Southern Highlights



**Volume 12 Number 1** **September 2013**

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**\_\_\_\_ Shaping the World One Woman at a Time\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_**



**Marijo Alexander and Sue Grove, Co-Presidents**

## Co-President’s Thoughts

Welcome to another exciting year of AAUW with the Austin Branch. We have a full schedule of events planned and look forward to welcoming many new members as well as all of our returning members.

We will start the year with our Annual Fall potluck to be held at Christ Episcopal Church on September 10th. Every year I find a new dish that I want to add to my home repertoire. This will be the time to invite anyone and everyone who you want to share AAUW with.

Then, in October, we will have a follow-up to a meeting from last year on the new I.J. Holton Intermediate STEAM School in Austin. This year, we actually get to take a tour of the facility. According to my grandson, it is absolutely AWESOME! This is doubly exciting because it ties in so well with one of AAUW’s core ideals.

Other programs include learning more about the newest immigrants to Austin, the Karen from Myanmar (Burma) and will tour the Welcome Center to see the great updates they have made to their facility. There will, of course, be the winners of the Women’s History Month contest and some purely social events throughout the year.

I look forward to seeing all of you very soon!

Sue Grove

Co-President

## September Program

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the annual AAUW Fall Potluck on September 10th at the Christ Episcopal Church, 301 3rd Ave NW at 6 PM. The Wine and Cheese event to encourage new members will be at 4:30 PM prior to the pot luck on September 10th at Christ Episcopal Church. Please feel free to invite anyone you know that may be interested in joining AAUW.



**Fall House Tour Rapidly Approaches!**

Our bi-annual house tour is just around the corner! Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 6th from 1-5 PM. We need all members to help out in any way they can. Please sign up to work a shift during the tour. More details to follow at our September meeting.

### Small Groups

These groups are open to any member wishing to attend.

**Morning Book Group**

The morning book group is reading ***In Cattis Wood***by Mary Francois Rochcastle for our September 19 meeting.  We meet at Gymocha at 9:00 a.m. on the third Thursday of the month.  We will discuss ***Cleopatra's Daughter*** at our October 17 meeting.  If you are interested in joining the morning group we'd be happy to see you, and you can help us select books for November and December.  Our discussions are enjoyable, and we have the privacy of a separate room at Gymocha.

**Evening Book Group**

We will be discussing *The House Girl* by Tara Conklin on Monday, October 7th at 7 PM at the home of Rae Dawn Rao. Please RSVP to Rae Dawn at [rao\_raedawn@yahoo.com](mailto:rao_raedawn@yahoo.com) On November 4th we will discuss *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver.

**First Friday**

First Friday Luncheon will be at Tolly's at 11:30 on Friday, Sept. 6th.  Contact Dorothy Krob if you would like to attend.  [sdkrob@live.com](mailto:sdkrob@live.com).

##### Travel Group

The Travel Club is still on vacation during the month of September.   We are beginning our monthly meetings in October.   We always meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 2:00 P.M.    If you are interested in joining our group, please either email ([drgraber@charter.net](mailto:drgraber@charter.net)) or call (433-7897) and I will include you on our email list.  Thank you and have a "Fantastic Fall!"

DedaRae Graber

**Great Decisions**

Great Decisions will meet on September 11th in Room C 108 East Building at Riverland from 1:00 to 2:00. We will be discussing Iran. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Financial Report**

**May/June**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Period: 5/1/13-6/30/13** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Opening Balance:** |  | **$6,503.87** |
|  |  |  |
| **Income:** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Dues Received | 2,795.00 |  |
| May Banquet | 613.00 |  |
| Book Sale | 2,766.01 |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Income:** | **$6,174.01** | $12,677.88 |
|  |  |  |
| **Disbursements:** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| State Convention | 243.00 |  |
| National Convention | 1,800.00 |  |
| Board Gifts | 50.00 |  |
| May Banquet | 819.22 |  |
| National Dues | 2,009.00 |  |
| State Dues | 396.00 |  |
| Speakers Honorariums | 200.00 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | **$5,517.22** |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Disbursements:** |  | **$7,160.66** |

**Information is Power!**

Be sure to check out these resources:

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

[www.aauwaustinmn.org](http://www.aauwaustinmn.org)

**AAUW Board Meeting Minutes**

AAUW Board Retreat was held at Riverland Community College. Mary Kay distributed the 2012-13 budget and proposed 2013-14 budget. A short discussion took place regarding the changes for the 2013-14 budget. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2013-14 budget. Motion carried. Mary Kay will give the budget information to Marie for publishing on the website.

Catherine Lemons was approved as Co-Vice President of Membership. The new Board Member list was distributed. There is still a need for House Tour Chairs. Names can be given to Sue or Marijo. Carla gave an update on the 2013-14 program. Programs will be finalized by the September 10 member meeting. Monthly meeting schedule will be: 5:45 p.m. Board meeting, 6:30 p.m. refreshments, 6:50 p.m. brief update from the Board, and 7:00 p.m. program begins (unless otherwise stated).

Sue updated the Board on Membership. There are 21 unpaid memberships for the coming year. The prospective member wine and cheese event will be held on Wednesday, August 14, 4:30-6:00 p.m., at Sue Grove’s home. New materials from the national AAUW office will be available. Invitations will be sent to interested women. Members who know of people interested in AAUW should give their names to Sue Grove or Catherine Lemons. Board members are invited and encouraged to attend this membership event.

Sue gave an overview of the new AAUW website. Marie is working on changing our branch website to the national format, which will allow for National AAUW to update national information regularly. Members can see the new national website at www.aauw.org and Board members can view “starter kits” at www.aauw.org/resource/annual-starter-kit/

Marijo and Sue reported on the National AAUW Convention they attended in June. They attended many workshops including sessions on STEM schools, fundraising, creating a mission statement, website creation, and they also reported on the results of this year’s AAUW elections. Results can be found on the AAUW website.

A discussion took place about creating a Mission Statement for our Branch. This discussion will continue, with hopes to have a completed Mission Statement by May.

Peggy gave an update on the search for a speaker for Women’s History Month. No speaker has been determined yet.

Because of this year’s House Tour, it was generally agreed that we do not need an additional fundraiser this year. Sue led a discussion about small groups, and encouraged anyone with an idea for a new small group to let her know.

Newsletter items are to be submitted to Rae Dawn on or before the last Friday of the month. Agenda items are to be submitted to Marijo on or before the first Tuesday of the month.

Meeting adjourned.

Ruth Monson, Secretary

**Financial Report**

**July/August**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Period: 7/1/13-8/31/13** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Opening Balance:** |  | **$7,160.66** |
|  |  |  |
| **Income:** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Dues Received | 260.00 |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Income:** | **$260.00** | $7,420.66 |
|  |  |  |
| **Disbursements:** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| National Dues | 196.00 |  |
| State Dues | 36.00 |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Disbursements:** | **$232.00** |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Closing Balance 8/31/13** |  | **$7,188.66** |

*Mission Statement*: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

*Vision Statement:* AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

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