



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

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

Facebook: [AAUW Marquette Branch](#)

From the President

Imagine the "Uncle Sam Wants YOU!" poster. Now, exchange the bearded guy for a picture of our whole branch membership. They are saying, please step forward and volunteer to be on our dynamic Board. We need a Treasurer (Meredith will guide you) and Membership Co-Chairs (Kathy and Mary will guide you). If you've been asked, please give it some more thought; if you have not been approached, please consider serving. Changing of the Guard occurs in May. It's almost May.

BOOK SALE--Our biggest scholarship fundraiser of the year is upon us. Let's aim for 100% membership involvement. We can do this. Please find a time and day to help, starting Monday, April 23rd, and reply to Marlene as soon as possible. Thank you, Marlene and Renee! It will be a good year!

*Best regards,
Meg Goodrich*

NEXT MEETING

Monday, April 23, 6 PM

Book Sale Potluck

The potluck will be held at the First Presbyterian Church (corner of Front St. and Bluff). Bring an entree, salad or dessert to share; also, please bring your own plate, napkin, flatware and a drink. Wear work clothes.

For new members, our job this evening will be to organize the books donated for our book sale. The usual course of events is that first we have dinner, then a short period of announcements and introductions, then we sort books. If you're unable to make it for dinner, do come later for the book work. It's interesting and fun!

Carolyn Myers, Hostess Committee

The 2018 AAUW Book Sale!

Book Sale volunteers have already been hard at work. Books are being collected, promotion has been sent out, and we're ready to set up for the biggest sale ever.

Don't forget –

- Sale dates and times:

Thursday, April 26, 5–9 pm

Friday, April 27, 9 am–6 pm

Saturday, April 28, 9 am–12 noon

- Working Potluck Set-up, Monday, April 23 at the sale location, First Presbyterian Church
- Sign up for your volunteer time slots.

Members: The sign-up sheet is a separate document attached to the email with this newsletter.

Non-members: we have several guest volunteers, and all are welcome to assist in this worthy cause.

Contact Marlene Woo-Lun if you are interested in volunteering.

Marlene Woo-Lun, 2018 Book Sale Co-Chair
marlene.woolun@gmail.com
phone: 614-403-5800

From the Treasurer

DUES are due

Dues are due by **June 30**. You will be receiving an email from National AAUW soon telling you the amount you owe for your dues. For most of you, that amount will be \$105. This is \$10 more than last year because National raised the amount we pay them by \$10. You are still paying \$12 for Michigan AAUW dues, \$9 for local dues, and \$25 for our membership in the Federated Women's Clubhouse.

The email will give you two options for paying your dues. You can send a check to me. Or you can pay National for the full amount by credit or debit card. National will send us the \$34 for local and clubhouse dues, and they will send MI-AAUW \$12 for your state dues.

Anyone who owes less than \$105 will be sent a bill for the appropriate amount.

Meredith Kulisheck, Treasurer
617 W Hampton St, Marquette, MI 49855

Looking ahead to **Thursday, May 10** **BLACKROCK BOTS**

The "Blackrock Bots" robotics team from Bothwell Middle School will demonstrate their technical skills and discuss their challenges on Thursday, May 10, at 7:00 p.m. at the Women's Federated Clubhouse, 104 W. Ridge, in Marquette. This program, sponsored by the Marquette Branch of the American Association of University Women, is open to the public. It's a great opportunity to see these students put their robot through its paces and to admire their inventive tenacity.

"Robotics is the one varsity sport in which everyone can go pro," Senator Debbie Stabenow has observed. It is also a sport that relies heavily on mentorship from community members, which is an AAUW priority. To learn more about robotics, visit www.firstinspires.org.



As always...
please remember to
bring your Econo receipts
to the next meeting.

APRIL 10 MARKED EQUAL PAY DAY

Imagine two average US workers, working at the same average US job. They work and work all the way through to December 31, 2017, then sit and consider their paychecks for the whole year.

Because they're average, they probably wish those paychecks were higher. The man sighs, shrugs, and gets ready to earn his 2018 paychecks.

The woman sighs too, but determines to work and work some more, until her total earnings add up to what the man got for 2017. She works through January, past the Winter Olympics; she works through February, past Valentine's Day; she works through March and its Madness; she works past April Fool's Day, all the way to Tuesday, April 10, 2018.

Finally! She did it! This average American working woman has finally earned the same amount of money as the average American working man, working the same job, received in 2017. But now, of course, she's way behind on 2018.

April 10, Equal Pay Day, marked this fundamental unfairness.

Throughout the United States, on average, working women earn 80 cents for every dollar a working man in an equivalent job makes. Over a 40-year working career, that average man gets a whopping \$418,800 more. If that average man retires at age 60, the comparable average woman has to work all the way to 70 before she catches up.

Michigan has nothing to brag about here; last year we ranked a miserable 43rd out of the 50 states, and this year we rank an even more miserable 45th. While 80 cents is the US average, in Michigan the working woman gets only 74 cents—in our First Congressional District, a measly 72 cents. While \$418,800 is the amount lost by

the average US woman, in Michigan the comparable figure is over half a million dollars, \$519,720. Instead of having to work to age 70 to catch up, the average Michigan woman would have to work to age 74.

This is not just a problem of fairness. It affects families, children, retirement, social security, and the economy of our region, our state, and the whole nation.

Two legislative remedies languish in Congress: the Paycheck Fairness Act (S819/HR1869) would strengthen penalties for equal pay violations and prohibit retaliation against workers who discuss their wages—often the only way women have to find out what is actually going on. And the Pay Equity for All Act (HR2418) would ban the use of salary history to determine future pay, to help stop the perpetuation of past discrimination.

This month, in recognition of Equal Pay Day, call Michigan's Senators—Gary Peters at 202-224-6221 or 906-226-4554 and Debbie Stabenow at 202-224-4822 or 906-228-8756—and Congressman Jack Bergman at 202-225-4736 or 906-273-2227. Tell them women and families can't afford to wait. Ask them to work for the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act and the Pay Equity for All Act.

Without these laws, women and their families are stuck "in the red." Each year, show your concern by wearing red on April 10, Equal Pay Day.

Karlynn Rapport
Public Policy Representative, Marquette Branch of
American Association of University Women (AAUW)
906-361-3276
krapport@chartermi.net

Katherine Larson
Marquette Branch of AAUW
katherineblarson@yahoo.com