

Honoring and Supporting the



**POWER OF
WOMEN**

Middletown Newsletter

May 2018

62nd Annual Used Book Sale

It's the happiest time of the year! The 62nd Annual Book Sale is almost here! On Monday, April 30, we will host our second preview night for members only from 5:00-8:00pm at our 4 North Main Street site. Come, browse, and spend some money for some great "buys" to enrich our scholarship program goals. Sign-up sheets will be available to help work at the sale which begins on Thursday, May 3 with our \$5.00 Pre-sale which will be held from 5:00pm until 8:00pm. Our hours on Friday, May 4 will be from 10:00am to 8:00pm and on Saturday, May 5 our hours are from 10:00am to 6:00pm. On Sunday, May 6, our \$7.00 Bag Sale will begin at noon and close at 5:00pm.

May Program and Installation of Officers

The Middletown AAUW program year will end with our awards banquet and installation of officers ceremony Tuesday, May 8, 2018, at 6:30pm, at Brown's Run Country Club. During this festive dinner event, we will recognize our scholarship recipients and named gift honorees and install our officers for the upcoming year. The menu will be house salad, chicken Chardonnay, roasted vegetable medley, roasted red skin potatoes, warm rolls with butter, chocolate chip cookies, and coffee, tea, and water at a cost of \$20/person. A cash bar will also be available.

Please RSVP for the dinner to Patty Caldwell by Tuesday, May 1, 2018.

Email: shoppdc@gmail.com

Cell phone: 513-393-7812

Home phone: 513-422-9167

You may mail a check in advance to AAUW Middletown, PO Box 118, Middletown, OH 45042, or pay at the door. Remember, if you make a reservation, you will be expected to pay for the meal!

The May meeting is also a great time to update your membership for next year. Jackie Lankfer will collect dues from members who still need to sign up. Please complete a membership form with updated information and help our branch transition smoothly into the next year.

Creative Writing Group

Our "special interest" writers' group has been coming together to share our writing endeavors. We have named our group **PENS**. We have been meeting biweekly and hope to establish regular meeting dates once we get through the busy time of book sale and garage sale. We are a small group with the purpose of giving constructive feedback and providing an incentive to **put pen to paper and WRITE!** Whether your passion for writing is creative writing, poetry, memoir, narrative essay, or informative writing—you are welcome to join our writers' group. Our format is to bring a piece of writing to share with the group (5 minute time frame/each writer). We meet at Maurita Stueck's home, 132 Northwestern Avenue, Monroe (Mount Pleasant campus). Please email or call Becky (beckward@gmail.com) or 513/424-8409) for our next meeting time/date.

Calendar of Events

Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays
10am-12noon – Book Sorting

AAUW Used Book Sale

Thursday, May 3, 5-8pm

Friday, May 4, 10am-8pm

Saturday, May 5, 10am-6pm

Sunday, May 6, Noon-5pm

Tuesday, May 8, 6:30 pm

Branch meeting & program
Verity Lodge, MUM

Tuesday, May 15, 7:00 pm

Voluntary Simplicity
Carolyn Smith's home

Thursday, May 17, 7:00 pm

Joy Luck Book Club

A Gentleman in Moscow

by Amor Towles

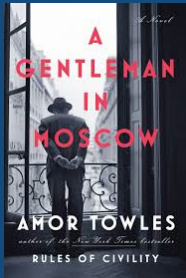
“Joy Luck” Book Club

Thursday, May 17, 7:00 pm

A Gentleman in Moscow

by Amor Towles

Katie McNeil host



Recommended by several book club members, *A Gentleman in Moscow* is a novel about an unrepentant aristocrat who is

sentenced to house arrest in the attic room of a Moscow hotel by a Bolshevik tribunal. Having never worked a day in his life, his reduced circumstances provide a doorway into a much larger world of emotional discovery. As the Amazon blurb says, “He can’t leave his hotel. You won’t want to.” On Amazon’s “Most Read” list for 29 weeks, it soon will be the subject of a major television series starring five-time Academy Award® nominee Kenneth Branagh.

Thursday, June 21 at 7:00 pm

Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk

by Kathleen Rooney

Need Host

This national indie bestseller,



suggested by Pam Pearson, is an “extraordinary...hilarious...elegantly written” novel, according to Publisher’s Weekly. It’s the last night of 1984 and Lillian, 85

years old, goes for a walk around New York City. A top copywriter for R.H. Macy’s in the 1930’s, Lillian became the highest paid advertising woman in the country. The story of her 10 mile walk about NYC is “a love letter to city life in all its guts and grandeur.”



President’s Message

Carolyn Smith, Middletown Branch President

I would be remiss in this last newsletter of the 2017-2018 program year, if I did not tell each of you just how much I appreciate working with you, knowing you, and working for the AAUW mission with you. We have so many talented and motivated members in our branch, many of whom function in multiple roles to keep our organization thriving. How much I appreciate your work this year and your history of work in Middletown AAUW! You inspire me daily.

We all feel on the cusp of change with AAUW. Membership nationwide is flagging. But that does not mean that those who are members have given up the work. I just read the Strategic Plan by AAUW national and completed the survey. Some of the objectives are masterful. We need to grow membership by looking at different ways of inclusion. We need to learn from the Young Women’s Task Force. We need more women in STEM careers; more women leaders; and women leaders who stay long-term in leadership positions. We need to have conversations with businesses about how they promote and pay women. And, we need to look at the inequalities experienced by retiring women in America. These issues and many others are part of the new strategic plan under development right now. You can access it online.

“Empowering women since 1881” has been a useful tagline for our organization. It emphasizes our stellar history. Some survey respondents have said the tagline needs to be more forward looking. If you have an opinion about this tagline or the vision statement, you can respond to the survey and have input. The survey closes May 1.

I look forward to our meeting on May 8 and the opportunity to begin preparations for the next year. We will have cards on the table asking members for program ideas for next year. Please, let us know what programs you would like to see. Keep in mind the mission of AAUW and the needs of our members and our community. After the board’s transition meetings and retreats, your good ideas will lead us through another year of memorable programs. I hope to see you soon.

May Voluntary Simplicity Gathering

Our Voluntary Simplicity group will meet at 7:00pm Tuesday, May 15, at the home of Carolyn Smith, 436 Parkview Court, Monroe. Our topic will be: Intentional Living—Choosing Simplicity from present or past communities to inform/reform our lives – HYGGE here and now. We invite you to join us as we talk about how to choose simple pleasures and be intentional about adopting HYGGE into our lifestyle.

Please RSVP Becky (beckward@gmail.com or 513/424-8409) or Carolyn (csrsmith48@gmail.com or 513/360-0128).

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

About AAUW Dues

Members are sometimes confused about the fiscal year, dues collection, and membership counting for AAUW. Here is a short refresher course based on information from the recent state conference.

- The AAUW fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30.
- Dues collection for the next fiscal year begins March 16. In other words, we are collecting dues right now for the next fiscal year that begins in July.
- It is much simpler for finance officers if dues to state and national are submitted all together at one time.
- For membership counts for STARZ awards, dues must be fully submitted to state and national by September 15.
- Middletown AAUW usually passes out membership dues forms at the April branch meeting and collects money or checks at that meeting or at the Annual Scholarship and Installation Meeting in May.
- National dues have gone up this year to \$59. State remains at \$11 and Middletown remains at \$10. Make checks to Middletown AAUW for \$80 to pay all dues. Lifetime members do not pay national dues. Honorary members do not pay national or state.

*Please return to Treasurer Jackie Lankfer or mail to our
P.O. Box 118, Middletown, OH 45042.*

AAUW Middletown Branch Membership Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

Homephone _____

Cell _____

Email _____

Dues for the 2018-2019 are as follows:

- National:** \$59.00 (*\$46.00 is tax deductible*)
- State:** \$11.00 (*paid lifetime members only pay state, local*)
- Local:** \$10.00 (*used for our Middletown branch*)
- TOTAL:** \$80.00 due by May 29, 2018

Program Ideas for 2018-2019

PAYABLE AT THE MAY MEETING OR MAIL TO:

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

AAUW ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Friday and Saturday, June 8 & 9 – 8:00-4:00
4312 Walton Court – Middletown, OH

DONATIONS NEEDED *Invite your family, friends and neighbors to contribute.*
A checklist for your convenience

- ___ Linens: sheets, towels, pillows, blankets, bedspreads, tablecloths, placemats, rugs
- ___ Kitchen items: dishes, flatware, baking items, pots and pans, glassware
- ___ Small appliances: mixer, toaster, coffee maker, etc.
- ___ Games, puzzles, toys, children's books
- ___ CD's, VHS tapes, DVD's, records
- ___ Shoes, purses, hats, scarves, jewelry
- ___ Tools of all kinds
- ___ Decorative items: pictures, vases, wreaths, pottery, lamps
- ___ Sport equipment: golf, fishing, tennis, bikes
- ___ Furniture
- ___ Garden tools
- ___ Craft and office items
- ___ Electronics, if they work and are complete
- ___ Antiques and collectibles
- ___ Plants

PLEASE NO – clothing, large TV's or large exercise equipment

DROP OFF SATURDAYS

May 19 – 10:00-2:00

May 26 – 10:00-2:00

June 2 – 10:00-2:00

**If Saturday does not work for a drop off, please call
Rose and set up a convenient time: 513-424-1969 or
edrosegrau@cinci.rr.com.**