



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

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



### *Suddenly, it is November 2020*

### Welcome to a historic month of national and local record-changing events

Record-breaking numbers of new coronavirus cases are surging in the United States. The 2020 US election had more early votes cast and the highest voter-turnout percentage in more than a century. Northern Michigan University scheduled an end to fall semester 2020 before Thanksgiving with no scheduled final exam week.

Your AAUW board has **good news** to share amid the pandemic quarantines and isolation. We are reaching out and *checking in* with our members.

- We want to find out, **“What’s new and good with you?”**
- We want to share information about how to join our Zoom program meetings.
- We want to invite you to serve on the board as Publicity Agent or Scholarships and Awards Committee member or chair.
- We *would love* to have your company. We are strong, creative, and passionate about charting pathways of progress through challenges facing women and girls.
- We want your ideas.

The board extends enthusiastic appreciation to Kay Payant for 2½ years of excellent service as Recording

Secretary. Thank you, Kay! Carol Steinhaus will serve as Recording Secretary starting November 19. Welcome, Carol!

The October Zoom meeting on *Women in Student Leadership* was wonderful. AAUW members were inspired by the drive, experience, and competencies of NMU female student leaders. These young women asked our members several questions and embraced our role as mentors and guides. All NMU female leaders presenting were Girl Scouts. Unfortunately, we forgot to record this program, but we have plans to redeem ourselves shortly.

We have a fascinating upcoming program on Rural Health Issues. We are happy to help you connect via cell phone, laptop, or web link following the meeting, assuming we are successful in recording the meeting.

Plan to connect via Zoom this **Thursday, November 12 at 7:00 P.M.** A link is provided in the article below, but if you don’t use email, we will print and mail this newsletter to you and you should plan to follow the phone-in instructions. We can hardly wait to see you again one day--in person!

Stay well, happy, active, and productive!

*Judy Puncochar,*  
AAUW–Marquette President

### UPCOMING Meeting Thursday, November 12, 7 pm Rural Health Issues

Join us online on Thursday, November 12, for “Rural Health Issues,” a presentation by Elise Bur, Director of the NMU Center for Rural Health.



Elise joined NMU in July 2020 as the first director of the new center, which is a collaborating center with the State of Michigan’s Center for Rural Health.

Current issues they are addressing include COVID-19, strategies to address diabetes prevention, and substance abuse prevention and treatment. Elise will

share with us issues that are common in rural areas, with emphasis on the Upper Peninsula. More information about the Center for Rural Health is at <https://nmu.edu/ruralhealth>.

### Connect via Zoom:

#### By computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83442002416?pwd=eTJNeUdyakdGb0M4ZkxUcmJoU1ZPQT09>

**By phone:** 1-929-205-6099

**Meeting ID:** 834 4200 2416

**Passcode:** AAUW

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**.

*Vice President AAUW-Marquette Programs*

## NMU Scholarship Campaign Update



When it comes to our will to support young women as they advance their academic goals at Northern Michigan University, this timeless quote comes to mind:

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

*Margaret Mead*

And so, we are just that.

It sounds good to hear the quote again if not for the first time. We are contributing to academic opportunity in our own backyard. We are benefiting young women who we have no telling of how far they will go. Small steps to change the world.

This membership year to date we have raised \$3,295 with additional pledges pending. Our goal is in sight. Thank you and congratulations! While our campaign officially closes December 31, 2020, we will continue to accept donations at any time. The needs continue to grow as does our commitment.

Please send contributions to Ruth Ziel,  
734 Lakewood Lane, Marquette, MI 49855



*Les Bek,  
NMU Scholarship  
Campaign Chair*

## PUBLIC POLICY

### AAUW of Michigan Statement on Domestic Terrorism

Federal and state officials in Michigan recently announced domestic terrorism, conspiracy and weapons charges against 14 men accused of plotting to kidnap Michigan's Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

AAUW of Michigan believes that all people deserve to feel safe in their homes, in their communities, and in their country. Safety is a civil and human right without which society cannot thrive and democracy cannot function. Key elements of a democracy include the protection of the human rights of all citizens and a rule of law, in which the laws and procedures apply equally to all citizens.

To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse and inclusive society, AAUW advocates for freedom from violence and freedom from fear of violence, including hate crimes in homes, schools, workplaces, and communities.

AAUW of Michigan stands in solidarity with Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer and condemns the actions of anyone who would plot to kidnap, try, and execute the governor. In a democratic society, there is no place for extra-judicial action or the promulgation of violence or hate.

*Michigan AAUW President Jan Van Gasse*

### October is Domestic Violence Awareness month.

I attended a webinar entitled “Sliver of a Moon”. The title refers to how much protection indigenous women and girls gained by the 2013 passage of the Violence Against Women’s Act (VAWA). Reauthorization of VAWA was passed in the House of Representatives in April 2019, but it has been stalled in the Senate.

The House Bill HR1585 worked to end some of the sins of omission in the 2013 measure. We cheered the passage of VAWA in 2013 because VAWA improved access to safety and justice for Native Americans and LGBTQ survivors. It restored tribal jurisdiction over non- native perpetrators of domestic violence and dating violence. It did not cover child abuse, sex trafficking, rape or murder. The designation of “Indian Country” in the bill excluded 228 tribes in Alaska and four in Maine. These groups are still unprotected by VAWA.

Jurisdictional gaps remain which place Native American Women vulnerable.

Eight in ten Native American women will be raped, stalked or abused in the course of their lives. Ninety-seven percent of these crimes are perpetrated by non-natives. Tribes have been unable to prosecute these non-native perpetrators if the crime is committed on tribal land.

The 2019 bill expands tribal protection to include sexual assault, stalking, trafficking. However, because Alaska and Maine do not meet the legal definition of "Indian Country" VAWA does not apply. A 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act needs to be amended to restore jurisdiction over native land to 228 Alaskan tribes. Similarly, the exclusion of the 4 tribes in Maine needs to be addressed.

When AAUW advocates for freedom from violence and freedom from fear of violence, we must make it a high priority to act as allies of our Native American sisters and work with them to address these egregious gaps in protection and justice.

**When we say Vote as if your life depends on it. It does.** Let's hope for an outcome of this election that helps our country return to its more compassionate values.

We have to give a shout out to our Iron Mountain Kingsford AAUW affiliate for their candidate forum. As we well know it takes a lot of work and it is very disappointing to have candidates refuse to show. The exchange of views between candidates Rene Richer and Beau La Fave was well worth the effort.

*Karlyn Rapport,  
Public Policy Representative*



**MEET YOUR AAUW  
BOARD MEMBERS  
Susan Shaver,  
Membership Co-Chair**

*Susan's primary goal is to improve the diversity of our membership.*

The membership committee has been challenged this year because of the COVID-19

pandemic and not having in-person meetings to help make people feel welcome and able to share conversations. Susan would love to have any person of color, or minority status, such as from a foreign country, to contact her with any questions or especially

if they might want to join us! Funds are available to help cover the cost of the first year of membership.

Susan considers herself as a Citizen of the World, not just of the US, and thinks of America not just as the United States, but as our two continents, North and South America. She visited our southern border in 2020 to view firsthand what is happening and determine if there is anything we can do to help. Her international friends tell her now that our country is no longer looked up to and she longs for us to regain our respected role as a leader in the world.

Susan has held some fascinating jobs, and volunteer positions. For example, she was the first female asphalt estimator in the State of Colorado; she volunteered for 10 years for hospice, and wrote grants for public health for HIV continuum of care, for Indian Health, for groundwater protection, and for a low income dental health clinic. Currently she serves on committees for mental health including Community Mental Health Recipient Rights and Recipient Rights Appeals; she is a member of National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI), and was the Michigan representative to the NAMI Consumer group for 3 years, she was even named consumer advocate of the year. At Messiah Lutheran she is on the AMMPARO committee (*Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities*) <https://www.elca.org/ammparo>.

She loves to travel (although not in tour groups) to learn how the people live. She has traveled in Austria, Belgium, Belize, Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Puerto Rico, Scotland, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey. She has some stories for sure, and If it weren't for COVID-19 she would currently be in Ecuador or Nicaragua, as at age 74, she has been studying Spanish at NMU for the past couple of years and is eager to immerse herself in those cultures and languages.

Stranded here in the UP for the time being due to COVID, she outfitted her SUV with a bed and takes her handsome white standard poodle Tiki with her camping/boondocking (free camping) in the national and state forests! She is having a blast, but with the coming winter, she is considering driving to the Southwest to boondock for at least part of the season. She has two sons over 50, living in Colorado. One of them is definitely appalled about her living in an SUV!

Her BS is from University of Colorado at Denver, and MPA in Public Administration is from NMU.

*Susan and Tiki*



## FROM THE ARCHIVES

*A feature column highlighting a bit of our AAUW history from our 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 ([etinder@nmu.edu](mailto:etinder@nmu.edu)) to share your ideas!*

### **Histories from the Women's Federated Clubhouse**

The Women's Federated Clubhouse has stood on the corner of Ridge and Front for the better part of 100 years. Purchased by the Marquette Federation of Women's Clubs in 1923, this historic building has hosted a variety of groups composed of like-minded women looking to change their communities for the better. In this edition of From the Archives, I wanted to take some time to share about one of these clubs. Before the AAUW Marquette Branch formed, there was another group of women, many of them connected in some way to Northern, starting to break down the barriers in women's lives. This group was called the Women's Welfare Club, and they were Marquette's primary women's suffrage advocates. In celebration of the centennial anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920, remembering these women now is a way to thank them for the work they did in the fight for equal enfranchisement a century ago. By celebrating the clubhouse they held meetings in, we celebrate the space that allowed women then and now to fight for equal rights and opportunities.

The Women's Welfare Club (WWC) was organized on March 12, 1914. Their goals, in part, were "to further all worthy causes which would better civic conditions, especially in regard to... women in the home," as well as "endorse the aims of the Michigan Equal Suffrage Association." From this earliest meeting, at least two connections to Northern can be found. Mrs. Ada Juliette (Wellington) Pearce, wife of future NMU President Webster H. Pearce, was unanimously elected Corresponding Secretary of the club. Additionally, Northern State Normal professor J. E. Lautner was invited as advisor. By the appearance of these and many other members associated with the local school system, the link between women's rights and their access to education was firmly established. In this way, I see them as something of a precursor to the AAUW!

The WWC's involvement with suffrage causes came to a head in November, 1918. Amidst the rise of the Spanish Flu pandemic and the close of World War I, male voters in Michigan were tasked with voting for or against women's suffrage in the state. Although it was a mostly overlooked state constitutional amendment on the ballot, and the voter turnout was record-breakingly low, the victory was achieved by a landslide. The final numbers for the city of Marquette: 807 to 653, a difference of over 150 votes. This victory was experienced in many cities across the U.P. and serve as indication of Michigan's pro-suffrage stance. When Congress proposed the Nineteenth Amendment on June 4, 1919, Michiganders were among the first 3 states (with Illinois and Wisconsin) to ratify it only six days later on the 10th.

The WWC became a member of the Michigan State Federation of Women's Clubs in 1919, then the Marquette Federation in 1925. Despite this late inclusion to the formal organization, members started meeting in their building at least as early as 1922. (The photos in this article show the Clubhouse as it stood sometime around 1928, giving an estimation of the decor of the time!) Before this time, they met in the relatively new Peter White public library just across the street, as well as privately-hosted receptions and lectures at various locations.



While very few of the WWC's records remain, traces of their impact can be found woven throughout Marquette's history. Mining Journal pages prior to the election voting cycle in 1918 show various advertisements, editorials, and letters to the editor about the WWC and the suffrage cause. A petition at this time collected 2,154 signatures from women in Marquette over the age of 21 who wished to vote, record of which also exists in the Mining Journal. Scrapbooks dedicated to the Clubhouse, created from 1928 to 1933, recount the club's introduction into the Federation and the many

events they held in the space thereafter. And of course, the inclusion of an entirely new block of voters changed the course of history in completely unimaginable ways.

The immediate impact of the WWC was obviously wide-reaching and long-lasting, but its existence also serves as a stepping stone for organizations like AAUW to find their ways into the community. The Clubhouse, standing proudly today, will always be a monument to the ground-breaking work of women in this city, whether a hundred years ago in the WWC or today in the AAUW.

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*This article was compiled by Emily Tinder, Senior Student Assistant, Central U.P. and NMU Archives & new member of AAUW-NMU from the Women's Welfare Club records at the Longyear Research Library, Marquette Regional History Center and several sources at the NMU Archives: Marquette Federation of Women's Clubs records (MSS-156), the Regional Newspapers microfilm collection, and "Women's Welfare Club" in the volume 31, number 4 issue of Harlow's Wooden Man. As of October 30, appointments to view records in the archives are limited only to students, faculty, and staff of NMU. For future updates, see the Archives' website at [www.nmu.edu/archives](http://www.nmu.edu/archives)*

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## Clubhouse Board 2020 Annual Meeting Highlights

At the October 15 annual meeting of the clubhouse board, Margie West and Meg Goodrich learned the following information relevant to AAUW members:

*Using the Clubhouse*--Alas, only 25% of capacity is now allowed, which means only 15 persons at a time. This likely precludes our having any type of holiday celebration which was scheduled for January 2021. We shall see.

*Yesterday's Treasure Sale*--As the early December sale is cancelled, the Clubhouse is considering placing accumulated Yesterday's Treasures online, perhaps on Facebook. If you are interested in helping with these details, please contact Sue Madden.

*Contacting Caretaker*--Members can continue to contact Jayna via telephone or email. (see details in Blue Book). As a courtesy, we are asked to text her whenever we are coming over to the clubhouse. Meg has the key and will give you Jayna's number to send her a text.

*Laptop Computer*--We agree it will be easier for all when we can check the calendar for clubhouse availability online. The clubhouse is looking for a gently used computer. Please let Margie or Meg know if you have one to donate.

Meg Goodrich, AAUW rep to Clubhouse Board

## Just don't throw them away!

### Econo receipts NEVER EXPIRE

Please continue to save your Econo receipts and bring them to 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.](#)



## October 8 meeting *featuring* NMU student leaders



*Thank you* to everyone who joined our October 8 meeting featuring student leaders from Northern Michigan University. The students who joined us demonstrated the **strength, creativity, and intelligence that give us hope for the future.**

*Marina Mankee*, a fourth year student from Marquette is studying Chemistry and Spanish as majors as well as Pre-Pharmacy. She is involved in the McNair Scholars Program, The Diversity Students Alliance, the Honors Program, and has just graduated from the Student Leader Fellowship Program. Last year served as president of the Latinx Student Union.

*Elizabeth Mansfield*, a senior Pre-Occupational Therapy student is a founding member of the NMU Pre-OT Club and currently serves as the club's president. She started the Upper Peninsula's first **GoBabyGo!** children's early mobility program in 2019. Elizabeth is also a Leadership Program Coordinator for the Student Leader Fellowship Program and the Vice President of NMU's Best Buddies club which pairs NMU students with local young adults who have intellectual or

developmental disabilities. Elizabeth also enjoys being a part of NMU's Mortar Board Honors Society and Platform Personalities which brings celebrity speakers to talk on campus.

*Brianna Sartin*, a junior from Marlette, MI, is majoring in Marketing and is a Campus Visit Assistant in the NMU Admissions office, Content-Creator in the Marketing & Communications office, Chapter president of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), Vice President of the Black Student Union (BSU), and member of the Diversity Student Alliance.

The student leaders joined our members in a **dynamic conversation** that started with four questions from Leslie Warren, who facilitated the event:

- What are you working on now?
- What have you learned about leadership in the last few years?
- How do you want to contribute to your community in the future?
- If you were going to write a letter to an advice columnist who specializes in leadership or accomplishing goals, what would you ask?

We sincerely apologize for not getting the event recorded. It was a tremendously inspiring evening for our members hearing these powerful, positive women students. We only regret that we cannot share it with the rest of you now.

We promise to record future online programs, however, and invite all of you to attend the live Zoom meeting so you can ask questions and participate in the exchanges with our vibrant and thoughtful presenters. Or, if you miss it, for whatever reason, we will invite you to find the recording online later on our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page and listen in.

**P.S. You are also invited to kindly remind us to click the Record button at the start of all virtual programs.**

*Leslie Warren, Vice President, Programs*