



July / August 2012 Issue

**Escanaba Area AAUW** PO Box 40, Escanaba, MI 49829

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## BRANCH GARDEN PARTY

Sunday, July 22 - 2 to 4 PM

Kathy Bennett's Home

321 S. 6th Street - Escanaba

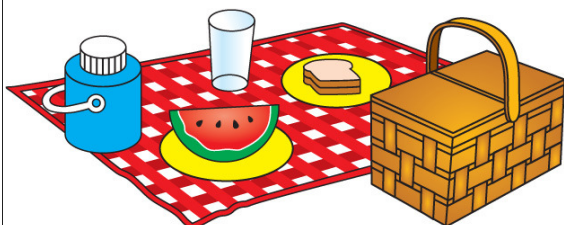
*Beverages and light snacks will be served*

**BRING A GUEST - WEAR A HAT**

RSVP by Wednesday, July 18 to Kathy  
786-3415

## Join us for "A Night at the Band Shell"

Wednesday, August 1 - Arrive at 6 p.m. with a picnic dinner



♪ Enjoy the Band Concert at 7 pm ♪

*Rain Date: Next scheduled band concert*



Our branch was recognized at the State Convention as being one of nine Michigan AAUW branches to increase membership by 13% or more. The Escanaba Area Branch achieved a 17.9% increase! Our final count for last membership year was **"50."**

## President's Ponderings

by Susan Peterson  
Branch President



What a glorious summer we are having; so fortunate avoiding the 95+ degrees in the lower 48s. Our daughter and family see the smoke and sweep ash from their deck in Durango, Colorado (the southwest corner) as smaller fires than the Colorado Springs event burn in the mountains close to them.

The board looks forward to its next meeting on July 17 when **Dorothy Kollmann**, joins us as our new Finance Vice President, **Sandy Walker** as our Public Policy Officer, and **Shannon Taylor** as our President Elect. Reminder---all members are welcome at board meetings. We generally meet at a member's home at 5:30 and combine business with a light potluck meal. Our next meeting will be at Shannon Taylor's home in Gladstone. If you are interested in attending, please let me know, so we can add an extra chair (906-789-0816).

Holding to the theory that summer is kind of a "kick-back" time, we have scheduled two events for the summer---our annual Garden Party at **Kathy Bennett's** home on Sunday, July 22, and our Night at the Bandshell scheduled for August 8. Several of us gathered to do some programming brainstorming in June. We have a great plan for an early December fundraiser!!!! Details to be revealed.

It is hard to keep up with the changing businesses on Ludington Street in Escanaba. So many of the new places are owned by **WOMEN**. If you haven't checked out **Salon West and Spa** and **Pink Sugar** located in retail space on the first floor of the newly renovated Lofts Building, do so, just to check out the great interiors.

And once you are out looking, check out the **Enchanted Home** (accessories & decor) owned by Joy Meyers, recently returned to Escanaba after years of retail in Green Bay. You can't miss the building on the north side of the street. It's currently being painted geranium red and looks terrific (in my opinion.)

And then there is **Positively** owned and renovated at 1300 Ludington Street by Peggy O'Connell Schumann. She calls the shop, "the center for success" and the merchandise is clever, cute and just plain fun (cards, signs, picture frames, candles, etc). It is more important than ever to "buy local" to maintain the integrity of our town and support these wonderful women who chance so much opening businesses during our current economy. (And of course, don't forget the other great, already established, women owned shops all along Ludington St.)

Enjoy these days of blue skies and gentle breezes.

**Susan**

# May Election Dinner

Members enjoyed an evening of fun, food, and fellowship at the May Election Dinner held at the historic House of Ludington.

Board members provided reports, and some new programming ideas were presented.

**Dorothy Kollmann** was elected as Finance Officer, and **Shannon Taylor** as President-Elect. **Sandra Walker** agreed to serve as the Public Policy Officer. **"Thank you"** to these individuals for their willingness to serve our branch.



The Nominating Committee consisting of **Kathy Bennett**, **Beverly Ladin**, and **Sandra Anderson**, did another wonderful job in recruiting new officers!

(Pictured Above) **Member of the Year: Janice Gayan**

(Left) **Double Trouble!** President, **Susan Peterson**, and **Susan Hampton**, V.P. Programming



## Rummage for Scholarships

This branch event held June 8-9 brought in over \$170! Thanks to everyone who worked the rummage sale and donated items - and especially to **Kathy Bennett** for offering her home as "rummage central" again this year.

Pictured: **Judy Fouts** & **Susan Harris**



## 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.*

### **New LAF Title IX Case - Bull vs. Ball St. Univ**

Kathy Bull waws the head coach for the women's tennis team at Ball St. Univ in Indiana for 21 years. While there she advocated for the Title IX issues and mentored young female coaches. She was fired mid-season in 2009, allegedly as the result of NCAA violations. Bull argues, however, that she was fired in retaliation for speaking out against a pattern of discrimination in the athletic department. In July of 2010, she files a lawsuit claiming violations of her rights under Title IX. The University filed a motion to dismiss Bull's claims.

In December 2011, the US District Court for S. Indiana decided **not** to dismiss the primary claim of retaliation.



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## 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 rights.) ***The series continues below with numbers 5 and 6 of the:***

**5. Medicaid (1965)** - Medicaid provides 19 million women access to vital health services at all stages of their lives. In 2007 nearly seven in ten elderly individuals who relied on Medicaid for assistance were women. Additionally, Medicaid covers millions of mothers and more than one-third of all children.

**Threat** - Under the conservative House budget, Medicaid was targeted for deep budget cuts and converted into capped block grants to states. Medicaid still faces threats as the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction deliberates and identifies at least an additional \$1.2 trillion in budget cuts.

**6. Title X, The National Family Planning Program (1970)** - Title X is the only dedicated source of federal funding for family planning services in the United States. Title X provides family planning and other preventive health care to more than 5 million low-income and uninsured women who may otherwise lack access to health care.

**Threat** - For the first time in history, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to completely defund Title X in 2011. Nine states have reduced family planning funding through legislative action and one (NJ) has eliminated it through the governor's veto.

**HERvotes**

DEFENDING HISTORIC GAINS FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

# Title IX Turns "40"



## Before Title IX:

- fewer than 300,000 high school girls (1 in 27) played sports
- less than 32,000 females in college athletics

## By 1974 - 2 years after the passage of Title IX:

- 1.3 million girls participating in high school sports

## Today:

- 3 million high schools girls (1 in 2) playing sports
- over 191,000 females playing NCAA sports *(AP article)*

While the focus of Title IX is for "educational equity," "athletics" is certainly in the forefront. Studies show, however, female athletes do better in school, careers, and make better lifestyle choices.

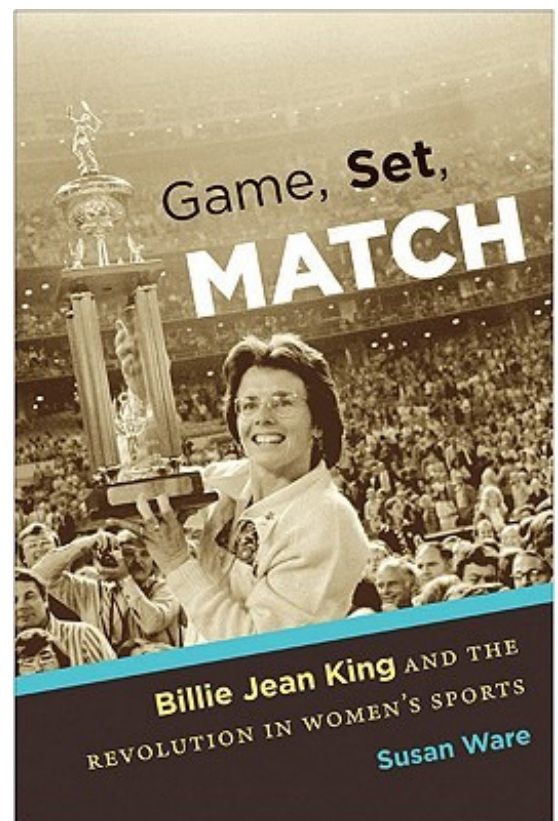
- **82% of female business executives had played organized sports** according to a 2002 Oppenheimer Funds study
- Female athletes are **less likely to smoke, use drugs, or be suicidal**, and **half as likely to get pregnant** as non-athletes *(Women's Sports Foundation Report 1998)*

## *Suggested Reading!*

When Billie Jean King trounced Bobby Riggs in tennis's "Battle of the Sexes" in 1973, she placed sports squarely at the center of a national debate about **gender equity**. In this winning combination of biography and history, Susan Ware argues that King's challenge to sexism, the supportive climate of second-wave feminism, and the legislative clout of **Title IX** sparked a women's sports revolution in the 1970s that fundamentally reshaped American society.

While King did not single-handedly cause the revolution in women's sports, she quickly became one of its most enduring symbols, as did **Title IX**, a federal law that was initially passed in 1972 to attack sex discrimination in educational institutions but had its greatest impact by opening opportunities for women in sports. King's place in tennis history is secure, and now, with *Game, Set, Match*, she can take her rightful place as a key player in the history of feminism as well. **By linking the stories of King and Title IX**, Ware explains why women's sports took off in the 1970s and demonstrates how giving women a sporting chance has permanently changed American life on and off the playing field.

*UNC Press 2011*



**Branch Officers**

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

**Calendar****- July -**

**17 - Board Mtg** - Shannon Taylor's 5 pm  
**22 - Garden Party** 2-4 pm Kathy Bennett's

**- August -**

**1 - "A Night at the Band Shell"** & Picnic  
6 pm Picnic Gathering - 7 pm concert

**- September -**

**TBA - Fall Kick-Off Dinner**

**- October -**

**TBA - Voting / Election Activities**

**- November -**

**TBA - Children's Theater**

**- December -**

**8 - Lunch with Santa**  
**8 - Christmas High Tea**

Escanaba Area AAUW  
PO Box 40  
Escanaba, MI 49829

**"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.