

Branch Interest Groups

by Deb Kaiser

To join a book club, call the group chair. To start a new book group, gather three interested people then call Deb Kaiser at 989-430-1262.

The Book Lovers: This group meets the 1st Monday of the month at 7:30 pm at a member's home or another location (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. New members are welcome. Contact Ruth Copp at ruthcopp66@gmail.com.

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. We have a few openings for new members. Contact Barb Galloway at 989-835-8593, barbgllwy@yahoo.com or Pauline Pittsley at 989-430-2067, pauline@drymud.com.

Explorers: This group meets 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 are always welcome. **THIS GROUP NEEDS A CHAIR.**

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 and guests are always welcome. Contact Barb Galloway at 989-835-8593, barbgllwy@yahoo.com.

Done in a Day: This group serves the community via one-day projects. It gives the branch some publicity and it is 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. **THIS GROUP NEEDS A CHAIR.**

Shelterhouse Birthdays: 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. New members are welcome. You may also choose to “adopt-a-birthday” for a mom or child on a one-time basis, using your own monies to shop for them and deliver the gift. Contact Pauline Pittsley at 989-430-2067, pauline@drymud.com or Barb Galloway at 989-835-8593, barbgllwy@yahoo.com.



Become a Two-Minute Activist by Jane Wirth, Public Policy Chair

Do take five minutes to go to the **AAUW.org** site and follow the 4 steps listed below to nudge our elected officials to take action on a topic of interest to you. Affirming the Equal Rights Amendment would be a good choice, but maybe the "pass the Paycheck Fairness Act" is of interest to you. Or ending the Student Debt Crisis. Or any of the other seven topics.

4 Steps to Become a Two-Minute Activist

- ✦ Go to AAUW.org
- ✦ Click on the "Take Action" option in the banner at the top of the home page
- ✦ Choose "Two-Minute Activist" from the options list
- ✦ Pick one of the above topics and you're on your way

You can amend the main message to make it more personal for your purposes. I often add an opening paragraph or amend the content in the prepared message and then make a more personal closing paragraph. Do whatever you wish with the message in the box, but the rest of the email is all prepared for you. It really can take only two minutes to prepare the message and get it on its way to our senators and representative.

Try it! The response may take 5 minutes the first time, but thereafter it should take only 2. You will have the satisfaction of letting our elected officials know what you care about.



Liz Kapla, Trudy Dutot, Jane Wirth, and Carol Arnosky next to a van full of donated books

Midland 100 Club Donation

by Carol Arnosky

Our branch wishes to thank the Midland 100 club members for their very generous donations of 900 books (approx value: \$1,800) at their September meeting. Tina Van Dam, Midland 100 leader, contacted Jane Wirth to see if we wanted to receive books during the club's "Curbside Giving". Jane happily said yes, and the members brought so many books that we had to use two vehicles to fit them all!

Thank you to Midland 100 Club!

Mark Your Calendar

December 6, 2023 – Holiday Celebration, Midland Country Club, 3:30 pm-5:00 pm

April 26-28, 2024– Book Sale at the Midland Mall

President: Carol Arnosky • 1st VP Program: Chris Ferrando
2nd VP Membership: Judi Cox • The Twig Editor: Annette Clapp

Websites: <https://midland-mi.aauw.net> <https://aawumi.org/> E-mail: aauwmidland@gmail.com