



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

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



Spring into Action with AAUW-Marquette Branch!

Q: What do you call a bear coming out of hibernation in the spring?

A: A reawakening!

Speaking of reawakening, we have some exciting updates for our AAUW-Marquette Branch members.

April Showers Bring... Book Sale Powers!

While we won't have our regular April program, we have something even better in store. **Our annual book sale set-up will serve as our monthly meeting, giving us the opportunity to come together, organize, and prepare for this incredible event.** It's a chance to bond, laugh, and work towards our common goal of promoting equity and education for women and girls. So, let's roll up our sleeves and

**make this year's book sale
the best one yet!**

Monday, April 22 - Come at 5 pm for the sorting instruction (potluck to follow)
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

First Presbyterian Church, 120 N. Front St, Marquette

May: A Time to Bloom and Bond

As we move into May, we have a special treat planned for our meeting. We're dedicating this time to socializing, reconnecting, and having fun together. It's been a busy year, and we all deserve a moment to relax and enjoy each other's company.

But that's not all! We're thrilled to announce that we're working on arranging a [cooking demonstration from Pamela Valdez, Indigenous Food Warrior and Marquette Food Co-op employee](#). Get ready to tantalize your taste buds and learn some new culinary tricks. More details will be shared as we finalize the plans.

Looking Ahead to Next Year

I have very much enjoyed my time as AAUW program chair this year—thank you so much for the opportunity to plan thoughtful and interesting programs, learn about our amazing community, and share lessons along the way.

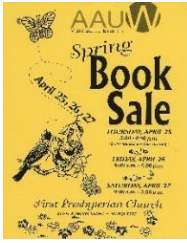
[I would love some help with organizing and spreading the word about our AAUW programs next year—are you interested?](#) Much of the planning is done before the year starts, so we'll plan to spend some time together in July and August, and then we spread the word month-to-month through our various news outlets. I look forward to connecting with 2-3 other members who may have a little time to spare throughout the year. Please contact me at ellkoski@nmu.edu 😊 if you're interested.

In the meantime, don't forget to mark your calendars for our book sale extravaganza from April 25th to April 28th at the First Presbyterian Church in Marquette. It's going to be an unforgettable event filled with fantastic reads, great deals, and the joy of spreading the **love of books** throughout our community.

Let's embrace the spirit of spring and continue to make a difference together!

- Ellen Koski, Program Chair

2024 AAUW Spring Book Sale



Great News, the CD player has been located so now you can once again listen to recently re-discovered Bollywood Disco CDs at the upcoming AAUW Spring Book Sale!



And, as of this past Friday, there are nearly 60 banana boxes (**already sorted and stacked**) on the stage at the First Presbyterian Church; however, there are many more lonely and empty boxes ready and waiting for the donations from our generous community. Please know that said donations are being picked up by five tireless AAUW members who have adopted one or more of the following drop off donation points:

- i. Embers Credit Union branches
 - Marquette Main
 - South Marquette
 - Negaunee
 - Gwinn
 - Trenary
 - 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
- v. First Presbyterian Church

HELP TRANSPORTING THE BOOKS

In addition to pick-up assistance, I do require some help transporting the books **from Pat's house** before a presorting event on Monday, April 10 from 10 AM – 3 PM at the church should you have time and a vehicle that can transport books-**please let me know.**

SCRUMPTIOUS POTLUCK

Book sale week itself will kick off with a scrumptious potluck on Monday April 22nd at 5 pm! AAUW members are asked to bring a dish to share according the following list:

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

DAILY BOOK SORTING

Furthermore, volunteers are also needed for daily book sorting on **Tuesday - Thursday, at the sale itself on Thursday – Saturday and for the Monday clean up** (see complete list of dates and times below.) The only other new item for the sale this year is the...

COME AND GET IT DAY

Occurring on Sunday, April 28th from 12 noon- 2 pm whereby you show up at the church basement and take as many books as you and your car can carry to give to your friends, family, neighbors, pet hamster, or simply keep for your enjoyment in order to make the cleanup on Monday, April 29th a breeze.

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET AT THE POTLUCK

Finally, please know the volunteer sign-up sheet will be available at the potluck or you may contact me to let me know when you are able to lend a hand.

As many of you already know, this is an AAUW group project that requires your valuable time to prep for the sale, the sale itself on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and of course for clean up after the sale on Monday morning.

YOU ARE THE SALE'S MOST VALUABLE ASSET

YOU are the sale's most valuable asset and your time is not only appreciated but is absolutely vital to the success of this sale.

Be well and see you hopefully on the 10th for the presort, and again on the 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th (and I wonder if you saw the line about the pet hamster?)

BOOK SALE CALENDAR

Book Presort	Wed., April 10	10 am–3 pm
AAUW Potluck	Mon., April 22	5 – 8 pm
Book Sorting	Tues., April 23	10 am – 3 pm
Book Sorting	Wed., April 24	10 am – 3 pm
Last minute tidy	Thurs., April 25	10 am – 2 pm
Book Pre Sale	Thurs., April 25	5 pm – 8 pm
Book Sale	Fri., April 26	9 am – 6 pm
Super Saturday	Sat., April 27	9 am – 3 pm
COME AND GET IT SUNDAY		
	Sun., April 28	12 noon – 2 pm
Clean up	Mon., April 29	9 am until done

~Renee~

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The committee met to fine-tune the Scholarship application for non-traditional women students at NMU. The deadline is June 1st; you may view the application on our website. <https://marquette-mi.aauw.net/scholarships/>

*Meg Goodrich, Andrea Ingmire,
Kay Payant, Ruth Ziel*



Partnering with the League of Women Voters of Marquette County

By Ruth Ziel

Following discussion at the final general membership meeting in May 2023, those in attendance decided to pursue community partnership and budgeted a small amount to do so. A partnership activity with Voters Not Politicians for a Democracy Academy took place in September 2023 at no cost to AAUW-MQT. Several AAUW members and the community at large attended.

At the most recent board meeting, March 21, 2024, a partnership with LWV of Marquette County was approved for a **candidate forum for the 109th House District for Michigan** since both AAUW and LWV are non-partisan and support informing the voting public about the candidates and issues. Both groups' policies are to neither approve nor disapprove of candidates or political parties.

Forums are very expensive to run and AAUW has in the past supported LWV candidate forums. We will

again make a donation (amount to be determined within budgeted amount) in support of the June 28, 2024 forum preceding the Primary election with a location to be determined.

AAUW members are invited to help at the forum. We will also be able to have a table with our literature at this event. Volunteers for the table at this event are welcome. We will also announce book sale at the April 3 LWV general membership meeting and request that books be donated to our sale. Thank you, Marge, for doing this.

As a reminder, there are now many ways to vote in Michigan. You can apply for **permanent** no reason absent voter status, you can apply for only those elections you wish to vote absentee. You can vote in person through 9 days of early in-person voting for State and Federal Elections, or on Election Day in person.

Returning your absent voter ballot couldn't be easier. Postage is pre-paid, so you can drop it in the mail up to **2 weeks before** Election Day. Or you may return your ballot in person to your local clerk on or before Election Day. You may tabulate your absent voter (AV) ballot during the 9 days of early in person voting or on Election Day. It is up to you.

If you have any questions or concerns reach out to me or any board member. If you have any suggestions for future community partnerships let us know. We are all listed in the Blue Membership Booklet.



AAUW BOOK GROUP

by Karen Rudisill

The AAUW Book Group will meet at 7pm on Thursday, April 4th to discuss *Dinners With Ruth* by Nina Totenberg. This will wrap up our 2023-2024 schedule of book discussions. As always, it's been a great year of discussion. 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.



Managing receipts from Tadych's Marketplace

By Meredith Kulisheck

The job of managing the receipts from Tadych's Marketplace (formerly Econo Foods) is one that ***can largely be done at your convenience.***

A reminder to the members needs to be in the newsletter. Members can be asked to bring the receipts to meetings or to mail or deliver them to your home. (I recommend all of these options be encouraged.)

With each receipt, begin with the pre-tax total. Subtract charges for alcohol, tobacco, lottery tickets and gift cards. Write the result on the receipt. Receipts must be dated on December 6, 2021, and must be turned in within 2 years of purchase date.

Put the receipts in batches of about 25-30. Run an itemized total of the receipts in each batch and staple it to the batch.

Run an itemized total of all the batches to find the total of all receipts being turned in. Checks must be for at least \$50.00 (\$5,000 total for all receipts turned in.)

Checks are processed twice a year. Check with the store to learn the dates when you must turn in receipts and when the checks will be available.

The following information must be included with the receipts you are turning in: your contact information (name and phone number) as well as the organization ('American Association of University Women' and 'AAUW'), the total value of the receipts, and our tax ID number. Someone must go to the store to get the check. The name of any people authorized to receive the check must be given.

I was asked to give an estimate of how much time this takes. I've never kept track of my time, partly because I have never done an entire batch at one time. The amount of time required also depended on the number of receipts that were turned in to me.

If you have questions about this job, give me a call: Meredith Kulisheck, 906-226-2372.

Public Policy News

Michigan Family Protection Act

Nine House bills, 5207 through 5215, support parents, children and surrogates. These bills legalize and regulate surrogacy. The bill package includes requirements for age, health care and financial compensation. Existing law penalized contractual surrogacy. Parents having children through surrogacy are required to seek court orders to show that they are parents of a child biologically theirs, but the mother did not give birth to the child. The bills include best practices to assure surrogates are fairly compensated, have legal representation, are scrutinized by medical professional before entering a contractual agreement. It assures children born by surrogacy are treated equally under the law. These bills make it easier and cheaper to have parental relationships recognized.

Other states make it harder to start a family. In Michigan opportunities are expanding for reproductive health care. In addition, this legislature is addressing the cost of raising a child by making free pre-kindergarten, free breakfast and lunch available. ***What better investment can we make? Well, women could be better compensated.***

A new report by the Michigan Women's Commission showed Michigan women now make 81 cents on the dollar men earn. The gap widens if you factor in race, ethnicity, and education. Black women make 68 cents on the dollar compared to white men. Hispanic women earn 67 cents on the dollar compared to white male workers. More educated women came 4.5 cents closer to white males.

A proposed Caregiver Tax credit in the 2025 budget is an effort to address the \$300,000 shortfall a women loses over a lifetime as a consequence of caregiving. Earned Income Tax Credit was expanded last year to ease the burden on working women and their families. ERA and The Paycheck Fairness Act would solve this inequity. We can't achieve this unless women vote for candidates who will see these measures enacted into law.

***Public Policy Representative
Karlynn Rapport***