

Calendar of Events

**PENS: December 2 & 16,
1-2:30pm:** Gardner Harvey
Library at the Miami University
Middletown Campus in study
room 110. Please wear masks.

Monday, December 13, 7 pm:
AAUW meeting: Topic: Women's
Finances Presenter Jan Runkle.
Kettering Medical Center; 6147
OH-122; Middletown
/or join in on Zoom. If attending
in person, please remember to
wear masks.

Thursday, December 16, 7 pm:
I was Told it Would Get Easier by
Abbie Waxman
Host: Carolyn Smith's home and
zoom link will be provided in a
separate email.

Friday, December 17, 21:
Articles for the January/February
combined newsletter are due
to Mel. Please email her @
worbismm@gmail.com

*Note for 2021-2022 programs: Due to
the continued concern with the COVID19
virus please keep up to date with any
possible changes in our programming
venues. Also, be prepared to wear masks
during meetings, in certain locations, it
is currently required for everyone to wear
masks. Each month's newsletter and
reminder event emails will provide the
latest updates on changes to our meet-
ings or mask requirements.*

December Program and Meeting



On Monday, December 13, at 7:00 p.m., we will enjoy a program about Women's Finances. AAUW advocates for all women to achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Come learn about managing your finances as branch member Jan Runkle shares information and guidelines about investing and planning for a secure future.



We will meet at Kettering Medical Center; 6147 OH-122; Middletown. Visitors to Kettering Health site are required to wear a mask that fully covers the nose and mouth regardless of vaccination status. Masks should be worn at all times.

2021 Holiday Bazaar

The recent Holiday Bazaar was a huge success. Once again, people were so generous in their donations. The two rooms at the bazaar looked so festive. About forty families donated items or made items to sell. About thirty-four members helped out, either setting up, working at the sale, or boxing up the few leftovers. Our gross earnings this year were \$4736. Two years ago our gross earnings were \$3619.67. Having the same location for our sales has really helped. There were many repeat visitors to the sale. They liked coming to look, buy and visit.

Thank you to all who made this sale possible. We are definitely raising money to bolster our scholarship fund at the Middletown Community Foundation.

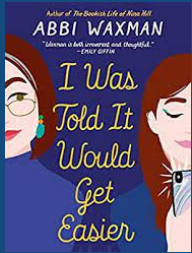
Chris Buchert Carole Schul Rose Grau



Joy Luck Book Club

Thursday, December 16 at 7:00 pm

I Was Told It Would Get Easier –



Abbi Waxman
Carolyn Smith's
house

You asked for
it: a funny,
upbeat book.
Here it is, just
in time for the

holidays. You'll enjoy reading about this mother-daughter duo from L.A., as they go on a carefully mapped-out tour of East Coast colleges with a bus full of strangers, meeting up with family and old friends along the way. Surprises and secrets threaten their relationship and, in the end, change it forever. It's a heart-warming, laugh-out-loud funny book for anyone who's ever been a mom, gone to college or talked to a teenager.

Mel Worbis worbismm@gmail.com Middletown Branch President's Letter



Hello everyone, I hope you are all ready for the Holiday season! Our next meeting is on Monday, December 13, at 7 pm. We will be meeting at the community room at the Kettering Hospital. Jan Runkle, one of our members, will be providing suggestions of

how to prepare for a secure financial future. At Kettering Hospital, it is still mandatory to wear a mask. I will provide a Zoom link via email closer to the day of the event for those who wish to join in online.

Thank you again to everyone that helped with the Holiday Bazaar sale. We had another amazing year, raising over \$4700 gross sales. We really have had three fantastic fundraisers this year. I am excited to share that we have gone into agreement with Steve to rent the space for the year so we don't need to move any our things out of the space.

Our hostess chairperson, Mary Millard is looking for some individuals to help with refreshments for the March and April meetings. Please reach out to her if you would be willing to help! I will be bringing the refreshments for the December meeting.

A note from the CEO of AAUW Gloria Blackwell that through the website any donations made to AAUW National will be doubled till December 31st, up to \$75,000. The goal of these funds will be to help continue to fight for gender equity.

There is no board meeting for the month of December. Articles for January and February are due on Friday, December 17, 2021. In January the newsletter will be combined for January and February as both member meetings will be virtual via Zoom.

Thank you,
Mel Worbis

Remembering Julia Polleys



Julia Polleys, a former longtime member of our Middletown AAUW branch, passed away on Friday, November 12. Her last listing in our membership directory was 2006-2007. Julia and her sister, Nancy McCann enjoyed being AAUW members together. Julia and Nancy often served as hospitality coordinators. Julia and one of her family members shopped at the Holiday Bazaar together a few weeks ago. She was an Educational Foundation honoree honored for her dedication to AAUW. She will be sorely missed. Her family asked that memorial donations be sent to Middletown AAUW, Box 118, Middletown, OH 45042

November meeting with Dani Ortega:

Our November meeting with Dani Ortega was an enlightening presentation of the English Language Learners in the school district of Middletown. There are over 500 students and 14 languages are represented with the students. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help with these students the best way would be to reach out to Dani Ortega. An email was sent out in November with her email and contact information.

In the state of Ohio: "Ohio's percentage of EL students has doubled to approximately 60,000 students. Spanish is the home language of almost 40% of Ohio's English learners along with 90 other home languages."

(<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/English-Learners>)

PENS WRITING GROUP

Our PENS group continues to come together to share our writing endeavors. Anyone who has a passion for writing is welcome to join our writers' group. We encourage each other, give each other constructive feedback and provide an incentive to put pen to paper and WRITE! Our format is to bring a piece of writing to share with the group (5 minute time frame/each writer). We meet in study room #110 at Gardner Harvey Library (GHL) on the Middletown Campus of Miami University. Meeting dates and time: 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, 1:00-2:30 p.m. Unfortunately we are not yet able to offer Zoom access to our meetings. Call or email Becky Ward if you have any questions: beckward@gmail.com or 513/424-8409.

*GHL follows the safety protocol of wearing masks and staying at a distance of at least six feet.



Scholarship Fund Update: Kristen Mulligan

AAUW has worked with Middletown Community Foundation to modify and clarify our scholarship fund. What does that mean?

The majority of the proceeds of our fundraisers- Used Book Sale, Garage Sale, and Holiday Bazaar, are used to provide scholarships to non-traditional adult students (\$1,600) and Underclassmen (\$4,000). Our scholarship support "bill" each year is \$5.600. Our fund balance of \$40,000 was 100% spendable and not enough to support these indefinitely. We have changed the terms of the scholarship with the goal of creating a principal in the fund which will support our scholarships in perpetuity. Our new fund will have an endowed principal, which cannot be spent. In order to make our scholarship fund have lasting impact, the principal balance needs to reach \$140,000. Although this is a lofty goal, the board feels that it is reachable. To that end,

the board has deposited an additional \$10,000 to the principal of the account, and will be adding more as we are able. We are looking for other simple ways to raise money for our fund. Anyone can make a tax deductible donation to the fund. It's easy! Checks should be mailed to The Middletown Community Foundation, 300 North Main Street, Suite 300, Middletown, OH 45042. Checks should be made out to The Middletown Community Foundation with "AAUW SCHOLARSHIP" in the memo line. The foundation will send you a tax receipt and inform us of your gift. As you consider your year-end giving, consider adding to our fund and helping AAUW Middletown inspire young people who are first in family to attend college.



AAUW Middletown Branch Officers

This list is provided to help any members reach out to the correct person in case of any questions, like how to help someone join AAUW.

President:
Mel Worbis

President Elect:
Eleanor Yeager Stewart

Program Co-Chair:
Beck Ward

Program Co-Chair:
Debbie Worbis

Membership Co-Chair:
Mary Millard

Membership Co-Chair:
Jackie Webster

Finance Co-Chair:
Kristen Mulligan

Finance Co-Chair:
Katie DeVilling

Public Policy:
Robin Becker

Communications:
Virginia Palmer

Communications:
Judy Florence

Secretary:
Joyce Trick

Diversity:
Marti Kreps

College University Relations:
Katie McNeil

Scholarship:
Beth Miller

Newsletter Editor:
Suzanne Tadych

AAUW Funds: Chris Buchert

Garage Sale/ Holiday Bazaar
Co-Chair: Chris Buchert

Garage Sale / Holiday Bazaar
Co-chair: Carole Schul

Garage Sale/ Holiday Bazaara
Co-Chair: Rose Grau

Joy Luck Book Club:
Sharon Williamson

PENS: Becky Ward

Book sale Co-Chair: Tina Newlin

Book Sale Co-Chair: Libby Abele

Book Sale Co-Chair:
Sharon Dowden