

Membership Social and Silent Auction

SOCIALIZE: (verb) to gather and mix for pleasant conversation and good food; people coming together with a common interest or bond (sounds like us!).

The AAUW August Social kicks off the new membership year. This annual social is a chance to gather, reconnect and get to know each other a bit better. The Social will be held on Tuesday, **August 24 at 6:00 p.m.** at Second Presbyterian Church.

Dinner is on AAUW this year! No need to bring anything but yourselves. Select one of these two options for dinner catered by Grazery when you RSVP: **1) the Motley Crop Salad** (carrots, broccoli, cabbage, almonds & sesame seeds) with a roll and dessert OR **2) a Hummus Plate** with veggies, pita bread and dessert.

The evening will feature the popular Silent Auction. Contributions for the Silent Auction are welcome. See the article below from Becky Morgenthal, AAUW Funds Chair, for more information regarding donations for this AAUW fundraiser.

In order to minimize covid risks, we will practice social distancing and unvaccinated members are asked to wear masks (except when dining). Please RSVP to Virginia Mauk at virginia.mauk@gmail.com or call 240.338.2862 by **August 18 with your reply and dinner selection.** For more information, refer to the invitation on page 11.

*Gail D'Urso & Virginia Mauk
Membership Vice Presidents*

Silent Auction Items Needed

One of the major fundraising events of the year for AAUW Carlisle is the Silent Auction that has traditionally been a feature of the August Social. Members are always generous in donating items for auction, and attendees have been generous with their bids for quality items.

To plan for the best possible array of items for auction, the funds committee this year is asking that members wishing to provide an item for auction will register the item in advance.

Guidelines for donated items are simple. Items for auction should be new, unused or unopened, and of good quality. Handmade items, seasonal décor, and homemade edibles are welcome. Related items should be grouped into a container (Bag, Box or Basket) and considered one item for bidding. Donors should set the opening bid at a price that honors the value of the item and is an attractive starting point that encourages competitive bidding.

If you are interested in donating an item for the silent auction, please complete the form below, and return it to Pat Markowski one of three ways: Phone: 717-458-8591; email: pmarks11@comcast.net; or USPS: 88 Presidents Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA.

Item Reservations must be received by August 15, 2021

Upcoming Events

WATCH for EMAILS from aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com for updates on ALL events			
August 5	1:00 pm	Public Policy Committee Meeting	At Katie Perkowski's House, See page 9
August 10	7:00 pm	Listening Circles	On Zoom, see page 6 to register
August 11	9:30 am	DEIB Committee Meeting	On Zoom
August 12	11:00 am	Cumberland Co. Historical Society Exhibit	See page 8
August 14	9:00 am	Breakfast Club at Helena's Chocolate Café & Creperie	See page 7
August 15		Silent Auction Donation Forms Due	See page 1 and 12
August 24	6:00 pm	Welcome Social	See page 1 and 11

Thank you for your donations!

Thank you so much to the following members who donated handmade items for our basket contribution to the AAUW Pennsylvania Summer Retreat Fundraiser. The following members donated items they purchased and, in many cases, made with their own hands! Gail also had the brilliant idea for the title: A Handmade's Tale Basket. It made for a witty and beautiful basket that I was proud to send to the winning bidder. Thanks so much ladies! Contributors: Virginia Mauk, Janet Kascur, Mary Berwick, Holly Smith, Kathleen Gorak, Carolyn Freberg, Gail D'Urso, and Judy Wheaton.

Stacey Gatch

Many thanks go to Stacey Gatch and all who contributed items to fill a basket of handmade goods for the AAUW PA Summer Retreat Silent Auction on July 24th. Our "Handmade's Tale Basket" was one of many donations that helped to raise a total of \$1397 for the Greatest Need Fund. It was a lovely collection of goods and folks appreciated the witty title, too. Great job, Stacey and team!

*Kathleen Gorak
President*

Dates to Remember

August 3, 2021

Black Women's Equal Pay Day marks the approximate date a Black woman must work into the new year to make what a white non-hispanic man made at the end of the previous year. The 2021 wage gap for Black women compared to non-Hispanic white men is \$0.63.

August 26, 2021

Women's Equality Day commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution in 1920, thereby granting women the right to vote.

From the President

Since the 1930's, AAUW Carlisle has kicked off its Branch year with an ingathering event. Initially, this was a picnic held outside in members' gardens - the very first one at 228 Conway Street. As time went on, the Branch moved indoors and, eventually, decided to rename the 'August Picnic' to the 'August Social.' Despite the changes in name and location, the purpose of this event has never deviated from its original purpose - to gather members together after a summer hiatus to reconnect and begin a new year of programs and activities.

This year, commit yourself to taking on at least one volunteer task - a 'one and done' sort of commitment such as signing on to be a Branch meeting hostess, or a longer term commitment such as serving on a committee.

This year when we gather together for our August Social, please bring donations of feminine hygiene products for the YWCA Pad Pantry for Women. Our support over the years of this initiative has enabled the YWCA to meet a basic need for girls and women in our community, even during the pandemic.

Our relationship with the YWCA of Carlisle and Cumberland County is but one of several community partnerships we've built and maintained over the years. We are stronger together with our community partners by expanding our network of contacts who support our mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

It is also true that we are stronger together *within* the Branch when all of our members commit themselves to the work of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. This year, commit yourself to taking on at least one volunteer task - a 'one and done' sort of commitment such as signing on to be a Branch meeting hostess, or a longer term commitment such as serving on a committee. As we resume meeting in person this month, let's be sure to also resume doing the work that needs to be done in support of gender equity. Be sure to check out the Super Sign-Up Table at the August Social to find a volunteer task that perfectly fits your interest, ability and available time -

YOUR BRANCH NEEDS YOU!

Kathleen Gorak
President

Many thanks to Cindy Sutton for setting up a wonderful tour of Dickinson College, through [The House Divided Project](#), where we learned about the school's history and connection with slavery. Our tour guides were fantastic and we hope will soon become members of an AAUW student organization at Dickinson. How could they not be impressed after meeting this group, after all? After the tour, a nice lunch with friends at Kimberly's Café and Creamery topped off the morning perfectly.

I highly recommend visiting The House Divided Studio yourself and checking out the walking tour. It was very enlightening! They are open by appointment now, but plan on having some office hours in the fall. Here is a link for more information.

<https://housedivided.dickinson.edu/sites/>

Stacey Gatch



Remembering Virginia Mueller

Virginia's CALC family put together a beautiful celebration to honor her on July 16. As dear as she was to us, the depth of her relationships with her artist friends and their love and respect was evident.

It was just like Virginia to leave instructions for the gathering, including her favorite hors d'oeuvres and wine. Carrie Breschi from CALC was her dear friend and executor of her estate and led the celebration. She and Virginia's granddaughter gave a touching tribute and invited others to speak. Another friend who is a singer sang Amazing Grace to close out the evening.

Carrie and CALC Executive Director, Becky Richeson, did a fabulous job of preparing the gallery. Virginia's paintings had been shipped to her grandson in Oregon, but they had images of all of them and chose many of them to print and hang around the gallery, along with beautiful photos of Virginia over the years.

Carrie shared Virginia's piece below, along with Virginia's commentary from her gallery website. It helps explain why she was drawn to Public Policy, where we hope the ripples of our work might make a difference in other's lives.

In the Chaos Theory, science tells us with "The Butterfly Effect" that the tiniest ripple within a system can lead to a larger, unpredictable future result in that system.

If so imagine the effect our thoughts and actions have on ours and others' lives?



The Butterfly Effect

I know Virginia was smiling down on all of us and will continue to guide us in the future. Bon Voyage, Virginia!

Kate Elkins
Social Media Chair

What's Up in Pennsylvania? News from AAUW Pennsylvania

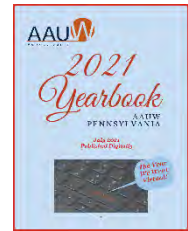
2021 Summer Retreat

The 2021 Summer Retreat was held on Saturday, July 24th. Six AAUW Carlisle members attended. Kate Elkins represented the branch on the Five Star panel, discussing our recent designation as an AAUW Five Star branch. The donated basket from AAUW Carlisle (see Stacey Gatch's article on page 2) fetched a winning bid of \$125 in the silent auction.



AAUW Carlisle member Peggy Jennings, also serves on the AAUW Pennsylvania Board. Check out her work. June **Keystoner** <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/files/2021/05/June-2021-Keystoner-FINAL.pdf>

2021 Yearbook – the historic record of AAUW Pennsylvania. <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/files/2021/07/Yearbook-2021-FINAL.pdf>. Count how many times AAUW Carlisle and members are mentioned. 😊



Ann Pehle
Past President

News from National AAUW Update

With the start of each fiscal year, July 1st, the recipients of AAUW grants and fellowships are announced. [Fellowships and Grants](#) were awarded to more than 260 women and community projects for 2021-2022. And, AAUW awarded nearly \$5 million in fellowships and grants to women pursuing advanced degrees.

Julia Brown, AAUW Chair, announced in a July 15th email that Kim Churches, AAUW CEO is resigning effective October 1st. It is important to read the announcement yourself. If you didn't see the email and want a copy, ask Ann Pehle for a copy. (call/text 401-644-6488, apehle@outlook.com)

Ann Pehle
Past President



[AAUW's Five-Star National Recognition Program](#) rewards branches for aligning their work with the AAUW strategic plan and other initiatives that foster the organization's mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. **AAUW Carlisle is a FIVE STAR BRANCH**, earning a star for Program, Advancement, Communication & External Relations, Public Policy & Research, and Governance & Sustainability. This achievement reflects our commitment and dedication to the AAUW mission.

Exploring Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging

Beth McKinley, Chair



Announcing New Pilot Program, Listening Circles

While the work of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging is the responsibility of all branch members, the DEIB Committee has been working diligently to understand the external perspective of our community partners by conducting interviews with key stakeholders like the YWCA, Hope Station, League of Women Voters and many others. In the next few months, the committee will begin work on an internal audit to better understand how this work is incorporated throughout our branch.

While that work is underway, the DEIB Committee, with the unanimous endorsement of the AAUW Carlisle Board, will launch a new pilot program, called Listening Circles.

The objective of Listening Circles is to provide opportunities for the members of our branch to hear and learn from those who are experiencing marginalization, thus creating a deeper understanding of the specific issues and the underlying causes and solutions. The intended result is a branch that is more diverse, equitable, inclusive, and affirming.

We are very pleased to kick off our new program with Sonya Brown, Shelter Supervisor for Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland and Perry Counties.



Do You Hear What I Feel?

August 10th at 7:00pm

Click here to register: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvcOqhQD0rGtfOoqifGux8N5PharKptRZ5>

INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES

Wendy Armour Dickinson, Interest Group Chair

Finished your summer read and looking for new books to try? Check out the 2021/2022 book club selections below!

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club at Helena's Chocolate Café & Creperie August 14th at 9am. Please RSVP to Wendy by August 10th - 717-514-3322 or warmourdickinson@hotmail.com.

BOOK GROUP

Meets the 1st Monday of the month, September – May in a member's home. If you are interested in joining a discussion, please contact Wendy Dickinson by phone 717-514-3322 or email mail to: warmourdickinson@hotmail.com. The book descriptions are in Goodreads. See website for current and past reading lists. <https://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/book-group/>

Date and Time	Book Selection	Home of:
09/13, 7 pm	The Thornbirds by Colleen McCullough	Pat Yerkes
10/04, 7 pm	Gifts from the Sea by Anne Morrow Lindbergh	Virginia Mauk
11/01, 1 pm	One True Thing by Anna Quindlen	Wendy Armour Dickinson
01/03, 1 pm	Destiny of the Republic by Candice Millard	Kathleen Brennan
02/07, 1 pm	The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett	Wendy Armour Dickinson
03/07, 1 pm	Susan, Linda, Tina, Cokie by Lisa Napoli	Darlis Simonton
04/04, 7 pm	The Searcher by Tana French	Cherry France
05/02, 7 pm	The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson	Cindi Sutton
06/06, 6 pm	Evening Out to Pick Books	Fiddlers' at Mayapple

Fundraising

Becky Morgenthal, AAUW Funds Chair

I want to thank all of the AAUW members who supported and sponsored our Kaffe Klatsch fundraisers. We have held 3 Kaffe Klatsch on June 29, July 10 and July 20. I hosted the program on June 29 and I had a great time with my 5 attendees. I also attended the program on July 10 at Pat Markowski's home where 7 attendees had a wonderful time. Cindy Sutton hosted our last event and they certainly had a great time, too. As of the writing of this piece, our Kaffe Klatsch program raised the following amounts:

Becky Morgenthal's 5 attendees plus donations by Nancy Sigrist, Becky Morgenthal and Ann Pehle totaled \$180.
Pat Markowski's 7 attendees plus donations by Pat Markowski and Patty Stibitz totaled \$90.
Cindy Sutton's 9 attendees will total \$90.

Total amount raised was \$360 toward the general fund for AAUW Carlisle's future projects. Thanks to the AAUW Fund Committee for creating the Kaffe Klatsch fundraiser.

Becky Morgenthal
AAUW Fund Chair

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Cindy Sutton, Community Activities Chair

Participating in community activities is a great way to get to know the members of AAUW Carlisle Branch as well as enjoy what our local community has to offer. We hope you will be able to join us! Please RSVP to all events to Cindy Sutton at suttonc3@gmail.com or 717-385-0242. As always, guests are welcome!

Thursday, August 12, 2021, 11:00 A.M.

Cumberland County Historical Society 21 North Pitt St. Carlisle

View the current special exhibit “A Women’s Place: The Changing Role of Women in Cumberland County.” On two floors, the exhibit displays important artifacts and features many women who were influential in the life and culture of the county.

After the exhibit join us for lunch at Molly Pitcher Brewery, 139 West High St. Carlisle.

Thursday, September 23, 2021, 4:00 P.M.

Castlerigg Wine Shop 110 South Hanover St. Carlisle

Local author J.M. West will discuss her research and answer questions about her latest book, “Madam Bessie Jones: Her Life and Times.” In this book Jones emerges from the shadows of Carlisle history running her brothel from the Roaring Twenties through the chaotic sixties until her murder in 1972. It deals with racism, misogyny, poverty and all things conspiring to form a house of ill repute. The book can be purchased at History on High, Amazon, The Bookery at Bosler Library, or Sunbury Press. Ms. West will gladly sign her book if you bring it with you, but feel free to enjoy this activity even if you have not read the book.

The wine shop will be open to purchase beverages and snacks.

Thursday, October 7, 2021, 1:30 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

The Bower: Native Garden and Sculpture Park 1190 Bower Rd. Shermans Dale, PA

Spend the afternoon exploring this private project that just opened to the public this spring. Featuring woodlands, naturalized landscape, gardens and large scale sculpture and land art, the six acre meadow is surrounded by thirty acres of woodlands so there is plenty to see. Our group is limited to fifteen people and we will carpool once we know who is going. Dress comfortably and bring a snack. To learn more about this venue check the website:

www.thegardenbower.com

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Gail D’Urso and Virginia Mauk, Membership VP

You’re the BEST!

Thanks to all that renewed your AAUW Carlisle membership! Your renewal shows your dedication to our mission of equity for women and girls. The AAUW Carlisle board has been working hard this summer to create another exciting and informative agenda for you this year.

Members renewing prior to July 1 were placed in a drawing for the opportunity to win \$50 of Love Buck\$ to be spent in downtown Carlisle. The two lucky winners are Stephanie D’Amore and Cindy Murphy! Enjoy!

Thank you all again for your support of AAUW Carlisle!

Virginia Mauk, Membership VP

Gail D’Urso, Membership VP

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

Katie Perkowski, Public Policy Chair

AAUW Public Policy Committee - Join Us!

We've had a little time off this summer and now we're looking ahead to the upcoming year which will hopefully have more elements of normalcy than last year!

What do members of the public policy committee do? We meet once a month to share ideas about what public policy activities might support the interests of AAUW. Current primary areas of interest include voter rights and education, economic security (particularly equal pay, childcare and family paid leave), diversity and equity, and educational opportunities for women and girls. We encourage members to host topic talks or topic walks for membership in PPC areas of interest. Some of our committee members enjoy taking lead on event planning or hosting voting registration tables - others prefer to be engaged in meetings, share their thoughts on policy priorities or engage in research to see what might be coming around in terms of legislation that might impact our areas of interest. Join us, and you can do whatever fits your time and interests best!

This year we'll be focusing on voter registration, assisting with events at Hope Station and YWCA, educational events for membership with community partners, candidate forums ahead of the election, topic talks and hopefully the realization of the postponed Beyond Suffrage event in the spring.

We're currently primarily meeting by Zoom, though if there is consensus (and nice weather) we'll meet in person outside. We typically meet the first Thursday of the month at 1pm - and our first meeting this month will be on my porch at 223 Taunton Drive, Thursday, August 5 at 1pm. Feel free to stop by!

Katie Perkowski
AAUW Carlisle Public Policy Chair

Check out the latest Public Policy Priorities for AAUW!

The strength of the AAUW Public Policy Priorities is that they originate and end with the membership. In the fall of even-numbered years the AAUW Public Policy Committee (APPC) solicits feedback from members and staff to develop proposed Public Policy Priorities based on viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential for distinctive contribution. Once the draft is developed, it is posted online for a comment period and submission of additional proposed revisions. The APPC then finalizes the proposed Public Policy Priorities, and the AAUW Board of Directors reviews, amends as necessary, and approves them before they go to the membership for a vote in the spring of odd-numbered years.

This year's changes based on member leader feedback.

- Refinement and added specificity regarding AAUW's commitment to addressing systemic racism
- Refinement of our commitment to equitable access to higher education for all
- Emphasis on the importance of high-quality data collection

You can find the newly adopted priorities by clicking here: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/aauw-public-policy-priorities/>

Public Policy Topic Walks

BIAS with Cherry France held June 2nd

The hit Broadway musical, Avenue Q, includes a satirical song called, “Everyone’s A Little Bit Racist.” While the characters in the musical are puppets, and the song is light-hearted, the song suggests that everyone is biased to some degree. Numerous studies have demonstrated that bias is part of human nature. The danger lies in thinking that we are always guided by objectivity, which can blind us to our own prejudicial attitudes and behaviors.

On June 2, six women participated in AAUW Carlisle’s Topic Walk at Thornwald Park. The purpose of the walk was to explore the topic of implicit bias while enjoying exercise in the park. Prior to the walk participants were encouraged to take two short online implicit bias tests – one on racial bias and the other on gender bias on the career/family tracks. After walking and discussing their experiences with the tests in pairs, the six group members gathered to discuss what they had learned about themselves by taking the tests, what weaknesses they perceived in the tests, and how they encountered bias in their own lives. With a small group, everyone was able to share their insights and personal stories and to explore how their attitudes may have developed. The participants agreed that it was a great afternoon of consciousness raising, friendly conversation and exercise.



If you weren’t able to join us on our walk, you can still participate in the implicit bias assessment on your own. Here are a few to try:

Gender - Career. This IAT often reveals a relative link between family and females and between career and males.

<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/Launch?study=/user/demo.us/demo.gendercareer.0003/careerdemo.expt.xml>

Race ('Black - White' IAT). This IAT requires the ability to distinguish faces of European and African origin. It indicates that most Americans have an automatic preference for white over black.

<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/Launch?study=/user/demo.us/demo.race.0006/racedemo.expt.xml>



2021 AAUW August Social

SOCIALIZE: *so-cial-ize; verb: to gather and mix for pleasant conversation and good food; people coming together with a common interest or bond (sounds like us!).*

August 24th at 6:00 p.m.

Second Presbyterian Church

(528 Garland Street, Carlisle)

Join AAUW Carlisle members to kick off the 2021-2022 Membership Year at the August Social. Enjoy dinner, reconnect with other AAUW members and enjoy the always popular Silent Auction.



Dinner is on AAUW and will be catered by Grazery!

RSVP by August 18 with your reply & choice of:


- 1. Motley Crop Salad** (carrots, broccoli, cabbage, almonds & sesame seeds) a roll and dessert.
- 2. Hummus Plate** with veggies, pita bread and dessert.

Please RSVP Virginia Mauk at virginia.mauk@gmail.com or 240.338.2862 not later than August 18th.

*Covid protocols will be followed. Members not vaccinated are asked to wear a mask except when dining.

Silent Auction Item - Registration Form

If you are interested in donating an item for the silent auction, please complete the form below, and return it to Pat Markowski one of three ways: Phone: 717-458-8591; email: pmarks11@comcast.net; or USPS: 88 Presidents Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA. Item **Reservations must be received by August 15, 2021**

Name _____		
Contact Info:		
Telephone: _____		
Email: _____		
Item	Description	Suggested Opening Bid \$
Art/Wall Decor		
Themed Basket		
Craft Item/Kit		
Gift Card		
Baked Goods		
Jellies/Jams/Preserves		
Other Food Item/s		
Plant/Arrangement		
Other		

**AAUW Carlisle
2021-2022 Board Members**

Elected Officers

President – Kathleen Gorak

Membership VPs – Gail D’Urso, Virginia Mauk

Program VPs – Judy Wheaton, Janet Kacsur

Finance Officers – Linda Brunski, Mary France

Secretary – Angelica Mishra

Past President – Ann Pehle

Appointed Committee Chairs

AAUW Funds – Becky Morgenthal

Communications – Pat Markowski

Community Activities – Cindy Sutton

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging – Beth McKinley

Historian – Kathleen Brennan

Interest Groups – Wendy Armour Dickinson

Newsletter – Nancy Sigrist

Public Policy – Katie Perkowski

Scholarship – Lillian Wong

Social Media – Kate Elkins

STEM – Barb Attivo, Lillian Wong

Trailblazers – Gail D’Urso

Webmaster – Ann Pehle

Yearbook – Mary Brunski

Zoommaster – Stacey Gatch

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

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

Like us on Facebook: @AAUWCarlisle

The Board welcomes questions:

aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com

Get Active

Program Hosts Needed

The 2021-2022 Programs Committee is asking for your help. We need hosts to support our meetings for the coming year. Please consider sponsoring these wonderful events as we begin in-person meetings again at Dickinson College. Thank you for your continued support.

Please contact Janet Kacsur (jkacsur@hotmail.com) or Judy Wheaton (judywheaton@gmail.com).

Committees seeking members

Fundraising

Contact Becky Morgenthal (bhmorgenthal@gmail.com) to learn more.

Membership

Contact Gail D’Urso (gailcdurso@gmail.com) or Virginia Mauk (virginia.mauk@gmail.com) for more information and to discuss your interest.

Public Policy

Contact Katie Perkowski kperkowski@gmail.com

Not receiving branch information?

Make sure emails from

aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com

aren’t going into your junk or spam folder.



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