

Monday, March 5, 2012

9:30 - 10:30 DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH - Presidents' Hall

How Taxing the Wealthy Can Actually Create American Jobs and Human Capital Investment

Speaker: Dane Smith, President, Growth & Justice
www.growthandjustice.org

Some claim that taxing the wealthy kills jobs. What is the role of tax policy in the distribution of wealth, prosperity, and the creation of jobs that pay a living wage? Our speaker, the president of a progressive think tank, has studied these issues and contends that taxing the wealthy can actually create jobs. Hear his case for what's fair and smart in funding government.

Joyce Prudden

10:45 - 11:45 ENVIRONMENT - Presidents' Hall

How Close is Too Close?

Speaker: Peggy Callahan, Executive Director, Wildlife
Science Center
www.wildlifesciencecenter.org

Our speaker will share information about how human encroachment on animal habitat impacts the animal's well-being. The center offers both on-site and off-site programs for children, including a winter festival dog sled event. Some of the animals in residence at the center are cougar, lynx, wolves, fox, bear, and raptors. Ms. Callahan will give differing viewpoints on recent legislation removing the gray wolf from the endangered species list in Minnesota.

Barb Link

11:45 – Noon - ANNOUNCEMENTS

12:00 - 1:15 - LUNCHEON

Luncheon Hostess: Mary Ann Christenson

Guest Hostess: Virginia Hansing

Marionettes Minneapolis Room

Program Committee Association Room

1:15 - 2:15 - HEALTH - Presidents' Hall

Why We Need the Arts in Health Care

Speaker: Gary Christenson, MD, University of Minnesota Boynton Health Service

We're seeing a resurgence of interest in a more holistic approach to healing that includes the reintroduction of the arts as an adjunct to medical treatment. Organizations have been established to bring artists, creative arts therapists, nurses, physicians, and others to discuss and promote the use of art in health care. Learn about this significant and exciting frontier from one of the pioneers and major players in the field. He will also tell us how to integrate these arts into our life.

Annie Glasgow

Monday, March 12, 2012

9:30 - 10:30 - WOMEN LEADERS - Presidents' Hall

What it Takes to Lead the Minnesota Women's Press

Speaker: Kathy Magnuson, Co-Publisher of Minnesota Women's Press
www.womenspress.com

Did you ever wonder what it takes to run a women's newspaper for 28 years in the Twin Cities? Kathy Magnuson, co-publisher for the Minnesota Women's Press, will share with us how she became interested in, started her career, and succeeded in creating and running a successful women's newspaper.

Mindy Rechelbacher

10:45 - 11:45 APPLAUSE FOR THE ARTS - Presidents' Hall

Women Pirates

Speaker: Dawn Brodey, Actress, Writer, Historian

Dawn Brodey's love affair with pirates began early, and the realities of piracy still captivate her. Although violent, their lifestyle nevertheless created yearning in others for more excitement, unpredictability, and danger. Bold women lusting for adventure, individuality, wealth, and freedom were, like men, drawn to the primitive but incomparable possibilities aboard a pirate ship.

Jeanne Bearmon

11:45 - 12:15 - BUSINESS MEETING

Election of Officers

Reading of new Bylaws and Standing Rules changes

12:15 - 1:15 - LUNCHEON

Luncheon Hostess: Beth McCabe

Guest Hostess: Karen Landro

New Members Association Room

1:15 - 2:15 – HEALTH - Presidents' Hall

Aging in Place: A Movement on the Forefront

Speakers: Marcia Townley, Founder and Chairperson, Mill City Commons
Linnea Tweed, Executive Director, Mill City Commons

As we age, many of us worry about "what next?" Do we want to age as our parents did with their children, in a retirement community, or a nursing home? Mill City Commons, a nonprofit started by a group of neighbors, offers an example of how we can stay in our own community and thrive as we grow older. Marcia Townley and Linnea Tweed will tell us how this program started and how it has impacted the lives of more than 150 members.

Marty Allen

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

5:00 - SOCIAL

5:15 LITERATURE—BOOK DISCUSSION - Founders Room

The Falls by Joyce Carol Oates

Discussion Leader: Beth Montgomery

This is a haunting story of the powerful spell Niagara Falls casts upon two generations of a family, leading to tragedy, love, loss and ultimately, redemption. It is a drama of parents and their children, of secrets and sins, of lawsuits and murder. The author explores not only the characters in this family, but America itself in the mid-twentieth century. She examines what happens when the richly interwoven relationships of parents and their children are challenged by circumstances outside the family.

6:00 - DINNER

7:00 - PROGRAM - Presidents' Hall

A Woman Serves Her Country and Then Comes Home

Speaker: Kristin Schwarze, Staff Sergeant (E-6) US Army

After high school, Kristin Schwarze enlisted in the Army and the Minnesota National Guard, serving from 1997 until 2007. During that time, Kristin trained and served in nine states as well as in Germany. She was deployed to Bosnia from 2003-2004 and in Iraq from 2005-2006. Kristin was a cook, a military intelligence specialist, and a drone pilot. She will share her experiences in the military and her reacclimation to civilian life.

Louise Winter

Monday, March 19, 2012

9:30 - 10:30 – EDUCATION - Presidents' Hall

The Earlier the Better

Speaker: Barbara Yates, Executive Director, Resources for Child Caring
www.resourcesforchildcare.org

Barbara Yates will speak about early childhood in Minnesota and related legislative issues, innovations in early childhood programming, and Minnesota's successful grant for the \$45 million Race to the Top Early Learning program. Resources for Child Caring, an organization which just acquired Ready4K, will be combined and become "Think Small." This organization provides training, coaching, and support to early childhood providers, operates a publishing company, and has an early childhood public library.

Barb Link

10:45 - 11:45 - SOCIAL CULTURAL CHANGE -Presidents' Hall

The Reflective Life

Speaker: Valerie Tiberius, Professor, Philosophy Department, University of Minnesota

Professor Tiberius brings keen insight to the enduring questions of "How to live?" and "What can we do to live reflectively and wisely given our limitations?" Knowing when to stop reflecting and lose ourselves in experience is crucial to wisdom. This speaks to how--not what--we choose as the goods of life and furthers the process of achieving a state of well-being.

Jeanne Bearmon

11:45 - Noon - ANNOUNCEMENTS

12:00 - 1:15 - LUNCHEON

Luncheon Hostess: Georgia Wiebe

Guest Hostess: Aleda Muller

Headlines	Fellowships Room
House Management	Association Room
Technology	Minneapolis Room

1:15 - 2:15 POLITICAL WORLD LANDSCAPE - Presidents' Hall

Designing Resilient Communities

Speaker: Tom Fisher, Professor and Dean, College of Design, University of Minnesota
www.design.umn.edu

Dean Fisher will talk about how communities have changed dramatically in the last 50 years and how, in the process, they have become less resilient and less able to adapt to outside forces or external stresses. He will describe what we can learn from our ancestors about how to form more resilient communities that have the ability to thrive in a variety of conditions.

Mary Moriarty

Monday, March 26, 2012

9:30 - 10:30 MONDAY INTEREST GROUPS

Please see the Programs Page for a full list of groups.

BOOK DISCUSSION - Heritage Room

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford

Discussion Leaders: Mollie Keys and Peggy Woodbury

Set in Seattle during World War II, this novel explores the themes of father/son conflict, first love, and the heartache of Japanese internment camps. Henry, a Chinese American, remembers Keiko, a Japanese American girl, from his childhood in the 1940s. Their friendship withstood many trials. Now, forty years later, Henry begins a search for his first love.

GREAT DECISIONS - Presidents' Hall

Leader: Anne Shainline

Topic: **Middle East Realignment**

Great Decisions discussions investigate topics of political interest. Background and analysis of issues are provided in a 25-minute DVD program which is distributed by the Foreign Policy Association, a 90-year-old organization committed to the importance of education in a democracy. This will be followed by a half-hour discussion.

10:45 - 11:45 - PUBLIC POLICY - Presidents' Hall

Moving Beyond the Affordable Care Act: The Minnesota Health Plan and a New Paradigm for Health Care Financing

Speaker: David Dvorak, MD, Physicians for a National Health Program, Minnesota Chapter

The Affordable Care Act of 2010 may fall short of its goals of controlling health care spending and providing universal coverage. Our presenter will discuss the Minnesota Health Plan, a proposed single-payer initiative that a growing number of Minnesotans are supporting. He believes it is the only effective solution to our health care crisis.

Karen Rowley

11:45 - Noon - ANNOUNCEMENTS

12:00 - 1:15 LUNCHEON

Luncheon Hostess: Elaine Braun

Guest Hostess: Marlene Teien

Public Policy Fellowships Room

1:15 - 2:15 - DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH - Presidents' Hall

Income Inequalities and the Subsidies of the Rich and Famous

Speaker: Jay Coggins, Professor, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota

Income inequality is in the news. In 2009, almost 1,500 millionaires paid no federal income tax while programs that benefit the poor were under attack. The 99% complain about the privileges the top 1% enjoy. Do they have a point or is this just partisan bickering? Professor Coggins will present his views on how and why the rich are getting richer in America. He believes it is not just changes in the income distribution that drive increased inequality.

Jane Frymire

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

4:30 - MOVIE DISCUSSION Founders Room

Freedom Song

Leaders: Barbara Taft and Ann Vanvick

This is a story of the Civil Rights Movement seen through the eyes of teenage Owen Walker who grew up in bigotry-laden Mississippi in the 1960s. Owen regrets his father's passive behavior against racism and joins the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee as it struggles to reeducate black citizens, gain basic human rights, and promote the right to vote.

5:00 - SOCIAL

5:15 - BUSINESS MEETING - Presidents' Hall

6:00 - DINNER

7:00 -PROGRAM - Presidents' Hall

Celebrate the Journey of Spirited Women

Speaker: Joy Kuby, Minnesota Author, College Instructor, Artist, Personal Story Preservationist, and Owner of Joyful Images

www.joyimages.com

Ms. Kuby will offer a visual presentation of some of the spirited women featured in her book, *The Fortunate Four and Other Journeys of the Heart*. Included will be stories of adventure, romance, and life-long friendships. One true story, special for AAUW members, is about the 1935 summer road trip of four young Hamline University students who later became members of the Minneapolis Branch of AAUW. Her stories will show the gifts that women bring to this world and how each generation of women is connected with those who have traveled before them.

Ann Vanvick

Monday, April 2, 2012

9:30 - 10:30 - THE ENVIRONMENT - Presidents' Hall

What is Happening to the Bees

Speaker: Dr. Marla Spivak, Distinguished McKnight Professor, University of Minnesota

Honey bees have been disappearing at alarming rates in recent years. They are essential to healthy ecosystems and are pollinators of a third of the United States food supply. Marla Spivak, an entomologist, is developing practical applications to protect honey bee populations from decimation, while making fundamental contributions to our understanding of bee biology.

Mollie Keys

10:45 - 11:45 - HEALTH - Presidents' Hall

East Meets West: How Traditional Chinese Medicine Enhances Health Care in the 21st Century

Speaker: Dr. Pam Weiss, Acupuncturist

Dr. Pam Weiss will describe using traditional Chinese medicine therapies including acupuncture, acupressure, external QiGong healing, and Tui Na, a form of massage, to enhance health care in the 21st century.

Jacqueline Teisberg

11:45 – Noon - ANNOUNCEMENTS

12:00 - 1:15 - LUNCHEON

Luncheon Hostess: Mary Ann Christenson

Guest Hostess: Virginia Hansing

Marionettes Minneapolis Room

Program Committee Association Room

1:15 - 2:15 – MARIONETTES - Presidents' Hall

The Chinese Kite

Presenters: Marionette Troupe

AAUW's energetic marionette out-reach program participants are eager to entertain both the young and young-at-heart with this year's production. The Minneapolis Branch has maintained a marionette troupe for over 40 years.

Harriette Krasnoff

Monday, April 9, 2012

9:30 - 10:30 - WOMEN LEADERS - Presidents' Hall

Not Me! Empowering Women and Saving Lives A Guide to Self-defense and Staying Safe

Speaker: Al Horner, Author and Founder of Not Me!

Al Horner's experience as a former Navy SEAL gives him a distinctive approach to self-defense. In his book Not Me: Empowering Women and Saving Lives, he gives advice on how to detect a dangerous situation and what to do if you are in one. He specializes in teaching women what to do in unsafe situations.

Lisa Trnka

10:45 - 11:45 - APPLAUSE FOR THE ARTS - Presidents' Hall

Early Jazz and Me: Career in Progress

Speaker/Performer: Butch Thompson, Jazz Pianist

One of Minnesota's master musicians, Butch Thompson has earned a worldwide reputation as a jazz pianist and clarinetist. He is an expert historian of ragtime, stride, and classic jazz piano. He will perform, share his personal history, and tell us more about the people who made jazz America's musical gift to the world.

Barbara McKernan and Noelyn Porter

11:45 - 12:15 - BUSINESS MEETING

Welcome our 50-year members.

Vote on new Bylaws and Standing Rules changes.

12:15 - 1:15 - LUNCHEON

Luncheon Hostess: Beth McCabe

Guest Hostess: Karen Landro

New Members Association Room

1:15 - 2:15 - SOCIAL CULTURAL CHANGE - Presidents' Hall

Igniting Sparks and Thriving

Speaker: Nancy Tellet-Royce, Senior Consultant, the Search Institute

www.search-institute.org/nancy-tellett-royce

Young people with "spark"--and caring, principled adults who support them--have higher grades, higher school attendance rates, and are more likely to volunteer and have a sense of purpose.

Based on Dr. Peter Benson's new book, Sparks! How Parents Can Ignite the Hidden Strengths of Teenagers, our speaker will explain the concept of SPARKS and how we can benefit from this new research.

Heidi Girsch

Tuesday, April 10, 2012

International Evening - Japan

5:00 - SOCIAL

Please come early for a delightful evening which will focus on Japan and Japanese culture. Watch an origami demonstration where you will learn to make a frog and a crane. In addition, enjoy a bonsai display and a photo collection depicting the Japanese Peace Garden at Lake Harriet. There will be sushi and further surprises!

6:00 - DINNER

7:00 – PROGRAM - Presidents' Hall

Japan's History and Culture in the Context of Recent Events

Speaker: Ben Van Lierop, Executive Director of the Japan America Society of Minnesota

The Japan America Society of Minnesota serves as a "bridge" to building relationships between people of the United States and Japan. Ben Van Lierop grew up primarily in South Korea, but spent four years of his childhood in Japan. He returned to Japan to live and work for a total of 17 years. He will address topics including the recent Japanese earthquake and the transition of power that is taking place in North Korea.

Lonni Skrentner

Monday, April 16, 2012

9:30 - 10:30 – EDUCATION - Presidents' Hall

Impact of Homelessness on Children and Youth

Speaker: Elizabeth Hinz, District Liaison for Homeless and Highly Mobile Students in the Minneapolis Public Schools

The extent of homelessness in our community is not fully recognized, and children are hidden casualties. Public school districts are required by federal law to identify homeless children and youth, and demographic data clearly describes a serious picture. The importance of education for them cannot be overemphasized. Learn what our community can do to work toward a better future for these children.

Mary Indelicato

10:45 - 11:45 - SOCIAL CULTURAL CHANGE - Presidents' Hall

A Letter to America by David Boren

Speakers: Panel of AAUW Members

A Letter to America, authored by David Boren, former governor, senator, and current President of the University of Oklahoma, is a clarion call to all Americans to become more educated, alert, civic-minded, and participatory citizens so that the United States may be one of the respected leaders in a world of contending superpowers. Today, a panel of AAUW members will identify and discuss Dr. Boren's suggested reforms of serious domestic and foreign problems.

Jeanne Bearmon

11:45 – Noon - ANNOUNCEMENTS

12:00 - 1:15 – LUNCHEON

Luncheon Hostess: Georgia Wiebe

Guest Hostess: Aleda Muller

House Management

Association Room

Headlines

Fellowships Room

Technology

Minneapolis Room

1:15 - 2:15 - SPECIAL WRITERS' PROGRAM - Presidents' Hall

Writers' Program Originals

Presenters: Members of the Writers' Group

On the fourth Monday of each month, a group of AAUW members enjoy meeting together to read and discuss their work. Today, participants will share their essays, stories, and poems in this annual presentation. Some presenters are published authors, some are poets, while others write for family records and history. Please join us for this entertaining hour.

Susan Peterson

Monday, April 23, 2012

9:30 - 10:30-MONDAY INTEREST GROUPS

Please see Bulletin page 10.

BOOK DISCUSSION - Heritage Room

The Summer Book by Tove Jansson

Discussion Leaders: Julie Ollila

This existential-style story is set on a small island off the coast of Finland. Six-year-old Sophia, whose mother has died, is living on the island during the summer months with her father and aged grandmother. Life on the island, the family's customary summer home, is temporarily affected, but not changed, by the island and cast of interesting characters who move through the book.

TRAVEL - Presidents' Hall

South America, Central America, and Mexico on the Star Princess

Speakers: Dee Flynn, Harriette and Michael Krasnoff, and Jan Paulsen cruise the Pacific coastline from Santiago, Chile, to San Francisco, with eight ports of call.

10:45 - 11:45 - POLITICAL WORLD LANDSCAPE - Presidents' Hall

Women Making Change

Speaker: Sandra G. Wollschlager, AAUW Member, Red Wing Branch

The Red Wing Branch of AAUW produced *Women Making Change*, a documentary of women in Minnesota politics. From a potential list of 200 women, filmmakers used interviews with eleven women to tell their story. Included are recent office holders as well as women in various aspects of political life. The video which we will view was produced in collaboration with Twin Cities Public Television.

Elaine Kirk

11:45 - Noon - ANNOUNCEMENTS

12:00 - 1:15 - LUNCHEON

Luncheon Hostess: Elaine Braun

Guest Hostess: Marlene Teien

Public Policy Fellowships Room

1:15 - 2:15 - APPLAUSE FOR THE ARTS - Presidents' Hall

Thursday Musical Student Program

What is more rewarding than listening to talented young musicians perform on their instruments? Suzanne Greer will present some of the winners of the Thursday Musical Student Scholarship Competition. Winners have received more than \$20,000 in music scholarships which have been given to worthy students. So sit back and enjoy. Let the music begin!

Katherine Doepke

Tuesday, April 24, 2012

4:30 - MOVIE DISCUSSION - Founders Room

Live and Become

Discussion Leaders: Kathleen Kohler, Kathie Quanbeck, and Mariel Wolter

Inspired by actual events, this drama depicts a young Ethiopian boy who is swept up into Operation Moses, a joint effort between American and Israeli troops who are aiming to relocate Jewish refugees from Africa to Israel. Hoping to shield her son from an impoverished life, his mother forces him to declare himself Jewish and join the exodus. This compelling story tells of his life with adoptive Israeli parents and follows his fate into adulthood.

5:00 - SOCIAL

5:15 - BUSINESS MEETING - Presidents' Hall

6:00 - DINNER

7:00 - PROGRAM - Presidents' Hall

800 Feet and Centuries of Overburden: Seeking Women's Equality in Industry and Academia

Speaker: Jennifer Gunn, PhD, University of Minnesota, Associate Professor and Program Director

In the 1970s, women actively fought for equal occupational and educational opportunities, meaningful work, and higher pay. Gunn's personal journey led her from an iron foundry to coal mines and ultimately to earning a doctorate in history and sociology of science and a university teaching career. She says, "Having been a coal miner and activist informs my work as a historian and teacher confronting women students with a historical expectation for equality in their own lives in the 21st century."

Pris Sixel

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Special Evening Program

Save the Date!
Thursday, April 26, 2012

Miss Representation
An Award-winning Documentary Film
followed by a panel discussion

7:00 p.m. - President's Hall

The award-winning documentary, *Miss Representation*, will be shown at the Gale Mansion at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, April 26. This film portrays how poorly women and girls are presented by the media and reveals shocking statistics about how this affects women's and girls' goals, academic achievement, job opportunities, and leadership. The film offers ideas about what we can do about it. A panel discussion will follow the film. The film was shown at the AAUW national convention in Washington, D.C., last summer. It is highly recommended for all AAUW members, their friends, and family. Other community groups will be invited to attend.

Ticket Cost: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/230388>

Lois Peterson

Monday, April 30, 2012

8:30 - 9:30 COLLECTION OF CASUAL BUSINESS AND CAREER CLOTHING

A truck will be parked in front of the Gale to receive your donations.

FOCUS DAY

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO THE GALE MANSION

Celebrate the Gale Mansion's 100th birthday as we explore life for women in 1912. Learn about the mansions in the neighborhood and enjoy some personal reflections about life at the Gale Mansion.

9:30 - 10:30 Progressive Women of Progressive Minnesota - Presidents' Hall

Speaker: Annette Atkins, PhD, Professor of History and Flynn Professor in the Humanities at Saint John's University and the College of Saint Benedict

In the first fifteen years of the 20th century, about the time the Gale Mansion was built, women played an important role in the political and social life of the state and the nation. Get a taste of that life and the context of these women's daily lives. Learn about the details of two individual women: one a middle-class volunteer and club woman; the other a working-class labor organizer.

Judy Spencer

10:45 - 11:45 The Gale Mansion and Its Neighborhood - Presidents' Hall

Speaker: Shari Albers, Docent, Hennepin County History Museum

The Washburn-Fair Oaks District was home to some of Minneapolis' most prominent families from 1870-1920. Shari Albers will tell us about the architecture of the Gale and other mansions in the Washburn Fair-Oaks neighborhood.

Shari Parsons

11:45 - 12:00 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

12:00 - 1:15 - LUNCHEON

Luncheon Hostess: Beth McCabe

Guest Hostess: Karen Landro

1:15 - 2:15 People of the Gale Mansion - A Trio of Stories - Presidents' Hall

The Pillsbury Neighborhood

Lori Sturdevant, editorial writer and columnist for the Star Tribune, will highlight information she learned from collaborating with George S. Pillsbury on her recently published book, *The Pillsburys of Minnesota*.

True Tales and Urban Legends

Ann Harding, AAUW member and former resident of the Gale Mansion, will entertain us with facts and tidbits she has discovered over the years.

Interview notes from Alfred P. Gale March 2, 2011

AAUW members **Phyllis Gilbert**, **Sheila Lind**, and **Julie Ollila** talked to Alfred P. Gale, grandson of Edward and Sadie Gale, about his memories of visiting and staying overnight at the Gale Mansion.

Wednesday, May 2, 2012

Special Program - Washburn-Fair Oaks Walking Tour

When: Wednesday, May 2, 2012, 1:00 p.m.

The rain date is Thursday, May 3.

Walking tour start point: Hennepin History Museum, 2300 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis

Cost: \$5 for tour, museum admission, and handout. (This is free to Museum members.)

Watch for sign-up sheet prior to the event

Guide: Shari Albers, Docent, Hennepin History Museum

The tour will take about two hours and will begin inside the Hennepin History Museum, which was home to Carolyn McKnight Christian from 1919 until 1956. We will walk approximately eight blocks around the Fair Oaks Park area and will visit 16 exterior sites (five mansions were razed) which were home to some of Minneapolis' most prominent families from 1870-1920. Wear comfortable shoes.

Monday, May 7, 2012

8:30 - 9:30 PASSAGE SPRING SHOWER TODAY

Vehicles will be parked in front of the Gale Mansion to receive your donations of cash, diapers, paper goods, household items, and cleaning supplies.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

FINLAND TODAY

The spotlight lands these days on Finland. What accounts for this Finnomena? One of the northernmost members of the European Union, Finland excels in high tech, education, music, and design. It boasts a Nobel Peace Prize winner. Today, we go beyond "sauna, sisu, and Sibelius" to learn what the Finland excitement is all about.

A display of modern Finnish art design will be presented all day in the Library by FinnStyle.

Carole Mae Olson and Shirley Olson, Co-Chairs

9:30 - 10:30 - Presidents' Hall

Finland Today Through the Lens of Yesterday

**Speaker: Marianne Wargelin, Honorary Consul for the Republic of Finland,
Researcher, Educator**

In August 2010, Newsweek ranked Finland as "the world's best country" in terms of education, health, quality of life, economic dynamism, and political environment. The New York Times on January 8, 2012, listed Helsinki as the second most interesting destination in the world for 2012.

Ms. Wargelin will describe why and how Finland has created its own distinctive contemporary culture and character.

Linda Blaisdell

10:45 - 11:45 - Film - Presidents' Hall

The Finland Phenomenon: Inside the World's Most Surprising School System

Finland's education system has ranked among the best in the world for more than a decade.

Documentary film maker, Bob Compton, with Harvard researcher, Dr. Tony Wagner, guide the viewer through an inside look at the secondary education system. From within classrooms and through interviews, Dr. Wagner reveals the factors justifying Finland's top ranking.

Carole Mae Olson

11:45 - Noon ANNOUNCEMENTS

12:00 - 12:45 SPECIAL FINNISH LUNCHEON

Luncheon Hostess: Mary Ann Christenson

Guest Hostess: Virginia Hansing

1:00 - 1:30 - Finnish Regional Music - Presidents' Hall

Speaker: Diane Jarvi, Singer, Songwriter, Kantele Performer, Poet, Recording Artist

Diane Jarvi is known in Finland as "The Minnesota Nightingale." She will present a program of Finnish regional music accompanied by the kantele, a five string Finnish folk harp. Ms. Jarvi is an award winning poet, writing under the name of Diane Jarvenpa.

Shirley Olson

1:30 - 2:15 - Finnish Design - Presidents' Hall

Speakers: Liisa Ojala, Betsey Norgard Designers

These designers will speak to us about the uniquely Finnish qualities in furniture, textiles, lighting, glass, ceramics, and industrial design. Ojala, born in Finland, moved to the United States about 30 years ago. She has worked at the International Design Center and as an independent designer, recently completing a significant commission at the home of the President of St. Olaf College.

Julie Ollila

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

5:00 - SOCIAL

6:00 - DINNER

7:00 - PROGRAM - Presidents' Hall

Minnesota Twins!

Speaker: Kevin Smith, Executive Director of Public Affairs and the Minnesota Twins Community Fund

Just at the time of year when we will be thinking of coming out of winter hibernation, planting a garden, and buying tickets to a Twins game, we have the good fortune of hearing from Twins' Kevin Smith! Kevin will be able to give us great background information on the team, the building of Target Field, and about the Minnesota Twins Community Fund which promotes youth baseball, softball, and education. He will be able to answer any questions we might have about how the Twins organization operates their new home in downtown Minneapolis!

Feel free to wear team colors and team attire to get in the spirit!

Beth Montgomery and Julie Olila

Monday, May 12, 2012

Annual Meeting

9:00 - 9:45 **Coffee, tea, and treats** **Upstairs**
 Art and needlework display **Downstairs**

9:45 - 10:45 **Special Program** **Presidents' Hall**

Hot and Heavy Summer Reading

Speaker: Debbie Cohn, Sales Manager, The Bookcase,
Minnesota

Wayzata,

www.bookcaseofwayzata.com

You may prefer light reading for those hot days at the beach or perhaps summer is your time to delve more deeply into a chosen topic. In either case, Debbie Cohn will offer suggestions for books to enhance your glorious summer days! She will bring books to purchase. Proceeds under their generous 20% coupon discount will go toward improving the Gale Mansion.

10:45 - 11:00 **Break**

11:00 - 12:00 **Annual Meeting** **Presidents' Hall**

Thank the outgoing officers for their past work and welcome new officers. Meet the young women who will receive NCCWSL and Minneapolis scholarships.

12:00 **Luncheon**

Permanent reservation will apply.

Wine will be available.

Sharon Bigot, Debbie Blake, and Carrie D'Andrea

IN-TOWN SPRING GETAWAY

Thursday, June 12, 2012

Tentative Departure Time is 9:30 a.m.

Tentative Return Time is 3:45 p.m.

MINNESOTA'S MOUNT VERNON + the COMO CAROUSEL

Did you know know that the "Mount Vernon of Minnesota" is nearby? We will be traveling to the tiny community of Mendota, situated where the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers meet. This is where one of the state's oldest settlements stands. There are four simple limestone buildings from the era when the American Fur Company operated a regional outpost to trade with the Dakota Indians between 1825 and 1853. Three structures are restored. One is the 1838 home of Henry Hastings Sibley, the company's regional manager. The house evolved during Sibley's 20-some years there, and his office as first state governor is located in the house. Other buildings are the fur company cold store which dates from 1843 and the 1840 residence of longtime trader, Jean-Baptiste Faribault. Tour guides will tell us about the fur-trade era, discuss changes to the area and the structures, and lead us through the fully furnished interiors and exhibits.

Lunch we will be at nearby Axel's Bonfire Woodfire Cooking.

The afternoon will include a trip to the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory at Como Park in St. Paul.

The spring flower shows are always delightfully colorful. While at the park you could also check out the new polar bear exhibit. The visit to the park will include a ride on the Carousel!

Sharon Larson and Judy Vermeland-Wendt, Co-Chairs

ST. CROIX VALLEY SPRING GETAWAY

Wednesday June 6, 2012

Tentative Departure Time is 8:45 a.m.

Tentative Return Time is 4:30 p.m.

Our first stop will be in Stillwater, often called the birthplace of Minnesota. This charming river town was settled in 1837 and by the 1880s was the largest producer of lumber in the world. Even after the big pines were gone and the lumber industry collapsed, Stillwater managed to establish itself as a historically significant community, thriving on tourism and commerce.

We'll take a trolley tour of the city, view the lift bridge, go up on the bluffs to see the lumber baron's mansions and the ship captain's homes, and hear stories about Stillwater's interesting history.

Following the trolley tour we will have lunch at The Dock, which is situated on the bank of the St. Croix River. You will enjoy the river views from this fine restaurant and have a choice of lunch entrees. Time permitting, you may be able to stroll along the river after lunch or have a quick look at the shops.

To finish our tour, we will drive north along the St. Croix River to Taylors Falls where we will cross the river into Wisconsin. We will proceed to the Chateau St. Croix Winery and Vineyard just north of St. Croix Falls. At the Chateau, which was created in the image of a European estate, we will have a tour of the winery and a wine-tasting session.

Sharon Larson and Judy Vermeland-Wendt, Co-Chairs