

AAUW

OCTOBER, 2023

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH BULLETIN

birmingham-mi.aauw.net

Vol. 52, Issue 2, October, 2023



Dates to Remember

Thurs. Oct 5 – Latina Equal Pay Day

Wed Oct. 11 – Branch Board meeting and Luncheon, Forest Lake Country Club

Thurs. Oct 19-21 – Central States Regional Conference, St. Louis, MO

Wed Nov 8 – Branch Board Meeting and Luncheon, Forest Lake Country Club

Thurs. Nov 30 – Native American Women's Equal Pay Day

Wed Dec 13 – Branch Board Meeting and Luncheon, Iroquois Club

Fri-Sat. May 10-11, 2024- AAUW MI Annual Meeting and Convention, Detroit Marriott, Livonia

Branch Board Meeting
Highlights
September 7, 2023

Congratulations to the Dearborn AAUW Branch on 90 years!

AAUW Central States Conference in St. Louis, MO October 19-21

Going to Kroger? Donate to AAUW through Kroger Rewards on your card.

Looking for a member with a pen who would like to be the Recording Secretary

October Luncheon

October 11, 2023

Forest Lake Country Club
1401 Club Drive
Bloomfield Township
Social Hour - 11:30 - 12 noon
Lunch at 12 Noon

Speaker: Tim Hudson, Chief Development Officer for **Forgotten Harvest**

Mr. Hudson will be speaking about hunger in the Tri-County Area, the severity of the problem and steps being taken to relieve hunger and prevent nutritious food waste.

Please send your check for \$30, by October 4, to:

Christine Dagenais
1668 Trading Post Lane
Bloomfield Township, MI 48302

THANK YOU

I want to thank the following people who stepped up and contributed to EACH ONE BRING ONE:

Christine Dagenais, Sue Winowiecki, Kathy Stasys, Patty Orłowski, Kathy Norton, Jean Ivory, Katie Wiese, and Linda Kevorkian.

A special thanks to Katie Wiese, Patty Orłowski and Maureen Jenkins for keeping the food supplied and helping in the kitchen.

Kathy Rice



Stagecrafters, Royal Oak
Sunday, November 12
2:00pm
Tickets \$38
Reservation Deadline:
October 30

There's a new tenant at Armadillo Acres – and she's wreaking havoc all over North Florida's most exclusive trailer park. When Pippi, a stripper on the run, comes between the Dr. Phil-loving agoraphobic Jeannie and her tollbooth collector husband, the cussing gets loud and storms begin to brew. Join us for this offbeat, fun-loving musical that the New York Times called "a heartfelt, humorous look at trailer park life," with music that "slips across the dial of American radio from country to blues to rock to disco to bump-and-grind and R&B." Rated M for strong language and adult situations.

Send checks, payable to Susan Winowiecki, to
2957 Courville Drive
Bloomfield Hills 48302

STUDY GROUP CALENDER - OCTOBER 2023

Community Outreach

No Program Planned

International Relations

10:00 am, Mon., Oct. 2

Topic: History of India

Hostess: Carol Pyke, cpyke@comcast.net

Public Policy

2:30 pm, Thurs., Oct. 12

Topic: Discussion of Ranked Voting presentation,
the School Board Watching Project,

Hostess: Carol Pyke, cpyke@comcast.net

The Breakfast Bunch

10:00 am, Mon., Oct. 23

Topic: Tour of "Refuge for Nations" followed by lunch.

RSVP by October 16 to Katie Wiese, katie.wiese@att.net

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Modern Art

11:00 am, Thurs., Oct. 26

Topic: FIA American Realism Exhibit, Flint Institute of Arts

Contact: Mary Anne Mehlhope, mmehlhope2@yahoo.com

BOOK CLUBS

Belles Lettres 1:00 pm, Tues., Oct. 17

Topic: A Woman of No Importance, Sonia Purnell

Contact: Bonnie Simms, simms-b@sbcglobal.net

Beyond Adelante

1:00 pm, Tues., Oct. 3

Topic: Lessons in Chemistry, Bonnie Garmus

Hostess: Susan McKinnon, msusan719@gmail.com

Contemporary Books

12:30 pm, Mon., Oct. 16

Topic: Horse, Geraldine Brooks

Hostess: Gennie Hunter, dalehunter@aol.com

Sharon Grisdale, shargrisd@gmail.com

Morning After Readers

10:00 am, Mon., Oct. 9

Topic: The Mountains Sing, Nguyen Phan Que Mai

Hostess: Cheryl Van Zetten, cvanzetten@comcast.net

Mystery Book Club

1:00 pm, Wed., Oct. 25

Topic: Exiles, Jane Harper

Contact: Joan Birnie, jb03bps@gmail.com

Potpourri

1:00 pm, Wed., Oct. 25

Topic: Lessons in Chemistry, Bonnie Garmus

Hostess: Jane Conway, jane52cway@gmail.com

Thurs. Morning Readers

10:00 am, Thurs., Oct. 19

Topic: All the Beauty in the World: The Metropolitan
Museum

of Art and Me, Patrick Bringley

Hostess: Louise Juntunen, louise5041260@yahoo.com

HOME & GARDEN

Green Thumb

12:30 pm, Tues., Oct. 17

Topic: Garden Catalogs

Hostess: Anita Goor, athenawisdom2@gmail.com

Let's Cook

12 noon, Tues., Oct. 24

Contact: Nancy Moses, nmoses1949@aol.com

Needleworks

11:00 am, Wed., Oct. 18

Contact: Kathy Stasys, kstasys@hotmail.com

ON THE TOWN

Opera Divas

12:55 pm, Sat., Oct. 31

Topic: Dead Man Walking, Jake Heggie and Terrence McNally
Brunch at the Gallery Restaurant at 10:30am before the opera.

Contact: Elizabeth Snyder, happystitcherliz@gmail.com

Theater Goers

2:00 pm, Sun., Nov. 12

Trailer Park, Stagecrafters, Royal Oak, \$38. (see page 1)

Reservation Deadline: Monday, October 30

Two Thumbs Up

Time TBD, Thurs., Oct. 5

Hostess: Judy Allie, jallie2@gmail.com

Modern Art Study Group.

10:00 am, Thurs. Oct. 26

Flint Institute Of Arts: American Realism Exhibit

Contact: Mary Anne Mehlhope, 248-646-8284

JUST FOR FUN

Canasta

1:00 pm, each Monday

Contact: Sue Winowiecki, suewinow@gmail.com

Mah Jongg

2:00 pm, Wed., Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25

Bloomfield Township Library. Beginners are always welcome.

Contact: Py Wolfe, jimppy@comcast.net

Bridge

2nd Friday:

10:30 am, Oct. 13, Village Club

Hostess: Marge Thomas, 248-626-6098

4th Friday:

10:30 am, Oct. 27, Village Club

Hostess: Carol Cummings, 248-540-2178

Happy Halloween





President’s Message – October 2023

October has arrived! A successful Each One Bring One brought new and returning members together. Thanks to all who participated: planners, attendees, Study & Interest Group leaders, and the staff of the Northbrook Presbyterian Church. The Reverend Ben Larson-Wolbrink, whose mother has been an AAUW member in Pennsylvania, addressed members.

We have had a great response to the call for board and committee positions. Welcome to:

Kathy Rice and Sharon McKenna	Menus & Venues
Lucy Benham	By-Laws and policies
Patty Orlowski and Kathy Stasys	Newsletter
??	Recording Secretary

We need a **Recording Secretary**, an important position. If you can take notes, please consider joining the Board.

How will you help further the mission of our branch this year? Great opportunities are available:

- Bound Together – Contact Michele Wogaman for tutoring, monthly STEM activity, meals
- Big Family of Michigan – Contact Cathy Hurley or Jean Ivory for pillowcase collection and gift wrapping
- STEMed – Contact Jean Ivory for volunteer opportunities in Birmingham and, hopefully, other schools.
- Spring Fundraiser – Contact Joan Hanpeter to be on the committee
- Local School Board meetings – Contact Carol Pyke

Public Policy sponsored a Zoom presentation by Ron Zimmerman on *Rank Choice Voting*. You can find a replay on the Michigan AAUW website (aauwmi.org).

Check out not only our website but the state and national websites. Sheila Blair, AAUW-MI president, has an interesting perspective on issues affecting all of us. Jan VanGasse (AAUW-MI) reminds us that informed voting is crucial on any level. Be prepared for the spring vote!

AAUW’s national, state, and local levels contributes to the quality of life for all women. We donate our time and finances. Activities bring our members together around special interests and needs which often require financial donations. Most of us participate. Raising money for scholarships is ongoing; seeking donations of gifts or money helps accomplish the goals of our organization. Your generosity makes an organization like ours create change. Thank you for everything you continue to do.

See you at the October luncheon!

Jean

AAUW FUNDS

Nancy Gross Roman, AAUW member and prominent scientist, knew that work must still be done to increase the opportunities for women and girls in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). AAUW has cutting-edge research on this issue. A report, "Why So Few", was paid for by AAUW funds and announced in 2010 press release. Unfortunately, the field has not improved enough to make a significant difference.

Girls and women are systematically tracked away from science and math throughout their education, limiting their access, preparation and opportunities to go into these fields as adults.

Today, women make up only 34% of the workforce in STEM fields. Men vastly outnumber women majoring in most STEM curriculums in college. The gender gaps are particularly high in some of the fastest growing and highest paid jobs of the future like science and engineering.

As we start thinking about our yearly donations, consider your RMD (Required Minimum Distribution). It is a way we can donate to causes we wish to support; at the same time, it reduces the tax liability on the total amount withdrawn. Personally, I give it a lot of thought and include AAUW Funds and local AAUW programs with my list of deserving programs and institutions. I encourage you to seriously consider this also.

To contribute, instruct your financial institution to send a check made out to AAUW Birmingham Branch Foundation.

For AAUW Funds for national programs, send to
Sally Doty, 17156 Wiltshire Blvd., Southfield, MI 48076

For local programs send to
Cindi Hopkins, 3190 Chestnut Run Drive, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

Memorial Donations

The AAUW Birmingham Branch has made donations to the Branch Foundation in memory of: Mildred Worthy, Miriam Mercer, Corrine Opiteck and Lana Klingensmith.



Thank you for your patience and understanding with our mailbox SNAFU.

Each One Bring One was a great success, and we have ten new members this year and we continue to grow. Please try to introduce yourself to the many new faces when you see them.

Currently, the Branch has 130 members in good standing. Thank you to those conscientious members who have renewed. As of October, unpaid members have become lapsed. To participate in AAUW activities, the expectation is that you are a member in good standing. If you receive an email asking you to renew your membership, then you are a lapsed member. Links to renew your membership are on the branch website: <https://birmingham-mi.aauw.net/>. You may bring your membership check to the October Luncheon, or send dues to 17156 Wiltshire Blvd, Southfield, MI 48076.





Birmingham (MI) Branch

Foundation

What is the AAUW Birmingham Branch Foundation?

The AAUW Birmingham Branch Foundation was created as a 501c3 to allow tax-exempt donations that support the programs of the AAUW Birmingham Branch. It functions via an eight-member board that reports monthly to the AAUW Birmingham Branch Board.

Throughout the year the foundation raises funds through annual fundraising events, eBay sales, partnerships with Kroger Reward and by accepting memorials and other donations.

The Foundation directly supports our mission through scholarships, leadership conferences sponsorship, and other opportunities for women and girls.

Wondering why there is no fall fundraiser this September? Watch for the yellow AAUW envelope (remember the school bus) with an explanation and important news for 2024.

Your support of the Foundation has had an impact on many women and girls in our local area!

Classy Sassy Stitchers

Barbara Ennis presented our pillowcase project to her sewing group, Classy Sassy Stitchers, who made more than eighty pillowcases.

Thank you!



Barbara Ennis
Pattie Huffer
Theresa Elson
Pat Grabowski
Jane Steinberg
Rita Jenkins
Colleen Monti
Carol Gillespie
Penny Paul and her nieces

This is truly becoming a community effort. There is still time to donate more pillowcases and sign up for gift wrapping for foster kids around the state.

Member Mingle

About twenty members met at the home of Katie Wiese for an afternoon of introductions, discussion and refreshments. Thanks, Katie, for hosting a lovely afternoon. Members shared how they were first introduced to AAUW and the stories were varied and enlightening. Barbara Gash brought another new member to the event which makes twenty-eight women in her nearly forty-eight years as a member.

Thanks, Barb, for your contributions and promoting the AAUW Birmingham Branch.



Congratulations to the winners of complimentary memberships!!
Patty Orlowski - Karen Linnell - Kim McBean



To Our Gentle Readers:

Please accept our humble apologies if our first edition of the monthly AAUW newsletter is flawed. We are techie bumblers learning the new format. In addition, we have chosen to tighten and lighten content and presentation. We are open to helpful suggestions accompanied by a glass of wine.

Patty and Kathy

**October Breakfast Group Meeting
Tour of Refuge for Nations
followed by Lunch
on MONDAY, October 23 at 10:00 am**

Cynthia Khan, the featured speaker at the May Lavish Luncheon and founder of Refuge for Nations will take us on a tour at the facility in Dearborn. Following the tour, we will enjoy an Arabic lunch at a local restaurant.

There is not a lot of walking, but there are a few stairs on our visit.

Refuge for Nations is a nonprofit social enterprise committed to empowering refugee women across Metro Detroit. They provide many services including ESL classes and job training.

Bring Diapers to donate or

(Katie Wiese will accept donations to purchase diapers for this group to give to the women in their program at the October Branch Meeting.)

**RSVP to Katie Wiese no later than October 16th
katie.wiese@att.net or text (248) 842-8684**

Carpool or meet us at Refuge for Nations

Refuge for Nations is not open on Tuesday, hence the Monday meeting.

Refuge for Nations is in Atonement Lutheran Church
at 6961 Mead in Dearborn