



Dearborn (MI) Branch  
dearborn-mi.aauw.net

AAUW-Dearborn welcomes individuals to join us as we promote equity issues for women and girls through education, research, and advocacy.

Regular membership requires a college degree. We also support a membership category for anyone who does not have a college degree, also known as a Community Associate.

One may become a member regardless of age, gender, disability, gender identity, residence, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**NATIONAL VOTING BEGINS**  
**April 3rd**

**Board Meeting April 2 - 7 p.m.**

**April 13**  
**Fellowship Luncheon**  
**Antonio's**

**AAUW MI Convention**  
**May 3-4**  
**Marriott Livonia**

# LEGACY

Dear Members –

Are we finally beginning to see a break in seasons? After all, spring officially began last March 19<sup>th</sup> so let us be joyful about it and forget all the showers and wind. It's spring!

The 71<sup>st</sup> Dearborn AAUW Book Sale will occur starting October 4, 2024, and chaired by Erin Curtiss & Wayne Whitney The Book Sale remains a major fundraiser for the Affiliate, and the Board voted March 6 to support the sale under new chairs. We, as an Affiliate, believe in and are strongly supportive of the Mission of the Book Sale.

I will be happy to honor Affiliate Fellowship Honorees Laurine Griffin and Tara Gnau at the April 13, 2024 Affiliate Luncheon. At that time, we will also recognize our 50<sup>th</sup> year members Betty Gruntman, Ginny Grush and Pat VomSteeg.

The Michigan AAUW Convention will be held May 10 & 11 in Livonia at the Marriott Hotel. We would like as many as possible Dearborn Members to attend, if interested please contact Carol Wells in relation to possible reimbursement.

How many of us know that **Informed Women Month** is celebrated in April, aiming to build a world that breaks the stereotypes and empowers women to realize their self-worth.

National Day says "Imagine a world in which women have their free will, (obtain) quality education, and proper health (care) just like men. Women have always been the leading light since the beginning, and deserve equal rights." This April, let's recognize strong women for remaining educated and informed about our interests.

**Informed Women Month's** history is associated with women's empowerment and appreciating the role of women in society. Its history traces back to 1908, beginning with 15,000 women in New York marching through the streets to ask for better pay, suitable working hours, the right to vote, and other basic rights.

International Women's Day was celebrated for the first time April 19, 1911, keeping in mind the fact that **Informed Women Month** is directly linked with women's empowerment to be able to learn different things and explore the world on our own. The efforts, back then, paved the way for the celebration of women's empowerment, which led to **Informed Women Month**. In 1975, the United Nations celebrated Women's Day in April, to plan a better future for women in all aspects.

Our AAUW Dearborn Affiliate's continuing strength is helping others, and we are all dedicated women who care about each other while encouraging others to join.  
Joan Reed

## **AAUW - D BOARD MEETING - MINUTES – APRIL 2, 2024**

The March AAUW-D board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Rosa Scaramucci. It took place at the Dearborn Historical Museum. In attendance were Janet Good, Carole Wells, Judy Buck, Deb McBain, Rosa Scaramucci, Erin Curtiss, Wayne Whitney, Val Murphy-Goodrich, Julia LeBrell, Kathy Savatsky, Anne Gautreau & Joan Reed (by phone), Judy Monroe, Jan Frank, Barb Brandenburg, Betty Gruntman, and Mary Nameth. Mary Nameth graciously stepped in to take notes at this meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February meeting by Jan Frank; seconded by Carole Wells. A show of hands approved the minutes unanimously.

The proposed 2024-2025 budget was presented by Carole Wells on behalf of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee moved that the Proposed AAUW Dearborn Affiliate 2024-2025 Budget be approved as presented. Judy Buck seconded. The budget proposal was unanimously accepted.

Janet Good spoke for the Educational Funds Distribution Committee presenting their recommendations. A vote was taken, and the recommendations of the committee were unanimously approved. \$6919.00 will go to the UofM Dearborn SOAR program and \$4000.00 will go to the HFC Hawk Strong program. In addition, the Named Educational Foundation Honorary Award goes to Tara Gnau and Laurine Griffin. Congratulations.

Wayne Whitney moved that the 71st AAUW-Dearborn 2024 book sale proceed with Erin Curtis and Wayne Whitney as co-chairs. Deb McBain seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Book Sale Is On!!!

Jan Frank made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deb McBain seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The next board meeting will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Dearborn Historical Museum. Respectfully submitted by Kathy Savatsky

## **APRIL FINANCIAL NOTES**

### **Financial Accounts as of February 29, 2024**

- The AAUW-Dearborn Business Checking Account Balance is \$19,895.28.  
This includes \$9,343.41 in the Marge Powell Leadership Fund.
- The AAUW-Dearborn Book Sale Accounts total \$21,408.75.  
This includes \$16,927.55 at DFCU and \$4,481.20 at Dearborn Federal Savings.

### **2024-2025 Budget**

The 2024-2025 Proposed Budget, submitted by the Finance Committee at the March 5<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, was approved.

### **Remembering Doris Matthews**

We have been notified by the Association that Doris left a generous estate gift to the Greatest Needs Fund. "Doris' membership and her enduring commitment to AAUW through this legacy gift truly exemplify her passion for our work and mission."

### **Official Membership Count**

The AAUW February 1 Official Count for AAUW-Dearborn is 85 members. This is as of January 31st of the current fiscal year and includes national, paid lifetime, honorary lifetime, dual, and student members. Out of 30 Michigan Branch Affiliates, Dearborn is 6<sup>th</sup> behind Ann Arbor, Birmingham, South Haven, Rochester, and Northville-Novi.

Carole Wells, Treasurer

**Directory Corrections/Additions****Please update your 2023-24 directory****NEW Member - Rahme Al-Mehdi – 6339 Jonathan Dearborn 48126 313-469-5173****rahmehdi@yahoo.com U of M D Sociology 2011****Email update - Julia Lebrell – lebrell.julia@outlook.com****Highlight on New Member Erin Curtiss**

Erin became acquainted with our organization as her father donated books to the AAUW-D for our annual book sale. Now she is interested in being part of this community and grow the organization's outreach. She has a degree in Urban and Regional planning from Michigan State University and works as Director of operations for Ottimate. Ottimate is a company providing software services to help businesses collect, analyze, and optimize cost, inventory and billing data. She is rewarded in her work with the satisfaction of problem solving and collaboration. Outside of work, she plays and officiates soccer. She enjoys reading and traveling. She explores the United States on camping road trips and likes international travel as well. She shares her life with her black lab, Lola and Lab mix, Tippie and contracts with a local dog sitting business. We welcome Erin and her considerable talents and thank her for sharing her precious time with AAUW-D

**HEAR YE, HEAR YE!****A new *Study & Interest Group* will be meeting the third Thursday of the month.****Chair: Mary Nameth's Home -- 313-378-2132****Location 23313 Oak Street, Dearborn****Time: 10 am****We will meet and learn to do various craft activities.**

**MYSTERIOUS WOMEN**

Chair: Linda Ramsdell (313) 336-7829  
 Meeting: April 22, 2024 – 3 p.m.  
 Hostess: Pat Johnson/Judy Monroe  
 Moderator: Jan Frank  
 Book: *The Coast to Coast Murders*  
 by James Patterson

**BOOK GROUP III**

Chair: Ginny Grush – (248) 320-8860  
 Meeting: April 25, 2024 - 1 p.m  
 Hostess:TBD  
 Book: Afternoon Poetry - bring poems to read  
 and copies of poems to share.

**MYSTERIOUS WOMEN, TOO!**

Chair: Corinne Asher (248) 259-1564  
 Meeting: April 10, 2024– 7 p.m. via ZOOM  
 Moderator Val Murphy Goodrich  
 Book: *Porte de Vesaille* by Cara Black  
 New Members are always welcome.

**GLOBAL STUDIES**

Chair: Barb Brandenburg (313) 563-0240  
 Meeting: April 15, 2024 – 1 p.m.  
 Hostess: Pat Vom Steeg  
 Country: Germany

**BOOK SEMINAR 2**

Chair: Janet Good (313) 278-5271  
 or cell (313) 622-3997  
 Meeting April 11, 2024 -2:30 p.m.  
 Book: *An Emense World* by Ed Young

**BRIDGE GROUP**

Chair: Peg Abbott (313) 467-7235  
 Meeting April 16, 2024 – Lunch at 12:00  
 Bridge at 1 p.m at.Leons’s

**FILM CRITICS**

Chair: Carol Long (313) 336-0029  
 Date: February 2024 - 6:30 p.m.  
 Hostess: contact Carol for information

**EPICUREANS-MIDDAY**

Chair: Joan Reed  
 Meeting April 18, 2024 –11:30 a.m.  
 Location: Himalayan Flames - 22266 Mich. Ave.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
APRIL	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Board Meeting 7 p.m.				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Mysterious Women, Too! 7 p.m.	Book Seminar II 2:30 p.m.		Fellowship Luncheon Antonios 1 p.m.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Global Studies 1 p.m.	Bridge Group 12 noon		Daytime Epicureans 11:30 a.m.		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Mysterious Women 3 p.m.			Book Group III 1 p.m.		
28	29	30				