



Catalyst

Plymouth-Canton Branch
October 2023

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Mickey Edell	716-1833
Dawn Parker	207-5596
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October Branch Meeting

**Thursday, October 19 at 6:30 pm
Plymouth Community Arts Council**

Welcome !!! Please join us for a most interesting evening!

Branch member, Dianne Hartman, spoke to the branch last year about her career and foray into writing music. She has had wonderful success with two compositions being performed by noted orchestras.

Dianne teaches mindfulness in her work because it improves health, personal and professional relationships, contributes to improved productivity in the workplace, leads to long-term health changes that result in fewer chronic illnesses, reduces demand on the brain care system, and

improves the quality of life. *She will lead the group through a Chocolate Mindful Meditation to demonstrate how mindfulness works.*

Once a year, Mickey Edell likes to provide supper for a ten dollar donation to support Plymouth-Canton's "Greatest Needs Fund", which supports our branch activities.

Salute and Mangia Mangia!! A Deliziosa Italian Feast

Chopped Italian Salad
Garlic Bread
Creamy Ricotta Spinach and Chicken Cannelloni
Baked Spaghetti and Meatballs
Two Bean Tomato Bake
Chocolate Italian Cream Cake

Please plan to pay \$10.

From the Presidents ...

Hello October! We hope that you are enjoying the cooler weather and all the fun that this month brings. October is always a busy month; packing away the summer clothes, trying on the sweaters and jackets from last year and maybe a shopping trip to replenish your wardrobe! There are football games to watch, cider mills to visit, Homecoming dances and Halloween preparations. And of course, our AAUW October 19th branch meeting at the Plymouth Community Arts Council beginning at 6:30 PM! Dinner will be provided, with a cost of \$10.00 payable at the meeting.



Several of our members live, work and shop in the Garden City area and our Plymouth-Canton branch has a strong connection with the city because Garden City High School is the location of our annual children's play each February. Our branch is now a proud member of the Garden City Business Alliance, and we hope you can show support for the city and for the ongoing Food Drive. Food items, hygiene items and cash donations can be brought to our meeting on October 19th and will be delivered to the Garden City High School parking lot to be collected on October 21st. We will continue to keep you informed about events and volunteer opportunities in Garden City and in Plymouth, Canton, and other surrounding communities.

Please remember to check out the AAUW MI website. Sheila Blair, President, had an informative article in the Summer/Fall newsletter about Open Membership. There will be a vote in early spring on this topic and Town Halls and a Power Point will be available after the winter holidays. As Sheila said in her article: AAUW must evolve in order to survive, and that change can be positive!

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Dawn and Mickey

BOOK GROUP

The book group will go from a suspenseful airline story to historical fiction about two female trailblazers or, as Mickey calls them, our foremothers. The read for October is The First Ladies by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. It is the story of the friendship between Eleanor Roosevelt and Mary McLeod Bethune.



The group will meet on Thursday, October 26 at 5:30 pm at Kay's. All are welcome!

Helene and Mickey

MEMBER NEWS:

Our sympathy goes out to Angela Zaetta, and her parents Shirley and Bob, on the loss of her significant partner, Aaron Curtner. He was deeply loved and will be missed.

Cinderella Play Tryouts

Wed., Oct. 25

The play fun starts Oct. 25 with our auditions for Cinderella. No need to stress. Tryouts are always informal and low-key. We need actors so please join us!

Play tryouts will be Wed., Oct. 25 at 6pm at Mickey Edell's house, 47927 Vistas Circle Dr. S, Canton. We also hope to have a Zoom link for tryouts if you can't be there. And, if you can't make the tryout, just email us with what part you might like!



Roles include:

Earl
Prime Minister
Duke
Prince
Cinderella
Jaq (mouse)
Gus (mouse)
Norm (mouse)
Stepmother
Paprika (stepsister: young, hair)

Cayenne (stepsister: dear, singer)
Clove (stepsister: oldest, shy, feet)
Fairy Godmother
GIT (Godmother-in-training)
Lords & Ladies in Ballroom Scene (non-speaking)
Mary
Kary
Mother
Father

This year's play will be held at Garden City High School from Jan. 31 - Feb. 3.

Check your emails for a link to the script.

Meredith Conte
mereconte@outlook.com

Monica Nick
mmnick@yahoo.com

Co-directors



Promoting Public Policy

Mickey Edell, Public Policy Director

If you did not have a chance to peruse the latest AAUW Action Network from National AAUW, I can bring you up to speed.

In December 2022 we celebrated the passage of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, which is the most significant protection for pregnant workers in decades. However, this will work only if there are strong regulations that make its vital protections fully available. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has been tasked with writing regulations for this important law. AAUW has taken on the task of making sure the final rules are strong, comprehensive, and inclusive to ensure that all pregnant workers have access to the protections they deserve.

At the end of September Governor Whitmer signed the final bill in a package of bills of legislation to protect minors in Michigan by raising the minimum age of consent for marriage to eighteen years old. The package builds on previous legislation the governor signed this year and makes Michigan the tenth state in the country to ban child marriage.

Mary Pollock, who continues as AAUW of Michigan Government Relations Coordinator, is a powerful voice for us in Lansing. She is currently tracking 513 bills or measures for AAUW of Michigan. As part of her passion, she frequently posts on the MIAAUW Facebook page, which provides current and valuable information. Be sure to take a look!

On a final note: October 5th was recognized as Latinas Equal Pay Day. Latinas are paid just 54% of what white male non-Hispanic men make (including part time and seasonal workers.) That means it takes almost an entire year of work to be paid the average annual earnings of white men.

Equity is still an issue,
Mickey

October - What Can Compare

Poet: Sterling Brannen

October is a pleasant time,
The foliage is so sublime,
And there's a briskness in the air,
What with October can compare?

Though fainter are the solar glints,
Thought fainter, too, the floral tints,
Though month-end finds the trees quite bare,
What with October can compare?



In town and country, forest, field,
Is garnered kindly Nature's yield.
The harvest urges thankful prayer.
What with October can compare?