

Iowa Branch Connector

August 2012

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.

Maxine Lampe, AAUW IA President 2012-2014

Since I was five years old, August has been the “back to school” month. As an elementary student there was excitement about getting my new school supplies. Then in high school August meant the start of extra curricular activities, in college August was sorority “rush” month and as a teacher it was preparing bulletin boards and curriculum. Finally as a school administrator I came back on duty in August to prepare for orientation of new teachers and planning with returning teachers. I used my Franklin Planner daily to keep my schedules straight and my to do list manageable. The same is true of AAUW. Some of the things on your to do list as a branch leader beginning a new year are:

- Make sure all dues are submitted
- Make sure you have updated your officer list and sent it to Hiliary Burns, our administrative assistant @ hiliary.burns@gmail.com as well as entering it on the National website. There are still 12 branches that have not updated their information.
- Make sure new branch officers have a copy of their job description. None of us can do a good job if we don't know what we are suppose to do. Maureen White, our new public policy co-chair is willing to do leadership development with your branch. She is from Cedar Falls and can be reached at mwhite@cfu.net.
- Have a membership plan in place. If you need help contact Mary Ann Ahrens @ maahrens@mchsi.com and she will be happy to send you a planning sheet or visit with you. We hope with the new stimulus money available that you will be able to come up with creative plans.
- Register your branch for Speech Trek - the toolkit will walk you through the whole process. It is online. Look for the link. Contact: rjedlicka@ilcc.cc.ia.us. if you have questions. **Branch Registration is October 1st.**
- Put the conference dates on your calendar. April 13 in Decorah for the Eastern side of the state and April 27 in Denison for the Western side of the state.
- Check out the calendar on the AAUW Iowa website. Add to it any important events you would like all of us to know about. Lois Enger is our webmaster and is great to work with. engerl@mchsi.com.
- Send me a copy of your yearbook and/or newsletter either electronically or via snail mail. lampe.maxine@gmail.com. 943 Leona Circle, Storm Lake, IA. 50588
- Plan to make your branch aware of “Our Voice Our Vote !” We need to make sure our members vote in this important November election!

The Connector is an opportunity for you as a branch to connect with other branches. If you have any exciting ideas you would like to share about “Get out the Vote” meetings send them to me and we will list them in the next months Connector.

I suggest you look at the Palo Alto Website to see their wonderful garden tour this summer and Girls Kickoff video. The Davenport-Bettendorf Branch has had lots of fun activities this summer. They also sent

Kara Poppe, a student leader to the AAUW Leadership Conference in Washington, DC. She traveled to London and the European Continent (sponsored by UNI) as well as to China this summer. Sounds like a future AAUW leader. I am so pleased to be getting their newsletter. And the Atlantic Branch is pleased to be on facebook. I'd love to hear from other branches so I can share that information with others so we can "Connect".

I hope to have the "Connector" online by the first Saturday of every month. Let me know what we can do to help your branch and in what areas you need more information.

Have a Great August!
Maxine Lampe, President AAUW IA

