

Advancing Equity for Women & Girls



Middletown Newsletter

May 2017

End of Program Year Celebration & Installation of Officers

Our final program this year will be the May scholarship banquet and installation of officers. It will take place at Brown's Run Country Club, 6855 Sloebig Road, at 6:30pm, Tuesday, May 9, 2017. The dinner menu will include chicken Chardonnay, accompanied by spinach salad, custard Gouda potatoes, green beans Provencal, rolls, and beverages. The price is \$20.00 per person.

May Voluntary Simplicity

Voluntary Simplicity will meet at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, May 16. The location for our meeting will be at the home of Carolyn Smith; 436 Parkview Court; Monroe, OH. The topic is: Clutter – Where Are We? Where Are We Going? Our meeting will be a discussion of our individual progress toward meeting the goals of our mission, as well as an exchange of ideas about the direction in which we want our group to grow and explore in the future. Come share and reflect on the topics we've focused on this year: Mindfulness, Sensitivity and Simplicity, Habits, Earth Day/Contributions to the Community, and of course Clutter and Simplifying Our Lives. Please RSVP our host with your plans to attend: Carolyn Smith, csrsmith48@gmail.com or phone 513/360-0128.

Mission of Voluntary Simplicity: *To serve as a support group to continue exploring ways to move toward a sustainable lifestyle, simplify life, being sensitive to our families, the environment, and the world around us.*

Annual Garage Sale Around the Corner

At the March meeting the branch membership decided that we should have a garage sale. So now is the time to get your stuff together and deliver the goods to 4312 Walton Court. Also, invite your family and friends to donate to this sale. The proceeds of the event support the mission and program of our branch.

Friday and Saturday June 9 and 10 from 8:00am-4:00pm the annual AAUW Garage Sale will be held at 4312 Walton Court in Middletown. We will start accepting donations after May 15. We will be having "drop off Saturdays" May 20, May 27 and June 3 from 10:00am- 2:00pm; however, if Saturday is not a good time for you just call Rose at 513-424-1969 and set up a convenient time.

We are looking for good clean stuff: household items, small appliances, dishes, linens, shoes, purses, jewelry, toys, games, puzzles, CD's, records, electronics (if they work), tools, sport items, bikes, collectables and vintage items. PLEASE NO CLOTHING, LARGE TVS, OR LARGE EXERCISE EQUIPMENT. WORK DAYS: Monday, June 5 and Tuesday, June 6 from 9:00am - 12:00noon. SIGN UP SHEETS will be available at the May branch meeting. QUESTIONS/CONCERNS: contact Rose at 513-424-1969 or edrosegrau@cinci.rr.com.

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, May 9, 6:30 pm

Brown's Run Country Club
Scholarship Banquet &
Installation of Officers

Tuesday, May 16, 7pm

Voluntary Simplicity
Carolyn Smith's Home *see article*

Thursday, May 18, 7pm

Joy Luck Book Club
First Ladies Roundtable
Emilie Marcikic's home

Garage Sale Drop-Off Days

Saturday, May 20 10am-2pm
Saturday, May 27 10am-2pm
Saturday, June 3 10am-2pm
or by appointment with Rose

Garage Sale Work Days

Monday, June 5 9am-12noon
Tuesday, June 6 9am-12noon

Annual Garage Sale

Friday, June 9 8am-4pm
Saturday, June 10 8am-4pm

Thursday, June 15, 7pm

Joy Luck Book Club
The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry by
Gabrielle Zevin
Need host



stay connected

aauw.org

aauwoh.org

middletown-oh.aauw.net

"Joy Luck" Book Club

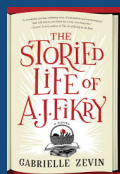
Thursday, May 18, 7pm
First Ladies Roundtable
Emilie Marcikic's home

At members' request, we're going to hold a roundtable discussion to get to know America's First Ladies up close and personal. You may select a biography, autobiography or historic novel about any First Lady. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

First Women: The Grace and Power of America's Modern First Ladies – Kate Anderson Brower
America's First Daughter: A Novel – Stephanie Dray & Laura Kamoie
Spoken From The Heart – Laura Bush
Martha Washington: An American Life – Patricia Brady
Dearest Friend: A Life of Abigail Adams – Lynne Withey
Nellie Taft: The Unconventional First Lady of the Ragtime Era – Carl Sferrazza Anthony



Thursday, June 15, 7pm
The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry
by Gabrielle Zevin
Need host



A novel about a bookseller, this selection has humor, romance and a touch of suspense. The Washington Post said it is "marvelously optimistic about the future of books and bookstores and the people who love both." Booklist called it "irresistible." If you liked *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, you'll enjoy this one.



Nita Driscoll, Middletown Branch President

As I write this last item for the newsletter as president, I would like to thank all of you-the members for giving me the opportunity to serve in this position. It has been an honor, a challenge, a great learning experience and a pleasure. A special thanks to the outgoing and remaining board members who served with me.

We had another successful book sale on March 31 and April 1st. A huge thanks to the book sale committee, Tina Newlin, Sharon Dowden, Libby Abele, Deborah Bennett and all the volunteers. The proceeds from this event enables us to provide scholarships, Bewise girls, GED students and make a contribution to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

I attended a lecture at Miami University Middletown on March 27th in celebration of National Women's History Month. The speaker was Yue Li, a doctoral candidate at Miami University in Oxford. Her topic was "When Intersectionality Meets Interdisciplinarity": An Asian Women Gets Personal About STEM. The conclusion was Asian women fall below all other ethnic groups in regard to promotions, experience more sexual harassment and hostility in the work place. They not only have to try to break the glass ceiling but the bamboo curtain as well. Clearly our promotion of equality for women and girls is far from over.

Carolyn Smith, the incoming president and I attended a meeting in Springfield with Cheri Crothers, VP membership AAUW OH and 3 representatives from other branches. The Southwest district originally had 12 branches but now only has 7.

Cheri gave 3 reasons for the decline in branches and memberships. One is aging out, clicks in the group and being resistant to change. Middletown is the 3rd largest branch in Ohio and one of the most active. She suggested inviting members to board meetings. She stressed the importance of recruiting younger members and the inclusion of all members. Every event is a membership event and each member should be working to recruit new members.

I am looking forward to attending the state convention in May and the National Convention in June. We have had notice from the state convention committee, we have won the Starz and Daffodil awards.

2017 AAUW National Convention June 14-17 Washington D.C.



AAUW Middletown Branch – Used Book Sale 2017

The Book Sale Committee has cleaned out the store front, moved the tables, etc., to storage, donated left over books to numerous community organizations – and turned out the lights on another year, our 61st!

The Committee – Libby Abele, Deborah Bennet, Sharon Dowden and Tina Newlin – wish to thank the many members (plus some husbands, friends, and grandchildren) for their many hours of service to this event and, therefore, to our community. We totaled over 500 hours of labor during the collecting/sorting/pricing phase of the project – and that does not include the many hours spent at the actual sale or the clean-up. All in all, 37 members contributed in some way to the success of the sale.

The Committee met to propose allocations for this year's proceeds which totaled a bit over \$7300.00. Our proposed allocations are as follows:

- \$1,000.00 for a new high school scholarship administered through the Middletown Community Foundation
- \$3,000.00 for the renewal of the three existing high school scholarships
- \$1,000.00 to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- \$800.00 for two Be Wise camperships of \$400.00 each
- \$800.00 for a non-traditional scholarship also administered through the MCF

We are also proposing that some of the proceeds go to purchase at least 2 more folding tables, so that the old heavy ones can gradually be replaced. We had to donate one to the dumpster this year.

We will be accepting personal donations for the monthly payments of \$42.00 to rent a storage locker at A Fortress Store and Lock on Carmody Blvd. They have been very kind to give us a 25% off price! If you were unable to help at the book sale this year, this may be a way for you to make a contribution. See Tina Newlin to sign up to make a monthly payment.

As always, we have learned new lessons and are thinking ahead to the next time. We are very open to your opinions and input. Let us know how you really feel.

With Gratitude, Libby, Deborah, Sharon and Tina



Please return to Treasurer Karen Jones or mail to our P.O. Box 118, Middletown, OH 45042. By listing your interests, this assists the Branch leadership in planning for next year.

AAUW Middletown Branch Membership Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

I am especially interested in learning more about & participating in the following Branch projects and activities:

Advocacy & Programming

- ___ Programs - Monthly
- ___ Cultural Outings
- ___ Public Policy - AAUW
- ___ Diversity Awareness

Community Activities

- ___ Dolly Parton Imagination Lib. Brunch - April
- ___ National Night Out - July
- ___ Middletown Arts Festival - Sept.

Fundraising Projects

- ___ Holiday Bazaar - Nov.
- ___ Light Up Middletown - Dec.
- ___ Used Book Sale - Mar.
- ___ Garage Sale - June

Special Interest Groups

- ___ Joy Luck Book Club - monthly
- ___ Voluntary Simplicity - bi-monthly
- ___ Great Decisions - Jan. - April

Dues for the 2017-2018 are as follows:

National: \$49.00 (\$46.00 is tax deductible)

State: \$11.00 (paid lifetime members
only pay state, local)

Local: \$10.00
(used for our Middletown branch)

TOTAL: \$70.00 due by May 29, 2017

PAYABLE AT THE MAY MEETING OR MAIL TO:

AAUW Middletown Branch
P.O. Box 118
Middletown, OH 45042



Join the Movement to #StandUptoSexism

You play like a girl. You should smile more. Women are so emotional.

We've heard it all before. Sexist microaggressions, which are often wrapped up in racialized biases, make us doubt ourselves, whether we're second-guessing a great idea, feeling self-conscious about our bodies, or receiving less pay or less respect. Seemingly small acts of sexism (like implicit bias, workplace inflexibility, and prejudiced hiring practices) contribute to the gender leadership gap, and that gap creates a culture where women's work is devalued. It's only a small step from there to devaluing ourselves.

AAUW was founded more than 135 years ago to help empower women and girls across a wide range of issues. But we can't do it alone! Just as small acts of sexism can harm us, small acts of protest can empower us — and help build the change society needs. That's where you come in.

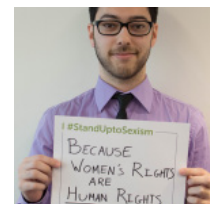
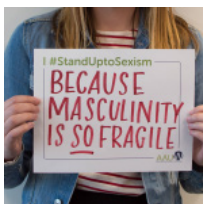
Will you #StandUptoSexism?

I #standuptosexism Because We have to I #standuptosexism Because Masculinity is so fragile I stand up to sexism even when I stand alone I #standuptosexism Because women's rights are Human Rights

We're over sexism. We want to squash it for good. And one way to do so is to call out the problem. That's why we're starting an online movement in which women, girls, boys, men, and allies of all identities can take action to show that they don't accept sexism.

Print out the following flyer, fill it out with how or why you fight sexism in your life, and share it with the hashtag #StandUptoSexism.

<http://aauw.org>



I #StandUp to Sexism