

SAVE THE DATE

May 17: 5 pm EST - End of electronic open voting period for AAUW proposed membership amendment, resolutions, and Directors.

May 21: Noon: Study/Interest Group luncheon, by Zoom.

The Beverly Hills Village Park picnic pavilion where our May 12 membership luncheon and meeting will be held, rain or shine.



WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

*Having an Estate Sale?
Spring Cleaning?
Moving? Just Cleaning?*



Donate your excess treasures to the AAUW Birmingham Branch (tax receipt provided). All proceeds will be used to support the educational missions of the AAUW Birmingham Branch Foundation.

YOU WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHEN YOU DONATE!

For information on this ongoing program, email or call Roberta Russ:
robertaruss2009@gmail.com or
248-363-8533
(please leave a message if no answer)

Convenient contactless pickup will be provided upon request.



BIRMINGHAM BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 12th
Time: 1:00 to 3:00pm

MMMMMMMarvelous!

May 12 Meeting is outside! Beverly Hills Pavilion Park, 18801 Beverly Road west of Southfield and south of 13 Mile Road

Mmmm Meal: Strawberry Chicken Salad (*free box lunch). Grilled chicken, romaine lettuce, strawberries, cucumber, tomato, candied walnuts, goat cheese (walnuts and cheese packaged on the side upon request); strawberry vinaigrette and dinner roll. Bottled water available. *If you prefer to provide your own lunch, indicate that when you make your reservation.*

Mask, Mingle, Music and More

- ♦ bring a chair if you wish, but there are picnic tables
- ♦ visit with friends not up close, but in person
- ♦ enjoy live entertainment and silly games

Must Make a reservation for this complimentary luncheon. Deadline: May 5th. Maximum 50 reservations available due to pandemic social distancing regulations. Contact Christine Dagenais, cacmdm@gmail.com, or text her at 248-755-4372. This event will take place rain or shine. Dress for weather.

*no show? no! no! There will be a \$10 charge if you do not attend and do not cancel your reservation by May 5th.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

In-person election of officers at the May 12, 2021 Annual Meeting.
The 2021-2022 Slate of Candidates:

President: Jean Ivory

V.P. Programs: Kathy Stasys

Corresponding Secretary: Rita Dates



AAUW Bulletin

Vol. 48, Issue 9, May 2021

The AAUW Birmingham Affiliate Bulletin is published monthly, September through June, for the members of the Affiliate.

AAUW Birmingham Affiliate Board

Branch President:

Sally Doty 248-909-4583

Vice President-Program:

Kathy Stasys 248-644-1481

Vice President-Membership:

Katie Wiese 248- 842-8684

Recording Secretary:

Janet Stenger 248-642-6907

Corresponding Secretary:

Rita Dates 248-882-2919

Treasurer:

Sue Longstreet 248-390-7700

Dues Treasurer:

Sharon McKenna 313-570-2013

Study/Interest Groups:

Lynn Hipp 248-420-4615

Linda Kevorkian 248-219-1915

Communications:

Jean Ivory 248-454-8750

Electronic Communications:

Sharon McKenna 313-570-2013

Hospitality:

Christine Dagenais 248-755-4372

Nancy O'Connor 248-259-4196

Booksale:

Susan Mundy 248-425-4552

Historian:

Sue Winowiecki 248-635-0462

Affiliate Website:

birmingham-mi.aauw.net

Bulletin Editor:

Marion Muma 248-819-6851

Bulletin copy deadline is the 20th of the previous month. Send copy and/or corrections to:
marionmuma@gmail.com

AAUW of Michigan info: aauwmi.org



PRESIDENT'S LETTER - MAY 2021

This time of the year we are winding down and preparing for next year. This year it feels like we are in a continuum of activities. We are hopeful of meeting in person on May 12th as a branch for the first time since March 11, 2020. If the restrictions hold and you feel comfortable attending, send your reservation to Chris Dagenais as soon as possible to hold your spot for the luncheon announced on page 1. We are not charging for the lunch but will charge you \$10 if you reserve a spot and do not cancel in a timely fashion by May 5th.

We are planning a virtual luncheon for the study/interest group leaders, current and future, on May 21st at noon. We were unable to have an event last year, so this one is special. We are providing Panera gift cards in advance so that we can all pick up our lunches and eat together via Zoom. This event is to thank the leaders and to ask for their help in spreading the word about the foundation and the plans for future fund-raising to take the place of the book sale. I still receive calls and even get books dropped off at my house from people who will not accept the fact that we have decided not to pursue this fund-raising activity in the future. We are looking for ways to share children's books with agencies that promote literacy.

The individual study and interest groups are planning for next year. I believe that some are thinking of possibly meeting a few times over the summer. We are definitely planning on an in person Each One Bring One in September where the groups can display their calendars and sign up new people. The choice of going hybrid (both in person and zooming for those who cannot attend) is being discussed.

Our meeting in May is our opportunity to see our friends and to catch up with news. It will also be our annual meeting where we will elect 2021 – 2022 officers. I am pleased and incredibly grateful that we have people willing to serve. Our branch will only remain as viable as our members are willing to step up and continue the work.

The AAUW national election is ongoing. You should have received an email from Shannon Wolfe with the subject line "Vote Now to Shape AAUW's Future" on April 7th. That email has your link to vote. If you did not see it, check in your inbox and maybe in your spam or your deleted emails. If you still cannot find it, either phone 800-326-2289 or email connect@aauw.org to request another ballot. It really is important to participate with your vote. The voting is on the board of directors, the Public Policy Priorities, and the bylaws change that would update our membership requirements from people who have completed a two-year associates degree or the equivalent to people who support our mission. Voting is open until May 17th.

We are also looking ahead to the AAUW Michigan annual meeting on April 24th. You should have received an email from AAUW Michigan with the subject line "AAUW of Michigan Annual Report 2020 – 2021" with a downloadable report. Your delegates will be voting on the issues and candidates.

So, I guess it's appropriate that I don't feel like we are winding down as much as usual. I hope that you can relax and enjoy the weather when appropriate. I hope to see you all soon.



Sally

Foundation Board Meeting Highlights April 7, 2021



Branch Board Meeting Highlights April 14, 2021

- The Foundation Board voted to establish an Endowment Fund that would provide income sustainability for the future. It was suggested that Lavish Lunch be the initial fund-raising vehicle for the start of this fund.
- The Foundation is planning meetings to educate our members on the role of the Foundation. (see pg. 6)
- The Annual Fall Giving campaign that replaces the book sale will have a *Back to School* theme.
- Rita Dates and Eileen Hitz will attend a Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce coffee on April 29, 2021, at the Village Club.

AAUW BIRMINGHAM FOUNDATION BOARD:

President:	
Patty Orlowski	248-641-3892
Recording Secretary:	
Karen Boyk	248-608-2918
Corresponding Secretary:	
Eileen Hitz	248-642-7325
Treasurer:	
Sally Doty	248-909-4583
Board members:	
Rita Dates	248-882-2919
Joan Hanpeter	248-960-1737
Sue Longstreet	248-390-7700
Diane Schriff	248-648-6161

Treasurer Sue Longstreet reported assets of \$28,891.72 as of March 31, 2021. Budget changes due to changes in income and expenses due to the pandemic were approved by the Board.

President Sally Doty announced that:

- AAUW of Michigan is holding an April 15 forum via Zoom on the proposed bylaw related to open membership.
- AAUW Michigan's annual meeting via Zoom is April 24th. Delegates from the branch are Karen Boyk, Linda Kevorkian, Sharon McKenna, Marion Muma, Patty Orlowski, Linda Schnorbus, Colette Stager, Susan Winowiecki, and Sally Doty.

Patty Orlowski reported on the highlights of the Foundation Board meeting, including that the primary goal of the upcoming Zoom Study/Interest Group meeting on May 21 is member education on the Foundation.

Sharon McKenna reported that nominations are complete for the election of officers at the May 12th meeting. (see pg. 1) In-person voting is planned for the election.

Linda Kevorkian reported that the reservation of the September 8th Each One Bring One branch meeting has been confirmed with the Unitarian Church on Woodward and Lone Pine. It is vital that we have good participation to encourage new members to join. Details will follow as Covid-19 regulations are modified.

Janet Stenger,
Recording Secretary

The House of Representatives recently voted 217 to 210 to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act (PFA) with bipartisan support. We're one step closer to ensuring every woman can take home the pay she rightfully earns. Now it's up to the Senate to act.

IN MEMORIAM

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

Ellen Cole

AAUW Birmingham Branch Foundation

**MEMORIAL donations in
memory of**

Ray Antos,

**husband of branch member
Joan Antos**



**From: Gerry Hansen, Joan Hanpeter, Sally
Wisnieski, Cindy Clement, Marion Muma,
and Jane Conway.**

STUDY / INTEREST GROUP CALENDAR - May 2021

AAUW & SOCIAL ISSUES

Community Outreach **No Program Scheduled**

International Relations **10 am, Mon., May 3**
Topic: El Salvador, via Zoom. Please call Cheryl VanZetten, 248-332-7077, for info.

Public Policy **2:30 pm, Thurs., May 13**
Topic: Guest speaker is Maria Woloson from The League of Women Voters speaking about redistricting in Michigan. Everyone is invited to attend, via Zoom as well as in person, weather permitting. For info, contact Carol Pyke, 248-225-6698.

The Breakfast Bunch **No Program Scheduled**

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Art Matters **No Program Scheduled**
No tours/events planned for 2021. There are many online sights, virtual tours and art chats to keep us engaged and informed. Detroit - websites for the DIA, MOCAD & Charles Wright Museum. Also, Many US museums: New York, LA, Washington, Chicago. And, museums in Italy, France, Spain, Greece, Africa, Asia, Australia, London.

Artistic Endeavors **No Program Scheduled**
Meetings will return in the spring, in person and outside. Hope to see you then! Call or email Colette Stager for questions, or to share any art projects you've been working on.

Modern Art **12:30 pm, Thurs., May 27**
Program: Planning meeting, TBD. Contact Judy Allie, jallie2@gmail.com, for info.

BOOK CLUBS

Belles Lettres **1:30 pm, Thurs., May 20**
Topic: Review books for next year. We will meet via Zoom. For info, please call Elizabeth Snyder, 248-642-1475.

Beyond Adelante! **1 pm, Tues., May 4**
Topic: *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World that Can't Stop Talking*, Susan Cain. We will meet via Zoom. For info, please call Linda Schnorbus, 248-723-5008.

Contemporary Books **12:30 pm, Mon., May 24**
Topic: *The Splendid and the Vile*, Eric Larson. We will meet via Zoom. Contact Judy Allie, jallie2@gmail.com, for info.

Morning After Readers **10 am, Mon., May 10**
Topic: Planning for 2021-22. We will meet via Zoom.

Mystery Book Club **1 pm, Wed., May 26**
Topic: *Faithful Place*, Tana French. At this point, we are not sure how we will meet. Please contact Joan Birnie, jb03bps@gmail.com for info.

Northside Books **1 pm, Mon., May 24**
Topic: Planning, please have 2 book suggestions. We will meet via Zoom.

Political Inquiry **10 am, Wed., May 19**
Topic: *This Fight Is Our Fight*, Elizabeth Warren. We will meet via Zoom.

Potpourri **1 pm, Wed., May 26**
Topic: Book Selection & Potluck. Please call Marion Muma, 248-819-6851, for info.

Thurs. Morning Readers **10 am, Thurs., May 20**
Topic: *Tattooist of Auschwitz*, Heather Morris. We will meet via Zoom.

HOME & GARDEN

Cooking Light **10 am Thurs., May 20**
We will hold a Zoom meeting each month to visit; members may share a recipe. Call Kathy Fredrickson, 248-930-1974, for info.

Green Thumb **1 pm, Tues., May 18**
Program: All About Composting, with Lillian Dean. We will meet via Zoom.

Let's Cook **No Program Scheduled**
Needleworks **10 am, Wed., May 19**
We will meet at Cathy Hurley's home, 248-644-8073.

ON THE TOWN

Opera Divas **No Program Scheduled**

Theater Goers
We will not be meeting until the theaters open.

Two Thumbs Up
We will not be meeting until the movie theaters open.

JUST FOR FUN

Canasta **No Program Scheduled**

Mah Jongg:
Games are temporarily suspended.

Bridge:
Games are temporarily suspended.

CONTACTS

Kay Norton for bridge - 248-737-0648. Lynn Hipp for calendar changes - 248-420-4615. Information due by the 20th of the Month. Study/Interest Group Membership – call Chair listed In the AAUW Directory, pages 8-10.



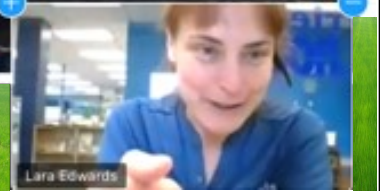
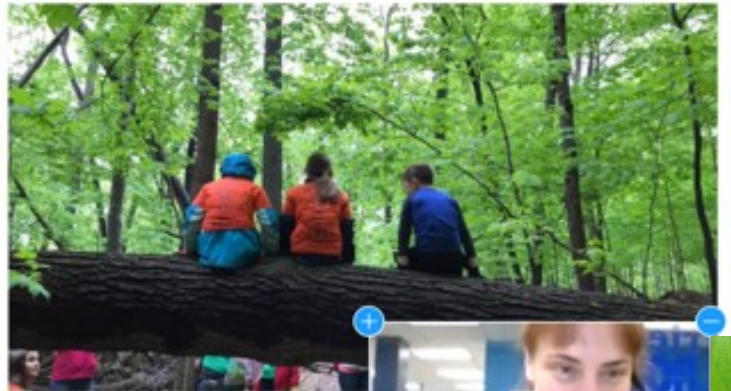
Lynn Hipp

If you are having problems with the Zoom connection for your study group, you can call on an expert for assistance.
If you have a PC platform (Windows, etc.), call Katie Wiese at 248-737-6850. If you have a MAC platform, call Patty Orlowski, at 248-227-3380.

Friends of the ROUGE



To restore, protect, and enhance the Rouge River watershed through stewardship, education, and collaboration.

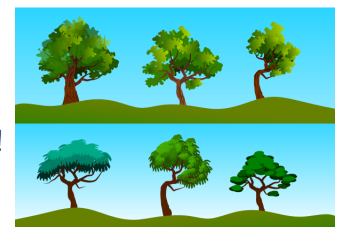


Lara Edwards, (above right) was our terrific speaker from Friends of the Rouge at our April 14 membership meeting. If you enjoyed her enthusiastic presentation (and who didn't?), you may be interested in learning more about the Rouge watershed in our own backyards. Their website (therouge.org) is a rich source of information

Want to make a rain garden?
Friends of the Rouge has a design support service.
Need a rain barrel or composter? Native plants?
Friends of the Rouge has them.
Want to take a workshop or find a water trail?
Friends of the Rouge can help.

Little-Known Facts About Earth Day and Arbor Day

1. Both Earth Day and Arbor Day are globally recognized but Earth Day is observed in more countries, despite being the younger holiday by nearly 100 years!
2. The very first Earth Day fell on a school day and in observance, students came together and planted flowers, committed to recycling and protested pollution.
3. On the first official Arbor Day on April 10, 1872, Nebraskan citizens planted more than one million trees.
4. Arbor Day became a legal holiday in 1885 with an official date of April 22 (the same as Earth Day!) but was later moved to the last Friday in April and can vary depending on the region. For example, Hawaii's tree-planting season is ideal towards the end of the year so citizens plant trees in observance of Arbor Day on the first Friday in November.
5. These environmentally conscious holidays influenced the passing of the Clean Air Act, the Endangered Species Act and prompted the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency.



This is the first in a series of articles on the foundation:

AAUW Birmingham Branch is celebrating the 14th year of operating a 501(C)(3) charitable foundation.

In 2007 your branch board directed five branch members to file the necessary papers with the federal government to establish a separate organization, the AAUW Birmingham Branch Foundation.

After studying the situation, joining the Michigan Nonprofit Association and taking a course to help us along, the establishing papers were written and submitted. We were overjoyed when our 501(C)(3) papers arrived. We could now solicit tax deductible contributions to fund our various mission activities. Before this time, our contributors were not able to deduct their donations and we were not able to apply for or receive grants. The first grant that we received was from the Ford Motor Company Fund to support Explorathon.

At that time we held “cluster” meetings to introduce the new organization to the branch members. As a result of those meetings, we received many contributions. Our book sale contributions and other donations were now also tax deductible.

Even though the foundation has been around for 14 years, many of our members are unaware of it or how important the foundation is to our mission. You do not “join” the foundation. You “benefit from” the foundation. It is a partner with the branch. It exists for one purpose only – to financially support the branch activities that further our mission of helping women and girls achieve their full potential.

Sally Doty, Foundation Treasurer



BREAKFAST BUNCH

Breakfast Bunch met on Tuesday, March 23rd, via Zoom, with 26 in attendance. Speaker Cindy Eggleton (bottom left) spoke to us in detail about the progress of Brilliant Detroit, the amazing community outreach program that she leads, on how it has quietly been transforming life in some metro Detroit neighborhoods.

Screen shots on the left and below capture us “as you are” - listening/watching - and in some cases more than once.



Cindy Eggleton, Director of Brilliant Detroit Community Outreach





Last month I wrote about women's college student debt and the fact that the price tag of a college education has more than doubled over the past generation while household incomes have barely budged. Also underscored in my article is that women graduating with a bachelor's degree owe an average of \$2,700 more than their male peers.

What is a Pell Grant?

*A **Pell Grant** is a need-based financial aid for students who belong to lower income families. The Federal Government earmarks certain funds for this grant each year. The quantum of this fund varies from year to year. To be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant, you must be an undergraduate or vocational student enrolled or accepted to be enrolled in a participating school.*

The maximum Pell Grant covered 91% of the average tuition and fees at a public four-year institution in 1993–94 but only 60% in 2017–18. In addition, the maximum Pell Grant in 2017–18 only covered 29% of tuition, fees, and room and board. This year the maximum Pell Grant was \$6,195, not nearly enough to cover tuition, fees, and room and board for a full-time college student.

The U.S. Congress must ensure that the maximum Pell Grant is maintained. Though the program has previously been excluded from sequestration, Pell Grants must be protected if those cuts continue. In addition, AAUW encourages Congress to move Pell Grants entirely to mandatory funding to ensure that even with projected increases, the program is not subject to annual appropriations disagreements. Finally, to address the specific needs of nontraditional students, AAUW encourages changes to the Pell Grant program to allow students to access more than one grant in a school year and to increase income protection allowance, which determines how much aid working students qualify for.



Because grant aid and family incomes have not risen at the same rates as college tuition, the dream of a college education has become more of a challenge in recent years, prompting about two-thirds of college graduates to borrow. Due to the gender pay gap that still exists, these loans are even more difficult for females to repay. For further information:

<https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2020/03/quick-facts-Higher-Education-nsa.pdf>

Karen Boyk, AAUW Funds

ART MATTERS

The 12th annual Daffodils4Detroit Luncheon on Belle Isle was cancelled for April 2021. You may consider making a tax deductible donation of \$25 and up. (To help plant over 125 daffodils). Your check can be payable to Michigan Division WNFGA and mailed at any time to: Pat Brown 31616 Lexington Street Warren, Michigan 48092.

Let's all look forward to the 13th annual April Daffodils4Detroit 2022 luncheon. Art Matters enjoyed 3 years at this wonderful event in 2017, 2018, 2019, and we HOPE to attend in 2022!

"Where flowers bloom, so does HOPE," Lady Bird Johnson

JoBeth Moskala, Art Matters Study Group



AAUW 2021-2022 DUES RENEWAL INFORMATION

(Or renew online at www.aauw.org)

Member, Birmingham Branch \$91

**Assoc. \$62; State \$12, plus Branch \$17

**\$59.00 of the \$62.00 AAUW dues are deductible as a charitable contribution for IRS purposes.

Paid Life Member - \$29 (State & Branch)

Student Affiliate - \$19 (State & Branch)

Dual Member - \$17

(State & national dues paid to another branch)

Honorary Life Member - 0

*Please complete form below exactly as you wish it to be printed in the directory
and indicate any changes including phone number or email address.*

AAUW 2021-22 BIRMINGHAM DUES RENEWAL FORM

PLEASE PRINT

Your Name _____

Check the appropriate box:

_____ **ALL MY INFORMATION IS CORRECT** or

_____ **MAKE THE FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THE
INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE DIRECTORY**

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone(s) Home _____ Cell _____ 1

Make checks payable to AAUW-Birmingham Branch and send with the completed form to:

Sharon McKenna, PO Box 573, Farmington, MI, 48332