



Equity Now

SEPT. 2025

Miami University Middletown's Early College Academy

Monday, September 8 at 6 pm

Middletown Historical Society, 120 N. Verity Parkway, Middletown



Join us for a potluck dinner and enjoy our speaker, who is Yvette Kelly Fields, Miami University Regional Director of Development. She will be talking with us about the Early College Academy program at the Miami University Regional Campus in Middletown.

Bring a dish to share (appetizer, salad, entrée or dessert) and your own place setting. Drinks will be provided.

Fall Means Fundraising for Scholarships

We are closely approaching our 65th Annual Book Sale in September. Help is still needed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9 am to noon to help sort and price donated material. Come for whatever length of time you are able.

Book Sale Dates and Pricing

Thursday, Sept. 11	4 pm – 8 pm (\$5 Pre-sale entry)
Friday, Sept. 12	10 am – 6 pm
Saturday, Sept. 13	10 am – 4 pm
Sunday, Sept. 14	12 pm – 4 pm (\$10 per bag)
Saturday, Sept. 20	10 am – 4 pm (\$5 per bag)
Sunday, Sept. 21	12 pm – 4 pm (\$5 per bag)

Go to the back of Towne Mall and look for AAUW signage pointing the way. The entrance is behind Gabe's by Loading Dock Bay B.

After our book sale, work will begin on our November Holiday Bazaar. Get these dates on your calendar now!

Holiday Bazaar Dates

November 7 and 8
November 14, 15 and 16

Drop Off Days:

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays
9:30 – 11:30 am from October 7 – 25

Calendar of Events

**Branch Meeting and Potluck:
MUM's Early College Academy**
Mon., Sept. 8 at 6:00 pm
► Middletown Historical Society,
120 N. Verity Parkway

AAUW Annual Book Sale
Th/Fri/Sat/Sun Sept. 11 – 14
Sat/Sun Sept. 20 – 21
► Towne Mall, Middletown

AAUW Speakeasy: Party Like It's 1925!

Thurs., Sept. 25 at 6 – 8 pm
► West Central Wine + Bar, 1120
Central Ave., Middletown

Branch Meeting: AAUW Middletown, Then & Now

Mon., Oct. 6 at 7:00
► Location TBD

*Take an armchair journey
through a century of AAUW
Middletown branch history.*

AAUW Ohio Leadership Conference

Sat., Oct. 11 from 10 am to 3 pm
► All Saints Lutheran Church,
Worthington, Ohio

Celebrate Our Century Luncheon

Sat., Oct. 25 at 12:00 pm
► Event Center of Middletown,
3907 Central Ave.

*Honor this major milestone for
our branch at this gala luncheon,
featuring Dr. Anedra Million,
trailblazing educator and Mrs.
Ohio in 2024.*

Branch Meeting: Past, Present and Future Look at Our City

Mon., Nov. 10 at 7:00 pm
► Middletown High School
Community Room, 601 N. Breiel
Blvd.

*Our speaker will be Middletown
City Manager Ashley Combs.*

Joy Luck Book Club

Thurs., Sept. 18 at 7 pm
Nita Driscoll's home

Stephen King Roundtable

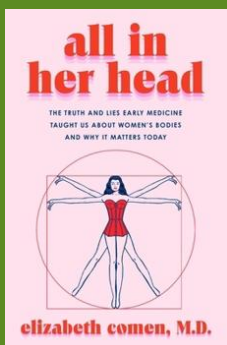
Although known as the King of Horror, this award-winning author has explored other genres, including suspense, crime, science-fiction, fantasy and mystery. Select any book or short story by Stephen King, then be prepared to talk about the work and why you chose it.



Thurs., Oct. 16 at 7 pm
Need host

It's All in Her Head – Elizabeth Comen, M.D.

This book is subtitled “The Truth and Lies Early Medicine Taught Us About Women's Bodies and Why It Matters Today.” Written by an oncologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York, this entertaining and informative book is a collective narrative about women's bodies and a call to action for a new conversation about women's health.



Come to the Speakeasy: Party Like It's 1925!

Join us for a night of fun, connection and celebration as we honor 100 years of AAUW! We're throwing a Speakeasy-style social on Thursday, September 25 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at West Central Wine + Bar, 1120 Central Ave. in Middletown. This open house, drop-in event is all about networking, reminiscing, storytelling and celebrating our rich history together.

Here's what you can expect:

- A festive speakeasy theme (Dressing up is optional but encouraged!)
- There will be prizes for the best-dressed guest.
- A secret password to be revealed closer to the date; you'll need it to enter!
- Tickets are \$10 and include one drink ticket, heavy appetizers, desserts and refreshments. A cash bar also will be available.
- There is convenient street parking and a rear lot, and the bar is located on a bus route.

As we celebrate a century of AAUW we're inviting you to share your story at the event. You'll be reflecting on such themes as:

- A moment in history that shaped your life or your outlook on life
- How life today compares to your childhood or teen years
- Your first paycheck – How much was it? What did you do with it?
- And most importantly, how has AAUW impacted your life?

Start thinking about your answers now. We'll have more details and prompts at the September branch meeting.

Ticket sales and payment options, including electronic purchasing, will be shared soon. You'll also have the option to send a check or cash, if you prefer. Let's make this event great. Invite a friend, a potential new member, your spouse or partner, and raise a glass to 100 years of progress, purpose and powerful women. We can't wait to see you there!

Why I Write (from PENS author Becky Ward)

September brings the autumnal equinox and a change in the seasons. It brings a “new year” of sorts, a gift that all writers need . . . a chance to plan better writing habits! When I reflect on “Why I Write” I could answer by saying it's the same as “Why I Breathe” . . . it is what fills me up with life and with who I am. Like skipping stones across the water, words create waves that skip across the story of my life. Writing carries my thoughts through the fragmented memories of my childhood. It brings the comforting memories of time spent with my grandmother. It helps me answer all the questions of who, what, where, when, and especially why. When the world is filled with the angst of unresolved problems, writing lets me fill my gratitude journal with all the dreams that have come true. Writing brings a sense of calm to my morning meditation. Writing is my centering prayer. Amen.

AAUW Middletown Officers for 2025-26 Program Year

Elected officers and appointed committee chairs for our upcoming program year are listed below.

President: Margie Homan

President-Elect:
Amanda Adkins-Ricci

Secretary Co-Chairs: Becky Hamner and Marcia Miller

Finance Co-Chairs: Katie DeVilling and Jackie Webster

Membership Co-Chairs: Beth Miller and Eleanor Yeager Stewart

Communications Co-Chairs:
Jackie Lankfer and Carolyn Smith

Program Co-Chairs: Marti Kreps and Katie McNeil

Scholarship Co-Chairs: Debbie Worbis and Mel Worbis

Diversity: Emily Foote

State Liaison: Carolyn Smith

Book Sale Co-Chairs: Marcia Miller Stacey Finnessy, Marianne Zsiska

Holiday Bazaar Co-Chairs: Carole Schul, Chris Buchert, Jackie Lankfer, Bonnie Thompson

Garage Sale Co-Chairs: Karen Berry, Chris Buchert, Erin Eldridge, Jackie Webster

Celebrate Our Centennial!

As you know by now, our branch was founded in October 1925. To celebrate that occasion we are planning a gala luncheon on October 25, 2025.



It will be held at the Event Center of Middletown and feature guest speaker Dr. Anedra Million, who is one of the many local students AAUW has helped support with a scholarship. We are delighted to have her join us and share some of her academic and professional journey, including being named Mrs. Ohio in 2024. Dr. Million is a first-generation college student and the first in her family to graduate with a doctorate degree.

New Food & Friendship Study Groups

AAUW Middletown is developing a new way to learn about different cultures by visiting sites around our community. The brainchild of member Emily Foote, these evenings will be scheduled through the 2025-26 program year. Each gathering will include a dinner with friends as part of the fun. Look for details in future newsletters.

AAUW Food & Friendship Study Group: Singha Thai
Singha Thai 4123 W Town and County Rd., Kettering, Ohio

Meet the owner of Singha Thai and learn about her story immigrating from Thailand and opening a restaurant in Kettering, Ohio.

AAUW Food & Friendship Study Group: Gurudwara Visit & Dinner
Sikh Society of Dayton, 2320 Harshman Rd, Dayton
Cedarland Bakery & Restaurant, 4515 Linden Ave., Dayton

Visit a gurudwara, a Sikh place of worship, followed by dinner at a local Lebanese restaurant where we will chat with the owner.

AAUW Food & Friendship Study Group: Calypso
Calypso Cafe and Bakery, 325 South Main St., Franklin

Meet the owner of Calypso Café, a Caribbean-inspired eatery, and learn about her experiences in Croatia.

PENS Challenges Us to "Write On!"

Our PENS writing group meets the first and third Thursday of each month from 1:00 to 2:30 pm in Room 123 of the Gardner Harvey Library on the Middletown Campus of Miami University. Our next meeting dates September 4 and 18.

Please contact Becky Ward at beckward@gmail.com or 513-424-8409 if you have questions. Everyone has a story to tell. Come share your story with PENS.