

Education the Focus for April's Program

Our April Branch meeting will be held at the Monroe Community Room on Monday April 20th at 7:00pm. Dr. Lolli, Superintendent of Monroe Local Schools, will be our speaker that evening. To get to the Monroe Community Room go south on Cincinnati Dayton Rd. It turns into Main St. once you cross St. Rt. 63. The Community Room is in the lower portion of the city building. It is on the right side of the road in downtown Monroe. You will turn onto a road that is across from the Red Onion. Parking is around the back of the building. The entrance is the glass doors on the lower level. Perhaps you could call an AAUW buddy or two and carpool to Monroe together! We hope to see you at our April meeting!

Reservations Needed for May Dinner

It's time to plan for our May dinner. It will be at 6:00 in the Butler Room at the Manchester on Monday May 11. It was originally scheduled for the Garden Room, but with all of the renovations going on right now, they had to move us.

The price of the dinner is \$16.00. The menu is chicken almondine, rolls, mixed green salad, chef's choice of starch, beverage, and chocolate layer cake or carrot cake.

Please RSVP to **Becky Ward**, either by phone (424-8409) or by email (beckward@gmail.com), to reserve your spot. We need to hear from you by **May 5** at the latest. Let's all turn out for our end-of-year event!

New Slate of Officers Announced

The following slate is being presented to the branch for consideration at the April branch meeting:

President – Chris Buchert
Program Vice Presidents – Anita Shew and Suzy Tadych
Membership Vice President – Sharon Kestermann
Recording Secretary – Kathy Wilson
Corresponding Secretary – Becky Ward
Treasurer – Katie McNeil

The committee: Tina Newlin, Dorothy Morehead and Betty Jo Baker were sensitive to the by-laws which states that a member does not serve in an office more than two years. The committee appreciates these ladies being willing to serve our branch for the coming year. Thank you!

Calendar of Events

Thursday, April 16, 7:00pm

Joy Luck Book Club

The Hearts of Horses

by Molly Gloss

Sharon Williamson's Home

Monday April 20th, 7:00 pm

Speaker: Dr. Lolli, Superintendent
of Monroe Local Schools
Monroe Community Room

Saturday & Sunday, May 2-3

AAUW Ohio State Convention

Holiday Inn Dayton/Fairborn

Tuesday, May 5, 9:00am

Daytime Book Club

The Reader

by Bernhard Schlink

Kelly Valen's Home

Monday May 11th, 6:00 pm

May Scholarship Dinner
Business Meeting
Manchester Inn, Butler Room

Thursday, May 21, 2009, 7:00pm

Joy Luck Book Club

*The Red Leather Diary: Reclaiming
a Life through the Pages of a
Lost Journal*, by Lily Koppel

Sarah Kercksmar's Home

SAVE THE DATE

2009 AAUW National Convention

June 26-28, 2009 St. Louis, Missouri



**PREVENTION FIRST!
From Ohio Public Policy
Chair – Jackie Evangelista**

AAUW/Ohio members have a real opportunity to help advance the goal of “protecting reproductive rights” by attending the Coalition for Family Health’s Freedom of Choice Ohio Lobby Day. Worth the price of admission: Hearing Connie Schultz, Pulitzer Prize winning Cleveland Plain Dealer columnist and wife of Senator Sherrod Brown, give the keynote address. Worth the expenditure of your time: Having the opportunity to speak out for the Prevention First Act, which would make common sense changes in Ohio law to help prevent unwanted pregnancies and reduce abortion. AAUW/Ohio is a member of the coalition that stages this event. As such, it would be wonderful to have good representation at the event from our members. Gather your friends and colleagues and join us in Columbus for:

**Freedom of Choice Ohio
2009 Prevention First
Lobby Day**

Wednesday, April 22, 2009
9:00 am – 4:30 pm
YWCA Downtown
65 S. Fourth Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Register at <https://id286.secure-data.net/naralohio/events/lobby-dayreg.shtml>.

Please be sure to identify your affiliation with the Coalition for Family Health when you register. Questions about Lobby Day? Contact Jaime Miracle at 1-800-GO-NARAL or FOCOhio@gmail.com.

**Book Sale a Success!
Chris Buchert**

Thanks again to everyone for a fantastic book sale. You all pitched in to once again make it a success. One of my favorite things about sorting is picking out books to take home and read. I certainly read a variety of books this winter. The Book Sale grossed \$6300. The committee will be meeting soon to allocate the scholarship funds.

News Flash: We are renting the same book sale site for the whole year. I signed the lease April 6. We also bought some second hand tables. We will store books, supplies and tables on site. So, we can start collecting books any time. If you hear of books, please offer to pick them up or call Chris Buchert. Arrangements can be made to drop them off at Towne Mall.



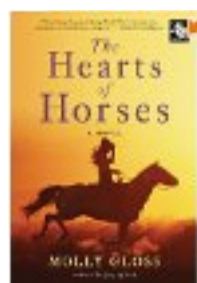
Upcoming Book Selections

April 16, 2009, 7pm, at Sharon Williamson’s Home: *The Hearts of Horses*, by Molly Gloss

May 21, 2009, 7pm, at Sara Kercksmar’s Home: *The Red Leather Diary: Reclaiming a Life through the Pages of a Lost Journal*, by Lily Koppel

June 18, 2009, 7pm, Lincoln Literary Roundtable

Remember, you can always find information about our selections at our website: www.orgsites.com/oh/joyluckclub



The next Daytime Book Club selection is, *The Reader*, by Bernhard Schlink.



AAUW/Ohio 85th Annual Convention
Equity in Action: Implementing Best Practices
May 2-3 – Holiday Inn Dayton/Fairborn
2800 Presidential Dr., Fairborn

To register, complete the Registration Form inside the AAUW Ohio Orbit, or download the form at <http://www.aauwoh.org>. Mail the completed form, by April 20, with your check made out to AAUWOH 2009 Convention, to:

Joanne Yost, 1016 Larriwood Ave., Kettering, OH 454209

Lilly's Watching the Senate's Next Move

Even if you were closely watching President Obama's recent address to Congress, you may have missed seeing Lilly Ledbetter seated behind First Lady Michelle Obama. Lilly was there because she, along with AAUW and the Obama administration, knows that the fight for pay equity is a long way from finished. Urge the Senate to take the next critical step in this fight by quickly passing the Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 182).

As Lilly said, passing the Ledbetter bill without passing the Paycheck Fairness Act is like giving someone a nail but not a hammer. The Ledbetter law preserves the right to seek legal redress, and the Paycheck Fairness Act provides the tools necessary to give new teeth to the law and provide incentives for businesses to follow the law in the first place.

The Paycheck Fairness Act, a much needed updated of the 45-year-old Equal Pay Act, is a comprehensive bill that would create stronger incentives for employers to follow the law, empower women to negotiate for equal pay, and strengthen federal outreach, education and enforcement efforts. The bill would also deter wage discrimination by strengthening penalties for equal pay violations and by prohibiting retaliation against workers who ask about employers' wage practices or disclose their own wages. In short, the bill updates the law to reflect the practices and processes under more recent civil rights laws.

When the House passed both the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (H.R. 11) and the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 12) earlier this year, they demonstrated a firm, bipartisan resolve to attack wage discrimination on all fronts. Urge your senators (Sen. Voinovich) to do the same.

Take Action!

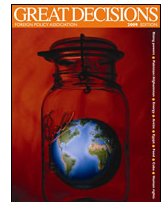
To urge your senators (Sen. Voinovich) to cosponsor and quickly pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, simply enter your zip code and click "Go!" Then follow the instructions to compose and send your message.



Great Decisions

Great Decisions, a national program to promote greater understanding of the world, will be held at the library in meeting room A at 7:00pm for the remaining dates:

Apr. 14 & 28



How to Celebrate Equal Pay Day

As you may know, AAUW will celebrate Equal Pay Day on April 28 in recognition of the fact that women have to work four months longer than comparably qualified men to earn the same amount. To help observe this event on a branch level, please submit the Action Alert about the Paycheck Fairness Act by logging onto: <http://capwiz.com/aauw/issues/alert/?alertid=12819746>.

The message you will find there is excerpted below. The Paycheck Fairness Act has been passed by the House but not the Senate. Senator Sherrod Brown voted for the bill, but Senator George Voinovich did not. Our focus, therefore, is on persuading Senator Voinovich to support the bill the next time it comes up. Please make this your small way of observing Equal Pay Day.



Mission

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

Vision

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

Value Promise

As a member of AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance

Contact Information

Association: AAUW Member Helpline: 800-821-4364
Website: <http://www.aauw.org>

AAUW/Ohio: Administrative Office: 800-910-7075
Website: <http://www.aauwoh.org>

Middletown Branch:

President: Kelly Valen 425-9202

Membership Vice President: Sharon Kestermann 539-8175

Co-Program Vice Presidents: Kathy Wilson 423-6193

Suzy Tadych 727-1420

Website: www.orgsites.com/oh/middletown-aauw