

News from the Northwest

June, 2015



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

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

It's A Field Trip! The Trickster Gallery 190 S. Roselle Rd., Schaumburg



Saturday, June 13th

Did you know that there is a gallery in Schaumburg that features Native American art? The gallery is owned and operated by Native Americans, and is the only one of its kind in Illinois. The name of the gallery, *Trickster*, designates a spiritual "cultural educator" who teaches life principles. Through its displays and other cultural events, the gallery wishes to teach the impact that art has had in shaping our mutual cultures by exhibiting art from both Native American and other American cultures.

We will gather at the gallery at 10:00 a.m. and tour the exhibits. The cost is \$5.00 per person, payable at the gallery. After the tour, we hope that many, if not all, of those attending will want to have lunch together at a nearby restaurant (and there are *many* in the area) and socialize for a while. This would be a wonderful opportunity to invite friends to join you to get to know about our branch and get acquainted with some of our members. (If we hope to gain members, we have to be ambassadors for our branch.)

The gallery is located at 190 S. Roselle Rd. in Schaumburg. It is just south of Schaumburg Rd., so if you go to Schaumburg via Golf Rd. or Higgins Rd., you should turn south on Roselle Rd. to Schaumburg Rd. The gallery is just south of the intersection.

We thank Merna Folkers, who has planned so many great programs for us, for finding this interesting and unusual place for us to visit. If you can attend, please call Merna. Her number is 847-394-2341. This will be a really nice way to close our program year!

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Happy Summer Members!

We had a great year-end meeting at the Elks Club, with a visit from past president Elaine Fisher. Your board will get together to start work on programs on June 1. Thank you to Irene Jinks and Merna Folkers for their continued service to the branch.

One thing that came up in the meeting is to advertise our meetings. I did this for a few meetings this year but it would be great if we had someone do this besides me. Mostly it requires a computer and about ½ to 1 hour per month. I can give you a list of places to send info – I'm sure there are others as well. If you are interested please let me know.

A reminder to you that AAUW has a national election with open voting until June 19th. In the past only delegates at convention could vote, but now every member has a vote. The turnout two years ago was so low there almost wasn't a quorum. We are not the type of organization that does not take its responsibilities lightly. So find your voting code, either on your most recent *Outlook* magazine or on the email that was sent to you from Association. If that doesn't work you can call the association directly at 800 326-2289. It is too late to request a paper ballot – you can only vote on-line. There is one important issue about opening up membership that you are likely to have an opinion about. I would also like to endorse Director Pam Thiel for re-election.

At our year-end meeting, we discussed having a fundraiser for Tech Savvy. If you are interested in being on a committee to plan a fundraiser please drop me a line at cmgrau@att.net or give me a call at 847 384-8136. I would like to have a planning meeting sometime in June or July.

I hope to see you at the Trickster in June!

Cindy

OUR ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting was held on Thursday, May 21 at the Des Plaines Elks Club. After dinner, the members discussed a number of items: election of officers, our contributions, plans for next year, fundraising, communication, etc. Because we have had no real fundraising activities, we are using our savings to fund our contributions, which is fine because the money was raised earlier through our fundraising efforts. We contributed \$750 to Oakton Community College to fund the Northwest Suburban Branch Scholarship, given to a woman returning to school to complete her education; we gave \$500 to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund of AAUW, which supports research on issues that are important to women and girls. We also decided to set aside \$250 to help fund the Tech Savvy event to be held at Oakton next spring. Our branch will be one of the assisting branches for this project.

Merna Folkers was reelected as Program Vice-president and Irene Jinks as Treasurer.

There was some discussion about times for meetings, and this is a difficult problem. Many of our members do not like evening meetings, but Saturday meetings are also difficult for many. For next year, we will plan a combination of times, with evening meetings being held during fall and spring. We are hoping to be able to partner with the Des Plaines Library again this year, opening the meeting to the public. It might also be possible for us to partner with other groups to provide interesting programs. Meeting times, of course, have an effect on attendance, but it was also suggested that perhaps we should have reminder calls a day or two before each meeting.

We were delighted to have a special guest – Elaine Fisher who was a member of our branch for many years before she moved to Naperville. Elaine has rejoined our branch as a dual member, so we hope to see her occasionally during the next year!

TECH SAVVY 2016

The Jane Adams Branch is planning for their 3rd Tech Savvy conference to be held on April 16, 2016 at Oakton Community College. The one-day event is for girls from 6-9th grade. They spend a day learning about STEM careers from women in those fields and also doing hands on projects. Their parents are invited to learn more about such things as college selection and financial aid.

The group has received grants from AAUW National, but each year the grant amount decreases so they will be looking for help with fundraising. They also will be looking for a volunteer coordinator and volunteers to help with various jobs on or close to the day of the event.

The next planning meeting will take place on June 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Oakton College, if you are interested in helping. Please let me know if you are interested.

--Cindy Grau

INTEREST GROUP

We're still reading – how about you? Wouldn't you like to be a part of our group? We're pretty eclectic in our book choices, and we always enjoy talking about what we've read. We meet on the fourth Tuesday evening of the month, except for November and December when we have a meeting early in December instead. Our first meeting of the new program year will be on Tues., September 22 when we will discuss *Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali. We would welcome new members who enjoy reading and discussing what they have read. Contact Irene Jinks (847-698-3113 or wijinks@aol.com) for further information.

Wouldn't it be nice if there were an "s" in the heading for this section? Do you have an idea for another group that would be of interest? What has happened to all of our bridge players? And for the "eaters" of the group, there surely are some new ethnic restaurants that we could visit!

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

It was so good to see Elaine Fisher at our annual meeting and to have her rejoin our branch as a dual member. We hope that you will be able to join us at several of our meetings, Elaine.

Diane Forsythe was also at the meeting. She is now living in Waupaca, Wisconsin, but is in this area at the end of the week for her work, so she can come to some evening meetings. Her son, who was diagnosed with melanoma and had extensive surgery, is doing well and doctors are encouraged by his progress. He and his wife have three young children, the youngest only a few months old.

Several of our members have had hospital bouts recently. We wish them well and hope that they will soon be back to good health so that they can enjoy the summer. We certainly hope to see all of you at our meetings in the fall!

Thanks to those members who paid their dues at the annual meeting. For the others, a dues notice is enclosed with this newsletter. Please send your dues to Irene Jinks by July 1.

LOOKING AHEAD: 2015-2016

The board of Northwest Suburban Branch met recently to work on plans for the coming program year. Although plans are not established with certainty, here is a tentative schedule, with those programs that are certain indicated. Put the dates in your calendar (in pencil, in case they must be changed) so that you will know when you will be meeting with your AAUW sisters.

- Thursday, August 27: Summer Social, Kickoff for the Year
- Thursday, September 17: Joint meeting with Park Ridge League of Women Voters
- Saturday, October 24
- Saturday, December 5: Holiday Social
- Saturday, January 30: District 5 Networking Luncheon at Embassy Suites, Deerfield
- Saturday, February 20
- Saturday, March 19
- Saturday, April 9: District 5 AAUW Scholars' Brunch, Lambs Farm, Libertyville
- Saturday, April 16: Tech Savvy Conference at Oakton Community College
- April 29-30: AAUW-IL State Convention (This will be held in this part of the state.)
- Thursday, May 12: Annual Meeting and Dinner
- June Outing: TBD

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 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 2015-2016; 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