



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

Welcome to the new year, with several fine programs yet to look forward to. Coming soon--our THIRD annual First Ladies Dessert Evening. See Les's article below. The Hostess Committee reminds you to just come and enjoy yourselves and be our guest. We look forward to serving you!

The nominating committee is working hard to fill open positions. If they "knock on your door," please give consideration to your being called upon to serve on our Board. I have always enjoyed the privilege and will happily answer any questions the committee might not know.

*Best Regards,
Meg Goodrich*

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, February 8, 7 PM
***Celebrating First Ladies
Dessert and Social***



The American Association of University Women (AAUW)- Marquette Branch invites members and guests to attend its *Celebrating First Ladies Dessert and Social*. The event will take place on Thursday, February 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the Federated Women's Clubhouse, 104 W Ridge, Marquette.

The First Lady of the United States (FLOTUS) is the title held by the wife of the President of the United States, concurrent with the president's term of office. The First Lady's role has not been officially

defined, yet she figures prominently in the political and social life of our country.

The event will be an opportunity for member and guest participation. A hostess First Lady will ask attendees to share in 2-3 minutes how they were inspired by their favorite First lady, a few facts or personal stories. Some may choose to dress as their First Lady.



L to R: Mary Todd Lincoln,
Jacqueline Kennedy,
Eleanor Roosevelt

Past events drew representations of Jacqueline Kennedy, Michelle Obama, Elizabeth Monroe, Jane Pierce, Florence Harding, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Abigail Fillmore. Martha Washington's period

dressed representative reflected the first First Ladies' quote of over 200 years ago, "The greater part of our happiness or misery depends on our dispositions and not our circumstances."

Not every First Lady relished a public role. In that spirit, we expect some attendees will prefer to simply enjoy our company and opt out of sharing about a First Lady. There will be lots of conversation, celebration and dessert for all. Please join us. For more information contact Les Bek, 869-5298, or lbek@gsnwg.org

*Les Bek
Program Co-Chair*

AAUW's StartSmart TRAINING

Part of the 2018 NMU Women to Women LeadHerShip Workshops

NMU's Women for Women will host their second annual LeadHerShip workshops on Sat 24-Feb-2018 between 9:00AM and 3:00PM. The location will be announced via email to our membership in mid-February.

StartSmart – AAUW's financial negotiations training program – will be conducted after lunch. University women will practice their negotiation style through facilitated discussions and role-play. They will learn the significance of negotiations on closing the gender

pay gap, and they will gain confidence in their ability to identify and articulate their personal work value.

According to AAUW's research on the gender pay gap, women during their first year after college graduation are paid significantly less than their male counterparts are for the same work. Women who negotiate could significantly increase their salaries and obtain better benefits packages.

AAUW-MQT member **Janel Crooks** facilitated StartSmart for Women for Women last year, and she will facilitate the training again this year. Please contact Brooke Tharp (btharp@nmu.edu) for information about the Women for Women's LeadHerShip event. For information on StartSmart, go to <https://salary.aauw.org/start-smart/>.

Judy Puncchar

PUBLIC POLICY NEWS

Hope for 2018

Women's March



President Meg Goodrich at the AAUW table in the Commons as part of the 2018 Women's March in Marquette, Michigan

The first anniversary of the 2017 Women's March on Washington renewed hope for the future. It was inspiring to see so many pledged to work on gender equity. The outrage that women shared propelled them to run for office. Let's hope this outrage propels all to the polls in 2018.

Roe V Wade

This year is also the 45th anniversary of Roe V Wade. AAUW supports the right of every woman to access safe affordable, comprehensive reproductive health care. This critical health care component leads to greater economic security for women and their families. However, risks abound.

- The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill which undermines abortion services.
- The Department of Health and Human Services rescinded guidelines explaining states' efforts to

block patients' access to Planned Parenthood Health Centers violates federal law.

- HHS expanded providers' ability to refuse access to abortion services, birth control and other health care.

In Michigan

Michigan, HB 450 is an effort to count an embryo or fetus as a person when calculating number of victims of a crime. Michigan already has a law which increases penalties when there is an injury to a pregnant woman. This bill is an effort by anti-abortion advocates to criminalize abortion. Access to contraception under the Affordable Care Act has decreased the numbers of unintended pregnancies and abortions. Isn't that what we all want?

Larry Nassar case

Watching the Larry Nassar case unfold is painful. On so many levels we failed these brave young women who courageously came forward to confront this perpetrator and confront all of us with how we failed to protect them. The Michigan Senate unanimously passed SB52 allowing prosecution at any time for second degree sexual conduct if the victim was younger than 16. The bill increases the statute of limitation for the offense from 10 to 20 years or following the victim's 31st birthday. This bill is now in the Michigan House Committee on Law and Justice. Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette is conducting an investigation into Michigan State's handling of sexual assault claims against Nassar.

The Title IX probe conducted by the University in 2014 cleared Nassar of allegations but did not follow up or enforce recommendations for him to avoid being alone with patients while treating them in "sensitive areas." The patient who reported the abuse in 2014 was provided with only an abbreviated version of the results of the 2014 investigation. That version omitted the finding that by his use of "invasive sensitive procedures" without obtaining patient consent, it opened the practice to liability and exposed patients to unnecessary trauma based on the possibility that they might have perceived the treatment as inappropriate sexual conduct. Twelve reported assaults occurred after 2014.

Transgender discrimination

The Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights declined to investigate 3 cases of discrimination against transgender students because such cases are no longer under their jurisdiction????! Let's hear it for Michigan's own Betsy DeVos.

Equal Pay Day April 10

Help Wanted: I need your ideas. How can the Branch best bring attention to Equal Pay Day April 10 and pay inequity? Please email me at: krapport@chartermi.net with your ideas.

2 Tips

- 1) I find exercising helps me work off the outrage and
- 2) being in the company of AAUW sisters keeps me sane.

*Karlyn Rapport
Public Policy Representative*

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

Julie Fine



Julie joined AAUW in November 2017. She is a native Yooper and a 1973 graduate of Marquette Senior High School. After graduation, Julie attended NMU part-time and after moving to the Boston area in 1978, she completed her Bachelor of Science degree

in Elementary Education from Lesley University in Cambridge MA.

She was a preschool teacher in the Boston area until 1988, when she switched from teaching to consulting at Work/Family Directions, Inc. (WFD). While at WFD, Julie developed skills in contract negotiations which has been the focus of her career ever since. Julie worked in software licensing and pricing for ten years at IBM. She moved to Southern California in 2009 for a position as a Principal Contracts and Grants Officer at the University of California, Irvine.

Julie is currently a Legal Specialist in Global Clinical Development Legal at Pfizer, Inc., working from a home-based office. Julie returned to Marquette in

the fall of 2016 where she resides with her daughter and their four tiny rescue dogs.

DON'T FORGET YOUR ECONO SLIPS

Please save your Econo slips once again
and bring them
to the next meeting you attend.

IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION



As you prepare your taxes for 2017, **\$46 of your National dues is tax deductible** as a contribution to AAUW's 501(c)(3) education fund. Most of us pay dues of \$95--\$49 to National, \$12 to State, \$9 to our branch, and \$25 for membership in the Federated Women's Clubhouse. The amount of your donation toward our Scholarship Campaign is also tax deductible.



LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Great news to report!! We're getting close to our goal! Our treasurer reports a total of \$3850 toward our \$5000 goal for our scholarship campaign. Thank you so much to all who have donated!

Please donate if you haven't yet; or donate again if you can! Any amount is welcome--**our students will thank you!**

*Carolyn Myers, AAUW Local Scholarship Committee
and Les Bek, Scholarship Campaign Committee*

A KIND THANK YOU FROM A SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

January 30, 2018

Hi Ms. Myers,

I wanted to thank you and the committee again for granting me the AAUW scholarship for this academic year. It has helped me significantly with my tuition and I am so appreciative of your generosity.

Thank you again for all of your help!

Sincerely,
Jessica Barber

Holiday Dinner...
from preparations to enjoying the music.



Holiday Dinner Guests NMU Student Maddie Wiles and Director of Enrichment Rachel Harris

Madeline Wiles and Rachel Harris were guests at our 2017 Holiday Dinner. Both expressed tremendous appreciation for our warm welcome and recognition at the dinner.

We applauded Rachel's nomination of Ms. Wiles to the 2017-18 AAUW National Student Advisory Council. Ms. Wiles is one of 10 individuals selected to serve in this position, which once again places the Marquette Branch of the AAUW in the national spotlight. Previously, we were one of 10 campuses first selected to conduct ELECT HER training with the help of AAUW-Marquette Branch members. Kathy Davis served as our ELECT HER liaison.

We are fortunate to have Maddie's leadership experiences, activism, and national recognition to share with our branch. Maddie is a junior and a communications major, double minoring in Spanish and Gender and Sexuality Studies. She hails from Gladstone, Michigan. Maddie is a proud transgender woman who has had to overcome many obstacles and much discrimination growing up in a rural community. She works tirelessly for equality. Maddie is passionate about making sure everyone's voice is heard and represented.

Maddie is an active member of the President's Committee on Diversity, Work Group Committee, Diversity Student Alliance, Platform Personalities, Gonzo Media, and Student Finance Committee at Northern Michigan University. She works in the

Multicultural Education and Resource Center (NMU's Diversity Office for students) where she strives daily to promote diversity education programs in support of underrepresented students.

Maddie is committed to gender equity. She is an advocate for social justice. She has helped mobilized others to email their congressional leaders to support the *Protecting Girls' Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act*. This bill urges consideration of educational needs of vulnerable women and girls in designing, implementing, and evaluating U.S. foreign assistance policies and programs.

Maddie spearheaded the first annual "Gender Fair", which was a smashing success attended by many NMU students, faculty, and staff. She has been actively involved in planning this year's Diversity Common Reader Program. She coordinated a Rape Aggression and Defense event for LGBTQ+ students, completed an internship for the Borgen Project as the PR/Marketing coordinator. She has participated in conference trips to the "Let's End Sexual Assault Conference", the National Conference for Race and Ethnicity, and the National Women's Studies Associated Conference.

Maddie was selected to receive the Spirit of Diversity Award and the Allies Scholarship at the NMU Leadership Banquet last year.

Maddie excels in and out of the classroom. Her commitment and dedication to women's issues is inspiring, and she is a terrific role model to her peers. We could not be prouder to have Maddie representing NMU and the Marquette community on the AAUW National Student Advisory Council.

We are pleased Maddie and Rachel could join us for the Holiday Dinner, given their exceptionally tight schedule of commitments.

Written by Rachel Harris and Judy Puncchar