Southern Highlights

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**Volume 12 Number 8** **May 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

This is an extremely difficult column to write because Friday we lost our good friend, colleague and Marijo’s partner, Terry Dilley. There are no words to express how sad we are while being thankful for having the opportunity to have had him in our lives.

Please keep Marijo and family in your thoughts and prayers.

I want to thank everyone who has contributed to another great year for the Austin Branch. We have had excellent programs, great fellowship, thoughtful discussions, vicarious travel experiences, and knitting and crocheting – to mention a few highlights.

Sue Grove

Co-President

## Spring Banquet Approaches!

Come one, come all to celebrate another great year with Austin AAUW at our annual Spring Banquet! Once again we will gather at the Hormel Historic Home. The banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, May 13th with social time beginning at 5:30 PM. A cash bar will be available. Dinner will be served at 6 PM and consists of be roast beef, chicken, mashed potatoes, a vegetable mix and a melon salad for dessert. The cost of the meal is $15 per person. Please RSVP to Yesenia at [ymendoza@riverland.edu](mailto:ymendoza@riverland.edu) by this Thursday, May 1st so we are able to place an accurate food order. Please come to enjoy an evening out with your fellow AAUW members to recap our accomplishments for the year and hear what great things lay ahead on our horizon.

na00861_Carla & Yesenia, Program Co-Chairs

**Small Groups**

**Morning Book Group**

Morning Book Group is reading the Page Turner's choice, *The Cartographer of No Man's Land* by P. S. Duffy.   We will meet on Thursday, May 15, 9 a.m., at Barley's.  We welcome visitors or new members.

**Evening Book Group**

On Monday, May 5th at 7 PM we will be discussing *The Perfume Collector* by Kathleen Tessaro at the home of Barb Hunter, 1214 4th Ave SE, Austin. We will also be meeting at Barb’s home on June 2nd to make book selections for the 2014-2015 year. Please RSVP to Barb at hunterbarb41@gmail.com.

**First Friday**

There will be NO First Friday lunch for May.  It is during the AAUW Book Sale and we hope members will be busy working at the sale! We will meet again in September.

**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 Travel Club will be meeting in May on Thursday, the 22nd at 2:00 P.M. (Please note that this is a date different than the usual day of the month that we meet).  Jan Cook will be hosting at her home at 1402 - 17th Ave. S.W.  She will be sharing information and photos on her travels to Israel.  I’m sure this will be another interesting program.   Please let me know if you plan to attend via email ([drgraber@charter.net](mailto:drgraber@charter.net)) or phone (433-7897).

DedaRae Graber

**Great Decisions**

Great Decisions will meet Wednesday, May 7th in Room C 107 at 1:00 PM. Hope to see you there!

**MAY LIBRARY BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER**

**May 2-4**

We are still accepting books for the Used Book Sale.  Sorting and arranging the sale area will continue through May 1st.  If you haven’t cleaned out your book shelf, do it today!

There is always room for extra help the days of the sale.  Friday, May 2nd, Saturday May 3rd and Sunday, May 4th.  Call Joyce Goetz or Laura Tjomsland to help with the sale.

Everyone can help in some way!

Laura Tjomsland and Joyce Goetz

Co-Chairs, Book Sale

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **AAUW Monthly Financial Report** | | |
| **April 2014** | | |
|  |  |  |
| **Period: 4/1/14-4/33/14** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Opening Balance:** |  | **$7,353.41** |
|  |  |  |
| **Income:** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Income:** | **$ -** | $7,353.41 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Disbursements:** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| State Convention | 183.50 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Disbursements:** | **$183.50** |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Closing Balance 4/30/14** |  | **$7,169.91** |

**AAUW Board Meeting**

**April 8, 2014**

AAUW Board met at the Austin Public Library. Secretary’s report was approved.

Our May 13 Banquet will be held at the Hormel Historic Home, with social time beginning at 5:30 p.m. and dinner served at 6:00 p.m. Cash bar will be available. The menu will be roast beef, chicken, mashed potatoes, a vegetable mix and a melon salad for dessert. Price is $15. Members need to pay at the door with cash or check (separate from membership dues check). 2014-15 Membership Dues will be $65, and should be paid by cash or (separate) check at the banquet.

A task force has been formed with the job of writing a mission statement for the branch. Ruth Monson, Catherine Lemons and Carolyn Bogott have offered to serve on this task force. The task force will send a draft of the mission statement to the Board via email.

Officers will be elected at the spring banquet. There is still an opening or openings for President or Co-Presidents. Program Vice President Nominee is Catherine Haslag. Treasurer Nominee is Nicole Cizik.

The AAUW/Friends of the Library Book Sale will be held May 2, 3 and 4. Members should contact Laura Tjomsland or Joyce Goetz to sign up.

Tanya Whitehouse and Sue Grove will be attending the State AAUW Convention on April 11 and 12 in Minneapolis. Marijo brought a tote bag filled with gardening items that will be put in the silent auction to benefit scholarships.

Our branch will host the 2015 AAUW State Convention in Austin, which will be held on April 10 and 11 of 2015.

Mary Kay passed out the 2014-15 Proposed Budget that will be published in the May newsletter. The April meeting is the last regular board meeting of the year. At the May banquet, a brief business meeting will be held to elect our new officers.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Monson

**PUBLIC POLICY**

Evelyn Guentzel

Equal Pay Day 2014 will fall on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, the symbolic day when women’s earnings finally catch up to men’s earnings from the previous year. In other words, women in many occupations in Minnesota are paid 77 cents for every dollar paid to men. It takes women three months of wages to make up that 23 cent difference because of the gender pay gap.

The size of one’s paycheck affects how much can be spent at the grocery store, the gas station, the doctor’s office, insurance, for child care and other day-to-day expenses. Even two family incomes are impacted by this gender pay gap.

Federal and Minnesota state comparable worth formulas have made a difference for many women, but these are not necessarily applied across the job market, and economic security and fairness remain an issue.

Moving through committee and the Minnesota Legislature is the Women’s Economic Security Act Omnibus Bill (HF2536//SF2050. From wages and benefits to work-family balance to caring for children and families, the Women's Economic Security Act addresses the challenges we face which will improve the lives of both men and women. Reducing barriers is not just the right thing to do, it builds a stronger economic foundation for all of us. Providing equal opportunities and pay for women who make up half of the state’s workforce are critical to our state’s economic future.

The poor economic status of many Minnesota women has been ignored for too long. Legislators should stand up for Minnesota women in the 2014 session to bring down economic barriers for women and build a more productive, stronger Minnesota together by supporting the Women's Economic Security Act.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***2013-2014 BUDGET AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2014-2015*** | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ***ESTIMATED*** | ***ACTUAL*** |  | ***ESTIMATED*** |
|  | ***RECEIPTS*** | ***RECEIPTS*** |  | ***RECEIPTS*** |
|  | ***2013-2014*** | ***2013-2014*** |  | ***2014-2015*** |
| **RECEIPTS** |  |  |  |  |
| Membership Dues | 3,900.00 | 4,193.00 | (60 @ 65) | 3,900.00 |
| Fund Raiser-House Tour B/4 Exp. | 3,500.00 | 3,515.00 |  | - |
| Estimated Carry Over | 6,000.00 | 7,350.00 |  | 6,000.00 |
| Other Fund Raiser | 1,000.00 | - |  | 1,000.00 |
| Scholarship Donation | - | 50.00 |  | - |
| Fund Raiser-Book Sale | 1,500.00 | - |  | 1,500.00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total Receipts** | $15,900.00 | $15,108.00 |  | $ 12,400.00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | ***PROPOSED*** |
|  | ***BUDGET*** | ***SPENT*** | ***BUDGET*** | ***BUDGET*** |
|  | ***2013-2014*** | ***TO DATE*** | ***BALANCE*** | ***2014-2015*** |
| **EXPENSES** |  |  |  |  |
| National Dues | 2,940.00 | 3,006.00 | (66.00) | 2,940.00 |
| State Dues | 540.00 | 641.50 | (101.50) | 540.00 |
| AAUW Funds | 850.00 | 850.00 | - | 850.00 |
| Advertising | 100.00 | - | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Candidate Forum | 50.00 | - | 50.00 | 50.00 |
| Directory | 35.00 | 38.95 | (3.95) | 40.00 |
| Fund Raiser | 100.00 | 120.00 | (20.00) | 100.00 |
| Gifts | 100.00 | 100.00 | - | 100.00 |
| Hospitality | 50.00 | - | 50.00 | 50.00 |
| Insurance | 175.00 | 170.00 | 5.00 | 175.00 |
| National Convention | - | - | - | 1,800.00 |
| Newsletter | 15.00 | - | 15.00 | 15.00 |
| Postage | 50.00 | 9.20 | 40.80 | 50.00 |
| Scholarships | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 | - | 2,000.00 |
| Space Rental | 200.00 | - | 200.00 | 200.00 |
| Speakers/Programs | 300.00 | - | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| State Convention | 500.00 | 183.50 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Wom Hist Initiative/Science Mentor |  |  |  |  |
| Awards | 225.00 | 225.00 | - | 225.00 |
| Program | 1,000.00 | - | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 50.00 | 22.60 | 27.40 | 50.00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total Expenses** | $9280.00 | $7366.75 |  | $ 11,085.00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **2013-2014 Receipts vs. Expenses $7741.25**  **Proposed Budget Receipts vs. Expenses $1315.00** | |  |  |  |
|  | |  |  |  |

*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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**Minnesota State Website:**

http://www.aauwmn.org

**Association Website:**

<http://www.aauw.org>

**Association e-mail: info@aauw.org**

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