

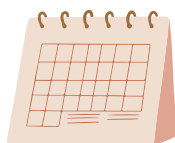


JANUARY 2024

Birmingham Branch Bulletin

Birmingham-mi.aauw.net

Vol 55 Issue 5 January 2024



Dates to Remember

Wed., Jan 10, 2024 –Branch Meeting via ZOOM

Fri., Jan 12, 2024 – Board Meeting at 29764 Woodward, RO, 10 am

Wed., Feb 14, 2024 – Monthly Board and Branch Meeting via ZOOM

March – Birmingham Branch Annual Fundraiser

March – Women’s National History Month

Sat., Apr 13, 2024 – Fashion Designer Showcase and Luncheon – 9:15 am - 1:00 pm, Schoolcraft College sponsored by Northville-Novi AAUW Branch

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

Happy New Year

January Branch Meeting via Zoom

January 10, 2024
12 p.m.

The link to the Zoom meeting will be sent by email a week prior to the presentation.

Program: Ms. Edee Franklin and Ms. Karen Moore from Sanctum House will speak about human trafficking in Metro Detroit.

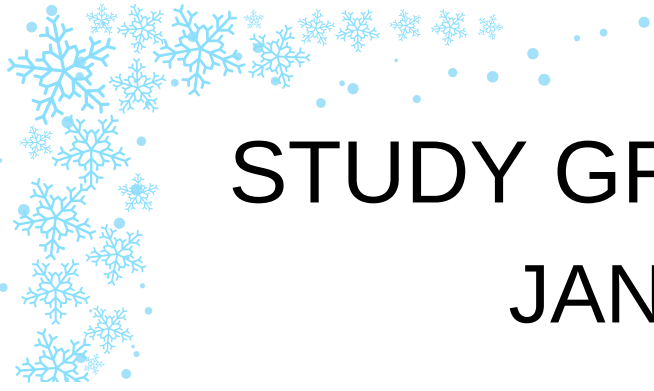


Village Players, Birmingham
Sunday, January 21, 2pm
Tickets: \$25

**Reservation Deadline:
Friday, January 5**

Welcome to Monkswell Manor! As news spreads of a murder in London, a group of seven strangers find themselves snowed in at a remote countryside guesthouse. When a police sergeant arrives, the guests discover – to their horror – that a killer is in their midst! One by one, the suspicious characters reveal their sordid pasts. Enjoy this classic Agatha Christie “Whodunit” which is filled with intrigue, sophisticated humor, and surprising twists.

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



STUDY GROUP CALENDAR

JANUARY 2024

Community Outreach. No Program Planned

International Relations No Program Planned

Public Policy 2:30 pm, Thurs., Jan. 11
 Topic: Discussion – School Board Project and other relevant topics
 Contact: Carol Pyke, cpyke@comcast.net

The Breakfast Bunch 10:00 am, Tues., Jan. 23
 Topic: Open Forum
 Little Daddy's, 39500 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills
 Contact: Patty Orlowski, porlow@sbcglobal.net

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Modern Art. 11:30 am, Thurs., Jan. 25
 Topic: Center for Creative Studies Artist Presentation
 Contact: Cassandra Rodger, czr11141@gmail.com

BOOK CLUBS

Belles Lettres. 1:00 pm, Tues., Jan. 16
 Topic: *Lessons in Chemistry*, Bonnie Garmus
 Hostess: Diane Bert, dkbert@umich.edu

Beyond Adelante 1:00 pm, Tues., Jan. 2
 Topic: *Remember: The Science of Memory and the Art of Forgetting*, Lisa Genova
 Hostess: Cindy Clement, lwclem18@gmail.com

Contemporary Books 12:30 pm, Mon., Jan. 15
 Topic: *Demon Copperhead*, Barbara Kingsolver
 Hostess: Bev Pintar, bpintar@comcast.net

Morning After Readers 10:00 am, Mon., Jan. 8
 Topic: *A Prayer for the Dying*, Stewart O'Nan
 Hostess: Linda Schnorbus, lfsrhs76@comcast.net

Mystery Book Club 1:00 pm, Wed., Jan. 24
 Topic: *A World of Curiosities*, Louise Penny
 Contact: Joan Birnie, jb03bps@gmail.com

Potpourri via Zoom 1:00 pm, Wed., Jan. 24
 Topic: *Poverty, by America*, Matthew Desmond
 Hostess: Kitty Stephenson, misskitty36@att.net

Thurs. Morning Readers 10:00 am, Thurs., Jan. 18
 Topic: *The One-in-a-Million Boy*, Monica Wo
 Hostess: Louise Juntunen, louise5041260@yahoo.com

HOME & GARDEN

Green Thumb. No Program Planned

Let's Cook. 12 noon, Tues., Jan. 23
 Contact: Nancy Moses, nmoses1949@aol.com

Needleworks. 11:00 am, Wed., Jan. 17
 Contact: Kathy Stasys, kstasys@hotmail.com

ON THE TOWN

Opera Divas. 12:55pm, Sat., Jan. 27
Carmen, Georges Bizet
 Brunch before the opera at 10:45 at the Gallery Restaurant.
 Contact: Elizabeth Snyder, happystitcherliz@gmail.com

Theater Goers 2:00 pm, Sun., Jan. 21
The Mousetrap, Village Players, Birmingham, Tickets \$25
 Contact: Sue Winowiecki, suewinow@gmail.com
Reservation Deadline: Friday, January 5

Two Thumbs Up Time TBD, Thurs., Jan. 4
 Hostess: Sue Winowiecki, suewinow@gmail.com

JUST FOR FUN

Canasta 1:00 pm, each Monday
 Contact: Sue Winowiecki, suewinow@gmail.com

Mah Jongg 2:00 pm, Wed., Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
 Bloomfield Township Library. Beginners are welcome.
 Contact: Janet Brown, janet.brown@wayne.edu

Bridge
 2nd Friday: 10:30 am, Jan. 12, The Heathers
 Hostess: Marge Thomas, 248-626-6098
 4th Friday: 10:30 am, Jan. 26, The Heathers
 Hostess: Carol Cummings, 248-540-2178



For calendar changes contact:
 Sharon McKenna 313.570.2013
sharonmckenna@gmail.com
 Linda Kevorkian 248.219.1915
evorkiatnlk@gmail.com
 Information is due by the 17th of the month.





President's Message – January 2024

Happy New Year! 2024 is no different than last year but I still pause to reflect on what I did in the previous year and how the new year can be improved. Some people make New Year's resolutions and others do not. Last week I spoke with the director of the care facility where my mother lives. Rather than making resolutions, he started focusing on one word that applies to everything he wants to accomplish in the month. For example, using the word "energy", he might ask himself how much energy it will take to motivate people to continue the work needed for their job. Does it take more energy to get to work on cold snowy mornings? Will it take more energy to get the job done when the demands of the job are increased due to increased numbers or individual resident needs?

I am choosing to use the word PARTICIPATION for the next few months. What will make it more difficult for you to participate in our branch activities? Certainly, it will be more difficult for some to volunteer their time due to the weather. Perhaps some will need a ride. Someone else might be ill, or someone might be providing homecare for a loved one. If you need a ride because you prefer not to drive on winter roads, check the directory for someone who might live near you or call someone to help you find a ride. There might be something you can do from home. Our branch meetings will be held on ZOOM for January and February. If you need help with that, we might be able to find someone to watch it with you so you can learn. That would benefit the person who can't get out and someone who wants to volunteer but doesn't know how to give their time. Just ask someone on the board or someone active with the branch.

In the next few months, the AAUW Foundation board and other members will be organizing efforts for the annual fundraising event. It will be held in March (National Women's History month). We will need people to stuff, address and stamp envelopes. Another opportunity to PARTICIPATE is Funday Monday at Bound together. Some of our branch members will be helping with the STEM Monday (2nd Monday of the month). Watch for the emails to remind you to sign up.

We look forward to having you PARTICIPATE in the ZOOM branch meeting on January 10, 2024, at 12:00 noon. Representatives from the Sanctum House will speak about Human Trafficking in the Metropolitan Detroit area. Make lunch for yourself and be ready to ZOOM!

Jean

AAUW Volunteers

On November 30th, AAUW members volunteered at Big Families of Michigan choosing and wrapping gifts for foster children.



Kathy Stasys



Rose Zawislak



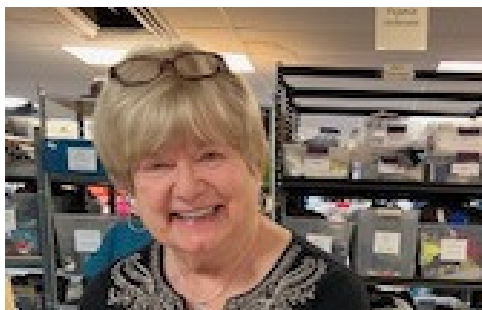
Linda Kevorkian



Karen Boyk



Jean Ivory



Cheryl Cross



Jane DuBay

Not pictured:
Gail Abraham and Mary Samulski

*in
loving
memory*

A Memorial Donation has be made by:

Judith Webster in memory of her husband, Jim Nantais.

Branch Board Meeting Minutes Summary

For December 13, 2023

Lucy Benham is working on a second revision of the by-laws.

Sally Doty discussed AAUW Funds and the end of year deadline for branch contributions.

Joan Hanpeter resigned, leaving a vacancy on the Foundation Board*. Thank you, Joan, all for your work and dedication.

Sharon McKenna agreed to serve as Nominating Committee Chair in 2024.

Jean Ivory reiterated the importance of monitoring the membership status of study / interest group participants. *

Jean Ivory emphasized the need for Branch members to get involved like the successful first meeting of the Bound Together (STEM) program.

Michelle Wogaman reported the 4-H would like to do training for volunteers the first week of January. *

Linda Barclay reported that Public Policy members have begun observing school board meetings, easy to do online. * AAUW Public Policy is working to coordinate with LWVOA Observer Corps volunteers on this project. *

*See the “Somebody else” article on the following page.



Donations were made by:

Vivian Norton to honor Kay Norton

Jody Kuhn to honor Sally Doty

and

Ray and Cathy Twesten as a Christmas gift to their mother, Sally Doty

Let Someone Else do It

Do you return your grocery cart in the supermarket parking lot...or let someone else do it?

Do you chip in for a group meal...or let someone else do it?

Do you recycle ...or let someone else do it?

Do you help clean up after holiday meals...or let someone else do it?

Do you vote for the best candidate ... or let someone else do it?

Did you help with the annual book sale or let someone else do it?

Now is YOUR chance to do it!

Our Birmingham Branch of the AAUW has so many great volunteer opportunities available. Your participation is guaranteed to be fun ... and helpful to someone else.

Consider helping kids through the Bound Together or an after-school STEM program.

Pitch in at Forgotten Harvest or Big Family.

Monitor a local school board meeting.

Sew some pillowcases.

And easiest of all, become a Two Minute Activist. The information to join the Two Minute Activist is at the website aauwmi.net. Look for Public Policy.

Women First International

Women First International has a great effect on the lives of individual women. WFI hosted a convention in Kenya, bringing together long-term grantee partners. They collaborated on strategies for building resilient grassroots organizations that have the resources, narrative power and social capital to create a gender equal world.

Alamelu, an attendee from Tamill Nadu, India, is leading Rural Women's Development Trust's fight against bonded labor and caste-based oppression. She said her attendance was much more than an opportunity to learn new skills. "No woman from my community is ever allowed to go anywhere. So many people outside India still don't know or understand the caste system. They don't understand the struggles of the women in my community. Today, I have feminist friends, activist friends, in Kenya. This gives me so much hope to know that my friends there know about the caste system, and are eager to stand with me in raising awareness about bounded labor and its unjust impact on women from oppressed caste communities in India."

Linda Schnorbus