



Middletown
Newsletter

MAY 2022



May 2022

Your programming committee is excited to share information with you about our May dinner. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9, at Middletown Historical Society's Shartle House, 120 N. Verity Parkway.

We will have a light dinner fare from McAlister's Deli, with a cost of \$13/each, payable at the event. Dinner will include a "wrap tray" with choices of roast beef, ham, or veggies, potato salad, a dessert tray of cookies and brownies, and drinks of sweet or unsweetened tea or lemonade.

During the pandemic year, we found that scheduling caterers was both challenging and cost prohibitive. Our members enjoyed last year's May dinner, and so we decided to tweak the menu a bit and once again order from McAlister's Deli.

An email was sent earlier requesting your RSVP by Thursday, May 5. If you missed that date, please email or call asap: Becky Ward, 424-8409, beckward@gmail.com or Debbie Worbis, 513/392-4357, dworbis@gmail.com. Thank you, and hope to see you there!

Note: With fluctuating safety protocols for gatherings, members will make an individual decision about mask wearing based on current CDC guidelines. Zoom will be available but won't begin till around 6:45pm. If the zoom link is needed please see email Mel Worbis at worbismm@gmail.com.



stay connected

aauw.org

aauwoh.org

middletown-oh.aauw.net

Calendar of Events

Thursday, May 5: PENS reach out to Becky for more information

Monday, May 9: Annual May Dinner and Installation of Officers: 6 pm
Where: Middletown Historical Society's Shartle House, 120 N. Verity Parkway

Tuesday, May 10: Garage Sale help days are now: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 9am-noon- Sign up to help at the sale will be available at the May dinner

Thursday, May 19: PENS –

Thursday, May 19, 7 pm: Joy Luck Book Club: Joyce Carol Oates Roundtable: Carolyn Smith's home and on Zoom

End of the Year Board meeting with old and new board members will be determined soon

Garage Sale Dates: Friday and Saturday June 10, 11 and June 17, 18: 9am – 4pm

Thursday, June 16, 7 pm: Joy Luck Book Club: The Sentence by Louise Endrich: Still need a host



Joy Luck Book Club

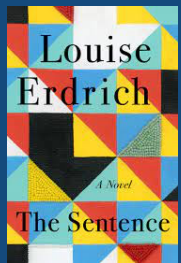
Thursday, May 19 at 7:00 pm
 Joyce Carol Oates Roundtable
 Carolyn Smith's home and on Zoom



Next month you are invited to read any work of Joyce Carol Oates, one of the most prolific American writers of the last century. In her six-decades-long career, she has published 58 novels, a number of plays and novellas, and many volumes of short stories, poetry, and non-fiction. Her novels *Black Water* (1992), *What I Lived For* (1994), and *Blonde* (2000), and her short story collections *The Wheel of Love* (1970) and *Lovely, Dark, Deep: Stories* (2014) were each finalists for the Pulitzer Prize. She is winner of the National Book Award for her novel *them*, two O. Henry Awards, the National Humanities Medal, and the Jerusalem Prize.

Please be ready to share why you chose that particular work and what you found most intriguing, moving or compelling about it.

Thursday, June 16 at 7:00 pm
 The Sentence by Louise Erdrich
 Need host



In June we turn to another National Book Award-winning author, Louise Erdrich, for her wickedly funny ghost story and tale of passion about a complex marriage and of a woman's relentless errors. Suggested by member Carolyn Smith, this novel takes place in a small independent bookstore in Minneapolis that is haunted from November 2019 to November 2020 by the store's most annoying customer.

Interesting footnote: Our June meeting takes place on Joyce Carol Oates' birthday (1938). I would have flopped these choices if I'd known...but then Louise Erdrich's birthday is on June 7 (1954), so we can celebrate both authors.

Hope we see you – digitally or in person – on Thursday.

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

Hi Everyone,

This is my last letter as President of Middletown AAUW. It is our last newsletter for the season till we begin again in September. I have gotten to be President –Elect and President during this odd time of the COVID Pandemic. While all of that was going on, I also became a foster mom to a very special little boy who I can't wait to officially adopt. We have all learned to adapt and continue to do so through hybrid meetings, wearing or not wearing masks, learning how to social distance to finally being able to hug and work with each other as we prep for our upcoming garage sale. I guess these adapting skills are just part of being human!

It has been a great privilege to be President. I was lucky to have such a great example through Chris and other past presidents. I want thank all the board members, and committee members who have done amazing work this past year. Another person I want to thank is Suzy. She has been our Newsletter designer for a very long time and I want to give her a huge shout out for her dedication to our organization. As she steps away it is exciting to have Sharon W. come in and take charge of our award winning newsletter.

This year we have gotten to learn so much about Diversity and what it can represent and how it just a piece of what we can continue to learn to be cognizant of the diversity of our community. We had an incredibly engaging meeting last month that I would say the majority of us that heard Tristan speak would love to have them come back so we can continue to learn more and engage ourselves in understanding more about the transgender community and LGBTQIA issues. I also want to encourage all of you to keep on our representatives at local, state, and national levels to keep pushing for women's rights, for better education for all, and job opportunities for women.

At the May dinner there will be paper copies of the dues sheet as well opportunity to pay dues at the dinner. I will be glad to help anyone to try to login into the AAUW website and help you through the steps of the password change and due payment on there as well. Our annual dues are due by June 15, 2022.

Sincerely,
 Mel Worbis



PENS

Our PENS writing group will continue to meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. Our May meeting dates will be 5/5/22 and 5/19/22. As we get into the Summer months, we will continue to reflect on what works best for our group, i.e., Zoom or in-person, mornings or afternoons. One thing that will remain a constant is that anyone who has a passion for writing is welcome to join our writers' group. Our group has writing pursuits across a wide range: poetry, journaling, travel blog, memoir, and preparing a draft for a book.

Our format is to share a piece of our own writing (verbally) with the group (5-minute time frame/each writer). We encourage each other's offerings and offer positive critiques. Call or email Becky Ward if you have any questions: beckward@gmail.com or 513/424-8409.

Garage Sale Article

The tables at our branch garage sale site are filling up. There are antiques, lots of linens, glassware, beautiful crystal, party supplies, toys and paintings to name just a few. Having members bring in items throughout the winter has made putting the sale together much easier. It is almost time for the push to the sale. Pricing has started, so has figuring out where different categories should go. We already have a buyer for the big plastic boxes we have for sale. Please help get ready by pricing and advertising. Put notices on your Facebook pages, etc., email friends, put up posters, and pass out posters to neighbors. Beginning Tuesday, May 10, come work Tuesdays, Thursdays and/or Saturdays anytime from 9:00 to noon. Signup sheets to work at the sale will be available at the May dinner and at the book sale site. Reminder the garage sale dates are: Friday and Saturday June 10, 11 and June 17, 18: 9am-4pm.



**AAUW MIDDLETOWN
GARAGE SALE
Friday and Saturday – 9-4
June 10 and 11 and 17 and 18
2204 Central Avenue – Middletown, OH**

DONATION DROP OFF DAYS TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, SATURDAYS beginning Tuesday, May 10 and ending Saturday, June 4. Drop off times are from 10:00 – 11:30.

Donations of new/gently used items are needed. Donations must be clean and in good condition/repair, ready for the sale.

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

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

PROCEEDS from the sale are used to support the program and mission of the branch which includes local scholarships and the National AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.

FOR MORE INFORMATION – Contact Chris tcbuch@yahoo.com

AAUW Dues

The AAUW fiscal year runs from July 1 – June 30. National dues are \$62.00. State remains at \$11.00 and our Middletown branch dues are \$10.00. Total is \$83. Lifetime members do not pay National dues. They owe \$21. Honorary lifetime members do not pay national or state dues. A branch donation of \$10 is appreciated from Honorary lifetime members, but we will automatically renew their membership without dues.

This year our branch will once again be sending invoices via email from National AAUW for dues payment. You have the choice to pay your dues online by credit card directly to National. If you decide to send a check, please include an updated membership form and mail to PO Box 118 Middletown, OH 45042. Make checks payable to Middletown AAUW.

Please contact one of the Finance officers if you do not intend to renew your membership for next year.

To review:

Dues for the 2021-2022 are as follows:

National: \$62.00

State: \$11.00 (paid lifetime members only pay state, local)

Local: \$10.00 (used for our Middletown branch)

TOTAL: \$83.00

Honorary lifetime members should pay their local dues directly to the branch via check.

Lifetime members pay \$21 to National online via credit card, or write a check and mail to the PO Box.

All other members may pay \$83 to National online via credit card, or write a check and mail to the PO Box.

Thank you for your prompt payment before June 15.

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 Triick

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 Bazaar
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

Middletown AAUW Branch Dues



The AAUW fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

National dues are \$62.00. The State dues remain at \$11.00 and our Middletown branch dues are \$10.00. Total is \$83.

You can pay dues online.

If paying by check, make checks payable to Middletown AAUW. Please return a completed copy of this Branch Membership Form along with payment to PO Box 118, Middletown, OH 45042.

Dues for 2022-2023 are as follows:

National: \$62.00

State: \$11.00

Local: \$10.00 (used for our Middletown branch)

TOTAL: \$83.00

MAIL TO:

AAUW Middletown Branch

P.O. Box 118

Middletown, OH 45042

AAUW Middletown Branch Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

College/University _____