



COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIP

Middletown Newsletter

October 2019



Empowered Woman Empowering Women - October 7

Wendy Waters-Connell, executive director of the Hamilton YWCA, will present the October branch program on the first Monday of the month, **October 7 at 7:00pm** at the Gardner-Harvey Library, Miami University Middletown. Wendy will discuss her personal journey and her efforts to carry the YWCA's mission forward.

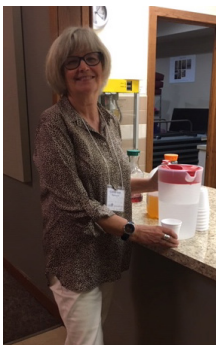
The YWCA Hamilton's mission is to strengthen women's and girls' voices, broadening their choices, building dynamic leadership and providing essential and meaningful services that promote safe, inclusive, and equitable communities.

Wendy uses her personal and professional journey to help promote the work of the YWCA, developing partnerships and funds to grow their efforts to eliminate racism and empower women in Hamilton and Butler County ... ultimately strengthening families and communities. Her position offers the challenge of discussing societal issues and finding solutions to help make gains for women and all members of the community.

Report on Ohio Fall Summit September 28, 2019

Chris Buchert, Carolyn Smith and Kristen attended the Ohio Fall Summit on September 28. Kendra Davis, the National AAUW-VP Advancement and Partnerships gave the Keynote address. She spoke on the National AAUW 5 Star program for this year. The 5 Star Program has been initiated to reward branches and states that demonstrate alignment with the national strategic plan. The five categories focus on economic security, advancement, communications and external relationships, public policy and research, and governance and sustainability. We think our branch should be able to earn some of the stars. For economic security our branch might host some online sessions to complete the online Work Smart negotiations course. We can also complete a community

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(Left) Carolyn Smith taking a break. (Right) Chris Buchert and Kristen Mulligan collaborating with a Chillicothe branch member.

Calendar of Events

Monday, October 7, 7:00pm Program and Branch Meeting

Hamilton YWCA's work with empowering women
Gardner Harvey Library, Miami University Middletown

Thursdays, October 17 and 31 9:30am – 11:00am

Pens Writing Group

Maurita Stueck's home, 132 Northwestern Ave. Monroe, OH

October 14 and 15 Holiday Bazaar Workdays begin every Monday and Tuesdays 9-noon

Rose Grau's home
4312 Walton Court
Middletown, Ohio

Sat. Oct. 19, 26, November 2 10am-2pm

Drop offs for Holiday Bazaar
Rose Grau's home

Thursday, October 17, 6:00pm Joy Luck Book Club

Lynn Rentschler's home

Monday, October 28, 2019 Board Meeting 7:00pm

Chris Buchert's home

9th Annual Holiday Bazaar Thursday, November 7, Branch Preview 6 – 8 pm

Friday, November 8, 9am-3pm

Sat., November 9, 9am-3pm

4312 Walton Court
Middletown, Ohio

Monday, November 11 Program and Branch Meeting

Women's Memory health
Kettering Medical Center
6147 W OH-122, Middletown

Tuesday, November 19, 1pm Voluntary Simplicity

Thursday, Nov. 21, 7:00pm Joy Luck Book Club

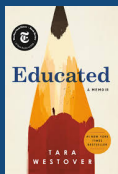
Nita Driscoll's home
320 Thorn Hill Lane
Middletown, Ohio

Monday, November 25 Board Meeting 7:00 pm

Chris Buchert's home

"Joy Luck" Book Club

October 17 at 6:00 pm
***Educated* – Tara Westover**
Lynne Rentschler's home
5525 Renaissance Park Dr.,
Franklin



Lynne has graciously offered to provide sandwiches and drinks so we can skip dinner, begin at 6:00 pm and have a bit earlier evening. If you are unable to arrive at 6:00 due to work commitments, just come when you can.

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

November 21 at 7:00 pm
***The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* – Kim Michele Richardson**
Nita Driscoll's home, 320 Thorn Hill Lane, Middletown



This is a story about the first mobile library in Kentucky and the brave librarians who brought literacy, hope and a human connection to the Appalachian hills. One reviewer called it "a lush love letter to the redemptive power of books." Sounded right up our alley! Thanks to Nita for the suggestion. Hope you'll join the group this Thursday. Remember to RSVP if you'd like to carpool and/or have dinner.



Chris Buchert, Middletown Branch President

Fall is here and members are busy exploring a book about civility, a book about apartheid, sharing writing, and learning about Miami University's plans for the future. Miami's STEM camp sounds most interesting as STEM is one of our AAUW initiatives.

Kristen Mulligan, Carolyn Smith and I attended the Fall Summit. The Keynote discussion centered on AAUW Ohio's two year theme of Women in Debt/Pay Equity: Two Sides of the Same Coin. There was also talk about collaboration and succession planning. Watch for more information about what we learned.

Carolyn Smith was asked to be one of our Southwest District Coordinators. She will be able to keep us up to date on what is happening around the state. We appreciate her taking on this responsibility and sharing her enthusiasm for AAUW.

One interesting note from National. One of their goals was to train 100,000 women and men in the Work Smart online course by August 22. The goal was met with 102,656 people completing the course on salary negotiations. At the September branch meeting, we passed out bookmarks advertising the Work Smart course. Bookmarks will be available in October too. Hopefully the bookmarks will encourage people to go online and learn some new skills.

The course is also useful for sharpening negotiation skills for such tasks as selling your home or buying a car. The course is helpful for both those who work and those who are retired. Taking the course is on my to-do-list. I have procrastinated long enough.

I missed you all at the September meeting. I learned so much about African animals. Many of the animals are led by matriarchs. A mature female elephant is the head of her family of females and young. The males are mostly solitary or are in small herds of teenagers or grumpy old men. The matriarch remembers routes to water and areas where there is likely to be good eating. I think that is where we get the saying about elephants having good memories.



Ohio Fall Summit continued

resource map and/or read and discuss a suggested book on economic security. For advancement we need to average a \$30 per person gift in our giving to the greatest need fund at National. That is definitely possible. For communications, we can start by posting information on our website about the Work Smart online course. For the public policy area we can meet with an elected state representative and also sign up folks for the two minute activist. For governance and sustainability we need to develop a strategic plan for succession (how our branch will continue to be relevant in the future). All these goals take some thinking but the three of us who attended the meeting are excited about moving forward to earn some of the stars.

Kendra Davis also spent time talking about the Work Smart workshops and how we can sponsor them in our community. Economic security and pay equity are a big thrust at the National AAUW level in order for women to earn enough money to live and to have money for retirement. She said that 2.5 million children will come out of poverty by 2030 if the United States ends the pay gap by then.

At the conference there were short talks on gender equity, reaching women across generations, succession planning and men as collaborative allies. Several of us asked for more information on how to reach women of all ages. There should be more on that topic at the spring convention.

PENS

In October our "PENS" group will meet on the third and fifth Thursday, 10/17 and 10/31. Our meeting time is 9:30-11:00. We will 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). 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.

New Voluntary Simplicity Study

Our Voluntary Simplicity group does not meet in October, but you are invited to join us as we launch a new Voluntary Simplicity study: Civility!

If you are interested, please call or email Becky Ward at 513/424-8409 or beckward@gmail.com so that I can order you a copy of the book

Civility: The Twenty-Five Rules of Considerate Conduct by P.M. Forni.



HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Fri. & Sat. Nov. 8th & 9th – 9:00-3:00
4312 Walton Court - Middletown

It is time to prepare for the annual Holiday Bazaar and we need your help to ensure that we have a successful event. Invite your family, friends and neighbors to donate items.

What do we need?

DONATIONS of new/gently used holiday items including:

Holiday decorations of all kinds
 Items that can be "regifted"
 Hand crafted items
 Holiday dishes and linens
 Holiday books, games, puzzles and toys.



SWEET SHOP DONATIONS – HOMEMADE

Candy
 Cookies, brownies, and bar cookies
 Specialty breads and muffins
 Snack mix and caramel corn
 Pie and cake
 Jam/jelly or other homemade items
 Specialty items: gluten free, no eggs and items for diabetic diet.

Note: Mark items with the name and specify if there are nuts and/or fruit.

Share the recipe and/or ingredient list if you want.

Package items in clear wrap or bags so they can be seen.

PLEASE bring your homemade sweet shop items on

Thursday, November 7.

The door will be open at 9:00am

WORKDAYS will be on Monday and Tuesday, starting October 14 & 15. The door will be open at 9:00am until noon, come at your convenience.

DAYS OF SALE we will need two workers at the check out table and some folks to circulate, helping customers and just being visible. Sign up sheets will be available at the October branch meeting.

DROP OFF SATURDAYS: October 19 & 26 and November 2 from 10:00-2:00. For an alternate drop off time, give me a call.

BRANCH PREVIEW will be Thursday evening, November 7 from 6:00-8:00pm.

PROCEEDS ARE USED to further the mission and program of our branch.

QUESTIONS and/or CONCERNS: Rose at 513-424-1969 or edrosegrau@cinci.rr.com.

AAUW Public Policy

By Robin Becker

Since AAUW's founding our members have spoken out about policies important to women and girls. Without our voices, valuable legislation might never have been passed. In recent years, such legislation included the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. On July 18, 2019, the House of Representatives passed the Raise the Wage Act with bipartisan support. Now it's up to the Senate to move this critical legislation forward. Raising the minimum wage is an important part of ensuring women's economic security and that of their families. Women make up nearly two-thirds of minimum-wage workers nationwide. The Raise the Wage Act would gradually increase the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$15 per hour. Voters have made it clear that they support increasing the minimum wage, with 29 states and Washington, D.C. enacting measures to raise their states' minimum wage. Now it's time for Congress to act and support working women. Be a Two-Minute Activist by going to the link below and entering your address to make sure your senators know that raising the minimum wage is a priority for their constituents.

The far-reaching effects of workplace harassment cannot be overstated, as this pervasive problem often impacts an employee's pay, advancement and well-being. This is particularly true for women and those working in low-paid jobs who are among the most vulnerable to harassment at work. The Bringing an End to Harassment by Enhancing Accountability (Be HEARD) in the Workplace Act would build on existing civil rights laws to provide new protections against harassment for workers, while safeguarding discrimination laws. Congress must improve protections against all forms of harassment in the workplace. To urge your U.S. Representative to support the Be HEARD Act go to the link below and enter your address.

https://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=25879

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https://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=26192

How to Support AAUW's Mission

Thank you for promoting equity for women and girls by supporting AAUW's critical work! When supporting the following funds, you give AAUW the ability to carry out its bold, strategic vision for the future.



AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (9110)

Allows AAUW the flexibility to respond rapidly to new and emerging challenges facing women and girls and to utilize your gift where it's needed most. This fund ensures the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW into the future.



Education and Training Fund (4450)

Addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women by championing equal access to education and ensuring that education at every level is free from sex discrimination.

STEM Title IX Pathways to Jobs

Examples of programs include:
Fellowships Alumnae Initiatives
Fellowships and Grants
Public Policy Research



Economic Security Fund (4449)

Ensures livelihoods for women through achieving pay equity for women, providing training in salary negotiation, and deepening women's retirement security and quality of life.

Pay Equity Title VII Retirement Security

Examples of programs include:
Start Smart
Work Smart
Work Smart Online
Legal Advocacy Fund



Leadership Fund (4452)

Supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by bolstering the participation of and increasing the number of girls and women in leadership roles, particularly in education and nonprofit organizations.

Career Workplace Training

Examples of programs include:
Campus Action Projects
Empower
NCCWSL

AAUW Funds Update

One of the easiest ways to be helpful to women is to make a special donation to the national AAUW Fund. Members may donate online, by mail, or through a phone call. When donating online, have your member number ready and AAUW will keep track of donations by branch. You may choose to donate where the most need is or to four different areas: Economic Security for Women, Leadership Initiatives for Women, Education and Training for Women, or Governance and Sustainability. Online donation will give any member the opportunity to offer a gift in the name of someone special to you.

Middletown AAUW is planning for a dining event to support AAUW Funds early next year.

Contributions to AAUW are fully tax-deductible and can be sent to the address below or made online at www.aauw.org/contribute.

P.O. Box 98045
Washington, DC 20090-8045
800.326.2289 | connect@aauw.org
www.aauw.org

Group Tour to Rumpke's Cincinnati Recycling Facility Wednesday, December 4 at 1:00 pm

Please review this information carefully before the day of your tour.

Cancellations & Group Size Changes: Please notify Rumpke in advance if you must cancel a tour or if your group size changes. This allows other groups the opportunity to schedule, and helps Rumpke adjust schedules, parking needs and room reservations.

Location: 5535 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45217 (St. Bernard)

What to Expect: Recyclable material is sorted at Rumpke's Cincinnati Material Recovery Facility (MRF). It is the largest residential recycling plant in North America and serves 4.5 million people with the capacity of processing at least 55 tons of recycling per hour. The tour includes a short video, a review of items acceptable for recycling and a walking tour of the plant to show how the recyclable materials are sorted. Tours last approximately 60 minutes. Tour participants must be at least thirteen years of age.

Dress Code: Guests are required to wear sturdy hard soled closed toe shoes with backs (no sandals or heels). Long pants and long sleeves are recommended. Guests who do not abide by the dress code may not be permitted inside the facility.

Safety Gear: Guests wear a vest, safety glasses and a hard hat. One-way audio headphones and small radios are used to communicate during the tour.

Transportation & Parking: Parking is limited and car pooling is encouraged. Parking is available in an upper lot and also in an area closer to the main entrance of the building (entrance with a red awning and Rumpke printed on it).

Photos & Video: Photos and video are permitted during the tour. You may improve the quality of the pictures by turning off the flash, which will reflect off of vests in the facility.

Health & Medical Conditions: If guests have health or medical conditions, please notify Rumpke. The recycling facility is an industrial environment, prone to dust and noise. An elevator can provide access to the viewing platform for a limited tour.

Contact: Anne Gray, Education Specialist, Rumpke

Parking & Arrival

- Parking is limited and carpooling is strongly encouraged.
- Groups arriving by car may park in the upper lot or the lot closer to the facility.
- Groups arriving by bus or van must notify Rumpke ahead of time to arrange parking plans.

Directions from I-75 North

- Take I-75 North to Exit 6 for Mitchell Ave.
- Turn left off the exit onto Mitchell Ave.
- Proceed to Spring Grove Ave. and turn right.
- Travel 1.5 miles. (Spring Grove Ave. becomes Vine St.)
- Rumpke Recycling is ½ block past the railroad tracks on the left across from a Marathon station.

Directions from I-75 South

- Take I-75 South to Exit 6 for Mitchell Ave.
- Stay in the right lane (continuous lane) onto Mitchell Ave.
- Proceed to Spring Grove Ave. and turn right.
- Travel 1.5 miles. (Spring Grove Ave. becomes Vine St.)
- Rumpke Recycling is ½ block past the railroad tracks on the left across from a Marathon station.

Directions from I-71 North

- Take I-71 North to OH-562 Exit 7 for Paddock Rd.
- Travel west on OH-562 to the Paddock Rd. Exit and turn right.
- Proceed to the 2nd traffic light at the corner of Paddock Rd. and Laidlaw Ave. and turn left.
- Continue onto Laidlaw Ave. until it dead ends into Vine St.
- Turn right on Vine St. and get into the left lane.
- Cross over the railroad tracks.
- Rumpke Recycling is on the left across from a Marathon station.

Directions from I-71 South

- Take I-71 South to OH-562 Exit 7 for Paddock Rd.
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