



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

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

## An Enthusiastic Welcome!



We start our exciting 2021-2022 programming with a second Porch Social on Thursday, September 9. Enjoy an outdoor event and pick-up your AAUW-Marquette blue membership booklet and goodie bag between 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. at the Federated Women’s Clubhouse. Bring a folding chair to enjoy the outdoor social. We will have drive-up service and 10 chairs spaced for social distancing and conversations with masks in the Clubhouse.

Smile beneath your mask and greet AAUW colleagues and board members. We are excited welcome each other warmly with social distancing, masks, outdoor finger foods, and an outdoor table of beverages. You will receive an NMU Scholarship Campaign letter, friendship, blue membership booklets, and a poster about our exciting collaborative book sale with Peter White Library. **Remember to sign up to volunteer for the book sale.**

Please read Ruth’s notes on the wonderful Porch Social activities and Renee’s creative updates on the book sale activities.

*Judy Puncochar,  
AAUW–Marquette President*

## Porch Social and Book-Sale-Sorting Brown Bag

*Hear Ye! Hear Ye!*

Our Marquette County **Covid 19 classification** was raised by our Health Department from moderate to substantial almost a week ago. **This means the CDC recommends face masks be worn indoors regardless of vaccine status.** Therefore, the board in conjunction with our hostess committee for our September 9 general membership meeting cannot in good conscience recommend a Salad Supper or a potluck on September 20 for book sorting. But being ever resourceful we have come up with the following.

**Event #1**

### PORCH SOCIAL

September 9, 2021 from 7-8:30 PM  
at the Women's Federated Clubhouse.

**inside the clubhouse**, there will be 10 chairs set up widely spaced for visiting.

**MASKS REQUIRED. NO FOOD OR DRINK. Limit 10.**

**Outside, on the porch**, the hostess committee will circulate with treats. There will be a table with drinks only.

**Masks Optional, your comfort level here.**

Bring a folding chair, visit with members, pick up your Blue Book and your *“Just Ask” Scholarship Campaign* letter. Drop off your Econo slips and most importantly,

### don’t forget to SIGN UP:

- TO HELP SORT BOOKS AND
- WORK THE BOOK SALE!
- MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED INSIDE THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

**IN CASE OF RAIN** on September 9th, 7-8pm:

- Pop on a mask and
- pop into the clubhouse,

where you can pick up your Bluebook, and your "Just Ask" Scholarship Campaign letter. You can also drop off your Econo slips, snag a treat AND sign up to help with the Book Sale.

If you need your booklet brought to you at your car, call or text 906-249-4152.

### Event #2

#### **BOOK SORTING BROWN BAG EVENT**

September 20, 2021 beginning at 6 PM  
at the First Presbyterian Church on Front Street.

- Bring your own brown bag meal,
- and a mask.
- Drinks provided by the hostess committee.

**We will need a lot of help with this book sale.**

There will be gloves available for those who wish.

## Remember...

### *Econo receipts NEVER EXPIRE*

Please continue to save your Econo receipts and *mail them or drop them off* to Meredith Kulisheck, 617 W Hampton, Marquette or bring them to the next meeting you attend in person. In the past, these brought in hundreds of dollars for us. During this time of the pandemic, we, like everyone and every business, are finding our funds down, even as needs are increasing.



## Public Policy News

### *Good Trouble*

Cheers for Marge and John Forslin and their committee for organizing the rally Saturday August 28 supporting the For the People Act (HR1/S1) and the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (HR4). AAUW strongly supports both measures. AAUW members Leslie Warren, Marge Forslin, Nina

van den Ende, Meredith Kulisheck and Karlyn Rapport attended the rally. Our democracy is under threat. We all need to stand up for voting rights.

In 1965 the Voting Rights Act was passed. In 2013 the U.S. Supreme Court overturned parts of the Voting Rights Act unbelievably ruling that discrimination in voting practices and racism were no longer problems. Ruth Bader Ginsburg 's dissent stated this was "like throwing away an umbrella because you are no longer getting wet in the rain."

Both the For the People Act and the John R. Lewis Acts are needed to protect voters in all states. Senator Stabenow and Senator Peters support these bills. On August 24, 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. Our Congressman Jack Bergman voted Nay. He wrote in answer to my urging him to support H.R.4 "The bill you contacted me about would restore certain provisions of the original Voting Rights Act of 1965 that were struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2013.

Specifically, it would return the requirement that states receive clearance from the federal government before making certain changes to election laws. I support policies that promote the highest level of voter participation while preventing federal overreach into our elections.'

The Supreme Court's 2013 Shelby County v Holder decision gutted key protections paving the way for legislating voting restrictions which impact people of color, voters with disabilities, young and older voters.

A Michigan Senate Committee led by our State Senator Ed McBroom investigated every allegation of fraud in our 2020 election. The Senate committee's report and over 250 audits found no voter fraud. Yet Michigan's legislature put out 39 restrictive bills impacting voting and voter access. For examples, SB 300 and 301 establishes early voting **only** from 8 AM to 5PM the 2nd Saturday before Election Day rather than on multiple weekdays and weekend days in daytime and evening hours to allow voters on all schedules to vote. SB299 requires vote counting to stop and

results reported by noon the day after the election. Clerks **need** to count all valid ballots.

**What can be done?** Call our Senators and thank them for their support and push them to enact these pieces of legislation now. Remind them the filibuster is not a law; it is a rule that can be changed. No one person should be able to undermine a Democratic Republic. Call your friends and family in other states and ask them to call their senators to support For the People and the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. Tell them the For the People Act prevents bought elections, partisan gerrymandering and establishes a code of ethics for all branches of government. The John R. Lewis Act allows courts to block discriminating voting policies before they go into effect. States with a history of voter suppression will be required to have federal approval of new voting laws and redistricting maps. This is a historic moment calling for all hands on deck. We have this remarkable opportunity. These egregious voter suppression bills can be over-ridden by these two pieces of legislation. Senator Chuck Schumer has pledged to bring up the For the People Act as a first priority when the Senate is back in session. September 13<sup>th</sup>.

Our democracy depends on everyone's vote being counted not just a privileged few. If these restrictive voting laws are allowed to stand without recourse our democracy is in real trouble.

*Public Policy Representative  
Karlyn Rapport*

## NMU Scholarship Campaign

*by Les Bek*



I want to share a short story about a powerful phrase "back to school".

I always looked forward to the first day. Special shopping trips were made to gather supplies.

I thought over and over what that first day outfit would be.

I went to the same school system K-12. While much was the same, the first days were always new. New teacher, new seating chart, new locker, new classes and maybe some new students. It was fresh and full of opportunity.

I doubt I would have recognized the opportunity to learn, grow and contribute at those times the way I do now in reflection. Nor would I have internalized the lack of opportunity for others.

My friend and I had shared the playground days right through the cap and gown graduation day. What would come next? I had support and opportunity to go forward to college. My K-12 friend did not. I will get a job she said. I did not realize then that she had no choice. I thought it was her choice.

We have been distanced by many states over the years. I keep in touch with my forever friend and we have shared life's milestones of childbirth, job/career changes, divorce, and deaths of those we never thought we could live without.

Woven in the scenario is her statement I didn't have the college degree. It is a statement that hangs heavy while I lift up all that she has accomplished. With age comes greater vision and I have come to see her regret.

Our 45<sup>th</sup> High School Reunion was held this summer. Neither of us attended. Too far and maybe just too out of reach in many ways. We still have each other.

It is with this reminiscence of my friend that I am going to take the opportunity to invest in the AAUW-Marquette NMU Scholarship Campaign. Join me in bringing higher education to those women who think they don't have a choice.

This Campaign officially kicks off with letters to be distributed with our Blue Books. There is no need to wait. Thank you.

Please make your scholarship donation check payable to AAUW-Marquette. Memo: AAUW Scholarship. Mail to Ruth Ziel, 734 Lakewood Lane, Marquette, MI 49855

NOTE:  
Pre-COVID photo  
with no mask.  
2021  
MASK REQUIRED

## Book Sale Help Needed



We need every AAUW member possible to help **sort books on September 20-22** in the First Presbyterian Church basement. Please write to Renee Leow [rmleow@charter.net](mailto:rmleow@charter.net) and ask how you could help with the book sale efforts. See the next page of our newsletter to view our beautiful new book sale poster. Mark your calendars. We found some NMU student volunteers who will receive Superior Edge hours to assist with book sorting, the book sale, and cleanup during the week of Sept 20-27, but we desperately need AAUW members to help.



## BOARD MEETING

Your AAUW board members met on Thursday, August 26. We approved the budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (aka FY22), updated our NMU Scholarship Campaign letter, and approved Karen's amazing work on our blue membership booklet. **Carolyn Myers** agreed to become the Clubhouse Recording Secretary for outgoing **Margie West**.

We have opportunities for AAUW-Marquette members to become involved with board activities. Write to Judy Puncochar at [jpuncoch@nmu.edu](mailto:jpuncoch@nmu.edu) if you are interested in serving on **the Scholarship and Awards Committee** or **filling in for Carol Steinhaus** who is on temporary leave.

*Carol summersaulted 100' down a steep grassy ravine in Switzerland and fractured two cervical vertebrae, but she is all right. She assures us all body parts are working. Check your blue membership booklet to send a card to Carol with healing thoughts or write to [csteinha@nmu.edu](mailto:csteinha@nmu.edu).*

## Blue Booklet 2021

**Karen Rudisill**, our Membership Booklet Representative, invites you to read new and updated sections of our 2021-2022 membership booklet. **And be sure to pick up yours on September 9 from 7-8:30 PM at the Porch Social (see details on page 1)**

Our membership booklet is a remarkable resource. I keep my booklet in my backpack. Enjoy a lovely AAUW programming season for 2021-2022!

*My best to you all,  
Judy*

# Front Street

# Book

# F A I R

*Presented by:*

**American Association of University Women, Marquette Branch  
& Friends of Peter White Public Library**

*Two book sales, community events, libations and more in celebration of all things books*

## Thursday

**September 23<sup>rd</sup>**

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

*Presale \$5 admission*

*to benefit Friends of PWPL  
& the AAUW*

*Music by Michael Waite @  
PWPL!*

## Friday

**September 24<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 am – 6:00 pm

*No Admission Charge*

7:00 pm

**Local Author**

**Tyler Tichelaar**

**Presentation**

*Women's Fed. Clubhouse*

## Saturday

**September 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Super Sale**

*No Admission Charge*

10:00 am – 1:30 pm

**1/2 price Sale**

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**\$5 bag**



*Thousands of books and other items at TWO Locations!*

## AAUW Marquette Branch Book Sale

**First Presbyterian Church, 120 N. Front St.**

*Proceeds to support our mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls*

## Friends of PWPL Book Sale

**PWPL Community Room, 217 N. Front St.**

*Proceeds to benefit the PWPL's programs, services & materials*

## Community Events

**Marquette Women's Federated Clubhouse,**

**Snowbound Books & Peter White Public Library**

*Author signings at Snowbound Books, live music & book appraisals at PWPL and more!*

***Libation & food specials at the Landmark Inn & others!***

**Masks may be required at certain venues so please be prepared.**



**LANDMARK**