



# COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIP

Middletown Newsletter

September 2019

## Kick-off to the 2019-2020 Program Year



The program committee has met and is excited to present the schedule for 2019-2020 year: "Collaboration and Partnership". We will begin our program year on Monday September 9 with a presentation by Cathy Bishop-Clark, Ph.D., dean of Miami University Regionals, on their newly completed strategic plan for the regional campuses. We will hear about their commitment and plan to ensure student success. We will also learn how they plan to encourage engagement with organizations and people in the community.

The meeting will be held at Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown, 4200 N. University Blvd., Middletown, beginning with a potluck dinner at 6:00 pm and followed by the presentation at 6:50 pm. Please bring a dish to share, and your own place setting (plus one extra for those who forget). Main dish, finger food, salad, side dish or dessert are all welcome. AAUW will provide the beverages.

## September Leadership Conference Focuses on Pay Equity

AAUW Ohio's fall leadership conference on September 28 will focus on Pay Equity, a follow-up to last year's focus on Women in Debt. Postcards are forthcoming to presidents, program chairs, and public policy chairs of each branch. The plan is to have three leaders from each branch in attendance. Two attendees will be required for Starz Award eligibility.



The keynote speaker for the event, Kendra Davis, AAUW Senior Vice President of Advancement and Partnerships, will discuss Economic Security and Pay Equity. An afternoon session called AAUW Buzz will offer mini talks on these buzz-worthy topics: Gender Equity; Women across Generations; Recruitment; Men as Collaborators; Succession Planning for Branches; What's in a Name: Diversity vs Equity; and

College Collaborations. Information from AAUW Buzz will be used in planning the spring conference.

Ten slots have been set aside for reduced registration for college students.

The conference will be held in Worthington from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. Please let Chris Buchert know if you would like to attend. Further information is available in the fall Orbit available at AAUW OH.

State liaison members for southwest districts are: JoAnn Benseler, Rush Rogers, and Christine Siebeneck.

## Calendar of Events

**Monday, September 9, 6pm**  
**Potluck, Program & Branch Meeting**

Verity Lodge, Miami University Middletown

**Thursday, September 12 & 26, 9:30am-11am**

**Pens Writing Group**

Maurita Stueck's home

**Tuesday, September 17, noon**

**Voluntary Simplicity**

Becky Ward's home

**Thursday, September 19, 7pm**

**Joy Luck Book Club**

Jan Runkle's home

**Saturday, September 28**

**State Fall Summit**

Worthington, Ohio

**Monday, September 23, 2019**

**Board Meeting 7:00 pm**

Chris Buchert's home

**Monday, October 7, 7pm**

**Program & Branch Meeting**

Gardner Harvey Library

Miami University Middletown

**Thursdays, October 8 & 22**

**9:30am-11am**

**Pens Writing Group**

**Thursday, October 17, 7pm**

**Joy Luck Book Club**

**Monday, October 28, 7pm**

**Board Meeting**

**Holiday Bazaar**

**Thursday, November 8**

**Branch Preview**

**Friday, November 9, 9am-3pm**

**Saturday, November 10, 9am-3pm**



**stay connected**

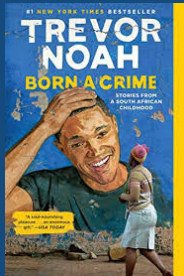
**aauw.org**

**aauwoh.org**

**middletown-oh.aauw.net**

## "Joy Luck" Book Club

**September 19 at 7:00 pm**  
**Born A Crime – Trevor Noah**  
**Hosted by Jan Runkle**

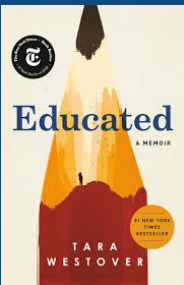


An inspiring and comical story of one man's coming-of-age in South Africa, set during the twilight of apartheid and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed.

Trevor Noah was a pioneer of stand-up comedy in his home country and today is a popular host of *The Daily Show* on Comedy Central. (Originally suggested by Jan Runkle)

**October 17 at 7:00 pm**  
**Educated – Tara Westover**  
**Need host**

Recommended by Nita Driscoll, this memoir of a survivalist family's daughter from Idaho who goes on to earn a Ph.D. from Cambridge University has garnered such accolades as:



- #1 *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Boston Globe* bestseller
- One of the ten best books of the year by the *New York Times Book Review*
- One of President Barack Obama's favorite books of the year
- Finalist for the National Book Critics Circle's award in Autobiography



## Chris Buchert, Middletown Branch President

It is exciting to begin the 2019-2020 branch program year. We have a variety of interesting programs based on our theme of collaboration and partnership. Check out our program book to see what is happening throughout the year as we work at partnering with citizens and organizations to help make a positive impact in the Middletown area. The program committee has done a wonderful job of planning programs that should interest many different ages. Invite folks you know to join us for a program or study group that sounds especially interesting to you.

Our board voted to sponsor an exhibition on women's suffrage with the Middletown Historical Society. 2020 is the centennial of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granting women the right to vote. We will celebrate this awesome event at our May meeting.

One focus of National AAUW is to teach women how to negotiate for higher salaries. There is a free online salary negotiation course called AAUW Work Smart online. The link is [salary.aauw.org](http://salary.aauw.org). You might try taking the course as you could then share the ideas with people looking for a new job.

The State AAUW fall summit will be held September 28 in Worthington. The theme is on collaboration and building a coalition of groups in our community. You are all invited to attend with me. Let me know if you are interested in attending.

I am excited about our 2019-2020 branch year. Come to as many of the programs, study groups, and fund raising projects that interest you. Check in with the National ([aauw.org](http://aauw.org)) and State (<https://aauw-oh.aauw.net>) websites to keep up to date on women's issues around the country. Most of all, enjoy our AAUW Branch community.

## AAUW Funds Update: What is NIC- Whistle?

Last year, AAUW national recommended that monies donated to AAUW Fund be sent unspecified so they could be used where the need is greatest. One fund with great need supported through AAUW Fund donations is the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). The acronym NCCWSL is a little difficult to say; hence "NIC-Whistle" has caught on instead.

College women may apply for registration grants, usually offered between October and February, to attend the national conference where student leaders from across the country meet for two and a half days. The programming is designed to meet the needs of aspiring student and community women leaders through workshops, panels, employers, and inspiring speakers. Individual branches may also sponsor students.

In 2019, AAUW national offered NCCWSL scholarships to two Ohio women, Karinne Hill of Ohio University and Ashley Wallace of Bowling Green State University.

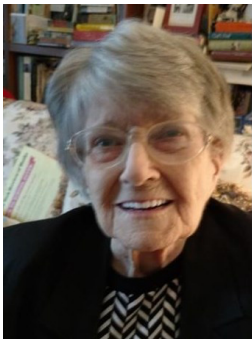


## PENS

In September we begin our third year of a creative writing group. Our "PENS" group will meet September 12 and 26, 9:30-11:00, 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). All writers are welcome to come pursue your creative muse! Please email or call Becky Ward with any questions: [beckward@gmail.com](mailto:beckward@gmail.com) or 513/424-8409.



## Remembering Lois LaFayette



Our AAUW member, Lois LaFayette, passed away July 24. She was excited to join our Middletown AAUW branch in 2014. Lois and her daughter, Marcia Miller, joined at the same time. She attended several meetings before she became ill and could not participate. She still retained her membership as she believed strongly in education and lifelong learning. It was special that Marcia and Lois were able to join together. Lois worked at Miami Middletown earned her Associate of Arts degree from Miami when she was sixty years old. She enjoyed studying history, literature and poetry. She was an avid reader and interested in many subjects, especially politics and black history. She owned at least 18,000 books and had subscriptions to numerous magazines. Lois and her excitement about learning will be missed.

## September Voluntary Simplicity

Please join us for lunch as we launch a new Voluntary Simplicity study: Civility! We will meet at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 17, at the home of Becky Ward, 618 Cambridge Drive, Middletown. Becky and Carolyn will provide lunch and lead us in a discussion about character and community connections. We will share key elements from two books by David Brooks, *The Road to Character* and *The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life*. We will also share information about The Aspen Institute's Weave: The Social Fabric Project. Finally, we will introduce the plan and resources for our study of civility in 2019-2020. FYI: The "character quality" for the month of September is "Orderliness" (from the city of Hamilton's Character Council). Come join us to learn what it's all about!

Please RSVP Becky: [beckward@gmail.com](mailto:beckward@gmail.com) or 513/424-8409.

## Garage Sale a Huge Success

The annual June Garage Sale was a huge success. A big THANKS to the forty members and friends who contributed to and worked preparing for and working during the sale. We had a great inventory of nice items and we made \$5,175.25.

Because we had a large inventory and had a lot of good stuff left after the two-day sale, we had a clearance sale the following Saturday which added \$869.20 to our profit.

## HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Fri. & Sat. Nov. 8th & 9th – 9:00-3:00

4312 Walton Court - Middletown

We are looking for new/gently used holiday items:

decorations: trees, wreaths, centerpieces

holiday dishes, trays

linens: placemats, tablecloths, napkins,

towels, pillows

holiday books, games, puzzles, toys

items that can be re-gifted: new candles,

lotions, socks, scarves, gloves, hats,

purses, jewelry

handcrafted items, whatever your specialty

homemade items for the SWEET SHOP

Invite family, friends and neighbors to contribute to our event. Watch for more details. Contact Rose at 513-424-1969 or [edrosegrau@cinci.rr.com](mailto:edrosegrau@cinci.rr.com).

For AAUW College/University Partner Representatives and Ohio Branch Presidents—

Welcome to the second year of AAUW Ohio's drive to improve women's economic security. Last year we highlighted debt-ridden women of all ages and the amount of student debt. AAUW's nationwide aim is to "train 10 million by 2022"—10 million women who know how to negotiate—a remarkable target! Kendra Davis is coming from AAUW in Washington DC to spend September 28 at Fall Summit in Worthington bringing us up to date on goals, partnerships, and reorganization.

The Fall Summit program also slates young women who have recently attended NCCWSL and seven 8-minute speakers to spark discussion groups on topics as diverse as Women across Generations, Men as Collaborative Allies, and Collaborating with and Nourishing a College Student Organization.

Have you heard about AAUW's 5 Star Recognition Program? Will Ohio still have Starz? Watch for Starz news in the new Orbit expected to email by next week and learn more at Fall Summit where you can pick up Starz forms and a new AAUW Ohio Officers Directory. Kendra will surely fill us in on 5 Star.

Branch Presidents: this email will distribute to only you and two other branch leaders. You need to contact all of your branch leaders and ask them to reserve the day of September 28 to talk, plan, and learn with AAUW friends.

This year the Fall Summit will target branch presidents, public policy chairs, and program vice presidents. Hopefully, all three from your branch can attend. You need at least one representation at the Fall Summit to receive Starz recognition. Having two or three members present will earn your branch an even higher recognition. If you are not a 2019-20 officers, please forward this email to those who are and email a list of your new officers to adcoord. aauwoh@gmail.com We want to keep in touch.

College University Partner Representatives: the State Board looks forward to working with you this year to appeal to young college leaders and to those entering the workforce. We urge you to attend Fall Summit. We are offering five scholarships for college students to attend Fall Summit at a rate of \$5.00. Please apply to president. aauwoh@gmail.com

We think Ohio can raise women's pay if we all commit to spreading the word about AAUW's Work Smart Online. It has three advantages: it works, it's free, and your branch can use Work Smart Online in your community or on campus. Collaborating with another group and using a bank of computers at a school can give you the resources you need. You will need someone to help lead a group through the online course and to facilitate discussion and

role-play. Consider what your branch members can do. Maybe you can only make phone calls to find others to staff the workshop. Be prepared to step back and let younger people suggest how to schedule the event to attract young people. The Fall Summit will include ideas and tactics such as this.

Let's close with a story of a young woman who did take Work Smart Online. Here's what she said, "This workshop has changed who I am as a person. Although I have yet to start my journey of the job search, I feel more in control of my future. This workshop has given me invaluable skills that I will no doubt be thankful for in the years to come. Confidence is irreplaceable." By helping people like this young woman, you help women and families have a better future. And what about you? Do you ever need to negotiate? Might someone tell you it's time to move? Ever needed to have home or car repair? Do you think some negotiating techniques might help us all?

Watch for stories and registration information in the August issue of Orbit, AAUW Ohio's newsletter and on our website <https://aauw-oh.aauw.net>. Register early; space is limited. It will be good to be with all of you at Fall Summit. Let's catch up.

Nancy Stellhorn  
AAUW Ohio President

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