

Honoring and Supporting the



**POWER OF  
WOMEN**

Middletown Newsletter

October 2017

## October Program Offers Entrepreneurship Panel

Continuing our theme of “Honoring and Supporting the Power of Women,” our October branch meeting will showcase business opportunities and local entrepreneurs. We will meet on Saturday, October 7, 10:30am-12noon at Butler Tech Workforce Services, 3606 Hamilton-Middletown Road, Hamilton, OH, for “Entrepreneurial Insights from Local Business Women.”

In this meeting, attendees will hear a panel of business women who have formed new ventures in downtown Middletown, learn about the mission and opportunities created by Workforce Services at Butler Tech, and learn about MORTAR, a non-profit that offers entrepreneurship classes to Cincinnati area start-ups.

We will be welcomed by Laura Sage, Director of Workforce Services. Our panelists will include Ami Vitori Kimener, Torchlight Pass (Gracie’s, etc.); Lauren Matus, SoulCraft Studios; and Monica Nenni, West Central Wine. The panel will be moderated by Patty Caldwell, AAUW Middletown Co-Program Vice-President.

Members are encouraged to bring guests who are interested in entrepreneurship or workforce education to this panel.

### Directions:

Take Route 4 south toward Hamilton. Workforce Services is on the main campus of Butler Tech just before the Route 4 By-Pass, 3606 Hamilton-Middletown Road. A digital sign makes the access road easy to find. After turning onto the access road, keep left as you wind your way to the lower level of the Butler Tech building that faces Route 4 (Hamilton-Middletown Road). Enter the door facing the highway and enter the office lobby through a door on the left of the entrance foyer.



## Calendar of Events

**Tuesday, October 3, 7-8:15pm**  
Step Afrika Cultural Outing  
Dave Finkelman Auditorium MUM

**Holiday Bazaar Drop off Saturdays**  
October 7 - 1:00-3:00pm  
(after the branch meeting)  
October 14 – 10:00am-2:00pm  
October 21 – 10:00am-2:00pm  
October 28 – 10:00am-2:00pm  
November 4 – 10:00am-2:00pm

**Saturday, October 7, 10:30-12:00**  
Program & Branch Meeting  
Butler Tech Workforce Services

**Thursday, October 19 at 7:00 pm**  
1984 by George Orwell  
Jan Runkle’s home in Oakwood

**Saturday, November 4**  
**11:00am- 2:00pm**  
Southwest Regional  
AAUW meeting  
High Street United Methodist  
Church, Springfield

**Holiday Bazaar Member Preview**  
Thursday, November 9  
6:00-8:00 pm

**Holiday Bazaar**  
Friday, November 10 9am-3pm  
Saturday, November 11 9am-3pm

**Monday, November 13, 7:00pm**  
Program & Branch Meeting  
Gardner-Harvey Library

**stay connected**  
[aauw.org](http://aauw.org)  
[aauwoh.org](http://aauwoh.org)  
[middletown-oh.aauw.net](http://middletown-oh.aauw.net)

## “Joy Luck” Book Club

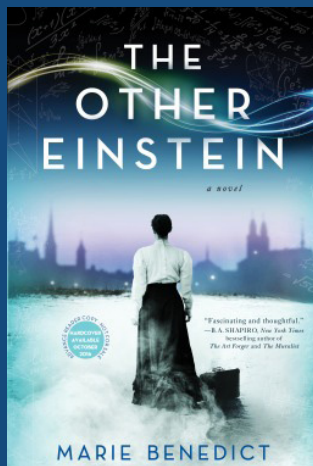
Thursday, October 19 at 7:00 pm  
1984 – George Orwell  
Jan Runkle’s house in Oakwood

Written in 1949, this dystopian novel jumped to the #1 spot on Amazon’s best seller list earlier this year. Dig out your copy from high school or college and join us to revisit the now long past “future.”



Thursday, November 16 at 7:00 pm  
*The Other Einstein* – Marie Benedict  
Lynne Rentschler’s home

This novel, suggested by Lynne, is the story of Mitza Maric, Einstein’s wife, who was a brilliant physicist in her own right. Her contribution to the special theory of relativity is hotly debated and may have been inspired by her own profound and very personal insight. If you enjoyed *The Paris Wife* or *Circling the Sun*, this may be right up your alley.



## Carolyn Smith, Middletown Branch President

At last year’s Middletown AAUW Annual Book Sale, I purchased *Vinegar Girl* by Anne Tyler. I read the book last week. It is the story of a shrewish 29 year-old-woman, still living with her father who wants to force her to marry more for his sake than hers. If this story line sounds familiar, it is. Tyler has updated Shakespeare’s *The Taming of the Shrew* for the Hogarth Shakespeare series, a Random House production that entices authors to take on the works of the Bard himself.

I won’t spoil the plot for you, but a major takeaway from this book is that Kate is a 21<sup>st</sup> century woman, a little full of vinegar, but she is not about to be tamed. Feeling hopeless and powerless, she is looking for equality and a sense of purpose. She finds both. Kudos to Anne Tyler for updating Shakespeare’s comedy in such a way.

The idea that women want power over their own lives is nothing new in literature, going back at least to Geoffrey Chaucer in Middle Ages England. In Chaucer’s *The Canterbury Tales*, the Wife of Bath tells the story of a knight who sexually abuses a girl and is sent on a mission to discover what it is that women most want. He eventually finds a “hag” who agrees to tell him—if he will marry her.

To save his life, the knight says “yes” and learns that women most want power. How modern that sounds! Of course in the rest of the story the knight awakens the next morning to find that his wife has magically turned into a beautiful woman. Ah, well. It’s the Middle Ages.

For a 2017 discussion of what women want, read “What Women Want 97 Years After Winning The Right To Vote” by Karin Agness Lips, published in *Forbes* in August. Women already have voting power, over 50% of registered voters, but do not vote as a block. The important issues vary, but most of them are about having power over our own lives—the economy, education, healthcare, etc.

Ohio AAUW options for creating opportunities for women to gain power include StopTrafficking in Ohio news, blogs and messaging, Ohio AAUW Equity Day Annual Convention, and It’s My Vote I Will Be Heard Action Fund. With an election coming up, I urge you to consider the women on the ballot at least twice. The vote is not all about gender, but don’t discount its importance.

Our branch supports power for women through monies donated to AAUW legal advocacy and opportunities for education. Other work of our branch helps educate young readers, develop science skills in young women, and send others to college.

Our meeting in October is to celebrate and support the power of local women. Please make every effort to meet on Saturday, October 7, 10:30am-12noon at Butler Tech Workforce Services, 3606 Hamilton-Middletown Road, Hamilton, OH, for “Entrepreneurial Insights from Local Business Women.”

## Holiday Bazaar is Just Around the Corner

It is time for the seventh annual Holiday Bazaar and we need your help to ensure that we have a successful event. Please invite your friends, family and neighbors to donate items. So what do we need?

DONATIONS of new/gently used holiday items including:

- Holiday decorations – trees, wreaths, centerpieces
- Holiday dishes
- Linens – placemats, tablecloths, napkins, towels, pillows
- Holiday books, games, puzzles, toys
- Holiday music – CD's, DVD's
- Items that can be re-gifted – new candles, lotions, socks, scarves, gloves, jewelry
- Handcrafted items – whatever your specialty

SWEET SHOP DONATIONS – HOMEMADE

- Candy of all kinds
- Cookies, brownies and bar cookies
- Specialty breads and muffins
- Snack mix and caramel corn
- Pie and cake
- Jam/jelly or other homemade items
- Specialty items: gluten free, no eggs, and items for diabetic diet

Note: Mark items with the name and specify if there are nuts and/or fruit. Share the recipe and/or ingredient list if you want. Package items in clear wrap or bags so they can be seen.

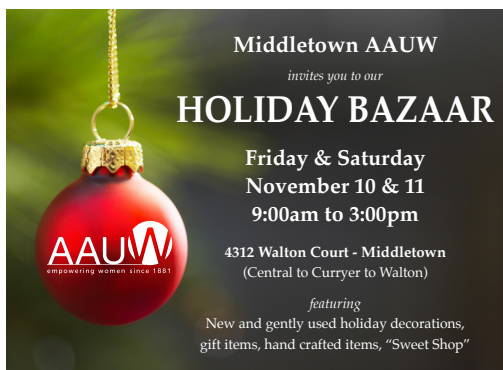
PLEASE bring your homemade sweet shop items on Thursday, November 9, the door will be open at 9:00am.

WORK DAYS will be on Monday and Tuesday, November 6 and 7. The door will be open at 9:00am, we will be pricing and preparing for the sale, let me know when you can help.

DAYS OF THE SALE we will need two workers at the checkout table and some folks to circulate, helping customers and just being visible.

CALL ME and bring your donations at your convenience OR DROP OFF SATURDAYS WILL BE:

- October 7 – 1:00-3:00 (after the branch meeting)
- October 14 – 10:00-2:00
- October 21 – 10:00-2:00
- October 28 – 10:00-2:00
- November 4 – 10:00-2:00



Middletown AAUW  
*invites you to our*  
**HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

Friday & Saturday  
November 10 & 11  
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"

BRANCH PREVIEW will be Thursday evening, November 9, from 6:00-8:00 pm. PROCEEDS ARE USED to further the mission and program of our branch which includes scholarships. QUESTIONS and/or CONCERNS: Rose Grau at 513-424-1969 or edrosegrau@cinci.rr.com.

## Regional Meeting Set for November 4

Members who want to learn more about AAUW issues and leadership are invited to attend the Southwest Regional AAUW meeting on November 4. "Women will gather" from 11am- 2 pm at High Street United Methodist Church, 230 E. High Street, Springfield 45505. Two major topics of discussion will include how to change the way we think about programs in order to attract new members and advocating for change (how to get results). A box lunch for the event is \$15.

For questions or reservations, call or text Kathie Harbaugh, Southwest District Coordinator, at 937-207- 9245 or email her at kathieharbaugh@gmail.com. Further information and updates are available on the Ohio AAUW website at aauwoh.org.

## Diversity Outing

**WE STEP. WE TOUR. WE TEACH.**

Step Afrika! was founded in 1994 as the first professional company dedicated to the tradition of stepping. It now ranks as one of the top ten African American dance companies in the United States. (website: <http://www.stepafrika.org>)

On Tuesday, October 3, 2017, at Dave Finkelman Auditorium at the Miami University Middletown there is a great opportunity to see this group perform for free. The performance is from 7-8:15pm. Contact Melissa Worbis at worbismm@gmail.com or 513-292-2109



## Educating for Business and Entrepreneurship: Background for October 7 Meeting



### Mortar of Cincinnati

In our October meeting we will learn about an enterprise in Cincinnati, Mortar: Building Communities through Entrepreneurship. Mortar's mission is "to enable under-served entrepreneurs and businesses to succeed." The group has been heavily involved in small business planning in Over-the-Rhine and other growth potential areas in Cincinnati. One of their strategies is a nine-week entrepreneurship class designed to help low-income urban citizens create and maintain a business. To learn more about Mortar, attend our October 7 meeting and visit <https://wearemortar.com>.

### Ohio Department of Education Career Advisory Policy Grants



In 2014 the Ohio General Assembly created a law requiring a Policy on Career Advising that went into effect for public school districts during the 2015-2016 school year. That summer, the legislature created a two-million dollar grant (split between two school years, 2015-2017) offering pilot monies to a small, specified group of schools throughout the state. Butler Tech and its satellite schools including local schools Madison, Middletown, Edgewood, and Monroe were major recipients of that funding.

The requirements established by House Bill 64 in 2015 asked participating districts to give students practice and career advice as they develop career pathways and plans. Two requirements encourage high school students to learn about business and entrepreneurship: Connect students in grades 7 through 12 to career mentors from local civic and business organizations for the purpose of exploring career options and workforce skills necessary for success; Provide students in grades 9 through 12 with opportunities for experiential learning through community based businesses and civic partnerships.

### TASC

Under the guidelines of this grant, Butler Tech created TASC (Together Assembling a Stronger Community). TASC programs allow students to work with area businesses, non-profits or leaders to develop solutions to real problems posed by these partners. Programs are operating in several school districts including Butler Tech and Madison Local Schools. Some high school TASC committees have worked with downtown Middletown agencies and businesses.



### Workforce Services Venue

Funding from the Career Advisory Policy grants created the venue for Middletown AAUW's October 7 program: *Entrepreneurial Insights from Local Business Women*. Our venue is the new Workforce Services Office at Butler Tech. Much of this office's mission to help local businesses was funded through this grant. According to the website description, "Butler Tech Workforce Services is where education meets business. Whether it's helping you find skilled, professional talent among our students or customizing a training plan for your current workers, Butler Tech is ready to partner with you to achieve results."



Workforce Services is staffed by a small group of vibrant women led by director Laura Sage (pictured). She and Jeanette Becker, Megan Reed, Joellen Turvey, and administrative assistant Kelly Moore plan programs and events for partner companies. They identify internship and job shadowing opportunities, shape curriculum, and develop the future workforce. AAUW will bring to this venue women business owners from downtown Middletown to discuss the issues they face.

## Opportunities in Education Volunteerism

Middletown AAUW has a strong presence as education volunteers in the Middletown community. Members serve on Middletown Community Foundation scholarship committees and staff RealMoney/RealWorld stations in area high schools and middle schools. Some serve as HeadStart readers, working through Kiwanis with books procured through Middletown Community Foundation from the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

An opportunity to train for JA in a Day is available to members on Tuesday, October 10. JA in a Day requires all sessions of a JA curriculum to be taught in one day. The training sessions, 6:00 pm-7:30 for 7th grade curriculum and 7:30-9 for 8th grade curriculum, give volunteers an opportunity to learn with others the details of the curriculum. Trainings are at the Trenton Public Library, 200, Edgewood Drive, Trenton, OH.

The first JA in a Day this year takes place at Edgewood Middle School on October 23. The difference between this program and typical JA programs is only that instead of going in one day a week for several weeks, volunteers present all lessons in one day. Contact Maria Langendorf at Middletown Junior Achievement for more details. [Maria.langendorf@ja.org](mailto:Maria.langendorf@ja.org).

## Preview of November Meeting with Former First Lady of Ohio, Hope Taft

For our November 13 program, Middletown AAUW will meet at the Gardner-Harvey Library on the Miami Middletown Campus to hear Hope Taft discuss The Tandana Foundation. AAUW members can collect donations for that meeting to provide basic clinical services and summer school programs for rural highland villages around Otavalo, Ecuador. Here is a list of needed items:

- Large old suitcases that can make a one-way trip
- Sunglasses, adult and children
- Reader glasses of all strengths (no prescription glasses, please)
- Vitamins of all types, children's chewable, pregnant women, adult, seniors and one-a-days (no gummy ones)
- Ibuprofen- 200 & 400 mg
- Tylenol/acetaminophen- 325 & 500 mg
- Children/infant Tylenol drops
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste like the dentist gives out- (don't need floss) i.e. individually wrapped toothbrushes and sample size toothpaste
- Sample size hand creams, lotions and sample size sunscreen
- Chap stick
- Refresh eye drops and Saline eye drops
- Pepto-Bismol tablets
- Cough syrup- Robitussin for children and adults
- Aleve/Naproxen
- Baby aspirin or aspirin 81 mg
- Benedryl/diphenhydramine tablets/capsules
- Immodium/loperamide tablets
- Bisacodyl/Ducolax tablets
- Cetirizine/Zyrtec (allergy) tablets
- Tums or equivalent chewable anti-acid tablets
- Hydrocortisone cream (individual size)
- Vaseline (small travel size tube or jar)
- CASH for patient follow-up efforts
- Envelopes: #10, 6 x 9, 10 x 13
- Construction paper
- Border paper
- Pencils
- Colored markers
- Ink pens
- Zip lock bags, all sizes



A large suitcase will be provided at the November meeting to hold items donated by membership. Learn more about The Tandana Foundation at <http://tandanafoundation.org>.

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