



The Twig

AAUW Midland Branch Newsletter

June
2025

A Fond Farewell to Our Longtime Program Team

by Pauline Pittsley

After 14 years of exceptional service as 2nd VP of Programs, Chris Ferrando is stepping down—along with her remarkable team, Liz Kapla and Barb Galloway, who have worked alongside her for



*Our program team of over a decade:
Liz Kapla (left), Chris Ferrando (middle), and
Barb Galloway (right)
Photo credit: Trudy Dutot*

12 years. This trio has presented engaging, informative, and heartfelt programs. Whether the topic was thought-provoking, community-focused, or just plain fun, Chris, Liz, and Barb made every gathering meaningful. We've all benefited from the connections we've made, the knowledge we've gained, and yes—the delicious home-baked cookies they often shared. Thank you, Chris, Barb, and Liz, for your years of thoughtful planning, attention to detail, and warm hospitality. After years of planning, prepping, and perfecting, it's your turn to sit back, relax, and enjoy the programs you helped make so memorable.

President's Message

by Carol Arnosky

Happy June! Hooray for Michigan summers! Let's hope for some rain but not too much, and preferably at night.

We had a wonderful May general meeting, as we learned about changes to Midland Center for the Arts, acknowledged our Named Gift Honoree Carol Hoerneman-Plaush, and thanked our great Program team, Chris Ferrando, Barb Galloway and Liz Kapla for over a decade of setting up our programs. Barb said this, "My personal mantra was always wanting the members to feel special when they came to our meetings. Whether it was greeting them with a big smile or sending them home with some pretty flowers, I always wanted our meetings to not just be informative but warm and welcoming." I think we can all agree, mission accomplished! Thank you!

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Celebrating Carol Hoerneman-Plaush, Our Named Gift Honoree

by Pauline Pittsley



Carol Arnosky (left) and Carol Hoerneman-Plaush (right)
Photo credit: Trudy Dutot

We are proud to recognize Carol Hoerneman-Plaush as this year's AAUW Named Gift Honoree. Many of you know Carol as our dedicated College/University Relations officer, a role she has served with heart and purpose for the past eight years. Thanks to her leadership, our branch scholarship for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders has reached many students. Carol works diligently to promote this opportunity, guide applicants through the process, and support the selected scholars as they prepare for this transformational experience. Through her efforts, Carol has introduced our branch—and the mission of AAUW—to a new generation of inspiring young women. Thank you, Carol, for your unwavering commitment to empowering student leaders and strengthening our branch's outreach.

May General Meeting Success

by Carol Arnosky

Joe Davis, Midland Center for The Arts project manager, gave a very interesting talk with descriptive slides and videos about the renovations occurring at the center. The rapt audience of AAUW members and guests asked many questions and gave Mr. Davis some good ideas. We are all looking forward to the really cool, innovative and interactive changes for all ages that will be coming to the center in 2026.



Joe Davis
Photo credit: Carol Arnosky

Mark Your Calendar

September 26, 27, 28, 2025 – Used Book Sale

August 23, 2025, 11am to 2pm – Women's Equality Day Luncheon in Livonia

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

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