



# The Twig

## AAUW Midland Branch Newsletter

October  
2024

### AAUW Fall Book Sale by Trudy Dutot

The Fall 2024 Used Book Sale was a great success thanks to the many hours of hard work by dedicated AAUW Midland Branch members, family, and friends. The deposits for this sale, including net credit card deposits, totaled **\$16,640**.

Thousands of books were donated. We started with 275 banana boxes and had about 32 banana boxes left at the end of the sale. 88% of the books sold! Clean-up was very easy and done in record time!

As usual, the Exchange Club did a great job bringing out the books to the sales area. A special thanks to Steve Arnosky and Joe Sepesy for building our beautiful new A-Frames. They spent many hours measuring, cutting and building these wonderful A-Frames. Carol Arnosky did a great job staining the shelves. The previous A-Frames were 57 years old and were gifted to 2 families for their bookshelves. We celebrated our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary at this sale with shoppers by displaying large “90” balloons, the City Council proclamation, and an informative poster as well as putting out cookies for them to enjoy.



*Delicious cookies we shared with shoppers.*



*The result of so much hard work by our members*



*Our new A frames with helpers Joe. Sepesy, Mike Dutot, and Steve Arnosky*



*Eager shoppers*

Branch members, spouses and friends listed below are thanked for their contributions towards the success of the fall sale. Thank you all! The next sale is scheduled for May 2, 3 and 4, 2025. See you then.

*thank you*

Carol & Steve Arnosky  
Teresa Beadlescomb  
Roxanne & Brent Brooks  
Kerry & Kelly Buell  
Ruth Copp  
Judi Cox & Nate V.  
Judy & Tom Donahue

Trudy & Mike Dutot  
Chris Ferrando  
Berta Gebo  
Robin Glenn  
Mary Graiver  
Nancy & Ed Hannum  
Mary Harding  
Meg Harding & Stan Halpin  
Marge & Tom Haskell  
Carol Hoerneman-Plaush

Paula Jonas  
Jean & Bob Julier  
Deb Kaiser  
Liz & Roger Kapla  
Candy Keysor-Oudman  
Mary Sydney Matuska  
Jan Lanter  
Bethany Law  
Ann Moe  
Alice Morgan  
Pam Murchison  
Gina Pederson

Pauline Pittsley  
Carolyn Robert  
Carol Sarnacke  
Joe Sepesy  
Sybil Settler  
Kim Steinke  
Valerie Trabucchi  
Sharon Voss  
Donna & Roy Wedge  
Jane & Dave Wirth

## Branch Meetings by Chris Ferrando

There is no General Meeting scheduled for October. Mark your calendars for our next General Meeting, scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2024. Watch for program details in the November Twig.

## President's Message by Carol Arnosky

Another Book Sale is in the books! A Huge Thank You to everyone who helped, especially those who worked two, three or even four shifts at the sale. Thank you to the barrel book deliverers, recycling

crew, and the entire sort room team. It definitely takes a village to pull off the massive undertaking: from setup to tear down and everything in between. A job well done!

## 1,000 Books from Midland 100 Club

by Trudy Dutot and Carol Arnosky

At their September 10th meeting, we were selected to be one of the recipients of Midland 100's Curbside Giving. The Midland 100 Club, a group of nearly 600 members, meets 3 times per year to support local non-profits with cash contributions and with merchandise. The Midland 100 Club, with Tina VanDam as the volunteer chair, collected and donated close to 1,000 books for the AAUW Used Book Sale. Trudy Dutot said, "We received many wonderful books. We estimate that about 1,000 books were donated. My van was full....25 boxes of books and 3 shopping carts with bagged books. Liz's vehicle was almost full...two shopping carts overflowing with books."



*Carts filled with books!*

*Thank you, Midland 100 Club, for your generous support!*

## Branch Officer Nominees Sought

by Pauline Pittsley

The Nominations Committee, chaired by Pauline Pittsley, includes Liz Kapla, Judi Cox, Ruth Copp and Kerry Buell. Board offices to be filled for the 2025-26 year include: President, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Program, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Membership, Finance VP, Nominations Officer and Delegate at Large. All offices are one-year terms and may be co-chaired. They will be elected next spring at the annual meeting.

Members are encouraged to consider how they can serve the Branch. If you are interested in one of

these positions or you would like to recommend someone, please call Pauline, 989-430-2067 or one of the committee members for more information.



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## Fall Open House Success

by Carol Arnosky



*Cathy Geiger and Bridget Sadenwater*

At our Fall Open House, we were fortunate to have two speakers from our community: Cathy Geiger, ABC Marketing & Community Affairs Director, Greater Michigan Construction Academy and Bridget Sadenwater, Vice President of the Greater Michigan Construction Academy. They presented info about the programs “Build Like A Girl” and “What is the Tool Library?” As you know, our branch provides an annual scholarship for Trade & Technical schools. The program was very informative, and we look forward to working with these groups.

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## AAUW Midland Branch Recognized by Midland City Council

by Carol Arnosky



*Carol Arnosky accepting the proclamation from Maureen Donker*

AAUW Midland branch turns 90 this year! In 1934, three women had a dream to have an AAUW branch in Midland, and here we are: 90 years later! The Midland City Council recently recognized this achievement with a proclamation at their September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Carol Arnosky accepted the award and shared some slides and pictures from our 90 years. A large thank you to the members who also attended. Congratulations, everyone!



*Our members who attended the meeting to represent the AAUW*

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## Branch Bylaws Revised

by Jane Wirth, Branch Secretary and Public Policy

At the September Branch general meeting a special meeting was convened to approve the recently revised AAUW Midland Branch Bylaws made necessary by changes in the AAUW corporate bylaws. The first seven Articles of the Branch Bylaws are required by the Association; the remaining Articles reflect how our Branch functions currently. The primary revision to the Branch Bylaws reflects a return to single year terms of office to facilitate recruitment. Co-officers are permitted

and serving multiple terms is also permitted. The revisions were approved by the quorum present at the meeting. AAUW Midland Branch Bylaws are posted on our website: <https://midland-mi.aauw.net/> under the “Documents” tab.

Bylaws revision committee: Pauline Pittsley, Chair, Ruth Copp, Donna Wedge, Carol Arnosky, Jane Wirth.

## Are You Ready to Vote? by Jane Wirth

The 2024 General Election approaches! November 5th is the “in-person” Election Day, but “early voting” and absentee ballot voting begin soon.

Resources:

- ⇒ Registration to vote option is open until November 5th at your local clerk’s office.
- ⇒ The League of Women Voters supports a website which will be very useful in your decision making: [VOTE411.org](https://vote411.org).
- ⇒ Midland Area LWV will publish a voter guide which will be available at the Senior Expo at the Midland Mall on October 9th. This same guide will be included with the Midland Daily News on October 11th. Check here for the online version: <https://lwvmidlandarea.org/>.
- ⇒ You can request an absentee ballot by going to [Michigan.gov/Vote](https://Michigan.gov/Vote) and using the absentee ballot request form, sending a written request to your city or township clerk to have a ballot mailed to you, or by visiting your city or township clerk’s office.
- ⇒ Absentee ballots will be mailed to voters who have requested them by early October. They need to be returned by November 5 to drop boxes at: Midland City Hall, Barstow Airport, or the Midland Civic Arena at 405 Fast Ice Drive.
- ⇒ Early voting for all Midland County residents opens October 26th at Grace A. Dow Library. Sunday voting will be possible.
- ⇒ Outside the City of Midland: Visit your township clerk’s office to register and to return your absentee ballot in a drop box by November 5th.



**Consider how your vote will support women and girls.**

## Tales from the Book Sale Sort Room

by Carol Arnosky

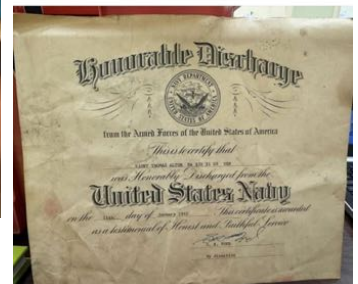
While sorting books for our Used Book Sale, Gina found a very important document in a book: an Honorable Discharge certificate from 1967. Carol Arnosky posted it in "Ask Midland" on Facebook in hopes we could find its home. The Facebook community did not disappoint! Over 100 likes and 34 shares later... Ricky Altum’s son came and picked up the document! A happy ending!



Carol Arnosky and Ricky Altum's son

**AskMidland**  
Carol Milhan Arnosky · 6h · 🌐

We found this document in a book as we were sorting books at the AAUW book sale. We would love to get it back to the family. Honorable discharge, 1967, for Ricky Thomas Altum. Please let me know.



## Smiles from the Used Book Sale



*Some quality time with a  
UBS book*



*Even the mall robot wants to come to our sale!*

We all know the great things that our AAUW Midland Branch is able to do with the funds raised from the Used Book Sale.

Sometimes it is easy to overlook all of the other good that comes as a result of all the hard work. Things like having a part in passing the love of reading on to others and little ones as well as the laughs and fun we are able to have together.



## A Little Magic

Trudy has worked her magic again in this tiny storage room to include the A-frames, over 300 banana boxes, countless trays, totes, chairs, crates, 10 store barrels and more. (The open spot on the left is waiting for Chris's cookbook totes and holders). Trudy's van is magical in all it can hold, as is the storage room. But we think the magic is all Trudy!

## Mark Your Calendar

November 21, 2024 – November General Meeting  
May 2-4, 2025 – Used Book Sale at the Midland Mall

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

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