



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

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

Facebook: [AAUW Marquette Branch](#)

## WELCOME!



Your 14-member Board of Directors of the Marquette Branch of the AAUW welcomes you warmly to the start of another exciting new

year. Board members share our membership's passion for the AAUW mission of advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research to advance equity for women and girls. Our role is to oversee the goals of our organization on behalf of its members and ensure business is managed in a sound fashion. We seek to engage with our members and build our AAUW community. Two board members (Judy Puncochar and Leslie Warren) serve as liaisons between NMU students on campus and our AAUW Marquette Branch members.

The board starts our 2018-2019 year by launching a slate of exciting programming, a new AAUW-NMU student group, an Upper Peninsula regional event with local AAUW branches, and some editorials to introduce board members and their roles on the Board, along with associated opportunities for branch members. We want you to keep in touch. You may contact us in several ways:

1. Write or call us using email addresses and phone numbers in our membership booklet.
2. Attend a Board meeting, which **usually is the last Thursday of every month at 7:00 P.M. in the Women's Federated Clubhouse, except during the week of the book sale. (Check your membership booklet for meeting dates.)**
3. Find us at AAUW-Marquette Branch events.

Share your thoughts. We want to hear from you and engage in another exciting year with you to advance equity for women and girls.

*Members of the Board, AAUW-Marquette Branch  
Judy Puncochar, President*

## Next Meeting - September 13, 6pm SALAD SUPPER

Our first meeting of this fall is at the Women's Federated Clubhouse at 6 pm on Thursday, September 13. We hope all the members can come and bring a friend or relative. I will need to know how many people are coming to get the tables set-up. Please let me know.

Every member who comes is asked to bring a salad or a dessert. This is always a great dinner. We will also have coffee, tea, water, and a pink punch.

Remember to let me know if you are coming.

*Kathy Davis, [kdavismgt@aol.com](mailto:kdavismgt@aol.com)  
906-228-4197 Marquette or  
906-494-2400 Grand Marais*

## SALAD SUPPER MEETING TO FEATURE AAUW PRIORITIES

The discussion following the meal will answer the question "Why AAUW?" with "why we are here and why we keep coming back," highlighting AAUW accomplishments; priorities at the national, state, and local level; and upcoming programs of the Marquette Branch.

## ALSO AT SALAD SUPPER... Scholarship Campaign Kickoff

For over 30 years, AAUW members have held fundraisers to support our scholarships for NMU women, but in recent years, we have been challenged to meet rising tuition costs. To that end, at our Salad Supper, you will receive a letter asking for your personal financial support, so we can continue our scholarships. No specific amount will be requested or expected, but our hope (as always) is to accumulate enough to be a significant help to the talented and very hard-working young women we support.

This summer we received a note of thanks from one of our 2018 scholarship recipient:

July 5, 2018

Dear AAUW Scholarship Committee,

*Thank you so much for granting me another scholarship for this fall 2018! It means so much to me that you all want to invest in my future and I appreciate it very much. I am looking forward to my final semester as a Surgical Technology student and I am very excited for clinicals. Again, thank you so much!*

*Sincerely, Jessica Barber*

**Les Bek, NMU Scholarship Campaign Chair**

### ANOTHER YEAR BEGINS.

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

## Michigan AAUW President REGIONAL MEETING WITH 3 U.P. BRANCHES in Marquette, Saturday, October 13

Michigan AAUW President Deb Kennedy will meet with Upper Peninsula AAUW branches on Saturday, October 13.

An event luncheon will be held in the Women's Federated Clubhouse in Marquette. **AAUW members and guests are invited** from the Escanaba, Iron Mountain-Kingsford, and Marquette branches to attend the luncheon and talks at 12:30pm. The event is free. More information will be forthcoming via email.

#### Tentative Schedule

- Member & Guest Luncheon with Invited Speakers: 12:30pm
- Coffee/Tea Break: 1:45pm
- TBA topic of interest: 2:00pm
- Leave-taking and Conversations: 3:00pm

## Jumpin' Jive to a NEW AAUW-NMU STUDENT GROUP

NMU's 2018 Fall Fest was a BIG success for a new start-up AAUW-NMU student group. Fall Fest is an "opportunity fair" where NMU students congregate for four hours on the Quad, eat pizza and ice cream, and find information on how they can become involved on campus and in the community. Student organizations, volunteer agencies, and local businesses have tables and place their names in front of thousands of people who visit the site. Smells of food, sounds of music, and stacks of coupons for discounted services abound.

Judy Puncochar set up an AAUW table to obtain signatures of students who expressed an interest in learning more about a new AAUW-NMU student group focused on empowerment of women. She learned a lot... wear comfortable shoes, start endurance training three weeks prior to engaging in Fall Fest's nonstop full-volume promotions, set up between Swing Club ("In the Mood" and "Jumpin' Jive") and Rugby Club's bumping, jousting, and surprising number of women interested in scrum, and pack water, throat lozenges, and healthy food.

Forty-seven people put their names and email addresses on AAUW-NMU sign-up sheets, resulting in a nice listserv for the student group to advertise StartSmart, ElectHer, and other student-choice events. We also obtained email addresses of two sorority sisters who pledged to promote AAUW-NMU events.

One of our Membership Committee co-chairs, Taylor Susa, serves as AAUW-NMU liaison to our branch, and Judy is the student group's faculty advisor. We anticipate an exciting new academic year of women empowerment!

Stop by next year for EMPOWERMINT....



— Judy Puncochar and Taylor Susa

## MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

*According to the national [AAUW Bylaws](#), all branches must have a minimum of two officers, the president and finance vice-president. Our branch has 14 officers. Four of us are new to the board this year. You might want to know who we are and what the 14 of us do. We will introduce ourselves over the next few newsletters and describe our roles, starting with our new branch president*



**Hi! My name is Judy Puncochar** (pronounced punch-a-car). I appreciate the honor of serving as your new president. I accepted this position knowing that our exceptional outgoing

president, Meg Goodrich, would continue her service on our board, thereby providing a smooth transition. Thank you, Meg!

In the [role of AAUW branch president](#), I preside over board meetings, branch activities, and events within the community. I communicate with [AAUW-Michigan](#) president, Deb Kennedy, and inform her of our branch activities, and I strive to inspire collaboration and participation in our branch.

My skills for organization were honed as a K-12 science teacher and NMU professor. For fun, I enjoy riding my new mountain bike, walking in beautiful Marquette, and interacting with branch members. I look forward to learning from you and continuing the shared work of our branch to advance equity for women and girls.

Please keep in touch ([jpuncoch@nmu.edu](mailto:jpuncoch@nmu.edu)). Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

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## LOOKING AHEAD TO OCTOBER:

### AAUW to Present "Voting Matters"

Everyone is invited to "Voting Matters," an October 11 discussion featuring a variety of topics aimed at engaging and informing voters presented by the Marquette Branch of the American Association of University Women, a non-partisan group.

Specific topics will include Proposal 2, sponsored by Voters Not Politicians, which would amend the state constitution to create a citizen's commission to redraw district boundaries for future elections. Another set of proposed constitutional changes, Promote the Vote, would implement no-reason absentee voting, give military members additional time to vote, let citizens register to vote anytime with proof of residency, allow straight party voting, protect secret ballots and require audits for election results.

Fact-checking and the security of the voting system will also be discussed, and Darlene Allen will describe the recent reestablishment of the non-partisan League of Women Voters in Marquette.

Voting is what makes us a democracy; voting matters. Come learn about it on Thursday, October 11, at 7:00 p.m. at the Federated Women's Clubhouse, 104 W. Ridge Street, Marquette. For more information, please contact Ruth Ziel at 906-249-4152 or Marge Forslin at 906-869-4791.

