Update Volume 49 No. 9 April 2025

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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 8, 6:45 p.m. **First United Methodist Church** 777 Eight Mile, Northville

Programs Carol Souchock, Facilitator carolsouchock@gmail.com

"MICHIGAN CENTRAL STATION REVIVAL"

The AAUW Novi-Northville Affiliate will be meeting on April 8, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. for our monthly meeting and program in the Chapel Lounge at the First United Methodist Church at 777 Eight Mile, Northville. Members are encouraged to bring cookies or light refreshments to share.

Our program will feature a presentation on the extraordinary preservation work which brought the Michigan Central Station back to life and will be presented by architect Angela Wyrembelski from Quinn Evans who played a leading role in this work.



Angela Wyrembelski

Angela Wyrembelski is a Senior Associate and architect with Quinn Evans, based out of their Detroit office. She received her Masters in Architecture from Boston Architectural College, a Masters Certificate in Historic Preservation from Eastern Michigan University and her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan. A passionate advocate for historic preservation, Angela enjoys the opportunity to extend the life of vacant and underused buildings. Angela leads Quinn Evans Living Practice Area; focusing on the transformation of buildings that touch our daily lives.

With the last Amtrak train departing Michigan Central Station in 1988, the historic structure stood abandoned for 30 years before Ford Motor

(continued on page 3)



NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) https://aauwnn.org/

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> Editor Joyce Murdock (313) 381-2350 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) <u>President's Message</u> Karen Zyczynski <u>zyczynski2002@aol.com</u>

ADVOCATE FOR ISSUES IMPORTANT TO WOMEN



During these tumultuous times we need to be advocating for the issues that directly impact us as women. Even though we are a non-partisan organization, we can advocate for and against legislation related to our mission. Things that impact women's health, equity, voting rights, financial security, education and more.

One way to do this is to sign up to be a <u>Two Minute Activist</u> on the AAUW website. Periodically you will be asked to contact your National Leaders by sending an already prepared letter. You will likely receive a response from those individuals you contact. Another way is to call your National and State Legislators and leave a succinct message on the issues that are of concern to you and women in general. We need to make our voices heard!

On a lighter note, the planning committee for our Annual Meeting in May has been hard at work. By the time you receive this newsletter you should have received your invitation to this annual event. The committee hopes you will take the opportunity to join us on May 13 for dinner at The Garage. We do have a few surprises for you!

Our visit to the Plymouth Art and Recreation Complex (PARC) in March was an enlightening event. It was a great example of a way to repurpose an old building into something new and exciting. Thank you, Carol Souchock, for arranging this program location for us.

Attracting new members is essential to the survival of us as a viable organization and so our April Meeting is focused on bringing a friend or friends to the meeting to learn more about us and to enjoy the program. A bonus for anyone joining that evening is a reduced membership rate for their first year. Check out the Membership Page in this newsletter for more details.

One of my favorite quotes seems appropriate at this time and so I have included it at the bottom of the page.



Karen

Never doubt that a small group of dedicated citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead

Michigan Central Station Revival (continued from page 1)

Company purchased the building in 2018. Learn about its extraordinary transformation process and how adaptive reuse of the historic station connects Detroit's past to its promising future.

The program will start at 6:45 p.m. and be followed by a brief business meeting.



BOARD BRIEFS - March, 2025

Your board met on March 24.

Invitations for the Annual meeting and dinner have been mailed to members.

Positions are vacant for Vice-President of programming and nominations committee.

Rusty Bucket fundraiser flyer is in the newsletter.

The April Branch meeting features the architectural firm that worked on the train station in Detroit

NCCWSL will be sending students to Maryland in the Spring.

Two Novi students have been selected as scholarship recipients and will be invited to the annual dinner.

Motion from the Scholarship committee: "Waive the Treasurer item 15 and the Educational Gifts/Advocacy item 7 of the Policy and Procedures, which requires the scholarship check to be written to the student and the college. In its place, the scholarship check will be written to the student." Motion carried.

The 50th anniversary committee is busy researching archives and planning for the event at Genitti's.

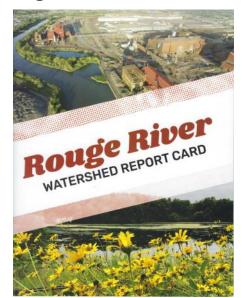
Caryn Doehler, Secretary



Pictures from March Meeting



Ashley Flintoff





Gail Grieger

Updated 3/11/2025





Visual Arts

Acom Glassworks - acomglassworks.com

Adom biastworts - acongastwortLetim Phone: 7048 J45443 Tendie: Complexited State Com

areas. All Acound Art – allarcound.art Phone: [248] 845-846 Email: victorin@allarcound.ort All Around Art is a creative mixed media company that uses various ways to create art. From epony and painting to ving pressing. All Around Art is divers and leaves room for imagination and learning. There is no limit to the possibilities of art. All Around Art does accept commission work, mainty in eyeny bit occusionally in paint.

services. Kids Classes, Kids Camps, Adult Classes, Adult Paint Party Events, Commission Work, Water, acrylic, and oll paint, Epoxy creations, Laser creations

Boho Candle Company – behoplymouth.com Phone: (734) 737-005 Emolt: <u>behoplymouth@gmoil.com</u> Bohlo Candle Co. St he Candle line poduced by Bohenian Home, a downtown Plymouth storefront. Specializing in small batch hand poured soy candles. All completely produced in room #217.





"Lunch and Mah Jongg" (American)



What: AAUW-NN Fundraiser

When: Friday, May 2, 2025 11:45 am-5:00 pm

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

11:45 am-12:00 pm Check-in, table assignment, etc. 12:00-1:00 pm Lunch - Tomato Bisque Cup, Salad Bar, Rolls, Beverages 1:00-4:30 pm Three 65 minute rounds; two 10 minute breaks 4:30-5:00pm Prizes awarded; Wrap-up

** We will use the same modified scoring and we will use the 2025 card!
**We will not be arranging any tables of 3! Prizes awarded for top 3 scores.
How: \$40 (\$20 is tax deductible) Register below:



Deadline to register is Monday, April 28, 2025

Name____

Address

Phone_

Email

**Return form with your check payable to AAUW-NN: AAUW-NN c/o Janice Wargo

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

For more information contact: info@aauwnn.org 734-306-3991 Sponsored by American Association of University Women Northville-Novi Branch www.aauwnn.org Look under Branch Programs or Community Events

Hope to see you May 2, 2025!

Public Policy Mary Jane Kearns, Chair <u>mjkearns1@outlook.com</u>



AAUW Public Policy Priorities

Copied form the AAUW website to assist you in the upcoming election.

The AAUW Public Policy Committee and Board of Directors recommend the following changes to the <u>Public Policy Priorities</u>. The deadline for comments has now closed. Members will vote on the changes beginning in April 2025.

The document was reformatted to provide a better distinction between the guiding principles of AAUW's public policy work at all levels, and the biennial action priorities for AAUW National's federal advocacy work over the next two years.

Recommended changes

The proposed **principles** continue to emphasize core values regarding education, economic security and social justice. The proposal removes issues that, while valuable and important components to equity, go beyond the scope of AAUW's focus on higher education and were so broad as to not provide guidance on the types of policy approaches that would be in line with AAUW's mission.

The proposed policy **priorities** for federal advocacy focus on equity in higher education and are chosen based on critical need, political viability, and potential for distinctive AAUW contribution or leadership.

Below is a summary of proposed changes for 2025-2027:

- Specific endorsement of the 2024 Title IX regulations which provide increased support for student survivors of sexual harassment and assault and clarify Title IX protections for students who are LGBTQ+, pregnant, or parenting.
- Clear articulation of support for inclusion of LGBTQ+ individuals in policies around school and workplace protections.
- Emphasis on specific components important for women's economic security including education, pay equity, caregiving burdens, retirement safety nets, and access to contraception and abortion.
- Recognition that the Equal Rights Amendment has met the constitutional requirements for ratification as articulated in the U.S. Constitution.
- Removal of broad statements about poverty reduction, housing, health care for all, gun violence, immigration, and campaign finance reform.

(continued on next page)

AAUW Public Policy Priorities (continued from page 6)

• Clear articulation that AAUW's public policy focus is domestic

AAUW Public Policy Principles and 2025-2027 Biennial Action Priorities December 4, 2024

The Public Policy Principles underscore AAUW's mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. They establish principles for action on which AAUW members across the country focus their advocacy efforts. They guide the work of the AAUW's federal priorities and that of AAUW state organizations and branches on state and local issue advocacy efforts.

AAUW positions are shaped by our commitment to equity by being nonpartisan, evidencebased, experience-driven, inclusive, and intersectional. AAUW opposes all forms of discrimination on the basis of age, disability, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, religious beliefs, pregnancy or parental status or socioeconomic status, and supports constitutional protection for the civil rights of all individuals. AAUW believes in the need to end white supremacy and address structural and systemic racism. Efforts to advance racial, ethnic, and gender justice must be embedded into every policy initiative.

AAUW stands for Education

Public Education:

- o Investing in strong public education systems which provide equitable high quality public K-12 education
- o Opposing the use of public funds for nonpublic elementary and secondary education and for charter schools that do not adhere to the same civil rights and accountability standards as required of other public schools
- o Closing the learning and opportunity gaps that disproportionately affect students from low-income and underserved groups

• Inclusive Curriculum:

o Ensuring all curriculum represents historically accurate information, information based on scientific consensus, and is free from religious bias

• STEM Opportunities:

- o Closing the gender gap in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education
- Expanding access for women in technical and vocational education and training that leads to lucrative employment

• Enforcement of Inclusive Title IX Rules and Other Civil Rights Statutes:

- o Vigorous enforcement of the 2024 Title IX rules, and other protections against sexbased harassment and discrimination in schools
- o Prohibiting harassment and bullying in schools with specific enumeration of students on the basis of disability, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, sexbased stereotypes and characteristics, pregnancy or parental status

(continued on next page)

AAUW Public Policy Priorities (continued from page 7)

Affordable post-secondary education:

o Increasing equitable access to higher education, which is affordable and yields highquality credentials or degrees

AAUW stands for Economic Security

• Pay Equity:

- o Ensuring equal pay and benefits for equal work regardless of gender, identity, or location
- o Addressing the multiple factors that reinforce the gender and racial pay gaps, through increasing salary transparency, eliminating salary history to set future wages, increasing the minimum wage, and addressing root causes of occupational segregation
- o Expansion and enforcement of employment discrimination statutes

• Mitigation of Caregiving:

o Improving access to paid sick leave, medical leave, safe leave, affordable child and elder care, and other policies that mitigate the unequal burden on women for caregiving responsibilities

• Retirement Safety Nets:

o Robust and strong Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security systems and oppose any efforts to undermine them, including privatization and block grant proposals

• **Reproductive Freedom:**

o Ensuring access to contraception and abortion care for all women regardless of location

AAUW stands for Social Justice and Civil Rights

- Constitutional Rights:
 - o Vigorous enforcement of and full access to civil and constitutional rights, including recognition and publication of the Equal Rights Amendment
- Expanding Voting Rights:
 - o Expanding voting rights to promote diverse, inclusive and equitable political participation

• Freedom from Harassment and Violence:

- o Ensuring that people who are subject to harassment or violence based on age, disability, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, religious beliefs, pregnancy or parental status have full protection and recourse under the law
- o Supporting policies to end gender-based violence, including reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
- o Supporting policies that address the prevention of human trafficking and protection of its victims

(continued on next page)

AAUW Public Policy Priorities (continued from page 8)

- International and Civil Rights:
 - o Supporting U.S. advancement towards the gender equity goals on education and the economy in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action
 - o Supporting ratification of the U.N. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

2025-2027 Biennial Action Priorities

AAUW's Biennial Action Priorities for federal action are chosen according to the criteria of viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential for distinctive AAUW contribution or leadership. These national priorities inform state and local action. Additional priorities may be added based on circumstances. No order of importance for the priorities is implied.

To support equitable access to higher education that promotes gender fairness, equity, diversity and inclusivity, and to address the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women and girls, AAUW advocates for:

- Vigorous protection of the 2024 update to Title IX regulations that provide clear directives to build safer and more inclusive institutions for all students, including student survivors of sexual violence, pregnant and parenting students, LGBTQ+ students
- Ensuring institutions of higher education are accessible to all students regardless of socioeconomic status, the environment is inclusive, and free from political intervention around curriculum
- Reducing barriers to postsecondary success, specifically for women of color, including increasing investment in financial support for degree programs, campus childcare programs
- Policies that support working women in pursuit of higher education, including increased access to paid leave, access to contraception and abortion care, affordable high-quality child care.



In case you missed it, this was our showcase at the Northville District Library.

Membership Corinne Vincent, VP Membership <u>vincorinn@yahoo.com</u>



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

A **Ready- Made Member Recruitment Event** is happening Tuesday, April 8. Go back and take a look at this newsletter's front page exciting program for that evening. All AAUWNN members and community organization have received the invitation to Be There and Invite Their Guests!! So DO That.... INVITE GUESTS.

Our Membership Team will be all set to circulate, warmly welcome, and invite our guests to consider AAUWNN Membership.

Annual Membership Fee increases for all of us effective April 1, 2025. By National action its fee increases \$2. Member fee is now \$99, new member Shape the Future \$62. See revised application with new fees in this newsletter.

April is Arab American Heritage Month. The largest community of Middle Eastern heritage people, outside of the Middle East, live in our communities locally. We have visited the National Arab American Museum in Dearborn. A few Arab Americans to remember: U.S. teacher astronaut, Christa McAulffe; Secretary of Energy, Spenser Abraham; Danny Thomas, founder of St Jude Children's Research Hospital; Apple Founder, Steve Job; Helen Thomas, White House Press Corps during 10 Presidents Kenndy through Obama.

EXCITING MEMBERSHIP NEWS - BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



Member Jackie Duggan and her husband Sean announced the birth of their son Parker Brooks Duggan on January 30, 2025, at 5:22 a.m. He weighed six pounds 15 ounces and was 19.75 inches long. In addition, according to his grandmother, Karen Visger, another of our members, he is adorable. From the pictures you can see she is totally correct.



Nominating Committee Deena Parks, Chair <u>deena.parks@gmail.com</u>

Nominees for Office for 2025-2027

Vice President Programs - Mary Ann MacLaren

I have been involved with AAUW since the late 1980's when I joined the Wyandotte/ Downriver Branch. Involvement at that branch included Public Policy Chair and Used Book Sale Chair. I was Branch President in the mid 1990's.

After moving to Plymouth, it took until 2013 to find my home with this branch. I am the current Communications Chair and believe that some of those responsibilities overlap those of programs. With the input from all members, we will plan great programs for the 2025-2026 year.

I have been active in most of our fundraising events and play Mah Jong. Outside of this branch, I am Chair of the Plymouth Township Environment Leadership Commission and have a sewing/alterations business out of my home.

Mary Ann MacLaren

Treasurer - Janice Wargo



Janice Wargo

I am currently treasurer and would like to continue in that position for another term. I am also a member of the program committee and participate in several interest groups. I am retired and worked in the financial services industry.

I volunteer at the Northville and Livonia libraries, participate in the Mah Jongg group, play in a pinochle group and am learning to play bridge. My husband, Jerry, and I enjoy traveling and visiting grandchildren.

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

Shopping, it's what we all do well, several times a week. We visit Kroger for food and gasoline and browse AAUWNN spirit clothing from Big Frog. You can EASILY add to the coffers of AUWNN by signing up with these two 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!

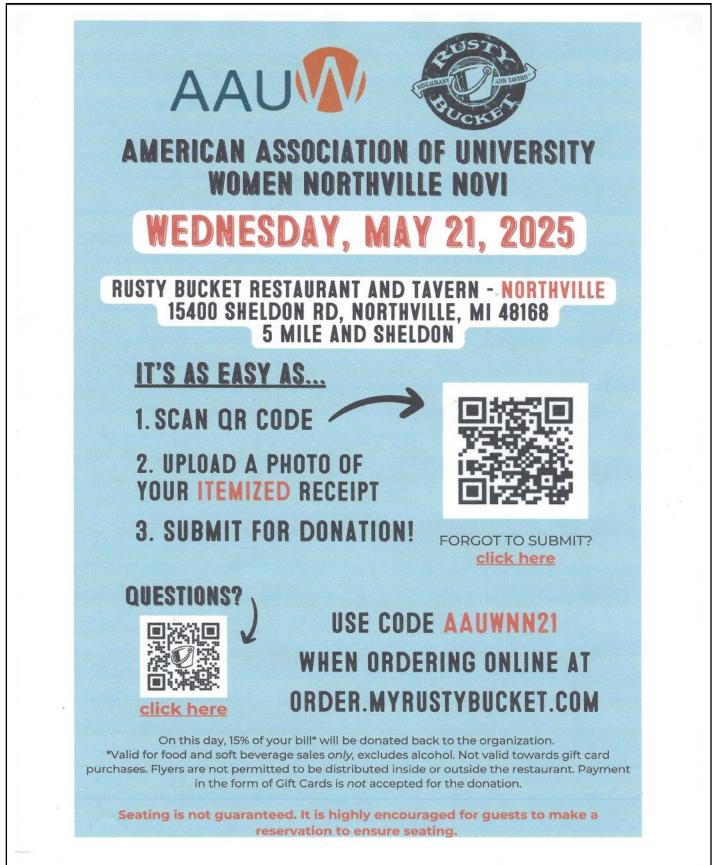
KROGER

Sign up for the Kroger Community Rewards Program to help AAUWNN achieve its financial goals! Go online to <u>https://www.kroger.com/o/store-services/community-rewards</u>. 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.



BIG FROG

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

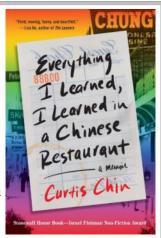


and equal opportunity, while taking time to network and enjoy personal enrichment. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2024-25 PERSONAL INFORMATION				
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Phone (c)(
Email		(``)		
Provide graduate associate or equivalent, tution: College/University/Equivalent			-	
College/University/Equivalent		State	Highest Degree	
Grad Year/sMajor/s Date of Birth (optional)				
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Ethnicity (optional): Hispanic (Y or N) _ White Native Hawaiian/Pacific Is ELIGIBILITY I am a graduate holding an associate or e	_American Indian slander _ Asian _ (quivalent (RN)	/Alaska Native _ Black/A ^{Dther} _ , baccalaureate or hig	frican American _	
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<u>Daytime Book Group</u> Marian Brockie, Contact

On Friday, April 11, we will be discussing **"Everything I learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant" by Curtis Chin.** We will meet at the Northville Library Study Room (lower level) with Zoom link availability from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The discussion will be a group lead.



For more information on joining this group please contact Marian Brockie at <u>mbrockie@umich.edu</u>.

<u>Evening Book Group</u> Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The Evening Book Group will discuss **"All the Beauty in the World" by Patrick Bringley,** when Pat Amireskandari will lead our discussion on April 28, at 7 p.m. Pat will also be hosting that meeting, We are thrilled to once again meet in person.

I am collecting suggested

titles for next year. Please e-mail them to Mary Jane.

Interested in joining? We'd love to have you. Contact Mary Jane at <u>mjkearns1@outlook.com</u> or (248) 449-8693.

<u>Mah Jongg</u> Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The Mah Jongg group plays Friday afternoons at members' homes. The April schedule follows:

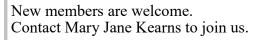
April 4 Emily

April 11 Jan

April 18 Mary Jane

April 25 Carol

May 2 Tournament



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<u>Bridge Group</u> Marian Brockie, Contact

The Bridge Group currently is meeting at Laurel Park Food Court area every Wednesday at 1 p.m. For more information on joining contact Marian Brockie at mbrockie@umich.edu.

<u>Restaurant Rovers</u> Joyce Murdock, Contact

On April 16, the Restaurant Rovers will go to Rocky's, 41122 Seven Mile, North-



ville, for dinner at 6 p.m. We are going back to our evening schedule. In May, we will be going to the Rusty Bucket for our fundraiser.

If you would like to join this group, please contact Joyce Murdock at (313) 381-2350 or jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com.

<u>Movie Goers</u> 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 to the list or for information, contact Rhonda York at <u>rlyork03@gmail.com</u>.

<u>Great Decisions</u> Mary Jane Kearns, Contact (Temporary)

We meet via ZOOM on the third Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. On April 18 we will be discussing Chapter 3 in the Great Decisions Handbook: **Competition, Cold War, or Conflict? Navigating US-**



China Relations in Tense Times. This year we are reading the chapters in the handbook in order, as they have been set up to build on each other. We are encouraging you to join ASAP to get the full benefit of membership in this important and thought-provoking interest group.

We encourage new members and guests. For more information or a ZOOM invitation, contact Mary Jane Kearns at mjkearns1@outlook.com or (248) 449-8693.





A non-profit 501(c)(3)

Articles for the May 2025 issue due April 20 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 p.m.
Day Book Group	Second Friday 10 a.m.
Evening Book Group	Fourth Monday, 7 p.m.
Great Decisions	Third Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.
Mah Jongg	Fridays, 1 p.m.
Restaurant Rovers	Third Wednesday, 6 p.m.