



The Twig

Midland Branch Newsletter - April 2019

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

Used Book Sale April 26 - 28

Midland Mall ~ Friday & Saturday 9-9 Sunday 10-4 Trudy Dutot, Book Sale Chair

Books are coming in! I hope you have already signed up to help in some way. We need people all month to help in the Sort Room. The Midland Mall is again allowing us to use a vacant store to process



the thousands of books that are donated. We have a large space located near the Hallmark store. If you enter by Ruby Tuesday, turn right, go a short way and our Sort Room is on the left. AAUW members will be there every day Monday – Saturday from 11-2 starting April 1. You can help put price stickers on books and sort them into category boxes. Stop in anytime during sort hours to give us a hand. You will be most welcome. We have fun working together.

We need many to work on the sale. Call Marge Haskell to volunteer to (1) stack books on sale tables Thursday evening April 25; (2) take a 2-hour shift at the sale selling or keeping tables straightened; and (3) at the end of the sale Sunday afternoon, help box remaining books to be donated to nonprofit organizations. We welcome help from spouses and friends.

Please tell everyone about our great sale and encourage them to donate books and come to the sale to support scholarships.

To sign up, call Marge Haskell

From the President ~ Mary Crane-Franck

At our Annual Meeting in March, we were fortunate to have as our guest speaker, Deb Kennedy, President of AAUW-Michigan which will celebrate its 97th anniversary this year. Deb is a graduate of Central Michigan University, retired from a successful career with Mary Kay Cosmetics. Deb enthusiastically embraced AAUW which she joined in 2008. Her emphasis is on equity; combining that with her high energy level and enthusiasm and AAUW Michigan has a strong leader.

AAUW Michigan and AAUW Midland Branch both have aligned their 2018-20 activities with National. Some key areas are:

- 1. Member Leadership and Branch Support
- 2. Student Advisory Council
- 3. Lobby Corps and Public Policy Issues
- 4. Communications and Social Media Presence



Branch president Mary Crane-Franek and AAUW Michigan president Deb Kennedy

Deb shared the 2018-19 AAUW Michigan budget with us and what they trimmed to balance the budget. I will send out a copy of this budget to all of our members. See more pictures on the back page. *Mary*

The Twig April 2019

Branch Officers for 2019-21

Branch officers elected at the March Annual Meeting are Co-Presidents Jane Wirth and Pauline Pittsley; 1st Vice President, Program Chris Ferrando; Communications Officer Donna Wedge; Nominations Officer Barbara Galloway; and Delegate at Large Deb Kaiser. Also elected were delegates to the AAUW Michigan State Convention: Mary Franek, Jane Wirth, Pauline Pittsley and Judy Donahue.

The electronic AAUW Michigan State Convention will be Saturday, May 4 at 9:30 am. Branch members will receive an email on how they may join in this meeting.

Be a Public Policy Activist with Ease

Judy Donahue, Public Policy Chair

AAUW National sends two online Public Policy publications to all members, the *AAUW Action Network* which includes the 2-Minute Activist and *AAUW Mission and Action* which comes on a bi-monthly basis. All you have to do is read and click on the link within a public policy article and you are an activist electronically sending a prepared message to your Senators, Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters, and Representative John Moolenaar. How easy is that? No complicated signup, or creating a message, or hunting for email addresses.

AAUW has been using the 2-Minute Activist to enable members to lobby their senators to support (HR-582/s 150), Raise the Wage Act. This Act will raise the minimum Federal Wage from the current \$7.25 gradually to \$15.00 in 2024. Twenty-nine states currently have raised the Federal Wage, but there is no uniformity. Waitress tips are included in this Act. Raising the Federal Wage will help close the Gender Wage Gap.

If you haven't lobbied your senators on this Act, do so now. There is no excuse. We shouted at our Annual Meeting in March that we aren't going to accept the Gender Wage Gap. Using the 2-Minute Activist works to close the Gap.

Midland AAUW's Activities for Equal Pay Day

Judy Donahue, Public Policy Chair

Activities for Equal Pay and Equal Pay Day include:

- Midland City Council proclamation of April 2, 2019 as Equal Pay Day in Midland
- Work Smart/Start Smart online was sent to Midland AAUW members and Zonta members
- Support of Zonta's Equal Pay billboard: See Route 10 near Freeland exit
- Letter to the editor of MDN on Equal Pay
- Women's Progressive Caucus work on a May date for Equal Pay activities
- Governor's coffees with groups supporting Equal Pay Day



Judy Donahue accepted Midland City Council's Proclamation, proclaiming Midland Equal Pay Day as April 2, 2019, from Mayor Maureen Donker.

The Branch Public Policy Committee invites Midland members to join in the effort to support women seeking equal pay and other public policy issues backed by AAUW. Contact Judy Donahue, for information.

The Twig April 2019

Done in a Day Upcoming Events

Done in a Day Chair, Kerry Buell

Have you ever wanted to help out with a community project but don't want to commit to every Wednesday each week? If you nodded yes, then AAUW has opportunities for you to make a difference in the Midland area without further obligation and with other interested women. Here are some programs that will receive our attention this spring and beyond:

Tuesday, April 9 - Bundling diapers for distribution to babies whose parents cannot provide enough diapers for their comfort at the Diaper Alliance from 10 am until noon.



Dorothy Arthur, Judy Donahue and Kim Steinke work at Diaper Alliance.

Monday, May 6 - Participating in the Habitat for Humanity's Women's Build. Join the team to start the home for a deserving family in Midland County. A morning shift followed by lunch and an afternoon shift preceded by lunch are available. This is a wonderful way to meet young women in the community.

Two other possibilities to enrich our community include making sandwiches for The Salvation Army's SHARE Program in either June or July and cleaning a courtyard at a nursing home in the late summer or early fall. Dates for these activities to be determined.

If you would be interested in receiving details of these or future events, please email Kerry Buell. We would be thrilled to have you join our group. We never expect each person to participate in each outing. You get to pick and choose and even suggest something else. Hope to hear from you soon!

The Perfect Graduation Gift ~ Lu DeLine, Membership VP Give Every Grad You Know the Gift of AAUW Membership at No Cost!

As an AAUW member you can gift one year of AAUW national membership to as many recent college graduates as you like **at no cost to them or you.**

We all know that the future of our organization depends on today's graduates, so we need you to introduce AAUW to them. Here's how you can share AAUW with recent grads:

- Anyone who has completed their undergraduate degree in the past two years is eligible to receive one free membership from an AAUW member.
- 2. Collect their information.
- 3. You'll need to know the mailing address, phone number, email, and alma mater of each of these future AAUW members.

Call me and I will fill out the form, Lu.

Voilà! Welcome, new AAUW members. Hello, future of AAUW.

It's a win-win situation. Giving a grad the gift of AAUW membership costs nothing for you or for them — and is rewarding for you both!



The Twig April 2019

Midland Branch Annual Meeting Welcomed AAUW Members from Bay City and Saginaw to Meet AAUWMI President Deb Kennedy







nail.com