



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 you are all surviving our whack-a-mole weather changes; I think the UP is suffering from weather whiplash this year. Hopefully, spring and summer will be more “normal”, calmer, or whatever word applies.

Meanwhile, our branch’s board members are working on various projects including:

- researching Clubhouse members jointly purchasing a microphone so that all meeting attendees can hear better,
- the upcoming book sale,
- making money available for STEM projects for area school students,
- scholarship opportunities for college students,
- policy monitoring and reporting, and
- sending a delegate to the state meeting.

Board members have invested both time and energy leading our branch toward great things. Their efforts are appreciated, so please be sure to read *all* the news here in the newsletter. There is a lot going on and we all can be proud of our branch’s efforts.

Please especially note our call for some of you to join us as board members. Ruth has served wonderfully as treasurer for some time, and she would like to pass the baton to someone. Ellen has done a fantastic job providing us with great programming this year, and she would like some assistance in the form of a co-chair. We need to share the burden and opportunities!

We hope to see you at this month’s membership meeting!

Carol Steinhaus
Marquette Branch President

**MARCH-ing Toward
Financial Security:
Estate Planning
Unveiled at This Month’s Program**

Thursday, March 14th, 7:00 PM

**Marquette Federation of Women’s Clubs Clubhouse
104 W. Ridge St, Marquette**

Get ready to demystify estate planning at our upcoming program, "Securing the Future: Estate Planning Basics," presented by Patricia (“Trish”) Davis, Managing Partner and Attorney at Kendricks Bordeau.

Program Description:

At one time, the concept of “estate planning” conjured up visions of wealthy families gathered in an attorney’s wood-paneled office listening to a will being read. The sense was that only the wealthy required estate plans so that they could avoid estate taxes. Changes in the laws and evolving views of finance, lifestyle, privacy, nontraditional families, and the longevity of life have made estate planning more compelling, if not necessary, for a larger group of people than ever before.

Now, “estate planning” is a broader term, encompassing financial, retirement, business succession, charitable, medical, disability, legacy, and gift planning. This presentation will cover the basics of estate planning, including what your estate is comprised of, the documents typically involved, an overview of probate court, an introduction to non-probate estate planning, and a summary of the use of trusts in planning.

**This program is open to everyone
– especially AAUW-Marquette Branch
members and friends –
and is absolutely free. See you there!**

Ellen Koski
2023-2024 AAUW Program Chair

Cheers for the 102nd Michigan Legislature.

They passed a total of 321 new statutes including PA 199-211 involving gun regulation in domestic violence situations. PA 202-208 and PA 286 constitute the Reproductive Health Act Package. PA 263-270 regulates the use of artificial intelligence in political ads. PA 252 -262 prohibits intimidation of election workers.

On February 29 the Michigan Senate passed their counterpart to HB 4127 prohibiting firearm possession near or at a polling place. HB4128 prohibits firearm possession in absentee voter counting places. These bills are supported by AAUW. The House will bring this up when two members are added to the legislature. Remember there were two Michigan Democratic reps who ran for mayor. When they left, the Democratic majority was reduced. But now, if the slots are again filled by Democrats, it would add to the slim Democratic majority.

Coming up is House bill 4488 supporting an assault survivor's right to have an attorney and support person present during investigative interviews and when a sexual evidence kit is being administered.

Sometime this Spring, the Michigan Supreme Court will give an opinion on Adopt and Amend. Do you recall two groups circulated petitions to increase the minimum wage to \$12 per hour for all employees by January 1, 2022? AAUW endorsed these proposals. The legislature in 2018 had a Republican majority. They adopted these two proposals into law keeping them off the November 2018 ballot. Then the same legislature in lame duck session gutted these laws. They delayed the increase to 12 dollars an hour from 2022 to 2030. With inflation, this would not be an increase in buying power at all.

On the issue of Earned Paid Sick Leave this 2018 legislature eliminated the coverage of businesses with under 50 employees. These small businesses did not have to comply with this law. In addition,

they slashed the amount of sick time and reduced the number of families able to accrue sick time. They eliminated many ordinarily permissible uses of paid sick leave. The Supreme Court will decide whether it is permissible for the legislature to adopt and then amend a voter-initiated law in the same legislative session. If the Court decides it is not permissible, maybe we can see a rise in minimum wage to \$12 an hour and a push for Earned Paid Sick Leave. ***I can dream. Can't I?***

I am struck by the difference in these two legislative bodies, the Michigan legislature serving in 2018 and the legislature serving now.

***Public Policy Representative
Karlyn Rapport***



On the lookout for new members

We are always on the lookout for new members. The best way to find them is the old-fashioned way, word of mouth. In this case, you're asking someone to join an upcoming AAUW program or to volunteer with you at our upcoming Book Sale. Each would be a great opportunity to showcase our mission in action.

Who do you know? When you have a minute to think, think about who you might share your AAUW Marquette Branch experience with, then extend the invitation. You might even surprise yourself with who you might find when you think about it. Let me know when you are ready to take action and I will get you details about our membership process and options. I'm thankful someone asked me years ago. Now, I've got some thinking to do.

*Les Bek
Membership Chair*

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.



CLUBHOUSE NEWS

The clubhouse board met for its quarterly meeting on February 28th.

1) Yesterday's Treasures Sale is being moved to Saturday, July 27th, to catch folks in town for

the Blueberry Festival and Art on the Rocks. Start saving your treasures--I'll let you know when you can drop them off.

2) Jayna will be receiving a yearly contract; please let me know of any concerns with house upkeep or message response, and times when you are pleased with her performance.

3) Upon my request, the clubhouse board is considering a mic purchase, when funds become available. All clubs would have access. Please send me any recommendations you might have.

Meg Goodrich, Clubhouse Rep

AAUW Marquette Branch Is Looking for Help



We have three positions that need filling. First is the **Treasurer's** Job. After 5 years in the role, I need to step down from this position. The treasurer deposits income, pays the bills, balances our accounts monthly with

bank statements and oversees membership renewals. It is a board of directors' position. I will be available to mentor the next person to take on this role.

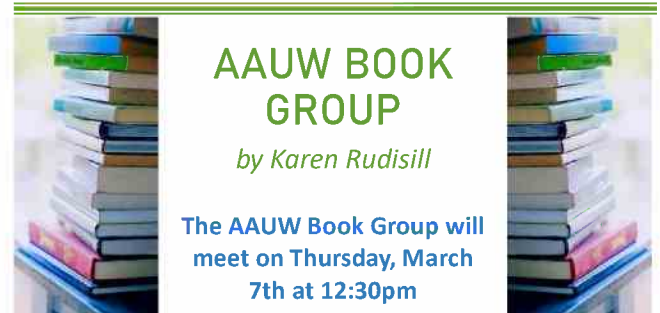
After 10 years, Meredith Kulischeck is stepping down from **managing the Tadych Market receipts** (formerly Econo Foods) fundraiser. Meredith collects the receipts all year long and turns them into Tadych's twice per year. She would be very pleased to speak with anyone contemplating picking this up. This is not a board of directors' position.

We also need a **Program Co-chair** to work with Ellen Koski on planning upcoming programs for our next

program year. Ellen has a format in place but needs help in planning and executing programs for the next program year. This is a board of directors' position.

Anyone interested in filling these positions please contact our President Carol Steinhaus. Her contact information is in our Blue Membership Booklet.

Ruth Ziel, Treasurer



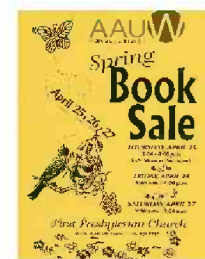
AAUW BOOK GROUP

by Karen Rudisill

The AAUW Book Group will meet on Thursday, March 7th at 12:30pm

to discuss *Honor* by Thrity Umrigar. We have an evening meeting scheduled at **7pm on April 4th** to discuss *Dinners with Ruth* by Nina Totenberg. This will wrap up our 2023-2024 season of book discussions, and selections for next year will be determined at our meeting in May. 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 (karen.rudisill@gmail.com) for additional meeting information or with any questions.



2024 AAUW Book Sale

List of Tasks, Chores and Other Fun Stuff

Renee's tasks(s)

- ✓ Book sale posters-order & distribute
- ✓ The donation barrels distributions
 - Ember's Credit Union (Marquette, South Marquette, Negaunee, Gwinn, Trenary, & Munising branches)
 - First Presbyterian Church, Marquette
 - Marquette Community Federal Credit Union, W Washington, Marquette
 - Incredible Bank, N Third St, Marquette
 - Marquette Medical Center, Office-Medical Center Office (near canopy)
- ✓ Banana box pick-up
- ✓ Send press releases
- ✓ Set potluck (hostess committee _____?)

- ___ Find kind folks to adopt a book barrel
- ___ JPEG poster to AAUW members
- ___ Volunteer sign up
- ___ Book pick-up
- ___ Schedule and plan book presort event(s)

AAUW members fun things to do for the book sale

- ___ Volunteer sign up for presort, book sale and clean-up
- ___ Adopt a pick-up site (check on it once a week) and deliver books to church
 - i. Ember’s Credit Union
 1. Marquette main branch
 2. South Marquette branch
 3. Negaunee
 4. Gwinn
 5. Trenary
 6. Munising
 - ii. Marquette Community Federal Credit Union, Marquette
 - iii. Incredible Bank, N Third St, Marquette
 - iv. Marquette Medical Center, Med Center Office- near canopy entrance
- ___ Ask friends and family for donations
- ___ Come to the Monday night potluck event
- ___ Promote the event using personal social media (Facebook, Instagram, X, and TikTok)

The AAUW 2024 book sale may be a few short weeks away but as you can see from the above check list it is well underway and your help is not only valued but is absolutely vital in making this a successful event.

Volunteer signup sheets will be available at the next meeting as well as a collection barrel should you wish to bring gently read books, DVDs, CDs, games or puzzles along to the meeting. In addition, please look for a separate email from me containing a digital copy of the poster for you to use in your social media accounts (Facebook, X, Instagram or hey, why not on TikTok if you dare 😊?) All in all, the book sale wheels are in motion but don’t hesitate to send me an email at rmleow@charter.net, give me a quick call at 906.250.5503 or even a text message should you have any questions, to lend a hand, adopt a collection barrel or simply should you need assistance with a donation pick-up.

As always you are my most valued book sale treasure and I appreciate you, what you have done and of course, what you all will do. Be well and see you at or before the potluck on Monday, April 22nd.

Renee Leow, Book Sale

**2024 AAUW Book Sale
Calendar of Events**

Pre-Sorting Event

TBD (but definitely after the Easter holiday)
10 am – 3 pm
First Presbyterian Church

Book Sale Potluck

Bring a dish (and the recipe) to share if your FIRST name starts with:

- A – F Please bring a salad
- G – M Please bring a main dish
- N – S Please bring a side dish
- T – Z Please bring a dessert

Monday, April 22nd
Come at 5 pm for the sorting instruction and potluck to follow
First Presbyterian Church

Sorting: Day 2

Tuesday, April 23rd
10 am – 3 pm
First Presbyterian Church

Sorting: Day 3

Wednesday, April 24th
10 am – 3 pm
First Presbyterian Church

Make Book Sale Pretty

Thursday, April 25th
10 am – 2 pm
First Presbyterian Church

Book Sale – Pre Sale event (\$5 admission for public)

Thursday, April 25th
5:00 – 8:00 pm
First Presbyterian Church

Book Sale – look for the daily specials

Friday, April 26th
9 am – 6 pm
First Presbyterian Church

Book Sale Super Saturday

Saturday, April 27th
9 am – 12 pm *Half off everything*
12:15 – 3 pm *\$5 Bag Sale*
First Presbyterian Church

COME GET IT SUNDAY! Please stop in the church basement after the sale on Sunday, April 28th from 12 noon – 2 pm to grab a box of books to distribute to a good cause, your neighbors, family and friends!

Book Sale Clean-up

Monday, April 29th
9 am – or until done (11:00 ish)
First Presbyterian Church