

Girls, STEM, and the Girl Scouts

Over the last twenty years, America's share of high tech exports has plummeted from about 20% to about 7%. What this means in practical terms is that America can't build a military aircraft without Chinese chips.

--David P. Goldman, Department of Defense consultant

US workforce projections for the coming decade suggest that jobs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields will grow 30% faster than non-STEM jobs. Our country already has a shortage of STEM workers. The recruitment of women into STEM fields can help alleviate this problem.

Although women now make up nearly half of our national workforce, they hold only 29% of STEM jobs. Increased female participation in STEM fields can be a step toward pay equity. Women in STEM jobs earn over 27% more than comparable women in non-STEM fields. AAUW has long supported making STEM education available to girls. Association programs like STEMpacks, Tech Savvy, and Tech Trek have been created and implemented to advance gender equity in technology.

In May we will hear from another organization which has a long history of attempting to advance equity for girls --- the Girl Scouts. A speaker from the Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania Council will visit to tell us about the success of their STEM Expos and STEM mobile. This traveling tech lab will be at the meeting!

Please plan to join us on **Tuesday, May 22nd**, at the **Stern Building** on the Dickinson College campus. Come early to tour the STEM Mobile, which will be parked in the adjacent lot at 6:30 p.m. The meeting begins inside at 7:00 p.m. We will all learn more about the very timely topic of STEM education.

Kathleen Brennan
Program Host

Four Women Honored at Scholarship Banquet

April 24 was a tremendous day on Dickinson College campus when four exceptional women were honored with the 2018 AAUW Higher Education Scholarship. Each of the women proved worthy through academics, financial need, work experience, persistence and perseverance to receive the \$1500 award. The winners were Makayla Glass of Shippensburg University, Darien Kase of Pennsylvania State University, Ciera Rhodes of Wilson College and Rebekah Vensel of Loyola University of New Orleans.

More than fifty members, guests, family, friends and recipients enjoyed a roasting social hour and dinner before hearing from



the recipients about their educational goals and personal dreams. They thanked AAUW for their consideration for the scholarship. The committee also want to thank branch members for their generous donations to AAUW Funds to make the

scholarships a reality. This year Scholarship Chair, Lillian Wong offered a memorial scholarship honoring her mother Yuen Yen Lee Wong. The recipient was Ciera Rhodes whose educational path parallels Lillian's with a STEM degree and a degree in health field.

A huge appreciation goes out to Marjorie Mowery, our AAUW Funds chair for help in soliciting funds, our committee members, Barbara Allen, Marjorie Mowery, Rosemary Smith and Cindy Sutton for diligence and flexibility with scheduling interviews.

Check the website for photos and more details of recipients.
<https://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/scholarship/>

Lillian Wong
Scholarship Committee Chair

May 2	1:00 p.m.	Public Policy Committee meeting	Office of Peggy Jennings (225 S. West Street)
May 5	9:00 a.m.	Breakfast Club @ Momma Spriggs	RSVP with Kathleen Gorak (kg1562@gmail.com)
May 7	7:00 p.m.	Book Group	Carmen Eiserman
May 8	7:00 p.m.	Board meeting	Bosler Library, meeting room C
May 14	7:00 p.m.	Topic Talk: Deeper in Debt	Kathleen Gorak See page 3 to register
May 15		PRIMARY ELECTION	
May 22	7:00 p.m.	Branch Meeting	Stern Building on Dickinson College campus
May 24	1 – 4 p.m.	AAUW Bylaw Voting Open House	Hauto Zat Gallery (45 E. South Street) See page 3 for details

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The May branch meeting is the last of the 2017-2018 fiscal year. In addition to, what promises to be, a fabulous program on the power of STEM education, we take time to reflect on the year and honor branch members. We award Outstanding Woman, Member Making a Difference, and Named Gift Honorees to well deserving members and recognize those rotating off the Board. New officers, elected at the April meeting, are installed. I hope you will join us for this evening of celebration. Please, don't forget to bring donations for Community C.A.R.E.S.—see below for details.

AAUW members have been invited to participate in two important activities—comment on the AAUW Strategic Plan and vote on proposed changes to the national bylaws.

- I hope you accepted the invitation of Kim Churches, AAUW CEO, to review and comment on the AAUW Strategic Plan. At the AAUW Pennsylvania state conference in April, Kim reviewed the plan. It contains actionable, bold goals that propels forward our gender equity work and puts AAUW in the public's view. Personally, I hadn't considered how incremental and hidden our work was until hearing these goals. While the comment period is passed, you may still review the plan [here](#).
- April 25 through June 9, AAUW members are asked to vote on the proposed bylaw changes. As you think about these changes, please use this post (<https://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/2018/03/28/aauw-proposed-bylaw-changes/>) on our website as a reference. It contains the link to a very good video, as well as a document authored by AAUW-PA. Look on page 3 to learn about the fun get-out-the-vote event on May 24, planned by the Public Policy Committee.

Five AAUW Carlisle members attended the AAUW-PA state conference in April. Please talk with Kate Elkins, Carolyn Freberg, Kathleen Gorak, Pat Markowski, and Sue Royer for their highlights of the event. One is most certainly having Kim Churches sit with us for dinner Friday! And her speech, which you can [watch](#), outlined the strategic plan and clarified the reason for the proposed bylaw changes. I was very proud to learn that 22 of the 36 online officer election votes—61%—were from AAUW Carlisle! A highlight for me was the rose boutique from these five at my installation as AAUW-PA President. It was very special to have friends attending.

Ann Pehle

Supporting Community C.A.R.E.S.

At the March 27 branch meeting, AAUW Carlisle presented the Gateway to Equity Award to Shari Bellish, Executive Director of Carlisle C.A.R.E.S. (subsequently, organization changed name to Community)

In support of Shari's work, we accepted a challenge to collect personal care products currently needed at Community C.A.R.E.S. to help their homeless mission. **Please remember to bring your donations to the May 22 Branch Meeting.** Or, if needed, contact Nancy Sigrist (ncsigrist@gmail.com) to arrange a pick-up of your contributions.

Boys' & Girls' Pajamas – all sizes
 Boys & Girls Underwear and Socks – all sizes
 Men's white T-shirts – all sizes
 Women's Underwear and socks – all sizes
 Men's Boxers/Socks (all sizes)
 Feminine Products: sanitary napkins, tampons, incontinence pads, liners
 Paper Products: plates, cups, utensils, napkins
 Twin Blanket/ Sheet Sets
 Dishwasher Detergent (Cascade packs)
 Regular Coffee
 Containers of coffee creamer
 Non-perishables: Cup-a-soup Ramen noodles Crackers
 Granola bars Fruit snack bowls
 Non-perishables: Canned soup Juice boxes Canned Veggies Water Oatmeal
 Combs/Brushes
 Toothpaste/ Toothbrushes
 13 gal Trash Bags
 Deodorant/Body Wash Razors/Shampoo



AAUW Membership Renewal

It happens every year at this time. We ask you to submit a membership form with \$82 check by May 31st. The form is on page 6 or [here](#). Please note you only need to complete the Education section if you are updating/correcting information or new to the AAUW Carlisle.

New this year is an incentive to renew in May. Three members will have an opportunity for reimbursement of the cost of their national AAUW membership, a \$59 value. Members whose membership form and check are postmarked by May 16, 2018 will receive two chances to receive reimbursement. If your membership form and check are postmarked between May 16th and May 31st, you will receive one chance for reimbursement. The three members will be chosen by random drawing in early June. You will not want to miss this opportunity, so get those membership forms in the mail!

If you have any questions concerning membership or the membership form, please contact Sue Royer (sroyer007@hotmail.com) or Carolyn Freberg (dcfreberg@pa.net).

*Carolyn Freberg
 Sue Royer
 Membership Vice Presidents*

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

GOTV (Get Out The Vote)

This is a staple activity for public policy. Remember to vote on May 15th Primary Election. Go to <http://www.vote411.org/> for candidate and polling information.

AAUW has an important election now through June 9th on changes to the national bylaws. On April 25th, you received an email with your AAUW member ID and voting PIN. Using that email, you may vote anytime before 9:00 p.m. June 9th.

For something special, the Public Policy Committee is holding a **Voting Open House** on Thursday, May 24th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Virginia Mueller's art gallery—Hauto Zat Gallery—45 East South Street. Bring your member ID and voting PIN and we will have a computer set up for you to vote. Don't worry if you lost/forget those special numbers. We have member IDs and a hotline to get your PIN. Come, enjoy Virginia's art and refreshments, and vote.

Topic Talk: Deeper in Debt

Women now earn 57 percent of bachelor's degrees from American colleges and universities and take on more debt on average than men at almost every degree level and type. As a result, women hold nearly two-thirds of the outstanding student debt in the United States — more than \$800 billion. Factor in the gender pay gap and this debt influences many major life decisions for women. As a leading gender equity organization, it is incumbent upon AAUW to raise awareness of the issues in our communities and work on federal and state public policy solutions on behalf of women and girls.

May's Topic Talk will focus on AAUW's research on the differential impact of student loan debt on women, and how we can work to level the playing field for women pursuing higher education. The discussion will be facilitated by Branch member Peggy Jennings who served on the statewide committee that adapted this research for use by Pennsylvania AAUW Branches. Peggy is an independent college admissions consultant and adjunct faculty member at Messiah College.

Join us at **7:00 PM on Monday, May 14th** at the home of Kathleen Gorak located at 1101 Stratford Drive in Carlisle. Sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/topic-talk-deeper-in-debt-tickets-44567897782> or contact Peggy at 717-385-0826 or peggy@DrJ4College.com for additional information.

AAUW Carlisle Members Attend Equal Pay Day Rally and Reach Out to Legislators

Kate Elkins, Sue Royer, Ann Pehle and Nancy Sigrist rallied for Equal Pay on April 10th at the State Capitol in Harrisburg.

After spending time with our AAUW PA Public Policy team and other collaborators in review of our position, receiving advocacy tips and information on how best to address possible questions from the legislatures, our Carlisle members went to

the offices of their representatives to attend scheduled meetings with the legislative staff. The purpose was to share our concerns about the wage gap for women in Pennsylvania and to express our support for HB1243 which has a very large bipartisan sponsorship in the House of Representatives.

The day ended with citizens from around the state coming together in the Capitol Rotunda to listen to various advocates, supporters and legislators talk about pay inequity and the reasons we must make change.

Topic Talk: Title IX

About a dozen members attended our third Topic Talks discussion on Tuesday, April 11th. We were honored to have Carlisle Schools Superintendent Christina Spielbauer as our discussion leader. She focused her discussion on current responses to the District's issues with bullying and sexual abuse or harassment. Attendees came prepared by reading the materials provided in advance. Many thanks to our hostess, Frances Del Duca, and the Public Policy Committee for the delicious refreshments!

Education Savings Accounts: Senate Bill 2

AAUW is supporting Education Voters PA and the PA Budget and Policy Center opposes Senate Bill. This bill sits in the Pennsylvania Senate Education Committee and could be voted on when they return May 21st.

This bill, titled the Education Savings Account Act, would provide funding to parents with children in "low achieving" public schools that could be used for "qualified educational expenses" like private school tuition. Among the concerns about this bill and its impact on Pennsylvania public schools are:

- Education Savings Account (ESA) vouchers will divert desperately-needed funding from public schools and reduce the quality of education available to all Pennsylvania students in order to fund private education for a few.
- ESA vouchers would constitute taxpayer money being given to private schools that are able to discriminate on the basis of gender, religion, and disability status.
- Nothing in SB 2 prevents these taxpayer-funded vouchers from being used to pay for low-performing private schools.
- ESA vouchers will benefit wealthy families more than lower income families. There are no income limits for families to be eligible for vouchers, and if the family moves out of the low achieving public school district into a better-resourced district, the family continues to be eligible for ESA funding. In addition, the amount of funding will not be sufficient to cover the full cost of private school tuition, effectively preventing low income families from fully benefiting from it.

Watch for action alerts and act to save public schools.

Nancy Sigrist
Public Policy Chair

Meet a New Member: Mary (Cherry) France

Now retired from her 14 year term as Bankruptcy Court Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, Cherry first came to the Carlisle area in 1978 to attend Dickinson Law School.

Born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida, she attended college at Wake Forest in Winston-Salem North Carolina, earning a B.A. in History. She married her husband, Ken, and took journalism courses at University of Florida while Ken did an internship at the University. Later they moved to Tallahassee, Florida where she earned an M.A. in American Studies at Florida State College.

Like many of our members, Cherry's path to her judgeship meandered through a variety of positions. She worked at a clothing store after her undergraduate days in Tallahassee. She took a job under a Title 20 Block Grant for the Regional Council of Governments, doing public relations and advocacy. After law school, she worked for a small law firm in Harrisburg where she was the first woman in the firm. After seven years at the firm, she took a job at the Pennsylvania Department of Banking, and three years later, became Assistant U.S. Trustee for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. In 1993 she filled a vacancy in Bankruptcy Court in the same district.

Cherry and Ken now live in Mechanicsburg, where they enjoy cycling and other outdoor activities. Now both retired, they enjoy traveling. Soon after Ken's retirement they toured Australia, and recently returned from a six-week trip to South America.

Cherry has chosen to join AAUW because she sees in its membership women who are making a positive contribution to the community, and who are involved in substantive issues like redistricting and advocacy for equity for women and girls.

Pat Markowski
Communication Chair

INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES

The second outing for the newly formed **Breakfast Club** is Saturday, May 5 at 9 a.m. at Momma Spriggs. Please let Kathleen Gorak know if you will join us, kq1562@gmail.com or 717-249-8231.

Book Group

River of Doubt by Candice Millard

Monday, May 7, 2018, 7 p.m.

Carmen Eiserman (717-249-0175 or cheiserman@att.net)

Please RSVP by Friday, May 4, 2018

Additional information about the book and the author are online. All branch members are always welcome to attend any book discussion meeting of interest to them.

The River of Doubt—it is a black, uncharted tributary of the Amazon that snakes through one of the most treacherous jungles in the world. Indians armed with poison-tipped arrows haunt its shadows; piranhas glide through its waters; boulder-strewn rapids turn the river into a roiling cauldron.

After his humiliating election defeat in 1912, Roosevelt set his sights on the most punishing physical challenge he could find, the first descent of an unmapped, rapids-choked tributary of the Amazon. Together with his son Kermit and Brazil's most famous explorer, Cândido Mariano da Silva Rondon, Roosevelt accomplished a feat so great that many at the time refused to believe it. In the process, he changed the map of the western hemisphere forever.

Along the way, Roosevelt and his men faced an unbelievable series of hardships, losing their canoes and supplies to punishing whitewater rapids, and enduring starvation, Indian attack, disease, drowning, and a murder within their own ranks. Three men died, and Roosevelt was brought to the brink of suicide. The River of Doubt brings alive these extraordinary events in a powerful nonfiction narrative thriller that happens to feature one of the most famous Americans who ever lived.

AAUW offers the ¡Adelante! Book Club

Threading My Prayer Rug: One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim
Sabeeha Rehman

A timely reflection on being Muslim in the United States today, *Threading My Prayer Rug* is the story of Sabeeha Rehman's many journeys: from Pakistan to the United States, from being a secular Muslim in an Islamic society to a devout Muslim in a society rife with misunderstandings about Islam, from immigrant to citizen. By challenging stereotypes and offering a new perspective on American life and society through Muslim eyes, Rehman offers a new perspective on what it means to be American.

See the [AAUW Website](#) for online discussion.

Wendy Dickinson
Interest Group Chair

Pennsylvania's Community Conversations on Women's Health Issues Report

Last July, AAUW Carlisle collaborated with the PA Campaign for Women's Health and other community organizations in producing a Carlisle Community Conversation on Women's Health. Attendees discussed problems, issues and needs in our community around the question of better women's health.

AAUW Carlisle member Linda Figueroa organized a team of volunteers, including Virginia Mueller, Carolyn Freberg, Gail D'Urso and Doreen Barringer, to assist with event activities. Also, several other members were there as audience participants.

Follow this link to see the full report from Pennsylvania Campaign for Women's Health that details discussion points from each of the participating locations across our state. Look to page 7-8 to see Carlisle results. Check out the photos while you're at it! Can you spot at least one familiar face?

http://pa4womenshealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/PA4WomensHealth_Community-Conversations_Final-Report.pdf

Stay current on all things AAUW by reading **Outlook**. In this issue, you'll find features on how we can respond to the momentum on fighting sexual harassment, the anniversary of a pivotal global human rights document, a spoken-word poetry project at a historically black university in the nation's capital, and a look at the legacy of AAUW's Coretta Scott King Fund.

<https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/outlookmag/>

2017-2018 Board Members

Elected Officers

President – Ann Pehle

Membership VPs – Carolyn Freberg, Sue Royer

Program VPs – Carmen Eiserman, Kathleen Gorak

Finance Officers – Barb Attivo, Mary Long

Secretary – Cindy Sutton

Past President – Linkey Green

Committee Chairpersons

Communications — Pat Markowski

AAUW Funds — Marjie Mowery

Historian — Rosemary Smith

Newsletter – Phyllis Orenyo

Social Media – Ann Pehle

Public Policy — Nancy Sigrist

Scholarship – Lillian Wong

Yearbook – Carmen Eiserman

Interest Group Coordinators

Book Group – Wendy Armour Dickinson

Bridge Flight – Mary Berwick

Community Activities – Don Mowery

Supper Group – Wendy Armour Dickinson

Branching Out is published August to June by the AAUW Carlisle (PA) Branch. Articles and photos should be submitted to Phyllis Orenyo at cporenyo@yahoo.com or 249-8473 by the 20th of the month. The Board welcomes questions at aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com.

Branch website is: <http://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/>.

Like us on Facebook: AAUW Carlisle PA Branch.

AAUW Glossary of Terms

National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)—This multi-day conference is sponsored by AAUW to develop leadership skills in college women. It is held annually in May or June at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD.

National Members - Members who affiliate directly with AAUW. National members may choose to join a branch or state, but either the branch has to contact them or they have to seek out the branch. National members' dues go directly to AAUW.

Shape the Future (STF) – A membership campaign designed to help branches recruit new members and SAFs by offering 50% off national membership dues to anyone who joins at a public event. Lapsed members who rejoin after two or more years are also eligible. For every two new members, the branch earns one free national membership, up to a maximum of three free memberships per year. STF participants pay half-price state dues.

State—Refers to the state unit of AAUW, in our case AAUW-PA.

State Student Advisory Council (SAC) —Students from PA C/U Member schools selected through an application process who advise the AAUW-PA board on the needs of college students.

STEM—Science, technology, engineering, and math.

Linkey Green
Past President



AAUW Carlisle (PA) Branch

March 15, 2018 – June 30, 2019

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____ Spouse/Partner Name: (optional) _____

Email Address: _____

Preferred Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Joining or Renewing membership of Carlisle Branch

New Member Renewing Member Life Member Honorary Member

Changing from Member-at-Large

Transferring from Another Branch Name/location of branch: _____

Dual Member Name/location of primary branch: _____

Education *(Complete section only if new to AAUW Carlisle Branch or updating/correcting Branch Yearbook information)*

I am a graduate holding an associate, baccalaureate, higher degree, or equivalent (RN) from a nationally accredited institution.

Degree, Year, Major, College/University, State (Please list all.):

Annual Dues (July 1 – June 30)

Regular Member	\$82	(\$59 National (\$56 tax deductible) + \$10 State + \$13 Branch)
Paid Life member	\$23	(state and branch dues)
Dual Member PA Branch	\$13	(branch dues)
Out of state Dual Member	\$23	(state and branch dues)
Honorary Member	\$13	(branch dues)

Any over payment of the dues will be deemed to be donations to the Carlisle Branch operating funds.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Mail form and dues (payable to AAUW Carlisle Branch) to:
 Finance Officer
 AAUW - Carlisle Branch
 P.O. Box 815
 Carlisle, PA 17013