



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



Advance Care Planning & Valentine Treats

Branch General Meeting, Thursday, February 21, 10:00 am
MidMichigan Health (Main Entrance) Room 1221*

A health crisis can hit any of us, anytime, at any age. If you had a medical emergency today, who would speak for you? Would they know what to say? Our speaker this month will be Ashley Johnson, BBA, RDMS, RVT. She is the Advance Care Planning Manager for MidMichigan Health.

Join us because:

- You are healthy, but would like to plan for your care
- You have health issues
- You care about your loved ones
- You want control over what happens to you
- You have already created legal documents, but would like to learn ways to talk with your loved ones about your choices

To celebrate Valentine's Day, we will serve healthy and delicious combinations of chocolate, nuts and fruit. There is no charge for this meeting but RSVPs help us to prepare. Guests are most welcome. RSVP to Chris Ferrando at 989-631-6426 or casadv@charter.net

**Instructions – Go to the Hospital Entrance. Go left of the welcome desk to Room 1221. If you are unsure, ask at the welcome desk.

President's Message ~ Mary Crane-Franek

Branch will support a new local scholarship, Midland Believes

With the completion of funding an AAUW Fellowship a few years ago, the Midland Board examined current contributions and new opportunities to use Book Sale proceeds. An ad hoc committee recommended the Branch fund a Midland Believes scholarship of \$2,000 for each of the next 2 years. This scholarship, initiated in 2017 and administered by Midland Area Community Foundation, is for high school seniors who would be first generation college students. Both male and female students are eligible. Seven scholarships were awarded the first year; six were renewed for a second year signifying the success of the program.

It was decided the current \$2000 for Graduating Senior Women and Women in Transition scholarships is generous and there is no need to increase the amount awarded. The Board also voted to increase funding to support sending two local women to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

Nationally, the AAUW Funds contribution could be designated to support Economic Security for Women, Leadership Initiatives for Women, Education and Training for Women, Governance and Sustainability or where the contribution is most needed. The recommendation is to trust the leadership to use the contribution where most needed to benefit women and girls across the nation in the pursuit for economic equity.

Also - A big thank you to Judi Cox who has accepted the Chairmanship of the Scholarship Committee.

Nominees for Branch Officers to be Elected at the Annual Meeting

Chris Ferrando, Nominations Officer

The Nomination Committee has identified the following candidates for the slate of officers for the 2019-2021 Board of Directors. Committee members are: Ruth Copp, Lu Ellen DeLine, Barb Galloway, Pauline Pittsley and Jane Wirth. The election of officers will be held at the annual meeting on March 21.

Co-Presidents (one year 2019-20): **Jane Wirth & Pauline Pittsley:** Jane has been a Midland Branch member of AAUW for 47 years which have included service as President, co-President, Used Book Sale Chair, Treasurer, AAUW Funds, College/University Liaison, and several other branch offices and committees. She was instrumental in establishing the branch scholarships for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) plus serving on the steering committee for a branch-sponsored area Transitions Conference. Jane was a director of Wildfire Credit Union serving as board chair of Midland Area Credit Union prior to its merger with Wildfire. She was employed by Allis Information Management, Inc. for 12 yrs. Jane received a BS in Home Economics Education from Iowa State University.

Pauline has been a member of the Midland Branch for 33 years. During that time, she has served the branch in many capacities including President, VP/Program Development, Communications Officer, Women's Issues Luncheons Chair, General Meetings Chair, TWIG Editor, Nominations Co-Officer and Handbook Editor. She has worked on the Used Book Sale for many years and chaired the Reading for Fun book group. She graduated from SVSU with a teaching degree and taught in Bay City Public Schools before moving to Midland. She is retired from Senior Services where she was the Volunteer Manager and editor of the Senior Independence newspaper.

1st Vice President, Program (2019-21): **Chris Ferrando** joined AAUW in 1972. Chris is the current 1st VP and will accept a second term. She is also the current Nominations Officer. Chris has served in many roles: President, 1st VP Program, 2nd VP Membership, General Meetings Chair, Used Book Sale Chair, and Interest Group Chair. She has chaired Reading for Fun Interest Group and continues to chair the Explorers Interest Group. Chris received her B.S. in elementary education/sociology and her M.A. degree in remedial reading. She taught at Douglas Elementary School in Garden City, MI and Chestnut Hill Elementary School in Midland.

Communications Officer (2019-21): **Donna Wedge** has been a member of AAUW since 1988. She is the current Communications Officer and will accept a second term. She served on the Board of Directors as Secretary, and has also been editor of the HELPS booklet. Donna has been active in the Used Book Sale and enjoys the Reading for Fun interest group. She earned her B.A. from Saginaw Valley State University and a Masters of Social Work degree from Michigan State University. Donna worked for Senior Services and later for MidMichigan Health, retiring in 2005.

Nominations Officer (one year 2019-20): **Barbara Galloway** is a ten-year member of AAUW. She has been on the board as Delegate-at-Large, Nominating Chair, Membership V.P. and Parliamentarian. Barb has been involved with the Used Book Sale, the Branch Program Committee, two reading groups, Matinees & More and the Explorers. Barb graduated from Michigan State University with a B.A. in Art History. She has served on the following boards: Impression 5 Science Museum, Sparrow Hospital Auxiliary, Junior League of Lansing, King's Daughter's Circle and the MidMichigan Medical Center. She worked at Jacobson's as Assistant Personnel Director and managed the Book Nook at Village Green.

Delegate at Large (one year 2019-20): **Deb Kaiser** has been a member of the Midland Branch of AAUW since 1977. She served as the 2017-18 Delegate at Large and is currently on the Branch Program Committee. Deb also is the Interest Groups chair. She is on the team that prices children's book for the Used Book Sale. Previously Deb was active in several Branch study groups and was on the board as International Area Representative. Deb is now in several branch Interest Groups: Reading for Fun, Explorers, Done in a Day, and Matinees & More. Deb is a graduate of CMU and SVSU. She is retired from Midland Public Schools where she taught in the elementary grades for 27 years.

Membership ~ Lu Ellen DeLine

New Member

In December, we welcomed a new member, Marie Johansen. She is a long-time Midland resident of 49 years. Marie is retired after 30 years with Midland Hospital and 10 years with the VA. Marie has an Associate's degree in nursing from Delta and a BS in psychology from St. Joseph's College. She has one son and a grandson who live in Colorado. She is an active volunteer in the Sierra Club and Habitat for Humanity, International. She travels with her volunteer activities and enjoys other travel opportunities. Among her other activities, she is an avid skier.

Membership Directory

Please review your information in the directory and send any corrections or additions. I will make any of those corrections or changes to your address, phone number and e-mail in the directory and in the AAUW data base. Please send any changes to me luellen1935@sbcglobal.net. Please make the following corrections and additions to your recent directory.

Carol Sarnacke e-mail address: sarnacke@sbcglobal.net

Mary Gravier *information was incomplete*: 2355 N. Perrine Rd., 989-631-8977, St. John College of Cleveland, Case Western Reserve University, Professor Emerita, Nursing, Saginaw Valley State University. Reading, Hiking, Traveling

Marie Johansen *information was incomplete*: Active volunteer in the Sierra Club and Habitat for Humanity, International. Skiing and traveling.

Paycheck Fairness Act

June Turley, Public Policy Chair

Tell Your Member of Congress: Cosponsor and pass the Paycheck Fairness Act.

The economic well-being of women and families was a central issue in the election of the historically diverse 116th Congress. Now, our legislators have come to Washington with a charge to stand up for women's economic security — and there is no more fitting way to begin than by making real progress toward ensuring all women receive fair pay. The Paycheck Fairness Act will soon be introduced in Congress.

The Paycheck Fairness Act would take meaningful steps to help close the gender pay gap. AAUW advocates have made sure Congress knows pay equity is a priority for women and families. Now, the Paycheck Fairness Act must be a priority in the 116th Congress. Our lawmakers must make good on their promises to make progress for gender equity. Urge your members of Congress to become original cosponsors and to call for The Paycheck Fairness Act's swift passage. Use the 2-minute activist link on the AAUW website and send your message.

From AAUW Action Network, January 15, 2019



Be a Two-Minute Activist

(<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/take-action>)
Scroll down to Become a Two-Minute Activist

Mark Your Calendar

February 21, Thursday, 10:00 – 12:00 am Mid-MI Hospital - Advance Care Planning Specialist

March 21, Thursday, 10:00 – 1:00 pm Library Community Room, Annual Meeting

April 26-28, Used Book Sale, Midland Mall

President: Mary Crane-Franek ~ 1st VP Program: Chris Ferrando

2nd VP Membership: Lu Ellen DeLine ~ The Twig Editor: Pauline Pittsley

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