NEWS AND VIEWS - MARQUETTE BRANCH

January/February 2020



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. Website: <u>http://marguette-mi.aauw.net</u> Facebook: <u>AAUW Marguette Branch</u>

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020!



AAUW of Marquette rings in the New Year with a centennial celebration of women's right to vote in the United States. Bring friends and family and enjoy a dramatic reading of Susan B. Anthony's criminal trial for casting a ballot. Learn some fun facts. Muse on

parallels. Enjoy entertainment Guthrie Theater style. Meg Goodrich directs the play, which features Hollywood quality rising stars within the friends, families, and familiar faces of AAUW members. The play starts at 6:30pm.

Meg deserves a shout out for planning our fabulous AAUW Holiday Dinner menu and creating the Sassy Gals of Cooking (Meg, June Davis, Margie West, Judy Puncochar, and Susan Shaver with Tiki). The Sassy Gals hosted the dinner. The festivities were lovely, food was delicious, and camaraderie and storytelling filled the room with heartwarming laughter, all amid 10" of snowfall.

April is a mere two months away. Drumroll ... Enter stage left is Renee Leow as our fearless Book Sale leader and Pat Pellett with space to store books.

Mark your calendars. We look forward to seeing you on **Thursday February 20 at 6:30pm**. This is 30 minutes earlier than our usual meeting time. Join us for a historic look at the push against women's rights. *– Judy Puncochar, President*

Equal Pay Days in 2020

February 11, 2020 Asian American women's Equal Pay Day

March 31, 2020 All women's Equal Pay Day

April 9, 2020 White women's Equal Pay Day

June 4, 2020 Moms' Equal Pay Day

August 13, 2020 Black women's Equal Pay Day

October 1, 2020 Native women's Equal Pay Day

November 2, 2020 Latinas' Equal Pay Day

NEXT MEETING Thursday, February 20, 6:30 pm

A Remarkable Susan



Susan B. Anthony Trial, Her Crime: Casting a Ballot

Please do invite your friends and neighbors to our branch's celebration of the 200th Anniversary of Susan

B. Anthony's birth. On **Thursday, February 20,** 2020, branch members (and some spouses!) are performing "A Remarkable Susan," a short play by Tim Kelly, depicting the true court trial of Susan's crime of VOTING!!!

Her birth bicentennial coincides with the centennial of the 19th amendment, which finally gave women the right to vote. Susan based her perceived right to vote in the 1872 presidential election on the 15th Amendment of 1870 which stated "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." As women are not specifically mentioned here, it was still illegal. Let's pack the "courtroom" and cheer on our Suffragettes!

Please note the start time of 6:30 pm.

Meg Goodrich, organizer and a cast of thousands!



December Holiday Dinner

Despite a winter snowstorm, 35 hearty AAUW members and their guests made their way to the Clubhouse for a fabulous evening of food and fellowship. My heartfelt thanks go to the four other Sassy Gals--June Davis, Judy Puncochar, Margie West, and Susan Shaver, for preparing the elegant, yet affordable buffet. We met our goals in that



achievement! We are also grateful to the three Gwinn French Club students of Shannon Ruis, for serving as our assistants. Kudos, as well, to Les Bek for guiding us once more in delightful holiday storytelling. Indeed, a delightful evening, all around.

Sincerely, Meg

FROM THE ARCHIVES

A new feature column highlighting a bit of our AAUW history from records held by the Central Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan University Archives. What archives treasures would you like to see featured in the newsletter? Contact Emily Tinder (<u>etinder@nmu.edu</u>) to share your ideas!



The *Convention Daily* was a series of small bulletins distributed at a national level by the AAUW. Each 6-page booklet served as a news digest for members

attending state or national conferences, often including lists of recently admitted university associations, articles concerning speeches made by AAUW leadership, or event schedules/recaps. Most of the news would probably have little relevance to the overall history of the organization, and almost none to current members. But I find the bulletins interesting for the peeks into the "in culture" of AAUW members of the 1950s.

WHAT IS IN A NAME?

AAUW is being called names. A taxi driver looking up at the sign over the Lyceum remarked, "Oh, the Active American Union of Workers is meeting, and they all seem to be women." But Mrs. Winnifred MacFee of Western Michigan College, Kalamazoo, received an even more potent interpretation. Getting off the bus at 22nd Street, she asked a florist for the AAUW Clubhouse. He'd never heard of it. Next she addressed a man mowing the lawn at a funeral home. "AAUW," he pondered. "Alcoholics Anonymous, ma'am, just down the street."

"What's In A Name?" asks a small endcap. "AAUW is being called names. A taxi driver looking up at the sign... remarked, "Oh, the Active American Union of Workers is meeting, and they all seem to be women." A recurring section, "Honestly, It's True..." made many allusions to current events with a humorous twist: "...that intemperance has been a national issue for a long, long time. At least Dr. Rosamonde Ramsay Boyd found enough material on the problem to do her M.A. thesis on the subject, 'Drinking Customs in South Carolina 1663-1830." Another issue reads, "...that every session of the AAUW Convention is attended by a sprightly young fellow with no college degree nor background. He's Reddy Kilowatt, the symbolic thunderbolt on your convention ball point pen. He's attending as the delegate of Northern States Power Company."

These moments of fun are sprinkled throughout the pages, but in no way take away the professionalism of each newsletter. Other opportunities to bring human interest to the news comes in the form of national or worldwide stories. One 1953 issue included a briefing on past First Lady Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's lecture tours abroad, who sent a message to the convention: "Education is invaluable for a free people; in fact, it would be impossible without education to have a really successful form of democratic government."

The NMU Archives holds a handful of these booklets in full in our AAUW Marquette Branch records, MSS-163. To read these or to see any other records, stop by the Archives in 126 Harden Hall on the NMU Campus, or send an inquiry email to archives@nmu.edu.

Emily Tinder, Senior Student Assistant, Central U.P. and NMU Archives & new member of AAUW-NMU

~ More documents next page ~



... that Marjorie Husted (Mrs. K. Wallace) of the national committee on Status of Women pioneered Betty Crocker and her famous Picture Cookbook.

... that one delegate in filling out her registration in the hectic Monday morning hours conscientiously noted in the space marked "REGION": "Protestant."

... that Dean Flora Rawls of Memphis State College chaperoned one of her own students who was Miss America (c. 1947) to South Africa.

... that the dress Ruth Moscript will wear in the pageant, "Portraits from the Past," as the militant feminist, Jane Swisshelm, is the actual dress Jane wore in Civil War days in St. Cloud, Minn.

... that the AAUW Convention in Minneapolis is just the jumping-off place for Mrs. Frederic Gilstrup, Albuquerque, Vice-president of the Rocky Mountain Region. She's on her way to the International Federation of University Women to be held in London when August rolls around.

... that Katherine Elkins White (Mrs. Arthur J.), our national Treasurer, gets nothing in the way of dollars and cents for her services as mayor of Red Bank, N. J. But consider the perquisites of public office: the two fire engines of Red Bank are named KATHERINE WHITE.

... that every session of the AAUW Convention is attended by a sprightly fellow with no college degree nor background. He's Reddy Kilowatt, the symbolic thunderbolt on your convention ball point pen. He's attending as the delegate of Northern States Power Company.

... that the price of upholding the standard for AAUW may sometimes be higher than some of us would be willing to pay. Instance: when Mrs. Rood was a delegate to the international convention in Poland in 1936, border officials put her in jail for a couple of days because they couldn't get the concept of her letter of credit.

... that Mrs. Edwin H. Erickson, former president of the branch at Olivia, Minn., is issuing a challenge. Her town of 2005 population has 21 active members. Five of the members are farmers' wives. Who will pick up the gauntlet? Mrs. Clara Painter helped organize this group and says she is proud of "her baby."

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. . . that Lieutenant-Colonel Mary-Agnes Brown isn't Colonel Brown at all. She is Mrs. Gordon L. Groover of Washington, D. C.

... that intemperance has been a national issue for a long, long time. At least Dr. Rosamonde Ramsay Boyd found enough material on the problem to do her M.A. thesis on the subject, "Drinking Customs in South Carolina, 1663-1830."

... that AAUW has its own Dagmar. She's the "cooking side" of Dorothy Dagmar Rood (Mrs. John Rood). Our National Board was treated to "Potage Dagmar" one evening at the Roods.

... that the Art Metal Class at Miller Vocational High School of our own Minneapolis Public Schools presented the State Presidents at their luncheon Monday with handmade earrings.

... that Pat Black (Mrs. Robert M.) in charge of Transportation is mother first, chauffeur second! If you hop a ride with her, you'll have to sit in the front seat. The back seat holds a crib and her three-month-old baby.

... that some of our national leadership have a benevolent interest in a secondary "convention" this week. On Wednesday a national organization for Better Broadcasts was formed just around the corner from the AAUW Convention office.





MRS. ROOSEVELT STRESSES WORLD POINT OF VIEW

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who is on a lecture tour in the Far East, took time from her busy schedule to send a message to the convention. True education, according to Mrs. Roosevelt, must include world understandings.

Education is invaluable for a free people; in fact, it would be impossible without education to have a really successful form of democratic government. In these days, however, it is essential that education for every citizen in our country should include a knowledge of conditions of people in other countries. Our possibility for leadership requires that we understand the needs of the rest of the world as well as our own.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

Meet Your AAUW Board Members



Hello, my name is Leslie Warren. I'm honored to be our Membership Co-Chair along with Taylor Susa.

My husband and I moved to Marquette from Chicago seven years ago so that I could become the Dean of Library and Instructional Support

at Northern Michigan University. I love being part of community that encourages kindness, learning, and sharing. The beauty of the Upper Peninsula has helped me embrace kayaking, biking, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing.

My sisters and I are first generation college students who were encouraged from birth to read, to study, and to get degrees. That support helped us get through the door, but we didn't really know what to do once we got there. Through several degrees (journalism/Spanish, then law, and finally library science) and a career change I learned how to develop a strong network and find my path. My salary plummeted when I left a job as an attorney for the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights to become an academic librarian, but I have never regretted the change. I continue to help everyone have access to information and education and I get to help students avoid mistakes I made.

I appreciate all that I learn from everyone in AAUW. Our members inspire me. Special thanks to Elizabeth Miller for introducing me to AAUW and to Judy Puncochar for encouraging me to become more active in our branch.





NMU Scholarship Update Just the Facts

- Fact: Our goal is to provide scholarship assistance to young women faced with financial hardship in meeting their academic goals at NMU.
- Fact: We have reached 70% of our 2019-2020 goal.
- Fact: We still need to raise a remaining \$1,200.
- Fact: PLAN A:

We can obtain **12 gifts of \$100** or

PLAN B:

We can ask you to contribute one *or more* of the **27** gifts listed below. CAN YOU HELP?

- Fact: We believe with *YOUR* help we can meet our goal.
- Fact: We truly appreciate any and all contributions.

PLAN R.

Les Bek, NMU Scholarship Campaign Chair

PLAN B.				
We need all 27 of these gifts to meet our \$1200 goal				
1 gift of \$250		=	\$250	
1 gift of \$150		=	\$150	
2 gifts of \$100		=	\$200	
2 gifts of \$75		=	\$150	
3 gifts of \$50		=	\$150	
4 gifts of \$25		=	\$100	
6 gifts of \$20		=	\$120	
8 gifts of \$10		=	\$80	
Total	27 gifts	=	\$1,200	

Public Policy News

AAUW released its 2020 Public Policy agenda. In the arena of Economic Security these are the priority issues:

- Ensure Equal Pay for Equal Work. Currently women earn 82 cents on the dollar men earn. Passing the Paycheck Fairness Act, the Pay Equity for All and Fair Pay Act would help correct pay bias.
- 2. Implement Paid leave and paid sick days. The U.S. does not guarantee paid time off for illness, care of family members or paid parental leave which the majority of developed countries do

offer. This is a public health issue as well as an economic concern.

- 3. Stop Harassment in the Workplace.
- 4. Raise the Minimum Wage and Eliminate Tipped Minimum Wages. Pass the Wage Act of 2019.
- Close the Retirement Gap. With the gender pay gap, women lose thousands of dollars in earnings, retirement and social security benefits. Maintain and Strengthen Social security benefits including cost of living adjustments.
- Protect Pregnant Workers: Pass the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act. This would allow pregnant workers reasonable accommodations, so that they could continue working and supporting their families without jeopardizing their health and that of the fetus they carry.

Other news:

National Equal Pay Day is March 31. Please send your ideas as to how to publicize this distressing day by email to Karlyn Rapport at <u>krapport@chartermi.net</u>. Plans are afoot to provide a Work Smart workshop at NMU.As an introduction to Work Smart, we will provide a forum for women to share their stories regarding gender pay inequity and what they did to try to resolve it.

In her State of the State Address, Governor Gretchen Whitmer promised to expand health care coverage for low income new moms for a full year after giving birth. This includes a first post- partum visit within 3 weeks, a comprehensive visit within 12 weeks. These visits would help new moms deal with breast feeding issues, post- partum depression and other health care concerns.

Let's hope 2020 and 2021 will show real progress on issues identified by AAUW 's Public Policy Agenda.

Karlyn Rapport, Public Policy Representative

Memories of Marilyn Klahn

MARQUETTE, MI -Marilyn Kay Klahn passed away on November 7, 2019 at Trillium House after a short illness. Like everything else in life, Marilyn departed life on her own terms and her family were glad to be at



her bedside during her final days to keep her company.

Marilyn was born in Earlham, Iowa in the middle of a blizzard on March 21, 1932. After obtaining her teaching certificate Iowa State Teachers College, she began teaching kindergarten in Central City, Iowa, where she met her best friend and love of her life, Richard Klahn. In her telling of the story, it was toward the end of her second year of teaching and she told the principal she would resign at the end of the year to move to a larger community (more eligible men). However, a few days later, while she was supervising recess, a handsome man with curly black hair crossed the school yard. He was dressed in a suit and carrying a briefcase and she knew he wasn't a parent of any of the students. She followed him inside and up to the principal's office where she heard Richard introduce himself and say he had come to interview for the band director position. The principal saw her in the doorway and asked her if he could help with anything and she said: "I just wanted to let you know I've decided to stay." After what they both described as a "whirlwind" five-year long courtship, they married in Mason City, Iowa, on June 9, 1956 and enjoyed 52 years of adventures.

Her children, Sarah and Joel were born in Wisconsin and the Klahn family lived in Iowa and Illinois before finally moving to Marquette in 1977. Marilyn recalled her first visit to Marguette where she was impressed by the natural beauty of Lake Superior and the surrounding woods and dismayed by the shopping options. Once here, she worked as the Christian Education Director for the First Presbyterian Church for 10 years during which she and several others formed a drop-in childcare center called "This Morning's for You." It operated for over 20 years and filled an important gap in childcare options, particularly for low income families. For years afterward, Marilyn would often say of people she saw, "that young person used to come to This Morning's for You." Her professional activities reflected her lifelong connection to children, and in her later years, she enjoyed getting to know the children in the neighborhood, many of whom would stop by and visit on their way to the park or beach.

In the community, Marilyn had many and diverse interests which she supported with time and money. She was a major supporter of Planned Parenthood and received several awards for her volunteer efforts. Marilyn captained the AAUW book sale until a couple of years ago, and after she retired from that leadership role, continued her involvement by volunteering her sunporch as a place to store donated books prior to the book sale. She also volunteered for many years at the Marquette Historical Society. She was an avid supporter of the UP200, including contributing her handmade quilts to the silent auction. She was a longtime sustaining member of WNMU, and the tag line on Night Studio citing Marilyn Klahn as a contributor "in memory of Richard" continues.

Marilyn was a force of nature, warm and funny and always willing to lend an ear. She was many things to many people—the substitute grandma, the replacement mom, the dear close friend who could be counted on for spontaneous adventures. She felt and believed all things with passion and was not shy in sharing her opinions. She encouraged her children and others to create their own paths in life, rather than rely on the well-trodden. All she was a loving and supportive spouse, mother, grandparent and friend to many in the community.

AAUW members remember Marilyn

SUE PAYANT: I loved talking with Marilyn. Every conversation I had with her was filled with good natured sarcasm. She always made me laugh.

JACKIE GALLAGHER: I have been in AAUW for over 20 years. Marilyn was one of the nicest people in our Association. She could talk to anyone and her sense of humor was great. From conversations you knew she loved her family. About 10 years ago, I started working on the BookSale with her. The books piled on her porch, which Marilyn was usually surprised on how quickly they accumulated!!Marilyn will be remembered, as she was one special lady ?!

HELEN CARLIN: From the first time I met Marilyn at an AAUW meeting 14 years ago I knew that she was a very special woman. Even though she didn't know who I was she made sure to introduce herself to me and to welcome me into the group. She was so bright, had a wonderfully wicked sense of humor but had a depth of kindness towards others. I will always remember her and feel lucky that I was able to get to know her.

MEG GOODRICH: I loved just chatting with Marilyn about this and that. She had a way of making you feel like she was really hearing what you said, and she was easy to open up to. Her sense of humor added to this ease of conversation. I can still hear her laughter.

ELIZABETH MILLER: Elizabeth suggests honoring Marilyn's four decades of involvement in AAUW by making a contribution to our scholarship fund in Marilyn's memory. Write your checks to the **AAUW Scholarship Fund Campaign**. Send your contributions to Ruth Ziel, 734 Lakewood Lane, Marquette, MI 49855. Thank you

Clubhouse Problem Solving and Direction Workshop



Clubhouse Board President Sue Madden will host a workshop on problem solving and the direction of the Clubhouse on **Saturday**, **February 22.** Doors open at the Clubhouse at **8:30am**. The schedule is below. AAUW of Marquette is an affiliate of the Federated Women's Clubhouse, and all Clubhouse affiliates and interested members are encouraged to attend.

8:30am – Doors open with coffee, tea, and cookies
9:00am – Workshop and next steps
12:00pm – Wrap up and clean up
12:30pm – Doors close

Please send questions to Judy Puncochar (jpuncoch@nmu.edu). Thank you.

This workshop introduces a powerful model for problem solving and organizational and personal change. **AAUW's own Judy Puncochar** was first person to apply the model to education, and Sue Madden is excited to have affiliates and their members apply the problem-solving model to the future of the Federated Women's Clubhouse.