Southern Highlights

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**Volume 12 Number 7** **April 2014**

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

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

## Co-President’s Thoughts

One of the highlights of our Branch over the last ten years has been the Women’s History Month observation at Austin High School. Thanks to Peggy and Carolyn, there have been challenging research projects for students and informative assemblies that have included AAUW Vice President for Policy, Lisa Maatz, Ann Bancroft the Antarctic explorer, visiting historical women such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton (played by Pat Sween), the University of Minnesota, Duluth women’s hockey coach, local women leaders, and Title IX panels.

The top three project winners will present their research findings to us as our April meeting at the public library. Be sure to come to see them. It is a joy to have these young people with us.

In case you had not heard, this year was most likely the last time we can do this because Austin High is realigning their curriculum and this project will no longer fit their criteria. It has been a great run and I hate to see it end.

On the good news side, Catherine Haslag has laid the groundwork for a new endeavor that our branch can take the lead on. She observed that some students lack support for their efforts on science fair projects. The details are being worked out, but Catherine has been working with the Gifted and Talented Coordinator for Austin Public Schools to develop a way that we can be of assistance. Stay tuned – it will be exciting.

Again, thank you for all you do.

And….we still need someone to come forward to serve as president or co-presidents for next year. Talk to me!!!

Sue Grove and MarijoAlexander

Co-Presidents

## April Program

The April general meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 8th at the Austin Public Library large meeting room. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 PM with the program beginning at 7 PM. This month’s program will feature winning students from the recent Women’s History Month project. Please come so you can appreciate the effort these students put forth towards their projects. We are sure you will learn a thing or two while you are at it!

Carla & Yesenia, Program Co-Chairs

**Small Groups**

**Morning Book Group**

Morning Book Group will meet at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, April 17, at Barley's.  We are reading John Grisham's book, *Sycamore Row*. Our May selection is the Page Turner's choice, *The Cartographer of No Man's Land* by P. S. Duffy.  We welcome visitors or new members.

**Evening Book Group**

On Monday, April 7th at 7 PM we will be discussing *Enchantress From the Stars* by Sylvia Engdahl at the home of Carolyn Bogott. Please RSVP to Carolyn at csbogott@gmail.com. In May, we will be reading *The Perfume Collector* by Kathleen Tessaro.

**First Friday**

First Friday Luncheon will be at El Mariachi on April 4th at 11:30 AM.  Email Dorothy at sdkrob@live.com by April 2nd if you would like to attend.

**Knitting/ Handiwork Group**

We are still meeting every Saturday at 9:30 AM at the Coffee House on Main. Everyone is welcome to join even if you just want to enjoy a cup of coffee!

##### Travel Group

The April Travel Club will be presented by Joyce Goetz and Kathy Keister.  They will be sharing photos and information from their cruise last fall on the Mediterranean.  This will include Dubrovnik, Croatia; Olympia and Athens, Greece; the Greek Islands of Mykonos and Santorini; along with the uncovered ruins of Ephesus, Turkey and a little about Naples, Italy.

We will meet at Joyce's home ( 900 - 17th Ave. S.W. ) on Thursday, April 10th at 2:00 P.M.  I hope you can join us.  Please let me know if you plan to attend via email (drgraber@charter.net) or phone (433-7897).

Thank you.
DedaRae Graber

**Great Decisions**

Great Decisions will meet next on Wednesday, April 2nd at 1:00 pm at Riverland East Building Room C108.

 **MAY LIBRARY BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER**

**May 2-4**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!!**

Our spring book sale is coming up soon and we need your help. This is a major fundraiser for us and it doesn't cost you anything except your time. We need help sorting and putting the books out on the tables the week before the sale and also workers the days of the sale. This year we are adding Sunday as a sale day and having the bag sale on Sunday.

We really need you all to help for as many shifts and days as you possibly can. There will always be someone there to tell you what needs to be done or there will be instructions telling you what to do.

At the April AAUW meeting we will have a sign-up sheet for working the book sale days and the setup days. Please sign up for as many shifts as you can. The shifts will be for two hours. The work times for the sale will be:

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Sorting and putting books out on

the tables

April 23 through May 1 we will

setup during library hours in the

large meeting room. Monday to

Friday from 10 AM to 8 PM

Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM

Book Sale Days

May 2-4

Friday & Saturday from 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Sunday from 12:30 PM to 4:30 PM

If you can't be at the April AAUW meeting, please call Laura Tjomsland (434-4199) and let her know when you can help. On May 8 in the afternoon we will box up the leftover books. We can use help then too. Bring your books for the sale anytime during the setup days or put them in the small meeting room anytime after April 18.

Laura Tjomsland and Joyce Goetz

**AAUW Board Meeting**

**March 11, 2014**

AAUW Board met at the Public Library. Secretary’s report was approved. Mary Kay gave the Treasurer’s update. The Treasurer’s report is printed in the newsletter. Mary Kay recommended that our branch keep dues at $65 for the coming year. Motion approved to keep 2014-15 local dues at $65. Mary Kay will bring a proposed budget to our April Board meeting.

Yesenia reported on plans for the spring banquet to be held on May 13 at the Hormel Home. She and Carla Anderson Diekmann are finalizing the menu, and expect the meal to cost around $14.50 per person. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m., with a social time and cash bar at 5:30 p.m.

Catherine reported that our branch has a membership total of 72. There was a slight discrepancy with figures published by the national office. Sue Grove will check on this.

Peggy reported that the Women’s History Month event will be held at Austin High School on Wednesday, March 12. There will be a panel, and awards will be presented to the winners of the Women’s History Month projects. Discussion continued regarding a Mission Statement for our AAUW branch. This discussion will continue next month.

The Board is looking for nominations for President/Co-Presidents for the upcoming term. Catherine Haslag has been nominated for the position of Program Vice President and Nicole Cizik has been nominated for the position of Treasurer. Catherine Lemons is willing to continue on as the sole Membership Vice-President, when Kathy Kester’s term is completed.

The Library Book Sale will be held May 2, 3 and 4. Members will soon receive more information and opportunities to sign-up to help with the sale.

The April meeting will be at the Austin Public Library Large Meeting Room. The Board will meet at 5:45 p.m. and membership will gather at 6:30 p.m. for social time, with the program beginning at 7:00 p.m. Women’s History Month winners will present their projects.

Catherine Haslag, chemistry instructor at Riverland, reported on a new mentoring program for 3rd and 4th grade students working on science fair projects. She is planning on a November 2014 start for the mentoring program. A motion was made and seconded to support the science mentoring program that would support elementary school students involved in the Science Fair. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Monson, Secretary

**BASKET DONATIONS NEEDED!**

We are still collecting donations for our State Convention silent auction basket. Our theme is ‘Our Favorite Things’. Please bring them to the April meeting so they can be taken up to the convention. The money raised from the sale of our baskets is credited to the Austin Branch.

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| **AAUW Monthly Financial Report** |
| **March 2014** |
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| **Period: 3/1/14-3/31/14** |  |  |
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| **Opening Balance:** |  | **$7,580.41** |
|  |  |  |
| **Income:** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Dues Received 2014-15 |  16.00  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Income:** |  **$16.00**  | $7,596.41 |
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|  |  |  |
| **Disbursements:** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| State Dues |  18.00  |  |
| Women's Hist Mo Prizes |  225.00  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Disbursements:** | **$243.00** |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Closing Balance 3/31/14** |  | **$7,353.41** |

*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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 http://www.aauwmn.org

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 <http://www.aauw.org>

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