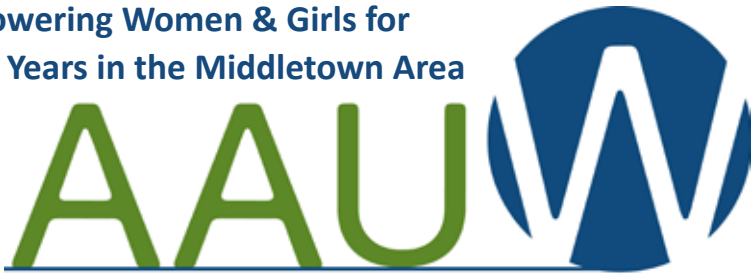


Empowering Women & Girls for  
90 Years in the Middletown Area



Middletown Newsletter

October 2015



## Celebrating 90 Years in Middletown!

AAUW Middletown will celebrate its 90th anniversary with a luncheon Saturday, October 10, 2015, at 11:30am, at Brown's Run Country Club. Featured speaker will be Julie Graber, CEO of Gender EQA and Interim Director, ION, a national consortium advancing women to corporate boards. Her topic will be

"Empowering Women and Girls through Data."

The Middletown Branch of AAUW (American Association of University Women) was founded on October 21, 1925, by 12 charter members and grew to 54 members in its first year. In 1942 Mary Lee Bales received the first scholarship from the branch, starting a tradition that continues to this day. AAUW Middletown scholarships are now administered by the Middletown Community Foundation and can be accessed at [http://www.mcfoundation.org/scholarships/HSScholarships/AAUW\\_SCHOLARSHIPS.html](http://www.mcfoundation.org/scholarships/HSScholarships/AAUW_SCHOLARSHIPS.html). Scholarship funds are generated from proceeds from the group's annual used book sale, a 60-year tradition that promotes literacy and recycling. Other branch fundraisers include a spring garage sale, volunteering for LightUp Middletown, and a holiday bazaar, scheduled this year for Friday, November 13 and Saturday, November 14.

The Middletown Branch has been at the forefront of our community's educational and cultural life for the past 90 years. In 1960 Better Homes & Gardens magazine, along with the National Education Association and the National School Board, awarded AAUW Middletown an Action in Education Citation for their initiative which resulted in the establishment of a Miami University Extension Campus in Middletown.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) empowers women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. The nonpartisan, nonprofit organization has more than 170,000 members and supporters across the United States, as well as 1,000 local branches and 800 college and university partners. Since AAUW's founding in 1881, members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.

## Calendar of Events

### Joy Luck Book Club

Thursday, October 15, 7 pm

*The Girl On The Train*

by Paula Hawkins

Nita Driscoll's Home

### Holiday Bazaar Drop-Off Days

October 17 & 24, 10 am - 3 pm

4312 Walton Court – Middletown

### Holiday Bazaar Work Days

Monday and Tuesday,

November 9 & 10, 9:00 am

4312 Walton Court – Middletown

### November Branch Meeting & Program

Monday, November 9, 7 pm

Middletown High School Media Center

Speakers: Marla & Monica Marsh, Educational Consultants

Topic: An Introduction to Cultural Proficiency

### Holiday Bazaar Preview for Members

Thursday, November 12, 6-8 pm

4312 Walton Court – Middletown

### Holiday Bazaar

Friday & Saturday

November 13 & 14, 9am-3pm

4312 Walton Court – Middletown

### ***CORRECTIONS TO THE PROGRAM***

***BOOK Program book lists the Holiday Bazaar as Saturday and Sunday, November 14 & 15, it should read – Friday & Saturday, November 13 & 14.***



## “Joy Luck” Book Club

October 15 at 7 pm  
*The Girl On The Train*  
 by Paula Hawkins  
 Nita Driscoll’s Home



A compulsively readable, emotionally immersive, Hitchcockian thriller that draws comparisons to *Gone Girl*, *The Silent Wife*, and *Before I Go to Sleep*. This electrifying debut novel has been embraced by readers across markets and categories.



## Nita Driscoll, Middletown Branch President

The September meeting was a great start for the upcoming year. We had lots of good food, social time and an excellent speaker, Becca Getson. She is a TitleIX Coordinator and Sexual Assault Coordinator for matters related to sexual violence at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She is also an attorney. This issue is a widely discussed problem for college campus girls.

I am looking forward to our next meeting on Saturday October 10 when we will be celebrating 90 years as a Branch in Middletown. We will have another excellent speaker. She is Julia Graber, CEO of Gender EQA from Columbus. Also our state president Christine Siebenbeck will be among our invited guests.

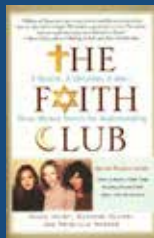
We have special interest groups and fundraising activities and I would like to extend an invitation to all members to review the directory for the list, find your interest and become involved.

Some activities not listed are the opportunity to serve as a greeter or on the hospitality committee. Also, Great Decisions Discussion Group will begin in January.

If you have an idea or suggestion that would improve or enhance branch activities or meetings please share with any Board Member.

## Next Month’s Book Club

November 19 at 7 pm  
*The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, A Jew – Three Women Search for Understanding*  
 by Ranya Idliby  
 Emilie Marcikic’s Home



This book was recommended to us last September by guest speaker Shakila Ahmad, president of the Board of Directors of the Islamic Mosque in Cincinnati. Amazon calls it “a groundbreaking book about Americans searching for faith and mutual respect...[that] weaves the story of three women, their three religions, and their urgent quest to understand one another.”



*From L to R:  
 New members,  
 Cari Hillman,  
 Dr. Marsha  
 Robinson, &  
 Tina Whitaker at  
 Verity Lodge MUM  
 for the September  
 Program and Branch  
 Meeting.*



**stay connected**

**aauw.org**

**aauwoh.org**

**middletown-oh.aauw.net**

## AAUW Book Sale Site Continues to be Elusive

Your Book Sale co-chairpersons have met often this past summer to continue our search for the best possible site for our annual sale, usually in March. We have been focused on finding a site with a bit more space than last year. We are working with several community persons who want to be helpful in our search. We hope to make an announcement very soon.

Until then, please continue to hold on to donations that have been offered to us. Keep a list of those who might want to make donations and/or have them contact Libby Abele, Sharon Dowden or Tina Newlin. We look forward to keeping warm sorting/pricing/arranging books during the colder months of the year and to another successful sale in the spring!

## AAUW Middletown Not the Only 90th

Beth Crout has been a member of AAUW Middletown for 50+ years. She recently turned 90 herself on August 25. Beth was first introduced to Middletown, Ohio by meeting Dr. Dunn on an airplane headed east from Chicago. Impressed by what he overheard in the seat behind him, he offered her a job on the spot and she eventually accepted. She moved to Middletown in 1949 where she met and married Alan. She later taught science at Manchester and Vail Middle Schools for 25 years. Beth has 4 children, 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren, some of whom held a birthday party in honor of her 90th. She is still a very active member today. Happy Birthday Beth!



## HOLIDAY BAZAAR is COMING SOON

NOW is the time to prepare for the fifth annual Holiday Bazaar and we need your help. What do we need?

We need:

- New or gently used and CLEAN holiday decorations, dishes, linens, candles, books, games, puzzles, toys, C.D's, D.V.D's and videos.
- We need Items that can be re-gifted.
- We enjoy hand crafted items if you have a specialty to share.

The space is ready and waiting for your delivery, call Rose for a time: 513-424-1969 or edrosegrau@cincinnati.rr.com.

DROP OFF SATURDAYS will be October 17 & 24 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

WORK DAYS will be Monday and Tuesday, November 9 & 10, starting at 9:00 am, come anytime you can.

SIGN UP sheets to work and donate items to the SWEET SHOP will be available at the October branch meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for Friday and Saturday, November 13 & 14 from 9:00-3:00.

PREVIEW FOR BRANCH MEMBERS will be Thursday, November 12, from 6:00-8:00 pm.

SHARE this information with family and friends, invite them to contribute donations and then come and shop at 4312 Walton Court – Middletown.

THANKS for your help and CALL Rose if you have questions or concerns.

Middletown AAUW  
invites you to our  
**HOLIDAY BAZAAR**  
Friday & Saturday  
November 13 & 14  
9:00am to 3:00pm  
4312 Walton Court - Middletown  
(Central to Curryer to Walton)  
featuring  
New and gently used holiday decorations,  
gift items, hand crafted items, "Sweet Shop"





## Public Policy News October 2015

Here's the "Issue of the Month" plus other news to share with your branches. Please make time on your October meeting agendas to include an update on AAUW concerns.

### In this issue:

- Issue of the Month: Redistricting Reform—Issue 1 on November 3 Ballot
- Updated Gender Pay Gap Data Released
- New Ohio Equal Pay Bill Introduced: HB 330
- Women's Public Policy Network Economic Security Agenda Finalized
- New Bills Proposed to Counter Anti-Choice Legislation
- Key Dates

### Redistricting Reform: Vote Yes on Issue 1

Have you ever felt that your vote doesn't count? that your voice isn't heard? That's the problem that Issue 1 on the November ballot is designed to correct. This bipartisan constitutional amendment will do away with gerrymandering of Ohio House and Senate districts, instead requiring districts that are more compact and politically competitive. Districts that have been packed with the voters of one party over another give the voter less choice, since the real competition occurs in the primary and not the general election. Issue 1 will also create an open process with more public input before a new plan is adopted.

Please be sure that your members understand the importance of a yes vote on this issue. When there is a better balance of representation, our representatives are more likely to compromise and appeal to mainstream voters rather than to the political extremes of their parties.

You'll find ways to support passage listed on [www.yesforissue1.org](http://www.yesforissue1.org). These include phone banking (a sample script will be provided), printing and distributing literature, and always-needed cash donations.

### Updated National and State Equal Pay Data

The 2015 edition of *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap* has just been released by our national office. Ohio ranked 34<sup>th</sup> among the states, as women earned 77% of men's earnings, slightly less than the 78% national figure. Also available this year are data by congressional district—information you can use to lobby your congressman for fair pay legislation. The Quick Facts on the Gender Pay Gap is a great handout to bring your branch up to date on this issue. For the congressional district data, go to [www.aauw.org/resource/gender-pay-gap-by-state-and-congressional-district/](http://www.aauw.org/resource/gender-pay-gap-by-state-and-congressional-district/). And did you know that October 8 is Latinas' Equal Pay Day?



THE OHIO  
**WOMEN'S**  
PUBLIC POLICY NETWORK

**Promoting an Economic Security Agenda  
for Ohio Women and Families**

Over two-thirds of working women in Ohio are the sole, primary or co-bread winners for their families, yet workplace policies across the state are still rooted in a bygone era when gender roles were very different. Making our policies match the realities of working women and families is long overdue. Our state is severely lacking vital policies that would play a significant role in closing the gap of inequality and breaking down the barriers that hold back far too many women for achieving true economic self-sufficiency.

The Ohio Women's Public Policy Network is a coalition un-like any other group in the state; pulling together key women's advocacy organizations focused on promoting policies that create economic security for women and strengthen Ohio families. Using a collective voice that represents the women of our state, this network works to ensure that public policy reflects the true needs of women and families. In order to make a meaningful impact, The Women's Public Policy Network believes that policymakers must advance public policy that addresses the following issue areas: 1) Promoting an economic security agenda for women; 2) Ensuring fairness and opportunity in the workplace; and 3) Improving women's health and wellbeing.

The women's public policy network is powered by the Women's Fund of Central Ohio and Innovation Ohio's Women's Watch Initiative. The members of the Women's Public Policy Network, listed below, are committed to working to implement these and other pro-women policies at the state and local levels:

**ACLU of Ohio**

**American Association of  
University Women of Ohio**

**Catholics for Choice**

**Hadassah Columbus**

**Innovation Ohio**

**NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio**

**National Coalition of 100 Black  
Women, Central Ohio Chapter**

**National Council of Jewish  
Women, Cleveland Chapter**

**Ohio Alliance to End  
Sexual Violence**

**Ohio Domestic Violence Network**

**Planned Parenthood  
Advocates of Ohio**

**Policy Matters Ohio**

**ProgressOhio**

**UHCAN Ohio**

**United Food and Commercial  
Workers (UFCW) Local 75**

**Women's Fund of Central Ohio**