

Update

Volume 47 No. 9
May 2023

In This Issue

President’s Message.....	2
Scholarship Winners.....	3
College Relations Update.....	4
Membership Matters.....	5
Nominations.....	6 & 7
Board Briefs.....	7
Public Policy.....	8
Financial Development.....	9
Dues Renewal.....	9
Interest Groups.....	10



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 ANNUAL MEETING Tuesday, May 9, 5:30 PM Rocky’s of Northville, 41122 W. Seven Mile Road

ANNUAL MEETING

Election of officers, honoring our high school scholarship awardees for college, and announcement of our Named Honoree will be part of our annual meeting.



Positions along with bios from our nomination committee can be found on pages 6 & 7. Additional nominations can be taken from the floor at the annual meeting.

Information about our high school scholarship awardees can be found on page 3.

Named Honoree will be announced during the annual meeting.

President’s report for the year with highlights of our accomplishments.

A scholarship winner from Oakland Community College will be in attendance.

June’s newsletter will contain all of what happened at the annual meeting.



Northville–Novi (MI) update



NORTHVILLE–NOVI (MI)

<https://aauwnn.org/>

President

Jane Hecker
(734) 276-6160

jhecker101@gmail.com

Vice President Programs

Patty Domin
(248) 514-0363

pdomin@hotmail.com

Vice President Membership/

Diversity

Karen Zyczynski
(734) 718-341

zyczynski2002@aol.com

Secretary

Caryn Doehler
(248) 982-1029

caryn@wowway.com

Treasurer

Joyce Murdock
(734) 207-1942

jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com

Communication Chair

Mary Ann MacLaren
(734) 306-3991

info@aauwnn.org

Editor

Mary Ann MacLaren
(734) 306-3991

info@aauwnn.org

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 June, for the members and friends of the American Association of University Women Northville–Novi (MI)

President's Message

Jane Hecker

jhecker101@gmail.com



LET'S TALK ABOUT VOTING AND OTHER THINGS

Once again we have arrived at that time of year for voting on AAUW state and national issues brought forth to the membership – that's all of us! (And of course a number of local and state elections will take place this spring). We may feel our vote isn't that important because actions at the state and national level might not really affect us – but wait! These elections – like others we encounter – are important and definitely worthy of our attention! Don't miss this opportunity for your voice to be heard! (I'm writing this mid-April to meet our newsletter deadline this month, so my apologies if this message is outdated for your use)

AAUW NATIONAL:

You should have received a message from National regarding the ballot and how to vote. Click on the suggested links and your voting should not be difficult. Your ID is also your member number – useful to know for other situations. I found the link to more information on the ballot items very helpful. I found the public policy changes most interesting. Be aware the *deadline for voting is 5pm on May 15.*

AAUW MICHIGAN:

Voting will have taken place at the Annual Meeting on April 29, 2023 so all I can do is share the outcome of these elections at our Annual Meeting on May 9 at Rocky's.

AAUW NORTHVILLE-NOVI:

This is really just a reminder from the information I shared in April that our election and induction of new officers will take place at our Annual Meeting on May 9 at Rocky's – we all get to vote! We are very excited about the candidates who have accepted nominations – Lee Doyle for Programs VP, Janice Wargo for Treasurer, and Christine Verleye for the Nominating Committee. At the same time we offer our grateful thanks and appreciation to Patty Domin (Programs VP for 3 years) and Joyce Murdock (Treasurer for several years), and Pat Noworyta (retiring Chair of the Nominations Committee) for their service! (See the meeting flyer for the other exciting events that will take place that night – a big celebration for us!

Please note: As time goes on, there will be other times for us to review and vote on more issues pertaining to our branch. In late May or June the Budget committee will meet to develop our proposal for the 2023-2024 fiscal year – July 1-June 30. The Board will be reviewing the recommendations updating our Policies and Procedures from that committee, as well as any By-Laws changes prompted by State and/or National changes. Others? Only time will tell!

Again – don't miss this chance for your voice to be heard – and get out and vote!

Secretary
Caryn Doehler
caryn@wowway.com



HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

From Novi

Zhina Zabibian: Zhina has earned high awards, as well as won, several State and International competitions in Physical Therapy, which require written and skills tests. She is a talented writer, plays the cello, and because of her leadership was selected to be part of the newly formed Superintendent Student Advisory Team. Her favorite High School activity was her leadership in HOSA, (Health Occupations of America) a student led organization to promote career opportunities.

Zhina is an example of strong women, as modeled by her mother, to face adversity and embrace challenges. She wrote: "I knew I was destined to help others to get their lives back". Zhina will attend Michigan State University and study kinesiology.

Farheen Hirji: Farheen is active in Honor Society, holds leadership positions in Social Justice, Novi Library Advisory Board, Spanish Club, Science Club and Olympiad, and STEM. She has won Gold and Silver medals in HOSA competitions. She was a finalist and earned 3 medals in DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) competitions. As Senior Class Vice-President, she will be offering a speech at graduation. She is passionate about the gender inequities in women's health care.

She wrote: "I will use my leadership and empathy skills to ensure that everyone is equally represented." She is an example of strength and resilience in facing and overcoming personal challenges. Farheen will attend The University of Toronto and study microbiology.

From Northville

Sawyer Wolf: Sawyer is a voracious reader, and in the 8th grade was inspired by "Little Women". She wrote: "I knew that literature could change lives. Little Women not only kindled my passion for literature, but it also honed my moral values of kindness and selflessness." (A visit to Louisa May Alcott's home left her speechless). She holds offices in Drama Club, National Honor Society, German National Honor Society, and Student Youth Dialogues, and has won awards for her writing and poetry. She is a tutor and a student teacher for 8th grade English. She plays soccer on a national league team. Her favorite part of High School was designing costumes for the drama department.

Sawyer will attend Wellesley College with a goal to be an English professor.

Madeline(Maddie) Luebker: Maddie holds offices in National Honor Society and Drama Club. She also is a 4-year officer in Model United Nations, has attended conferences at Yale University and University of Michigan, and earned several awards. She wrote: "I joined Model UN 'to practice my public speaking skills' but soon discovered another new passion: activism. Model UN inspired my interest in global issues." Maddie is also a talented dancer and choreographer, and as a Junior was cast in a lead dance role in the annual musical production.

Most important to her, however, is her participation in Mission Detroit through her church, including week-long mission trips to Detroit and Flint. Maddie will attend Denison University as a communications major. With her interest in activism and humanities, she is looking forward to broadcast journalism.

IMPORTANT NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

CAREER PATH DAY UPDATE

Our second event for this year will be with Hillside Middle School on May 19. We will be at the Schoolcraft College MEC for the morning. If you are interested and available we will welcome members to join us for lunch at Genetti's at 12:15pm to talk about AAUWNN with the girls. We also have a short program, and should finish just before 1:30pm. Contact is Jane Hecker to volunteer – jhecker101@gmail.com.

College University Relations
Corinne Vincent, Chair
vincorinn@yahoo.com

TIS THE SEASON...FOR SCHOLARSHIP...THAT'S IT

One thousand dollars each has been added to AAUWNN Endowed Scholarships administered by Foundations of Schoolcraft College Foundation and Oakland Community College.

2023 AAUW-NN Scholarship recipients are selected by each college and we will hear from the young women later. Since 1993 AAUW -NN's total in this investment to empower young women is \$70,119.

Meanwhile, our in-house NCCWSL Team of 4 has read and ranked 10 Schoolcraft applicants for National Conference for College Student Leaders, returning live after covid pause, to University of Maryland campus, May 31-June 3rd. AAUW Team members are Carol Zuniga, Lee Doyle, Michelle Williams and Ruth Rickard. Candidates were ranked on an essay describing their leadership skills, past and current contributions to Schoolcraft College and/or community, and why interested in attending the conference.

Our top ranked TWO... are both outstanding emerging leaders. Look forward to detail after the conference. Students Melia Connors and Jennifer LaPorte have accepted the scholarship invitation, signed consent, waiver and release agreements, Early Bird conference registration done, plane tickets purchased by Schoolcraft and Rhonda Donovan, Schoolcraft Resource Coordinator is registered and will accompany AAUW Northville-Novis and Livonia delegates at college expense.

Funding of these students is generously shared with Schoolcraft payment of conference registration including dorm housing. AAUW-NN is funding air, ground travel and modest related expense.

Schoolcraft College staff and financial support for NCCWSL has been incredible and AAUW-NN is exceptionally fortunate to have such a committed partner. Its strong support is based on reports by past attendees of its life changing value and that message has reached and engaged administrative decision makers!

With all of its starts, stops and bumps in the road AAUW-NN has, since 2013 invested \$4,542 in NCCWSL leaders.

Empowering Women and Girls.....That's Our Message

VP Membership
Karen Zyczynski
zyczynski2002@aol.com



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

The Membership Committee hosted a Recruitment Event at the Northville Art House on Tuesday, April 18. We were delighted to make contact with twelve potential new members and enjoyed some wonderful snacks provided by committee members. Within a few days we had signed up two new members and two others said they were definitely planning on joining. Will keep you updated as we highlight new members in a future newsletter.

Secondly, May and June are traditionally the months when the majority of our members renew their membership. Watch for information from our national organization regarding renewing on line; or from our Treasurer, Joyce Murdock, regarding renewing your membership with a check.

Mah Jongg Coordinator
Jane Hecker
jhecker101@gmail.com



MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT

We had a great time on May 5 and hosted 36 players for our 10th AAUW Northville–Novi Tournament, for our 4th time held at Fins Kitchen and Bar at the Detroit Livonia Marriott at Laurel Park Place. We continue to grow our following with new players each time. Today our first place winner was added as I left home this morning! Second place went to a longtime player from Brownstown Township.

Thanks to the Mahj players, helpers, and members who helped yet again: Carol Murchison, Janice Wargo, Mary Ann MacLaren, Pat Noworyta, Joyce Murdock, Marcia Horngren, Rose Dankis, Emily Doubler, Christine Verleye, Barbara Wilson, and Janet Browne. We usually net \$700–\$900 for our events twice each year.



Northville–Novi (MI) update

Nominations
Pat Noworyta
prnoworyta@yahoo.com



NOMINATIONS

The Nominations Committee is happy to announce the nomination of Christine Verleye to the Nominating Committee beginning July 1, 2023. Janice Wargo has accepted the nomination for Treasurer - a two year position. Lee Doyle has accepted the nomination of *VP – Programs*. It is a two year position.

Voting will take place during our annual meeting at Rocky's on Tuesday, May 9, 2023. There will also be an opportunity for nominations from the floor as part of electing each position. Below are the bios of the current nominations:

Christine (Demas) Verleye 16200 Lairdhaven Drive, Northville, Michigan 48168

Education:

Western Michigan University/Wayne State University Bachelor of Science Degree
Major: Business Management Professional Associations
Phi Gamma Nu, Professional Business Sorority

Work Experience:

Retired

33 Years as a Bank Officer/Manager - PNC Bank (Areas: Training, Wealth Management, Corporate Services, Trust & Financial Services, Bank Operations)

Personal Interests:

Traveling with Husband - Cruising, Land Tours, River Cruises Golfing - Weekly Golf League
Weekly Mah Jongg Group, Learning Greek Language

I became a member of the American Association of University Women - Northville/Novi Branch in 2022. I believe in giving back to the community through the various fund raising programs AAUW develops to help young women with scholarships and shaping their career paths as well as assisting other women with their career objectives.

Janice Wargo is running for Treasurer of the organization. Here is her bio:

- I have a BS in Math from University of Michigan Ann Arbor and MBA in Finance from Wayne State
- I worked for many years at Comerica as an internal auditor and trust officer and retired from Plante Moran as an employee benefit consultant
- I enjoy spending time with my grandchildren (one in MI and three in IN)
- I also play cards, Mah Jongg, travel and volunteer at Greenmead and the Northville Library

Lee Doyle is running for Programs VP. Her bio is on page 7.

Nominations
Pat Noworyta

prnoworyta@yahoo.com

NOMINATIONS - from page 6



Lee Doyle is running for Programs VP.

I have worn many hats in my life: mother, employee, caretaker. Recently widowed, and retired, I'm now turning toward things I enjoy. I'm traveling some and giving time to organizations such as the American Association of University Women. I love to paint – a first love before I went to law school – and am an obsessive knitter. I may even bring my needles to meetings as I can't seem to sit still for long without them.

I practiced law early in my career, before I realized that the demanding hours interfered too much with my “mother” role. I worked for Ford Motor Company for 17 years, learning business and strategic planning for various departments – and spent some years on their government relations staff. In that role I managed the company's response to legislative issues of importance to them. I had some exciting moments, prepping the executives for and accompanying them to meetings with members of Congress and even President Clinton.

It was the work on that staff that made me realize that I enjoyed communications. And I took a job for The University of Michigan as the Director of Communications. I oversaw a staff of 120 people, including graphic designers, news reporters, the Freedom of Information Office and the NPR station, Michigan Radio. It was such a diverse job, surrounded by fascinating people and never boring. I was able to shape my role over time, and network with faculty to help tell the University of Michigan story. Working with various academic departments I helped start a multidisciplinary arts initiative called Arts Engine, bringing students from many disciplines – including Engineering – together to explore the arts. And I had the opportunity to spend my days in Ann Arbor, where I grew up.

I look forward to bringing some of those skills to AAUWNN to help advance our reputation for our good work, and to bring programs to members that interest and excite them to come join the fun.

Secretary
Caryn Doehler
caryn@wowway.com

BOARD BRIEFS - April 25

- Fiscal review for 7/1/21–6/30/22 has been completed
- Budget committee 5/24, 10:00 am
- Membership renewal information is in the newsletter
- Financial Development meeting 4/12. 14 members begin planning for 2024 fashion show
- 29 people registered for MahJongg tournament
- \$1000 endowed scholarships each to OCC and Schoolcraft students
- Investigating use of press releases



Public Policy

Mary Jane Kearns

mjkearns1@outlook.com



PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS

The gun related mass murders continue at the same or even an increased pace. There have been 18 in April already as I write this on April 13. For further information on gun violence, check out the Gun Violence Archive at <https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/>

This IS a women's issue – just as much as any other issue we highlight for you.

The Pew Research Center research finds that gun deaths among US children and teenagers increased 50% between 2019 and 2021. In 2019, before the coronavirus pandemic, there were 1,732 gun deaths among U.S. children and teens under the age of 18. By 2021, that figure had increased to 2,590.

The gun death rate among children and teens – a measure that adjusts for changes in the nation's population – rose from 2.4 fatalities per 100,000 minor residents in 2019 to 3.5 per 100,000 two years later, a 46% increase.

Both the number and rate of children and teens killed by gunfire in 2021 were higher than at any point since at least 1999, the earliest year for which information about those younger than 18 is available in the CDC's mortality database.

The year-over-year increase in the U.S. murder rate in 2020 was the largest since at least 1905 – and possibly ever, according to provisional data from the CDC. (Final data is not expected to differ much from the provisional data.) There were 7.8 homicides for every 100,000 people in the United States in 2020, up from six homicides per 100,000 people the year before. The rise in the nation's murder rate last year far exceeded the 20% increase measured in 2001, which was driven by the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

The CDC has not yet published the total number of murders in the U.S. in 2020. But according to the FBI, there were 21,570 murders last year, up 29% from 16,669 in 2019 and the highest annual total since 1995. The FBI figures include non negligent homicides as well as murders, but the agency's figures are incomplete because not all law enforcement agencies submit data.

While the Michigan legislature has passed two new bills, the key issue of assault rifles has not been addressed.

To become more involved personally, I would urge each of you to check out The Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence at <https://michigancoalitiontopreventgunviolence.org/> The Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence (MCPGV) is an affiliate of States United to Prevent Gun Violence, a national non-profit organization focused on supporting state-based gun violence reduction policies and programs.

MCPGV and its partners work collaboratively to prevent gun violence through community education and the development of evidence-based policies.

YOU HAVE A VOICE. USE IT! Talk about this – contact your legislative members, contact AAUWMI and let them know you believe this issue is important.

Northville–Novi (MI) update

Financial Development
Janice Wargo
janicewargo@gmail.com

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT



Our major fundraising activity, the Michigan Designer Fashion Showcase, is tentatively scheduled for April 13, 2024. We have commenced planning. All members are encouraged to come, share ideas and help with this event.

For additional information and answers to your questions please contact Janice Wargo at janicewargo@gmail.com or Mary Ann MacLaren at maryann@maclareninc.com

There is a end of June meeting that all are welcome to attend. Exact date and location will be sent via an email blast.

Treasurer
Joyce Murdock
jgmurdock12051943@wowway.com

DUES RENEWAL TIME



Dues renewal started the week of April 24 this year. Around this date you may have received an e-mail from memberinfo@aauw.org. It contains valuable information about renewing your AAUW dues for the fiscal year 2023-24. The dues this year total \$94, which includes \$72 for National, \$12 for state and \$10 for our branch.

The email will give you directions on what to do to renew your membership. This is the preferable method of renewing. Please review your personal information to verify everything is correct including your phone number and email address. This is also where you can find your membership number, which you will need to vote on any National by-law changes.

If you prefer to pay by check, please make your check payable to "AAUWNN" in the amount of \$94 and mail to: **AAUW-NN, PO Box 511, Northville, MI 48167**. I will then deposit the check in our branch checking account and pay your dues to National and State via our debit card.

For tax purposes, \$79 of the \$94 are tax deductible. Your branch dues of \$10 are tax deductible as we are a 501(c)(3) organization and \$69 of the national dues are tax deductible. Three dollars of the \$72 national dues are not deductible because they support the AAUW Action Funds Section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps. The state dues of \$12 are also not deductible.



Northville–Novi (MI) update

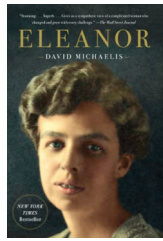
Daytime Book Group

Marian Brockie, Contact

On Friday, May 12, 2023 we will discuss and select books for the 2023-24 year. We will also be discussing “Eleanor: A life” by David Michaelis. Discussion leader is Jane. We are meeting at the Northville Library in the Friends Community Room 10:00-11:30 A.M.

Please [click here](#) for the list of books for January through May, 2023.

Also, 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.



Evening Book Group

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

May 22, 2023 we will be discussing our selections for the 2023-24 year. We are meeting at 5:30 P.M> at Moe’s on Ten. (Due to ongoing road constructions, it is best to take Haggerty to 10 Mile.)

Please be sure to give your suggestions to Mary Jane by May 15 so they get on the list. This list will be sent to you in advance of the meeting so you have a chance to study and decide. What you would like to read. That nights, suggestions will be discussed and votes taken. We will then read the eight titles with the most votes. This is also a great evening of dinner and companionable book talk.

New members are always welcome. Please contact Mary Jane for details at: mjkearns1@outlook.com.



Restaurant Rovers

Joyce Murdock, Contact

We are gathering Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 6:00 PM at Rocky’s of Northville. 41122 W. Seven Mile Road, Northville, 248-349-4434

If you plan on joining us, please contact Joyce Murdock at jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com or at (313) 381-2350 by 6:00 P.M. Monday, May 15.



Movie Goers

Rhonda York, Contact

Movie Goers are now meeting the first Tuesday of the month. Rhonda will send an email to those on the list. To be added or for information contact Rhonda York at rlYork03@gmail.com.



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



Great Decisions

Jean Hansen, Contact

The Great Decisions group will meet on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 1:30 P.M. via ZOOM. Discussion is “Energy Security” from the new Great Decisions Study Booklet. Mary Jane is the discussion leader.

We encourage guests and welcome new members. For more information or a ZOOM invite contact Jean Hansen at jhansen_48167@yahoo.com.



MICHIGAN FASHION DESIGNER SHOWCASE LUNCHEON 2022 SPONSORS
PLEASE FREQUENT THEIR BUSINESSES





Articles for the June, 2023
issue due **May, 20, 2023** 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 Meeting Fourth 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.