



## Iowa Branch Connector

March, 2015

A Monthly Electronic Bulletin for AAUW Leaders in Iowa

**The Value of Affiliation with AAUW:** *By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.*

***Welcome to this monthly electronic publication. You are invited to share this information with other members and branch leaders by forwarding it to them, or providing a hard copy.***

Maureen White, AAUW Iowa President 2014-16

***Is your branch interested in a way to make it easier to remind members to renew or for new members to join your branch, AAUW Iowa and AAUW?***

The following article by Amy Getty, AAUW Iowa Membership Vice President, tells how.

### **Online Dues Processing**

New memberships for the year began on **March 16<sup>th</sup>**. That means that anyone who renews or becomes a new member from now until next spring will have a membership through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

With this season of membership upon us, there's no better time to make the switch to the Membership Payment Program (MPP) to get help your branch process its dues. What can the MPP do for your branch?

Jennifer McNabb, member of the Storm Lake Branch states, "We started [using it] under my term as secretary/treasurer. I found it to be very easy. You can quickly see who has renewed and who hasn't. You can "invoice" members who still need to renew. They can use the invoice to log-in and renew with a credit card. National then electronically deposits our portion of the dues."

When you sign up, you can use the e-mail feature to send renewal notices to your members (the invoices that Jennifer mentioned above), who can then choose to renew online with a credit card. If you have members who prefer checks, they can print a form and mail a payment to the branch finance officer. The finance officer then gathers them and processes them through the program.

The program will also send follow-up messages to your members as needed. When members renew online, the branch finance officer receives an immediate e-mail notification and can monitor receipts as the MPP system tracks them. This online system cuts out an extra step for branch finance officers, who would otherwise collect all members' checks and send a single payment for the branch. The branch retains its portion of the dues.

In addition, this system makes it easier for those who are new to AAUW to find a local branch online. Currently, they pay state dues through the system, but if they want a branch, they have to seek out information to find the membership or finance chairs. In this system, they can join all three groups (national, state, and branch) in one swoop. Waverly and Storm Lake are the only two branches at present that have this capability. Branch presidents or finance officers can opt in today to the MPP using the Member Services Database (MSD) for this free access. Allow 14 business days after opting in to begin using the MPP.

Follow this link to sign up today and increase your online visibility!

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/membership-payment-program/>