



empowering women since 1881

**American Association of University Women**

Tomah WI Branch – Organized in 1972

## the **Twig** branch newsletter - February 18, 2020

**Girl Empowerment Workshop**  
**Thursday, March 26, 2020 3:30 - 8:00 pm**  
**Tomah Middle School library and classrooms nearby**  
**45 girls in attendance**

### Needs! Please offer your assistance:

1 to 2 women to help check in girls and hand out snack – 3:15-3:40

All women to contribute a special finger/fancy treat for supper (supper will be at 5:10 so food needs to be to TMS no later than 4:45) We will feed our 5 speakers as well as any AAUW women in attendance

Beverage for supper

At least 2 women to help set up and clean up supper.

Things to make the room pretty like tablecloths/centerpieces etc.

After school snack: water bottle/banana/granola bar (something like this)

We will also need paper plates, napkins and cups to be donated.

Five women to go through the workshop with their group of 9 girls – experience the evening with them and facilitate the two chat sessions with them. Lead questions will be provided. This is just listening to them, encouraging them and being a role model for them. Thank you to Ann and Julia for being our first two of five ladies.

Donations for goody bags are needed. We have the bags. Bonnie is donating pocket folders. Thank you, Bonnie! Donations are any small things girls may enjoy. This could be from a local business or something purchased on your own.

Things donated in the past: fast food coupons, pencils, treat of some sort, nail polish, toothbrush, etc. If you have a connection with someone and could ask for a donation, that would be great. Please communicate what so we do not duplicate. We don't want two people going to the same business.

Thank you to Joline Powell for being one of our presenters!

Thank you for looking over this list of needs. We do have a budget of \$250 to use where needed.

Email responding to all so everyone can see who is able to help and let me know in what capacity.

Our next planning meeting will be Wednesday, March 4 from 3:30-4:00 at TMS Counseling Office. Would love to have you join us.

**Tammy Hewuse,**  
**Lead Organizer**  
[hewusefamily@centurylink.net](mailto:hewusefamily@centurylink.net)

## Minutes of our Last Meeting:

We last met on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 5:30 in the new Tomah Health facility. We were greeted by Julie Anderson, a Community Outreach Nurse.

Those present: Ann gerzel, Barb Mundinger, Tammy Hewuse, Julia Palmer, Sonia Olson, Bonnie Peterson, Cindy Zahrte, Deb Young and Audrey Chambers. We enjoyed refreshments while giving introductions and Julie Anderson provided an overview of the new facility which we also toured.

Some of the features are:

- Patient safety upgrades
- Layout designed for better workflow and ease of use by patients
- Six Urgent Care rooms in addition to the Emergency area
- Therapy pool with an underwater treadmill
- Gate assisted therapy track
- A larger Physical Therapy gym
- Enhanced areas for OB with birthing tubs and hydro-therapy tubs
- Nine private rooms for infusion services and five heated recliners\
- Sleep Services (yet to be opened)
- Three conference rooms on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor

Tomah Health also does outreach through Men's Health Nigh (March 26), babysitting classes, Dementia Education and Awareness, and a free foot clinic with students from Viterbo University.

## OLD BUSINESS:

1. President Audrey Chambers said there were ten AAUW members and a nice turnout of ambassadors that took part in the recent Tomah Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting ceremony at Vino Anjo. It was a very nice event!

While at Vino Anjo a brief meeting was held because an important item had come up. Western Technical College had sent Audrey Chambers a letter and stated that only one candidate for our scholarships had met the criteria for the award of \$500 (a single mother, from Monroe County in her second year). We voted to allow the Western Technical Foundation to award the second \$500 scholarship to a single mom, from Monroe County in her first year. It was suggested we discuss the criteria next year for awarding scholarships from AAUW.

2. A discussion of officers was held. A nominating Committee was formed by volunteers Tammy Hewuse and Deb Young. Thank you, Tammy and Deb! Nominations for President and Membership Chair are sought. Audrey Chambers is willing to fill the remainder of the Treasurer's position vacated by Sandy Humphrey. The Secretary / Newsletter Editor position is also open, but Bonnie Peterson offered to continue unless someone else would like to take it over and that would be okay with her.

A slate of nominees for officers will be sent out at least seven days prior to the Annual Meeting.

The election and a proposed budget will need to be voted on at our Annual Meeting in April. The AAUW State President is slated to be our guest speaker. Please note that the Annual Meeting will be held at the Ground Round due to the limited space at Murray's on Main unless we rented a much larger room for \$200. There is no charge for use of the Ground Round banquet room as long as we order our dinners.

3. Tammy Hewuse lead a discussion about the Girl's Empowerment Workshop. Please see page 1 of this newsletter. I apologize, but I was not able to open her document that had the schedule. I will send that information along when I can.
4. We are set to work at the American Legion fish fry on March 20<sup>th</sup> as a fund raiser. Six to eight members are needed. Contact Megan Divyak with questions and offers to assist. Thank you, Megan for coordinating this.  
[megan.lund@gmail.com](mailto:megan.lund@gmail.com)

5. Julia Palmer presented a slate of eight nominees for recognition during our March – Women’s History Month celebration. We voted and selected Lisa McCormick, Sharon Seely, and Martha Klatt to be recognized. Julia Palmer will contact Lisa, Audrey Chambers will contact Sharon Seely and Cindy Zahrte will contact Martha Klatt. February 26<sup>th</sup> is the due date for the interview write-ups and photos to be submitted. Thank you to Cindy Zahrte who will coordinate production of the booklets.
6. AAUW State Convention: April 17 & 18 – La Crosse Radisson. Our branch has been asked to act as hostesses on Friday evening for the Hospitality Room, 7:30 – 10 p.m. There will be no basket auction this year. Instead, we voted to make a cash donation of \$100 to AAUW Greatest Needs.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. We need a poster board to display the activities of the Tomah Branch during the AAUW State Convention. Bonnie Peterson can supply photos. It was suggested we ask Kathy Peterson if she’d like to share her talent in this way.
2. The Tomah Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet will be held on February 24<sup>th</sup>. The ticket is \$45 and Audrey has the ticket should any member wish to attend and represent AAUW – Tomah Branch.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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If you have newsletter items, please send them to Bonnie Peterson, AAUW Secretary, at [wordemp@centurylink.net](mailto:wordemp@centurylink.net) or 12808 County Hwy. PP, Tomah, WI 54660. Phone: 608-372-7501