



Branch Kick-Off Luncheon



Saturday,

September 22

Pachino's Restaurant

11:30 a.m.

What's Inside?

- 2 - Membership Matters:
Dues are due!
- President's Ponderings
- 3 - Millennial Generation
- Program Highlights
- Calling Committee & Holiday Tea Helpers needed
- 4 - *LAF Update*
- *AAUW of MI Conf*
- *Give-A-Grad-A-Gift*
- *Watch for new branch web-site*
- 5 - *"Historic Advances for Women's Lives Now at Risk"*



Panel Discussion: "***Young Women in Today's Society, & Their Involvement in Political Issues***"
 Bay Instructors: **Molly Campbell & Nanci Love**
 Bay Students: **Kaylene Bigalow & Sarah Unger**

Learn what **programming/events** are being planned for the upcoming membership year

Discuss the **latest issues** affecting education & equity for women and girls

Watch e-mail for lunch choices - RSVP with lunch choice to Sue Hampton 428-1254, 630-1577,

Wednesday, September 19

Wear patriotic colors! Bring potential members!

Dealing with Grief & Accessing Mental Health Support & Services

Thursday, **November 8** - Cocktails 5:30 / Dinner 6:00

The Terrace Bay Inn, Embers Room

Featured speakers include: **Betty & Neil Hivala**, The Compassionate Friends (TCF) organization, and **Rosemary Hakes**, PhD, Licensed Counselor.

RSVP to Sue Hampton: 630-1577 or 428-1254 by Tuesday, November 5 with your menu choice: Boneless Pork chops (\$16.32), Hawaiian Chicken (\$18.27), Grilled Salmon (\$17.58), Broiled Whitefish (\$18.84), or Sirloin Strip (\$23.88). Includes tax & tip, salad, potato or vegetable, dinner rolls and non-alcoholic beverages (coffee, tea, soda, milk).

Membership Matters - Janice Gayan, V.P. Membership



Make your **2012/2013 dues** check out to "AAUW" and mail to:

PO Box 40, Escanaba, MI 49829. Dues are \$72 again this year.

If you are not sure if you have renewed yet or have membership questions, please contact **Jan Gayan** at 789-9096.

Keep your eyes and ears open for new members to recruit - let's see if we can top last year's stellar membership growth to 50 members!

President's Ponderings

by Susan Peterson
Branch President



Some of you may not know that **Helmi Lepisto**, one of our long-standing members, has spent the last couple weeks at Christian Park Center Room 512. She was to have returned to her home in Rock with rehab staff who will do a home evaluation and plan for her discharge. We will pass on any updates we receive. **Dorothy Kollmann** had been visiting her and Helmi gave a check for dues for 2012-2013 which is great news that she will continue to be part of us. Dorothy reports that Helmi misses our group. You may wish to send a note or e-mail to "buoy" her up!

Ellen Jensen has moved to North Woods Assisted Living in Escanaba. Check with her daughter, **Laura LaPine**, for best times to visit.

From now through November's election we will be living and breathing our AAUW mission in terms of breaking through educational and economic barriers to women and girls. The following two concerns might be questions you would use to address candidates, at a forum, candidate function or the candidate's e-mail. *(The information below was sent from the AAUW Action Fund in DC.)*

1. "Although the gender wage gap still stands at **77 cents on the dollar**, with Congress' failure to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act in 2010 and again in June 2012, our nation's fair pay laws remain weak and outdated."

What is your position on the Paycheck Fairness Act, and what do you intend to do to help close the wage gap?

2. "Access to quality, affordable higher education for Americans is critical for the long-term health of our economy. It is estimated that by 2018 we will have added over 16 million jobs that require at least some post secondary education. Students have already made substantial sacrifices over the last two years, forgoing year-round Pell grants and bearing the burden of changes to the graduate student loan program."

Do you support maintaining funding for college affordability programs, student loan forgiveness programs, and Pell grants, and what will you do going forward to strengthen these programs that help provide access to higher education?

Please remember, AAUW supports issues, not candidates. You are all encouraged to be politically active and support candidates of your choice. But, we must be careful not to include AAUW's name or our AAUW membership and positions in our candidate endorsements.

We have so many wonderful and important events scheduled for this fall. I *really, really* hope to see as many of you as possible at our **September 22 Kick-Off Luncheon, 11:30 at Pacinos** restaurant, so you can see what is in store for the rest of the year.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Susan

IT'S MY VOTE

I WILL BE HEARD
AAUW ACTION FUND



Focus on the Millennial Generation - Many 18-29 years olds take their voting right for granted. Most are unfamiliar with the women's suffrage movement, and can hardly imagine a time when women could not vote or run for office.

Our branch is actively targeting this generation of women with two events.

- **Voter Registration Day** - Tuesday, September 18, 10 am– 2 pm at Bay College. **Molly Campbell**, AAUW Member and Instructor, is in charge of this event. Clerks, Nancy Kolich and Bob Richards will be on hand to assist. AAUW will have an information table and **"IT'S MY VOICE! I WILL BE HEARD!"** buttons to pass out to students who register.

The Board has been working hard to offer our members excellent policy-based programs *and* fun-filled social opportunities for 2012-2013. You will learn all about these at our **"Kick-Off Membership & Guest Luncheon"** at Pacino's Restaurant (Best Western) on **Saturday, September 22, 11:30 a.m.** Wear red, white, and blue to fit our "Americana: Women's Voting Power in American Politics" theme. An **RSVP** (428-1254; 630-1577) is required by **September 19**. Luncheon payments will be accepted at the door upon arrival. Cost and menu detail will follow.

This is a big election year, and women have a lot at stake. AAUW does not endorse candidates, but does advocate for **women's voices to be heard at the polls.**

Program Highlights

by **Susan Hampton**

V.P. Programming



The **AAUW Action Fund** has launched a high-energy, nonpartisan campaign to mobilize women voters, with the focus on young women of the millennial generation (18-29 years of age). *We need everyone's help to get out the vote!* Please check out the new **League of Women Voters' comprehensive online voter's guide:** www.vote411.org



Three Calling Committee Volunteers Needed

Contact **Kathy Bennett** (786-3415) if you can help with this. **"Thanks"** to **Darolyn Spannuth, Margaret Carignan, Dorothy Kollmann, Judy Fouts,** and **Cindy Bender** for already volunteering.



Holiday Tea Event



Mark your calendar for **December 1st - Holiday Tea** at the House of Ludington. Help Needed. Call Kathy Bennett or Sue Hampton if you can assist with this new event.



Legal Advocacy Fund - Case Support

Beverly Ladin, AAUW Funds Officer

LAF provides financial and organizational support for a select number of cases in the workplace and in academia that have the potential to provide significant protection for all women.

Bull vs. Board of Trustees of Ball State:

Our last newsletter told how Kathy Bull was fired mid-season in 2009 after 21 seasons as head tennis coach at Ball State University. She argued it was in retaliation for her advocacy for gender equity in the school's athletics department. This **LAF-supported Title IX lawsuit** recently reached a successful conclusion. Bull was not reinstated, but was awarded more than \$700,000 in cash and benefits.



Did you know AAUW has a **United Nations Representative? Melissa Guardaro**, AAUW Director of International Affairs, is our new U.N. Rep. In this role, Guardaro serves on U.N. Committees and work groups in an effort to keep AAUW members apprised of the U.N. issues of interest.



AAUW of Michigan Fall Conference - October 6, 2012 - Detroit

AAUW of Michigan is honored to have **Bernice R. Sandler**, Ed.D., "Godmother of Title IX," as the keynote speaker for the Fall Conference on October 6, 2012. She was responsible for writing the first report on peer harassment in the classroom as well as the first report on campus gang rape. She coined the phrase "the chilly campus climate" for women, referring to how small, often unconscious behaviors can have a detrimental impact on women's academic achievements. In particular, Dr. Sandler contributed the first report on the chilly climate experienced by African American and Hispanic women on campus.

To what extent has the academic climate on campus changed in recent years? Be sure to hear Dr. Sandler's story, and make your own determination, based on her experiences then and now.

For conference registrations forms and agenda, visit: www.aauwmi.org.

Barbara Bonsignore

AAUW of Michigan Public Policy Director

Give-A-Grad-A-Gift



AAUW members can give a recent graduate a **free one-year membership in AAUW!** Give a free membership to anyone who:

- ✓ graduated in the last year or two,
- ✓ earned either an associates, bachelors, or doctorates degree,
- ✓ is not currently a regular member of AAUW.

AAUW e-student affiliates automatically receive GGG upon graduation. Contact **Jan Gayan**, VP Membership, for details.

Watch for an announcement for our new Escanaba Area Branch web-site!!!



Top 10 Historic Advances for Women's Lives Now At Risk

AAUW at the national level has joined with a number of women's organizations to counter the attacks on women's economic and health security through the multi-organization effort entitled **HERvotes**. The goal is to mobilize women voters in 2012 around preserving women's **Health and Economic Rights (HER)**. ***The series concludes below with numbers 7 through 10:***

7. Title IX of the Education Amendments (1972)

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination in federally funded education programs or activities. Title IX greatly expanded equal access to college education, professional and graduate schools and dramatically increased equal access to sports opportunities so that today girls and women represent over 40% of all college and high school athletes. Title IX also plays a vital role in increasing gender equity in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education by improving the climate for women in those fields.

Threat: A combination of administrative budget cuts, regulations, private school vouchers schemes, and pressure from congressional opponents threatens to weaken Title IX enforcement.

8. Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision (1973)

In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court held in *Roe v. Wade* that a right to privacy under the 14th Amendment extended to a women's decision to have an abortion.

Threat: Anti-abortion Members of Congress have introduced legislation that would make all abortions illegal and essentially overturn *Roe v. Wade*. In 2011, over 1,000 pieces of legislation have been introduced and 162 bills have been passed at the state level to restrict access to abortion and/or family planning.

9. The Violence Against Women Act (1994)

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) created the first U.S. federal legislation acknowledging the severity of crimes related to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and violence against women.

Threat: VAWA will expire at the end of 2011 unless it is reauthorized. The law needs to be updated and strengthened, including the addition of provisions that will help protect students on campus who are consistently subject to sexual harassment, assault and violence. Despite this, no action has yet been taken to ensure VAWA is reauthorized.

10. The Affordable Care Act (2010)

The ACA covers maternity care, eliminates pre-existing conditions and prevents health plans from charging women more than men for the same coverage. ACA also covers well-woman preventive health services, such as an annual well-woman visit, contraceptives, mammograms, cancer screenings, prenatal care and counseling for domestic violence, as basic health care for women at no additional cost and includes the first federal ban on sex discrimination in health care programs and activities. Combined with other provisions, the ACA is an historic step forward for women's health and economic security.

Threat: The House of Representatives voted to repeal the ACA. Conservative senators, state legislators and governors have also pledged to repeal ACA and deny women, of all ages, critical preventive care services.

The logo for HERvotes features the word "HER" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letter "R" is stylized with a white female symbol (a circle with a vertical line and a horizontal line) integrated into its right side. To the right of "HER" is the word "votes" in a green, lowercase, sans-serif font.A blue horizontal banner with the text "DEFENDING HISTORIC GAINS FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH" in white, uppercase, sans-serif font.

Branch Officers

President	Susan Peterson	789-0816
Pres.Elect / Univ.Relations	Shannon Taylor	428-4491
V.P. Membership	Janice Gayan	789-9096
V.P. Programming	Susan Hampton	428-1254
Finance Officer	Dorothy Kollmann	553-7367
Recording Officer	Laura LaPine	428-3891
AAUW Funds	Bev Ladin	786-1067
Historian	Kathy Bennett	786-3415
International Affairs	Anne Schaaf	786-3818
Newsletter / Bylaws	Deb Trombly	428-1745
Public Policy	Sandra Walker	786-7636

Calendar**- September -**

- 13 - "Collected Women" Art Reception & Guided Viewing** - Bay College Hartwig Gallery 3:30
- 16 - Bay College Night - AAUW Info Booth** 6:30
- 18 - Voter Registration**-Bay (College) Cafe 10-2
- 22 - Fall Kick-Off Lunch** Pachino's 11:30 am

- October -

- 2-4 - Bullying Challenge** - Esky Middle School
- 6 - AAUW of MI Fall Conf** - Detroit
- TBA - Candidates Forum & Postcard Mailing**
- TBA - \$tart \$mart** - Bay West Campus

- November -

- 1 - "Miss Representation"**- Bay Rm #231 2 pm
- 6 - Vote!**
- 8- "Dealing With Grief & Accessing Mental Health Supports & Services"** - Betty & Neil Hivala & Rosemary Hakes, PhD
Terrace Bay Inn, Embers Room - 5:30

- December -

- 1 - Christmas High Tea** - Hse Ludington 1:30
- 8 - Lunch with Santa** -CU Methodist Church 11 am

Escanaba Area AAUW
PO Box 40
Escanaba, MI 49829



American Association of University Women

"AAUW advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research."

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.