

## December Brunch: Something New!

Hard to believe but the holiday season will soon be here. This year our December 4<sup>th</sup> Brunch at Dickinson College will experience some changes. Unfortunately, because of the labor shortage, Dickinson will not provide meals this year. We are fortunate to have a wonderful local program that can provide an exciting alternative.

The Sassy Gourmet offers a variety of wholesome handcrafted foods especially made with care by persons with disabilities. The Arc of Cumberland and Perry Counties (CPARC) provides a safe living and work environment where participants can thrive and grow. Their Center for Industrial Training provides job training and employment to individuals with disabilities and the Sassy Gourmet is one of their programs.

The Sassy Gourmet will offer our brunch a wonderful, boxed meal selection of sandwiches, salads, wraps, beverages, and desserts. Additionally, they can meet all dietary needs to include vegetarian and gluten free.

Please take a look at their website, <https://cparc.org/> to learn more about this amazing group. We are very excited to develop this new relationship and look forward to trying their delicious foods.

**Judy Wheaton**  
**Program Vice President**

### Donations Accepted!

Please remember  
to bring toilet  
paper to brunch  
for our annual  
donation to  
Community Cares.

### ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 2ND

The polls are open 7am to 8pm on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The municipal elections are so important to our region. Please vote!

[www.vote.pa.gov](http://www.vote.pa.gov) for more information.



## From the President

Whenever November rolls around, my first thoughts are not about Thanksgiving Day, but rather about Election Day. For while the aftereffects of Thanksgiving activities may be with us for a day or two - depending on how long you're willing to tolerate turkey leftovers - the aftereffects of Election Day activities are far more serious and with us for years. So please make sure to "carve out" some time on Tuesday, November 2nd between 7 am and 8 pm to go vote if you haven't already mailed-in your ballot or taken advantage of early voting at the Board of Elections. Let's make our suffragette foremothers proud!

Speaking of being made proud: Membership VP Virginia Mauk did a wonderful job representing our Branch on the AAUW-PA membership Zoom panel last month. If you missed the Zoom program, let me share the most important take-away from the collective wisdom of the membership experts from around the state: **Membership is an all-Branch activity.** That is to say, recruitment and retention of new members must be the responsibility of every current member for a branch to grow and thrive. So, start scrolling through your Contacts to find a potential member or two to invite to one of our Branch meetings or activities. Additionally, let's promise each other that the next time we have the pleasure of seeing fresh faces in attendance at one of our events we will make those guests feel warmly welcomed by approaching them and getting to know them.

Which brings me to another welcome I would like to make... Longtime member Mary Berwick has generously stepped forward to take on the role of Secretary owing to Robin Turner's recent resignation due to family circumstances. Thank you, Mary, for being game to learn this new position and helping our Branch chronicle its "shenanigans!"

**Kathleen Gorak**  
**President**

### Newsletter Highlights

- Make sure your details are up-to-date in the membership [database](#) today!
- Check out the CASD Candidate Information Page [here](#).
- Program hosts are still needed for Spring – It's easy, bring a snack or beverage to one meeting and receive all of the affection of your AAUW friends for the evening.
- Read about new member Sandy Gilleo – Welcome Sandy! We are glad you are here (and that you shared your story with us)!
- There is no branch meeting in November but check out all of the other chances to see AAUW members on the calendar on page 3 and see you at the Holiday Brunch.

## Upcoming Events

AAUW Events				
Date	Time	Event	Venue and registration links	Link to Article
Nov 1	1:00 pm	Book Club	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="#">Article on page 8</a>
Nov 3	6:00 pm	Dining Out – Pizza Grille	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="#">Article on page 8</a>
Nov 4	1:00 pm	Public Policy Committee Meeting	PEEC 219 N Pitt Street RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	
Nov 11	7:00 pm	AAUW and Diversity Equity Inclusion	Register <a href="#">here</a>	Article on page 5
Nov 17	4:00 pm	Celebrating 140 years of AAUW	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	Article on page 6
Nov 20	9:00 am	Breakfast Club at Sunrise Cafe	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="#">Article on page 8</a>
Nov 30	7:00 pm	Listening Circles – Do You See Me?	Register <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="#">Article on page 7</a>
Dec 4	TBD	Holiday Brunch	Details coming soon	<a href="#">Article on page 1</a>
Dec 10	9:00 am	Mifflinburg Christkindl Market	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="#">Article on page 9</a>

**WATCH for EMAILS from [aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com](mailto:aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com) for updates on ALL events**



Over 40 members of AAUW Carlisle and Harrisburg branches joined together to listen to Barbara Landis share incredible stories about the lives impacted by the Carlisle Indian Industrial School.

## New Member --Sandy Gilleo

New Jersey born and bred, Sandra “Sandy” Gilleo moved from the New Hope, PA area eight years ago, seeking new scenery and new experiences.

In 1997, Sandy retired from a long career teaching students in second to sixth grades. She taught in three schools districts in New Jersey and concluded her career in the New Hope-Solebury, PA school system. Throughout the years, Sandy loved her students and teaching, and after retirement, continued to teach in community settings, including subjects like water aerobics, environmental education and Indian culture.

Sandy is the mother of two grown children, a son who lives in Wisconsin, and a daughter who lives in South Carolina. She is now a kitty mom to two felines, Princess and Blackie. Never one to sit back and do nothing, Sandy volunteers at Hershey Theater, and with the PALS program with Highmark--assisting Highmark clients with services such as rides to medical appointments and grocery shopping. In her leisure time, she enjoys both hand and machine embroidery, and the craft of Irish paper folding. She is also learning the art of quilting.

A former member of the Lower Bucks AAUW branch, Sandy looked at the Carlisle branch website and found the information and activities listed interesting enough that she decided to join. She just attended the Carlisle Industrial Indian School program sponsored jointly by the Harrisburg and Carlisle branches, and says she is impressed with her experiences and the women she has met so far. Sandy wants to be an active member of the branch, saying: “If I see a need and can fill it, I step up.”



AAUW at The Bower - October 7, 2021

Members enjoyed a unique and Beautiful tour at The Bower on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Just one of the fun events planned by our Community Activities Chair. Go to page 10 to see what is coming up next!



## What's Up in Pennsylvania?

Ann Pehle, Past President

AAUW Pennsylvania is pleased to offer virtual programs on a wide variety of topics through the power of Zoom. An example of a COVID modification that was a good idea to continue. The sixth presentation is highlighted below. Watch for invitations and registration information emails from [aauwpainfo@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpainfo@gmail.com).

### **AAUW and Diversity Equity Inclusion** **Thursday, November 11      7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

Melissa Ingram, Chair of the AAUW Inclusion and Equity Committee, will provide updates on what the national committee is working on, the four goals of the committee, and how they changed from last year to this year. Melissa would also like to have an open forum and feedback session and to learn what you need to help with AAUW's DEI goals. She will also highlight the DEI toolkit and provide some suggestions of books that club book groups can read and discuss. Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkdOypqzoqGtackqxjDq6jczWtdXF1HpBB>

### **Pennsylvania Public Policy**

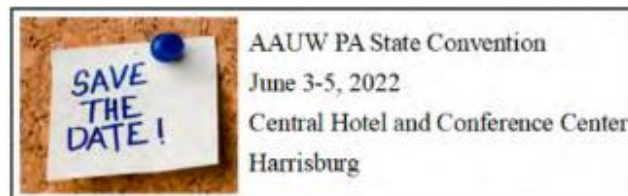
AAUW Pennsylvania has consistently supported fair funding of Pennsylvania public schools. You may have attended the Zoom webinar -- The PA School Funding Lawsuit -- on May 18th and learned about the lawsuit filed in 2014 to challenge the constitutionality of Pennsylvania's state budget funding process. The trial date in Commonwealth Court in Harrisburg is November 12th. Stay current with the proceedings at <https://www.fundourschoolspa.org/trial>.

### **AAUW and AAUW-PA Logo Merchandise Available**



AAUW-PA has collaborated with Lands' End to offer a storefront linked to the AAUW-PA website. You can shop many of Lands' End regular products for men, women, home, office, and more and get the logo added for a small fee. Then they will ship it to you. AAUW-PA will not make any money from your purchases, nor will any money go to AAUW Funds. This is purely a service to our members. Here's the link:

<https://business.landsend.com/store/aauw/>



## News from National Ann Pehle, Past President

2021 marks the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AAUW, making us one of the oldest feminist-based institutions in the United States. To mark this momentous occasion, AAUW will be hosting a webinar series featuring some of our most prestigious AAUW fellowships alumnae and a celebration event. The first webinar in the series was October 27<sup>th</sup> and featured our 1984-85 American Fellow, Dr. Patricia Bell-Scott, an award-winning author and professor emerita of women's studies and human development and family science at the University of Georgia. Her most recent book, [The Firebrand and The First Lady](#), tells the story of how a brilliant writer-turned-activist, who was the granddaughter of a mulatto slave, and the first lady of the United States, whose ancestry gave her membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution, forged an enduring friendship that changed each of their lives, enriched the conversation about race, and added vital fuel to the movement for human rights in America.



Hope you didn't miss the announcement of Gloria Blackwell as AAUW's CEO effective October 18, 2021. After 17 years at AAUW, [Gloria L. Blackwell](#) took on a new role: CEO. "I am incredibly honored and grateful to the Board for valuing my commitment to global gender equity, my leadership at AAUW and the contributions of my high-performing teams," said Blackwell.

Among her [many accomplishments](#) is her longtime management of AAUW's fellowships and grants program, which awarded more than \$70 million to women scholars and programs in the U.S. and overseas. Blackwell was also the driving force behind AAUW's signature programs, including its salary negotiation trainings, which have reached nearly 190,000 people.

"As AAUW proudly celebrates 140 years of advancing equity for women and girls this year, we know that Gloria is the right leader at the right time," said Board Chair Julia Brown.

### You're Invited to "Celebrating 140 Years of AAUW"

AAUW couldn't have made it to 140 years without members and supporters like you. As a small token of thanks, we invite you to a celebratory virtual event on November 17 at 4:00 p.m. We will honor our history and announce the 2021 AAUW Alumnae Recognition Awardee – an outstanding fellowships and grants alumna! [Register now](#) to join the fun.

## Exploring Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging

Beth McKinley, Chair



Join us for the last topic in the Listening Circles pilot program when we welcome leaders in the LGBTQ+ community to share their personal and professional lived experiences.

### Our Guest Panelists

**The Rev. Carla Christopher Wilson, Assistant to the Bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and Associate Pastor at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Lancaster, PA.**



Carla Christopher Wilson is a cultural competency and diversity trainer specializing in Racial Justice and LGBTQIA+ inclusion, survivor empowerment, and trauma-informed care. She is also a renewal pastor with the ELCA Lutheran Church, currently serving as Assistant to the Bishop of Lower Susquehanna Synod in Charge of Justice Ministries where she coordinates mission and outreach in the areas of Racial Justice, LGBTQIA+ Affirmation, Immigration, Disability Inclusion, and Hunger/Housing Advocacy for the southcentral Pennsylvania region.

A former Poet Laureate of York (2011 – 2013), the co-founder of York Equality Fest which became York County Pride, and an award winning and multiple-published writer, Carla has twice received the key to York City for her community empowerment initiatives. She currently serves on the Pennsylvania Commission for LGBTQ Affairs and is a member of the Statewide Policy Council for Lutheran Advocacy Ministries in Pa (LAMPa). She also writes regularly for ELCA World Hunger, Sparkhouse, Sundays and Seasons, Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries, and Disrupt Worship Project.

Carla studied psychology, education, and creative writing at Columbia University in the City of New York and spent years as an educator and case manager in domestic violence shelters, state prison systems, and school districts before receiving her Master of Divinity from United Lutheran Seminary in 2019. She has been the force behind regional campaigns and activism training curriculum for groups like Food and Water Watch, Put People First – PA, the Y.W.C.A. of York County, the United Way of Franklin and York Counties, and several political campaigns. She has also traveled around the globe, from Rutgers and Penn State to organizations in Kosovo, Albania, Flint, Chicago, Baltimore, Phoenix and Philadelphia, as a speaker and trainer.

## Jessi Purdy, Founder and CEO of FIC Human Resource Partners



Jessica Purdy's desire for a more inclusive and accepting society led her to become an Activist, Public Speaker, and Founder of FIC Human Resource Partners, LLC.

Her identity as a panromantic, asexual, transwoman is central to her life and work. She is, as they say, Out and Proud. But rather than 'coming out', she brings people into her confidence, her truth, and her life. It's a combination of her personal experiences and mindset of 'bringing people in' that has made her an effective leader, facilitator, and change agent.

The 'new collar' journey that led to her founding FIC Human Resource Partners began with Military Service as a Legal Specialist. Her nearly 4 years of service ended with an honorable discharge under Don't Ask, Don't Tell. Once she transitioned back into the civilian workforce, she moved up from an hourly wage Service Technician position through Service, Branch, and Regional Manager positions before becoming the Director of Culture and Talent for the C3 Agency. At each step in her journey, she gained new knowledge and experience that helped her develop the skills and tools that she is now offering to organizations such as ours.



## Do You See Me? What it means to be LGBTQ+ in today's society November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

Click here to register: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

## INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES

Wendy Armour Dickinson, Interest Group Chair

Carlisle Branch AAUW has wonderful monthly programs. There is programming focused on AAUW's public policy advocacy as well as diversity. For me, an important part of membership in AAUW is interaction with fellow branch members. These activities bring depth to your AAUW membership. To further enrich your AAUW experience, may I suggest participating in one of our interest groups?

### Book Group

Nov 1 at 1:00 pm - One True Thing - RSVP to Wendy Armour Dickinson [warmourdickinson@hotmail.com](mailto:warmourdickinson@hotmail.com) or 717-514-3322

Jan 3 at 1:00 pm - Destiny of the Republic - RSVP to Kathleen Brennan [brennank@comcast.net](mailto:brennank@comcast.net) or 717-243-5015

### Dine Out

Nov 3 at 6:00 pm - Pizza Grille, 1007 Ritner Highway, Carlisle

RSVP to Wendy Armour Dickinson [warmourdickinson@hotmail.com](mailto:warmourdickinson@hotmail.com) or 717-514-3322

### Breakfast Club

Nov 20 at 9:00 am - Sunrise café, 231 North Hanover Street, Carlisle

RSVP to Wendy Armour Dickinson [warmourdickinson@hotmail.com](mailto:warmourdickinson@hotmail.com) or 718-514-3322

If you are interested in joining one of these groups or starting one for another activity, please contact Wendy Armour Dickinson (717-514-3322 for phone or text OR [warmourdickinson@hotmail.com](mailto:warmourdickinson@hotmail.com)).



## 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 for all events to Cindy Sutton at [suttonc3@gmail.com](mailto:suttonc3@gmail.com) or 717-385-0242. As always, guests are welcome!

### 2021 Mifflinburg Christkindl Market

Inspired by the 700 year old German tradition, the Mifflinburg Christkindl Market is a festive event featuring outdoor huts with unique handmade crafts and traditional foods and treats. Live performances and holiday music entertains guests throughout the day. Website: [www.oldchristkindl.com](http://www.oldchristkindl.com)

Join AAUW members and event leader Kate Elkins as we carpool to the market on **Friday, December 10, 2021**. Plans are to leave Carlisle at 9:00 A.M., spend a few hours at the market and then proceed to the Rusty Rail Brewing Company for a late lunch ([www.rustyrailbrewing.com](http://www.rustyrailbrewing.com)). We will return to Carlisle before 5:00 P.M. As always, guests are welcome. Please RSVP to Cindy Sutton at [suttonc3@gmail.com](mailto:suttonc3@gmail.com) or 717-385-0242.

## YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Gail D'Urso and Virginia Mauk, Membership VP

### Lend a Ride-Add a Voice

Now that colder weather and darker nights are upon us, not all AAUW members feel comfortable driving in the dark. If you know of an AAUW member who may live close, give them a call to arrange a carpool for AAUW events. One of the special things about the Carlisle Branch is our focus on the AAUW mission. By lending a ride, bringing a member to an event, you are increasing attendance at events, building relationships and increasing our VOICE when it comes to community, state and National issues related to women.

If you need assistance identifying those who may need a ride or live close OR you yourself could use a ride, contact Gail D'Urso at [gailcdurso@gmail.com](mailto:gailcdurso@gmail.com) or Virginia Mauk at [virginia.mauk@gmail.com](mailto:virginia.mauk@gmail.com) and they will be happy to connect you with other AAUW members.

***Gail D'Urso & Virginia Mauk***  
***Membership Co-Chairs***

### New AAUW Database: ADD YOURSELF!

Many of you have already added yourself and your information to the new AAUW Carlisle Database. The database will keep track of our member's information to include name, address, phone number, email, education, careers, and skills. It will also help the board keep track of attendees at events, committee membership, volunteer activities, donations, awards, and board positions.

Populating the database is easy because it relies on YOU for the information. By using this link <https://airtable.com/shrr1gJHQwTLRS1C4> you can fill in your own information. Double check for accuracy and click SUBMIT. The database will be populated for the AAUW team to manage information, members and yearbook printing.

If you haven't already done so, please use the link to add yourself and guarantee your information is correct and up to date. For questions, please contact Virginia Mauk at [virginia.mauk@gmail.com](mailto:virginia.mauk@gmail.com).

***Virginia Mauk***  
***Membership Co-Chair***

## PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

Katie Perkowski, Public Policy Chair

### Topic Walk - The Digital Divide

We had beautiful weather for our October Topic Walk on The Digital Divide at Thornwald Park. We were joined by Theresa Rice, the new director of the Professional Empowerment and Educational Center which operates under the umbrella of Hope Station and the YWCA, with assistance from Dickinson College. Theresa had a career as a teacher before she took some time off to be a military spouse and mom. With her youngest son heading to high school, she decided to get back into substitute teaching, and quickly learned that technology has totally changed how subjects are learned and taught in our schools. She was interested in the work at PEEC because she had experienced something of a digital divide in terms of her own career. So here are a few takeaways from our conversation on The Digital Divide:

1. It's definitely not just a socio economic issue, but also a generational issue.
2. It has an impact across the political spectrum - the lack of internet access and digital education affects both rural areas and urban areas
3. The current rate of technological advances demands a deliberative life-long learning approach. This is particularly important to address for women who step out of the workforce for caregiving and might find themselves behind when they return to their careers.

Theresa spoke with our group about how the center works to bridge the digital divide in Carlisle and invited interested AAUW members to volunteer at PEEC helping to sign in guests using computers and assisting them as necessary. If you would like more information about volunteering with PEEC, reach out to her at [ricet@dickinson.edu](mailto:ricet@dickinson.edu).

### CASD Candidate Information Page

We have created an online voter information page highlighting CASD school board candidates ahead of November's municipal election.

The Carlisle Area School District has four open school board positions in the upcoming election on November 2, 2021. The CASD Candidate Information Page is an opportunity for the voting public to read short bios of the candidates and view statement videos in which the candidates share 1) why they are running for a school board position and 2) what their top priorities will be as an elected school board member.

In addition to the candidate videos, visitors to the page can also learn more about the requirements and expectations associated with serving on a school board through video content featuring current CASD Board President, Paula Bussard.

The six candidates vying for the four open school board positions are: Joanna Birchett, Sue Bower, Rick Coplen, Anne Lauritzen, David Miller and Jerry W. Stirkey. The voter information page can be found at <https://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/casd/>

**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** – Mary Berwick

**Past President** – Ann Pehle

**Appointed Committee Chairs**

**AAUW Funds** – Becky Morgenthal

**College Liaison** – Donna Bickford

**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](mailto:aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com)

## Get Active

### Program Hosts Needed

The 2021-2022 Programs Committee is still looking for program hosts for the 2022 meetings. Sign up today! Thank you for your continued support.

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

### Committees seeking members

#### Fundraising

Contact Becky Morgenthal ([bhmorgenthal@gmail.com](mailto:bhmorgenthal@gmail.com)) to learn more.

#### Membership

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

#### Public Policy

Contact Katie Perkowski [kperkowski@gmail.com](mailto:kperkowski@gmail.com)

***Not receiving branch information?***

***Make sure emails from***

***[aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com](mailto:aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com)***

***aren’t going into your junk or spam folder.***



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