

Update

Volume 47 No. 10
June 2023

In This Issue

President’s Message.....	2
Membership Matters.....	4
Financial Development.....	5
Board Briefs.....	5
College Relations Update.....	6
Members in Action.....	7
Interest Groups.....	9



AAUWNN YEAR-END WRAPUP

READ JANE HECKER’S “ANNUAL REPORT” STARTING ON PAGE 2



Jane Hecker, President; Karen Zyczynski, VP of Membership; with Named Honorees Caryn Doehler, Secretary; Patty Domin, outgoing VP of Programs

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



Northville–Novi (MI) update



NORTHVILLE–NOVI (MI)

<https://aaunw.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@aaunw.org

Editor

Mary Ann MacLaren
(734) 306-3991

info@aaunw.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



WELCOME SUMMER

I write this during the warm and dry weather stretch we're experiencing happy that I've finally finished planting our pots and flower beds! Since some of you were not able to join us at our Annual Meeting so my writing this month is what is called my "Annual Report" and is most of what I shared on May 9:

This year I'm happy to report about the accomplishments of this past year as I share what is known as the **President's message**.

These are about all of us as we remain faithful to our mission of empowering women and girls by working carefully and diligently in the communities and following new pathways in person, in the media, and in various partnerships. **Please note these highlights:**

- We must celebrate another year of wonderful and varied programs such as supporting women entrepreneurs and learning about the foster care system thanks to the leadership of Patty Domin, Program VP and the Program Committee. **Our thanks to those who served on the committee.** From "Meet and Greet" to "Mend on the Move", a visit from N'Kenge Gonzales about Diversity, "Holiday Mingle" with a presentation from "Refuse for Nations" and a fabric donation drive, an overview of Hines Park and the River Rouge project, making quilted hearts, and more about Dushee International and scarves from Michelle Williams. Many were able to enjoy the field trip to the Detroit Parade Company in October. Thanks for a great year!
- For the first time since the pandemic we were able to resume our winter lunch meetings. The Sports Den venue worked out quite well and is probably a "keeper."
- **Thanks to our VP of Membership and Diversity, Karen Zyczynski, and the Membership team.** We are 86 strong, including several new members – some have taken on various committee responsibilities – and many loyally continuing. A "Getting to Know Us" meeting was held in February and a Potential New Member event in April.

Continued on page 3...

Northville–Novi (MI) update

Continued from page 2

- **On the ceremonial day recognizing Equal Pay Day** we enjoyed a presentation visit from Mary Pollock, AAUWMI Government Relations Director. Thank you to Mary Jane Kearns, Public Policy Chair.
- **Even though we decided to “skip” having a major fund raiser** this year by taking the required distribution from our Endowment Fund, the Financial Development Committee has been busy and meet regularly. **At this time I’d ask Janice Wargo, the chair and those committee members to stand.** Brainstorming ideas for new projects is a big part of their work. **Some of you might not know we are already on target for “Michigan Women Designers Fashion Show Luncheon III in April of 2024.** Mary Ann MacLaren will chair and the Core Committee has already had their organizational meeting. **Please contact Janice Wargo if you would like to join that group.**
- **We were able to resume our Mah Jongg Tournaments** – one in November and one in May. Thanks to our dedicated players and helpers as we host lunch and an afternoon of friendly competition, earning \$700-\$900 each time.
- **This year we have added a few new members to the Communications Committee** led by Mary Ann MacLaren (who is on a trip to Australia for a wedding postponed since the pandemic) **Andrea Cortelyou, Photographer and Facebook Manager, Jackie Duggan, Instagram organizer, Lee Doyle, Print Media, and Emily Doubler, Directory.** **Carol Murchison** has served as Archivist for several years and is steadily bringing our historical collections up to date.
- **Special thanks to Susan Schanne** for organizing our first ever (to my knowledge) overnight “Girls Wanna Have Fun” trip! We head to Stratford June 7-9 for fun, dining, and theatre!
- **It’s been several years since I’ve been able to report on our Initiatives** – better known as Community Outreach projects. This year we have partnered with Hillside Middle School and Meads Mill Middle School Stem teachers for Career Path Day – one of our favorite supports for young women. Teachers select and accompany 30 girls to tour the Mechanical Engineering and Technical Center at Schoolcraft, enjoy a lunch at Genetti’s with a few of our members, and enjoy a presentation about the rouge river project. **Our second event with Hillside will be held on May 19 and I thank those who have volunteered to help.** We will resume with Novi MS next year and hope to introduce some new projects as well as resume Reading in Schools. “Remember the Ladies” and our donations to area school media centers is ongoing.

Since this evening the budget committee has convened and started the process for 2023-2024. We honored our retiring Board members, Joyce Murdock, Patty Domin, and Pat Noworyta. Also, welcome to a couple more new members!! Have a wonderful, safe summer!

VP Membership
Karen Zyczynski
zyczynski2002@aol.com



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

On April 18 the Membership Committee hosted a recruitment event for potential new members. We are introducing our new members below, all were entitled to the Shape the Future membership discount. So what is the Shape the Future discount? Anyone who attends an AAUWNN event, open to the public, and joins within 30 days of that event can join for half the AAUW National Dues; and the Branch is entitled to one free member for each two new members with a limit of three free memberships per year. We will be drawing names for free memberships in August.

Mary Atchison

Michigan native, graduate of the University of Michigan - Dearborn in 1980. I'm married with one daughter and 2 step children and have a pit bull mix rescue dog named Drake. Recently retired from a healthcare IT career, I look forward to reading, sewing, gardening, yoga, travel and socializing in the days ahead. Looking forward to joining events and activities with AAUWNN!

Caitlin Bearer

I live in Commerce with my husband and twin seven year-olds. I have my own law practice specializing in estate planning, trusts, probate, and corporate law. During the summer you'll find me on our boat or by the pool. In the winter I'm most likely trailing behind my kids as they show me up on the ski hills. We love a good adventure.

Janet Schwamb

Janet recently retired from the Ann Arbor Public Schools as a principal of Huron High School, completing a 31-year career in public education, and prior to working in education she was a critical care nurse and nurse administrator. In 2005 she earned a doctorate in Education studying the school experience of students who bully. Janet enjoys spending time with her husband Fred, her goldendoodle Sophie, her two daughters, son-in-law, and three grandchildren. As a lifelong learner, she has been taking piano lessons since retiring, enjoying learning and playing classical music.

Kim W. Thomas

I am a licensed Minister and Chaplain. I have an associate degree in Pastoral Christian Counseling. I enjoy helping people connect with their destiny by researching and sharing information that's beneficial to their dream job/or business. I have strong leadership and interpersonal skills. I enjoy working with my hands in the area of creativity. I have three years experience co-hosting on a local TV show called Testimonies of God.

COMMENTS FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR



This weary traveller apologizes for the lateness of June's newsletter. I returned from a month in Australia recently and it has taken me a bit of time to pick up on things that need to be done at home.

I am also trying to put my gardens in order to be ready for the Plymouth Trailwood Garden Club annual garden walk on June 27. Come see my She Shed. [Click here for ticket information.](#)

Northville–Novi (MI) update

Financial Development
Janice Wargo
janicewargo@gmail.com

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT



Calling All Travelers- Fun Fundraising Activity

Members of the Financial Development Committee are inviting you to participate in a fun fundraising activity while you travel (near or far). We are requesting that you [bring back a memento from your location to be auctioned \(silent auction\) during our November monthly meeting.](#) The cost of these treasures should not exceed \$50. This will be a great opportunity for members to do some holiday shopping. The money raised will go toward one of our initiatives, “Remember The Ladies”.

Michigan Designer Fashion Showcase April, 2024

The Committee is reviewing venues and will have a final announcement for the August Newsletter.

Any member not already working on a Fashion Showcase Committee is encouraged to volunteer. Please contact Chair Mary Ann MacLaren.
The more the merrier.

Secretary
Caryn Doehler
caryn@wowway.com

BOARD BRIEFS - MAY



- Thank you to Joyce Murdock for years of service as our Treasurer
- Program committee planning silent auction with proceeds to go to “Remember the Ladies”
- Career Path Day with Hillside Middle School “Best Day Ever” students
- Four new members, with 2 interested
- By-Laws, Policies and Procedures in need of chair. Thank you Jan Wilhelm for your service
- Listing of equipment and documents stored at members’ residences

CAREER PATH DAY

Our second Career Path Day on May 19 with the staff and girls from Hillside MS was a great success. Comments like “It was the greatest day ever” and expression of interest in CAD and welding were shared! Thanks to Carol Murchison, Lee Doyle, Rose Dankis, and Jackie Duggan who helped.

Northville–Novi (MI) update

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

AAUWNN College University Fiscal Year “Report” to “Shareholders” (that’s you!)

A TWO 1/2 Chapter Investment Story!

Chapter 1 - NCCWSL

“AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders 2003,” May 31 – June 2nd has adjourned on University of Maryland campus and 6 Schoolcraft Delegates and 1 Staff Delegate have flown back to Detroit Metro. Yes 6 + 1 staff!

May newsletter reported that Northville–Novi’s 2 top ranked choices Melia Conners, Canton and Jennifer LaPorte were all set to attend. Our collaborating partner AAUW Livonia’s choices Sabrina Morrison, Royal Oak and Kathryn Wenske, Dearborn Heights ready too.

Delegates funded by Schoolcraft College President’s Fund, AAUW Northville–Novi and AAUW Livonia.

A happy surprise - in round two of National AAUW awards, both of our Alternate Delegates were offered conference registration and dorm scholarships. A great expanded opportunity! AAUW Livonia immediately covered air, ground/misc. for Isabella Allie, Livonia and Northville–Novi took on Xnesika Luarasi, an International Student, Westland.

Delegate Staff Rhonda Donovan’s conference participation was fully funded by Schoolcraft College.

AAUWNN invested in... Leadership Development.... living up to its commitment:
Empower Women and Girls

This investment has an extra dividend for AAUW–NN (that’s you)

Right Now - Put a star on Your Calendar and get ready to be at

AAUW–NN College/University Night

Our monthly member enrichment program

Tues. October 10th, 6:45-8:45

Schoolcraft College Campus, McDowell Student Center

Wear Your School Spirit Shirt - our NCCWSL Delegates will be there in their school spirit attire to share their most meaningful conference highlights.

Fun Win/Win Investor (that’s you) Celebration Evening guaranteed.

Chapter 2- AAUWNN Endowed Scholarships at Community Colleges

AAUW–NN’s Investment in Education showed a fine return-

a woman’s road to Equity through Economic Security - Empowerment

AAUWNN Endowed Scholarships administered by Foundations of OCC and Schoolcraft Colleges took on a personal, feelgood connection this spring. Both were established by AAUW–NN with award preference to a woman returning after a lapse of time in her education.

2023 recipients at both colleges fit that vision perfectly. OCC’s Kimberly Storcks was a hit at AAUWNN’s May Annual Meeting. She touched every heart when she said that her 2 adult children were now college graduates so she thought it was now her turn. With 1 more algebra class to

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

AAUWNN College University Fiscal Year “Report” to “Shareholders” (that’s you!)

conquer at OCC spring semester, she will be a graduate and off to Wayne State for a communication focused 4-year degree. A fine communicator Kimberly is!

There is more. A letter arrived from JS, our Schoolcraft scholarship recipient. Fall will be her 1st semester and plan is to finish taking all required pre-requisite courses needed to apply to the nursing program. Goal – “gain the knowledge and skills to be a great nurse,” earn an RN license and employment in a critical care unit.

Youngest of 3 daughters starts her senior year so now JS is ready to achieve her goals. JS has worked as a Certified Nursing Assistant for 17 years and made being a good mother her priority. Her life start is a text book melodrama- dysfunctional family, abuse, teen runaway, dropout, pregnant; then a wake-up call, motherhood, GED, employment, years of hard work. We will get to meet JS at the June Schoolcraft Foundation Donor Celebration. AAUWNN representatives connected with Kimberly at a spring OCC Foundation Scholarship Donor Recipient event.

Through May 2023 AAUW-NN has invested a total of \$70,119 in its 2 “AAUW-NN Endowed Scholarships” since first established with Schoolcraft and Oakland Community College Foundations.

NCCWSL funding total since 2013 through May 2023 – is \$4972. There was a COVID pause.

Chapter 2.5!

National AAUW Education and Legal Advocacy Funds
Confronting Bias in Education and Equity – Empowerment
AAUW-NN invested \$66,550 in these funds from 1988 through May 2020 to award women graduate fellowships and research grants (AAUW is considered among world leaders in such awards) and the Legal Advocacy Fund – which supports plaintiffs in gender-based workplace and academic discrimination lawsuits. Our past investments help these empowerment programs continue.

Membership News
Corinne Vincent
vincorinn@yahoo.com

AAUWNN WOMEN in ACTION..... Making News

Presentation to Marlyne Musleh from Mayor Brian Turnbull
Proclamation: April 2023 is National Arab American Heritage
Month in the City of Northville

Marlyne is an active member of AAUWNN and Realtor with Century 21, W Seven Mile, Northville



Northville–Novi (MI) update

EVENING BOOK GROUP READING LIST

AAUW Northville Novi

Book Group 2023-24

Date	Title	Author	Leader	Location
Sept. 25/23	The Night Watchman	Louise Erdrich	Pat	Mary Jane's
Oct. 23/23	We Kept Our Town Going	Phyllis Michael Wong	Ruth	Ruth
Nov. 27/23	Lucy by the Sea	Elizabeth Strout	Rhonda	Zoom
Jan. 22/24	Black Cake	Charmaine Wilkerson	Lee	Zoom
Feb. 26/24	Demon Copperfield	Barbara Kingsolver	Marcia	Zoom
Mar. 25/24	Upstairs at the White House	J.B West & Mary Lynn Kotz	Barb	Zoom
Apr. 22/24	Horse	Geraldine Brooks	Julie	Jan
May 20/24	Decisions for 2024-25			

Northville–Novi (MI) update

Daytime Book Group

Marian Brockie, Contact

September's newsletter will have details of the books to be read for 2023-24.



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.

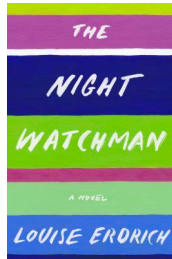


For more information on joining contact Marian Brockie at mbrockie@umich.edu.

Evening Book Group

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

September 25, 2023 we commence the 2023-24 book group discussion at the home of Mary Jane at 7:00 P.M.



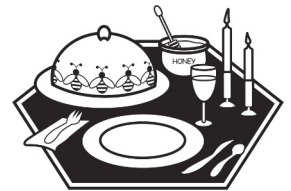
Selections for the 2023-24 year can be found on page 8 of this newsletter or on our website.

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

Restaurant Rovers

Joyce Murdock, Contact

We will gather again in September. September's newsletter will have detailed information.



If you plan on joining this group, please contact Joyce Murdock at jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com or at (313) 381-2350

Great Decisions

Jean Hansen, Contact

The Great Decisions group will not meet in June. They will meet on Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 1:30 P.M. via ZOOM. Discussion is "The Great Experiment: Why Diverse Democracies Fall Apart and How They Can Endure" by Yascha Mounk.



"This book is from one of our sharpest and most important political thinkers, a brilliant big-picture vision of the greatest challenge of our time—how to bridge the bitter divides within diverse democracies enough for them to remain stable and functional."

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

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 ryork03@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

MICHIGAN FASHION DESIGNER SHOWCASE LUNCHEON 2022 SPONSORS
PLEASE FREQUENT THEIR BUSINESSES





Articles for the
September, 2023 issue due
August, 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 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.