

October 2025

News and Views

AAUW - Marquette

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elected Officers 2025 – 2026

President	Carol Steinhaus
Financial V P	Emera Wilson
Membership V P	Krista Clumpner
Program V P	Ellen Koski
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Pellett
Recording Secretary	Laurie Lotter

Representatives 2025 – 2026

Book Group	Karen Rudisill
Book Sale	Renee Leow
Facebook Administrator	Leslie Warren
Federated Women's Clubhouse Board	Meg Goodrich
Historian	<i>OPEN</i>
Hospitality	Meg Goodrich
Membership Book	By Committee
Newsletter	Laurie Lotter
Publicity	Allison Peters
Public Policy	Karlyn Rapport
Scholarships & Awards	Emera Bridger Meg Goodrich Kay Payant
STEM	Leslie Warren
University Relations NMU	Rebecca Daly
Website	Laurie Lotter

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

Website: <http://marquette-mi.aauw.net>

Facebook: [AAUW Marquette Branch](#)

President's Report

WELCOME, everyone, to our new 2025-2026 Marquette Branch year. We started off with a bang by reviving the salad supper done years ago. That will be a permanent fixture, by popular demand.

We also entertained several guests, returning, and new members. Thank you to so many of you who reached out to invite friends and colleagues. To have a strong branch, we need many women and both new and previously-used (??--- not "old," right?) ideas! Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find names and information of women who are joining us. Please take the time to read about them and introduce yourselves at the next meeting. The more we know each other, the stronger our branch will be.

I would also like to thank our Septembers hostesses: Carolyn Myers, Mary Snitgen, and Nina Van Den Ende. They stepped in and with the help of members' contributions, helped us pull off the salad supper rather than our regular goodies. Great job!

One of the necessary summer projects was the updating of our traditional "Blue Book." I would like to personally thank the committee who worked on this Emera Bridger-Wilson, Meg Goodrich, Laurie Lotter, and Allison Peters!

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There is extra excitement this year since we can honor the history of our branch by celebrating our centennial year. The committee members are already busy at work, planning activities, displays, and “a trip down memory lane” in many ways. This is going to be great!!

We tried to use a microphone and sound system during this meeting, and ran into a combination of what I call “operator error” on my part, a mic malfunction, or a dropped signal, etc. Peter and Meg Goodrich have been helping me find, through Jim’s Music, a setup that will work for any group in the clubhouse. Our Board’s intention is to purchase such a system and gift it for all groups at the clubhouse to use. We will try another microphone at our next meeting. We know that we have a few members who have been unable to hear, and we hope to eliminate that problem. At some point, this may allow us to venture farther into tech territory and provide members “at a distance,” and/or in bad weather, the ability to join via Zoom.

So, everyone, welcome to a wonderful group of committed women. Let’s get to know and appreciate each other, and we are set to have a fun and interesting year together.

Carol Steinhaus.
President

Navigating Change with a Lifelong Learner

Thursday, October 9 7:00 PM

Our **October 9** meeting will feature a special program on the power of lifelong learning and embracing change. We are delighted to host Gaby Eyzaguirre, who will share her personal journey from a career as a technology educator to a new, fulfilling role as a full-time grandmother. Gaby will discuss her passion for technology, her work inspiring future teachers to use it, and how she continues to champion its use for learners of all ages. This program supports the AAUW policy principles of empowerment and educational advancement for women and girls at all ages.

All are welcome to attend this inspiring and informative event at the Women's Federated Clubhouse, 104 W. Ridge Street, Marquette, at 7:00 PM.

Ellen Koski
Program Vice President



Need a ride?

The Board is gathering names of those who can provide and who need rides to AAUW events. If you are in one of these categories, please contact Pat Pellett via phone/text (906-250-5392) or by email pat.pellett44@gmail.com

MindTrekkers STEM Event



Northern Michigan University will host the [OneUP Superior Shores Festival](#) on **October 7, 2025**, in Innovation Hall at the Jacobetti Complex. This dynamic, one-day event is designed for middle school students and highlights educational and career pathways in the region, with a strong emphasis on STEM fields, though other disciplines are included. Schools will be transporting students to NMU to participate in this high-energy experience, which is expected to engage around 600 attendees. AAUW Marquette has contributed \$5,000 to sponsor this MindTrekkers event.

Organizers are seeking exhibitors to lead hands-on, interactive activities that will inspire and inform students. Participation is flexible, with options to engage for part or all of the day. For more details or to register as an exhibitor or volunteer, visit the [OneUP Superior Shores Festival](#) website.

Leslie Warren,
STEM Representative

Fresh Coast Film Festival



The well-regarded Fresh Coast Film Festival will be held in our Clubhouse this year, beginning **October 17**, helping us to raise funds. Volunteers are still needed for set-up **4:00 – 8:00PM** on **Tuesday, October 14 and throughout the Festival – Friday through Sunday, October 17 - 19**. Please contact Amy Cherrette, President Women's Federated Clubhouse (amy.cherrette@gmail.com) for more information.

Meg Goodrich,
Women's Federated Clubhouse Representative

New Members

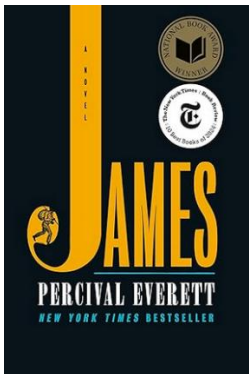
The Social Meet and Greet in September was well attended by interested community members, including approximately ten new faculty members from Northern, resulting in three new memberships. Some of those who attended the Social are still considering joining; they may attend one of our regular meetings before deciding whether the AAUW is right for them.

Welcome the following new members at our next meeting on Thursday, October 9.

Linda Fleury (returning member)
sal ryman, Social Work
Kelly Davis, Education

Rebecca Daly,
University Relations

Book Club Information



The AAUW Book Group will meet on **Thursday, October 9th at 12:30 PM** to discuss *James* by Percival Everett. This novel is a re-imagining of Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and is narrated from the perspective of Huck's friend, the fugitive slave Jim. It won the 2025 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction as well as many others. Please join us for the discussion! Contact Karen Rudisill (karen.rudisill@gmail.com) for more information.

NOTE: If you enjoy this author, a screening of *American Fiction*, a film based on Everett's novel *Erasure*, will be presented Monday, October 6th from 5-8pm in the Community Room at the Peter White Public Library.

Karen Rudisill,
Book Club Chair

Public Policy



Creator: Ted Eytan

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The Budget passed by the Michigan House of Representatives places funding for Child and Adolescent Health Centers at risk. These Health Centers and additional Social Worker staff provide mental health services for children in a safe easily accessed school environment. The present budget rolls funding into the new per pupil allowance eliminating the Medicaid match funding that supported the cost of care at the Child and Adolescent Centers. Last year that matching fund supported 150,000 visits for students. We need our legislators to protect the 33 million in Subsection 31 (7) and 14.3 million in subsection 31 (5) of the School Aid Budget to ensure health care services

remain available in rural communities where children may not be able to see a doctor or mental health provider. **Some teens benefited by this program are hanging by a thread.** Reducing access to services may increase the risk of suicide among affected individuals. The vote on the budget is scheduled for September 30. Urge our legislators to show compassion in their budget decisions. We will have to wait to see if these critical services were saved.

AAUW 's opposition to William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

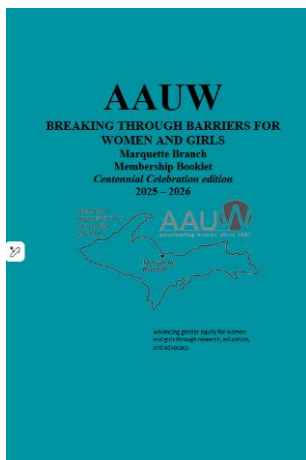
AAUW joined 64 organizations in opposing the Department of Education's notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) RIN 1801-AA28 that would make unlawful changes to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program (PSLF). **This rule would punish state and local government and nonprofit organizations whose work the administration disagrees with such as helping immigrants, providing health care to transgender youth, advancing equity in schools and workplaces.** These organizations' employees serve the public interest. They commit to 10 years or more of service while making 120 student loan payments. Loan forgiveness attracts employees to the public sector and relieves the burden of student loan debt.

This rule is an illegal power grab that will hurt state and local governments and non-profits. The Education Department does not have statutory authority to redefine employer eligibility for PSLF. Congress created the PSLF with the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007. This new rule violates the First Amendment. What the Department of Education determines as "illegal discrimination" is an effort to reinterpret civil rights laws without substantiation, legal support, factual or legal explanation. The administration does not have the authority to supersede the Constitution or federal law by decree. **The NPRM is intended to target civil rights organizations that are engaged in lawful advocacy.** This is Authoritarianism at work. Something else to keep you awake at night.

What can we do? Call your Congressmen and encourage them to leverage the budget to return the balance of power. Go to [aauw.org](https://www.aauw.org) [Two Minute Action tool](#). Pick your issue. It is an easy way to effectively rattle the chains of Congress. Then go for a walk on the beach. You deserve it.

Karlyn Rapport
Public Policy Representative

Membership Books



The new "Blue Book" is available for 2025-2026. If you do not already have yours, contact Laurie Lotter to arrange for delivery. Copies will be on hand at the next meeting on **Thursday, October 9.**

Much more information has been added and updated in this new book along with a list of current members, important dates, new Clubhouse contacts and the new password for the Members Only section of the website. Be sure to get your copy of this essential communication tool for our branch.

Laurie Lotter,
Recording Secretary

Do 1 thing every day...

Women are facing tougher times ahead due to the policies of the current administration. In times like these, the best thing we can do is stand up. Doing nothing is not an option any longer and we **MUST** make ourselves heard. If each one of us stands, we cannot be ignored. Make yourself heard by contacting our representatives!

Click **HERE** for quick contact

Two Minute
Activist

Legislator	Phone	Email
U.S. Senator Gary Peters	(202) 224-6221	Senator@peters.senate.gov
U.S. Senator Elisa Slotkin	(202) 224-4822	slotkin.senate.gov/
U.S. Rep Jack Bergman	(202) 225-4735	Bergman.constituent@mail.house.gov
MI Senator Ed McBroom	(517) 373-7840	senemcbroom@senate.michigan.gov
MI Rep Karl Bohnak	(517) 373-0498	KarlBohnak@house.mi.gov
