



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



President's Message ~ Carol Arnosky

Greetings! I am honored to be President for the 2021-22 year. Our annual Branch Board planning meeting will take place in September, and our goals will be set. Our branch will work toward attaining the Five Star National Recognition, and continuing to grow our membership. AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 130 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families. Our Midland branch will continue to support this mission.

We are all excited for the return of our Used Book Sale, and I hope to see you there, as a worker and/or a customer! Enjoy the rest of your summer!

AAUW Fall Book Sale ~ Trudy Dutot

GREAT NEWS...we are having a book sale!

Sept. 24, 25, 26 New hours: Fri & Sat 9-8, Sun 10-3:30

[Mark your calendars now](#) to work at the Fall Used Book Sale. We welcome spouses and friends to help. We are beginning to collect books and start sorting. Your help is very important. Rest assured we will follow all current Covid protocols. There will be hand sanitizer, gloves, and extra masks if needed. We will do our best to make sure everyone feels comfortable.



We need your help ~ Judy Donahue

Please contact Judy Donahue. She has the responsibility for scheduling AAUW Midland members and friends of members to staff the September Used Book Sale. We need your help with setup, sales and closing.

Book setup, Sept 23, starts at 7:30 pm at the Midland Mall and with hard working volunteers is finished by 9:00 pm. We have a team of men and women from the Exchange Club who do all the heavy lifting.

Sale shifts, Sept 24-26, need a Captain and 4 workers per each sale shift. Staffing for Friday, 9/24, 9 am – 11 am is covered by the SCRUB team. We need your help for the 11 am – 5 pm shifts, in blocks of 2 hours. The evening shifts are 1½ hours each, 5 pm-6:30 pm, and 6:30 pm-8 pm. Staffing for Saturday, 9/25, is in 2 hour shifts, from 9 am-5 pm and the last 2 shifts are 1½ hours each, 5 pm – 6:30 pm and 6:30 pm- 8 pm. The staffing for Sunday, 9/26, is 10 am-noon, 1:00 pm- 2 pm, and 2 pm-3:30 pm. **All shifts have openings!**

Sale closing/take down, Sept 26, starts at 3:30 pm and should be finished about 4:30 pm. We have strong and able volunteers for the heavy lifting.

We also welcome drop-in help in the sort room Sept. 1-17 to put price stickers on books and place them in category boxes. The room, next to the Hallmark store, is open Monday – Saturday from 11am-2 pm.

Scholarship Winners Sent Messages of Appreciation

The Branch received several letters from our recent scholarship winners; here are some excerpts.

“Thank you for choosing me as a recipient for this award (*Women in Transition Scholarship*). Going back to school is challenging right now, but I know it will be worthwhile. Your support lifts some weight off my shoulders and I really appreciate it! Thanks again.” Lyndi Smith

“I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you for making the AAUW scholarship possible. I was thrilled to learn of my selection for this honor and I am deeply appreciative of your support. Through your generous support, it is possible for me to continue to achieve my educational and career goals.” Sincerely, Grace Chae

“I feel extremely honored to have been selected as a recipient of the Graduating Senior Woman Scholarship. Due to my family’s financial situation, I may not have been able to attend college, but with your help it is possible. I will always be grateful for this tremendous honor and remember you, the Association of University Women.” Sincerely, Taylor Todd



Midland Branch members, you make this possible. This is part of our mission. Thank you for your continuous work on the book sales over many years.

General Meetings Update ~ Chris Ferrando, 1st VP Program Development

There will be no general meeting in September since the Book Sale occurs in that month. The Program Committee will meet in September and use our creativity to present in person, meaningful programs to the membership. I spoke to Mariam Andrus, Library Director, and she said the Community Room will “hopefully” be available to the public by the end of March. Dates for the 2021-22 year have been set; see page 4.

Public Policy ~ Jane Wirth, Public Policy chair

“Public Policy”—that may sound a little dry, but AAUW’s Public Policy Priorities underscore AAUW’s mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Many of you responded to me that you had acted on a recent priority by urging our U.S. Representative, John Moolenaar, to vote in favor of the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (H.R.4). There will be many more opportunities ahead to use AAUW’s “Two-Minute Activist” tool to inform our Senators and Representative of our priorities. Change is not going to come without some work on our part!

The next time you’re at your computer, go to aauw.org; in the second line on the home page banner click on “take action”, then click on “two-minute activist” just below that. From there you can add your personal thoughts (which is always good) to the message AAUW has provided or just send the message as is. It can’t be much easier.

I am planning to look at one or two of AAUW’s priorities each month and will be suggesting that you help use the AAUW megaphone to let our congress members know we’re watching what they do. Ratification of the equal rights amendment is high on the list! Other issues include: equal pay, family leave, prevention of sexual harassment, equity in education, high quality child care, and reproductive rights to name just a few. Monitoring the Michigan legislature is also on the agenda.

We will all be watching what the Michigan Redistricting Commission does in the days ahead as it begins drawing the maps of congressional districts now that the census data has been released. Thanks for your attention to these issues.

Branch Interest Groups ~ Deb Kaiser, chair

The Book Lovers: 1st Monday at 7:30 p.m. at a member's home or other choice (e.g., Grand Traverse Pie Co.). Join these passionate readers who tell it as they see it about books and authors. Fun is the game, and hearing what others have to say about a book you may love or hate invites a lively discussion. Each member puts a book into the rotation-usually a current fiction or nonfiction choice. Books are passed on a regular schedule. In addition, a few times a year we choose a book we all read at the same time-choosing an author of the year. For 2021-2022, we will be choosing classics. New members are welcome. Contact Ruth Copp.

Reading for Fun: Members read recent edition hard cover books, fiction and non-fiction. Each member buys one book at the October meeting. Books are passed every 3 weeks. At the first meeting members plan a few outings. Contact Barb Galloway.

Explorers: meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month (except June, July and August) at 10:00 am. We "explore" a wide range of fascinating subjects in Midland and nearby communities. Lunch (optional) and discussion follow the program. **New members and guests always welcome.** Contact Chris Ferrando.

Matinees and More: This group enjoys quality films and meets in the afternoon. Members gather based on interest and availability of movies. A discussion may follow the movie over coffee. **New members are welcome.** Contact Barb Galloway

Done in a Day: This group serves the community via one-day projects. It gives the branch some publicity and it's fun getting to know each other a little better. Past projects include: a day at the Habitat for Humanity's Women's Build; a shift helping at the Shelterhouse Resale store; and a fun session at the Diaper Alliance bundling diapers. Most recently we "built" sandwiches for children attending The Salvation Army's SHARE program. Suggestions are welcome! Is there something you'd like AAUW to be a part of? **New members are welcome. You may participate in one event or all.** Contact Kerry Buell,

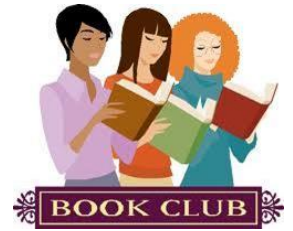
Your Special Day, a Shelterhouse Project is a new Midland Branch Interest Group. Members take turns providing birthday gifts for mothers and their children who are in residence at Shelterhouse. We believe these small gestures provide a great deal of comfort to women in a stressful situation. Funds are provided by the Branch Board and gift cards from members. If you would like to participate, gift cards are most welcome. Contact Pauline Pittsley or Barb Galloway.

Have an idea for a new Interest Group?

To start a new group, contact Deb Kaiser, dlkaisway@aol.com, 835-3275.

Birthday Project Update

To date members of Your Special Day have provided birthday gifts for three women and five youngsters. Adults received a bouquet of fresh flowers, a greeting card from the Branch and a gift card. Youngsters get a personalized cake, birthday plates and napkins, a greeting card and a gift. The most recent recipient was a two year old boy. His delightful cake made by Meijer is shown here. His gift was a musical workbench with little tools that are safe and fun for a two year old.



To join a book club, call the group chair. To start a new book group, call Deb Kaiser.



AAUW Midland Branch Officers

Elected Officers

President	Carol Arnosky
1st VP Program	Chris Ferrando
2nd VP Membership	Judi Cox
Finance VP	Liz Kapla
Recording Secretary	Barb Galloway
Communications Officer	Teresa Beadlescomb
Delegate at Large	Deb Kaiser
Nominations Chair	Ruth Copp

Appointed Officers

AAUW Funds/LAF	<i>open</i>
College/University Relations	Carol Hoerneman-Plaush
Parliamentarian/Bylaws	<i>open</i>
Public Policy	Jane Wirth
Branch Communications	Mary Crane-Franek
Technology	Carol Arnosky
Twig Editor	Pauline Pittsley
Used Book Sale	Trudy Dutot

Committee Chairs & Team

Archivist	<i>open</i>
General Meetings Team	Barb Galloway, Liz Kapla, & Deb Kaiser
HELPS Editor	Mary Crane-Franek
Interest Group Coord.	Deb Kaiser
Scholarships, Local	Judi Cox
School Board Candidate Forum	Jodie Gardner

General Meetings Schedule

Dates for 2021 -2022

September 16	No meeting Book Sale
October 21	
November 18	
December 16	
January 20	
February 17	
March 19	- Annual Meeting
April 21	- No meeting Book Sale
May 19	- Spring Luncheon Midland Country Club

All dates are subject to change. Mariam Andrus, Library Director, said the Community Room will "hopefully" be available to the public by the end of March.

The Program Committee will meet in September and use our creativity to present "in person", meaningful programs to the membership.

Board meetings are open to the membership.

Mark Your Calendar

September 24-26 Book Sale at the Midland Mall

President: Carol Arnosky ~ 1st VP Program: Chris Ferrando
2nd VP Membership: Judi Cox ~ The Twig Editor: Pauline Pittsley

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