



empowering women since 1881

AAUW

June, 2023

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH BULLETIN

Birmingham, Michigan - Since 1920

birmingham-mi.aauw.net

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Ella Mohring

Lawrence Technological University

Naomi Hinton



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY



AAUW Birmingham Branch Foundation

Lavish Luncheon

Recycle - Repurpose - Reinvent

May 10, 2023

10:30 - Noon

Welcome! Enjoy your shopping!

Noon - 12:45

Lavish Luncheon

12:45 - 2:00

Program

Recycled Fashions

by Refuge for Nations

Repurpose Fashions

by The Assistance League

Reinvent Fashions

Resale Connection

Just Girls Boutique

2:00 - 2:15 Raffle Drawing

Thank you for attending our Lavish Luncheon!

Your support helps us fund local scholarships for women.

\$45 of your ticket is tax-refundable under 501(c)(3)

Wine & Mimosa Cash Bar

Save The Date

June 14 National Women's Veteran Day

June 14 Flag Day



June 18 Father's Day

June 19 Juneteenth

June 21 1st Day of SUMMER

August TBD Member Wine and Cheese Social

September 13 - Each One Bring One

Donations

Throughout the summer, please keep collecting pillowcases or making them for Big Family of Michigan. One member told me she may have just secured 100 pillowcases from a donor!

AAUW Bulletin

Vol. 50, Issue 10, June, 2023

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

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

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aauwmi.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - JUNE 2023

We have reached the end of the 2022-23 year for the Birmingham Branch AAUW. I'm not sure that each year ends but rather it experiences a hiatus. Let's look back on what we did this year as a branch.

The year's activities began with Each One Bring One where we welcomed back members and brought in new members. The Study and Interest groups were there to share their plans for the year and, in many cases, welcome new members to their group. In-person meetings have resumed mostly normal activities, which provides opportunities for members to socialize and pursue their common interests.

We had another successful Fall Fundraiser that is so important to our branch and its ability to continue awarding scholarships to three high school students from Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, and Pontiac. We also award scholarships to three college students at Walsh College, Oakland Community College, and Lawrence Technology University. Following conversations with school officials, it was clear to see that these scholarships are helpful for students to get a start in college. But in order for them to continue their education, many of the students need more support. The decision was made to make it possible for students to re-apply for scholarships once they have demonstrated their ability and commitment to succeed in college.

We have also begun a pillowcase project for Big Family of Michigan. Each year we send a group of members to wrap holiday presents for all foster children in the state. The pillowcases have been used to wrap odd – shaped gifts. A suggestion was made to provide a pillowcase for each boy and girl. Our goal is a lofty one – 2000 pillowcases – so keep collecting or making pillowcases and we will start collecting them in the fall. Call me for additional kits for making them or picking them up.

We met each month for lunch with the exception of January and February but zoom meetings were held instead and both featured speakers. One was a handwriting expert and the other was the daughter of one of our own – Barbara Gash – whose daughter, Andrea Durkin, is the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for World Trade Organization and Multilateral Affairs.

While our in-person monthly luncheons have not returned to pre-pandemic numbers, those that attended were treated to speakers who presented information on many topics from politics, local education challenges and women in baseball. The monthly luncheons also give us the opportunity to resume monthly donations to local organizations that help people in need like Bound Together and Lighthouse.

Lavish Luncheon was held in May. The luncheon was a great success with beautiful centerpieces and gift baskets. Many thanks go out to Karen Boyk, Joanne Brown, Rita Dates, Sandy Dickerson, Cindi Hopkins, Jean Ivory, Nancy O'Connor, Kathy Rice, and Colette Stager who planned this event all year and to Patty Orłowski who kept us all together to get the work done. The proceeds for this event provide funds for scholarships and other work that we do.

What needs improvement? Hopefully, we can continue to increase participation. We could use more "hands on deck" for volunteer opportunities at Bound Together, Moonbeams for Sweet Dreams, Big Family of Michigan, Lighthouse, and others. We have great ideas and intentions, but we need support of our members to make it happen.

As our schools and communities return to a "new normal" existence, we hope to get back into offering support for STEM programs by offering time and resources to some of our neighboring school districts. Robotics Clubs are very popular in many districts, and they are looking for support.

When you see a request for your input, please respond. Great ideas will remain ideas unless we have your involvement.

Each month this year I have tried to acknowledge one or more of our members who have made a notable contribution. As I conclude this letter, I have learned that one of our members who has contributed her talents, wisdom and friendship for many years will be moving to Florida.

Coco Siewart is well known in the community and AAUW on many levels. We thank you Coco for your many years of service. You will be missed, Coco, but we fondly offer you our best wishes as you make this change. I hope you will come back to visit.

Have a great summer, everyone, and watch your email for important branch news throughout the next few months. See you in September!

Jean

STUDY GROUP CALENDER - JUNE 2023

AAUW & SOCIAL ISSUES

- Community Outreach** **No Program Planned**
- International Relations** **10:00 am Mon., June 5**
 Program: Planning for 2023-24
 Breakfast meeting at Townsend Hotel
 Contact: Cheryl Van Zetten, 248-332-7077
- Public Policy** **Noon, Thurs., June 8**
 Program: Planning for 2023-24
 Luncheon meeting at Rusty Bucket
 Woodward and Square Lake
 Contac: Carol Pyke, cpyke@comcast.net
- The Breakfast Bunch** **No Meeting Scheduled**
 Contact: Patty Orlowski, 248-641-3892
 Callie Schmidt, 248-877-7190

ARTS & HUMANITIES

- Artistic Endeavors** **No Program Planned**
- Modern Art** **12:30 pm, Thurs., June 8**
 Program: Planning Meeting for 2023-24
 Bloomfield Township Senior Center
 Contact: Kathy Norton, kathleennorton45@yahoo.com
- Modern Art** **12:30 pm, Thurs., June 22**
 Program: Tour of Habitat Gallery, 4400 Fernlee Ave
 Royal Oak, followed by lunch at Three Cats
 (Leon and Lulu) or Mojave Cantina, Clawson
 Contact: Kathy Norton, kathleennorton45@yahoo.com

BOOK CLUBS

- Belles Lettres** **1:00 pm, Tues., June 20**
 Topic: *The Iron Lady: Margaret Thatcher, from Grocer's Daughter to Prime Minister*, John Campbell
 Contact: Lara Alami, laraalami79@gmail.com
- Beyond Adelante** **1:00 pm, Tues., June 6**
 Topic: Planning meeting
 Hostess: Christine Dagenais, 248-755-4372
- Contemporary Books** **No meeting scheduled**
- Morning After Readers** **No meeting scheduled**
- Mystery Book Club** **1:00 pm, Wed., June 24**
 Topic: *Beneath Devil's Bridge*, Loreth Anne White
 Contact: Joan Birnie, jb03bps@gmail.com
- Potpourri** **No meeting scheduled**
- Thurs. Morning Readers** **10:00 am, Thurs., June 15**
 Topic: Planning meeting
 Hostess: Louise Juntunen, louise5041260@yahoo.com

HOME & GARDEN

- Green Thumb** **12:30 pm, Tues., June 20**
 Topic: "Invasive Plants" presented by Laura Schartman
 Hostess: Katie Wiese 248-842-8684 Katic.wiese@att.net
- Let's Cook** **No Program Planned**
- Needleworks** **11:00 am, Wed., June 21**
 Contact: Kathy Stasys, kstasys@hotmail.com

ON THE TOWN

- Opera Divas** **Sat., June 3**
The Magic Flute
 Contact: Elizabeth Snyder, happystitcherliz@gmail.com
- Theater Goers** **2:00 pm, Sun., Jun 25**
 SINGIN' in the Rain, Stagecrafters, Royal Oak, \$38
 Contact: Sue Winowiecki 248-635-0462
Reservation Deadline: Saturday, June 10

- Two Thumbs Up Time** **TBD, Thurs., June 1**
 Hostess: Lana Klingensmith, lklingensmith248@gmail.com

JUST FOR FUN

- Canasta** **1:00 pm, each Monday**
 Contact: Sue Winowiecki, 248-635-0462
- Mah Jongg** **2:00 pm, Wed., June 7, 14, 21, 28**
 Meet at the Bloomfield Township Library.
 Beginners are always welcome.
 Contact: Py Wolfe, 248-824-0076

- Bridge:**
- 2nd Friday: **10:30 am, June 9, Village Club**
 Hostess: Marge Thomas,
 248-626-6098
- 4th Friday: **10:30 am, June 23, Village Club**
 Hostess: Carol Cummings,
 248-540-2178



Linda Kevorkian

CONTACT

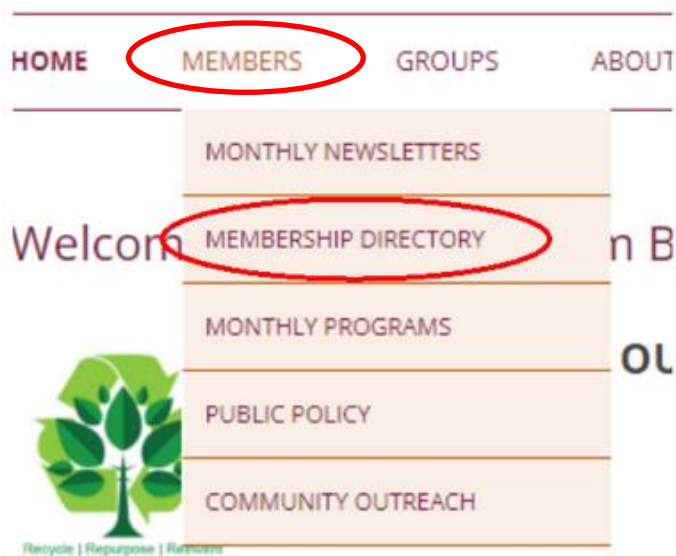
information due by the 17th . For
 calendar changes contact:
 Linda Kevorkian, 248.219.1915
 evorkianlk@gmail.com
 or Sharon McKenna, 313.570.2013
 sharonmck.aauw@gmail.com



Sharon McKenna

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL



The Membership Directory for the Birmingham Branch of AAUW is available in both printed form and on the website:
<https://birmingham-mi.aauw.net/>

To access the directory from the <https://birmingham-mi.aauw.net/> website:

- ◆ ***Click on Members at the top of the page***
- ◆ ***Click on Membership Directory***
- ◆ ***You will be prompted for a password***

To maintain your privacy, the password will be sent to you via email.

You have the option of downloading a pdf copy of the directory for printing, or accessing the alphabetical directory on-line.

AAUW National has made some significant changes to the way renewals are handled. You may have received an e-mail from them, reminding you to renew your membership. Most memberships expire at the end of June.

You now have two options for renewing your membership, paying on-line, or renewing your membership directly through our Branch.

If you prefer to renew your membership directly through Branch, complete the membership form in this bulletin and mail it to:

Sharon McKenna
P.O. Box #573
Farmington, MI 48332

Dues are \$101 payable to: AAUW-Birmingham Branch Questions? Contact Katie Wiese, Membership Vice-President katie.wiese@att.net or (248) 842-8684 (cell)



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

AAUW 2023-2024 DUES RENEWAL INFORMATION

(Or renew online at www.aauw.org)

FINAL DUE DATE FOR RENEWAL, JULY 1, 2023

Member, Birmingham Branch \$101

**Assoc. \$72; State \$12, plus Branch \$17

**\$69 of the Assoc. 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 membership roster and indicate any changes including phone number or email address.

AAUW 2023-24 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 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER**

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone(s) Home _____ Cell _____

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

**Sharon McKenna
23332 Farmington Road, #573
Farmington, MI, 48332**

MEET SOME NEW MEMBERS

Meet Newer Branch Members . . .

AAUW members are a busy group, and it is not always easy to catch up with them. **Cheryl Cross** was waiting to board a plane to Barcelona when we spoke. She had heard of AAUW and has several friends who are branch members. She is politically minded and likes being part of an organization that advocates for educational issues. Cheryl also enjoys the many subgroups, and is part of the Modern Art Group and Theater Goers.

Cheryl began her career as an English teacher, eventually transitioning to a position at Ford Motor in Human Resources and Training. Widowed in 2007, she has two daughters and a new partner. She earned an English degree from the University of Michigan and a master's degree from Wayne State University.

Reading is a passion for Cheryl, and she belongs to several book groups. She is active in Zonta, Franklin Community Church, and likes cooking and gardening. As you may have guessed, she is also an avid traveler. Eternally an English teacher, she is a fan of Jane Austen and Charlotte Bronte. She likes *Pride and Prejudice* and *Jane Eyre*. Cheryl finds it interesting that Bronte was able to create *Jane Eyre* while residing in a remote part of England. For Mother's Day, her daughters surprised her with special bound and engraved copies of these books.

Julia Knevels is a very busy interior designer. Her friend, Kathleen Norton, invited her to join AAUW and she likes the concept of AAUW and thinks it is a worthy cause. She jumped right in and is enjoying being a member of the Modern Art group. She hopes to join the Opera Divas in the fall.

Originally from the Hamburg, Germany area, Julia studied Art for Design in Amsterdam. After falling in love with an American, she moved to the United States in 1970. After raising her children, she began her own interior design company, Julia Knevels Interiors. She does a lot of residential work, and is happy to do whatever her customers need both inside and outside.

Julia says that her job is really her only hobby. Given her artistic background, she enjoys art. When she has time, she likes to travel and read. She has read so many books that it is difficult to pick a favorite. She just finished *Lucy by the Sea* by Elizabeth Strout, and really enjoyed it. Her next read is *Hang the Moon* by Jeanette Walls. She is interested in how Walls will portray the recent pandemic.

Linda Barclay is a recent transplant to the area. Previously residing in Northeast Ohio, after retirement she moved to Michigan to be closer to her sister. A friend, Beverly Fogelson invited her to Each One Bring One. She likes being in contact with women who are active and interested in many different pursuits. She is very concerned about book banning and has joined the Public Policy group, BEYOND ADELANTE! Book group and the Breakfast Group.

Linda has had a very interesting career. She earned a PHD in Humanities from Indiana University, but discovered that in 1978, there wasn't much demand in the job market for Humanities majors. Community Mental Health was just evolving, and she found a position in an agency specializing in it. She then earned a PHD from Union Institute in Ohio in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. After being in private practice for many years, she began teaching at a private University, becoming a department chair and then a dean.

Currently, Linda feels that moving is her only hobby, as she is moving for the second time in a year. When she isn't packing and unpacking boxes, she enjoys walking and music, especially Irish Music. Asked for favorite books, she liked the fiction novel *The Island of Missing Trees* by Elif Shafak. In the non-fiction category, she recommends *How the South Won the Civil War* by Heather Cox Richardson. Linda lived in the west as a youth, and has personally experienced much of what historian Richardson writes about. Cox is a civil war historian, and connects the dots to the mess the country is in currently.



Look for the September newsletter, where you will continue to meet our newer branch members.

Our Branch membership grows when you invite your friends to events.

Each One Bring One is scheduled for Wednesday,

September 13, make sure and bring a friend to EOBO.

LAVISH LUNCHEON REPORT

The final tally is in. This year's Lavish Luncheon was a tremendous success. Over \$10,000 was added to our local scholarship fund. I would like to thank the committee, Karen Boyk, Joanne Brown, Rita Dates, Sandy Dickerson, Cindi Hopkins, Jean Ivory, Nancy O'Connor, Kathy Rice, and Colette Stager.

These ladies worked tirelessly to make the luncheon enjoyable and successful. I would also like to thank the Sponsors donors, who contributed amazing raffle items, vendors and the members and guests who attended the event.

Patty Orlowski

THANK YOU TO OUR LAVISH LUNCHEON SPONSORS

PLATINUM

Carlene Van Voorhies
Michigan College of Beauty
Dean Sellers Ford of Troy

Liberty Center One Rex and Sue Smith
Lavish Luncheon Committee

GOLD

Jean Ivory & Carol Sheldon, Fredot Co.

Sally Doty

SILVER

Beyond Adelante! Book Group
Thursday Morning Readers Book Group
Jane Conway
Diane Schrift

Nichele Slazinski
Sue Longstreet
Susan Mundy
Rob Lawrence @properties Christies
International Real Estate

FRIEND

Beyond Adelante! Book Club
Needleworks Study and Interest Group
Artistic Endeavors - *Joanne Brown & Colette Stager*
Green Thumbs Study & Interest
Public Policy Study & Interest Group
Contemporary Book Club
Breakfast Bunch Study and Interest Group

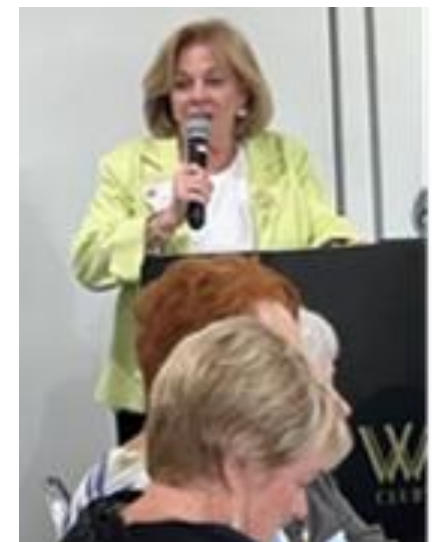
Joan Schneemann
Bridge Group
Mystery Book Club
Kimberly McBean
Irene Sharpe
Kathy Rice
MI NOW – Gerri Barclay

IN-KIND DONATIONS

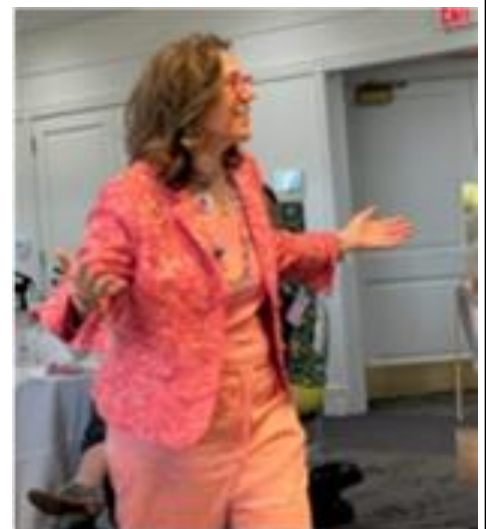
Jo Anne Brown
Maxine Mondshine
Kathy Stasys
Janna Synder – Hope Against Trafficking
Jean Ivory

Katie Wiese
Diane Bert
Carolyn Packard
Ceresnie & Offen Furs

Lavish Luncheon High-



Lavish Luncheon High-



Lavish Luncheon High-



Lavish Luncheon High-



BASKE RAFFLE WINNERS

WINE & CHEESE
PAT DEGRAZIO

CHEESE & WINE
LOU VICKERY

INTERNATIONAL FOODS
DIANE SMUCZYNSKI

GOURMET TOASTER
PAT OZYBKO

MARGARITAVILLE
MARJORIE DiLIDDO

BISCOTTI JAR
KATIE WIESE

WINE & MORE
CHRIS LEHMAN

BUTTERFLY
PAMELA KIESEL

COCKTAIL HOUR
JANET STENCEL

BEACH BAG
MIKAELA TREHARNE

FURS
NANCY MOSES

GARDEN GOODIES
CAROL SHELDON

HOPE BASKET
KAREN BOYK



CENTERPIECE WINNERS

NANCY MOSES

VIVIAN NORTON

CATHY HURLEY

KAREN MARSH

DAR LASKOWSKI

BARBARA MARTIN

JEAN IVORY

MARYANN RIDDLE

CAROL SCHAFER

SUZETTE SWARTZ

VIVIAN NORTON

DIANE SMUCZYNSKI

SANDY FRAZIER

HELEN POSCH

GLORIA FREELAND

MARTHA HALCH

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SUE LONGSTREET

CINDI HOPKINS

PATTY ORLOWSKI

JACKIE WERNER

