



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

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



Notes from the President

Greetings Marquette AAUW members!!

I hope that 2024 is off to a positive start for everyone!!

The Board did not meet in December, but that doesn't mean that nothing is getting done! We met in January, and rather than repeat news you'll find elsewhere in this newsletter, let me just highlight a couple things that won't be mentioned elsewhere.

I am on the Nominating Committee for state officers. We have a full slate EXCEPT that we are looking for a co-chair of the Programs Committee. If you are interested in helping the state organization in this office, please let me know.

Locally, members of our own board will be exploring two issues---1) obtaining a microphone so that we might be able to provide zoom meetings that members could hear well, and/or whether we need a microphone in the actual room so people in the room can hear better, and 2) pursuing the idea of applying for 501c3 status so that members can contribute donations to our branch in a way that would be beneficial for members' tax purposes and estate giving.

Spring for AAUW will be busy with scholarships, the book sale, and other activities. I hope to see you all at a meeting or activity soon!

Reminder: Start going through your books to donate to our April Book Sale

*Carol Steinhaus
Marquette Branch President*



Join us for an evening of shared joy and inspiration as AAUW Marquette presents, "HarmonyVerse - A Member Showcase of Poetry & Music" The lyrical works of **Renxin Yang** and **Beverly Matherne**, our 23-24 Upper Peninsula Poet Laureate, will be featured at this celebration of art and creativity!

NOTE: If you have a desire to share your artistic talents (e.g., musical, poetic, etc....) as well, please do! Simply arrive ready to perform or send Ellen a message at ellkoski@nmu.edu.

Clubhouse doors will open at 7:00 for time to grab a snack and socialize; the program will begin at 7:15. All are welcome! Feel free to share with all of your networks and others who you think might be interested in the event.

I sincerely hope you will join us as we connect, share, and appreciate our vibrant and beautiful AAUW community!

Finally, I'd like to send some MAJOR KUDOS to the Hospitality Committee for providing such wonderful spreads of refreshments at all of the monthly programs. The dedication of the women on this committee - AND those who help out with setup **and** cleanup - is seen and truly appreciated!

*Ellen Koski
2023-2024 AAUW Program Chair*

Public Policy News

President Biden Expanded Access to Contraception

Federal agencies were issued guidelines to make no-cost contraceptives more available under the Affordable Care Act. Access to contraceptives was expanded for federal employees. Health and Human Services reminded insurers of their obligation to provide no cost contraceptive coverage. The Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act requires hospitals to provide emergency abortions nationwide including the 21 states where the procedure is limited or banned.

In Michigan, passage of Paid Family Leave does not look promising.

Governor Whitmer is proposing a state income tax credit of \$5000.00 for family caregivers. It is an effort to cover costs like counseling, nursing respite care, and transportation and put more money in people's pockets. However, this does not answer the problem presented when people come to work sick because they cannot afford to take time off work. This is a public health issue.

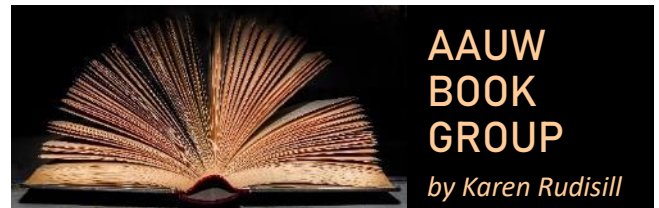
The ***Healthy Families Act*** H.R. 3409/S.1664 would allow employees to earn paid sick days they could use for their own sicknesses or provide care for a sick family member. It would include time for recovery from domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Caring for a sick child should not risk or cost you your job. Urge members of Congress to support the Healthy Families Act

*Public Policy Representative
Karlyn Rapport*

Tadych's MarketPlace (Econo) Receipts

PLEASE REMEMBER: Receipts must be turned in within 2 years of the purchase date. Bring eligible receipts to any in-person meeting you attend, or mail or drop them off to me at 617 W Hampton St, Marquette 49855.

Meredith Kulisheck



The AAUW Book Group will meet at the Clubhouse on Thursday, February 1st at 12:30 to discuss ***True Biz*** by Sara Novik. For our March 7th meeting, also at 12:30pm, we'll be reading ***Honor*** by Thrity Umrigar. We have an evening meeting scheduled at 7pm on April 4th to discuss ***Dinners With Ruth*** by Nina Totenberg. Our book selections are diverse, and the discussions are always fun and stimulating. Please join us! We love to see new faces!

Contact karen.rudisill@gmail.com for more info and/or to receive email updates regarding the meetings.

A Volunteer Opportunity Awaits



Greetings Everyone. I have been the treasurer for the AAUW Marquette

Branch since July 2019 and would like to pass the torch at the end of this fiscal year which ends June 30, 2024. My responsibilities have been to prepare the annual budget with assistance by the Board of Directors, prepare Income/Expense reports monthly, maintain a spreadsheet documenting income and expenses monthly and balancing our accounts with our bank statements. I pay the bills, make the deposits and keep track of membership renewals. There are formats in place for all of this. I will be available to mentor our new treasurer as needed.

The treasurer is part of the Board of Directors for AAUW MQT. We meet by Zoom roughly 8 times per year. I believe we have a great board and I have learned a lot since joining the Board of Directors as treasurer. So, if you like numbers, spreadsheets, and getting to know a great group of women, this is an excellent opportunity for you.

I am very willing to discuss this further with anyone contemplating this opportunity. My contact information is in our blue membership booklet.

Ruth Ziel, Treasurer