



The Twig

AAUW Midland Branch Newsletter

September
2024

September Fall Open House by Chris Ferrando

**September 12, 2024 Branch Luncheon Thursday
Midland Country Club – Ballroom C
11:45 am – 1:00 pm
Doors open at 11:30 am (handicap accessible)**



The Midland Branch will welcome members, guests and prospective members at the September Fall Open House. This month our speakers will be Cathy Geiger, Marketing & Community Affairs Director, Greater Michigan Construction Academy and Bridget Sadenwater, Vice President of the Greater Michigan Construction Academy. They will present the program “Build Like A Girl” and “What is the Tool Library?”

Following the program lunch will be served. Lunch will be ½ Grilled Chicken Almond Citrus Salad, bread basket, coffee and tea. Dessert will be vanilla cake with chocolate fudge filling and buttercream frosting. The cost for lunch is \$18.00 per person. Reservations are required by September 10th. Make checks payable to AAUW Midland Branch. Send to Liz Kapla, 1205 Bayberry Lane, Midland, MI. 40640. Contact Liz at ekapla@charter.net or 989-631-7365.

A short business meeting will follow lunch. Members will vote to ratify the changes made to the Branch By-Laws as well as have the opportunity to sign up for the Fall Used Booksale.

Program Committee: Chris Ferrando, Barb Galloway, and Liz Kapla

President’s Message by Carol Arnosky

Happy September! I know summer isn't over yet. There are many more beautiful Michigan days! I hope you get to enjoy being outside for a few more weeks!

The Book Sale donations & sort room activity are beginning! We are in a new store front at Midland Mall, and it looks like it will be a great space for our 10,000+ books!

We have a good time in the sort room and we would love to have you join us! Be on the lookout for emails or phone calls asking for volunteers. We

will need help in the sort room, with barrel pickup, with recycling, with set up night, and with the sale itself. Thank you in advance!

Our branch is celebrating our 90th year this fall (watch for events!). Thank you to all of our members, our newest members and our "50 plus year" members. Everyone contributes to making our branch magnificent, and everyone is deeply appreciated for all that you do!

LET'S
celebrate

Fall Used Book Sale

by Trudy Dutot

Fall Used Book Sale will be held September 27, 28, and 29, 2024 at the Midland Mall.



Book donation barrels have been placed out at Kroger, Family Fare, and the two main entrances of Midland Mall on Friday, August 30th. We expect to collect over 10,000 books, so we need a big team of workers.

The sort room will be open Tuesday, September 3rd in the empty store beside the old Payless store in the mall. This space is by the MidMichigan section of

the mall. We have developed a smooth and efficient system to process the books. We need help with a variety of chores such as placing price stickers on books and placing them in category boxes. The sort room will be open Monday – Saturday from 11 am to 2 pm. The work is easy so come join the fun!

Other opportunities to help are:

- Stack books on sales tables Thursday evening, September 26th
- Take a 2-hour shift at the sale, selling or keeping tables straightened
- Help box books for gifting and recycling at the end of the sale on Sunday, September 29th



Your help is important. We welcome spouses and friends. Please take part to help raise funds for scholarships for local women. Our AAUW Branch will award \$14,000 in scholarships next spring.

Contact Berta Gebo at 989-687-7459 or wlgabo@gmail.com to sign up or for more information.

AAUW Midland 90th Anniversary

by Carol Arnosky

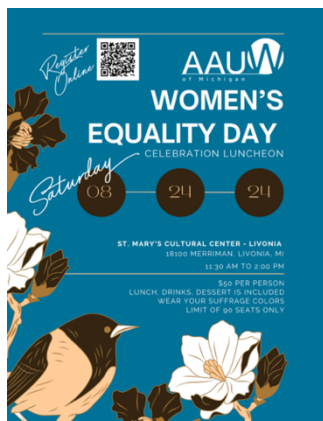
City Council Proclamation: September 9, 2024

We hope you will join us at the September 9, 2024 Midland City Council meeting as AAUW Midland Branch is recognized on our 90th anniversary. We expect to receive a City of Midland proclamation, and we will say a few words about our history. More details to come!



Women's Equality Day Celebration

by Carol Arnosky



AAUW of Michigan hosted a celebration luncheon for Womens' Equality Day, in Livonia on August 24, 2024. Judi Cox and Carol Arnosky represented Midland at this event, and we were inspired to **Do Something**. The Keynote Panel included the three highest ranking women at Wayne State University: Kimberly Espy, President of WS, Laurie Clabo, Provost & Senior VP for Academic Affairs and Bethany Gielczyk, Senior VP of Business Affairs & CFO. They spoke about the challenges and opportunities for women at all levels. Their words and the energy of the 90 women from all over Michigan in the room was very powerful.

Equal Rights Amendment by Carol Arnosky

At the Women's Equality Day, we also heard about the history of the Equal Rights Amendment. Laura Carter Callow, who has been fighting for this for over 70 years, was honored.

The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), first proposed in 1923, is an amendment to the United States Constitution that guarantees equality of rights under the law for all persons regardless of sex.



As of January 27, 2020, the ERA has satisfied the requirements of Article V of the Constitution for ratification (passage by two-thirds of each house of Congress and approval by three-fourths of the states).

Leading constitutional scholars agree that the ERA is now part of the Constitution. Because of issues raised about its unique ratification process, the Archivist of the United States has not yet taken the final ministerial step of publishing the ERA in the *Federal Register* with certification of its ratification as the 28th Amendment.

We are almost there... here is how you can help: become an AAUW Two-Minute Activist by visiting <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>. From there, find a cause you are passionate about and spend two minutes taking the suggestion action.

School Board Forum by Jodie Gardner

During election years, the Midland branch of the AAUW generally partners with the Midland League of Women Voters to present a forum for area voters to help them learn about candidates for the Midland Public Schools Board of Education. This year, there are two openings for six-year terms on the board. In preparing for the forum, we learned that there are only two candidates for these two positions:

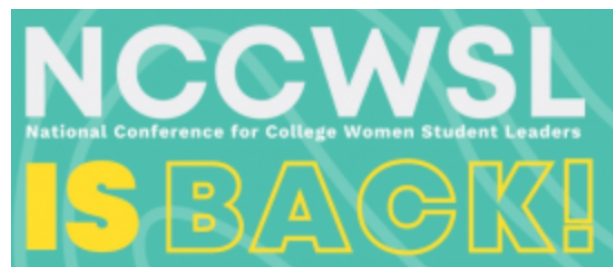
Ann Horowitz and Meki Craig. We consulted with Tracy Brown, the Voter Services Director for the Midland League of Women Voters and decided to not run a candidate forum this year. The League of Women Voters will be sending the candidates questionnaires and printing their responses in the VOTE411.org guide. We encourage AAUW members to consult this guide to learn more about the two candidates who are running.



Seeking NCCWSL Scholarship Recipients

by Carol Hoerneman-Plaush

It's time to start looking for 2 college age girls to encourage them to apply for the \$1,500 Scholarship to the 2025 National College Women's Leadership Conference (NCCWSL). The 4-day conference dates are May 28 to May 31, 2025 at the University of Maryland/College Park. Deadline to apply is January 31, 2025.



Thank you from AAUW National by Annette Clapp



National scholarships, because we did not have any local NCCWSL attendees.

AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) brings together hundreds of college women nationwide for a multi-day experience of workshops, panels, keynote speakers, and engaging activities. They strive to cultivate an inclusive and equitable space where attendees can enter as passionate leaders and depart with the skills, confidence, and perspective necessary to pursue their goals and drive meaningful change.

This year, AAUW National was able to offer NCCWSL scholarships to all 100+ applicants and the Midland Branch was part of making this possible. Our branch voted to donate \$500 to the

Membership Dues by Judi Cox

We want to inform you that as of July 1st, state membership dues increased, which resulted in dues being \$99. The following is the new breakdown: National- \$72, State- \$15, and Midland branch- \$12. Fortunately, due to all the hard work of our members during the book sales and through donations, we have had a prosperous fiscal year. As such, we can offer a \$50 coupon this year to members at the time of their renewal; making your dues \$49 for this year. Moving forward, we will reassess our ability to continue to provide such a coupon. We are working with AAUW national to create a digital coupon to use at the time of renewal on the AAUW.org website. More information to come on this. If you wish to use the coupon and send in a check, please attach a note stating you wish to take advantage of the \$50 coupon we are offering. Checks can be made out to AAUW Midland Branch and sent to PO Box 30, Midland, MI 48640.

**Want the \$50 dues coupon
our branch is offering?**

Send your dues check to
AAUW Midland Branch (PO
Box 30, Midland, MI 48640)
and attach a note stating you
would like to take advantage of
the \$50 coupon.

In addition to this change, the due date of your membership renewal is specific to when you joined. It will no longer be due at the end of June for new members. For example, if you join in September, your next dues will come up for renewal next September. AAUW National will send out emails when these are due, so please be mindful of this expectation. You can always reach out to Judi Cox by email at judiann26@gmail.com or call/text at 989-302-2914 and she can look up your status.

Don't Miss AAUW Emails



Help us help members who report not receiving AAUW emails! If you know of a member who has had issues regularly receiving AAUW communications, please direct them to <https://aauw.us/emailoptions> so they can get back on our email list.

AAUW Midland Branch Officers 2024-2025

Elected Officers

President	Carol Arnosky
1st VP Program	Chris Ferrando
2nd VP Membership	Judi Cox
Finance VP	Liz Kapla
Recording Secretary	Jane Wirth
Communications Officer	Teresa Beadlescomb
Delegate at Large	Mary Harding
Nominations Chair	Pauline Pittsley

Appointed Officers

Branch Communications	Carol Arnosky
College/University Relations	Carol Hoerneman-Plaush
Parliamentarian/Bylaws	<i>open</i>
Public Policy	<i>open</i>
Technology	Carol Arnosky
Twig Editor	Annette Clapp
Used Book Sale	Trudy Dutot

Committee Chairs and Team

Archivist	<i>open</i>
General Meetings Team	Barb Galloway and Liz Kapla
Interest Group Coordinator	Deb Kaiser
Scholarships, Local	Judi Cox
School Board Candidate Forum	Jodie Gardner

AAUW Resources

National

American Association
of University Women
1310 L ST NW Suite 1000
Washington DC 20005
Phone: (800) 326-2289
(202) 785-7700

Email: connect@aauw.org

Website: www.aauw.org

State

AAUW of Michigan State Office
Website: www.aauwmi.org

Branch

AAUW Midland Branch
PO Box 30.
Midland MI 48640-0030
Email address: aauwmidland@gmail.com
Website: midland-mi.aauw.net
Facebook: search AAUW Midland

Board meetings are open to the membership. Call President Carol Arnosky at 989-832-8186 to join a meeting.

Mark Your Calendar

September 12 – Fall Open House at the Midland Country Club 11:45 am – 1:00 pm

September 27-September 29 – Book Sale at the Midland Mall

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

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