

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

Midland Branch Annual Meeting

Thursday, March 15, Doors open at 6:00, Dinner at 6:30
Trinity Lutheran Church, [3710 Jefferson Ave.](#)

The Annual Meeting will include the election of Branch officers and recognition of this year's Named Gift Honoree. The program will be an update on public policy activity. The Midland Branch Public Policy Committee has been very active partnering with Midland Zonta to make this year's observance of Equal Pay Day on Tuesday April 10 an outstanding event. Branch member Judy Donahue will present information on Equal Pay Day activities locally and at the state level. She will also talk about Pay Equity and the Gender Wage Gap. Judy is passionate about the issue and will share what it takes to close the Gap. As a retired VP of the Capitol Group Company, a world-wide investment management firm, Judy has a grasp on pay issues.



Dinner will be catered by Panera. You will have a choice of three types of sandwiches and three varieties of salad. The meal includes a fresh fruit cup, cookies and beverages. Cost for the meal is \$10. Make checks payable to AAUW Midland Branch and mail by **March 12** to AAUW Midland Branch, P.O. Box 30, Midland, MI 48640-0030. Please write to aauwmidland@gmail.com for more information.

Mary Crane-Franek, 1st VP Program Development

President's Message ~ Kim Steinke, President

I encourage all members to attend our Annual Meeting to learn about upcoming Equal Pay initiatives. Did you know Equal Pay Day is always a Tuesday because that is how long women must work into the next week to earn what men had earned the previous week? It is in April to recognize how far into the next year women must work to earn what men had earned the previous year.



Our Public Policy Committee is working with Zonta to encourage coffee houses in Midland to give a 20% discount on coffee to women on April 10 and distribute cookies with a "bite" taken out to represent the pay gap with men. Letters to the editor will be written and the Midland City Council will be asked to make a proclamation for Equal Pay Day at its 4/9 meeting. Please consider participating in an Equal Pay Day Rally being held at the State Capitol on April 10 by the Michigan EPD Coalition which includes AAUW of Michigan, League of Women Voters of Michigan, Zonta Club of Midland, Business Professional Women Michigan Federation, ACLU of Michigan, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan, and many more.

Officers to be Elected ~ Chris Ferrando, Nominations Officer

President-Elect: Mary Crane-Franek: Mary is the current 1st VP Program Development. She has also served the branch as President, 2nd VP Membership, Secretary and President-Elect. She joined AAUW in 2004. Mary retired from The Dow Chemical Company after 31 years in Business/Marketing Communications. She volunteered at Good Samaritan Rescue Mission in Bay City for six years. She has also volunteered for MidMichigan Health as secretary on the Volunteers Board of Directors and for her church.

Membership VP: Lu Ellen DeLine; Finance VP: Liz Kapla; Secretary: Ruth Copp; Nominations Officer: Chris Ferrando, Delegate-at-Large: Sandra Collison. *Bios for these nominees were in the February Twig.*

Used Book Sale is April 27, 28, 29 ~ Trudy Dutot, VBS Chair

Mark your calendars now to work at the Spring Used Book Sale. We welcome spouses and friends to help. At the beginning of April, we will begin to collect books and start sorting. Your help is very important.

Please volunteer in one of these roles as often as you can.

- Pick up donated books from grocery stores.
- Put price stickers on books; sort books into category boxes.
- Stack books on sale tables Thursday evening, April 26.
- Take a 2 hour shift at the sale, selling or keeping tables neat.
- Help box books for gifting and recycling at the end of the sale.

You can also help by spreading word about the sale. We get thousands of wonderful books and we need many buyers to achieve the sale income needed to support our scholarships and other educational activities.

To sign up, contact Marge Haskell or Pauline Pittsley, or write to aauwmidland@gmail.com for information.



Used Book Sale T-Shirts Available

Branch T-shirts advertising our Used Book Sale will be worn by members for the spring sale. The shirts are available in two colors, white and a soft teal. They are of very nice quality cotton with either a V neck or crew neck, short sleeves or long. A variety of sizes will be displayed at the March general meeting. Cost for a shirt is \$15 short sleeve, \$17 long sleeve. An additional \$2 is required for size XX large. Order forms will be at the meeting or contact Jane Wirth or write to aauwmidland@gmail.com for information.



AAUW Members Invited to Free Concert

The Midland Community Orchestra, under the direction of Gina Provenzano, will present a winter concert on Sunday, March 11 at 3:00 in the Bullock Creek Auditorium. The program will feature music by female composers Amy Beach and Linda Robbins Coleman. Oboist Jan Pickering and violinist Cindy Mikulin will perform the first movement of the Bach "Double Concerto in D minor" and the MCO concertmistress, Susan Mercy, will perform the 3rd Movement of the Mendelssohn "Violin Concerto in E minor". Ms. Mercy has also arranged "Deep River" by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor for the orchestra that is based upon a transcription by Maud Powell, who was the first America woman violin soloist, nearly a century ago.

Please join us in the lobby, before and after the concert, to view information promoting Maud Powell, Sigma Alpha Iota, a woman's music fraternity, AAUW, Girl Scouts, ZONTA, PEO (Midland Philanthropic Education Organization), and League of Women Voters. There will be a reception after the concert to meet the musicians. The concert is FREE, but donations are accepted.

Done in a Day ~ Help with Non-Violence Week

On Wednesday, March 21, Floyd Elementary School is going to foster kindness in the school with activities, games and conversation during the four lunch periods. Staff is seeking up to eight volunteers to facilitate the program from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Activities will be planned by school staff and will be done in small groups. Would you be willing to work with children to foster empathy and concern rather than harsh responses? Please notify Kerry Buell or write to aauwmidland@gmail.com for information.



Branch Members Urged to Participate

All Branch members should have received this notice by email February 22.

Here is part of the message. Check your email for the full announcement.

The AAUW National Board of Directors has voted to put three proposals for bylaws amendments before the membership. The board strongly supports the proposed amendments that we believe will help keep AAUW vital as an organization.

The proposed amendments address creating three-year staggered board terms, opening board service to those outside of the AAUW membership, and eliminating the degree requirement for membership. Rationale and details for each proposed amendment can be found on the [AAUW website](#).

The first two proposals would bring AAUW's board governance structure more in line with nationally accepted nonprofit best practices and the needs of the organization. The third proposal — to eliminate the degree requirement for membership — has come before the membership for vote a number of times. The board feels strongly that while the degree requirement made perfect sense at AAUW's inception, this requirement is now perceived by many as counter to our mission and limits our ability to build the capacity needed to increase our impact as an organization.

Members can comment on the proposed amendments and submit their own proposals from February 22, 2018, through March 22, 2018, at 11:59 pm ET. Voting will open on April 25, 2018, and close June 9, 2018, at 9 pm ET. You can direct any questions or concerns to connect@aauw.org.

Membership Dues Update

The AAUW Board of Directors voted in June 2017 to enact the first dues change in almost a decade. Effective March 16, 2018, national dues will increase from \$49 to \$59.

Annual dues currently account for 13 percent of AAUW's annual budget. They help to sustain and grow AAUW's programs and work that advances equity for women and girls. A combination of dues, donations, and corporate and foundation funding is critical to supporting AAUW's [salary negotiation workshops](#), groundbreaking [research](#), [advocacy](#) efforts, [campus leadership programs](#), and so much more. We believe we can do great things together and thank you for your continued support.

AAUW Position on Transgender Complaints under Title IX

June Turley, Public Policy Chair

AAUW Chief Executive Officer Kim Churches issued the following statement in response to the U.S. Department of Education's announcement concerning transgender student bathroom complaints.

"AAUW has supported upholding Title IX since its passage 45 years ago. Today's announcement by the Trump administration that it will reject transgender student bathroom complaints is a direct dismissal of civil rights protections for transgender students.

The Department of Education is making a misguided decision at the expense of our nation's students. Schools have an obligation to ensure that all students—including transgender students—receive an education free of sex discrimination. Title IX is critical for students who are experiencing sex discrimination on a regular basis to be able to attend school and continue their education.

We've said it [before](#) and we'll say it again: transgender rights are civil rights. The Trump administration's rejection of these complaints under Title IX is just another step to rescind and undermine vital civil rights protections." *Taken from <https://www.aauw.org/article/trump-administration-rejects-transgender-complaints-under-title-ix/> posted February 12, 2018 by AAUW (www.aauw.org)*

In Memory of Jean Selby ~ Cathy Heng

Jean Gale Selby shared her bedrock foundation and creativity with her family, her church and many Midland organizations. Jean received her degree from Wayne State University in Detroit and became a grade school teacher.



When her family moved to Midland, she continued to share her talent as a lay minister at St. Brigid Church and school, and as a member of Zonta Club, Midland Chamber of Commerce, and Michigan Health Care. She joined AAUW and worked with Used Book Sales and enjoyed general meetings. Jean was president of Savant Lab - The Savant Group.

Mark Your Calendar

Mar. 15, 6:00 pm Annual Meeting / Public Policy Program
 April 10 Equal Pay Day
 April 27-29 Used Book Sale, Midland Mall
 May 17 Lunch at the Country Club

President: Kim Steinke, President-Elect: Carol Arnosky, 1st VP Programs: Mary Crane-Franek
 2nd VP Membership: Judith Donahue, The Twig Editor: Pauline Pittsley

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