



SINCE 1883
**YALE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
OF THE NORTHWEST**

MINNESOTA, WESTERN WISCONSIN, NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA

<http://yaanw.org>
yaanw@yaanw.org

YAANW is a member-supported organization

December 2015

President: Ron Goldser, '75
Secretary: Rudy Hokanson, '74 M.Div., '81 MBA
Treasurer: Nick Johnson, '74

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Join the YAANW LinkedIn Group! 

'tis the Season

As yearend approaches, many of you will consider your charitable contributions for the year. I ask—and encourage—you to think of all the programs YAANW underwrites, and to help us pay for these programs.

In particular, many of you are aware that we lost our good friend Bill Opsahl this year. The Board has created a special fund in his memory, to use on projects that would be near and dear to his heart. You can earmark your contributions to this fund if you desire. Please use the link above to contribute or mail your check to our Treasurer, Nick Johnson, 1818 Kenwood Parkway, Minneapolis MN 55405.

Thanks for your consideration.

Thoughts from the President

I had the privilege of attending the annual Association of Yale Alumni Assembly in New Haven during Harvard weekend. Many alumni attend, from all over the world, to share stories of Yale in their communities. Members of YAANW should take pride in the fact that our scope of activities is among the best offered by alumni clubs—anywhere.

Of course, there is always more to do. The hardest issue for any alumni club is engagement and involvement of its members. We do pretty well, but I recognize it is

difficult to give of your time and talent when there are so many other demands. And we face a geographic disbursement across a large territory that makes it particularly difficult for non-metro alums to be involved. Let's keep trying.

The other subject worth mentioning from my visit to New Haven is the issue of racial tension on campus. That issue was very much front and center while I was there. It is certainly gratifying to see the effort the administration is making in recognizing the problems, but we were only afforded one side of the story. And time will tell whether the solutions offered will work.

In the meantime, we give thanks for the many blessings we have received—and the opportunity to share those blessings with others. Happy Holidays!

Ron Goldser, '75
President, YAANW

WEBSTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Webster is thriving! The morning literacy hour is an outstanding opportunity to connect with children, one on one and in small groups. Wednesday afternoon enrichment is another hour long opportunity to use your talents to nurture our next generation. And the lunch program will begin soon.

We need your help!!

Volunteers must sign up through the Minneapolis School District.
http://volmps.mpls.k12.mn.us/vol_info

For more information, and to volunteer, contact Ron Goldser at rgoldser@gmail.com.

Alumni Schools Committee

We NEED alumni from any Yale school interested in interviewing prospective Yale College students from all parts of Minnesota, western Wisconsin and along the Dakota and Iowa borders.

Interviewing has proven to be an excellent way to connect with the next generation of Yale students. Interviews can now be conducted over the internet. We hope you can join us and the many other alumni interviewers. Resource and training materials are available.

Here's what one interviewer (Dorothy Whelan) has to say about the process:

Why I Volunteer to Interview Prospective Students

“Both my husband and I are Yale graduates. I interviewed prospective students for several years before our son applied to Yale. However, he (our son) never received an interview. We were furious. I was so angry that I stopped volunteering altogether. After a couple of years, though, it occurred to me that the real problem was that ASC simply does not have enough volunteers. I decided that I either could be part of the problem or part of the solution. I chose the latter and I am happy I did. But we need more volunteers. Every prospective student deserves an interview. It does not take a lot of time but it is vitally important. Please consider volunteering this season.”

Time commitment – on average, four applicants per year. For more information, please email Malcolm McDonald at malcolmmcdonald@comcast.net or call 651.387.7050.

Upcoming Special Programs

December 3 Dr. Peter Schulam **POSTPONED!!!!!!!!!!!!**

New Year's Eve: We are gathering informally at Zelo's (9th and Nicollet, Minneapolis) for dinner at 6:30 p.m. in anticipation of Minnesota Orchestra's New Year's Eve concert featuring Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. The concert starts at 8:30. Ken Freed will offer his incomparable comments on the Orchestra, on the music, and, well, on anything else you want to ask him.

Please RSVP to Ken at kenfreed007@gmail.com so we can make reservations for dinner. Dinner will be ordered from the menu

You need to purchase your tickets to the Orchestra on your own: <http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/buy/tickets/browse-calendar/eventdetail/493/-/a-joyous-new-year-beethoven-s-ninth-symphony#.VIG4ZOLrx1E>

Feb Club!!

What is Feb Club Emeritus? **Date and location to be announced.**

Nothing complicated. An international series of multi-generational parties every night from February 1-28, in cities, towns, and incorporated entities around the world where Yale alums, significant others, friends, relatives, and random party-crashers answer the question "what college were you in?" in a relaxed, informal setting just..... to have fun with a group of people who share something in common. The inaugural Feb Club Emeritus, in 2008, was a worldwide affair where thousands of alums from the classes of 1945 through 2007 got together in cities from Seattle to Shanghai, from Paris to Philadelphia. Nothing formal, no fundraising, no speeches, just.... casual, laid-back parties hosted by random alums of all ages, shapes and sizes. Twin Cities alumni and friends are getting in on the fun again this year!

But this year, OUTSTATERS!!! Need to set up their own Feb Club. Calling on Rochester, Duluth, Fargo, Grand Forks, Madison, Sioux Falls, Eau Claire!!!

Questions to Denise Levitan denise.levitan@gmail.com or Max Musicant, max.musicant@gmail.com

This spring: look for an event with the Minnesota Opera Company!!

Yale Alumni Knitting Group

When: **Date in January to be announced**

Where: Northfield Yarn, 314 Division St., Northfield, MN 55057

Preferred but Optional RSVP to: Cynthia Gilbertson at cfgilbertson@mac.com or 507.645.4327

The group meets at the creative fiber-crafts store of Yale alumna Cynthia Gilbertson, called Northfield Yarn, in Northfield, MN. Join other alumni and friends, experienced or otherwise, who share an interest in fiber-crafts. Interested persons are welcome at any time.

Yale Divinity School (YDS) Alums

Our next group will be at the **end of February or in March**. Howard Bell will lead a discussion on The Righteous Mind by Jonathan Haidt. More details and materials will be e-mailed this winter.

The focus of the group is networking and sharing. The group is open to spouses and friends and other Yale alums that have interest in YDS and the subjects we focus on. Any questions can be directed to Rudy Hokanson.

Young Alumni Happy Hour

Watch the YAANW and TCAN Facebook pages for the next event. YAANW has a special focus on the needs and interests of young alumni in our territory. Whether this is simply social, networking, or about meeting other Yalies when you are new in town, we hope to reach out and connect with younger Yale grads (college or any professional school) and them with each other.

KEEP UP WITH THE YOUNG ALUMS ON FACEBOOK!!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TCANYA>

If you are interested in participating in another gathering or event, or have any questions, please contact Max Musicant, max.musicant@gmail.com or Denise Levitan denise.levitan@gmail.com

People Serving People

The next day of service at People Serving People (PSP) is **December 26 at 11:30 am**. YAANW has a small group volunteering to serve meals at PSP (11:30 to 1:00). If you are interested in joining us, please contact Ron Goldser at rgoldser@gmail.com.

PSP is a homeless shelter in downtown Minneapolis, serving children and their families.

French Table

When: January 5, 2016 at 6:00 pm

Where: Café Levain, 4762 Chicago Ave. S. Minneapolis

NOTE THE NEW LOCATION AND TIME!! We will be trying different locations in the Twin Cities for French table throughout 2016, so if you have suggestions, please make them!

All levels of French are encouraged and welcome. RSVP to Ron Goldser at rgoldser@gmail.com.

FOODIES!!!!

Next Foodies Group TBA after the holidays

Please join us for the next Yale Foodies group. We are meeting monthly to explore the Twin Cities' wide variety of interesting restaurants featuring food from around the world. We will focus on restaurants at which people will pay no more than \$20-\$30 per person--and sometimes less! --and rotate around different parts of the Twin Cities.

Calling All Lawyers

We hold meetings quarterly. Our next meeting will be sometime early next year. Please send suggestions for topics and venues to Dorothy Whelan at whelan@fr.com

Forestry School Alums and Environmental Scientists!

If you are an FES grad, have an environmental degree, or are otherwise interested or engaged in work connected with those fields, keep your eyes on this page for the next gathering of the FES Midwest Alums Group! If you have an entrepreneurial idea in the energy or environmental arena, this is the place to come. Questions or comments to Victoria Thompson victoria.thompson@outlook.com

Yale Career Network

Yale has started a new career network!! You can find information here: <http://ocs.yale.edu/content/yale-career-network>

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Yale at career.network@yale.edu or by calling 203-432-0805 and asking for Stephanie Glover.

YAANW LinkedIn Group

YAANW now has a LinkedIn Group! Join the group! Have a job you are trying to fill? Looking for a job? Communicate with fellow alums and use LinkedIn for all it is worth.

Courses & Lectures Direct from the Yale Campus

Did you know that you can access a plethora of outstanding lectures and symposia by Yale faculty? Just visit [Yale's YouTube](#) channel and you will see a listing of offerings. While most are from the archives, occasionally there are live productions from the campus in New Haven. Subscribe to stay informed!

Twin Cities Alumni Network (TCAN)

Join alumni from other local alumni clubs at various events hosted by their clubs. (Amherst, Brown, Chicago, Columbia, Cornell, Duke, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, MIT, Northwestern, NYU, Penn, Princeton, Smith, Stanford, Virginia, Wharton, Williams, Yale, Interclub and IvyLife.)

Check the TCAN website for upcoming events.

<http://www.twincitiesalumninetwork.org/groups.php?m=3&y=2014>