



Catalyst

Plymouth-Canton Branch
October 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.

October Branch Meeting

Thursday, October 18

6:30 p.m.

Get Out the Vote!

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

Mary Pollock, Government Relations Coordinator of AAUW - MI *and*

Penny Larsen, Public Policy Director of AAUW – MI

will lead a discussion about some especially important issues being decided in this election, and the importance of our votes.

Please join us and bring a guest!

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



Join us for Oktoberfest Celebration:

German beer cheese

Beer bread

Casserole with ham, sauerkraut, potatoes, and cheese

German style baked chicken casserole

Sweet and sour red cabbage

German style green beans

Apple strudel

Black Forest cake

A suggested donation of \$8.00 is requested. Mickey is providing the food and her labor, but your donation will be sent to AAUW's Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.

From the President:

Get Out and Vote!

We are now less than one month away from the midterm elections of 2018. Historically, approximately 40% (at best) of registered voters in Michigan vote in the midterms. That means that 40% of voters decide who and what 100% of us will live with for the next four years and beyond.

That is not a percentage that any of us should feel comfortable with. Michigan voters turned out in unprecedented numbers for the August primary elections. Each and every one of us should commit to a repeat performance for the midterms.



The midterm ballots will be long and cumbersome and must be read to the very end. We will be electing state, federal, and county leaders and representatives; state, university, community college, and local school board members, and a justice and judges for four state courts. We will also be voting on three important state proposals:

- 18-1 a proposal to legalize the recreational use of marijuana;
- 18-2 a proposal to establish an independent citizens' redistricting commission; and
- 18-3 a Voting Rights Policies Initiative.

And individual localities will have additional proposals, one of which, for most of us, is a college restoration proposal for Schoolcraft College.

Whether you are voting in person or voting absentee, it will be very important to be prepared and informed. You can print out a copy of the ballot for your district from the Internet and use the next several weeks to study your options. There is an abundance of websites providing insights into candidates and issues. Some, of course, are very biased, but others make an honest attempt to present both sides. No matter what your political persuasion, you should leave the polling venue feeling confident that you have made the right choices, based on your careful consideration of the candidates and issues. Vote with an educated voice.

Gail Conte & Kay Paupore

News from National*

- AAUW was started in 1881 by 17 women college graduates looking for greater opportunities to use their education, for their own betterment and for the betterment of other women seeking to obtain higher education degrees.
- To date in 2018, AAUW has recorded 170,000 members and supporters and has branches in every congressional district, state, and U.S. territory.
- Since 1888, AAUW's fellowships and grants program has awarded more than \$115 million to more than 13,000 women and non-profit organizations in more than 140 countries.

DO YOU KNOW WHICH
COOKIE WAS INVENTED BY
MISTAKE?

* BEYOND ASPIRATIONS: Advancing Equality for Women and Girls

Member News: from Sharon Belobraidich

As your corresponding secretary, I sent out two cards this month. One went to Sandy Gross who had surgery and is recovering. The other went to Barbara McKane who has been under the weather for some time and is coming back nicely. I am certain that both ladies would like to hear from all of you. Their addresses are Gross – 44573 Nantucket, Canton, 48187 and McKane is 47389 Northgate Drive, Canton, 48188

2018-2019 DIRECTORY

By now you should have received your 2018-2019 Directory, either at the September meeting or in the mail. If you did not get one, please let me know. And if there are errors in your entry, please let me know that also.

Add the following information to your new directory:

Change of address:

Kaytee Bellows
223 E. Ann St. #3
Ann Arbor MI 48104

Angela Zaetta
5838 Branch Drive
Canton MI 48187

New Members:

Kristal Stemplewski
16071 Loreto St.
Roseville MI 48066
586-601-7852
kritterbug23@gmail.com
Community Member

Ed Polce
45177 Horseshoe Circle
Canton MI 48187
734-981-6770
eepolce@outlook.com
B.S., Eastern Michigan University

Delete the entries for Veronica Darin, JoAnn Dionne and Jan Hiatt (moved to Florida).

**N
C
C
W
S
L**

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENT LEADERS
(NCCWSL)**

Leadership for Today and Tomorrow

Plymouth-Canton branch of AAUW is looking for candidates interested in attending this remarkable Leadership Conference. The branch has awarded scholarships to young women to attend the conference for nine consecutive years. NCCWSL is a fast-paced conference that addresses the needs of current and aspiring women student leaders. It is held at the University of Maryland College Park. It will be held on May 29-June 1 2019. Transportation is also provided. For more information, check out the website www.nccwsl.org. Do you know a college student who may be interested in this opportunity? Please contact Shirley Zaetta szaetta@wowway.com or 734-455-6366

IT'S MY VOTE I WILL BE HEARD


AAUW and the AAUW Action Fund encourage women voters to get involved in the political process and to better understand the impact that legislative action can have on all aspects of their lives. AAUW and the Action Fund are dedicated to making sure that every woman is registered and has the information she needs to cast her vote. Before election day it is time to start conversations about the issues that affect our families and communities.

The following are policy concerns that are critical to women and their families:

- **Pay equity**
AAUW believes pay equity is not just a matter of fairness, but the key to allowing families to make ends meet. We need policies to change the entrenched structures that perpetuate the pay gap.
- **Paid family and medical leave, parental leave, and sick days**
Unlike the majority of developed countries worldwide, the United States does not guarantee paid time off for illness, family care, or parental leave.
- **College affordability**
Women take on disproportionately higher amounts of student debt while enrolled in college. Women hold almost two-thirds of the country's \$1.4 trillion debt.
- **Campus sexual harassment and violence**
AAUW's research has revealed that two thirds of college students and nearly half of the students in grades 7—12 experience sexual harassment.
- **Reproductive rights**
It is critical to women's economic security to have access to quality reproductive health care and family planning and to have control over such decisions.

**It is as simple as this: When women vote, we change the conversation.
Make your voice heard on Election Day—and beyond.**

Mickey
Public Policy Director



In 1930 dietician Ruth Wakefield and her husband were operating a tourist lodge near Boston. While mixing a batch of cookies for guests one day, Ruth discovered she had run out of baker's chocolate. In a rush to come up with something, Wakefield substituted broken pieces of Nestle Semi-sweet chocolate. She expected them to melt into the dough to create a chocolate cookie, but they didn't. The surprising result was the "Chocolate Chip Cookie".!!!!!!



**HEIGH HO, HEIGH HO!!
PLAY TRYOUTS ON THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 25TH AT THE HOME OF KAY
PAUPORE AT 6:30 P.M.**

Our upcoming play in 2019 is *Snow White*. This production is energetic, fast-paced, humorous, and has been up-dated to captivate and enthrall our audiences.

We will once again be performing in the Garden City High School Auditorium. The play dates are: Thursday, January 31st, Friday, February 1st, and Saturday, February 2nd. We have scheduled two read throughs on Wednesday, November 7th and Wednesday, November 28th. Rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, January 2nd. The details of places and times will be forthcoming.

There are many facets involved in having a successful production. Of course, we must have a plethora of actors, but there are many other ways to become involved. We will need a house manager, stage manager, assistance with costumes and make-up, help with tickets, posters, advertising, reaching out to Scout troops, and ushering during the performance times. This is a grand opportunity to support our branch!

Please contact us if you wish to be involved. The more the merrier!

Your Play Directors,
Mickey Edell 734-716-1833
E.E. Polce 734-981-6770

A gentle reminder:
To participate in our production, your AAUW dues must be paid
for the 2018-19 year.



Fall 2018

Dear Plymouth-Canton Branch Members,

Since the inception of this branch our goal has been to raise scholarship monies for local women and girls. Our fundraisers have included successful book sales, garage sales, pizza parties, Trivia nights, and of course fifty-five plus years of providing live drama to children.

Our play continues to draw captive audiences and provide funds for scholarships. However, our revenue from this effort fluctuates and monies have somewhat diminished over the years. As a result, alternate fundraising ideas have been discussed, but these rely on involvement and time from our members. And

often we, our families, and friends are the major contributors. The results of our past two branch surveys have strongly favored an alternative to an event, which is a voluntary monetary contribution from each member. The suggested amount is \$25, but any amount will be greatly appreciated.

We are fundraising to support both our scholarship funds and branch activities. When you donate, please indicate which effort you prefer to support: local scholarship funds or the branch activities fund.

If you are able to support these efforts, please make your checks payable to AAUW Plymouth-Canton Branch and send them to our Finance Director:

Lori Demski
1301 Schuman
Garden City, MI 48135

Your generosity is greatly appreciated for either of these efforts.

All the Best,
Mickey Edell
Fundraising Chairperson

Don't forget to pick up your sticker/button on Tuesday, November 6.

