

News from the Northwest

May, 2017



**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!

Thursday, May 11, 2017

6:00 P.M.

Des Plaines Elks Club

495 Lee St., Des Plaines

We're coming to the end of another program year, so it's time for our annual meeting. We will meet at the Des Plaines elks Club on Thursday, May 11, at 6:00 p.m. We will order from the menu and pay our own checks, and after we have enjoyed our dinner we will have our meeting and will hear from the recipient of our Oakton scholarship, Allison Barthel, who will be our guest that evening. We've provided a scholarship at Oakton for many years, and are thrilled that we are still able to do so, but we don't often have the opportunity to meet the recipient, so this will be very special.

As a part of our business meeting, we will consider the budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, will be voting on a change in our bylaws, and will be electing officers who will guide the branch for the coming year. A very important part of the meeting is our sharing of ideas, so come with suggestions for programs, fund raising activities and, possibly, other interest groups that would appeal to our membership.

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. However, don't stay away just because you have not called – we'll find space for you!

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Happy May!

I am looking forward to our year end meeting - and because we were successful in reaching out to our Oakton scholarship winner, she will be attending. She received \$1000 this year from our branch. Even costs at community colleges have been rising steadily – especially in cash strapped Illinois. The money for the Oakton scholarship, and the money we give to AAUW National each year (\$500 this year), comes from our branch reserves - funds built up over time

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in our treasury when the branch had more members and particularly when the bridge groups were active and regularly making contributions.

As we reach the end of our program year our board has been working on a budget for next year. Giving our reserves away was easier to do when we didn't know how long our branch would be around. However, we have had several new members join during the last two years and this trend continues as we welcome Fran Kampwirth and Megan Hildebrand as our newest members. I firmly believe our branch has turned a corner and will be around for a long time to come. But to continue our philanthropy, we will have to look at new ways to raise money.

One thing we will do is have envelopes available at our May dinner so that individuals can make donations either to our Oakton Scholarship Fund or to one of AAUW's Funds. If you feel, as I do, that supporting women with their schooling or through one of AAUW's programs (like the \$tart \$mart salary negotiation workshop) is important, please feel free to donate. This is a personal decision and there are many ways to donate so do not feel that you are obligated to give at our dinner.

We will also continue to look at fundraisers. Not only do fundraisers raise funds but they can be fun! I would like to try the mum sale at least for one more year, and maybe there are other projects that we can do to knit our group closer together and work toward making a difference for women and girls. Your ideas are welcome.

See you soon!

Cindy

NEW MEMBERS

As mentioned in our president's letter, we have added two new members to our branch. Both joined the national organization and were referred to Northwest Suburban Branch. They are:

Fran Kampwirth
731 S. Lincoln Ave.
Park Ridge IL 60068
773-710-1413
franstottkampwirth@gmail.com

Megan Hildebrand
153 N. Babcock Dr.
Palatine IL 60074
502-645-2197
Megan.hildebrand@affiliatedfm.com

We welcome them to Northwest Suburban Branch and hope that they will be able to join us at our meetings.

ANNUAL MEETING BUSINESS!

One of the business items will be the election of officers. We thank the Nominating Committee of Ellen Yearwood and Sally Kleaveland who present the following slate:

Co-Vice Presidents for Program: Lisa Crocco and Suzanne Kowalski
Secretary: Rhonda Kalkwarf
Treasurer: Irene Jinks

Our president has one more year to serve in her term.

Before the election, however, we must vote on a change in our bylaws to make the secretary and treasurer separate offices. A few years ago we combined these offices due to our small membership; we are now able to elect members to each position.

We will also be voting to accept the budget proposed by our board for 2017-2018:

Projected Income:

Local membership dues:	\$ 276.00
Social event	100.00
Fund raiser	100.00
Transfer from savings	<u>1,500.00</u>
	\$1,976.00

Projected Expenses:

Oakton scholarship	\$ 850.00
National contribution	500.00
Convention allowance (state)	100.00
Programs	250.00
Liability insurance	200.00
Miscellaneous/Contingency	<u>76.00</u>
	\$ 1,976.00

YOU HAVE A VOICE IN AAUW!

Those of us who have been AAUW members for many years remember that voting on national issues and officers was done by delegates at convention, but that is no longer the case. Each AAUW member is now entitled to vote directly, either electronically or by paper ballot (request) on issues and for those who will serve on the National board. The recent issue of *Outlook* that you received includes the information on changes in the Public Policy Program, proposed amendments to Bylaws, proposed resolutions, and the bios of all those seeking board positions.

Most of the changes are straightforward and reasonable. The one that will engender controversy is the proposal to eliminate the requirement of a degree for membership.

Our president, Cindy Grau, sent the following:

At our branch board meeting I mentioned that AAUW Elections are open right now and will continue through the end of the National Convention, June 15 at 8pm CST. Each member in AAUW is eligible to vote and encouraged to do so. However, it may be tough to know for whom to vote, it takes time to research each director and there are 10 director positions to vote for. I asked a friend of mine who serves on the national fundraising committee for recommendations as she is familiar with many of the candidates.

If you want to vote online at our May 11 meeting, I can bring an iPad and we can pass it around. To vote, please have your AAUW *Outlook* magazine available as your unique member number and voter ID number printed on your magazine are required to vote. AAUW will mail you a paper ballot if you request it before May 4th.

Here are the recommendations I received:

I am sharing my personal views concerning the candidates for the AAUW National Board. My opinions are based on personal working knowledge with two candidates, the candidate's experience within AAUW, and comments from a highly-respected friend who now sits on the board.

At our state convention in May, one candidate for AAUW Board Chair will be a presenter. Consequently, I have not decided between Amy Blackwell and Alicia Hetman who will be the presenter.

The Candidates for Directors that I am endorsing are:

*Peggy Williams
Joanna Amberger
Susan Barley
M. Alex Bellenger
Janet Bunger
Traci Jensen*

*Melissa Johnsen
Dot McLane
Leah Sakacs
Cheryl Sorokin
Mardi Stevens*

On June 1st, AAUW will have a new Executive Director, Kimberly Churches. I feel that a well balanced and experienced board will be an asset to our new CEO. In the elections of 2015, Illinois had 3,032 eligible voters and only 359 voted. Let your voice be heard! If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at marlakim2@aol.com or 847-945-9081. - Marla Kim Benziger

AAUW HAS NEW CEO

AAUW Board Chair Patricia Fae Ho has announced that AAUW will have a new chief executive officer on June 1, 2017. She is Kimberly Churches, who comes to AAUW from the Brookings Institute. She also has a background in higher education and fundraising.

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

Carolyn Baker has moved from Belmont Village to Brookdale in Des Plaines. (This was formerly known as The Heritage.) She and her sister have a two-bedroom apartment there; we hope this will work out well for them. Her new address is 800 S. River Rd., Des Plaines IL 60016. We do not yet have a new phone number.

FEEL LIKE MARCHING?

Our Public Policy Chair, Lisa Crocco, has sent information about *The Peoples Climate March* that will take place on Saturday, April 29, sponsored by the League of Women Voters. Meeting place will be the corner of Clark and Adams in Chicago at 11:15 a.m., then moving to Federal Plaza where the main event will take place. This is one of the events scheduled across the country to speak out about the dismantling of environmental oversight and protection at the federal level.

IT'S DUES TIME!

Because AAUW's fiscal year ends on June 30, we are 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. 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.

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 you can find it on the back cover of the AAUW *Outlook*.) It's quick and it's easy!

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!

Northwest Suburban Branch, American Association of University Women

_____ I wish to join AAUW (national, state and local) for 2017-2018; 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 11, 2017

6:00 P.M.

DES PLAINES ELKS CLUB