



The Twig

AAUW Midland Branch Newsletter

April
2025

Used Book Sale by Trudy Dutot, AAUW Used Book Sale Coordinator

The Used Book Sale will be May 2, 3, and 4, 2025. Book donation barrels will be out on April 3, 2025. Barrels will be in Kroger, Family Fare and the two main entrances of the mall. We expect to collect well over 10,000 books so we require a big team of workers. Over the years, we have developed a very smooth system to sort and categorize books and media materials. New team members are always welcome so come and see what we do and participate in the fun! This worthwhile event raises funds for scholarships for local women. Our AAUW Branch will award up to \$16,000 in scholarships this spring.

The sort room is the former Bat Cave near the Hallmark store. The sort room will be open April 3, 2025.



Your help is important. We welcome spouses and friends to help in this endeavor:

- ☐ Pick up donated books from grocery stores some days
- ☐ Put price stickers on books and put them in category boxes
- ☐ Stack books on sale tables Thursday evening, May 1st, 7:00 pm
- ☐ 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

To sign up to volunteer or for more information, please contact Donna Wedge at donnawedge456@gmail.com or call 989-600-7567.

You can also help by spreading the word about the sale. We need many buyers to achieve the sale income needed to support our scholarships.

Hope to see you there!

No April General Meeting by Chris Ferrando

There will be no April General Meeting. The Program Committee urges members to participate in the Used Book Sale May 2nd-4th at the Midland Mall. Proceeds from the sale provide scholarships for girls and women. Please consider volunteering some of your time to this worthwhile project.



President's Message by Carol Arnosky

Happy April!

Full disclosure: The following is my first ChatGPT message. Too easy!

Get ready to make a difference – volunteer at our Used Book Sale! 📚

Looking for a way to give back, make new friends, and dive into a sea of incredible stories? Our Spring Used Book Sale needs YOU - before and during the event! This isn't just any event—it's a chance to join a community of passionate readers and make a real impact! 🚀

Why Volunteer?

- **Be part of something BIG!** Every book you handle is a potential new adventure for someone. Help people find their next favorite read and make a positive mark on the community.
- **Meet awesome people** who share your love of books and reading!
- **Get first dibs on some of the coolest books** before the sale opens to the public.
- **Make a difference!** Proceeds from the sale go to scholarships for women.



Whether you've got a passion for organizing or you just love the idea of being surrounded by stacks of stories, there's a spot for you! Join the crew, have fun, and be part of a team that's making the world a little more *readable* one book at a time.

Ready to sign up? It's easy—just contact Donna Wedge (donnawedge456@gmail.com) and she will put you on the list.

Don't miss out on the chance to be a book-loving superhero! ✨

Annual Meeting Election Results by Pauline Pittsley



These officers were elected at the Branch Annual Meeting: President Carol Arnosky; Co-Vice Presidents for Program Development Mary Graiver and Mary Harding; Nominations Officer Judy Donahue and Delegate-at-Large Candy Oudman.

The Passing of Mary Lou Angelotti by Carol Arnosky



Mary Lou Angelotti, an AAUW Midland member for 67 years recently passed at the age of 96. Mary Lou, a long-time leader of our branch, was Branch president from 1969-71 and a Named Gift Honoree in 1972. She also served as AAUW - Michigan president in the 1970's.

A few tidbits about Mary Lou: She was the first woman to major in engineering at what was then known as Western Michigan College in Kalamazoo. She graduated in 1950 with a Bachelor's degree in chemical engineering, then

continued her studies at Michigan State, earning a Master's degree in chemistry in 1952.

Mary Lou received recognition in 1987 during Michigan's Sesquicentennial, when she was among 150 women named as "First Ladies of Michigan", in honor of her work on behalf of expanding educational opportunities for gifted and talented students.

Mary Lou was a long-time member of Book Lovers. While I was doing kids under five, hers were about to launch. She was knowledgeable about how the school system worked at every level. When it didn't work for our son with an unspecified disability, she encouraged my activism, never failed to remain interested and supportive. I admired the breadth of her community knowledge and always appreciated her friendship. -Pamela Murchison

Mary Lou's life and legacy is a true testament to a 'life well lived'.

The ROCK Fundraiser by Mary Graiver

Representatives from our AAUW Midland Branch were invited to attend The Rock Fundraiser Thursday, February 27, 2025. The event celebrated the achievements of The Rock over the past 20 years for youth development.

showered with applause and high fives from these young people.

It was an impactful and inspiring event and AAUW was honored to be a part of it.

Youth that are recipients of The Rock programing were present. They greeted attendees and took them through the maze of tables to their seats. They then circulated tables to make attendees feel welcome. These young people also introduced speakers and were speakers themselves. There was a mentor who introduced his mentee who shared what it was like to be mentored. It was such a moving moment. As attendees left the event, they were



Upcoming Increase in National Dues by Judi Cox

We want to inform our members that there will be a gradual increase in national dues over the next two years. The national portion of dues will increase by \$2 per year, with the first adjustment taking effect on **April 1, 2025**, and the second on **April 1, 2026**.

The updated dues structure will be as follows:

- **2025:** National – \$74 | State – \$15 | Branch – \$12 | **Total: \$101**
- **2026:** National – \$76 | State – \$15 | Branch – \$12 | **Total: \$103**

The board will review these changes at the next board meeting, and we will share further updates as they become available. We appreciate your continued support and commitment to our organization.

Stay tuned for more information!

AAUW Members in the News



Gina Peterson (with a photobombing Steve Arnosky in the back) was in the Little Forks Conservancy March 2025 Field Notes.



Mark Your Calendar

May 2-4, 2025– Book Sale at the Midland Mall

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

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