



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

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

Facebook: [AAUW Marquette Branch](#)



Thank you for your continued commitment to AAUW's mission of advocacy, education and training, economic security, and leadership for women and girls. Your membership in our AAUW-Marquette Branch helps to promote local scholarships, literacy, enlightening community events, and camaraderie of members.

We start an exciting 2019-2020 year with our annual salad supper where we unveil a year of innovative programming and introduce new branch members, guests, and AAUW-NMU student members.

Your Board of Directors welcomes Ruth Ziel as our new Financial Vice-President and gives Meredith Kulisheck rousing applause for her five excellent years of service as Financial Vice-President. We also welcome Kristen White to our Scholarship and Awards Committee and Jackie Stark as our Publicity Agent. The Scholarship and Awards Committee works via email and online, so members who are frequent travelers are encouraged to participate. A list of board members is the end of our newsletter.

Join us at the Salad Supper on Thu 12-Sep at 6:00 P.M. in the Federated Women's Clubhouse, 104 W Ridge Street, Marquette, MI 49855.

We want to hear from you and engage with you in another exciting year to advance equity for women and girls. Keep in touch and share your thoughts with board members. Thank you.

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



**AS ANOTHER YEAR BEGINS**  
Please save your Econo slips again  
and bring them to the Salad Supper or  
the next meeting you attend.

President	Judy Puncochar
Program Co-Vice Presidents	Les Bek & Karlyn Rapport
Membership Co-Vice Presidents	Leslie Warren & Taylor Susa
Recording Secretary	Kay Payant
Corresponding Secretary	June Davis
Financial Vice President	Ruth Ziel
Book Group	Helen Carlin
Book Sale	Renee Leow
NMU Liaison	Leslie Warren
Federation Board	Margie West
Historian	Carolyn Myers
Hospitality	Kathy Davis & Meg Goodrich
Scholarship & Awards	Kristen White
Membership Booklet	Karen Rudisill
College Membership	Taylor Susa
Newsletter, Website, Facebook	Marge Forslin
Publicity	Jackie Stark
Public Policy	Karlyn Rapport
STEM	Kathy Davis

### Next Meeting

Thursday, September 12, 6pm

### SALAD SUPPER

Our first meeting of this fall is at the Women's Federated Clubhouse at 6 pm on Thursday, September 12. We hope all the members can come and bring a friend or relative. We will need to know how many people are coming to get the tables set-up, so please let us 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 punch.

Remember to let us know if you are coming. RSVP your attendance to Les Bek [ljbek@chartermi.net](mailto:ljbek@chartermi.net) or 906-869-5298.

*Kathy Davis, Hostess Committee*

### SALAD SUPPER MEETING TO FEATURE...Why AAUW?

Our program year will start off with a discussion facilitated by member Jamie Vanenkevort. One of AAUW's ongoing goals is to increase and diversify its membership. With the realization of

this goal, AAUW must acknowledge and incorporate the shift in values that accompany a changing face. New and existing members will identify common and contrasting purposes for joining AAUW, with a focus on collaborative effort. The questions that will be the focus of this collaborative session is: What is the reason you joined AAUW? What do you hope to accomplish by being a part of this organization? Individuals with similar interests will have the opportunity to form action groups to move on the issues close to their purpose and hearts.

*Les Bek, Program Co-chair*



ALSO AT THE SALAD SUPPER...  
**NMU 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.

We also believe you may know others, beyond our AAUW members, who share our mission of advocating for the educational goals of young women. Someone who might like to join us in this campaign. To help us meet our goal of support for NMU women scholars, we are asking each of you this year to commit to **Ask One**.

Will you personally ask at least one other person to consider a contribution to our NMU Scholarship? We will have letters you can personalize and give to them, or we can mail a letter to whomever you suggest.

She, an NMU young woman scholar, is counting on us and we can help get her there.

*Les Bek, NMU Scholarship Campaign Chair*



## Fall Fest 2019

***The AAUW-NMU student group broke  
 a record for signing up interested students.***

*Above: Riley Jepkema left and Taylor Susa, right.*

NMU Fall Fest 2019 was held on the academic mall the first Monday of fall classes. Student groups and non-profit and for-profit organizations vied to attract students, faculty, administrators, staff, and community members with fun raffles, blaring music, and free pizza and ice cream.

Grace Freitag, Riley Jepkema, Judy Puncochar, Mary Snitgen, and Taylor Susa obtained 48 signatures of students with an interest in the empowerment of women and girls. Last year AAUW-NMU obtained 47 signatures. Record broken!

Our newly updated AAUW-NMU listserv will help to advance leadership opportunities to members within the student group and advertise AAUW-NMU StartSmart, ElectHer, and other student-focused events.

Taylor Susa serves as our AAUW-NMU liaison and College Membership Chair on our AAUW-Marquette Branch Board. Riley Jepkema reported on Fall Fest 2019 at our AAUW Board meeting on August 29. Judy Puncochar is the AAUW-NMU student group's faculty advisor.

*Judy Puncochar, AAUW president  
 and AAUW-NMU student advisor*



**EMPOWERMINTs  
 for all!**

## Public Policy News - August 2019



Mary Pollock (*center in photo*), AAUW of Michigan Government Relations Coordinator came to town and met with Marquette branch members (*left to right*) Karlyn Rapport, Leslie Warren, Pat Micklow, Elizabeth Miller, and Jackie Stark (*not pictured*).

They had breakfast and a most interesting discussion on August 3. Mary shared her perspective on the political climate in Lansing. Topics addressed included the Republican lawsuit challenging the state's redistricting. Mary encouraged AAUW members to apply to the commission which will work on redistricting. We will keep you informed. No hearing dates were set, but this case was assigned to Judge Janet Neff.

Mary applied for the national AAUW Public Policy Committee and received notice that she had been selected. This is an honor and a wonderful opportunity.

We talked of two abortion method ban bills—one criminalizing dilation and extraction abortions, the safest and most effective method in the second trimester and the other, the so-called Heartbeat bill. Mary thinks that Right to Life can obtain the necessary 300,000 valid signatures. And unfortunately, it is likely this anti-choice legislation would pass our present anti-choice legislature bypassing the governor's veto.

Andrea Gerald-Taylor is heading an effort to push back against these two anti abortion petitions. Pledge to Repeal is a political action committee looking to keep current abortion practices legal. If either anti-abortion measure makes it to the Legislature and is passed, Pledge to Repeal has a 90-day window to gather enough signature to put the law up for a referendum. Andrea Gerald-Taylor will be a guest speaker at our Lobby corps conference call on September 16 at 7:30 PM.

AAUW members interested in public policy can join this call: Dial-in 1-855-436-3635 with participant code 8785179#.

Marquette Branch can take pride in our responses to public policy issues. You can access state legislature information at: [www.michiganlegislature.org](http://www.michiganlegislature.org) and obtain Mary's reports and testimony at [www.aauwmich.org](http://www.aauwmich.org).

*Karlyn Rapport,  
Public Policy Representative*



## MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS: RUTH ZIEL

My name is Ruth Ziel and I am the new Financial VP. I took over this position in July of this year. I look forward to working with all of you in this capacity.

I have lived in Marquette with my husband and children since 1990. I am a retired registered nurse having spent the last 23 years of a 38-year career in the emergency room at Marquette General Hospital. Initially I graduated from a hospital-based diploma program in inner city Detroit at The Grace Hospital School of Nursing in 1975. I received my BSN from Saginaw Valley State College (now a University) in 1980.

After retirement, I found I had more time for gardening, hiking, cross country skiing, biking and traveling to the Arctic Circle among other activities. In addition to volunteering for AAUW, I have also been involved with the Women's March, Reproductive Rights demonstration, Voters Not Politicians as well as Immigration injustice.

There is so much to be done.



## You are invited!

Please attend an upcoming AAUW-Michigan Regional Event in Traverse City, Michigan. All AAUW-Marquette Branch members are invited to participate in AAUW-Michigan's Regional Conference on Sat 19-Sep from 11am-3pm at the Dennos Museum in Traverse City.



The event will be held on Northwestern Michigan College's campus in the Janis Room. The Dennos Museum name is best to plug into GPS navigation. Cost is \$30. Please send an email to Amy Shamroe if you plan to attend (aauwamy@gmail.com).

Stay tuned for an official flyer, but Amy wanted us to hold the date while AAUW-Traverse City figures out the workshop details.

*Judy Puncochar, Marquette Branch President*

## AAUW-Marquette Branch Membership Drive

Participate with us as we launch our new membership drive at our Salad Supper on Thu 12-Sep-2019.

AAUW has a national membership community of 170,000 for gender equity. Our AAUW-Marquette Branch membership is about 50 members strong. Together, our 50 branch members contribute to a powerful voice on critical issues affecting women and girls in our community. Our members find their place to contribute. Some enjoy networking at the local level, helping with scholarships and awards for college women, promoting community literacy through our book sale, serving in local and state leadership roles, sponsoring community action projects, and supporting AAUW priority issues. Others contribute their talents and voices on our board and at our program meetings. If you know people who enjoy this level of activism, engagement, and friendship, then bring them to our programs and have them join our branch. Participate with us as we launch a new AAUW membership drive in September.

### AAUW Shape the Future Guest/Referral List

Branch name/state	Date
Branch code	
Name	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Phone	
E-mail	
College/University	
Highest Degree Type	Year
Recruiter	
Amount Paid \$	Check #



AAUW-National has a [Shape the Future Membership Campaign](#), which is a recruitment tool for current members to offer a discounted rate to prospective members who sign up at public events. All of our monthly program events are open to the public. With the Shape the Future Membership Campaign, new members pay just 50% of the national dues rate when they join AAUW at a public event. Branches also earn one free national membership to give away for every two newly recruited members, with a maximum of three free memberships annually.

AAUW national dues are almost entirely tax deductible. Regular AAUW national dues are \$59, of which \$56 is tax deductible; \$3 of the national dues payment is not tax deductible because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps and election-related activities. Discounted dues through Shape the Future are only \$29.50, of which \$26.50 is tax deductible; \$3 of the national dues payment is not tax deductible.

Simply have your guests sign the [guest/referral sheet](#) (top left) and give their membership dues collected at any of our public program events to Ruth Ziel, our branch finance officer. [Download the 4-page brochure](#) pictured at the left about the [Shape the Future Membership Campaign](#) for more information.

### Who Is Eligible for AAUW Membership?

AAUW membership is open to anyone with an associate or equivalent degree (e.g., RN) or higher from a regionally accredited institution. A "new member" is someone entirely new to AAUW or an individual who rejoins after two or more years of non-membership. A national member who joins a branch is not a new member. "New members" are the only members eligible for the membership discounts through this campaign.

**Please join me in welcoming our new members at our Salad Supper on Thu 12-Sep-2019 at 6:00 P.M. at the Federated Women's Clubhouse. Thank you.**

*Judy Puncochar, President, AAUW-Marquette Branch*