



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

Website: <http://marquette-mi.aauw.net> Facebook: [AAUW Marquette Branch](#)



New Beginnings!

Never underestimate the power of creative women. Welcome to an exciting 2020-2021 New Normal. We start our programming during a pandemic with a first-ever Porch Meeting on Thursday, September 10. Enjoy an outdoor event and pick-up your AAUW-Marquette blue membership booklet between 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at the Federated Women’s Clubhouse. We will offer drive-by service, too.

Wave and smile beneath your mask at AAUW colleagues and board members. We will welcome you warmly with social distancing, hand sanitizer, masks, and blue membership booklets. We will provide camaraderie, our NMU Scholarship Campaign letter, and a flier on how to attend our exciting AAUW fall programs online via Zoom.

We will *not* have in-person programming inside the Clubhouse this fall. AAUW Program Chair Leslie Warren will demonstrate in-person Zoom demos inside the clubhouse throughout the evening.

Bring your EconoFoods slips and written ideas about next steps in AAUW membership expansion and program topics. We value your input and are excited to see you again.

BOARD ACCOMPLISHMENTS Your board members had another successful Zoom meeting on Thursday, August 27. We are skilled with Zoom and productive. We approved the budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (aka FY21), updated our ‘Just Ask’ NMU Scholarship Campaign letter, and agreed to send our restructured AAUW-Marquette Affiliate Bylaws to AAUW-Michigan

for approval. The bylaws were sent to Bylaws Director Elizabeth Haynes on Friday, August 28.

-----2020-2021 AAUW-Marquette Board-----

--ELECTED--

President	Judy Puncochar
Program Vice President	Leslie Warren
Membership Co-Vice Presidents	Les Bek & Susan Shaver
Recording Secretary	Kay Payant
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Pellet
Financial Vice President	Ruth Ziel

--APPOINTED--

Book Group	Karen Rudisill
Book Sale	Renee Leow
NMU Liaison	Judy Puncochar
Federation Board	Meg Goodrich, Margie West
Historian	Carolyn Myers
Hospitality	Meg Goodrich
Scholarship & Awards	OPEN
Membership Booklet	Karen Rudisill
Newsletter, Website	Marge Forslin
Facebook	Leslie Warren
Publicity	OPEN
Public Policy	Karlyn Rapport
STEM	Les Bek

Two opportunities are available for members to become involved with the board. Write to Judy Puncochar at jpuncoch@nmu.edu if you are interested in serving on the Scholarship and Awards Committee or as our Publicity Representative. We would love to have you join us. We have a great time.

BOOK SALE HELP? Write to Renee Leow rmleow@charter.net and ask what you could do for the April 22-24, 2021 book sale.

WORTH REPEATING Karlyn Rapport, our AAUW-Marquette Public Policy Representative, spearheaded voter registration efforts with Marquette Area Public Schools to 201 Marquette high school graduates in July. Renee Leow seized on the idea and wants to “do it every year” with “all the stuffing at the book sale each and every year!” Volunteers for “all the stuffing”? We have an in-kind donation for 2021 postage.

BLUE BOOKLET 2020 Karen Rudisill, our Membership Booklet Representative, invites you to

look for exciting new and returning sections to our 2020 membership booklet, including ways to get involved with AAUW-Marquette, updated program policies and procedures, a history of AAUW marionettes, and information on how to use Zoom.

Judy Puncochar, President AAUW-Marquette

TWO (2) UPCOMING Meetings

Thursday, September 10, 6-8 pm

PORCH MEETING

This was announced in the Breaking News issue of the newsletter emailed to you last week. It like all back copies is still available online on our website. <https://marquette-mi.aauw.net/files/2020/08/08-2020-BREAKING-NEWS-August.pdf>

-- and --

Thursday, September 17, 7 pm

VOTER FRIENDLY Campus Initiative

Please join us on **Zoom** on Thursday, September 17, at 7:00 pm for a special program. Emma Drever, president of the Associated Students of Northern Michigan University (ASNMU), will share information about the Voter Friendly Campus initiative that she is leading on campus. Emma and others are working to make sure that NMU students understand how to vote and have convenient opportunities to register to vote. Emma Drever is a senior at NMU majoring in English and Spanish.

Connect via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84293456553?pwd=R2hXd0NH5NngvJUE0Qi9hYzdUUU9Mdz09>

Or by phone:

1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Meeting ID: 842 9345 6553
Passcode: 19202020

Zoom session will begin at 6:45 pm. Program will begin at 7:00 pm. If you need assistance connecting, you can call or text Leslie Warren, 773-791-7803.

ALSO THIS FALL...

NMU Scholarship Fund Campaign 2020-2021

In 1980, AAUW-Marquette Affiliate awarded its first scholarship to Northern Michigan University for a young woman facing financial hardship. Our support was an important piece in the puzzle that would make up her ability to achieve

her academic goals. We credit the commitment and stamina of our membership for hosting the annual Book Sale each spring as our source of revenue. The NMU Scholarship Fund Campaign was initiated to decrease reliance solely on Book Sale funds.

In the grips of a pandemic your contribution is more important than ever. Together we will continue to lift-up young women in need toward their academic goals at NMU. We will call upon our resiliency and our passion for our mission. We will get it done again.

Thank you for considering a financial gift to this Campaign. In doing so, you will be a part of the bright side of this most challenging and atypical year. You will be opening academic doors for young women and opportunities for them to see far beyond the pandemic.

You will be receiving a Campaign request letter soon. No need to wait! Please share. Contributions gladly accepted by non-members. Check payable to: AAUW-Marquette; memo: NMU Scholarship; send to Ruth Ziel 224 Lakewood Lane, Marquette, MI 49855

Thank you.

Les Bek, NMU Scholarship Campaign Chair



Are you thinking what we're thinking? That it would be a great time to have more women join our AAUW- Marquette Affiliate?

It would be great to

- sustain our current members
- to reach out to former members and
- to overall diversify our membership.

This is one case where word of mouth is the best action step.

Billboards or paid advertising are not sensible options, so let's start with who knows best--our current members.

Please give some thought to who you might ask and/or refer to us.

Why is this the right time to join?

A fantastic schedule of programs brought to you at home via Zoom. An opportunity to interact and

learn without the travel. A great work-around to the COVID-19 restrictions to keep us all safe.

Our community and country are bursting with potential and pending changes. Political elections up and down the ballots; questions about voting security, racial injustice, systemic changes, public education, access to health and to say MORE is an understatement. Women will be impacted.

We earned the right to vote 100 years ago. We are thankful you have brought your voice to AAUW-Marquette Affiliate. Please keep the conversation going by sharing this membership opportunity.

Contact Ruth Ziel, for how to join: rziel@gmail.com or 906-249-4152.

For more information about our national organization visit <https://www.aauw.org/>; the AAUW- Marquette Affiliate website <https://marquette-mi.aauw.net/>; or on Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/AauwMarquette>

Thank you to our current 47 members. We look forward to welcoming back former members and those joining for the first time. It is going to be a year to remember!

Les Bek, Membership Co-Vice President

Hospitality Blues

When you receive your 2020-2021 Membership Booklet, you will notice the *Hospitality Schedule* for our Program Meetings is blank (TBD) for the whole year. The Program Committee has determined that the Fall Program will be virtual, so no hospitality required. While I have most of the Winter/Spring schedule ready to go, I have decided not to publish; so much is up in the air, even for the programs. When we are free to gather again, I will update the schedule and let all volunteers know. We will certainly miss those yummy chocolate chip cookies, and tasty punch.

Holiday Dinner Update--before our restrictions increased, the Program and Hospitality committees "met" in June to discuss how to manage a December gathering.

With NMU's Fall Semester ending before Thanksgiving, we decided many members might

even be out of town in early December. In its stead, fingers crossed, we do have fun plans for a January Celebration!! (COVID willing) I look forward to sharing them with you when our coast is clear.

Meg Goodrich, Hospitality Chair

FEDERATED CLUBHOUSE NEWS

Margie West is now the secretary, and Meg Goodrich is the AAUW representative to the Clubhouse Board. We met in mid-June, when it looked as though groups would be able to meet, with restrictions. The main news is that the Clubhouse will be pinched for income. Rental rates have increased to reflect extra cleaning requirements and supplies. As I write, the Yesterday's Treasure sale in early December may also be in jeopardy. The Clubhouse Board will meet again in mid-October; we will inform you of any relevant developments either via email or our newsletters.

Meg Goodrich

Public Policy News - August 2020

Pass the Heroes Act Please

In the face of so much suffering, it is a disappointment that the Senate adjourned for summer recess on August 13, 2020 without passing the Heroes Act or some alternative legislation. The Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Act better known as the Heroes Act passed the U.S. House of Representatives May 15, 2020. It provides needed support to states, families and individuals. The Act expands paid sick days, unemployment compensation, nutrition and food assistance, housing assistance and funding for childcare. It tries to address educational disparities by ensuring students have access to distance learning, school meals and resources for schools to open safely. The act provides up to \$10,000 in student loan relief to borrowers who are economically distressed. The Heroes act supports states in their effort to provide fair and accessible election and voter access.

Urge our senators to support the Heroes Act and push for its immediate passage. You can call them directly at 202-224-4822 for Senator Stabenow and 202-224-6221 for Senator Peters or go to

<https://www.aauw.org/issues/> and use the two-minute activist to easily send your message to the Senators.

Paid Leave

The U.S. does not guarantee paid annual leave, time off for illness, care of a family member or paid parental leave. The majority of developed countries world-wide do. More than 34 million or 1/3 of the U.S. workforce can't **earn** sick days.

The Family and Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY ACT) also known as H.R.1185/S.463 would create a self-funding paid family and medical leave insurance program. Many women workers delay health care for themselves because they can't afford to take time off work. They may send their children to school sick because they can't afford to stay home and care for them. Paid leave means workers will not have to choose between their job and health. This is a public health benefit for all because workers will be allowed to stay home and get well instead of spreading illness.

AAUW is committed to social and physical well-being of all people. AAUW supports the Healthy Families Act which would ensure workers in businesses with 15 or more employees can earn up to 7 job-protected paid days off.

Thank Governor Whitmer for signing an Executive Order on August 27 which prohibits employers from discharging, disciplining or retaliating against employees who stay home when they are sick to recover from their own illness. Actually, this measure will save lives and reduce spread of COVID-19. Employees who stay home are to be given medical leave

These measures just chip away at ameliorating the immense challenges many in our country are facing, VOTE and be sure everyone you know votes. If you are voting absentee mail your ballots 2 weeks prior to Nov 3 or deliver them to the clerk's office. In Michigan they must be received by Nov 3.

*Karlyn Rapport,
Public Policy Representative*



Just don't throw them away!

Econo receipts NEVER EXPIRE

Please continue to save your Econo receipts and bring them to the September 10 Porch Meeting or the next meeting you can attend in person. They bring in many hundreds of dollars for us. Especially in this time of the pandemic, we, like everyone and every business, are finding funds down, while needs increase. You could also mail them or drop them off to Meredith Kulisheck, 617 W Hampton St, Marquette, if you prefer.