



**AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

JACKSON BRANCH

Co-Presidents: Margaret Ickes-York – Zoe Wilcox
Membership Vice-President: Carole Briggs
Program Vice-President: Jan Seitz
Bulletin Coordinator: Peggy Younglove
Website: www.aauwmi.org
May 2023

Calendar:

Branch Meeting Thurs. May 18th at 11:30 a.m. at the Cascades Manor House. Cost for lunch is \$18.00 which includes the tip. Reservations required. You will be emailed or called. Next Bulletin deadline: May 15th. Articles to **Peg Younglove**, pcyounglove@comcast.net. Interest group information to **Marlene Cunningham** by May 15th, cunninghammarlene56@gmail.com. Board meeting is May 4th at 10 a.m. at Christoff's Community Room.

President's Corner

What a successful Branch meeting we have just experienced! After our long (8 month) study, discussion and exchange of ideas about our Branch future, together we have passed the new and updated Bylaws needed to move forward. We have a structure to build upon and next we need to nominate and elect officers to carry us through the coming 2023-2024 year.

The Nomination Committee will have a slate of officers to present at our last meeting of this year in May. We can vote at that time, and Installation of Officers will follow. I can only be grateful for the dedicated work of the New Bylaws Committee chaired by **Nancy Connell**. With the able advice of **Joanne Snell**, Branch Bylaws Chair, all the changes received the needed approval of the State

Bylaws Chair. So, you see this was quite an effort brought to fruition by many people.

Next, another good “omen” for the coming year is that the Volunteer Sign-Up to plan programs for 2023-2024 has resulted in all future Branch meeting programs being covered by members who committed to taking responsibility for specific months. I'm sure we will have a variety of interesting programs, just as the one we just experienced at the April Branch meeting.



Figure 1 Jan Seitz - Laurie Mead

We just heard Laurie Mead from the Department on Aging of Jackson County describe the structure of our Jackson County Agency in relation to other agencies in the area. There are many fun and helpful activities provided in our county from hot meals on site, to meals on wheels, help for preparing income tax returns, dance parties, card playing

afternoons, etc. Printed flyers were also made available that described the various services.

I look forward to the culmination of a busy year with the Installation of the officers needed to start the coming year. I hope to see many of you at the May Branch meeting.

Margaret York, Co-President

Meeting Reservations

If you accidentally have a late luncheon meeting reservation or need to cancel your reservation after the Sunday before the meeting, please contact me.

Nancy Watson

Membership Renewal

There are two ways to renew this year, by mail with a personal check, or online at aauw.org. The choice is yours.

By now you should have received an email from the branch with a printed renewal form. Please use this form if you decide to renew by personal check. Simply update your personal information on the form, enclose your check, and return it to the treasurer, **Nancy Connell**, 510 S Thompson St, Jackson, MI 49203.

You should have also received an email from the national office of AAUW with instructions about how to renew online. The process is straightforward, and pretty easy to complete. Simply go to AAUW.org, and sign in at the upper right-hand corner of the page. Sign in requires only a valid email address. If you haven't signed in before you'll be asked to create a password.

Once you're signed in you'll be on your "Personal Snapshot" page where you'll see a button at the bottom to Renew.

One note about online renewal. If you run into a problem DO NOT START OVER. Simply close out, and email connect@aauw.org for assistance.

No matter which way you renew, the information update form (which is also the renewal by check form) is there for everyone to complete and return to the treasurer.

Consider that you're doing it as a favor to the officers. If we receive a form from you, even if nothing has changed, we know the information for the bulletin and directory and the national and state rosters is correct. Without a form to confirm information, we're flying blind and sometimes making mistakes that don't turn up until something goes awry.

Nancy Connell, Treasurer

Public Policy – by **Pattie Rayl**

Public policy is an important component of the whole AAUW package. For Michiganders, there's good news as well as bad news. The good news is the recent passage of laws and proposed bills regarding topics on our advocacy list.

This includes Governor Whitmer's signing sensible gun laws requiring all guns be locked up in homes or places where children live/play. Also, bills were introduced in the Michigan House and Senate recently to set the minimum age to marry at 18.

The bad news is that, after 40 years, the U.S. Senate recently came up short in the vote to approve ending the time restrictions on the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. The rules of the U.S. Senate means the 51-47 vote in support did not break the 60 filibuster mark. The bill was not voted out of the chamber.

I'm grateful to **Cecily Savick** for including me in the Jackson branch's public policy committee. I'm also grateful to **Ruth Brown** for allowing me to help on the state committee. My particular interest is the ERA, as I believe a lot of challenges in society will be addressed by adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution.

INTEREST GROUP SCHEDULE

May 2023

Bridge – 4th Monday

Call chair for location. May 22nd meeting. Hostess is **Laura Rende**.

CHAIR: **Margaret Tietjen**, 784-9523, tietjenmargaret@gmail.com

Bridge – 2nd Tuesday

Meets 11:30 a.m. at Knight's on Tuesday, May 9th. Hostess is **Nancy Watson**.

CO-CHAIRS: Nancy **Watson**, (March-November) 782-4199, nancywatson@comcast.net. **Fran Wright**, (December-February) 782-0893

Evening Book Group

Meets at 5:30 p.m.: May 15th. Hostess is **Judy Barry**. Planning and potluck. Bring book titles with Author's name that you enjoyed and think the group will enjoy. Bring your Calendar. There are 24 tasks and 10 people.

CHAIR: **Diane Cranston**, 945-3863, dicranston@comcast.net

Fine Arts Appreciation (to include Music and Art)

There will be a discussion of programs for the future. Not currently meeting. If interested please call the Chair.

CHAIR: **Cecily Savick**, 740-5719, cecilysavick@hotmail.com

Great Decisions

Meets 4th Thursday. Meeting on May 25th at 1 p.m. in Christoff's community room. The topic for discussion is Political trends in Latin America. **Cecily Savick** will be leading the discussion.

CHAIR: **Chris Prokos**, 782-6263, christine.prokos@outlook.com

Non-Fiction Book Group

Meets 2nd Friday

May 12th, 1 p.m., Christoff's Community Room. Planning and choosing books for next year will take place.

CHAIR: **Nancy Connell**, 962-5087, neconnell20@gmail.com

Card Making Group

Chair: **Johncie Turner**, 734-972-7186. Meets Tuesdays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Calvary United Methodist Church, 925 Backus St. in Jackson. Come and go as needed. All supplies provided.

Quote of the Month

Getting an idea should be like sitting down on a pin; it should make you jump up and do something.

--E. L. Simpson

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN 2023-24 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION – Whether you renew by personal check or online, please update your personal information on the form below and mail to: Nancy Connell, Treasurer, 510 S Thompson St, Jackson, MI 49203

DUES ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE MAY 31, 2023

\$98 Regular Branch Member Dues for 2023-24

(\$72 National, \$12 Michigan, \$14 Jackson Branch)

\$30 Community Partner Dues (for those ineligible to be regular branch members)

\$26 Branch Life Member Dues (\$12 Michigan, \$14 Jackson Branch)

RENEW BY CHECK:

Send your check in the amount of \$98, payable to American Association of University of Women, along with your information update, to: Nancy Connell, Treasurer, 510 S. Thompson St., Jackson, MI 49203

RENEW ONLINE:

Go to AAUW.org and sign in to your personal snapshot page.

INFORMATION UPDATE AND RENEWAL BY CHECK

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Winter address and dates _____

Email address _____

Degrees _____ Schools _____ Areas of study _____

INTEREST GROUPS YOU ATTEND OR ARE INTERESTED IN

Book ___ Afternoon ___ Evening ___ Non-fiction ___ Bridge ___ Americana ___

Fine Arts ___ Card making ___ Gardening ___ Great Decisions ___

COMMITTEE(S) ON WHICH YOU ARE WILLING TO SERVE

Please write in your interest in working on a committee.