

The Devils Lake Branch of the American Association of University Women established an endowed scholarship in 1994. The scholarship will be awarded to an outstanding woman student planning to attend Lake Region State College for her second year. Selection will be made by the Community College Foundation Scholarship Committee for Lake Region State College. Each year, AAUW will identify a member—most likely the Education Foundation Chair—to serve as liaison to the Scholarship Committee.

In 1976, the branch established a permanent foundation fund at the college made possible when several members, led by the late Grace Togstad, published the *Lake Region Guide Book* to promote opportunities for culture and recreation in the area. Profits of \$2,000 from that enterprise were increased when AAUW member Doris Greenleaf made a gift of \$5,000. In addition, a matching fund established by the Ramsey National Bank and Trust Company contributed \$2,500 to the fund, bringing the initial endowed total to \$9,500.

The Devils Lake AAUW has a long history of supporting scholarships at Lake Region State College. Organized in 1958, the branch awarded its first scholarship in 1960 and has been contributing to the program ever since. The first scholarship was awarded to Lois Moen.

To raise funds, AAUW sponsored a concert given by Mary Ann (*Mrs. Mark*) Witmer, pianist, and Sally (*Mrs. Richard*)



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Smith, coloratura soprano, both wives of local pastors. Later concerts were given by Anne-Marit Bergstrom, Alma Mehus Studness, and area young artists.

From 1969 to 1982, AAUW held annual used book sales to raise money for scholarships, and for eleven years the branch held teas for senior girls from the Lake Region area to encourage them to continue their education beyond high school. Professors and deans from area colleges came to speak to the group.

Since 1986, AAUW has sponsored an annual scholarship luncheon in the spring. The programs have featured well-known speakers discussing women's issues and education.

The Devils Lake Branch of AAUW is committed to continuing to raise funds for scholarships. Dollars raised will be invested in the endowment, helping to assure that an ever-increasing pool of scholarship dollars will be perpetually available for women students. Following the lead of the national organization, the local branch today is also interested in gender equity in all phases of education.

Lake Region State College and the Community College Foundation are proud to be the recipients of this special scholarship. It is the first endowed scholarship to be sponsored by an organization, and it is hoped that other groups interested in supporting education will follow the lead set by AAUW to support education in this important and permanent way. ♦