

News from the Northwest

February, 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.*

The ABCs of Sex Education

Saturday, February 20, 2016

10:00 A.M.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

205 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge

What a topic for our AAUW meeting! But just wait until you hear what this is all about – you will be amazed and impressed.

For our February meeting, we will have a guest speaker, Kathy Tate-Bradish. Kathy, who lives in Evanston, is the executive director of a marvelous international project in Kenya which works to give Kenyans the necessary knowledge and skills to reduce the risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Kathy, who has taught German in both middle and high schools in Illinois and at the American School in London, as well as middle-school English in Austria, graduated from the University of Illinois and also holds a law degree from Northwestern University. She began volunteering in Kenya in 2004 and since then has been involved with this project, working on the development of a curriculum that can be used by the native Kenyans who are trained to work in the program. She will share with us a story of a program that began with just an idea and has grown and spread to a number of different regions in Kenya. She travels to Kenya regularly and lives with the others who are involved in teaching and disseminating information. She will tell us about a relatively small program that is having a very big effect. We will learn our ABCs.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church is located on the corner of Prospect Ave. and Cedar St. in Park Ridge. It is two blocks north of Touhy Ave. Prospect is one of the intersecting streets at the "six corners" intersection in downtown Park Ridge. If you are coming from the northwest on Northwest Highway (the continuation of Rand Rd. as you enter Park Ridge) go to Elm St. (there is a stoplight there), turn east and go three blocks to Prospect. Turn south on Prospect and go one block to Cedar St. There is ample parking, both in front of the church and in the parking lot across the street, and the church is handicap accessible.

Come and enjoy the company of your AAUW sisters, as well as a great program. Be sure to invite others to join you!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy February!

I am looking forward to spring about now. I am involved in planning several AAUW events in April that I want you to know about.

On Saturday, April 16, Tech Savvy will be held at Oakton Community College. We are expecting 200 or more middle school girls to this day-long, hands-on, STEM event. This event encourages girls to think of the fields of **Science, Technology, Engineering and Math** as careers. Women are much underrepresented in these lucrative fields. Several of our members are also involved, Michelle Smith, our newest member, will be teaching at Tech Savvy (again). Pili Richardson and I have attended several planning sessions and Peggy St. Leger has also helped us with fundraising.

This is a great opportunity for our branch to get involved in an AAUW project. There are three ways you can help.

- You can invite a 6-9th grade girl to attend the event; the on-line registration will be available soon. (See the flier in this newsletter for more information.)
- Also there is a need for volunteers the day of the event. Some will lead girls to their sessions, some will help instructors in sessions, some will help with lunch service as well as help in a whole myriad of other ways. Volunteers will be slotted for all day from 8:30am-4pm or thereabouts. Please email me at cmgrau@att.net, or call 847 384-8136 to indicate your availability. Friends are welcome to volunteer too – you do not have to be a member. Show someone what AAUW is all about and invite them to volunteer with you!
- Lastly there is a need for donations to put on this event. The participants pay \$10 for registration and AAUW has given us a \$5000 grant. However, the event will cost about \$11K to put on. Our branch will donate \$250 toward this event per our budget last year. Any donations you can give would be welcome. If you have connections with any employer or company that may want to be a sponsor, please let me know. You can donate online at <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/stem-education/tech-savvy/> or go to the [aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and search for Tech Savvy. Click on the “Donate Now” button at the bottom of the page. Donate to the [Tech Savvy@Oakton](mailto:TechSavvy@Oakton) for the money to go to our event.

I hope you will consider helping in some way.

I'm also working on the State Convention scheduled for April 30 in Schaumburg. But more information on that will be coming next month.

I hope to see you at the February program, let's hope the weather holds!

Cindy Grau

YEARBOOKS

Those who attended the December gathering received their yearbooks, and those who get the *Northwest News* via snail mail have also received them. We will be mailing them to those members who have not yet received them.

Are You a Tech Savvy Girl?

STEM CONFERENCE FOR GIRLS

Tech Savvy is a science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) career conference designed to attract girls in sixth through ninth grade to these fields, as well as inform mentoring adults about STEM education and careers and how to support girls' interest and success in STEM.

Saturday, April 16, 2016

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., TenHoeve Center

Oakton Community College, 1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines, IL

Cost: \$10 per person, includes lunch (girls and adults).

Each girl attending receives a t-shirt to wear at the conference.

Required online registration opens in February.

Visit us at www.aauw.org/what-we-do/stem-education/tech-savvy/

Registration closed by April 4 or when full.

Register early for your preferred workshop.

Organized by AAUW (American Association of University Women)

For more information on past Tech Savvy events, see:

www.aauw.org/what-we-do/stem-education/tech-savvy/

janeaddams-il.aauw.net/tech-savvy/

www.facebook.com/AAUWTechSavvy

For more information, e-mail AAUWILtechsavvy@gmail.com



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Community College