

Update

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April 2022

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES:

AAUW Michigan
<https://www.aauwmi.org>

AAUW National
<https://www.aauw.org>
connect@aauw.org

AAUW Northville–Novi
<https://aauwnn.org/>
info@aauwnn.org

AAUW–NN
P.O. Box 511
Northville, MI 48167

AAUWNN Meeting Tuesday, April 12, 2022 In-Person Meeting at 6:45 P.M.

VP Programs

Patty Domin

pdomin@hotmail.com



Women in History Trivia Night!

Novi Police Station Training Room - 45125 W. 10 Mile Rd.

Join us for a fun night of team trivia, snacks and prizes! We will be celebrating great women in history all while having an exciting evening of team play. AAUWNN members Val Gagnon, Susan Schanne and Rhonda York have been working throughout the year collecting all sorts of interesting facts and information on many of the most influential women in history! They have planned an extraordinary night of fun and friendship to bring us together for the first time since December. Please join us and share in this celebration of women!

There will be a refreshment bar of Iced Cold Brew Espresso drinks, decaf of course, and fresh cookies to help you play up to your best!

Additionally, April 12th is Equal Pay Day!!

After our Trivia Night, the Public Policy Committee will be presenting the latest facts and statistics on the pay inequities and gender biases that continue to effect women today.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Patty Domin AAUWNN, VP Programs



NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI)

<https://aauwnn.org/>

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AAUW Mission

The AAUW MISSION is to advance gender equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

AAUW Diversity Statement

AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership teams and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic basis.

Update is published monthly, August through May, for the members and friends of the American Association of University Women Northville-Novl (MI)

President's Message

Jane Hecker

jhecker101@gmail.com



**WHAT'S TO KNOW ABOUT OUR AAUWNN
BOARD of DIRECTORS?**

I can only imagine the questions this title raises! Really, it's not that ominous! I've just been thinking about it as we finalize the nominations for this year's open leadership positions. The elected two-year positions for this year of President and Vice Present – Membership/Diversity are voting members of the Board. The elected position as a member of the Nominating Committee, joins the other two existing members for a three year term. It's somewhat frustrating, but all in all we're moving forward as usual. This is the month when candidate bios must be presented to the membership, so any additional nominees that will occur will be from the floor at our Annual Meeting this year on April 12, 2022.

So, here are some of my thoughts:

- I'm asked from time to time "what's happening with AAUWNN? I'm not on the Board, so I don't know what's happening." Believe me, YOU DO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING!" Especially if you read our excellent newsletter, attend branch meetings, and if not, follow the branch minutes. Branch minutes are kept in our Archives as the official record of our activities and decisions along with each month's Treasurer's report. Minutes from each branch meeting and monthly treasury reports are posted on our website.
- Our Board meets typically on the 4th Tuesday of each month. The agenda resembles the agenda for branch meetings with our elected leaders and standing committee chairs reporting. From time to time we discuss some topics in greater length and make decisions to present to the membership. These are open meetings and anyone can attend. Since some are ZOOM scheduled, we need to know in advance.
- Minutes from our Board meetings are recorded by the same Secretary as our branch meetings and kept from year to year. They are not required to be published as on our website.

So, now that you know a little more, I hope you can be confident about what you know is happening! We hope you will lend your voice and be involved for you and for us as we do all we can to promote and provide opportunities for women and girls in our communities.

At this time the position for Secretary is still open. Maybe one of you is interested? It's not too late!!

**The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce
the Nominees for the 2022-2024 term**

President: Jane Hecker

VP Membership: Karen Zyczynski

Both have graciously agreed to serve for another term

Nomination Committee: Deena Alam-Parks

The Secretary position remains unfilled. We will continue our search.

If you would be interested in the Secretary position and would like more information, please contact Patty Domin, Karen Zyczynski or Pat Noworyta

Thank you for your continued support.

2021-2022 Nominating Committee

Biographies of Nominees are Below and on the Next Page

JANE HECKER – President (2 year term)

I have been a member of AAUW Northville-Novu since 2010. I had married my husband, Mike in 2009, and we had just moved to Northville. I am a retired K-5 Principal from Plymouth-Canton. I quickly embraced the AAUW mission. I was still an adjunct professor for MSU, but quickly got involved with the Home Tour as Head Hostess Co-Chair (and then Chair) and later as Home Tour Chair for five years. Most of you know me as Initiatives Chair, a Chair position I held for 5-6 years - the "gal with the clipboards always looking for volunteers." At this time it remains open, but as COVID restrictions end, we will need a Chair.

I'm also a mother of two, stepmother of one, grandmother of five, and friend of many. My undergraduate degree is vocal music education and I have been a soloist and performed with choral groups all my life - most recently the UMS Choral Union in Ann Arbor and the Beckridge Cherry Hill Singers presently. It is hard to capture your life in one paragraph, but I hope you have a small picture of my background, and me as a person.

As I said two years ago and will say again, "as a leader, I like partnering, working together, nurturing and supporting others so we can TOGETHER make some great things happen with opportunities for women and girls. Thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve as your President and I will continue to promote "This is Us - Making a Difference".

Karen Zyczynski - VP Membership (2 year term)

In 1964 I began my teaching career as an early childhood educator and went on to work thirty-five years for Livonia Public Schools, taking off a few years in the 1970s to have my children. In addition, I spent five years in the 1970s working part time at Schoolcraft College.

Growing up in a union family, I became interested in becoming more involved in union activities in my school district and at the State and National level. I became a member of the bargaining team, attended NEA Conferences all over the country and in 1996 became president of my local union, the Livonia Education Association. I served in that position for eight years and retired in 2004. Today I serve as President of Wayne County MEA-Retired, my commitment to public education continues.

As I was trying to figure out what I wanted to do for the rest of my life, I ran into Harriet Sawyer as she was working a booth for AAUWNN, trying to sign on new members. I became one of her recruits in 2004 and haven't stopped since.

Over the years I worked with Remember the Ladies, Chaired Financial Development for several years, Chaired the Home Tour and the Michigan Designers Showcase Luncheon and for the last five years Chaired Public Policy while continuing to serve on Financial Development. About a year ago I was appointed Public Policy Director for AAUW Michigan.

The best part of belonging to AAUWNN has been the opportunity to meet and get to know so many energetic, dedicated and committed women who work to promote education opportunities and equity for all women. I would be happy to continue working for AAUWNN as Membership Chair. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Deena Alam-Parks - Nomination Committee (3 year term)

Deena Alam-Parks has over 30 years of experience teaching math and science in Michigan Public Schools. She retired from full-time teaching in 2020. She currently works as a substitute teacher and tutor and is employed by Michigan Virtual.

She is the daughter of long-time AAUW member Jeri Alam. She has been married for 31 years to her partner Brad who continues to work for Ford Motor Company from his basement office. Deena has a daughter finishing her engineering degree at WSU and a son who is a senior in high school.

She loves traveling, reading, doing puzzles, DIY home projects, and collecting fossils on the beach. Mrs. Parks is also "mom" to 2 dogs and 3 cats.

NAMED HONOREE NOMINATION REMINDER

Each year we accept nominations for this award from branch members, which are then presented to the Executive Board for their decision. The honoree is announced at our Annual meeting in May and presented a small gift of appreciation for their work and dedication to our branch. Our donation to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund in honor of this member was sent in last Fall.

This year the nominations deadline is Monday, April 18, 2022. There is no form, just a simple essay outlining the candidate's efforts and accomplishments in support of our mission.

Nominations in writing should be sent to Jane Hecker at jhecker101@gmail.com or 18293 Blue Heron Pointe Drive, Northville, MI 48168. Thank you!

FROM THE AAUWNN BOARD – Jane Hecker, President

At our March 22, 2022 meeting the Board of Directors acted on a recommendation from the Budget Committee led by Treasurer, Joyce Murdock. Each year the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan, who holds our Endowment Fund, notifies us of their announced partial distribution from the fund. We must respond with our wishes. Based on the recommendation above, the Board voted unanimously to take the partial distribution this year. (Partial, meaning not the entire fund). Therefore, I'm happy to announce we will receive \$5442; \$2771 in June and \$2771 in December. Thank you again to all who have and continue to donate as it grows!

MAH JONGG SPRING TOURNAMENT

Time to announce our Spring Tournament scheduled for Friday, May 13, 2022 at Fins Kitchen and Bar located in the Detroit Marriott at Laurel Park Place from Noon – 5pm. We begin with lunch followed by play. Mark your calendars!! Registration form can be found on page 11.

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

A reminder that our annual branch meeting and elections is May 10, 5:45-8:15 pm
Location - BRAVO! Italian Kitchen, Northville

Jane Hecker, Rhonda York and Patty Domin, organizers
Val Gagnon and Deena Alam-Parks, decorations

Details in an email blast will be forthcoming

Bylaws, Policies and Procedures
Jan Wilhelm
janwilhelm@501@gmail.com



AAUW NATIONAL BYLAW AMENDMENTS PROPOSED IN 2022

At the webinar Member Gathering with AAUW CEO and Board Leaders on January 12, 2022, Melissa Gaul, Governance Chair, announced that the Governance Committee would be presenting two amendments to the membership for a vote in 2022.

The amendments address nominations for the board and timing for those eligible to vote in AAUW elections. The exact language for the proposed amendments is available on the AAUW election website by clicking the link below, scrolling to the bottom and clicking on Comment for each proposed amendment. Comment can be submitted until February 2, 2022 at 5:00 pm ET.

On-line voting will be available April 6, 2022–May 6, 2022.

[Click here for online voting - after April 6, 2022](#)

Paper ballots will also be available by request.

The take-away headline is that Membership Eligibility will not be voted on this year. The Governance Committee decided that the membership had voted in 2021 on the issue and that it would not be appropriate to have another vote in 2022.

GREAT DECISIONS

This is an attempt to introduce you to what we feel is a very unique interest group. Our meetings usually last from two to two and a half hours and are devoted to discussing subjects dealing with current foreign policy topics. After selecting one of the topics in the Great Decisions briefing book, we read the information provided on that subject by the Foreign Policy Association which sponsors the nationwide Great Decisions groups. It is this information which provides the basis of our monthly discussions (one topic per month). After reading the information dealing with the monthly topic, we then use the Internet to find additional and often more current information than what appears in the booklet.



This can be a somewhat time consuming process and we are afraid that perhaps we have lost members because of the amount of work involved. We would like to emphasize that we want you to feel free to spend as much or as little time as you wish on any given topic. If you just wish to listen to the discussion, that's fine. If you have information on the selected subject that you wish to share, no problem. If you wish to acquire a Great Decisions briefing book, read the assigned topic and select an additional question or subtopic provided by the discussion leader, great.

We currently have eight or nine active members and plan to continue our meetings over Zoom. We encourage you to attend one of these meetings (always the third Tuesday of the month at 1:30 pm). For a Zoom invite contact Jean Hansen at jhansen_48167@yahoo.com

Public Policy
Mary Jane Kearns
mjkeams1@outlook.com



PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS - Petition Drives in Michigan

There is a plethora of Petition Drives circulating right now in Michigan and I would like to pass on to you the stand that AAUW Michigan takes on each of them. It was great to see so many of our members attend Mary Pollock's Zoom presentation on this topic. Hosted by the Birmingham Branch, this was a well-attended, interesting, and informative meeting.

AAUWMI Supports:

- **Michigan Minimum Wage Increase to \$15** – Would raise the minimum wage to \$15/hour by 2027, including tipped workers.
- **Promote the Vote 2022** – Would insert language in the State Constitution that would create a right to vote without intimidation or harassment; allow absentee ballots from military and overseas voters to be counted six days after election if they are postmarked by Election Day; require proof of identity to vote, but a signature would be sufficient for absentee voters.
- **Reproductive Freedom for All** – Would create a right protecting all aspects of reproduction including abortion but allow the state to regulate, including banning abortion after fetal viability except if necessary to protect the life or health of the pregnant woman, the Roe v. Wade standard.

AAUWMI Opposes:

- **Unlock Michigan 2** – This is a voters-initiated statute to amend the Public Health Code to reduce the authority of the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and local health officers to control an infectious disease by issuing emergency orders. The measure limits emergency orders to 28 days unless the State Legislature or a local governing body extends it.
- **Secure MI Vote** – In 2018 Michigan voters voted to make it easier to vote absentee. This makes it harder. The proposal prohibits absentee ballot application mailings to registered voters by the Secretary of State or local election officials unless requested by the voter, and prohibits having a link on a website to download the absentee ballot application.
- **Audit Michigan** – The proposal 'Audit MI' would create a partisan Forensic Audit Board that would be responsible for auditing election results, including 2020, using private contractors and funded by private, undisclosed funds.
- **Let MI Kids Learn** – A back door initiative to a school voucher plan. Public school advocates view Let MI Kids Learn's proposals as a backdoor attempt at legalizing school vouchers, which were banned by a 1970 State constitutional amendment, with a similar effort rejected by statewide voters two decades ago with 69 percent voting no.

Check the AAUWMI.org website for more details.

**MICHIGAN FASHION DESIGNER
SHOWCASE LUNCHEON 2022**
'Peek At the Unique'



Our "Peek at the Unique" held on April 2, 2022 was very successful. Half of our branch members attended. Among our guests were many members from the area branches.

Photos of the fashion designs, accessory designs, Mistress of Ceremonies and the crowd will be posted on our AAUWNN website when they are available from the photographers.

Thank you to all that helped and those that attended.

Be sure to support our sponsors. Their logos are on page 14 in this newsletter and can be found on our website.

\$\$\$ PASSIVE FUNDRAISING \$\$\$

Shopping, it's what we all do well, several times a week. We visit Kroger for food and gasoline, browse the treasures of Amazon in our pajamas, and purchase AAUWNN spirit clothing from Big Frog. You can EASILY add to the coffers of AAUWNN by signing up with these three companies. A portion of your purchase will go directly into our account. You do not have to do a thing but shop! You know how to do that, don't you??? Sign up now!

KROGER



Sign up for the Kroger Community Rewards Program to help AAUWNN achieve its financial goals! Go online to <https://www.kroger.com/o/store-services/community-rewards>. Sign in using your email address and designate American Association of University Women Northville/Novi as the recipient of your rewards. If you do not already have a Kroger Plus Card, you will be issued one.

AMAZON



Sign up to help AAUWNN in this silent fundraiser. Attach AAUWNN to your Amazon purchases by following the link on our website. You must search for our name exactly as shown below:

American Assoc of University Women Northville Novi Branch Inc

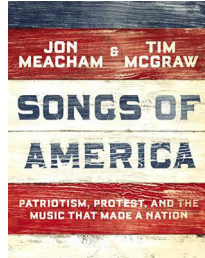
BIG FROG

Sign up from the homepage of our website: <https://aauwnn.org>. Scroll down to Spirit Wear and click to be linked to Big Frog, Novi.

Northville-Novl (MI) update

Daytime Book Group
Marian Brockie, Contact

Our April 22, 2022 book discussion will take place at the Carlo Room in the Northville Library at 10:00 A.M.



The book discussion is "Songs of America: Patriotism, Protest, and the Music That Made a Nation" by Jon Meacham & Tim McGraw. Lead by Pat. For more information on joining this group please contact Marian Brockie at mbrockie@umich.edu.

Bridge Group
Marian Brockie, Contact

The Bridge Group currently is meeting at Laurel Park Food Court area every Wednesday at 1:00 P.M.



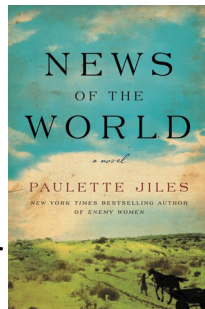
For more information on joining contact Marian Brockie at mbrockie@umich.edu.

Restaurant Rovers
Joyce Murdock, Contact

No information provided. Please contact Joyce Murdock at jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com

Evening Book Group
Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

On Monday, April 28th @ 7:00 pm we will be discussing "News of the World" by Paulette Jiles. Discussion leader will be Rhonda.



I am pleased to say that we are planning to meet in a home this month! Thanks, Karen, for hosting us. Please send your suggestions for next year and RSVP to Mary Jane at mjkearns1@outlook.com. New members are always welcome.

Movie Goers
Rhonda York, Contact

Movie Goers are not meeting at this time.

For information contact Rhonda York at rlYork03@gmail.com.



Great Decisions
Jean Hansen, Contact

Our April meeting will be held on April 19 at 1:30 pm. Once again, it will be a Zoom meeting.



Mah Jongg
Jane Hecker, Contact

The group meets every Friday 1:00–4:00 P.M. in a player's home.

To join the group please contact Jane Hecker at jhecker101@gmail.com



The topic for discussion is The Renewed Climate Change Agenda from the Great Decisions briefing book. Diana Chirillo is our discussion leader.

We continue to encourage guests as well as new members. For more information or a Zoom invite contact Jean Hansen at jhansen_48167@yahoo.com.

American Association of University Women Northville – Novi – a 501 (c) (3)

An Affiliate of national AAUW, one of many local groups across the nation.

We are an association of dynamic local women committed to our Community with Action.

AAUW-NN works to break education and economic barriers so that women and girls have fair and equal opportunity, while taking time to network and enjoy personal enrichment.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2022-23



PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/zip _____

Phone (c) _____ (h) _____ Email _____

Provide graduate associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degree from a qualified educational institution:

College/University/Equivalent _____ State _____ Highest Degree _____

College/University/Equivalent _____ State _____ Highest Degree _____

Grad Year/s _____ Major/s _____

Date of Birth (optional) _____

Ethnicity (optional): Hispanic (Y or N) _ White _ American Indian/Alaska Native _ Black/African American _ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander _ Asian _ Other

ELIGIBILITY

I am a graduate holding an associate or equivalent (RN), baccalaureate or higher degree from a qualified educational institution (). I am an undergraduate student ()

Signature _____ Date _____

MEMBER RECRUITER if applicable Name _____

Regular Annual Membership

AAUW National membership fee \$67.

\$59 is tax deductible

\$3 supports AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps

State of Michigan fee (not tax deductible) \$12.

AAUWNN fee (tax deductible) \$10.

TOTAL \$89

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO AAUWNN – mail to AAUW Membership, PO Box 511, Northville, MI 48167.

AAUW affiliate fiscal membership year extends from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

APRIL 2022

“Lunch and Mah Jongg” (American)



What: AAUW-NN Fundraiser

When: Friday, May 13, 2022 Noon-5pm

Where: Fins Kitchen and Bar; Detroit Marriott Livonia
17100 Laurel Park North, Livonia, MI 48152

(East of I-275 off Six Mile Rd; Parking in front of hotel at Lobby Entrance)

A great lunch! Play Mah Jongg!

Door Prizes for getting Mah Jongg on certain hands! Special treats!

Support scholarships and local programs for women and girls

12 - 12:15pm Check-in, table assignment, etc.

12:15 - 1pm Lunch - Tomato Bisque Cup, Salad Bar, Rolls, Beverages

1-4:30pm Three 65 minute rounds; two 10 minute breaks

4:30-5pm Prizes awarded; Wrap-up

** We will use the same modified scoring and we will use the 2022 card!

**We will not be arranging any tables of 3! Prizes awarded for top 3 scores.

How: \$35 (\$20 is tax deductible) Register below:



Deadline to register is Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

**Return form with your check payable to AAUW-NN:

AAUW-NN c/o Jane Hecker

P.O. Box 511, Northville, MI 48167 (or in person!)

For more information contact: jhecker101@gmail.com 734-276-6160

Sponsored by American Association of University Women Northville-Novu Branch

www.aauwnn.org Look under Branch Programs or Community Events

Hope to see you May 13, 2022!!



American Association of University Women Northville–Novi

AAUW Northville Novi

Shoe Drive Fundraiser

Help Us Meet Our Goal of 2500 pairs of shoes

We still need you! Please bring your shoes to Rhonda's at 24423 North LeBost, Novi 48375-2837. She says you can just leave them on her porch. If you have already cleaned out your closets, please talk to your friends, neighbors, and families.

We are now at 1525 pairs which we are excited about, but we need at least another 1000 pairs, AND we earn even more money if we go over that number.

We have now been told that we can collect 'anything that you walk in,' so that now includes boots and slippers.

Please don't put this off any longer.

Our deadline for this drive is set at May 1.



American Association of University Women Northville-Novl

AAUW Northville Novl

Shoe Drive Fundraiser

Help Us Meet Our Goal of 2500 pairs of shoes

URGENT

Collect new or gently worn shoes of any type (men, women, and children)
from your closets, and those of friends, neighbors, and family

Ask everyone you can think of – we need a LOT of shoes!!

Collect and tie together

Drop shoes off on the porch at (fill in your address, and then take the shoes
to Rhonda's)

Shoes will be cleaned, refurbished, and distributed to micro-entrepreneurs
in developing countries

IN – your closet gets cleared of unwanted and cluttering shoes

WIN – Shoes are recycled and not put into the garbage

Win – Assist small entrepreneurs, often women, in developing countries

Thank you for your support of this fundraiser which supports our local
scholarship program

(If you need an editable copy please email info@aauwnn.org.)

**MICHIGAN FASHION DESIGNER SHOWCASE LUNCHEON 2022 SPONSORS
PLEASE FREQUENT THEIR BUSINESSES**





Articles for the May 2022 issue due

April 20, 2022 to:

Mary Ann MacLaren

info@aauwnn.org

AAUW Northville–Novi (MI) Calendar of Events
visit the website for more information at

<https://aauwnn.org/>

Board MeetingFourth Tuesday, 6:45 P.M.
Bridge Group.....Wednesdays, 1:00 P.M.
Mah Jong.....Fridays, 1:00 P.M.
Restaurant Rovers.....Third Wednesday, 6:00 P.M.
Day Book Group.....Second Friday, 10:00 A.M.
Evening Book Group..... Fourth Monday, 7:00 P.M.
Great DecisionsThird Tuesday, 1:30 P.M.