

BRANCHING Out

A Publication of the AAUW Carlisle (PA) Branch - Organized 1924

AAUW - Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research

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Take The Fear Out Of Your Financial Journey

October's program is a little different than usual. For starters, it is not just one evening of fun at the end of the month. You will have the opportunity to meet with other AAUW members <u>each</u> Tuesday in October! There is no obligation to attend all the meetings, just register for the programs that are most relevant to you. Please invite your friends and family members to attend.

These four program opportunities are all about you! They are intended to build the resilience of our members through a stronger understanding of our own finances. We will have several financial professionals who will present and answer your questions all around the following topics.

Registration required for EACH MEETING. Click on the word Register. Upon registering, you will receive an email from aauwcarlislead@gmail.com with your unique Zoom webinar/meeting link.

October 6 at 7pm: Financial Conversations for Women (Zoom Webinar)

Financial Conversations for Women is a guided discussion that examines why women's financial issues are often different than men's. The topics are designed to help participants determine whether their retirement strategy is on track. By engaging with other women, participants will gain insights, ideas and strategies. Register.

October 13 at 7pm: Heart to Heart Conversations Part 1 (Zoom Meeting)

Financial conversations with parents or your children don't have to be hard. Many of us were raised not to discuss money, so where do you start? How do you know if your parents are prepared for long term issues and how do you let your children or family know about your plans? A lot of our members are in that "sandwich generation", so join us to learn how to have the conversations that can make life easier when plans need to be put into place. Register.

October 20 at 7pm: Heart to Heart Conversations Part 2 (Zoom Meeting)

Last week, we learned how to have those important heart to heart conversations. This week, the focus is on the preparation for these healthy conversations and on implementing your plans. We will be using some tools that will be provided to participants. Register.

October 27 at 7pm: What is Enough? An Approach to Retirement Income (Zoom Webinar)

Whether you are just starting your professional journey or you just gave your last final notice, it is important to have an effective overall approach to managing your money. In this workshop, we will learn how to build a strong and adaptable financial strategy to be more confident in saving for retirement, whether that's in 20 years or 20 days. Register.

Series featured presenters. (All are AAUW Carlisle members) No products or services will be sold.



Beth McKinley
Financial Associate, Thrivent
Thrivent and its financial professionals do not provide legal,
accounting or tax advice. Consult your attorney or tax
professional



Mary Brunski Retirement Income Certified Professional[©] Demeter Financial Services Stacey Gatch and Joan Rockwell Page 2 Branching Out

WATCH for EMAILS from <u>aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com</u> for updates on ALL events						
October 1	2:00 pm	AAUW webinar honoring Justice Ginsburg	Zoom webinar, see page 4			
October 5	7:00 pm	Book Group	See page 10			
October 5	7:30 pm	Voting 2020: The Good – The Bad -The Ugly	Zoom webinar, see page 3			
October 6	7:00 pm	AAUW Carlisle branch Meeting	Zoom webinar, see Page 1			
October 7	5:30 pm	Strengthening Public Education in the Times of COVID-19	Zoom webinar, see page 3			
October 13	7:00 pm	AAUW Harrisburg branch meeting	Zoom webinar, see page 3			
October 13	7:00 pm	AAUW Carlisle branch Meeting	Zoom meeting, see Page 1			
October 20	7:00 pm	AAUW Carlisle branch Meeting	Zoom meeting, see Page 1			
October 22	6:00 pm	Mount Holly Springs Heart & Soul	Zoom event, see Page 4			
October 27	7:00 pm	AAUW Carlisle branch Meeting	Zoom webinar, see Page 1			

From the President

Calendar on the second page—this is a first! And look how full it is! Regrettably, still virtual—a situation we will be in, for the foreseeable future. So, Zoom is our friend (see page 6 for tips) and conduit to quality AAUW programming.

Our fourth Tuesday branch programs are a hallmark of AAUW Carlisle. COVID forcing everything virtual hasn't diminished the quality of our programs in the least. August launched the new fiscal year with AAUW Carlisle member, Peggy Jennings sharing the story of her great aunt Julia, a suffragist. September was the cumulation of months of work by Mary (Cherry) France to assemble a panel of judges for, what turned out to be, a very timely discussion about the judiciary. See page 9 for a recap.

And, now we come to October when one branch meeting became four. Thanks to an ambitious idea, you have the opportunity to attend when the topic is of interest, in the October Financial Conversations for Women series. The content was suggested in the 2019 member survey, speakers showcase the expertise of AAUW Carlisle members, and it is an innovation born from the COVID pandemic. Thank you to Stacey Gatch and the Program Committee for creativity and persistence.

The AAUW Carlisle Yearbook looks and was delivered differently this year. Hope you have navigated your way to the [new] Members page of the website to find the Member Directory and Yearbook. See page 6 for details on how to access.

As is the custom, the AAUW Carlisle Board embarked on strategic discussions in June that cumulated in the FY21 Strategic Plan. Please go online for an <u>overview of the process</u> and to read the <u>FY21 Strategic Plan</u>. Branch Strategic Areas for focus and projects are: Diversity & Inclusion; Member Engagement; Community Engagement; Branch Initiative Fundraising; AAUW's Five-Star National Recognition Program. Most Board members have role specific projects. Please review the document. We appreciate your comments and feedback.

Ann Pehle President

From Darlis Simonton

"Thank you all for your kind expressions of sympathy. Your cards were sincerely appreciated by me and my family. Thanks Darlis"

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COVID masks — AAUW style

NOW HERE -- An opportunity to show pride in your AAUW branch and support its activities and operations while helping to keep your friends and family safe during the current health crisis.

AAUW Carlisle branded face masks are available to order on the branch website: https://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/covid-masks-aauw-style/. These specialty designed masks are available in both black and white with the AAUW Carlisle logo printed on the side. Priced at \$12.00 each, your purchase will help to support the AAUW Carlisle and enhance our visibility in the community. Your purchases and support are particularly important this year, when opportunities for face-to-face meetings and fundraising are limited due to Covid-19 restrictions.



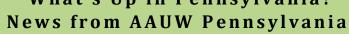
Higher Education Scholarship Committee-UPDATE!

Announcing the newest member to the committee, Kathleen Gorak, who will serve from 2020-2023. Our current committee members are the following: Stefanie D'Amore, Gail D'Urso, Rose Smith and Cindy Sutton. We are looking to complete the committee with another member to serve from 2020-2023. If you are interested and want to learn more, please check out https://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/scholarship/.

Please submit your name, along with a short paragraph to include why you want to join, what experiences and talents you are bringing to the committee, including your level of involvement at the Branch level. Please note your need to be available for the interviews on February 13, 2021 and Scholarship Banquet on April 27,2021. Please send me an email at wongtooth@comcast.net

> Lillian Wong Scholarship Chair

What's Up in Pennsylvania?



AAUW ngthening Public Education in the Times of COVID-19 Speaker: Susan Spicka Director, Education Vote

The 2020 AAUW Pennsylvania Webinar Series continues on October 7 from 5:30 – 6:30

Strengthening Public Education in the Times of COVID-19

Susan Spicka, Executive Director, Education Voters PA. will discuss the unique issues facing public education as a consequence of the COVID pandemic and bring us up to date with charter reform efforts. It is our honor to present Susan with the 2020 AAUW Pennsylvania Gateway to Equity Award for her tireless advocacy on behalf of Pennsylvania public schools. Register here.

View past events at https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/.

In year's past, the AAUW Pennsylvania District Coordinators organized an in-person meeting for all the branch members in each of the districts. This year, they coordinated efforts to hold one virtual event. Voting 2020: The Good-The Bad-The Ugly with Judy Clack, Voter Service Chair, League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh. October 5 at 7:30. Register here.



AAUW Harrisburg has extended an invitation to their branch meeting on October 13 at 7pm, presented through Midtown Scholars Book Store.

The speaker is Dr. Alison Dagnes, "Political Media and Our National Anger". She will include a number of topics in her talk, such as women in politics and the 2020 election. Alison Dagnes is a professor of Political Science at Shippensburg University. Register here



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News from National AAUW Update

AAUW pays tribute and remembers Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. The 1999 AAUW Achievement Awardee, Justice Ginsburg was a champion for the rights of women and girls, and hugely instrumental in advancing AAUW's priorities.

- What does the future hold for her seat on the bench and how will it impact AAUW's work is explored in Perspectives, from
 the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund: Justice Ginsburg's Legacy and the Future of the Court was covered by AAUW CEO Kim
 Churches and Director of Public Policy and Legal Advocacy Kate Nielson in a discussion of the past, the future, and your role
 in shaping history on October 1st. Go here to find the recording one week after the webinar.
- The <u>statement</u> by AAUW CEO Kimberly Churches
- <u>The Lasting Legacy of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg</u> outlines the Six Notable Decisions and Dissents during her 27 years on the bench.
- AAUW's position regarding filling the vacancy is explained in <u>Fight for a Just & Fair Supreme Court: Fill Justice Ginsburg's Seat After Inauguration</u>.
- Paying Tribute to a Feminist Trailblazer shares what some of our nation's leaders had to say about this pioneering jurist and iconic feminist role model.

Dues and Education Requirement

These are two topics you will hear more about in the next several months. Learn about the issues and rationale in the September 22nd Board Town Hall: Dues and Education Requirement. Julia Brown, Board Chair and Malinda Gaul, Board Vice Chair discussed the recent notification of a prospective dues increase, share information about our racial equity and justice work, and what to expect on the AAUW voting ballot this year.

A Wealth of Webinars

After offering weekly webinars for many months, AAUW has built up an impressive library of content for members to explore at any time. You can peruse the archive of Equity Network webinars, which are focused on professional development and how to build equitable and inclusive workplaces. Or take a look at our 2020 member webinars, which range from interviews with notable Fellows to updates on your membership to tips on how to enhance your activism.



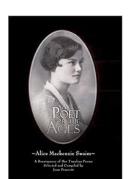
Renewed STEM Momentum

Thanks to a generous bequest from AAUW member and scientific pioneer Nancy Grace Roman, AAUW is pursuing several important STEM initiatives this fall. Roman, who died in 2018, served as NASA's first chief astronomer and is known as the mother of the Hubble Telescope. We're launching projects to increase STEM participation by women of color and expand opportunities in the physical sciences and engineering. We'll also assess how parents and guardians can influence higher educational choices for girls.

Discounts and Perks

AAUW members get great <u>discounts and special services</u> on insurance, hotels and travel, office supplies, email services and more, including: Insurance, Travel, Office supplies and photocopying, Rx Savings Card, Identity Theft Protection, UPS.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES



Mount Holly Springs Poet & Open Mic (via Zoom)
October 22 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Courage is not the towering oak that sees storms come and go; it is the fragile blossom that opens in the snow. -- Alice Mackenzie Swaim

Mrs. Swaim was a member of AAUW Carlisle and author of several volumes including Scented Honeysuckle Days, The Gentle Dragon, and Crickets are Crying Autumn. Originally from Scotland, she settled in our area and was prolific in writing poems regarding everyday living. As part of the Mt. Holly Springs Heart & Soul Chapter's series on Remarkable Women, a poetry event will be held on Oct. 22 at the Amelia Givin Library. Several of Mrs. Alice Swaim's poems will be featured as part of the event from the book, *A Poet for the Ages* by Joan Prescott. Also the evening will include poems by Helen Hall Bucher. To attend this online event, go

to https://www.facebook.com/events/914514835692184 and indicate you are interested in attending. No registration is needed. The Zoom meeting link will be provided at a later date. Go https://www.facebook.com/events/914514835692184 and indicate you are interested in attending. No registration is needed. The Zoom meeting link will be provided at a later date. Go https://www.facebook.com/events/914514835692184 and indicate you are interested in attending. No registration is needed.

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Membership Engagement

On September 10, AAUW Carlisle hosted our first Zoom Member Engagement Event. Virginia Mauk and Gail D'Urso accepted the challenge to create opportunities for member engagement during these unusual times, in addition to our monthly meetings.

Following brief introductions responding to the question, "What was your most recent job?", members were divided into two "rooms" to discuss twists and turns on their career paths. At the end of the discussion, the groups were reunited to share closing thoughts.

Group 1; facilitator - Virginia Mauk

Many in this group were encouraged to be teachers because that was a good career for a woman during that time.

- Mary (Cherry) France started as a teacher but ended up going to law school to be a lawyer, then finished her career as a bankruptcy judge. She said we don't need to stick to a plan -- be flexible because you don't know what opportunities may come your way.
- 2. Nancy Sigrist wanted to be a doctor, but her family pushed her to become a teacher. She then went from teaching to a career in the insurance industry.
- 3. Kate Elkins started in pre-med, but ended up being a social worker in order to fit her schedule once her son was born. She developed a new area of expertise and ended her employment career of 20 years as a lamp designer and repair person.
- 4. Wendy intended to teach but didn't enjoy teaching and switched to a career in the insurance industry. She is learning new skills working from home during the pandemic.
- 5. Virginia studied chemistry and worked in a lab for a short time. As an army wife, her family moved frequently. She accepted a job at a Chamber of Commerce and has loved working in Community Development ever since.

Group 2; facilitator - Gail D'Urso

- Rita Schlansky worked as an Intensive Care nurse and became a stay-at- home mom to raise her children. She became a Nurse Practitioner at 43 at UPenn. She provided care to women, including family planning services, through OB practices. Retired eight years, she volunteers in Portland, OR, to provide housing and education to teens in crisis.
- 2. Cindy Sutton started her career teaching elementary school for six years. While teaching middle school, she earned a Master in Counseling and spent 30 years as a middle school counselor. (Note from Gail: teachers loved her no nonsense problem solving) She has been a licensed Realtor for four years and has been surprised at how hard a job it is!
- Stephanie D'Amore has worked for a total of 18 years as an elementary teacher in California, Ohio, North Carolina and Pennsylvania. Trying to secure a teaching position in central PA continues to be a challenge. She worked at St. Patrick School and is now at LeTort as a teaching assistant.
- 4. Gail D'Urso worked as a minimum wage clerk in a hospital after college graduation, spurring her to get a Master in Public Health. She worked 10 years in family planning and maternity services, then stayed home for 10 years with her 3 sons, earning a teaching certificate at 40. She retired with 21 years' service teaching Family & Consumer Science.

The groups reconvened and agreed that we benefit when we learn about each other's journeys. Members recommended that women remain flexible as unexpected events and circumstances may present opportunities to transition into areas never before considered. This question was raised in the discussion: Is there value in encouraging students in middle and high school to settle on a career direction when so many factors may influence the journey? Maybe, maybe not.

A special thank you to Ann Pehle for facilitating this Zoom event, the first we've attempted with break-out "rooms." It ran like clockwork!

We are working on a plan for another Member Engagement Zoom event for Thursday, January 14. Stay tuned for more details.

Gail D'Urso & Virginia Mauk Membership VPs Page 6 Branching Out

Where's My AAUW Carlisle Yearbook?

This year, our Yearbook has gone digital. The COVID impact to our budget allowed the opportunity for us to get creative. Here are the changes.

- The content is split into two documents -- Member Directory and Yearbook.
- This Member Directory is for AAUW Carlisle member use only. Neither the directory nor contents may be used for non-AAUW purposes and may not be copied or distributed.
- To protect the privacy of members, the Member
 Directory and Yearbook will not be distributed via email.
 The documents are available on the AAUW Carlisle
 website (https://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/) on a password
 protected page. Once at the website, click Members in
 the top menu bar, and when prompted, enter
 aauwcarlisle17013. (not the period)

- A digital version will make it easier to keep the information updated. Send changes and updates to aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com. The most recent version will always be posted on the website.
- We are providing printed versions to our four members who do not use email. A few extra printed copies will be available for those members who do not have access to a printer. Please contact Ann Pehle (apehle@outlook.com).

Thanks to everyone involved in making this happen. Carmen Eiserman for leading the effort; Linda Brunski and Virginia Mauk for their ideas, WORD skills, and proofreading; Peggy Jennings for designing the covers; and Nickson Gatch, age 15, daughter of AAUW Carlisle member Stacey Gatch, for the awesome artwork featured on the covers





Zoom is our new best friend. And we want every member to feel comfortable attending AAUW Carlisle events on Zoom.

ZOOM World is intended to share information, hints, tips, and tricks until we are all expert Zoom participants

General Information

We are using our AAUW Carlisle license frequently and with good attendance. We have held three meetings and two webinars with another two meetings and two webinars already scheduled. An average of 46 are attending branch meetings. As expected, infrequent attendees are attending these online sessions. And, sadly, some regulars are not. Membership VPs, Virginia Mauk and Gail D'Urso are reaching out to those members, to better understand the reasons for not attending.

Webinars and (some) meetings are recorded for later viewing. However, the cloud storage capacity is limited – unless we spend more money. Therefore, if you miss an event, watch the recording sooner, rather than later, before it is deleted to make room for the next one.

Getting familiar with Zoom

Peggy Jennings conducted three drop-in "get acquainted with Zoom" sessions. Here is more feedback from an attendee. Did you wish you had attended a session? Let <u>Ann Pehle</u> know and she will work with Peggy to schedule more sessions.

I attended the Zoom session because I wanted to be able to participate in the virtual activities of the branch.

I had read the introduction on the Zoom site on the internet and had downloaded their program on my computer. However the site contains a link to a "test meeting" and I was unable to make that work. So I was delighted to be able to be part of Peggy's introduction session. She gave us a painless introduction to Zoom's features and now I consider myself "semiadept".

I would heartily recommend that anyone who's interested should attend a similar tutoring session. I definitely plan to use my new skill over the next few months.

Kathleen Brennan

Sharing Tips and Tricks

Change your name display in your ZOOM window. It is so easy! If you go to the top of your photo block you will see three dots. Click on the dots and one of the options is rename. This feature allows you to change your phone number to a name, put in your nickname or perhaps an alias for a meeting when you don't want to be called on...you get the idea. - Virginia Mauk

When in a Zoom meeting, you control your video (camera) and audio (microphone). Hover at the bottom of the Zoom session to see the toolbar at the bottom. On the left side there is MUTE and VIDEO—this is where you turn on or off. Important to know when you don't want to be seen or when the dog is barking.

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PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

Kate Elkins and Katie Perkowski, Public Policy Co-Chairs

PA Supreme Court Decisions

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court handed down decisions on Sept. 17 that support your right to vote in the November 3rd election. AAUW supports efforts, which remove barriers to voting and ensure that every vote is counted. This is being challenged in the courts, so please watch *The Sentinel* for updates.

- Mail-in ballots will be counted if received by 5pm Friday Nov. 6th if postmarked by Nov. 3rd or if they have illegible or missing postmarks.
- Allows Counties to use Drop Boxes for hand delivery of mail ballots.
- Denied the request to allow poll watchers to work in Counties where they are NOT registered.
- Denied the request to allow others to deliver a voter's ballot.
- Kicked the Green Party presidential candidate off the ballot for failure to comply with strict Election Code mandates.
- Ballots can now be printed.
- Mail ballots that arrive without a separate "secrecy envelope" inside the mailing envelope, so-called "naked ballots", will NOT be counted.

GOTV Events and Activities



We have not lessened our push to Get Out The Vote on Nov. 3 and have held two recent Voter Registration events.

On Sept. 15 we joined Hope Station and PEEC (formerly Cyberspace) at Project Share's drive-thru distribution. It was a beautiful day and we wore our running shoes as we jogged from car to car to hand out applications to register and for Mail-In Ballots.

The following day, we were at the Farmers' Market on the Square. St. John's Episcopal graciously gave us permission to set up our table on their lawn.

In both instances, we were able to answer a number of questions and clear up some confusion regarding reports in the media about election security, especially surrounding mail-in ballots. A number of 3rd party groups have been mailing out applications, along with partisan pitches. The Bureau of Elections confirmed that these applications WERE NOT mailed by them. They will only send out applications if a voter personally requests one from them. They also confirmed that, although the mailings may be partisan, the application forms included are valid and have the correct return address of the Bureau of Elections on Ritner Highway. So, if voters have returned those forms, they will be registered. And if the voter provided an email address, they will receive automatic updates from the Bureau when their applications have been received, when their ballots are mailed, and when their ballots are received back at the Bureau.



We truly appreciate our volunteers who were willing and able to help out in these COVID times: Nancy Sigrist, Katie Perkowski, Jenifer Johnson, and Kate Elkins!

Kate Elkins Public Policy Co-Chair



Be An Informed Voter

This is an important election year and the Public Policy Committee wants to encourage everyone to engage in the process, get to know the issues, the candidates, and make your best choice for each office on the ballot. AAUW is non-partisan but we are passionate about issues that further equality for women and girls. We hope each of you will consider candidate positions on these important issues as you make your candidate choices for 2020! Go to https://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/november-2020-candidate-voter-guides/ to find AAUW Voter Issue Guide and twelve Head-to-Head Voter Guides — nine of which were created by Cherry France and Nancy Sigrist.

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PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

Kate Elkins and Katie Perkowski, Public Policy Co-Chairs

GOTV (Get Out The Vote) Best Practices

Recently Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States, shared a video on social media detailing appropriate behavior for the church during an election. "The Episcopal Church does not endorse, support or oppose political candidates for elective office," he said, adding that "in the United States tax-exempt religious charitable organizations are by law prohibited from such endorsement, support or opposition." The pulpit is meant for preaching, not politics.

As a 501(c)3, the AAUW falls into the same IRS designation, and is therefore prohibited from engaging in partisan political activity. The main purpose of a 501(c)3 is typically charitable, educational or religious. The national AAUW Action Fund however, is categorized as a 501(c)4; a social welfare group that can engage in political advocacy and lobbying. As a 501(c)4 the AAUW Action Fund can engage in activities such as publishing voting guides (Check out the 2020 voting guide here: https://www.aauwaction.org/voter-education/voter-issue-guide/), tracking congressional voting records and actively lobbying Congress.

So what does all this mean for us? In our current politically divisive climate, many of us have a lot of anxiety about the upcoming election and a keen desire to do what we can to get out the vote. The good news is as members of AAUW we can still do that! We can host voter registration tables, as long as we register anyone, regardless of political party. We can sponsor candidate forums for folks to learn more about the positions of different candidates, given that we don't elevate one candidate over the other.

We can also distribute unbiased questionnaires to candidates that address AAUW public policy priorities. What we cannot do is coordinate events with partisan groups, such as the Democratic or Republican parties, or their candidate's campaigns. When representing AAUW, we cannot endorse or oppose candidates for public office – at all.

What's a simple way to remember the do's and don'ts of GOTV? I like to think of it as "not people, policy!" No names needed! No candidate names, no political party names – just the issues here, folks! Like the yard signs you might see peppered throughout Carlisle - "Love is Love, Black Lives Matter, Science is Real, Women's Rights are Human Rights, etc." Even as an active duty military spouse (whose husband must remain decidedly non-partisan), I can have a policy-type sign in front of my house. In the same way, AAUW can promote our public policy priorities.

Now as an individual, you are welcome to engage in political activity as you see fit. Volunteer for phone banking (or texting) for the candidates that inspire you. Volunteer to be a poll worker! At the end of the day, the most important thing is that we have our own voting plans in place and that we encourage others we know to do the same – encouraging a friend to vote (or ten! how about ten friends?!) is a simple way that you can make a contribution towards making our democracy continue to work as it should.

Katie Perkowski Public Policy Co-Chair

Important Election/Voter Dates to Remember

Visit votespa.com for comprehensive and updated voting information!

October 19, 2020	Last day to REGISTER before the November election		
October 27, 2020	Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot		
November 3, 2020	Last day for County Boards of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8 P.M.)		
November 3, 2020	GENERAL ELECTION Polls are open from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M.		

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Branch Programs

Stacey Gatch and Judy Wheaton, Program Vice Presidents

The Program Committee has great programs to offer in 2020 over Zoom! Due to the unknowns with COVID-19, scheduling is very fluid.

Watch for details as the date approaches.

December 5, 2020 10am Holiday Brunch
Challenges for College Women - Single Parent Scholarship
Program at Wilson College (tentative): The hope is to meet inperson for our usual wonderful holiday luncheon, but if not,
we will Zoom along from home.

January 26, 2021 7pm

Financial Workshop #2: This month, the workshop started in October will continue. The content this month will depend on member input from the October workshops!

February 23, 2021 11am

Close to home: Business recovery in Carlisle. More details to come.

March 23, 2021 7pm

Women supporting Women: Our own members speak. A panel of AAUW Carlisle members will speak of their experiences with AAUW and beyond. This is a great chance to get to know each other better and share our stories.

April 27, 2021 6pm

The Scholarship Banquet to celebrate the recipients of the Higher Education Scholarship.

May 25, 2021 7pm

We have a few things up our collective sleeves for our May meeting, but aren't quite ready to share the details yet!

Caught in the Crossfire: Judging in a Time of Political Turmoil

AAUW Carlisle was honored to present **Caught in the Crossfire: Judging in a Time of Political Turmoil** on September 22 via Zoom to over 60 individuals to include AAUW Carlisle members, Penn State law students and other members of the Carlisle and Dickinson community. And a reporter from The Sentinel who wrote the September 25, above the fold, article Politics and the Judiciary.

The program was a monumental effort by AAUW Carlisle member Mary (Cherry) France and we are all exceedingly grateful for her wisdom, hard work, and insights in selecting such a prestigious panel. The panelists consisted of The Honorable John E. Jones III, Chief Judge, District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania; The Honorable Jennifer P. Wilson, Judge, District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania; The Honorable Christylee L. Peck, Judge, Court of Common Pleas of Cumberland County; Danielle M. Conway, Dean and Donald J. Farage, Professor of Law, Penn State Dickinson School of Law; and MODERATOR Sarah Niebler, PhD, Associate Professor, Political Science Department Chair, Dickinson College.





The panelists provided their thoughts on the various roles judges play in our legal system and how they carry out their responsibilities in today's politically-charged environment. Additionally, they discussed the selection process for judgeship and the diversity of women in the judicial system. And finally, what they as judges today wished the public knew about the role of a judge, the role and purpose of the judicial system in government, and how an individual can become a judge either through election or appointment.

The program provided key and insightful comment on major issues facing the third branch of government in United States and Pennsylvania courts today and we appreciate Cherry's dedication in providing us and the viewership the opportunity to learn from such a skilled and knowledgeable group of local leaders.

Judy Wheaton Program VP Page 10 Branching Out

INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES

Wendy Armour Dickinson, Interest Group Chair

Breakfast Club and Dine Out are on a COVID break.

BOOK GROUP

Meets the 1st Monday of the month, September - May in members' homes. For Host location, please see page 1 calendar or the Yearbook. We will meet by Zoom until meeting inside is safe. If you are interested in joining a discussion, please advise the hostess by the Friday before the Monday discussion. If meeting via Zoom, the meeting link will be sent to those who RSVP'd. The book descriptions are in Goodreads. See website for current and past reading lists. https://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/book-group/

October 5 The Dutch House Ann Patchett Host: Patricia Markows	7 pm ski	February 1 The Moment of Lift Melinda Gates Host: TBD	1 pm	May 3 American Dirt Jeanine Cummins Host: TBD	7 pm
November 2 In the Woods Tana French Host: TBD	1 pm	March 1 Born a Crime Trevor Noah Host: TBD	1 pm	June 7 Year-end dinner and s 2021 – 2022 Fiddler's at Mayapple	
January 4 Chances Are Richard Russo Host: TBD	1 pm	April 5 Rebecca Daphne du Maurer Host: Wendy Armour D	7 pm Dickinson		

Exploring DIVERSITY and INCLUSION

While we are searching for a member to accept the Diversity & Inclusion Chair position on the AAUW Carlisle board, this section is open to anyone who wishes to share their thoughts, recommendations, etc. Send them to apehle@outlook.com by the 20th of the month for the next month's newsletter.

Thanks to Nancy Sigrist and Wendy Amour Dickinson for an amazing event, "Racism: Let's Begin the Dialog", on August 18th. Two topics emerged as topics for further understanding.

- Implicit Bias
 - o This is a quick definition https://perception.org/research/implicit-bias/
 - o Project Implicit of Harvard University is the most referred to bias assessment. Take an assessment yourself to begin your journey of personal understanding. https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html
 - o AAUW asked Harvard Project Implicit to create an assessment around women in leadership and it was included in the research <u>Barriers & Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership</u>.
- Microaggressions
 - Are thinly veiled, everyday instances of racism, homophobia, sexism (and more) that you see in the world. Sometimes it's an insult, other times it's an errant comment or gesture.
 - o Listen (21 minutes) or read this interview for a better understanding. <u>Microaggressions Are A Big Deal: How To</u> Talk Them Out And When To Walk Away.

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AAUW Carlisle 2020-2021 Board Members

Elected Officers

President - Ann Pehle

Membership VPs –Virginia Mauk, Gail D'Urso Program VPs –Stacey Gatch, Judy Wheaton Finance Officers – Barb Attivo, Linda Brunski

Secretary – Angelica Mishra

Past President - Linkey Green

Appointed Committee Chairs

AAUW Funds – Becky Morgenthal

Communications - Pat Markowski

College/University Liaison - OPEN

Community Activities – OPEN

Diversity and Inclusion - OPEN

Historian - Rosemary Smith

Interest Groups – Wendy Armour Dickinson

Newsletter - Shirley Gehringer

Public Policy - Kate Elkins, Katie Perkowski

Scholarship - Lillian Wong

Social Media - OPEN

STEM - Barb Attivo, Lillian Wong

Yearbook - Carmen Eiserman

Branching *Out* is published August to June by the AAUW Carlisle (PA) Branch.

Articles and photos should be submitted to Shirley Gehringer at shirleygehringer@gmail.com by the 20th of the month. Include the word newsletter and month in the email subject.

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

Like us on Facebook: @AAUWCarlisle

The Board welcomes questions:

aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com

Not receiving branch information?

Make sure emails from

<u>aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com</u>

aren't going into your junk or spam folder.

Get Active

Open Board positions

Board members are responsible for a function and are the go-to person for all matters pertaining to that area of responsibility. The officer or appointed Chair (ideally) will form a branch member committee to implement.

The Board meets on the second Tuesday of September, November, January, March, May and June.

College/University Liaison

Branch liaison with Dickinson College and AAUW Dickinson. Promotes AAUW to surrounding colleges and universities.

Community Activities

Coordinates the social activities for branch members to enjoy each other's company and share new experiences.

Diversity & Inclusion

Guide our efforts to purposefully design programming to cover diversity themes and encourage members to be present at community events that support diverse collaborators.

Social Media

Manage branch's Facebook page. Twitter and Instagram too, if interested.

Contact me (apehle@outlook.com or 401-644-6488) for more information and to discuss your interest. It would be great to have you join the leadership team of AAUW Carlisle.

Committees seeking members

Fundraising

Contact Becky Morgenthal (<u>bhmorgenthal@gmail.com</u>) to learn more.

Membership

Contact Virginia Maul (<u>virginia.mauk@gmail.com</u>) or Gail D'Urso (<u>gailcdurso@gmail.com</u>) for more information and to discuss your interest.

Scholarship

Contact Lillian Wong (<u>wongtooth@comcast.net</u>) to learn more. See page 3.

