

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 in the southeast corner of the southern-most building. Look for the entrance to BeckRidge Productions.

May Branch Meeting

Thursday, May 17

6:30 p.m.

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	591-2597
Dawn Parker Co-Membership VP	20-5596
Lori Demski Finance VP	765-8438
Gail Conte, Recording VP	674-2829
Marie Mack, Correspondence VP	427-3552

We can't wait to welcome our speaker, Krista McKinley to our May 17th. Branch meeting!

Krista graduated from Annapolis and went on to command regiments as a Colonel in the [U.S.MC](#). She is now living in Plymouth with her family and did a fantastic job of speaking at the Plymouth Memorial Ceremony.

May is also the Annual Meeting.
We will elect new officers.

Kathy Kish/Laurie Kempisty, Program V.P.s

*Dinner will be provided by Mickey Edell.
There will be a Variety of Salads, Breads/Butter, and Dessert
We ask for a contribution of \$8.00 per person.*



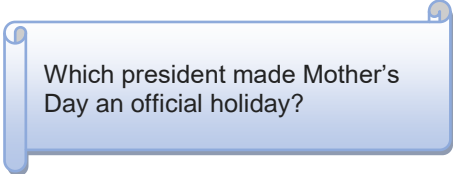
From the President:

The 96th AAUWMI Convention and Annual Meeting is in the books. The branch did an amazing job taking care of a multitude of details and arrangements. Special thanks go to Sue Bellows, Mickey Edell, Laurie Kempisty, Gail Conte, Kathy Kish, Kay Paupore, Shirley Zaetta, Lori Demski, Sue Sayers, Pat Lowes, Sharon Belobraidich, Marie Mack, Becky Copenhaver, Dorothy Grant, Esther Nelson, and Dawn Parker.

Barbara Mc Quade's keynote received a standing ovation, and she fielded questions on a variety of topics. Other sessions included one on the pay gap, Student Advisory Council update, and a panel on the theme #What Now?, and they were well-received. The branch put together goodie bags for attendees, and the extras will be available at the May meeting. Don't miss your chance to get a special Plymouth shopping bag, a chip clip, pen and notepad.

One other session was an update from Peggy Ryan Williams, vice-chair of National AAUW. She presented information on the current strategic planning process of the national association and spoke about the three ballot issues. One issue that is up for a vote again is the requirement of a university degree for membership. The proposal eliminates the need for a degree, opening membership to a wider group. One of the other proposals opens a few seats on the National Board to people who are not members of AAUW. The thinking behind this is that it would open the National group to input from other organizations with similar interests and advocacy. The third proposal deals with staggering the terms of board members. Please consider logging on to the website and expressing your views with your vote. The strategic plan is also available for review on the national website.

Voting is open April 25 through June 9 and AAUW highly encourages you to vote online using your member ID and PIN (which you can find emailed to you with the digital version of *Outlook* magazine or on the mailing label of the print edition). A paper ballot and envelope were included in the print version of *Outlook*, or you can request one by calling by 800.326.2289 by May 7.



Which president made Mother's Day an official holiday?

At the May meeting, we will confirm the slate of officers for 2018-2020. Thanks and congratulations to Co-Presidents Gail Conte and Kay Paupore, Corresponding Secretary Sharon Belobraidich, and Recording Secretary Sue Sayers.

The Board has decided to extend the Spring Fundraiser until the May branch meeting. If you did not get a chance to place your order for tote bags or to donate to the scholarship fund, you still have time to do that. The Spring Fundraiser has already generated over \$300 for the scholarship fund so we're off to a strong start. The forms for the tote bag order were attached to last month's Catalyst and they can be turned in at the May meeting. Finance Director Lori Demski will also accept your donation to the scholarship fund if that is your choice. Thank you to everyone who has participated so far.

This is my last Catalyst article, and the May meeting will be my last meeting as branch president. It has been my pleasure to serve our organization in that role. The biggest plus for me is getting to know all of you better. This is an amazing group of women, and I have thoroughly enjoyed working and having fun with all of you.

– Helene

N

National Conference for College Women Student leaders (nick-whistle)
Empowering Young Women-

C

Once again, we have selected another outstanding young woman to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

C

W

Alexis Malecki, a Novi resident, just finished her first year at Ohio State majoring in Public Health and Pre-med. Due to her involvement in various social justice initiatives, she is the recipient of the Morrill Prominence Scholarship at Ohio State for her commitment to academics and diversity. Alexis is in the Health Sciences Scholarships program and earned a position on the leadership council of this organization. She also pledged Alpha Gamma Delta Women's Fraternity.

S

L

This month, she will be traveling to Nicaragua with a student organization called Global Brigades. The group will be running a medical clinic and building a public health project.

Her plans are, "I hope to work as a physician in the public health field addressing the cultural and social determinants of health on a global scale." Alexis and other young women like her, give us hope for the future.

Shirley Zaetta

EQUAL PAY DAY

During the past few months AAUW has been working on a new organizational plan to keep us relevant and engaged and to focus on our mission of advancing equity for women and girls. As a result, the following AAUW Priority Issues have been established.

- Education and Training
- Economic Security
- Leadership
- Governance and Sustainability

These are all crucial areas to be addressed but the first two are relevant to our public policy outreach and impact. In Education and Training, Title IX and STEM will be the focus. Economic Security will encompass pay equity, the workplace, and Title IX.

Closing the pay gap remains a huge priority and AAUW has a plan, because closing the pay gap matters to all of us. The plan includes the following goals:

- Strengthen federal and state pay equity laws.
- Encourage employers to set fair pay practices.
- Train ten million women in salary negotiation by 2022.

This commitment will give millions of women the skills they need to effectively understand their market worth and provide the tools of confidence to negotiate for it.

As branch members it is our responsibility to stay informed and committed to the above goals so that we are constantly in the process of moving our mission forward.

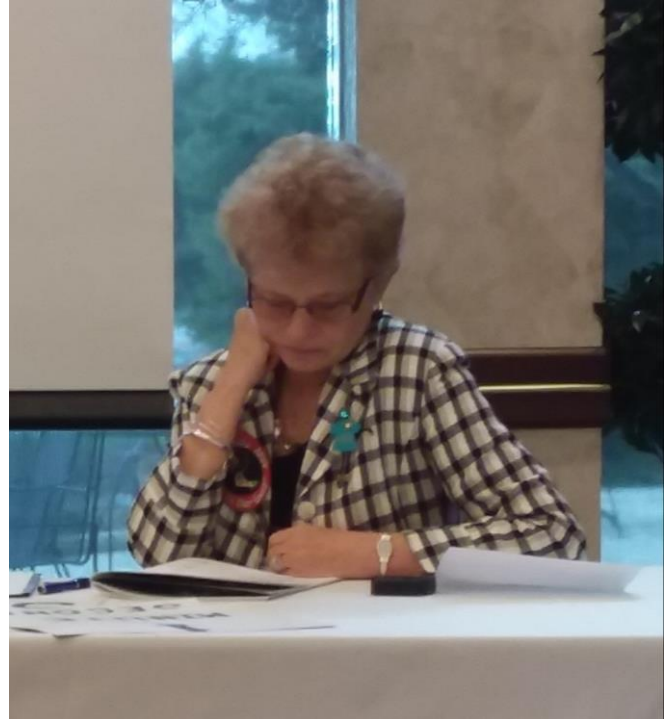
Mickey, Public Policy Director

**AAUWMI State Conference at the Summit in Canton.
The Conference was fun and interesting to attend.
Several members also enjoyed assisting with assorted host duties.**



Laurie Kempisty at registration table.

Becky registered the voting delegates.



Shirley supervised registration, then listened to speakers.



Mickey presented the Martha Griffiths award to Gladys Holdeman McKenney



It was Woodrow Wilson in 1914. However, a woman named Anna Jarvis in 1907 paid homage to her mother with an aggressive letter writing campaign that urged elected officials to promote an official holiday to honor all mothers.

Happy Mother's Day on the 13th everyone!



Sharon reported the number of electors to the conference.



Badge worn by our branch members at the Conference



MEMBER NEWS

Bonnie Goodrich is a reading intervention teacher at Dodson Elementary School in Plymouth-Canton.

In November of 2016 my sister asked if my brother and I would like to get a team together to try out for Family Feud since auditions were going to be held at Cobo Center. We readily agreed and added in my niece and daughter to round out the team. (We later found out that my brother only agreed to try out as he was sure that we would never be on the actual show! Imagine his surprise when he was featured on their tv ads!) We used our family name, Wildt, for our team name. There were hundreds of people there auditioning. We did a trial game with another family and then were quietly asked to go into another room where we had a second interview and taping. Most teams were just thanked and sent on their way without this step. Near Christmas we found out that we were now considered an active family with the possibility of being on the actual show! By February I had to organize the team and submit dates that we were available to travel to Atlanta. This was not an easy feat with Allison, my daughter, working in Chicago and my niece, Becky, attending MSU! We waited and waited to hear more from the producers and finally in April of 2017 we got the call! We were scheduled to fly out for Mother's Day weekend. The show paid for all our flights, transportation to and from airport, the hotel rooms and meals during our full day of taping. Meanwhile, we had very specific directions on organizing coordinated outfits, etc. We each needed to have 3-4 outfits! My husband and brother-in-law also joined us. The hard part was keeping our results secret for a full six months as the shows did not originally appear until Nov. 2107! No one could know how we did until the shows aired! Now we are showing up in reruns!



We had an absolute blast doing the show!

The day of the show we had to be there early for a “practice” session where the producers “ranked” the 7 teams to determine the order of appearance. We met people from all over the country as we were confined to a room and could not have any outside contact, take photos or use cell phones. Game shows are closely monitored to make sure that there is no cheating going on. They even accompanied us on bathroom breaks. All our meals were provided. They taped 4 shows in a day and we were on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th shows. It was a very long day as we had to be there by 9 a.m. and left about 10:30 at night. The crew taped the shows right after one another—two in the morning, a lunch break and then the other two. One audience group came for each half of the day. If we had gone on for another show, we would have been able to return to the hotel overnight and then would have been able to put on another outfit. That is why we had the same clothes on for all 3 shows! They taped about 1 1/2 hours' worth for each show and then reduced it down to the half-hour show with commercial breaks. A lot was edited out, including the introduction of our family members.

We really were not nervous as the producers and team made us feel so comfortable. We had practiced playing the game as a family, but it is MUCH different on tv! Doing the Fast Money Rounds was crazy! I am never going to live down some of my answers on the show. Pass me the BACON is already part of our Wildt family lore. I also made the Family Feud Hits of 2017 on YouTube with my Anchorage, Alaska answer. In all, we had a wonderful time as a family. We did win the \$20 thousand on the first show and then about \$100 each on the other two shows. We just got our checks in March! And as Allison wrote our team application, “It is not whether we win or lose, but the priceless family memories that we will share for years to come.”