

Making the AAUW CONNECTION

NOV/DEC 2013
**Middletown
AAUW
Newsletter**

November and December Branch Meetings



Dr. O'dell Owens, MD, MPH, President of Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, will speak about the advantages of a Community College on **Thursday, November 21, 2013**. The meeting will take place at 7:00pm at the Cincinnati State's Middletown Campus, 1 North Main Street (diagonally opposite our book sale site). Refreshments and a tour of the college will be available. This would be a great event for guests - invite a friend or two!

While an undergraduate at Antioch College, Dr. Owens spent a year at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda as a foreign exchange student. Dr. Owens earned his medical degree and Master's in Public Health from Yale University. He served as a clinical instructor in the OB/GYN department at Harvard Medical School before returning to his native Cincinnati to establish the first division of reproductive endocrinology at The University of Cincinnati Medical Center. He established an in-vitro fertilization program that achieved Cincinnati's first conception and delivery and Cincinnati's first pregnancy from a frozen embryo. Another of Dr. Owens' research interests is laser surgery.

In 2004 Dr. Owens was elected Hamilton County Coroner and reelected in 2008. In August 2010, he was selected by the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati State Technical and Community College to be the fifth president.

Dr. Owens has been active in many Cincinnati community organizations, including the Knowledge Works Foundation, the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, and Project GRAD (Graduation Really Achieves Dreams), a nonprofit collaborative of Cincinnati Public Schools. He was recognized as one of the Bicentennial's 200 Greater Cincinnatians for his community service.

On Monday, December 9, 2013, plan to begin the holiday season with a musical program by Maryellen Clinard, Director of Music at the First United Methodist Church, 120 S. Broad Street. We will meet at 7:00pm in the church Sanctuary where Maryellen will introduce us to the 32-rank Reuter pipe organ and entertain us with holiday music.

A short video, "AAUW Celebrates 125 Years of Fellowships and Grants," will be part of the program, as will focus on several of our branch's philanthropies. A festive social hour will follow the program in the First United Methodist Church Commons.

Looking ahead to January: Please join us for coffee and doughnuts at MidPointe Library Middletown on Saturday, January 11, 2014, at 10:30am for our branch meeting and guest speaker, Dr. Lisa K. Mannix, Butler County Coroner. Dr. Mannix will discuss women in STEM careers and her own path through a career in medicine.



Calendar of Events

Tuesday, November 19, 7pm

Voluntary Simplicity
Betty Elworth's Home

Thursday, November 21, 7pm

Nov. Program & Branch Meeting
Cincinnati State Middletown Campus

Thursday, December 5, 7pm

Joy Luck Book Club
Holiday Roundtable
Ginny Palmer's Home

Monday, December 9, 7pm

Dec. Branch Meeting & Holiday
Entertainment
First United Methodist Church

December 13-19

Light Up Middletown
Volunteer Week

Monday, January 27, 7pm

Board Meeting, Place TBA

Saturday, January 11, 10:30am

Jan. Speaker & Branch Meeting
MidPointe Library Community Room

**We welcome nine new
members and are excited
about working with them!**

**Dora Bronston
Paula Cohen
Nannette Hess
Kathy Jonas
Peggy Kramer
Lori L. Lockard
Beth Miller
Emily Pheanis
Sue Wittman**

Holiday Book Club - Dec. 5

In order to free up book club members to attend AAUW's program on Nov. 21, we are meeting on December 5, 7pm at Ginny Palmer's home to enjoy a Holiday Book "Exchange." This is a reading round-table, in which you may pick any book of your choice that is about or takes place during Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, etc. Come prepared to "exchange" your views and recommendations with the group. It could be your favorite Christmas story from childhood...a book of poems...be creative!

VOLUNTARY SIMPLICITY

You are invited to attend the Voluntary Simplicity meeting to be held Tuesday, Nov. 19, at 7:00pm. Betty Elworth will be hosting the meeting at her home, 4306 Rosedale Road, Middletown. Betty will be the discussion leader for the topic: "Intentional Giving" Choosing your charities wisely and the reference will be the book Toxic Charity by Robert D. Lupton. Lupton has an almost radical theory, he believes that organizations and charities hurt those they wish to help by giving too much and that those we wish to assist would be better off by our giving to them in a different way. We will discuss: What guidelines should we use when selecting a charity to support? Do we need to look at how and where the money is going? Do we want to be intentional about where we spend our money; as well as, how we spend our time and talents, which is part of our charitable giving? Betty suggests that we review our charitable giving for the year and assess the use of our time and talents, just for our personal reference. Please RSVP to Betty at 513-422-0114 or bjelworth@yahoo.com.



Virginia Palmer, Middletown Branch President

Continuing our focus on the education element of the AAUW mission statement, we advance to post-secondary in November with our tour of Middletown's Cincinnati State Community College campus. This program also allows us to focus on another part of the AAUW mission - research.

AAUW conducts groundbreaking research on issues related to gender equity, the results of which influence the national discussion on topics like the pay gap, sexual harassment, and the underrepresentation of women in science and engineering. Through new and traditional media, targeted outreach to policymakers, and member efforts, AAUW research serves as a catalyst for action. Apropos to our November branch meeting theme, AAUW's most recent study is entitled "Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success." Many branch members received copies of this report last month and I have a few left. Contact me if you'd like one or download it at www.aauw.org/resource/women-in-community-colleges/

In December, in addition to some holiday festivity, we'll turn our attention to AAUW's long philanthropic tradition. AAUW has a distinguished history of advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and around the globe. Due to the longstanding, generous contributions of AAUW members, a broader community of women continues to gain access to educational and economic opportunities — breaking through barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

By the time you receive this newsletter, I will have joined AAUW Ohio leaders and other southwest branch presidents in Springfield for a planning meeting for the April 11-13, 2014, state convention. Hope to have an update at the November branch meeting!

Real Money Real World Volunteers Needed

AAUW members have supported Real Money Real World simulations by volunteering their time and talents to the many simulations over the past three years. We could use your help on Monday, November 18, at Hamilton Freshman School, 7:15 am- 1:30pm (note: 700 students will participate, so we will conduct a double simulation)

Information on scheduled events in 2014 at Edgewood High School, BT Natural Science Center, Middletown Middle School, New Miami Junior High and Monroe Junior High will be available in future newsletters.

Real Money Real World is a financial literacy course developed by the OSU Extension professionals. It is an active, hands-on financial management experience for youth with real world role-models.

If you are interested and available, have friends who might be interested in helping, or know of a group of potential volunteers, please contact Jackie Lankfer at home 513-424-5168, at work 513-785-6658, or by email at lankfer.2@osu.edu. Thank you!

THIRD ANNUAL BAZAAR A SUCCESS

The Bazaar is over and deemed a success. Our profit at the end of the two day sale was \$2,246.91. We offered a large inventory and had a nice variety of quality holiday items. The branch preview sale on Thursday evening was well attended and cleared \$324. Branch members are some of our best customers. The SWEET SHOP offered a wide variety of delicious homemade treats.

The proceeds from this effort are used to further the mission and program of our branch; however, there are many other benefits to this event. We gain visibility in the community, it offers an opportunity for our members to work together and get to know each other a bit better and it provides an opportunity for folks to "recycle" and "reuse" items that are no longer used.

A great big THANK YOU to each and every member who helped with this effort: donated items, baked for the Sweet Shop, worked on the workday and on the sale days, distributed posters and helped to spread the word. This was a group effort and we greatly appreciate your help.

SAVE FOR NEXT YEAR - When the holidays are over and you are putting away your "stuff", that is the time to pull out those items that you no longer need or want and save them for next year.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING!!

It is time to begin to plan for the holidays. Please think about putting some time aside for helping at Light Up Middletown. By volunteering to help at the gate our chapter earns money for the Legal Advocacy Fund. Four people are needed each evening to serve in two hour shifts to pass out brochures, count the people, and ask where each car is coming from. Spouses, family members and friends may help. The dates are December 13-19 and the time slots are from 5:45 to 8:00pm and from 7:45 to 10:00pm. Please e-mail Jan Runkle at runklefam@aol.com or call her at 937-298-1382 with the times you can work. We appreciate your willingness to help. Thank you!

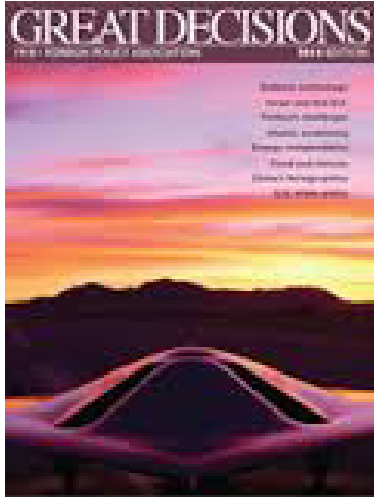
LIGHT UP MIDDLETOWN 2 PEOPLE NEEDED FOR EACH SHIFT

Sign-up list at time of printing

Friday, December 13:	5:45-8:00	Kathryn Boch & spouse
	7:45-10:00	Suzy & Scott Tadych
Saturday, Dec. 14:	5:45-8:00	_____
	7:45-10:00	_____
Sunday, Dec. 15:	5:45-8:00	Jeff & Libby Abele
	7:45-10:00	_____
Monday, Dec. 16:	5:45-8:00	_____
	7:45-10:00	_____
Tuesday, Dec. 17:	5:45-8:00	_____
	7:45-10:00	_____
Wednesday, Dec. 18:	5:45-8:00	_____
	7:45-10:00	_____
Thursday, Dec. 19:	5:45-8:00	Joe & Tina Newlin
	7:45-10:00	_____



Dr. Elizabeth Lolli, Senior Director of PreK-12 Curriculum and Instruction for Middletown City Schools spoke to AAUW members and guests on The Common Core State Standards Initiative at our luncheon on October 12 at Woodside Cemetery and Arboretum.



Great Decisions 2014

A study group is forming for an 8 week study of the Foreign Policy Association- Great Decisions. This is a national, grassroots discussion program with study materials and viewing of the PBS Television series which is America's longest running television program on U.S. foreign policy.

Following group discussion questions, individuals are invited to then share their opinion with the FPA which shares with policymakers and leaders across government and industry each year.

2014 Topics include: Defense Technology; Israel and the U.S.; Turkey's challenges; Islamic awakening; Energy Independence; Food and Climate; China's foreign policy; U.S. trade policy.

Meetings will be held at the Mid-Point Library in Middletown on the second and fourth Thursday evenings from January through April, 2014 from 7-8:30 pm. The first meeting will be January 9, 2014.

For more information contact: Middletown Branch American Association of University Women Public Policy chair, Katie McNeil 513-424-4725. There is a book to pre-order for individual reading for background material on each topic.

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Mission

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Vision

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

AAUW Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

Value Promise

As a member of AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

2013-2014 Branch Officers & Contact Information

President: Virginia Palmer

Co-Program VP: Nita Driscoll, Carolyn Smith

Co-Membership VP: Betty Elworth, Lois Wood

Recording Secretary: Marge Kochunas

Corresponding Secretary: Barb Balsmeyer

Treasurer: Judy Florence

Association: <http://www.aauw.org>

AAUW/Ohio: <http://www.aauwoh.org>

Middletown Branch:

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