



February luncheon donation for Bound Together after-school program

Valentines Day-related craft materials



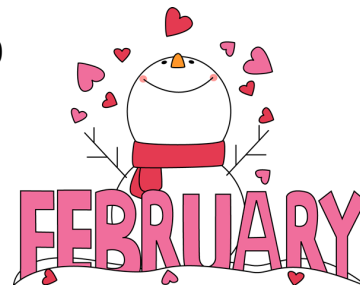
or Valentine treat bag items (small toys, bagged candy)



**WEDNESDAY, February 12, 2020
 General Meeting and Luncheon**

Bloomfield Open Hunt Club
 403 East Long Lake Rd.,
 Bloomfield Hills, 48302

Meet and Greet - 11:30 am
 Luncheon - Noon



Cash Bar - no valet parking

Program: Nora Polley, Stage Manager at Stratford Festival
 Many members have visited Ontario's celebrated Stratford Festival. Now Nora Polley brings Stratford to us. The book about her nearly 50 years at the theater is entitled *Whenever You're Ready*.

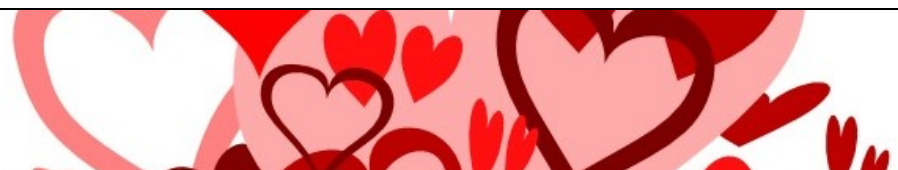
Menu: Lemon butter chicken breast, angel hair pasta, broccoli, bread basket & butter. Dessert: chocolate mousse. Coffee, tea, soft drinks. Vegetarian/lactose intolerant available with reservation.

RESERVATION DEADLINE - Wednesday, February 5th

Please send \$28 per person, with your check payable to "AAUW Birmingham Branch", as well as program-only reservations to:
 Nancy O'Connor, 3220 Vinsetta Blvd., Royal Oak, 48073
nancyaoconnor1101@gmail.com 248-259-4196

Sorry no refunds.

Study Group Hostesses: Green Thumb



- DATES to remember:**
- Feb. 11th:** International Day of Women and Girls in Science! 
 - Wed., March 18, 2020:** Explorathon
 - Friday, March 27:** Level Up Conference, Royal Oak OCC
 - Wed., April 8:** Annual Meeting, Village Club
 - Wed., May 13:** Branch Centennial Celebration, Forest Hills Country Club.
 - May 15-16:** AAUW Michigan State Convention - Midland.
 - Fri., May 29:** Study Interest Group leaders/Board Reception, Doyle Center.
 - Wed., June 3:** Old/new board meeting, Doyle Center. (Note - a week early).
 - June 18-20:** Midwest Regional AAUW Convention, Moline, Illinois



In Our Centennial Year, a Look at the Past:

The first fashion show fundraiser was presented by The J.L Hudson Co. in 1923. This was a first for the sleepy village of Birmingham, and a snowstorm on the day of the show could have doomed it. But as show time grew near, horse-drawn buggies began arriving and ladies disembarked in their finery which included snow boots.

Ruth Shain told of the committee's plan to advertise for the show. They set up a canvas banner used by a service club, painting over old letters and adding new ones. After all the paint was applied, the banner was so heavy that they had to enlist the aid of the fire department to hang it between two buildings on Woodward.

Ruth received a telephone call in the middle of the night that she must come and do something about the "serpent" flailing about in the street. A strong wind had come up, breaking one of the lines holding the banner. The fire department was prevailed upon once again; they cut the remaining line and put the serpent at ease. All of this clamor made great advertising, and the show was a social and financial success,

Many more shows followed.

Sue Winowiecki, Branch Historian

AAUW Bulletin

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Bulletin copy deadline is the 17th of the
previous month. Send copy
and/or corrections to:
marionmuma@gmail.com

AAUW of Michigan info: aauwmi.org



President Doty's February 2020 Message

December is a time that many of us reflect on those persons in our lives who are missing and celebrate those who have passed new milestones. I want to thank the 21 persons who donated to our foundation fund in December. (see names listed in Tributes and Memorials on pg.7) Giving to help others is often a way of celebrating with or for them. Thanks to those who donated, we are closer to funding our scholarships and NCCWSL participants. A special huge thanks goes to Jody Kuhn who administers the Deffenbaugh Foundation for once again supporting the book sale. Please, keep us in mind when you are looking for ways to celebrate a special event or to remember a lost friend during the year.

One of the items discussed at the January board meeting was our upcoming 100th birthday celebration in May. That's a pretty special achievement in this world of short attention spans where there are so many opportunities to branch off into other organizations and causes. I am happy to say that many of you have said you want to help plan this special event.

We also discussed the AAUW Michigan convention and annual meeting in Midland on May 15th and 16th. I would encourage you to really give this serious consideration. There is a line item in the foundation budget to cover registration fees and possibly some help with the hotel. You should have received an email newsletter from AAUW MI with information on this. If you need more information, contact me. There is also a regional AAUW convention in Moline, Illinois, in June, which is being planned by 12 states and already has an impressive list of presenters. I hope that some of us will be able to attend this as well.

NCCWSL (National Conference of College Women Student Leaders May 27-30) registration is now open. The young women that we have sponsored in the past have returned with glowing reports of it being a transformational event. In training young women to be leaders we are moving our mission forward.

Explorathon is up and running in the planning stage. All the speakers have been booked, registration has started, and March 18th promises to be a good day. If you wish to help and have not signed up yet, let me know and I'll send you to the appropriate contact person.

We are also busy planning Level Up, a conference for persons who want to improve their situation by attaining an apprenticeship, finishing their education or negotiating for a better situation. If you know anyone who would benefit from this type of information, let them know about this March 27th conference at OCC Royal Oak. Look for a flyer about this event that can be shared.

We also spoke at the board meeting about the sustainability of our leadership. Many of our board members have served for a long time, and we need newer members who would like to step up. If you would like a position on the board or on a committee, this is a good time to let us know. I want to thank the person who contacted me last month about serving on the fund-raising committee. She indicated that she has been a member for some time but would like to take a more active role in the future. We need more people to respond in this way.

In closing, I just hope all of you are looking forward to a happy and healthy new year full of positive activities.



Sally Doty

Time to UPDATE YOUR DIRECTORY

Beverly Fogelson - new email address:

bjfogelson@gmail.com



2019 Patron Donor Friend Fund Results

Thank you again to everyone who helped keep our mission alive by donating to the AAUW Patron Donor Friend Contributor Fund.

Although our donations total was not as high as previous years, every dollar is appreciated.

In addition to donors listed in the December bulletin, the following have recently added their support:



Irene Sharpe
Kitty Stephenson
Kathy Stasys
Sally Doty
Roberta Guerber
Kathy Rice
Cindy Longhway
Carolyn Packard

January 2020 Board Meeting Highlights

- Treasurer Sandy Dickerson reported that as of December 31, 2019, the total assets and net assets of the branch were \$26,081.26.
- President Sally Doty announced that several board positions will be available next year, and suggestions for nominations can be provided to her and/or Karen Boyk.
- Sue Longstreet reported that our branch foundation sent \$8,295 from the Patron Donor Friend fundraising campaign to AAUW this year. Although a significant contribution, it was lower than in past years.
- Jean Ivory shared the new flyer for the Level Up conference to be held on March 27th at OCC in Royal Oak.
- Kathy Hurley announced that there are 3 possible candidates from Groves for the 2020 NCCWSL conference.
- Kathy Hurley also announced that the next Community Outreach event will be at Forgotten Harvest on Tuesday, February 25th. (See pg.5, and look for an email blast with more details).
- Jean Ivory and Sharon McKenna will investigate the possibility of updating our website to accommodate those who may wish to make an on-line donation.

February Is Black History Month.

There are many events, lectures and presentations scheduled in the greater Detroit area. Some that you may want to consider are:



- Black History Month Black-Owned Bar Tour hosted by the Detroit Experience Factory
- Black History Month celebrations at The Henry Ford.
- A night of poetry and music during the Black History Month, and a Night Celebrating Creativity and Movement event, both at the Detroit Institute of Arts.
- Various exhibits and events at the Charles H. Wright Museum.

Cathy Hurley,
Diversity Representative



A Tributes and Memorials Donation

.....is an opportunity to honor members, friends and relatives and, at the same time, to support the AAUW foundation.

Your donation could become:

- ◆ A welcome to....
- ◆ Acknowledgment of a friend's birthday .
- ◆ Congratulations on a milestone event.
- ◆ Cheers for a "job well done."
- ◆ "Thinking of you, " or "In memory of".

Your contribution of *any amount* will be used to further the AAUW mission. The named honoree(s) will be published in the bulletin, and they will receive a notification from the foundation. If you wish to participate in this opportunity, please send your message and a check to:

Sally Doty, 17156 Wiltshire,
Southfield, MI 48076



With sadness, we
inform you of the death of
branch member

Nettie Kravitz

on December 19th

STUDY GROUP CALENDAR - February 2020

AAUW & SOCIAL ISSUES

- Community Outreach** No Program Scheduled
- International Relations** No Program Scheduled
- Public Policy** 2:30 pm, Thurs., Feb. 13
Program: School to Prison Pipeline. Presenter: TBD.
Hostess: Karen Linnell, 248-594-9871
- The Breakfast Bunch** No Program Scheduled

ARTS & HUMANITIES

- Art Matters** 1 pm, Sun., Feb. 9
Program: Meet&Greet Artist Nancy Wanchik, mixed media collages, ArtWalk&Talk at the Janice Charach Art Gallery inside the Jewish Community Center on Drake & Maple Roads, West Bloomfield. **RSVP to JoBeth30@gmail.com by Feb 5.**
- Artistic Endeavors** 9:30 am, Fri., Feb 28
Program: Revisiting "Alcohol Inks" which come in several colors and can be purchased at Michaels. Ceramic tiles will be provided. (See the movement as the ink spreads across the tiles!)
RSVP Colette Stager, csstager@comcast.net or 248-561-2775
- Modern Art** 12:30 pm, Thurs., Feb. 27
Program: Favorite Artist Presentation. Location: BTSC.
Presenters: Michelle Waskowski & Mary Anne Mehlhope.
RSVP: Barb Gash, compusew@aol.com

BOOK CLUBS

- Belles Lettres** 1:30 pm, Thurs., Feb. 6
Topic: *The Newcomers*, Helen Thorpe
Hostess: Carole Deyer, 248-642-6390
- Beyond Adelante** 6:30 pm, Tues., Feb. 4
Topic: *There, There*, Tommy Orange
Hostess: Renee Zimmerman, 248-855-0145
- Contemporary Books** 12:30 pm, Mon., Feb. 17
Topic: *The Other Woman*, Daniel Silva.
Hostess: Kay Norton, 248-737-0648
- Morning After Readers** 9:30 am, Mon., Feb. 10
Topic: *Ordinary Grace*, William Kent Krueger
Hostess: Sue Mitchell, 248-930-5635
- Mystery Book Club** 1 pm, Wed., Feb. 26
Topic: *Conviction*, Denise Mina
Hostess: Linda MacQueen, 248-646-6451
- Northside Books** No Program Scheduled
- Political Inquiry** 10 am, Wed., Feb. 19
Topic: *The Threat: How the FBI Protects America in the Age of Terror & Trump*, Andrew McCabe.
Hostess: Sue Winowiecki, 248-635-0462.
- Potpourri** Noon, Wed., Feb. 26
Topic: *The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming*, David Wallace-Wells.
Hostess: Marion Muma, 248-818-6851.
- Thurs. Morning Readers** 10 am, Thurs., Feb. 20
Topic: *Sacred Duty: A Soldier's Tour at Arlington National Cemetery*, Tom Cotton.
Hostess: Sue Longstreet, 248-332-2284

HOME & GARDEN

- Cooking Light** No Program Scheduled
- Green Thumb** No Program Scheduled
- Let's Cook** Noon, Tues., Feb. 25
Program: Field trip/luncheon
Contact Joan Atkinson, 248-626-5146, for info
- Needleworks** 10 am, Wed., Feb. 19
Location: Barb Gash's house. 248-338-3011

ON THE TOWN

- Opera Divas** 10 am, Mon., Feb. 17
Program: Handel's *Agrippina*. Presenter, Gerry Hansen.
Performance date, Feb. 29.
Program, Wagner's *Der Fliegende Hollander*. Presenter, Barb Gash.
Performance Date, March 14.
Location: Bloomfield Twp. Library.
RSVP Lorraine Clay (313-433-1459) for discussion
- Theater Goers** 2 pm, Sun., Feb. 9
Program: *Forever Plaid*, Stagecrafters, Royal Oak. (**Deadline for tickets was Jan. 27**).
RSVP Sue Winowiecki, 248-635-0462 or suewinow@gmail.com
- Two Thumbs Up** Thurs., Feb. 6
Time, location and movie determined by hostess.
Hostess: Michelle Waskowski, 248-259-2786

JUST FOR FUN

- Canasta** Mondays, 1:30 pm
For more information, please contact Sue Winowiecki, 248-635-0462 or suewinow@gmail.com
- Mah Jongg:** 1 pm, Wed., Feb. 5, 19 & 26
Hostess: Py Wolfe. Location: B'field Twp Library
- Bridge:**
- 3rd Wednesday** Feb. 26, 3:30 pm, Heathers
Chair: Kay Norton -248-737-0648
- 4th Thursday** Feb. 19, 11:30 am, Village Club
Chair: Mary Hines - 248-642-1881
- 4th Wed. early Evening,** Feb. 27, 11:30 am, Heathers
Chair: Sharon Grisdale, 586-612-5940
- 1st Friday** Feb. 7, 11:30 am, Village Club
Hostess: Beverly Pintar- 248-626-4311
- 2nd Friday** Feb. 14, 11:30 am, Heathers
Chair: Mary Lou Harrison - 248-643-8983
- 3rd Friday** Feb. 21, 11:30 am, Village Club
Chair: Carol Wiseman - 248-540-2178
- 4th Friday (Duplicate)** Feb. 28, 11:30 am, Village Club
Chair: Kay Norton -248-737-0648

CONTACTS

- Kay Norton for bridge - 248-737-0648.
Lynn Hipp for calendar changes - 248-420-4615.
Information due by the 17th of the Month.
Study/Interest Group Membership - call Chair listed in the AAUW Directory, pages 8-10



Lynn Hipp



Community Outreach for February

Come join other AAUW members at the Forgotten Harvest Warehouse on Tuesday, February 25th, from 1:00-4:00 pm, where we will unpack food, pack and package food, or do whatever the need of the day is. The group that attended last year enjoyed their afternoon of giving back.

**Forgotten Harvest Warehouse,
21800 Greenfield, Oak Park, MI 48237**

Please pre-register using directions which will follow in a separate email. Or contact me and I will send you an electronic link. Pre-registration will make it easy so you can complete your volunteer profile on-line and sign the liability waiver electronically. If you have any questions on pre-registration, please contact me. When you pre-register, our team name is

Birmingham AAUW-Cathy Hurley.

MANDATORY DRESS CODE -

We must wear long pants & closed toe shoes.

**NO open toed shoes, shorts, tank tops,
NO jewelry.**

Wedding rings are fine. Earrings (and facial piercings) must be removed!

Please let me know if you plan to attend, so I can keep track of who is going and email you any updates - or links for pre-registration. I hope to see you there.

Cathy Hurley,
Community Outreach Chair

DEFINITIONS WORTH SHARING

BEAUTY PARLOR: A place where women curl up and dye.

CHICKENS: The only animal you eat before they are born and after they are dead.

COMMITTEE: A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

DUST: Mud with the juice squeezed out.

EGOTIST: Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.

HANDKERCHIEF: Cold storage.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT - (IT'S ABOUT TIME!)



From AAUW of Michigan Facebook page.....

“The ERA Coalition is celebrating an historic victory. The Equal Rights Amendment is about to clear its final Constitutional hurdle as Virginia becomes the 38th state to ratify it, now that both the Senate and the House of Delegates have passed identical bills to be formalized in an upcoming procedural vote.

As we mark the 100th anniversary of American women winning the right to vote, we can also celebrate the success of the nearly 100 year-long quest for constitutional equality.

The ERA Coalition was formed in 2014 to work for constitutional equality. Our own polling shows that 94% of Americans support the ERA – and an unprecedented 99% of millennials support it. The message is clear: it is time for women to have equal rights in the Constitution. Women will no longer be subjected to second-class citizenship in the United States.

Despite this overwhelming support, some still seek to deny women equality. We will work closely with Congress to remove any ambiguity or obstacles that opponents argue remain in the way. The Coalition will also monitor the courts to stay current with any litigation concerning the Equal Rights Amendment. We will also continue to work with the 12 remaining unratified states in an effort to secure ratification of the ERA by all fifty states.

It’s an historic day in America. Virginia, with bipartisan support, has now pushed women around the country across the finish line toward equality and freedom from discrimination on account of sex.

This has been an incredible team effort beginning with the three women who co-founded the Coalition: co-president Jessica Neuwirth, Coalition Board Chair Maria Vullo, and Treasurer Liz Young. They have worked alongside our CEO and co-President Carol Jenkins and former chair of the ERA Coalition and current Chair of our sister organization Fund for Women’s Equality Marcy Syms. Our gratitude goes out to our amazing board, our D.C. Director Bettina Hager, our legal task force, and our lead organizations and supporters. We thank you all. Today is a day to celebrate.”

Marianne Stack, ERA Coalition
(Press Conference January 15, 2020) Richmond, VA

The February Study/Interest Group Spotlight is on: TWO THUMBS UP



The Two Thumbs Up study group is relatively new, having been formed less than ten years ago by a member who thought it would be interesting to discuss current big screen movies. The group name was taken from the late great movie critic Roger Ebert. The biggest dilemma when forming the group was deciding on which day the group would meet. Friday was the original choice, but movies change on Fridays, so Thursday was chosen and Two Thumbs Up was born.

We are a group open to all AAUW members. We have over 50 members on our mailing list and have 10-15 members show up for each monthly gathering. We meet on the first Thursday of every month to view a movie and discuss it over lunch. There is a different hostess each month who decides on the movie, place to eat, and prepares information about the movie to lead our discussion. The movies we see are of all genres. We see most of our movies at the Maple Theatre, although we have gone to MJR and The Main. The Maple is centrally located, has easy parking, comfortable seating, and - most importantly - good movies for discussion!

If you love movies, and who doesn't, come join us. There is no commitment other than volunteering to be a hostess. It's also a wonderful way to introduce your friends to the AAUW. To be added to our email list, just contact me.

Michelle Waskowski,
michelle.waskowski@gmail.com, 248-259-2786



Photos from a recent group movie/lunch at the Maple Theater. On the left, left to right: Diane Rouse, Lorraine Clay, Barb Gash, Judy Allie, Mary Anne Mehlhope, Norma Darr, Sue Winowiecki, Julie Blair, Michelle Waskowski, Gerry Hansen, and Sally Doty.



Above, left to right: Diane Rouse, Judy Allie, Judy Mixer, Barb Gash, Gerry Hansen, and Michelle Waskowski.

VIRGINIA GILDERSLEEVE INTERNATIONAL FUND (VGIF) BECOMES "WOMEN FIRST INTERNATIONAL FUND"

This new organization will solidify female empowerment through its grant making model. It envisions a world where gender equality prevails and in which every woman and girl has the power to thrive. Supporting women's leadership and respecting grassroots groups will remain their guiding principles.



Linda Schnorbus, International Relations Representative

TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS



A thank you this month to those who, after our very special plea at the December luncheon, stepped up to support the work of the Birmingham Branch Foundation.

Your generosity will enable us to continue to fund our several local branch scholarships and to provide support for Explorathon, NCCWSL, and all the other ways we carry out our mission in this community.

THANK YOU

Diane Bert
Invie Jessup
Sally Doty
Lois Kurta
Kathleen Norton
Jeanne Pearson
Callie Schmidt
Colette Stager
Joanne Brown
Cynthia Guerrieri
Jean Ivory
Mary Samulski
Sandra Dickerson
Susan Winowiecki
Barbara McCormack
Kathleen Fredrickson
Rose Zawislak
Corinne Opiteck
Cathy and Ray Twesten
Patricia Orłowski
Vivian Norton
George/Helen Defenbaugh Fdn.
Mary Ann Riedle
Kathleen Schneider
Cynthia Stevens
Lana Klingensmith

The Michigan presidential primary will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, one week after Super Tuesday. Requests to have an absentee ballot mailed to you must be received by your city or township clerk no later than 5 p.m. the Friday before the election.

A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU



A new year. A new opportunity awaits. Teach an adult to read by becoming a tutor for Oakland Literacy Council.

For 35 years, Oakland Literacy Council has been serving adults in Oakland County who struggle to read, write, and understand English. There are two kinds of adults who need help. One are newcomers to the U.S. and two, U.S. citizens who read below an 8th grade reading level.

Winter tutor training involves an online orientation and sign up followed by a one-day (7 hrs) session which is offered once a month. The next winter training day is Tuesday, February 25. For more information contact:

oaklandliteracy.com; 248-253-1617; or
info@oaklandliteracy.com

Their office hours are Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 3:00pm.

Cindy Clement,
Education Equity Representative

VOTERS NOT POLITICIANS (VNP)

A WEBINAR for the AAUW of Michigan Lobby Corps with Voters Not Politicians 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time February 25, 2020.

Mary Pollock, AAUW Government Relations Coordinator, explains the purpose and content of the webinar by saying,

“Although I expect Voters Not Politicians (VNP) to talk about applying for the Citizens Redistricting Commission, there is always other news with regard to funding the Commission, lawsuits against it, voting rights, voter suppression efforts, and other projects VNP is contemplating for the spring and summer. I will send a reminder a couple weeks before the Webinar also. Please extend this invitation to your branch members.”

If you are interested in participating in this seminar, please contact me for more information.

Carol Pyke, Public Policy Study Group

Voters Not Politicians (VNP) was founded as a ballot initiative to end gerrymandering in Michigan. On November 6, 2018, 61% of Michigan voters supported VNP’s Redistricting Reform Amendment to put the power to draw election district maps in the hands of voters - not politicians.

To learn more, or if you wish to join the volunteer army, you can go to votersnotpoliticians.com.

Exterior Steel Staircases - An Invention by Anna Connelly

We live in a patriarchal world. It is no wonder that we hear more about the inventions made by men than those made by women, irrespective of how earth-shattering those inventions have been.

However, women throughout the world have contributed to humanity with their fair share of cutting-edge inventions, without which we cannot imagine our lives today.

From the chocolate chip cookies to a chilled beer, some of the most brilliant inventions worldwide have had female minds behind them. **1897** was the year when Anna Connelly invented the outdoor fire escape that also came with an external staircase. She patented it in the same year, and now, these fire escapes are a widespread sight throughout the United States of America. In fact, these external fire escapes with staircases are a mandatory building safety code across America.

