUW is being publicized.

## **AN AWARD FOR OUR BRANCH!**

At the AAUW-Illinois convention, Northwest Suburban Branch was recognized as a branch that had increased membership by over 5%. The award came because we have added two members: Rhonda Kalkwarf and Lisa Crocco. Both of these women joined AAUW nationally, and we welcome them warmly to our branch.

## **IT'S DUES TIME!**

Spring! There are a number of things you can count on: the return of the robins, cold weather in the Midwest, dues renewals for various organizations. Because AAUW's fiscal year ends on June 30, we are one of those collecting dues money NOW. Our dues remain the same as they have been for several years, \$71.00, broken down as follows: \$49.00 for National, \$10.00 for State, \$12.00 for local. Paid National Life members pay only state and local dues, a total of \$22.00. Honorary Life Members, those who have been members of AAUW for fifty years or more, do not need to pay any dues at all. Our branch has only one paid life member, but we have five honorary life members: Anne Evans, Alice Jenks, Carolyn Miller, Mary Margaret Reed and Rosemary Reinke. Of the dues paid to National, \$46.00 is deductible as a charitable contribution, if you itemize for your federal income tax; the remaining part of the national dues goes for lobbying, which is not deductible. State and local dues cannot be deducted.

## **WE'VE JOINED THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY!**

Yes, Northwest Suburban is now set up with AAUW so that our members can pay their dues electronically! To renew online with a credit card, go to <http://nwsuburban-il.net/membership/>. This will take you to the Northwest Suburban website where you will find renewal information. ( If you don't know your membership number, you can obtain it there or call Irene Jinks and she will give it to you.) It's quick and it's easy. Once you are online, you can also print a membership card so that you won't forget your membership number and you can make contributions to AAUW if you wish.

(Note from Irene: I have just renewed my membership online. EASY! Now AAUW will take care of sending my dues to state and will deposit my local dues in our bank account! Believe me, if I can do it, so can you!)

Of course, your treasurer will certainly be happy to take your dues and process them. A form is found on the next page. Please help by paying, one way or another, promptly so that your treasurer does not need to hound you!

**IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!**

AAUW's fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30, so that means that membership renewals are due by July 1. We hope that all of our present members will continue their support of women and education by renewing their membership and we also hope that our branch will continue to grow by adding new members! You can help both by renewing your own membership, either electronically or by using this form, and encouraging others (especially former members) to become a part of AAUW and its mission.

---

**Northwest Suburban Branch, American Association of University Women**

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to join AAUW (national, state and local) for 2016-2017; total dues of **\$71.00**  
National: \$49.00 (\$46 is tax-deductible as it is not used for lobbying or political activity); State: \$10.00; Local: \$12.00

\_\_\_\_\_ National Life Member (Life dues already paid), **\$22.00** (\$10 State; \$12 Local)

\_\_\_\_\_ 50 Year Honorary Life Member, No dues required

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ My newsletters may be sent by email

Please send dues to Irene Jinks, 834 Carolyn Lane, Park Ridge IL 60068.  
Checks should be made payable to Northwest Suburban Branch, AAUW

---

**OUR LAST MEETING OF THIS YEAR!  
PLAN TO ATTEND**

**THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016**

**6:00 P.M.**

**DES PLAINES ELKS CLUB**