

the**Twig**branch newsletter – May 8, 2020



Notes shared by Deb Thiel:

- The location of the 2021 state convention is still up in the air. A committee has been appointed to meet with affected parties and the board hopes to decide by June whether we will go with Madison, the original destination for 2021, or La Crosse.

A "convention" newsletter is being compiled to replace info which would have been in the convention booklet.

- The national board will match funds up to

\$18,000 from members donated during the month of May to the Greatest Needs Fund.

Our best wishes go to Deb as she recovers from a tick bite that had her hospitalized for five days! Hope you are feeling much better!

From Audrey Chambers:

I received this request from Western Technical College and would like our members to consider donating something from our Tomah Branch.



We know that many people in our community may be facing new challenges due to the pandemic and this might not be a convenient time for you to make a contribution. If you are able to help on this special Giving Tuesday, please consider a gift to help provide emergency assistance for current Western students or to help the College acquire Personal Protection Equipment.

Would you please make a donation to support the Student Emergency Fund?

As Western Technical College students return to campus as COVID-19 restrictions are revised or lifted, Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) is needed to help ensure the safety of students and staff, particularly for training essential workers in health and public safety careers. In March, Western donated PPE supplies to district medical facilities to help with the initial response to the pandemic.

Now, Western is in need of PPE including gloves, eye protection (goggles or glasses), and cloth or reusable masks and gowns.

If you have PPE to donate, please contact Western's Emergency Operations Liaison at 608-785-9201 or balacekp@westerntc.edu.

I have a couple of questions regarding the message from WTC. Do we want to do something for others to protect teachers and students from COVID 19?

Question 1: Do we want to donate some money to WTC from our chapter?

Question 2: If we donate, how much, \$50 or \$100 or a different amount?

Please respond to Audrey so we can have a majority vote from all of our members.

cham98@centurytel.net or 372-0859

On a personal note here are a few more things I am doing to keep myself entertained with a positive attitude during this time of isolation from others. My poor cat gets talked to often but I have found she is not a great conversationalist and has little to offer other than loud purring!! I have been watching DVDs that have lots of humor and listening to some of my favorite music. One performer I love is Andrea Bocelli. My favorite is Time to Say Goodbye. What an artist. Hope you are finding ways to stay entertained too. And if you have someone else to talk to at home be grateful for that! -- Audrey

From AAUW:

Please respond to Audrey also in regards to your thoughts about a donation to national AAUW from our Tomah Branch. Below is the email received by Audrey.



*hope you saw my recent email about the generous fundraising match provided by our National board of directors and National committee leaders. Since I sent that note, more AAUW leaders have come forward and asked to contribute to the match, which now stands at \$23,000! **That means, from now through May 30, we'll double all gifts to AAUW up to \$23,000** so we can continue our important work together to advance equity through uncertain times.*

Please, donate to protect the economic security of women, who comprise many of the nation's caregivers, health care workers and service employees at the front lines of the coronavirus crisis.

Our leaders offered this generous match because they understand how important it is for us to continue our crucial mission work and to sustain AAUW's operations at a time when so many funding sources are no longer available. Indeed, most nonprofits are anticipating at least 50% cuts in philanthropy due to the pandemic.

*When you give to AAUW, you'll be providing the critical unrestricted support we need to preserve our organization **today** so we can keep building a better **tomorrow** for women and their families. And you'll be helping to ensure we can respond quickly to crisis situations like the one we're living through together.*

[If you can, please consider a gift in whatever amount you can afford by May 30 so we can DOUBLE its impact.](#)

Thank you for your support and please stay safe,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimberly Churches'.

*Kimberly Churches
Chief Executive Officer*

REMINDER! Please pay your 2020-21 Dues. We look forward to having in-person meetings again. Thank you!

Our Mission: The American Association of University Women (AAUW) advances equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

www.aauw-wi.aauw.net www.facebook.com/aauwwi aauw-wi@gmail.com

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