



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

Website: <http://marquette-mi.aauw.net>

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From the President

Our Program year is proving to be another fabulous one. Our First Ladies Dessert Social at our own White House was an educational delight. Thank you Les and participants for your hard work; sentiment is high for making this an annual event! *See photos on last page of newsletter.*

Our upcoming Program on Thursday, March 9 will be another one not to miss. Please see Ann Arnold's description immediately following.

Three Announcements

Congratulations to Katherine Larson for winning the drawing from all entries for our Fundraising contest. She'll receive a \$25 Gift Certificate to the Delft Bistro. Thanks to all for your submissions.

Fundraiser Selection Committee. I'm happy to report that several members will join me over breakfast on Saturday, **March 4**, at the Sweetwater Café, 9:30 a.m. to form the Fundraiser Selection Committee to review all our ideas. PLEASE consider joining us!!! If you can't make this time, let me know and we'll keep you in the loop.

Position Vacancy—your Board needs you. We are missing a Publicity Rep to submit our Programs to the media. As this is all done online, it is a VERY easy, but VERY important, position which really can be done from anywhere! Say yes, and thank you.

Regards, Meg Goodrich

SET THEM ASIDE NOW to bring!

Please save your Econo slips

AND

bring them to the
next meeting you attend.

NEXT MEETING:

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

Biases and Barriers, the Status of Women and Leadership

Ann Arnold will host our March 9 program "Biases and Barriers, the Status of Women and Leadership." Ann is a graduate of Northwestern University undergrad and Medical School, and finished seven years of residency training at Cornell Affiliated Hospitals in New York City. In the 1980s Ann was frequently asked to talk to grade school students about her non-traditional career in Plastic Surgery. She is gratified now to see the marked increase in the number of women physicians now, but she notes, "The glass ceiling is not gone yet."

Take the Test Online Beforehand

Do you have unconscious bias about women's leadership abilities? The design of the test, developed cooperatively between AAUW and Harvard University's Psychology Department, is subtle. A delay of milliseconds in a keystroke exposes the automatic thinking which relies on stereotypes and preconceptions.

Using your own laptop or desktop computer, or computers available at the Peter White Public Library if you prefer, go to the following website and try the test. More detailed information about the test is at the end of this article. IMPORTANT NOTE: This won't work on mobile devices such as phones or tablets. <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/Study?tid=-1>

Our March 9 Program

Ann will present AAUW research and recent articles in the media detailing barriers and what can be done to overcome them. Comments from a reactant panel will enliven the program with personal experiences.

Dr. Mercy Odueyungbo, a physician in Marquette for two years, and **Dr. Marla Buckmaster**, a professor at NMU since the 1970s will join Ann.

ONLINE BIASES TEST - More details

The AAUW Implicit Association Test (IAT) on gender and leadership and the brief informational survey that follows should take about 10-15 minutes. The AAUW IAT is designed for you to dedicate a few minutes to understanding the directions, and then, once you begin the test, push yourself to go as fast as you can.

The AAUW IAT asks the test taker to sort words into expected categories as quickly as possible. Before you begin the task, you will see a list of the words organized by the expected category.

After completing the AAUW IAT and brief survey items, you will receive an assessment of your performance on the AAUW IAT, a measure of the strength of your associations regarding women and leadership.

Your AAUW IAT data and survey responses will be saved as anonymous data that may be used for AAUW research purposes that never identify the test taker.

Please be aware that you will need to use a desktop or laptop computer to complete the study. Tablet and phone users will be unable to complete the study on those devices.

PUBLIC POLICY NEWS

Fortunately, the Michigan legislature narrowly defeated HB4001 by a vote of 52-55. This bill introduced by Lee Chatfield from the U.P.'s 107th House District would have cut the state's income tax. The bill would have devastated the state's general fund and jeopardized funding for 22% of the school aid revenue, funding for roads, police and fire. There was no plan to replace the \$1.1 billion which would have been lost in revenue. The measure would have saved \$50 a year for the \$0-\$21,000 wage earners and saved \$13,573 per year for the top 1%.

Representative John Kivela opposed HB 4001. Thank him please. 517-373-0498. Surprisingly Scott Dianda voted in support of the bill. Dianda has often said "budget priorities need to keep children and families in mind. It is all about the money." But, if HB 4001 had passed you can bet worthwhile programs would have been cut to make up the considerable shortfall.

Nevada and ERA

The Equal Rights Amendment ratification is due to pass out of Nevada's Senate sub-committee and come to the floor for a vote. Chances for ratification from Nevada look good. Stay tuned. Two more states are needed and

a bill from the U.S. Congress to extend the ERA ratification deadline. Good luck on the latter. We can only hope.

Fight for Planned Parenthood and reproductive freedom

The Michigan legislature has two bills pending HB 4221 and SB 162 which are aimed at defunding Planned Parenthood. They prohibit the state to contract with providers that offer abortion services.

The state of Michigan does not currently provide state family planning funds to Planned Parenthood. Defunding Planned Parenthood would deny thousands access to essential health care, cancer screenings, birth control, STD and HIV testing etc. This is an attempt to bar anyone who relies on Medicaid or other federal programs for health care from turning to Planned Parenthood for treatment. . The state has already reduced family planning funds over the past decade. Title X funds are federal dollars. There are only 29 Title X providers in the state. PPMI sees 65% of the state's Title X patients. Medicaid and Title X make up 40% of Planned Parenthood of Michigan's budgeted revenue. When bills such as these have been brought to court, the courts have sided with PP and their patients.

This is an effort to limit access for poor women to reproductive health care.

Please contact Scott Dianda, John Kivela and Tom Casperson to protect funding for Planned Parenthood of Michigan. If we would like to see fewer unintended pregnancies and abortions, access to contraception is essential. Does the state want to save money? Money spent on family planning is money well spent and will save the state in services in the long run.

*Karlynn Rapport
Public Policy Representative*



TAX DEDUCTIBLE REMINDER

AAUW national dues are \$49.00, of which \$46.00 is tax deductible by the individual member; \$3.00 of that national dues payment is not tax deductible because it will be used to support the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) activities (Lobby Corps and election-related activities).

*Meredith Kulisheck
Treasurer*

MARCH IN WASHINGTON!



Left to right: Kathy Davis, Susan Uballe, Meg Goodrich, and Karlyn Rapport

Nine of our members went to DC to March against Trump. Six of us were on the buses from Chatham. This was organized by a woman from Chatham named, Barb Isom. She worked with another person, Kathy Sendek. There were two buses with Susan Uballe, Meg Goodrich, Karlyn Rapport, Kathy Davis and Luci Contois were on bus number 2 and Janelle Crooks and her husband on bus 1.

Pat Micklow and her husband drove to Washington from Marquette and met up with some people from the Upper Peninsula. Karen Bacula went on a bus from Marquette. There were many teachers and spouses, children and friends of teachers on board. She got near the site where the speakers were and heard many of the speakers including Gloria Steinem. Heather Mlsna flew to DC. She had a reservation and planned to come to the inauguration of the first female President, Hillary Clinton. Since this did not happen she came anyway to protest Trump. There was a picture of Heather and her two daughters on the March in Washington in our February Newsletter.

We left from Chatham at 1 pm on Friday, January 20, and arrived at a Metro station near Washington at 9 am on January 21. It took us 20 hours from Chatham to DC and another hour just to get on the train because there were so many people--mostly women--in line. The train was packed! It then took us 1 hour to arrive in downtown Washington, D.C. Karlyn, Meg, Susan, and I stayed together so we could get to sites and arrive on time back to our bus. There were so many people there we could not get to the area where people were speaking.

Because of the size of the crowd, we could not get any directions about Marching. Finally, some people crowded by us and went toward the Washington Monument at the end of the Mall. We followed and walked to the end of the Mall and walked around the area. Then we walked toward the White House. The streets were packed with people. In one area, some important vehicles separated us. Was this Trump? He went to the CIA that day and we were near that building.

The important thing about this trip was the huge number of people in Washington. One group said there were about 450,000 people on the Mall but there were 450,000 people just on the Metro that day. Other people came to on buses and walked to the Mall. Some drove into the area and some lived in Washington. One estimate was that 500,000 people were marching but with all the areas covered with people it was difficult to count the number. Others estimated one million people were there.

The best thing about being there was the great number of people there. Many of the people wore the "pussy" hats including us. Susan Uballe gave many of us the pink hats. The signs people carried were about women's rights, climate change, LGBTQ, reproductive rights, immigration, black people's rights, equal pay, and against Trump.

We didn't leave the Metro site until about 8 pm on Saturday and it took us 19 hours to arrive back in Chatham at 3 pm on Sunday. We were exhausted but glad to have marched with people who were peaceful, polite, and impressive. There were no arrests or incidents of violence. Every demographic area in the country was represented and even some Canadians came!

*Kathy Davis
Membership Co-Chair*

AT THE START SMART WORKSHOP

Notes from Marcie Cox

I attended the AAUW Start Smart workshop at NMU Saturday, February 25. **What a worthwhile event!** Twenty-five eager young women participated and learned about gender pay gap and ways to change this injustice. **Janel Crooks**, facilitator, was outstanding.

Equal pay is not simply a women's issue - it's a family issue.

Two employees, one female, one male acquire the same job on the same day. The man is offered more money, 4,000 more a month amounts to a significant difference of near \$1,000,000 over a career lifetime.

AAUW member Mary Snitgen with the help of Zonta procured a grant that brought AAUW Start Smart gender pay gap training to Northern Michigan University. Janel Crooks, AAUW member, was our knowledgeable facilitator. The workshop was attended by 25 enthusiastic women from LeadHERship. Strategies were presented along with statistics, role playing and networking. The young participants were focused and determined. Enrolling in programs such as AAUW's Start Smart helps women achieve recognition as equals and end gender inequality in the work place.

Students and AAUW members alike expressed that the Start Smart workshop's material is timely, useful and should continue to be part of the branch's agenda in the foreseeable future



AAUW members Kathy Davis, Judy Puncochar and Marcie Cox attended.

AT OUR FIRST LADIES' DESSERT, Thursday, February 16



Our membership and guests proved once again their interest in engaging on the topic of First Ladies. It also appears that several of our former First Ladies were able to work our event into their busy schedules. We were entertained by visits from Florence Harding, Elenore Roosevelt, Edith Wilson, Dolley Madison, and Melania Trump. Air Force One made its way to Sawyer

International while others spoke of different journeys. When the British set fire to the White House in 1814, who would have known that Dolley Madison was credited with saving the classic portrait of George Washington? Now we know. Member engagement, historical guests, and great desserts made for a fun, educational evening. I think we are just getting started!

Named Grant Scholarships

Also at the First Ladies' Dessert, Elizabeth Miller surprised recipients, Les and Marge, with a framed certificate indicating that AAUW Named Grant Scholarships were being given in their names.

Les Bek 2016



Marge Forslin 2017



AHEAD THIS SPRING

May 17-19

At our November 2016 meeting, we heard about a program from the *She Believes initiative at Marquette Alternative High School*. A group of young women spoke to us about their goal setting, capacity building, and empowerment activities. A highlight had been reaching their goal of visiting Washington, D.C. As a result, the Girl Scout Camp Pow Low in Gwinn was offered to them as a retreat destination at no charge.

Plans are underway for their retreat adventure May 17-19th. **Members are invited to take part in planning and/or participating this retreat.** This may include campfire building, cooking, hiking, storytelling, kayaking or more!

*For more information
contact Les Bek lbek@gsnwgl.org*