

AAUW Ann Arbor

Meet the Board Members



Polly Pan, AAUW Funds

What is your current work title and employer or retired from information?

Retired Research Associate position at the University of Michigan Medical Center. 32 years Allergy Research Lab followed by 2 years in Infectious Diseases Research Lab and finally 7 years in Pulmonary Research Lab.

How many years have you been an AAUW member? Why have you chosen your time to dedicate to AAUW?

Member of AAUW Ann Arbor since 2000. Served as Nametags person, first Branch Directory Editor, Dues Treasurer, President-Elect, President, AAUW Funds Director and have worked on the book sale since soon after joining branch. Also served 4 years on AAUW State Board as Finance Treasurer. I joined AAUW initially as I was moving into retirement from gainful employment and I was looking for opportunities to make new friends and to be “involved”. I strongly believe in the mission of AAUW and its support for women’s issues and education.

If you were a crayon, what color would you be?

If I were a crayon, I would be a red one. I count that I have owned 14 cars since I got my first driver license and 12 of them have been red. If I didn’t have a red car, how would I ever find mine in the parking lot?

What is a fun or interesting fact about your childhood home?

A fun fact about my childhood home. I grew up in Cleveland, Ohio; ours was a city house but our street had fairly big lawn extensions (what we used to call the “tree-lawn”). Each house on our street had a sycamore tree planted on the extension near the sidewalk. As kids my brother and I made a baseball diamond on the tree-lawn and we played some great baseball games with the neighborhood kids there (the neighbor’s tree-lawn was the outfield)!

What is the best thing that happened to you recently?

Something neat from last week: I decided to work on sorting through some boxes of old “stuff” that I’ve been ignoring for years. One of them contained front pages of old newspapers that my Mom had saved. Multiple were from my birth date (including literally my birth date), one was dated December 8, 1941 (the day after Pearl Harbor), several were when WWII ended, and several were when FDR died. Many of the newspapers were very fragile and crumbling, so I photographed them before reluctantly discarding them. Another box contained multiple memories from when I was born, among which was my baptism certificate when I was six months old!