



# *Happy Holidays*

## *Branch Meeting*

*Thursday, November 30 at 6:30 p.m.*

Please join us for our Christmas Gathering and bring a guest or two! We'll be meeting at 6:30 p.m. for supper. Members, please bring an appetizer or dessert. Beverages will be provided.

The Plymouth-Canton Choral Singers will entertain us after dinner followed by our infamous Tin-can auction. Our business meeting will conclude the evening.

Also, if there is something you like to make, please consider sharing your talents by donating to our tin-can auction.

**Please come and bring a guest!**

## *From the President:*

One of the things trending on Facebook right now is posting something one is grateful for every day. I enjoy reading what others have posted, and this activity reminds me that we all have much for which to be grateful. The approaching holidays seem to be a good time to express my gratitude to those who make our AAUW experience so valuable to us and others. So . . .

I am grateful for ---

the Board Members who make this organization work;  
the folks who volunteered to help with the 2018 Spring

Convention;

the people who just do things without being asked, like making  
sure there are tablecloths, centerpieces, and beverages for meetings;

all of the branch members who keep this organization vibrant  
and productive;

AAUWMI – the state organization – who provide ideas, assistance, and guidance to local  
branches;

National AAUW who represent all members in advocacy for women and girls.

Thanks for all that you do. I look forward to continuing our work together.



Mickey Edell, the branch's Public Policy chairperson, continually reminds us to check the national website for information on a variety of issues. It's easy to do – simply go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) and select Create an Account. Members can set up their own personal account and then select areas to study. All a member needs in her personal member number. This number can be found on the member's copy of Outlook, the national magazine, or by contacting the branch's Finance Director, Lori Demski. Once the account is created, a member can see her personal profile and go from there to topics of interest.

We will come together as a branch for the Annual Holiday Get-together on Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Please bring a hors d'oeuvres or dessert to pass and join everyone for fun, holiday music provided by PCCS choral group, and the tin can auction. Proceeds will go to the Legal Advocacy Fund. We'll see you at 6:30 pm at BeckRidge Productions.

I look forward to kicking off the holiday season with all of you –

*Helene*



## Update Human Trafficking Often Called Modern Day Slavery in Our Midst

The United Nations Protocol on Human Trafficking defines it as “the recruitment, transportation, harboring or receipt of persons by means of force, fraud or coercion.” According to the U.S. State Department, every country in the world is affected by human trafficking. The United States is no exception, serving as a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children, both U.S. citizens and foreign nationals.



By writing about this problem we hope to raise awareness and further efforts to fight this illegal and dehumanizing business. A recent publication offered some Keys to Identifying Human Trafficking Victims. Among them were to look for signs such as unexplained bruises, cuts, or other marks of physical abuse, tearfulness or signs of depression, no identification like a passport, license, or other ID documents. Some suggestions of What to Do When You Suspect a Case of Human Trafficking are to ask the person if you can help them find a safe place to go to immediately, or call and make a report at the National Human Trafficking Hotline at (888) 373-7888.

An upcoming talk, “Courageous Outrage”, is to be held at Fox Hills in Plymouth, Michigan. Greg Bristol, former Michigan State Police Trooper, retired FBI Special Agent and founder of the Human Trafficking Investigation and Training Institute will be presenting the role of men in the fight against prostitution and sex trafficking. This event is scheduled for November 15 at 5 p.m. Spread the word about this meeting to the men in your life.

*Dorothy Grant, International Chairperson*

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## NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENT LEADERS



### **Leadership for Today and Tomorrow**

NCCWSL stands for National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (nick-whistle). NCCWSL brings together college women from across the country. One goal is to gain a better understanding of issues and policies affecting them and of AAUW's role in empowering women. The conference is planned for May 30-June 2, 2018 at the University of Maryland College Park.

Participants will travel by bus. Conference expenses will be covered by the Plymouth Canton AAUW. A few of the women that the students will have an opportunity to meet are Danielle Feinberg, Director of Photography for Lighting at Pixar Studios, Amanda Nguyen, founded RISE, a nonprofit that works to empower survivors of sexual assault, Rosie Ricos 43<sup>rd</sup> Treasurer of the United States, Crystal Valentine, writer, activist and educator. The keynote speaker is Melissa Harris-Perry, political commentator author and professor.

For more information: Visit [www.nccwsl.org](http://www.nccwsl.org) or [www.facebook.com/NCCWSL](https://www.facebook.com/NCCWSL)

If you have a relative or friend that might be interested in attending, please contact Shirley Zaetta [saetta@wowway.com](mailto:saetta@wowway.com) or [734-455-6366](tel:734-455-6366)

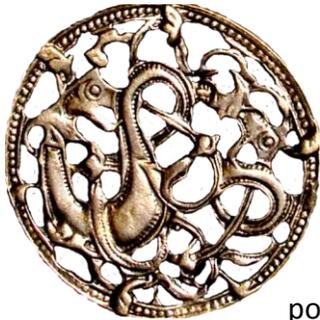
# Trail of the Vikings

by Dorothy Grant

Over a thousand years ago the Vikings sailed the Northern Atlantic from Europe to North America & beyond. The trip Jack & I took last summer followed their trail from Denmark to Norway to Iceland to Greenland & New-Found land. Then we continued to Nova Scotia & disembarked in NYC where we visited our daughter & grandchildren. We sailed in an 1800 passenger cruise ship while the Vikings mainly used longboats. How they managed to explore this part of the world in those small boats without any of the technology of today boggles my mind.



Iceland was particularly interesting. We circumnavigated this country often called the “Island of Fire & Ice”. Erick the Red sailed to this land of contrasts & diverse natural landscape many years ago. Reykjavik, the capital, he called the “Bay of Smoke”. The island is covered with volcanic craters, waterfalls, geysers, vapor clouds, & miles of pipelines transporting hot water everywhere. The geo-thermal heat not only warms their homes & businesses but provides lakes & pools to bath in with therapeutic benefits. Heating bills are minuscule. Some even bake their rye bread in the ground. The natives are known as either Inuits, Icelanders or Greenlanders.



We crossed the Arctic Circle on this trip & have a certificate signed by the captain to prove it. We encountered huge icebergs, heavy weather & rough waters especially rounding Greenland & traveling to New Found land. That area is often referred to as “Iceberg Alley”. I loved the West Fijourndland province of Iceland & would love to live there. But then when we visited it was summer & the weather was sunny & around 52 degrees. These fairly remote lands are becoming very popular with kayakers, hikers & nature lovers. I fear they will become overrun by tourists in the near future. If you want to enjoy their pristine beauty plan to visit soon.

Meetings will be held at the Koppnick Tech Center, located just east of I-275 on Koppnick Rd.

The Tech Center is comprised of 2 buildings. We will be located in the southeast corner of the southern-most building. Look for the entrance to BeckRidge Productions.

## Board of Directors

Helene Lusa,	President	421-6408
Laurie Kempisty,	Co-Program VP	248-615-1412
Kathy Kish,	Co-Program VP	550-6808
Barbara McKane,	Co-Membership VP	359-7229
Dawn Parker,	Co-Membership VP	207-5596
Lori Demski,	Finance VP	765-8438
Gail Conte,	Recording VP	674-2829
Marie Mack,	Correspondence VP	427-3552

## SOMETHING DOESN'T ADD UP:

### Seventy-nine per cent of public schools reported zero incidents of sexual harassment or bullying.

However, AAUW research has shown that nearly half of the students in grades nine through twelve reported experiencing some form of sexual harassment, yet more than three-fourths of schools reported zero incidents in the 2013-14 school year.

In 2011 AAUW's research report *Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School* found that forty-eight per cent of students surveyed had experienced some sort of sexual harassment. In 2013-14 data from the Civil Rights Data Collection indicated that more than three-fourths of all schools reported zero incidents of sexual harassment. This rate of zero reporting varied across states, as in Texas and Hawaii 98 per cent of schools reported zero incidents, but in Vermont only 46 per cent of schools reported zero incidents. In Michigan out of 1,907 schools 435 reported allegations, while 1,472 schools reported zero incidents. This indicates that seventy-seven per cent of Michigan schools indicated zero incidents.



Harassment or bullying policies and a Title IX coordinator are both associated with a higher likelihood of students coming forward to report incidents of sexual harassment in schools.

We must continue to ensure that Title IX coordinators receive the necessary funding and support to ensure that schools are complying with the law and addressing this issue. The Gender Equity Education Act of 2017 takes the necessary steps to provide more resources and training. Tell your members of Congress to cosponsor the GEE and strengthen Title IX.

Mickey --- Public Policy Director

### Purpose/Mission

The purpose of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.



# PLYMOUTH-CANTON AAUW

Dear Plymouth-Canton Branch Members,

Below is a short survey to assist branch officers and the Fundraising Committee with determining our next fundraisers. As you know, one of our major efforts is our annual children's play, which continues to be a successful production but does not generate the monies it used to. We depend on this income to support our local scholarships, which are important to each and every one of us.

Please consider the options below in terms of your willingness to support and be involved in these fundraisers.

\_\_\_\_\_ Each member donates \$25 annually to our scholarship fund. (This is a non-event.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Events such as a Trivia night or fashion show/luncheon.

\_\_\_\_\_ Percentage of sales from a local restaurant or department store, such as Carson's or Chico's.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sell "tickets" for a local restaurant like Tony Sacco's. For example, each ticket is worth \$20/\$30. The person purchasing the ticket will be eligible for pizza and salad.

\_\_\_\_\_ "Adopt a Precinct" Branch members are trained and then work at the polls on election day. They donate their "pay" to AAUW.

\_\_\_\_\_ Table sales at a state convention.

Please indicate two choices above of fundraisers that you would be willing to support and be involved in planning or assisting with the effort.

**Other Suggestions:**

**Thank you for participating in this survey.**

**Plymouth-Canton AAUW Fundraising Committee  
Mickey Edell  
Marie Mack  
Shirley Zaetta**



Please return this survey to Mickey Edell, 45177 Horseshoe Circle, Canton 48187  
[mousemick@att.net](mailto:mousemick@att.net)