



Student-Centered December Program

Join us on December 7, at 7:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church across from MidPointe Library. The Middletown High School Speech and Debate team will be represented by students showcasing different categories of competitive speaking under the direction of their coach, Bill Prater. We also hope to hear from our BeWise campers at this student-centered program.

In January our speaker will be Fran Reese from the Dove House Protective Shelter speaking about domestic violence. More information about the change in location and donations of toiletries for the victims of domestic violence will be provided prior to that meeting.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR – A BIG SUCCESS

The fifth annual Holiday Bazaar made \$2,500.80, the most we have made on a bazaar and will be used to further the program and mission of our branch. Included in the total is \$ 387.00 from the Sweet Shop which offered a variety of delicious homemade goodies.

THANKS to the 48 members and friends who supported the event by donating items and time. We had a nice inventory of items and the customers who came seemed to appreciate the selection we offered.

BENEFITS OF THE BAZAAR

- Provides opportunity to promote community projects.
- Branch gains visibility in the community.
- Provides opportunity for “recycling” and “reusing” unused items.
- Provides a membership event and new member opportunity.

ITEMS LEFT were distributed as follows:

- Senior Center for their upcoming sale.
- Small stuffed animals to Angel Tree.
- Donation to the Clothing Depot.
- Donation to Goodwill.

SUGGESTION – As you prepare for the holidays and when you put your holiday decorations away sort out the items that you no longer use and/or want and save them for us. NOW IS THE TIME!



Calendar of Events

December Branch Meeting & Program

Monday, December 7, 7:00 pm
First United Methodist Church
MHS Debate Team

December 10-16

Light Up Middletown

Joy Luck Book Club

December 17, 7:00 pm
Coloring book of your choice
Virginia Palmer's home
(in case of bad weather, club will be held at Katie McNeil's home)
Note: We will not be at the Library as originally planned.

Board Meeting

Monday, December 28, 7:00 pm
MidPointe Library
Conference room A

January Branch Meeting & Program

Monday, January 11, 7:00 pm
MidPointe Library Middletown
Fran Reese, Domestic Violence

Joy Luck Book Club

January 21 at 7:00 pm
The Long Way Home
by Louise Penny
Pam Pearson's home



“Joy Luck” Book Club

December 17 at 7:00 pm
 Coloring book of your choice
 Virginia Palmer’s home
 (if bad weather, Katie McNeil’s home)
Note: We will not be at the Library as originally planned.



The Colorado Book Club shown above.

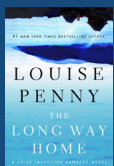
To get in the holiday spirit...and give you some stress relief during this busy season...we will be capitalizing on the hottest new trend in print: adult coloring books! Thanks to Ginny Palmer for this creative idea. A trip to Barnes & Noble will show you just how popular this trend is. They carry dozens of different coloring books on every theme and type of design, from Celtic to Mandala figures. Some claim it’s even therapeutic!

Bring your own coloring book, crayons, markers or colored pencils... but we’ll have some to share as well.

Next Month’s Book Club

January 21 at 7:00 pm
The Long Way Home – Louise Penny
 Pam Pearson’s home

Chosen as one of the best books of 2014 by newspapers in the U.S. and Canada, this novel “mixes some classic elements of the police procedural with a deep-delving psychology,” according to The New York Times. The Richmond Times-Dispatch calls it “a story that



examines the making of art and the struggles of artists... [that] is itself a work of art... a novel that transcends genre.”



Nita Driscoll, Middletown Branch President

Still celebrating our 90th year, the proclamation received from the state obtained by our State representative, Tim Derickson was presented at the November Branch meeting by our city councilwoman, Anita Scott-Jones. We have also received a Certificate of Honor in recognition of the AAUW Middletown(Oh) Branch on its 90th anniversary from AAUW National President, Patricia Fae Ho.

The Holiday Bazaar event was the most successful ever. A special thank you to Rose and Ed Grau for hosting the event and participation. Thank you to all who donated/staffed the event. What a great group of dedicated and creative women!

As a follow up on our January program, “Human Trafficking” I attended a lecture on Human Trafficking in Ohio at Miami University Middletown. The speaker was Cathy Webber, director of All Justice Issues for the Sisters of Charity in Cincinnati. She defined human trafficking as modern day slavery and discussed the types as women, organ, child soldiers and labor. A student spoke about being a survivor. She and her siblings as children were trafficked to support their parent’s drug habit. Human Trafficking is an issue we all need to be more aware of.

In November, several AAUW members and I attended the Middletown Community Foundation annual meeting in recognition of our donation to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.



From L to R: Branch President, Nita Driscoll with City Councilwoman, Anita Scott-Jones, Speakers: Monica and Marla Marsh.

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Welcome to our New Member; Reach out to Current Members

A former AAUW Branch Member finally got a breather from her busy schedule and decided to join us again when she attended our 90th Anniversary celebration in October. Welcome Helen Stevens-Gleason, graduate of William Woods University in Mo, with an M.A. in teaching from Nova Southeastern Univ. in Florida. Helen has retired after teaching 39 years in the Franklin City Schools. Known for her interest in music through her church choirs, PROMISES, Middletown Music Club and Guest Conductor activity with the Middletown Symphony in 2009, Helen is probably as well known throughout town as the "Hat Lady". You will know her when you see her. Glad to have you, Helen.

Reminder to Current Members. Before our next meeting, we encourage ALL members to reach out to other members to remind them of the program meeting and activities. Call or contact a member you know (or don't know all that well!) to remind them of the meeting; offer to give a member a ride if night driving is a problem. If you sponsored or recruited a member, be a good buddy and help her become a more informed and active member. See you soon in December. A. Shew and Beth Miller, Co-VP Membership.

Great Decisions 2016

Visit http://www.fpa.org/news/index.cfm?act=show_announcement&announcement_id=393 for information about the 2016 Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions program.

Katie McNeil will register a study group with the Foreign Policy Association to meet at the MidPointe Library in Middletown, and take care of ordering study guides to sell to individuals as well as the PBS DVD.

2nd and 4th Thursdays from 7-8:30pm starting January 28.

- January 28 Middle East
- February 11 The Rise of ISIS
- February 25 The Future of Kurdistan
- March 10 Migration
- March 24 The Koreas
- April 14 The United Nations
- April 28 Climate Change
- May 12 Cuba and the U.S.

Katie McNeil
(513-470-9031)
Public Policy chair
for the Middletown
AAUW Branch



Light Up Middletown Schedule

Thursday, December 10

- 5:45 - 8:00 Jackie & Ron Lankfer
- 7:45 - 10:00 Paula Lindon & Sharon Dowden

Friday, December 11

- 5:45 - 8:00 Betty Elworth & Becky Ward
- 7:45 - 10:00 Scott & Suzy Tadych

Saturday, December 12

- 5:45 - 8:00 OPEN, PLEASE VOLUNTEER!!!
- 7:45 - 10:00 OPEN, PLEASE VOLUNTEER!!!

Sunday, December 13

- 5:45 - 8:00 Katie & Michael McNeil
- 7:45 - 10:00 Anita & J.C. Shew

Monday, December 14

- 5:45 - 8:00 Michelle Piepgrass & Joyce Lehman
- 7:45 - 10:00 Larry & Lois Wood

Tuesday, December 15

- 5:45 - 8:00 Joe & Tina Newlin
- 7:45 - 10:00 Chris & Tom Buchert

Wednesday, December 16

- 5:45 - 8:00 OPEN, PLEASE VOLUNTEER!!!
- 7:45 - 10:00 Paul & Robin Becker

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. We appreciate your willingness to help. Thank you!

