



Middletown Newsletter

May 2019

May Program, Awards, and Installation of Officers

The Middletown AAUW program year will end with our awards banquet and installation of officers' ceremony Tuesday, May 14, 2019, 6:30 pm, at Brown's Run Country Club. During this dinner event we will recognize our scholarship recipients and named gift honorees. We will also install our officers for the upcoming year. The May meeting is also a great time to update your membership for next year. AAUW annual dues will be collected from members, and we will ask you to complete a membership form with updated information and help our branch transition smoothly into the next year.

The dinner entrée will be chicken piccata on pasta; special diets can be requested in advance. Cost is \$20. Please contact Michelle Piepgrass by email (mvpiepgrass@gmail.com) or by text (513-465-4932) by May 4 if you plan to attend. You can send your payment to the AAUW mailbox (PO Box 118, Middletown, OH 45042 - checks payable to AAUW Middletown) or pay at the door.

This year's scholarship recipients are Heidi Siens, Jennifer Brumfield, Kaitlyn Morris, Breyonnah Davis, Andrea Flower, Alexa Sibcy, Sarah Specht.



Jeff Michel, executive director of Keep Middletown Beautiful (KMB), presented at the April branch program at the Thatcher Temple Arts Building about Keep Middletown Beautiful and Earth Day.



Saturday, May 11
8am – 12noon
Keep Middletown
Beautiful
1 Donham Plaza,
Middletown

Kate and Sam
Lee reading
AAUW book
sales purchases
in Grandma
and Grandpa
Thorn's
driveway.



Calendar of Events

**May Annual Awards Dinner and
Installation of Officers**
Tuesday, May 14, 6:30 pm
Browns Run Country Club

Annual AAUW Voting Closes
Tuesday, May 14, 6 pm
(See Ohio Orbit in your email for
details)

PENS Writing Group
Wednesday, May 15, 10 am
Thursday, May 29, 9:30 am
Host: Marita Stueck

Joy Luck Book Club
Thursday May 16, 7 pm
Case Histories, Kate Atkinson
Host: Lynne Rentschler

Voluntary Simplicity
Tuesday May 21, 7 pm
Topic: Being Our Best Selves
Host: Becky Ward

Transition Board Meeting/Dinner
May 30, 6:30- 8:30 pm
Host: Carolyn Smith

Garage Sale Drop-Off Saturdays
May 18, 10 am- 2 pm
May 25, 10 am- 2 pm
June 1, 10 am- 2 pm
(See article for work days)

LOOKING AHEAD

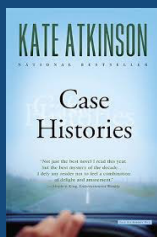
Annual Garage Sale
June 7 & 8, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
4312 Walton Court

Joy Luck Book Club
June 20, 7 pm
The Good Earth, Pearl Buck
Host: TBD



stay connected
aauw.org
aauwoh.org
middletown-oh.aauw.net

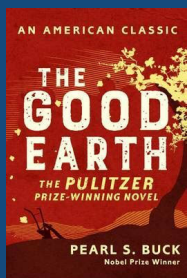
"Joy Luck" Book Club



May 16 at 7 pm
Case Histories
 by Kate Atkinson
 Virginia Palmer's home

This is the first book in Atkinson's popular

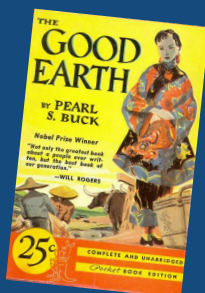
Jackson Brodie Mysteries series, called "the best mystery of the decade" by Stephen King. When private investigator Jackson Brodie follow three seemingly unconnected family mysteries in Edinburgh 30 years after the first incident, startling connections and discoveries emerge.



June 20 at 7 pm
The Good Earth
 by Pearl S. Buck
 Need a host

The Good Earth was the best-selling fiction book in the United States in

1931 and 1932, won the Pulitzer Prize in 1932, and earned Buck a Nobel Prize in 1938. It's a classic whose rich characters have withstood the test of time, engaging us as they grapple with the temptations of ambition, greed and lust and the obligations of filial piety.



Carolyn Smith, Middletown Branch President

Change is inevitable. It is also invigorating and offers both renewal and reassessment. It is with these ideas in mind that I begin writing this last message of my two-year presidency of AAUW Middletown. I realize fully that stepping away from the role of officer does not mean stepping away from the responsibilities of membership. Membership itself is a powerful role.

Last night, my sister Mary Millard and I attended the Oxford, Ohio retirement party of renowned writing professor Tom Romano. He had been a beloved colleague of ours in our early teaching careers at Edgewood High School. He was, and still is, just by the power of his presence and his passion able to impact others in such a way that his ideas ripple through his classroom and make waves all over the world. He wrote seven books on writing and emphasized the value of writing from personal experience to become better assessors of our own lives, the world around us, and the books we read.

I offer this little story about my friend because it is a story for all of us. When we know our mission and are driven to make the mission a success, we put our foot in the water. We step in. We make waves. In Middletown AAUW, we will be invigorated by the change in leadership. We will reassess the challenges of our past and define our challenges for the future. All we need is for every one of us, every single one, to use the power of our presence and our passion to focus on the goals of AAUW.

The mission of AAUW is simple. "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research." We need, each and every one of us, to log onto state and national AAUW websites and be informed about this process.

Our local goals are to help women by funding education and to offer programs that give us and this community insight into the issues facing women throughout the world.

We help purchase books for preschoolers, send 7-8th grade girls to science camp, give scholarships to college for graduating seniors and non-traditional students, and fund GED tests for those who cannot afford to pay. This year, over 35 members worked at the book sale. We need every member as we continue looking for ways to raise funds.

Our programs have made us stronger in knowledge, more committed to each other, and more committed to our mission. We need, each and every one of us, to attend and bring others and help develop program ideas.

Finally, as a branch member, we each represent the branch wherever we go. We name a small group "the hospitality committee." They bring and serve refreshments at many meetings. We need each to serve on that committee. We also need to regularly be the hospitality or the face of Middletown AAUW in this community as we look for ways to increase our membership and look out for new methods of accomplishing our mission and goals. Our presence and passion can drive changes that improve the lives of women. By improving the lives of women, we improve the world.

PENS

In May our PENS group will meet on Wednesday, May 15, 10:00-11:30 a.m., and Wednesday, April 29, 9:30-11:00 a.m.. We meet at Maurita Stueck's home, 132 Northwestern Avenue, Monroe (Mount Pleasant campus). Our format is to bring a piece of writing to share with the group (5 minute time frame/each writer). We are a supportive group and have shared written pieces across all genres. All writers are welcome to come pursue your creative muse! Please email or call Becky Ward with any questions: beckward@gmail.com or 513/424-8409.



May Voluntary Simplicity Meeting May 21

In May, we will share where we are on our journey to "Becoming Our Best Selves." We will meet at 7:00 p.m. at Becky Ward's home, 618 Cambridge Drive, Middletown. Please RSVP Becky (424-8409 or beckward@gmail.com) if you plan to attend.

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.



Garage Sale Work Days

We will start with a work day on TUESDAY, May 14, the door will be open at 9:00 am and we will work until noon. Regular work days will continue until the sale on MONDAY AND TUESDAY from 9:00 until 12:00. Please come when it is convenient, help is needed to unpack, arrange and price the items. We might need to schedule additional work days the week of the sale, stay tuned to your email.

DROP OFF SATURDAY will begin on May 18th from 10:00-2:00. Sign up sheets will be available at the May branch meeting. Additional information concerning the garage sale is on a summary sheet which we hope you will make copies and share with family, friends and neighbors.

Questions/concerns: Rose at 513-424-1969 or edrosegrau@cinci.rr.com.

2019 Book Sale Has Been Moved to Storage

"It takes a Village." as they say. Libby, Sharon, and I are so thankful for our AAUW village. Many hands helped us sort, price, unload, arrange, pack up, etc. In fact, over half of our membership was involved in some way. Thank All of You! If you are interested in helping to pay the storage expense for a month (approximately \$40.00), please let Tina know. This is a good way to support the sale, especially if you were unable to help during the sale. We moved our supplies to storage this past Wednesday morning. I think we were able to accomplish this move in record time - great weather. It was nice having some new faces helping out at the end. We will soon meet to discuss sale allocations and review this activity as a fund raiser for our branch. If you have any suggestions, please let us know. All constructive criticism accepted.



AAUW Dues

The AAUW fiscal year runs from July 1 – June 30. Middletown AAUW will pass out membership invoices at the April branch meeting and collect checks at the May branch meeting.

National dues are still \$59.00. State remains at \$11.00 and our Middletown branch dues are \$10.00. Total is \$80. Lifetime members do not pay National dues. They owe \$21. Honorary lifetime members do not pay national or state dues. They owe \$10.

Make checks payable to Middletown AAUW. Please send checks and Branch Membership Renewal Form to PO Box 118, Middletown, OH 45042 or give to Chris Buchert or Katie DeVilling – Finance Officers.

If dues are not received by the May meeting, you will be contacted and reminded to send in your dues. Finance officers MUST receive dues by June 15 to meet national deadlines. Contact the Finance officers if you do not intend to renew your membership for next year.

Dues for the 2019-2020 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 at May Meeting

PAYABLE AT THE MAY MEETING OR MAIL TO:

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

AAUW Middletown Branch Membership Renewal Form

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

Email _____

College/University _____

AAUW ANNUAL JUNE GARAGE SALE
Friday and Saturday, June 7 & 8 – 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, crock pot, can opener, blender
- ____ Games, puzzles, toys, children's books
- ____ CD's, 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

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

DROP OFF SATURDAYS:

May 18 – 10:00-2:00

May 25 – 10:00-2:00

June 1 - 10:00-2:00

Contact Rose for information or to schedule a different drop off time at
513-424-1969 or edrosegrau@cinci.rr.com.

AAUW Middletown Branch Officers

Branch President

Carolyn Smith
(937) 657-9548
csrsmith48@gmail.com

Program Co-Vice Presidents

Michelle Piepgrass
mvpiepgrass@gmail.com

Patty Caldwell
shopcdc@gmail.com

Membership Co-Vice Presidents

Dora Bronston
Drbronston2012@yahoo.com

Nita Driscoll
rdriscoll@cinci.rr.com

Financial Officers

Chris Buchert
tcbuch@yahoo.com

Katie DeVilling
Katie.devilling@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Becky Ward
beckward@gmail.com

Communications

Virginia Palmer
palmerve@umich.edu

Newsletter

Suzanne Tadych
sashworth@cinci.rr.com