



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

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

Facebook: [AAUW Marquette Branch](#)



Your AAUW Board met for a second time via Zoom video-conferencing successfully. We had a quorum, and

at the end of the meeting, we raised a glass of our favorite beverage in a toast for good health, happiness, and productivity. We extend that toast to you now!

Our lives and AAUW schedules have been upended during the COVID-19 pandemic, so the AAUW board wants to share some helpful personal information aligned with the AAUW mission. Enjoy six practical ideas to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy during Michigan's stay-in-place extension.

**1. Learn a new skill.** A new skill probably might not change your life during quarantine or impress friends, but challenging, meaningful mastery could help our attitudes. For example, I learned how to eat with chopsticks with my non-dominant hand. Chopsticks have become my preferred eating utensils. Hone skills for puzzles, charades via FaceTime or Zoom, ballroom dance steps, doodling, and cooking. The brain accommodates new kinesthetic knowledge relatively quickly.

**2. Laugh often, love much.** My sister learned five minutes before leaving for work last week that one of her nursing colleagues tested positive for COVID-19. I rearranged my 93-year-old mother's house so that my sister could isolate herself in the downstairs apartment when she returned from work. My mother gave up a private bedroom-bathroom suite to sleep in the living room and use a shared common bathroom, where she accidentally dropkicked several rolls of toilet paper. She has a good kick. I asked her if she wanted to practice with the Nebraska Cornhuskers Punt Team. We laughed.

**3. Frame issues as problems to be solved.** Work on concerns over which you have some control or

influence. Write letters to newspaper editors and members of Congress. Share your ideas with others. Celebrate steps toward success and all learning associated with progress, even learning associated with failures.

**4. Practice helpful learning behaviors** (e.g., roll your shoulders while reading).

- Eat healthy foods
- Breathe deeply
- Drink more water
- Exercise
- Get more sleep

**5. Renew your AAUW membership.** We are fortunate to have our AAUW of Marquette community. We mentor each other and others, we care deeply, and we work hard for the good of women and girls and their families.

**6. Give to the AAUW Scholarship Campaign.** Now, more than ever, women will need our support to complete their college educations. Thank you.

Stay well and keep in touch.

*Judy Puncochar, AAUW of Marquette President*

*Congratulations!  
and thank you all!*

**NMU Scholarship Fund –  
We met our goal!**

Since last fall, we have been asking you all to consider making contributions to help a young woman in need to give her access to achieving her academic goals.

We kept asking because we hoped one day might be *the right day* for you. We kept asking because like this determined young woman, we too had a goal--to help her achieve her dreams.

We are stronger together – how true! Thank you for giving hope and opportunity.

*Les Bek, NMU Scholarship Chairperson*

## 2020 Martha Griffiths Award

The Marquette Branch of the American Association of University Women announces the winner of the annual Martha Griffiths Award given to a high-achieving graduating female senior at NMU with high involvement in her discipline. The award is named in honor of one of Michigan's most influential women legislators in the last half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Martha Griffiths was known for her efforts in the Civil Rights Act and for getting the Equal Rights Amendment to the House floor for a vote in 1970.



This year's Martha Griffiths Award nominees were particularly competitive. The Awards Committee received 16 nominees, all of whom typified the leadership and drive of Martha Griffiths.

The 2020 Martha Griffiths Award goes to Crissa Karavas who is a [Hospitality and Tourism Management](#) major with an [Entrepreneurship](#) minor. Crissa graduates in May 2020 in two areas traditionally dominated by men. Although more than 50% of culinary school graduates are women, [less than 7%](#) of executive chef positions are held by women at leading culinary organizations and only 19% of chefs and head cooks are women. Female entrepreneurs have doubled in the last 20 years; however, [only 40%](#) of US businesses currently are owned by women.



Crissa worked 40+ hours a week as a kitchen manager at one of the popular restaurants in Marquette while she attended Northern as a full-time student and graduated with high

honors. She is student president of the NMU Hospitality Club, which contributed to the Salvation Army's Toys for Tots efforts during the holidays. She spearheaded the reestablishment of Memorial Chili Challenge, and she was instrumental in launching NMU's first hospitality-specific job fair.

Three NMU instructors submitted independent nominations for Crissa Karavas to receive the Martha Griffiths Award. Assistant Professor Loganne

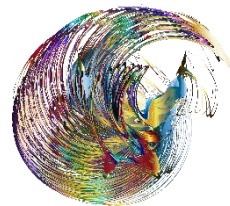
Glendening of Hospitality and Tourism Management wrote, "Ms. Karavas is also a fulltime kitchen manager, gaining additional knowledge and experience to prepare her for a successful future. Ms. Karavas will play a role in changing the stigma associated with leadership in the hospitality industry."

Crissa plans to open her own culinary business in the future. College of Business instructor Corinne Bodeman wrote that Crissa excelled in her Small Business Enterprise class and led a team of students to write a full 50-page business plan for a startup business. Her contributions to the team elevated the level of work to "near perfection". "I have never seen such tremendous work—both in thoroughness and ethic—from a student. Her level of dedication was constant through all levels of classwork, culminating with this final 400-level class. Though her dreams and aspirations are in the food and hospitality industry, there is no doubt Crissa would excel in any endeavor she should put her efforts into."

Crissa's abundant energy and entrepreneurial organization skills will help her achieve success in a highly relevant and challenging post-COVID-19 field. Associate Professor Deborah Pearce of Hospitality and Tourism Management wrote, "Ms. Karavas is a driven young woman. Her goals are clear and achievable. She has her fingers in many pies (note baking reference☺) but manages to take care of schoolwork, work a full-time job, and have an active social life as well. She is always willing to help her fellow students with projects and assignments. I have observed that she stands as an inspiration to the younger students in our program."

AAUW of Marquette honors Crissa for her demonstrated promise and achievements to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and entrepreneurial work with a Martha Griffiths Award certificate, letter of congratulations, and a check for \$500.

Just don't throw them away!



*Please continue*

*to save your Econo slips and bring them to the next meeting we can all attend in person.*

Or if you prefer to be rid of those you have already collected, Meredith Kulisheck offered that you can send them to her at 617 Hampton St, Marquette, MI 49855.



2020-2021

## ***Slate of Officers***

The Board of Directors approved nominations for the following slate as recommended by the nominating committee to serve on next year's board. Officers serve for not more than two consecutive 2-year terms:

***President:***

Judy Puncochar, second term

***Program co-chairs:***

Leslie Warren, Jackie Stark, first terms

***Membership co-chairs:***

Les Bek, Susan Shaver, first terms

***Corresponding Secretary:***

Pat Pellett, first term

Members will receive an email soon to vote on approving the slate, as our May meeting has been cancelled.

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Please give a hearty virtual round of applause to our outgoing officers!

- Program Chairs Karlyn Rapport and Les Bek have served for countless years, at least 4, working with others to create meaningful, educational, and entertaining programs, all open to the public.
- Applause as well to Leslie Warren and Taylor Susa, for their productive efforts in Membership recruitment.
- Many thanks also to Corresponding Secretary June Davis for her thoughtful letters and notes of thank-you, get-well-soon, and other important correspondence.
- Hospitality Rep, Kathy Davis is taking a back seat, and will share her expertise with her successor on this vital, behind-the-scenes role, enabling all our programs to be so welcoming.

Ladies all, thank you so much for your service to our AAUW Marquette Branch. Would that we could be honoring you in person, with our silly little Installation Rituals.

*Meg Goodrich, Les Bek, and Margie West  
Nominating Committee*

## **Public Policy News**

### **Meshugass**

*Meshugass*, a Yiddish word, pronounced mish-eh-goss with the accent on goss, is defined in the *Joys of Yiddish* as “wacky, irrational nonsense, a state of affairs so unreal or silly that it defies explanation.” We now have a classic example. The President of the United States advised people to inject or ingest Lysol to prevent getting COVID-19.

Recently I inadvertently added to the world’s *meshugass*. Fair and Equal Michigan is valiantly trying to collect signature to add LGBTQ rights to Michigan’s Civil Rights Law. They collected 150,000 signatures and need 190,000 more to send this citizens-initiated bill to the legislature. COVID-19 restrictions intervened. We could not sign this petition at our meeting because we had to cancel our in-person meeting and instead just meet electronically. I had an email sent to our members asking that they contact me to request a petition, but that bore no fruit.

Then Fair and Equal Michigan tried to take the petition to an online signing. Four of our members who attempted to use this method met with requests for money. They could not close out of the process and were reluctant to give their driver’s license number as requested. Fortunately, the group heard our complaints and removed the requirement for a driver’s license from their website. However, the electronic signatures may not be recognized by the legislature anyway.

LGBTQ individuals *should* be protected from discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodation, public service and education. Why can’t the Michigan legislature amend the Elliott Larsen Civil Rights Act as suggested by this petition? It is the right thing to do for Michigan.

Suggest this to Michigan State Senator Ed McBroom 517-373-7840 and Michigan State Representative Sara Cambensy 888-429-1377

### **The Equal Rights Amendment**

The Equal Rights Amendment moved a little closer to ratification. On February 13, 2020, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 232-183 to remove the deadline for ratification. It was a bipartisan vote. Now it moves to the Senate. Contact our Senators to co- sponsor and vote for S.R. 6 to remove the deadline for ratification. This would allow Nevada,



Illinois and Virginia to count toward ratification. I warn you though, Senator Mitch Mc Connell is opposed to ERA. The only way forward may be to flip the Senate majority. **Here's to seeing ERA passed in our lifetime!** Call U.S. Senator Gary Peters, 202-224-622; and U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, 202-224-4822.

### Michigan Reconnect Grants

Both House and Senate passed SB268 which is now PA 84 of 2020. The governor signed it. The grants offer financial assistance and scholarships to individuals age 25 or over who seek associate degrees or recognized industry certificate or credentials. It establishes the Reconnect Private Training Learning Initiative which provides skill scholarships for qualified occupational training programs. They hope 25,000 students will be approved the first year.

### Right to Read Lawsuit

The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that there is a fundamental right to education in the United States and several Detroit students presented sufficient arguments to bring their case forward alleging the State of Michigan deprived them of that right. The lawsuit was originally filed against Governor Rick Snyder, Governor Gretchen Whitmer as his successor becomes the lead defendant. The children allege that they have been relegated to a school system that does not give even a plausible chance to attain literacy. These plaintiffs still must prove their contentions at trial, but this ruling opens the court room door.

### Redistricting Commission Can Continue

Republicans tried to overturn a U.S. District Court of Appeals ruling that these plaintiffs failed to provide legal grounds for blocking the commission's implementation. Now the 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Karen Moore found that conditions placed on selecting commissioner were constitutional and did not violate their (Republican's) rights. In 2018 Michigan voters overwhelmingly voted to take politicians out of redistricting establishing a citizen led fair impartial and transparent redistricting process. Over 4000 applications have been processed. The Republican legislature tried to limit funding for this commission, but the Secretary of State has vowed her office will fund the commission's work.

**That's it folks. Stay safe. Be well.**

*Karlyn Rapport, Public Policy Representative*

## Meet Your Board Members

### Karlyn Rapport

*Following some serious arm twisting, Karlyn finally agreed to share some autobiographical information*



Karlyn joined the Marquette Branch of AAUW in 1959. She received her B.A. from Ohio State

University, and her M.A. from Northern Michigan University. Grateful for all the friendship, support, mentoring and education AAUW provides, Karlyn has served as chair of the branch, co- chair of the program committee, member of its executive committee, and has been its public policy representative forever.

Currently, Karlyn is part of Michigan AAUW's Virtual Lobby Corps and the branch's book group is one of her greatest pleasures.

Karlyn is a retired Speech and Language Pathologist who specialized in treating patients who survived stroke and traumatic injury. In connection with that, she brought to the attention of AAUW the plight of women who had become her patients as a result of the beatings they received from their spouses.

These individuals had nowhere to go. So, at Karlyn's urging, the Marquette Branch sought and received a grant from National AAUW to publish a resource directory for spousal abuse survivors. In performing this task, Karlyn and branch members drew together a community-wide task force. The work of this task force resulted in a unified community response to domestic violence as well as a shelter.

Since then, Karlyn is referred to as a founding mother of the Women's Center and Harbor House. Her lifelong passion is access to care and community service. She served as a Marquette County Commissioner for 6 years and presently is on the Marquette County Board of Health.

Karlyn takes great pride in the accomplishments of her 3 children, 4 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. She loves to travel and work out. She says the best decisions she made in her life were marrying Jim Rapport and joining AAUW. And as her photograph above shows, the present love of her life is Jack Benny her 2-year old Cairn Terrier.



## Week of September 21, 2020

As in most days of late, we all have a lot of time on our hands and might be feeling a bit of scrabble fatigue or be suffering from Puzzle-itis; I would like to challenge you a *new game of* **RECALL** I just invented using modified advertising campaigns of the 1980s to provide an update on the 2020 AAUW **FALL** Book Sale.

*See how many of these y'all remember.*

### Got Book?

Yes, this was and still is a successful campaign for milk producers but also a good one for us to remind our friends and families to save gently used books, CDs, DVDs and Puzzles for the fall book sale. Please know that I am happy to make arrangements to pick up books once the shelter in place has been lifted. Also, a great big shout out goes out to Pat Pellet for storing the books in her garage.

### New and improved

A common phrase for any new packaging that can also be used for the New and Improved AAUW Fall Book Sale. The book sale has a new date which may allow for some new opportunities & member input. Most importantly, additional involvement and possibly increased revenue for academic scholarship.

### Where's the (Book) Sale?

Like the three spicy women in the Wendy's restaurant campaign, I ask all the spicy members of the Marquette AAUW to remind folks that the 2020 Book sale will be

**September 24-26, 2020**

and that the sale will remain with our faithful partner, the First Presbyterian Church.

### New formula

Again, with the extra time, modest tweaks can be made to make the week more efficient and more fun! Why not have a spring book sale in the fall? Watch for details!

### Give a Hoot and DO Pollute

Okay, I do want to you to pollute **ONLY** using words within your social medial accounts via Twitter, Instagram or simply sharing the new and improved poster (when available) on your personal page with your Facebook "family" to promote the fall sale when more details become available.

### Just Do It

I think these three simple words via a Nike campaign says it all as a call for action to all Marquette AAUW members to get involved with the book sale to attain our goals and support our mission.

### Save the Date

On a more serious note...

...together, we can get through this and I really do hope that the new and improved

**September 24-26**

book sale date will occur. I look forward to spending the week of September 21st with you.

*Wishing you, your families, and friends good health, love and lots of laughter!*

*Renee Leow, Book Sale Director*





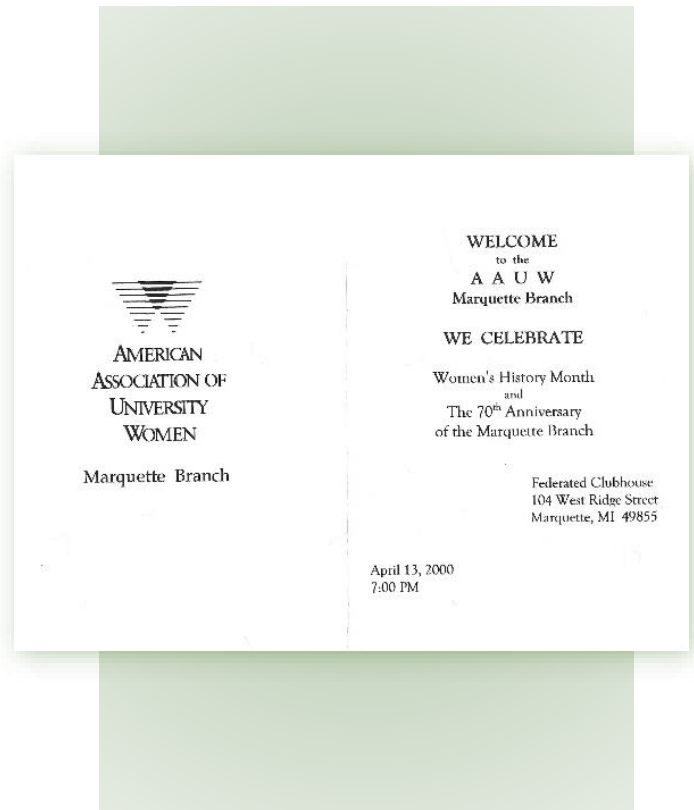
# HAPPY 90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



## AAUW OF MARQUETTE

At home during this pandemic, doing some cleaning and tossing, I found something interesting. In April 2000, our branch celebrated its 70th anniversary, which would make this year our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Please enjoy this little flyer I found.

*Meg Goodrich*



### AAUW General Meeting Program

7:00 PM

April 13, 2000

Students from the Father Marquette Players of Father Marquette Middle School - Present:

Abbi Beecher Roberts.....Tara Nancarrow  
Anna Minerva Chandler.....Jessica Vanch  
Anita Mayland.....Rachel Koskey  
Olive Pendill.....Tyler Dolan

Member Presentations by:

Anna Minerva Chandler.....Kay Payant  
Olive Harlow.....Elizabeth Miller

Welcoming remarks by President Karen Hakala

Cutting and serving of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake

Business meeting and announcements

Adjournment

Special thanks to:

Mary Friggens, Father Marquette Middle School teacher

Hostesses: Mary Knauss, Marilyn Klahn and Sally Closser

Program Committee: Rae Elliot and Mary-Jane Schmidt

Jean Choate: AAUW member and organizer of the Marquette Women's History Tour on May 8, 1999

Elizabeth Miller: for the "Brief Introduction to AAUW and Marquette Branch" history.

### A Brief Introduction to AAUW and MARQUETTE BRANCH

Since its first meeting in 1881, the American Association of University Women has been a catalyst for change. Today, AAUW, with 160,000 college and university graduates as members and more than 1,600 branches nationwide, the AAUW Educational Foundation and the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund continue to take the lead in transforming the world for all women and girls. We share the common goals of AAUW: to promote education and self-development over the life span and to foster equity and positive societal change.

This year members of the Marquette Branch are celebrating our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We have been supporting the larger AAUW organization and the Marquette community through various efforts:

- \* In 1950, to raise money for the International Fellowship fund, Branch members staged the first of many plays for Marquette's children to enjoy.
- \* In 1956 the Branch initiated Halloween collections for UNICEF in Marquette.
- \* In 1959 we organized the first of our "USED BOOK SALES" to generate monies for AAUW'S Scholarship programs.
- \* In 1961 Branch members began the puppet shows that are performed each year in area's schools.
- \* In addition to raising money to support scholarships at the national level, our Branch as for 20 years raised enough to establish a local scholarship. Our current scholarship is for an NMU student in the amount of \$800.00
- \* We are in our fifth year of supporting the Women's Book Project which places books about women and women's history in the Marquette school libraries.
- \* And we look forward to the Math, Science and Technology Conference for Girls which we co-sponsor at NMU in the Spring.

We are observing 47 years of partnership with Northern Michigan University. Since 1953 NMU has continued as a corporate member of our Branch and we are extremely proud of the relationship we enjoy with the university.

In 1966 the Marquette Branch joined the Federation of Women's Clubs and our members support the projects that support this Historic Home.

We will continue to work toward realizing the goals of the American Association of University Women on a global, national and most importantly, local level.