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**APRIL 2012**

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**APRIL MEETING**

Monday, April 23  
7:00 p.m.  
Grace Lutheran Church

***"Therapeutic Massage Therapy and Aromatherapy"***

*Come join us and learn about aromatherapy. Enjoy a night out relaxing with friends.  
Presenters: Stacy Bulfer and Tammy Stuber*

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**HOSPITALITY: April 23<sup>th</sup>**

MaryDon Kislingbury\*  
Donna Hillstad  
DeeAnn Helfritz

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**HOSPITALITY: May 21**

Linda Meschke\*  
Carol Nasby  
Margot Madsen  
Sue Olson

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# BRANCH PROJECTS

We are progressing on our Branch website.

The other project, a list of services available for women in transition, is going to be handled by a local Girl Scout, Rachel Botzet, as her Gold Award Project. She is currently drafting her proposal for submission to the council for approval. AAUW members may be contacted, if needed, for information. Our branch will be her community partner in the project.

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## AUW POST GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Submitted by Jo Moltzen

Applications have been reviewed, and the recipient of the scholarship will be announced at the May meeting.

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## ***OFFICER ELECTIONS***

Several positions will be open for the coming 2-year cycle. If you are contacted, please give serious consideration to taking on one of the positions. Most are "co" positions, so you would be sharing the work with another! We need EVERYONE to step in when needed to keep our branch running smoothly! THANKS!

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## ***MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION***

If a new member joins after March 15, 2012, the full \$75.00 is paid taking the membership to June 30, 2013, in effect getting 15 months for 12. With the anonymous donor paying the non-tax deductible portion of the full membership fee, the new member will pay \$46.00 which is tax deductible to her.

Encourage people you know to join our branch with these fabulous membership fees! These anonymous donations are valid ONLY for the 2011-2012 membership year. Membership forms are available from Lael Luedtke, Membership VP (612-201-4781) or [Fairmontaauw@gmail.com](mailto:Fairmontaauw@gmail.com) or Judy Beckman, Treasurer (507-238-4902) or [jnbemb@frontiernet.net](mailto:jnbemb@frontiernet.net).

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# TOUR OF HOMES

The Tour of Homes is coming up fast!! Some Committee Chairs have volunteered, but we will need help from EVERYONE! The TOH will be held on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> – the fifth Saturday of the month.

TOH Co-Chairs: Lael Luedtke, DeeAnn Helfritz, & Nancy Klemek  
“House-Finders”: Char Kahler, Sue Olson, [Melissa Roemer ?] – and ALL membership!  
Art: Char Kahler  
House Descriptions: Judy Beckman  
Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_  
Publicity: Jennifer Tow  
Home Hostesses [4]: Jo Moltzen Judy Beckman \_\_\_\_\_

All FOUR homes have been confirmed for the Tour – yeah!! Thanks to all who helped with this!!

This is our major fundraising effort – proceeds fund our 2 scholarships. However, it requires the help of ALL members to make it a success!

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## MISSION IN MOTION

The Fairmont Branch of AAUW submitted its application for the annual Mission in Motion award to the State AAUW by March 15. Awards will be presented at the State Convention in Deerwood April 27-29. Attached to this newsletter are copies of (1) the Mission in Motion Application, and (2) the mandatory Branch 3-Year Strategic Plan.

Submitted By  
Jo Moltzen, Branch Historian

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**MISSION IN MOTION AWARD APPLICATION  
FAIRMONT MN AAUW BRANCH  
(due March 15, 2012)**

**A. Three Year Strategic Plan:** attached

**B. Collaboration with Another Entity**

1. The Branch partnered with the Fairmont Area Chamber of Commerce, MN DEED (Department of Employment and Economic Development), iseek, and local high schools in sponsoring Area Career Exploration (ACE) day for area sophomores. ACE focused on exposing students to area careers; providing information about corresponding educational requirements; identifying career clusters based upon students' interests and abilities; and developing job-seeking skills. More than 400 students and over 100 businesses, professionals, government agencies, nonprofits, colleges, and military branches participated. Branch members served on the planning committee and volunteered at the event by distributing booklets, greeting students, and directing students to their career cluster booths. (04/11)

**C. Three Branch Programs, Projects or Events that Focused on the AAUW Mission**

1. Tracy Lardy of Presentation College-Fairmont, spoke about the educational opportunities available at Presentation for women in the area. Presentation is a Health Science Baccalaureate institution. A total of 133 students were taking college classes at Presentation last year. Of these 133 college students, 92% were women. Of the 86 students in the Nursing Program, 97% were women. In addition to the Nursing Program, women are also working on medical degrees in Radiology Technology, Surgical Technology, and Medical Assisting/Coding. Tracy is the Fairmont Campus Director of Presentation College. (09/11)

2. The Branch has begun work on creating a centralized directory for Martin County that will contain local and area resources for women in crisis (e.g. abuse, homeless, etc.). The directory will focus on needs such as protection, day care, housing, health care, job skills, and language barriers.

3. Holiday party, silent auction, and fundraiser were held. Donations totaling \$760.00 were raised for national AAUW education, advocacy, and research programs. (12/11)

**D. Three Steps Taken to Keep & Add New Members**

1. An anonymous member offered to pay the non-tax-deductible portion of the membership fee for up to ten new members for the 2011-2012 membership year. A new member would then only have to pay the national dues, which are totally tax deductible for her.

2. The Branch encouraged current members to bring at least one guest to one of our meetings during the membership year.

3. Branch members formed a walking unit in Fairmont's annual November Glows Parade. The participating members wore bright red graduation caps and gowns covered with lights, and handed out candy to the children and cards printed with membership information to the women along the parade route.

A year ago, the Branch had 40 members; in March 2012, the Branch has 33 members, for a net loss.

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**STRATEGIC PLAN JANUARY 2012 THROUGH DECEMBER 2014  
FAIRMONT AREA BRANCH (updated 1/1/12)**

VISION	GOAL	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE	TIME	ACCOM
I. We are advocates of equity for women and girls	To educate community on equity and other public policy issues	1. Co-sponsor candidate forums for local, county, state & national offices with Fairmont Area Chamber of Commerce & Fairmont Women of Today	Public Policy Chair	biennially	√
	To encourage young women and men to take advantage of post-secondary educational opportunities	1. Collaborate with Fairmont Area Chamber of Commerce, MN DEED, isseek, & local high schools in sponsoring Area Career Exploration day for area sophomores to provide information about careers, education needed for careers, matching interests/skills with careers, area career opportunities, and developing job-seeking skills.	Members	annually	√
	To educate members on equity and other public policy issues	1. Keep members updated on AAUW public policy issues & priorities	Public Policy Chair	monthly	√
II. We visibly support women's education & equity through philanthropy & community service	To raise funds for women's education	1. Plan & implement a Tour of Homes fundraiser in the Fairmont area	Tour of Homes Chair	biennially	√
		2. Support two scholarships: one for a female high school senior and one for a woman pursuing a post-graduate degree	Members	annually	√
		3. Hold an annual fundraiser to raise educational funds	Funds Chair	annually	√
	To raise funds for legal advocacy	1. Hold an annual fundraiser to raise legal advocacy funds	Funds Chair	annually	√
	To provide support for women & girls at risk through community service projects	1. Provide member volunteers for Fairmont Kinship's spring auction	Members	annually	√
		2. Collect personal care items (or other needed supplies and equipment) for women at risk at one meeting	Program Chair	annually	
		3. Develop resource directory for local women at risk	Member sub-cmte	on-going	√
	To pursue State & National recognition	1. Apply for State & National awards	President	annually	√
III. We are leaders in women's education & equity through a strong branch membership	To increase membership by 5%	1. Hold "new member" gatherings	Membership Chair	1-2 per year	
		2. Develop & keep updated a Fairmont Branch brochure	Membership Chair	on-going	√
		3. Provide a mentor for each new member	Board	on-going	√
	To increase visibility of local branch	1. Attend a high school girls' sporting event in support of Title IX	Members	annually	
		2. Place information re monthly programs in local media and on Chamber of Commerce monthly calendar	Program Chair	monthly	√
		3. Take part in parades, expos, fairs, etc.	Members	annually	√
	To increase member awareness & participation in Branch activities	1. Hold meetings of incoming & outgoing Branch leaders to share experiences & ideas; outgoing leaders will share their three best ideas for action	Board	annually	√
		2. Present & discuss Strategic Plan at one of the monthly meetings	President	annually	√
		3. Educate members on branch, state & national priorities through Branch newsletters, bulletins & meetings	Board	monthly	√