



Equity Now

DECEMBER 2022

Program Note: Members will be sent a Zoom invitation through emails. Non-members who wish to join by Zoom should contact Mel Worbis at worbismm@gmail.com for link.

Working Women: Victories & Challenges

Monday, Dec. 12 at 7 pm

Central Connections

3907 Central Ave in Middletown and Zoom*.

The speaker for our December meeting is Diane Rodgers, Executive Director of Central Connections. Diane has been instrumental in executing changes to the building in the hope that it becomes a highly regarded event center for all of Middletown while still serving our community seniors with a variety of services.



Diane Rodgers

Diane has more than 15 years of experience in executive positions. She served as Executive Director for AmeriCorps/Seniors in Service in Sparks, Nev., and has worked for Volunteers of America in Reno as the Director of Operations and in Sacramento, Calif., as a Program Director.

Diane will talk about her journey to become an executive director and how these experiences have influenced her life as well as her career. She will share how she pushes against the idea of being stuck or complacent, an approach she calls "raising her ceiling."

The evening's snack and drinks will be made and served by Central Connections. If you are able come early, we encourage you to try out Central Connections' new restaurant.



AAUW's PENS Writing Group

Our writers' group continues to meet at Gardner Harvey Library on the Middletown Campus of Miami University in conference room #123. Our next meeting dates are December 3 and 15 at 1:00-2:30 p.m. **Everyone has a story to tell . . . come share your story . . . take the first step . . . put pen to paper and WRITE!** Call or email Becky Ward if you have any questions: beckward@gmail.com or 513/424-8409.

*Masks are recommended, but not required. It's okay to bring a refreshment such as coffee or tea.

Calendar of Events

Monday, Dec. 12 at 7 pm
"Working Women: Victories and Challenges"

Speaker will be Diane Rodgers. Meeting will include a light snack prepared by the chef of Central Connections.

► Central Connections, 3807 Central Ave, Middletown

Monday, Jan. 16 at 7 pm
"Equity for Children with Disabilities" **NEW DATE!**

Parents of kids with disabilities often face challenges getting resources for their children.

This meeting will discuss challenges and solutions for parents and caregivers.

► ZOOM ONLY*

Monday, Feb. 13 at 7 pm
"Creative Problem Solving: How to Make Your Own Equity"

Dayton-based internist Dr. Carol Levine will share how creative problem solving changed her life and can help our lives. She will tell us how art got her into medical school and how she thrived with challenges that would have stopped others.

► ZOOM ONLY*

Monday, March 13 at 7 pm
"Preparing Future Generations of Women Leaders"

Dana Bisignani, Director of University of Cincinnati's Women's Center, will discuss how they use programs created by AAUW to help guide women with pay equity and negotiations.

► Kettering Health Center Community Room, Middletown and Zoom

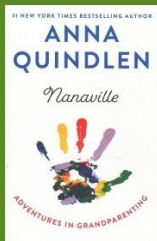
*Zoom links will be provided monthly in reminder emails.

Joy Luck Book Club

Thursday, Dec. 15 at 7 pm
@ Carolyn Smith's home

Nanaville: Adventures in Grandparenting – Anna Quindlen

This bighearted book of wisdom, wit and insight by Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and best-selling author Anna Quindlen will help you celebrate being...or having...a grandmother. Enjoy with us a book of essays that will warm your heart this holiday.



Thursday, Jan. 19, 2023 at 7 pm
(Zoom Only)

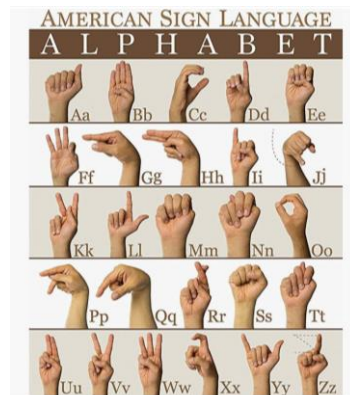
The Measure – Nikki Erlick **OR**
The Midnight Library – Matt Haig

Ring in the new year with your choice of two books that will have you thinking about your life in new ways.



November Meeting Focused on Healthy Responses to Change

November saw an energetic presentation by Dr. Robert (Bob) Basil, Psy.D., a clinical psychologist who practices at Highview Center in Middletown, where he helps people make constructive changes in their lives and families.



Dr. Bob shared his advice and experience with a large group of us by using sign language as well as his spoken voice. After decades of counseling military personnel and civilians grappling with life's most difficult circumstances, Dr. Bob drew on a rich trove of personal stories to connect with his audience...an eloquent speaker in whatever language he uses.

Successful Holiday Sale Generates Record Sales

More than \$6,300 was generated by AAUW Middletown's annual holiday bazaar this year, held during the first two weekends in November. Generous donations of holiday items and re-giftable presents dazzled shoppers who loaded up on affordable indulgences for friends and family.



Thanks go out to AAUW volunteers and their helpers from Marshall High School in Middletown, who were busy on Nov. 15 clearing up from the sale.



Letter from Our Leader

Branch President Eleanor Stewart
(eleanorygilmore@gmail.com)

Hello! October and November brought us gusty winds that threw the last of the autumn leaves. The first week of November surprised us our first snowfall of the year!

As we head into the busy and wonderful season of festivities, we can look back and be quite proud of our three successful fundraisers of 2022. The chairs and the volunteers spent countless hours in preparing, organizing, and running these sales. Their hard work produced monies that will help AAUW in its mission. How nice it was to see some of our new members energetically lending a hand to these projects. A hearty thank you to everyone!

I hope to see everyone on Monday, December 12, at the newly renovated Central Connections on Central Avenue in Middletown where executive director Diane Rodgers will discuss various challenges facing working women, work-life balance, and when to be fearless. We will even be treated to some snacks from the kitchen!

During this time of thankfulness, let us all be grateful for the progress toward equality that women have been able to achieve, even knowing much more needs to be accomplished. Let us not forget that together we can make things happen.

Hope your Thanksgiving was a wonderful one!

Eleanor

Meet New Member Amy Shreve



Amy grew up in Northwest Cincinnati and attended Ohio Wesleyan University. After graduating, she moved to Illinois and worked as a church youth director and Christian Education director. Most recently, Amy was the coordinator for higher education, college and young adult ministry and assistant coordinator for congregational development for the Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church. She consulted with directors and nonprofit ministry boards as well as provided training and coaching to pastors. She earned her master's from Lindenwood University in Nonprofit Administration.

Amy wants to help people live their fullest life and has seen how important talking about and putting one's money to work is to being free and achieving what's most important to people. Being able to do this with Edward Jones and move back closer to family is what brings Amy to Miamisburg.

Amy has a spouse, Scott, who teaches Biology at Miami University, and two children aged 9 and 11 at Medlar View Elementary in Miamisburg. She enjoys running the paved trails around town, exploring the area, visiting National Parks with her family, and connecting with new friends. Her mother, Marti Kreps, and aunts Chris Buchert and Jan Runkle are members of the branch and encouraged her to join AAUW.

AAUW Middletown Branch Officers

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

President:

Eleanor Yeager Stewart

President-Elect:

Debbie Worbis

Finance Chairs:

Katie DeVilling
Krisen Mulligan

Membership Chairs:

Mary Millard
Jackie Webster

Program Chairs:

Margie Homan
Mel Worbis

Communications:

Judy Florence
Virginia Palmer

Secretary:

Joyce Triick

AAUW State Liaison:

Carolyn Smith

AAUW Funds:

Chris Buchert
Erin Eldridge

College & University

Relations:

Katie McNeil

Diversity:

Marti Kreps

Public Policy:

Robin Becker

Scholarships:

Cari Hillman
Maria Langendorf
Beth Miller

Garage Sale & Holiday

Bazaar:

Chris Buchert
Rose Grau
Carole Schul

Book Sale:

Libby Abele
Sharon Dowden
Tina Newlin

**Newsletter Editor/
Joy Luck Book Group:**

Sharon Williamson

PENS (Writing Group)

Becky Ward