



# Catalyst

Plymouth-Canton Branch  
December 2018

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

## December Branch Holiday Celebration Thursday, December 6 6:30 p.m.

### Board of Directors

#### Co-Presidents:

Gail Conte 455-5298  
Kay Paupore 455-3564

#### Co-Program VPs:

Laurie Kempisty 248-615-1412  
Kathy Kish 550-6808

#### Co-Membership VPs:

Barbara McKane 591-2597  
Dawn Parker 207-5596

#### Finance VP

Lori Demski 765-8438

#### Recording Secretary

Susan Sayers 453-7924

#### Corresponding Secretary

Sharon Belobraidich 453-5009

**Pot Luck** – featuring Hors d'oeuvres/desserts. Beverages provided. We always have plenty. So if you can't bring something that night - please come anyway.

*We can't have a party without you!!!*

**Special Guest** - Our last spring's NCCWSL attendee, Alexis, will join us via Skype from OSU. We love guests, so please bring a friend.

**Tin-Can Auction.** Some members are providing items to be auctioned. Email/text Shirley Zaetta if you have questions or would like to bring an item to be sold. Funds raised will go to LAF (Legal Advocacy Fund). 734-455-6366 or [szaetta@wowway.com](mailto:szaetta@wowway.com)

**Holiday Music Sing-Along** – Sharon will play piano.



## *From the President:*

The Michigan AAUW Fall Leadership Conference was held on October 27, hosted by the Albion branch. Michigan was privileged to have in attendance Kimberly Churches, CEO of AAUW. Kimberly came to AAUW in June of 2017 from the Brookings Institution where she focused on public policy organization, expansive partnerships, external relations, and advancement. Prior to Brookings, she had held management positions at the University of Denver, the University of North Florida, and the American Heart Association.



Those attending the conference found Kimberly to be energetic, focused, driven, and very approachable. She brought to her new position at AAUW her vision and problem-solving skills. In her first year, she and her staff met with, interviewed, and surveyed over 6,000 members and nonmembers with the intent of developing a new strategic plan for AAUW that would help move the organization into the future. The plan narrows the focus of AAUW to reduce possible redundancies within the organization and with other similarly focused organizations and to clearly define important initiatives and achievable goals.

Kimberly's message to all of us in that "Mission Matters" i.e. mission should be our focus. AAUW is committed to a mission of advancing "equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy." Long-standing AAUW components, such as the Legal Advocacy Fund, the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Award, and the awarding of funds and fellowships, will continue, but members will be able to participate in other focused projects that will help further the mission.

We all joined AAUW because we believed in the mission and we wanted to be able to further the mission to affect change within our community. The new AAUW will provide new opportunities to advance the mission that is possibly more important and definitely more achievable now than ever and to do so with research and support from our national organization. Stay tuned.

*Gail Conte & Kay Paupore*

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### **AAUW PLYMOUTH-CANTON BRANCH FUNDRAISING 2018-2019**



This is just a gentle reminder that we are encouraging branch members to participate in our 2018-2019 Fundraiser. The suggested donation is \$25.00, but any amount will be appreciated. In the past we have spent time and energy on different events, but promoting donations instead gives us a respite from these types of commitments. We will be so grateful to accept your generous donations to fund branch activities. Thank you for your support!

You may send your checks to:

Lori Demski - 1301 Schuman - Garden City MI 48135

## *Member News: from Sharon Belobraidich*

A card was sent to Lori Demski to celebrate the birth of her grandson.

Becky Copenhaver, from Living Peace Church in Plymouth, spent October 15<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup> in Panama City, Florida volunteering with Children's Disaster Services. A group was sent to work with the American Red Cross to give assistance and relief to families in Panama City whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged by Hurricane Michael. Children's Disaster Services has child care givers in many states across the USA who are specially trained to be with and provide



comfort to children who are traumatized by disasters. Becky shares that, "This was my second trip with Children's Disaster Services, the first being to Baton Rouge, LA during the flooding there a couple of years ago. Now I'm trying to get a schedule together to maybe go to California to help in the shelters there from the wild fires."

## News from National

These are some notable AAUW members:

- First Ladies Eleanor Roosevelt, "Lady Bird" Johnson, Lou Henry Hoover, and Grace Coolidge
- Nobel Prize Winner and Hull House Founder Jane Addams
- Suffragists Carrie Chapman Catt and May Wright Sewall
- Cabinet Secretaries Frances Perkins (Labor), Juanita Kreps (Commerce), Patricia Roberts Harris (Housing and Urban Development; Health and Human Services), and Janet Reno (Attorney General)
- Congresswomen Edith Green (D-OR), Patsy Mink (D-HI), and Constance Morella (R-MD)
- First woman elected to the National Academy of Sciences, Florence Sabin
- President of the National Council of Negro Women, Alpha Kappa Alpha President, and Obstetrician Dorothy Boulding Ferebee
- Anthropologist Margaret Mead



**What things make William Henry Harrison unusual as a president?**

## HEIGH HO! HEIGH HO!



As most of you know our play this year is *Snow White*. Costumes have been organized, the cast has been chosen, scenery has been viewed and some moved, and we have had one rehearsal. But as you also know there are many tasks yet to accomplish. If you can be of assistance, please let us know as soon as possible. Think about one of the following:

- House Manager
- Stage Manager
- Help with costumes and make-up
- Assistance with tickets, posters, other advertising
- Reaching out to Girl Scout Troops
- Ushering

### Performance Dates Are:

**Thursday, January 31, 2019**

**6:15 Scout Presentation, 7:00 Performance**

**Friday, February 1, 2019**

**7:00 Performance**

**Saturday, February 2, 2019**

**10:15 Scout Performance, 11:00 Performance**

**2:00 Performance**

### Congratulations to Our Illustrious Cast!

Bear .....Kaytee Bellows  
Skunk .....Patricia Fernanda  
Rabbit .....  
Snow White.....Melissa Mosquera  
Lady Amy .....Kathy Kish  
Lady Beth .....Monica Nick  
Lady Christina.....Meredith Conte  
Lady Diana.....Marie Noel  
Lady Elizabeth.....Gail Conte  
Prince Michael.....Melissa Uhl  
Queen Braggamore .....Helene Lusa  
Witch Hex.....Lisa Gapa

Long Tail..... Kay Paupore  
Short Tail..... Becky Decker  
Lack Tail ..... Amanda Lawrence  
Henry Huntsman.....  
Doc..... Becky Copenhaver  
Happy ..... Dawn Parker  
Sneezy..... Laurie Kempisty  
Grumpy ..... Michelle Churchill  
Bashful..... Anna Schumaker  
Sleepy ..... Shirly Zaetta  
Dopey..... Marie Mack  
Peddler Woman..... Esther Nelson

If anyone is interested in joining our cast, we still need a rabbit and Henry the Huntsman. Our efforts not only generate fun and laughter for the cast but a grand sense of satisfaction, because we are providing live drama to children. Their positive responses and faces filled with joy and awe make every minute worth it.

Again, just contact your directors, and we will find a spot for you.

Mickey Edell 734-981-6770  
E.E. Polce 734-981-6770



## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AT WORK



Even though many of us are no longer working, we have younger members that are and also children, grandchildren, and nieces that may experience inappropriate behaviors during their employment.

Thus, it behooves us to be aware of sexual harassment issues in the workplace. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Very generally, sexual harassment describes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct. The behavior does not have to be of a sexual nature, however, and can include offensive remarks about a person's sex.

Title VII is a federal law that prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of sex, color, national origin, and religion, and it applies to employers with fifteen or more employees. The law also makes it illegal to retaliate against a person because the person complained about discrimination, filed a charge of discrimination, or participated in an employment discrimination investigation or lawsuit. It applies to federal, state, and local governments, as well as employment agencies and labor organizations.



Even with title VII's protections many people across the country still face sexual harassment in the workplace.

The following two resources are available to provide knowledge and support:

- *Employee's Guide: Sexually Harassed—What Should I Do Next?*
- *Employer's Guide: Move Beyond Compliance*

These publications will help employees better identify sexual harassment, advocate for themselves and others, and determine next steps.

We applaud all of the women and men, as well, that have shared their stories, especially during the past couple of years. The #MeToo movement has given people a voice and the courage to speak out. Let us continue to be aware and informed to assist those, who may need our empathy, support, and knowledge.

Mickey  
Public Policy

- 1) He was the oldest when elected.
- 2) His inaugural speech was the longest.
- 3) His term the shortest at one month