



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Spring Luncheon

Thursday, May 18, 2017

[Midland Country Club, 1120 W. St. Andrews](#)

Doors open at 11:30 am ~ Lunch at 12:00 pm



The date has been set, a place has been chosen, and a luncheon has been planned. Now all we need is you. A delightful spring luncheon awaits members and their guests at our general meeting. The menu includes a delicious Cobb Salad (chicken breast, bacon, avocado, tomato, egg, and scallions), Artisan breads, freshly brewed coffee, Tazo hot and cold tea, and soft drinks. Dessert will be a sensational Crème Brûlée.

[Elizabeth Lumbert, new Dow Gardens Director](#), will be our program speaker. Lumbert has a 24-year career in public gardens, operations, program management and business strategy. She will speak to us on how the Dow Gardens is undergoing immense growth with the Whiting Forest Canopy Walk and Connectivity.

Reservations are required by May 15. The cost of the luncheon is \$20. Guests are welcomed. Make checks payable to AAUW - Midland Branch and send P.O. Box 30, Midland, MI, 48640-0030. Write to aaumidland@gmail.com for information.



Used Book Sale Success

Trudy Dutot, Used Book Sale Chair

The Spring 2017 Used Book Sale was a great success thanks to many hours of hard work by dedicated AAUW Midland Branch members. The sale grossed \$8811.35

Branch members collected thousands of books from the donation barrels placed throughout the community. There were several inquiries through our website and Facebook page which resulted in some very good donations. This all resulted in 248 equivalent banana boxes of books.

Unsold books were donated to various nursing homes and nonprofit organizations in our community. Friends of the Standish Library picked up the remaining books on the Monday following the sale.

Branch members, spouses, and friends are to be thanked for their contributions towards the success of the Spring sale and the scholarships it will support.



The next sale is scheduled for September 29, 30, October 1, 2017.

From the President ~ Mary Crane-Franek

Books, books and more books. As you know, the sale of all those books is how we raise our money to support our local scholarships, sponsorship for young women to the [National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](#) (NCCWSL) and donations to AAUW Funds at the National level. I am always amazed each year at the amount of concerted effort that members contribute over an eight-week period twice a year to make our sales a success. We absolutely could not accomplish our fundraising without those members who are so dedicated to the AAUW-Midland Branch. Thank you! Thank you!

By now, you have gotten a postcard from AAUW National and/or an email telling you that it is time to vote. Read the latest issue of AAUW [Outlook](#) magazine to find an easy reference for all the background information you need in order to knowledgeably cast your ballot. Remember One Member/One Vote. Each of us needs to have our voice heard. Hopefully, I'll see you at the Spring Luncheon on Thursday, May 18.

Successful Equal Pay Day Activities

Judy Donahue, Public Policy Committee

Midland AAUW observed Equal Pay Day (EPD) with a number of activities. We sent a Letter to the Editor to local papers explaining the meaning of EPD. On April 4 the designated EPD, we delivered about 14 dozen home-baked cookies to local businesses and government offices. The cookies had a "bite" taken out symbolizing the bite taken out of women's pay. We were interviewed by CMU NPR and Channel 7 News 5 to explain EPD and our activities. News 5 featured a shot of the cookies.



Then on April 25, along with members of the Michigan Equal Pay Coalition, Branch members were joined by members of Midland Zonta in Lansing for the EPD Legislative Pre-Rally Orientation. This was a great meeting with Michigan women legislators speaking about bills for Equal Pay. They expressed how much it means to them to have women come to Lansing to support them on Equal Pay legislation. A woman representative for the U.S. Labor Dept. was a featured speaker explaining how, with a very small budget, her department was working throughout the U.S. on educating the public about working women's issues, especially Equal Pay and what can be done to bring about equality. The Progress Women's Caucus in the legislature distributed a sheet they had created summarizing the upcoming bills for Equal Pay most of which have been resubmitted for consideration for many past years.

Following the Orientation, other groups from Midland, WOMAN and Midland League of Women Voters, joined our group for the Rally which featured more speakers for Equal Pay and introductions to Michigan Legislators who sponsored Equal Pay bills or support them. Immediately, after the Rally, the Midland group tried to speak with Representative Gary Glenn. He did not respond to our request for a very brief meeting.

Lots of good ideas were proposed during the day for ongoing projects to bring more awareness of Pay Equity. There was great energy and commitment. We are going to work with Midland Zonta on next year's EPD activities. Maybe by the year 2100 Equal Pay will be a reality for future generations of women. WE NEED TO SPEED UP THE PROCESS.

NCCWSL Scholarship Winner Sara Chase

Carol Plaush, College University Relations

Sara Chase wants to thank this year's selection committee Dorothy Arthur and Karen Biekert and the AAUW Midland Branch for giving her the opportunity to attend the [National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](#) from May 31 to June 3, 2017. She is very appreciative and full of enthusiasm to attend.

Welcome New Members ~ Judy Donahue, 2nd VP Membership

Karen Beckwith joined the Branch last October. She is a graduate of Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota with a bachelor of arts, majoring in political science. Karen received a law degree from The University of Wisconsin Law School in Madison Wisconsin. She became a member of the Wisconsin and Michigan bar associations in 1961. She worked in the Law Department at The Dow Chemical Company for 30 years and is now retired.

Sandra Collinson joined us in late March. Before retiring she taught at Jefferson Middle School for 33 years. Currently Sandra is tutoring a middle school student at the Legacy Center. She is actively involving herself with groups that have a history of public policy such as AAUW and LWV. Reading is a pleasure for her in her spare moments.

Branch Dues Notice ~ Judy Donahue, 2 VP Membership

Your invoice will be coming to you via email or regular mail around the middle of May. Dues for 2017-18 are \$78. Of this amount, \$49 goes to National (\$46 of this \$49 is tax deductible). Another \$12 goes to AAUW of Michigan. The remaining \$17 will fund Midland Branch operations. Your prompt payment will be most appreciated.



Gardening for Fun ~ Kerry Buell, Interest Group Chair

It's time to shop for those bare spots in our gardens. Please meet at the car share parking lot which is located on Wackerly Rd. nearly at Shade on Wednesday, May 31 at 1:00 pm. We will be going to several nurseries. Please let Kerry or Gina know if you are coming so that we can carpool.

Later in the summer we will travel again with a trip to Traverse City for a tour of the Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park. To be put on a notification list, contact Kerry.

Mark Your Calendar

May 18 ~ Spring Luncheon 11:30 am at the Midland Country Club

President: Mary Crane-Franek; President-elect: Kim Steinke; 1st VP Program: Chris Ferrando;
2nd VP Membership: Judy Donahue; The *Twig* Editor: Pauline Pittsley

Web sites: <http://midland-mi.aauw.net> <http://aauwmi.org> E-mail: aauwmidland@gmail.com