Looking Forward and Reflecting Back

*Tuesday, February 18, 2014, 12:30 PM*
*Lunch at City Market, 527 E Silver Spring Dr, Whitefish Bay*

Let’s take a look at the future together.

Meet at City Market in Whitefish Bay at 12:30. Order lunch and sit together for an important organized discussion to help plan for the 2014 to 2015 year. Also we’ll hear from Linda Clancy about the exciting things happening at our local colleges.

Please RSVP to Lois Malawsky (414-352-4190 or loisandjay@sbcglobal.net) so we will be able to prepare for enough seating. For a ride contact: Marilyn Stuckey at 352-4876

From your Leadership

Well it is a beautiful day, snow and cold. We have learned to deal with whatever this season. I believe a positive attitude is the best course of action in this weather. If you are not so happy about the weather I am sorry but on with next month’s meeting.

We are going to lunch at the City Market on Silver Spring Drive in Whitefish Bay. We are meeting at 12:30 so we miss the large lunch crowd. In groups of 4 or 5 we will discuss our future, the best of this year, the things we can improve on and program ideas for next year. It is a wonderful chance to vent, improve what is, and create a bright future.

Talking about a bright future Audrey, Linda and their committee have met with area colleges and established meet and greet opportunities for college student and AAUW NORTH SHORE. Linda Clancy will tell us more at our February meeting.

Let Lois Malawsky know if you are coming, she and her committee are setting thing up for the day in February.

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AAUW Mission in Action

Contributors: Marge Henderson, Rona Gahr

Five years ago Lily Ledbetter stood by President Obama while he signed his first bill into law, the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. This was an important first step in the fight for pay equity but it was just that — a first step. This bill righted a wrong-headed decision the Supreme Court made in the Ledbetter case, but we all need the Paycheck Fairness Act to give employees and employers the tools they need to make real progress in closing the gender pay gap. Lily Ledbetter and AAUW will be back in Washington to celebrate the law’s passage and to remind Congress that their work is not done.

In 1962, AAUW helped the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women draft a report on issues facing American women. Fifty years later, AAUW is contributing research on the status of women and joining with the U.S. Department of Labor to celebrate the anniversary of the report’s release.

The House Administration Committee will hold a meeting on the future of the National Women’s History Museum. This is a cause AAUW members have long supported. The Committee will consider a bipartisan bill that would appoint a commission to explore the museum’s financial and logistical prospects.

There still is work to be done on stopping the scourge of sexual assault in our nation’s military. Service members deserve better and a change must be made. The Pentagon has been aware of the problems and yet the problems worsen. AAUW feels it is time to give judicial authority of these crimes to an independent and impartial body within the military. The Sexual Assault Training Oversight and Prevention (STOP) Act would take sexual assault offenses out of the military’s command and put them in civilian courts. Last year, 8% of assailants were referred to military courts compared to 40% for similar offenders prosecuted in the civilian court system. The STOP Act would create an independent, professional office within the Pentagon in charge of the investigation, prosecution, reporting, oversight and victim care of sexual assault.

From your Leadership

We are seeking members to take over Leadership and Secretary for next year. If we all take a turn at it we will stay strong and vital as an organization. Our State and Federal groups are great.

We should all give a great big thanks to our national leaders. It a start and the more we discuss it the sooner changes will be made.
AAUW Mission in Action
Contributed by Marge Henderson

AAUW had a remarkable year last year. With the power of all branch members’ support, AAUW was able to:

- Successfully press Congress to reauthorize a strengthened Violence Against Women Act. This Act protects all victims of violence and also improves campus safety.
- Spearheaded legislation in N.J. and LA that advanced paycheck fairness at the state level.
- Awarded more than $3.7 million in fellowships and grants to 245 women in the 2013-14 academic year and completed 23 endowments in 2013.
- Launched new science, technology, engineering, and math camps for girls. The California based Tech Trek camp was also expanded to four other states (Florida, Ohio, Oklahoma and Washington) and three more states will be added this year. Each camp serves between 30-50 eighth grade girls. These camps level the playing fields with boys for girls entering the freshman year of high school.
- Tech Savvy is another successful program that will be built upon for the next year. The camp started in Buffalo N.Y. with a grant from AAUW and has since served about 600 girls. It is hoped ten additional camps sites across the country will be created in 2014.

On December 28, 2013, Congress left town without finishing the job of extending emergency unemployment benefits for the long-term unemployed. Now 1.3 million out-of-work Americans have NO benefits.

Unemployment insurance helps struggling families stay out of poverty. The national unemployment rate of women in November, 2013 was 6.2%; and women are just as likely as men to receive unemployment insurance benefits. In 2012 alone, unemployment insurance kept more than 1.7 million people, including 655,000 women & 446,000 children from falling into poverty.

TELL YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS TO RESTORE EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS NOW

Then and Now – 1905 to 2009

May 8, 1905

Pay equity

AAUW supports the first federal pay equity legislation.
Branch News

Breakfast Group  
Thursday, Feb 13, 9 AM

In February we'll meet at Maxfield's, 333 West Brown Deer Road. Please let me know if you plan to attend, in case the restaurant needs to arrange seating. The evening before, is fine. Join us! Mary Jacobson, (262)377-1128, RJMaco@aol.com

Book Group  
1st Tuesday of the month 7:15 PM

The book club will not resume until April. We meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month through August. The remaining books are:

- April  
  HAVEN by Ruth Gruber
- May  
  THE BURGESS BOYS by Elizabeth Strout
- June  
  Book not chosen yet, have a reviewer
- July  
  New Books chosen/ lunch somewhere
- Aug  
  THIS BEAUTIFULL LIFE by Helen Schulman

Lifelong Learning  
2st & 4rd Mondays, 9:30 AM

We will meet on February 10th and 24th at the Mequon Fiddleheads. We will begin discussing *Book of Ages: Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin* by Jill LePore.

Member News

Upcoming Meetings and Events

April 25-26, 2014  
AAUW –WI Convention, Eau Claire

June 18 -21, 2015  
AAUW Convention in San Diego, CA

Invite a friend to join AAUW today!
This year’s Nominating Committee is Mary Tysver, Marilyn Stuckey, Linda Clancy and Lea Picciolo. The Board vacancies are in Leadership, Secretary and Publicity. Please consider being a member of the leadership team!

Programs – Monthly Chairs are responsible for the publicity of their event and should attend the Saturday Board meeting the month previous to their month’s event.

In March, our branch with the AAUW Milwaukee Branch will be hosting an informative get together with the staff at UWM. Due to the size and uniqueness of the event, we will need the presence of our membership. More details to follow.

The February luncheon is to focus on our organization. It will be an opportunity to socialize and share your concerns of the past and offer suggestions for the future. Mark your calendar – see the front page of this newsletter for details.

Education: An Antidote to Poverty
Adapted from Blog by Suzanne Gould, originally published January 16, 2014

During the 1960s, the decade of change, AAUW was in the midst of change, too. In 1965, AAUW introduced the topic, “Education: An Antidote to Poverty.” By the time the topic was introduced to membership, an AAUW report estimated that between 35 and 50 million Americans (including 15 million children) were living in poverty, close to one-fifth of the population. In response to this alarming trend, AAUW members first studied the many ways in which education could be a possible solution to the problem of poverty with the goal of finding ways to lessen the barriers to quality education. During the second year, states and branches sprang into action.

AAUW of Virginia pushed the state legislature for mandatory public kindergarten and sponsored workshops throughout the state on “The Role of Education in the Struggle against Poverty.” AAUW of Tennessee’s members advocated for legislation to make kindergarten a legal part of the educational system. The AAUW Joliet (IL) and AAUW Elgin (IL) Branches initiated Head Start programs. And the AAUW Jonesboro (AR) Branch created a Head Start of its own, called the Northeast Arkansas Child Development Association. AAUW of California conducted a study to identify schools with high numbers of students leaving school permanently. The AAUW Walnut Creek (CA) Branch created a counseling and tutoring support center for students thinking of leaving school; the AAUW Concord (CA) Branch took a different approach with an emphasis on pre-employment counseling. Nationwide, an impressive array of initiatives, projects, and programs were introduced.

In the 1960s, no one assumed that the efforts of AAUW states and branches would completely eliminate the problem of poverty. But these efforts demonstrated the force and power of organized groups of women. These groups of women had a unique ability to identify and address social problems and then implement workable, community-specific solutions. It was AAUW’s very own War on Poverty, fought entirely by women.

“...whatever comes down the policy pike, you can bet that AAUW will be there to represent the needs of women and girls wherever our voices are needed.”
On the national scene

Our Impact

$4.3 million awarded in fellowships and grants to support 278 women in their professional and academic careers in 2012 alone

1,200 congressional office visits to protect college access and affordability, reauthorize VAWA, prevent bullying and harassment, pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, and eliminate workplace discrimination

140 college campuses reached with Start Smart salary negotiation workshops

Our Impact


Our Impact

AAUW is highlighting a vital part of the U.S. higher education system by awarding $45,000 in grants to 11 campus projects designed to implement recommendations from the 2013 AAUW research report Women in Community College: Access to Success, which examines the needs of student mothers; the barriers women face in nontraditional and high-demand science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields; and the challenges women have in completing a certificate or degree or in transferring to a four-year institution. The report includes recommendations that will improve community colleges for all students. The selected projects include the development of mentorship programs, speakers’ series, leadership workshops, and institutional partnerships with child-care centers.

About AAUW

Since 1881 the American Association of University Women has been the nation’s leading voice promoting education and equity for women and girls through its research, public policy, legal advocacy, international programs, and fellowships, grants and awards. AAUW conducts advocacy work at both the national and local level and has approximately 150,000 members, 1,000 branches, and 700 college and university partners.

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

Value Promise
By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Diversity
AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.