

AAUW Carlisle's Awards Season for 2022

At our May Branch Meeting, we honored members for their efforts during the 2021-2022 year with member and achievement awards. We also recognized *two outstanding women* in our community with the AAUW Gateway to Equity Award, which honors individuals that have shown by action and philosophy the promotion of the AAUW mission of equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Gateway to Equity Award Winners

Jeanna Som is a recipient of our 2022 Gateway to Equity Award, for her vision and courage in expanding an established program for at-risk children during a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic. Jeanna is the director of SPY, a free summer program for at-risk youth which was established as an outreach program of St. John's Episcopal Church in 1986, enrolling 30 (over ninety percent low-income) students underperforming academically. For more than 30 years, SPY has offered eight weeks of free summer academic and social enrichment programming, expanding over time to serve 50 children each summer.



During the 2019 – 20 school year, when the country was adjusting to life in a pandemic, SPY, under the leadership of Som, created a new iteration of its programming in order to provide access to virtual school for **(continued on [page 12](#))**

2022 AAUW Pennsylvania Member and Achievement Awards

Every January, the Executive Committee nominates members whose exemplary work on behalf of our Branch deserves the special recognition of an AAUW Pennsylvania Member Award. Our selected awardees for 2022 were hailed and presented certificates at our May Branch Meeting. They will also be listed in the *AAUW PA Convention Yearbook*. AAUW Carlisle Branch winners of the 2022 AAUW Pennsylvania Member Awards are:

Outstanding Woman – Pat Markowski

The Outstanding Woman Award honors a member who exemplifies the ideals of AAUW, shows a commitment to the community, and is an inspiration and role model for Branch members.

Pat is a vital link in the communication chain of Finance, Membership, President, and Communications when a new person joins our Branch, Pat **(Continued on [page 5](#))**



From the President

Happy Birthday Title IX! On June 23rd, the law which “prohibits sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity) discrimination in any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance” will be 50 years old. AAUW members throughout the country came out in droves in 1972 to support this legislation co-authored by AAUW member and US House Representative Patsy Link. Another AAUW and US House of Representative member Martha Griffiths worked tirelessly for its passage within Congress as well. But our work on this life altering legal protection for women and girls never seems to be done. AAUW continues to advocate for the tenets of this legislation from the local level through the halls of Congress. To find out more about what AAUW is doing - and what you can do - follow this link to the AAUW webpage on Title IX: <https://www.aauw.org/issues/education/title-ix/>.

Also take note of ESPN’s planned commemoration of the upcoming 50th anniversary of the passage of Title IX with the broadcast of a documentary featuring “50 stories at the intersections of women, sports, culture and the fight for Equality.” To learn more about this upcoming program see: <https://espnpressroom.com/us/press-releases/2021/05/espn-leading-fifty-50-initiative-exploring-fifty-years-of-title-ix-across-the-walt-disney-company/>. And for our littlest advocates of gender equity, check out the 2021 picture book *An Equal Shot: How the Law Title IX Changed America* by Helaine Becker (available in the Cumberland County Library system).

Speaking of milestones, our Branch has a big one coming up in 2024 - our centennial! In commemoration of this upcoming notable achievement, Branch Historian Kathleen Brennan asked Dickinson College to place a plaque at the site of our first ever Branch meeting on May 10, 1924 in Old West. The College has agreed to do so and our Board has approved the funds to commission a 22” X 16” bronze resin plaque which will state, “This plaque is a gift of the Carlisle Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in celebration of the Branch’s centennial. The charter meeting was held on May 10, 1924, in Old West. Mary Curran Morgan, the wife of former Dickinson College President James Henry Morgan, served as the first President of the Branch. May 10, 2024.” We hope to incorporate the unveiling of this plaque with other centennial celebrations to be planned by our 100th Anniversary Committee Chairs Jeanna Som and Jean Foschi. Stay tuned!

Wishing everyone a beautiful summer hiatus and I’ll look forward to seeing you on August 23rd for the August Social to kick-off our 2022-2023 calendar year!

Kathleen Gorak
Branch President

A Night at the Theater

Join me for a night at the Open Stage theater in Harrisburg on Saturday, June 18 at 7:30 pm to see one of the most produced musicals in the country and Helen Hayes Award winner for Best Production and Best Musical, “Crowns” by Regina Taylor. The following is a synopsis from “The Drama Group” website:

“Crowns’ is a moving and celebratory musical play in which hats become a springboard for an exploration of history and identity as seen through the eyes of Yolanda, a young African-American woman who has been sent South to stay with her aunt after her brother is killed in a northern city. As strong women tell the stories of their lives through stories of their hats, Yolanda witnesses a tradition tracing back to African rituals and slavery and forward to the New Testament and contemporary fashion. Gospel music and dance underscore and support the narratives.” (<https://www.dramagroup.org/shows/crowns-musical>)

For more details about this event see <https://www.openstagehbg.com/show/crowns>. Please email me before June 17th at kg1562@gmail.com if you would like to see this gospel musical so we may coordinate carpooling and seating.

Kathleen Gorak
Branch President

Upcoming Events

AAUW March 2022

Date	Time	Event	Venue and registration links	Link to Article
June 6	6:00 pm	Book Group	RSVP here	Page 9
June 14	6:30 pm	Board Meeting		
June 18	7:30 pm	"Crown", a musical by Regina Taylor	Open Stage Theater RSVP here	Page 2
June 25	9:00 am	Breakfast Club at Sage Cafe	RSVP here	Page 9
June 29	6:00 pm	Dine Out at Momma Spriggs	RSVP here	Page 9

WATCH for EMAILS from aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com for updates on ALL events

Other Dates to Remember!

Annual Membership Renewal

Deadline is 7/15/2022

---Kathleen Gorak
Branch President

Mark your calendars! The 2022-2023 year will kick-off with our August Social on August 23rd. Watch for details!

Kathleen Gorak
Branch President

And a special request...

The Program Committee Needs YOU!

Janet Kacsur and Gail D'Urso invite you to join the program committee for 2022-2023. We have received a lot of terrific program suggestions. Help bring the programs to life! Can you volunteer to contact one of our selected organizations or individuals, write and submit an article for the newsletter, introduce the speaker at the branch meeting and present a gift card to the speaker? Many hands make light work. Please contact:

Janet Kacsur 717-713-1826 jkacsur@hotmail.com or Gail D'Urso gailcdurso@gmail.com.

Trailblazers 2022: It Takes a Village!

When the chair suddenly became ill, a platoon of AAUW members rallied together to host our fourth annual Trailblazer Girls Recognition Event on Monday, April 11 at Carlisle High School. Special thanks to Ann Pehle for stepping in at the very last moment, and to Kathleen Gorak, Kate Elkins, Barb Attivo, Cherry France, Carolyn Freburg, and Lillian Wong for making this event a success.

Trailblazer honorees are selected based on good citizenship at school, enthusiasm for their CTE program, and academic competence. This year, we honored Aisling Golden, a junior in Culinary Arts, Madison Mock-Austin, a senior in Automotive Technology, Emma Ahl and Sophia Morrison, both seniors in Business and Marketing, Devin Shingler, a senior in Early Childhood Education, and Olivia Garman, Shayne Anne Ramos, Abby Rexroth,



Cheney Thompson, and Ashlynn Zimmerman, all seniors in Health Careers. We were so happy to present each of our honorees with certificates, designed by Peggy Jennings, and each of our seniors with stadium blankets sporting our branch logo with “Trailblazer” embroidered on them.

Our panel included Mary Gerard Carlton, owner of C-Luv Thrift Shop who discussed her journey, along with her partner George Kretzing, to the creation of a thriving shop in Carlisle’s downtown. Kate Elkins, one of our own members, discussed her journey from social work to lamp restoration. She is now the proud owner of Lamp Doktor, a busy repair, restoration, and custom lamp home business. Kim Snyder shared her experiences

working as an LPN, surgical technician, and first surgical assistant with more than 25 years of experience in health care.

We extend a special thank you to Dr. Albert Parrillo, Director of Career & Technical Education, and to his assistant, Leigh Hamilton, for their help and support in the planning of this event for each of the last four years and to Chefs Carey Ehly and Bill Seros for providing the refreshments and to Cathy Seros for providing the flowers.

Since the April event, committee member Barb Attivo has graciously agreed to serve as Co-Chair of the Trailblazer project for 2022-23. Thank you, Barb!

Gail D’Urso
Trailblazer Chair

2022 AAUW Pennsylvania Member and Achievement Awards

Pat Markowski *(Continued from page 1)*

contacts the new member for an interview which is written up into an article and is published in the next newsletter. Information Pat collects in these interviews helps to identify particular skills and interests of our members, helpful information for the Nominating Committee or other branch leaders when looking for volunteers.

This year, for the second time, Pat served as Chair of the Nominating Committee. Recruiting willing members to do the work of our Branch Board is a formidable task!

Pat now heads up the Communications Team, overseeing the work of the newsletter editors, social media officer, webmaster and zoom master. This recent restructuring begins to help balance the workload between Branch President and other Board members, and Pat's new duties assume the largest portion of that restructuring.

Each spring, Pat writes the press release for *The Sentinel* about our Trailblazers Ceremony and honorees. Her masterful pen always results in a beautiful news article about this wonderful program, now in its fourth year, that shines a light on our Branch, our honorees, and on their teachers' pride in their successes.

Pat was also instrumental in the success of the Silent Auction at the 2022 August Social as a member of the AAUW Funds Committee, despite a Covid resurgence and personal risk.

Over the years, since joining the Branch, Pat has always found a way to generously lend a hand and carry a load of the work of AAUW Carlisle whenever the call goes out for volunteers - for the Program Committee and for voter registration tables, to name but two examples. She is also ever willing to answer the call as a mentor when asked to share some of the wisdom from her decades of leadership experience as an accomplished executive in for profit and nonprofit organizations.

Pat's work often goes unnoticed by members of the Branch as she is usually the calm presence in a flurry of Branch activities. It is her meticulous work, however, that keeps our membership informed and ensures that our Branch is noticed by the larger Cumberland County community including prospective new members. She is truly a consummate professional in all she does, a deft wordsmith, ever dependable and kind, and an all-around inspiring, outstanding woman.

Member Making a Difference – Beth McKinley

The Member Making a Difference Award honors a member for outstanding service during the past year.

Beth assumed leadership of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee which had been an unfilled position for at least three years. Once the Committee was assembled, they conducted an external audit of 23 community partners. The Committee compiled the information collected from the various partners and presented a 12-page report to the Board. This professional product is a praiseworthy piece of work. The

Committee, under Beth's leadership, completed the outside audit, which yielded extremely positive results for our Branch, in a timely and thorough fashion.

Under Beth's leadership, this Committee also planned and conducted a series of four "Listening Circles," opportunities for members to consider topics that sometimes make people uncomfortable. Attendance at these virtual events was consistently quite good; members were interested in learning more about and discussing these topics.

Going forward, Beth plans to lead the Branch in considering DEIB issues in all of our documents and work, including future "Listening Circles."

As the first DEIB Chair in branch history, she is traveling uncharted territory and negotiating a difficult, complicated, and volatile subject with care and grace.

Named Gift Honorees (5)

For this award, the Branch contributes to AAUW Funds in the name of members recognized for service to the local Branch through leadership, commitment, or innovative support

Wendy Armour Dickinson

Our long running Interest Groups offer the same important social interactions for members during these times of isolation as have the Kaffeeklatschs and Community Activities events. As Chair of the Interest Groups, Wendy's abiding commitment to organizing and facilitating Book Club, while coordinating Breakfast Club and Dining Out, is the linchpin of this whole operation. Each of these programs speak to a different segment of our membership allowing them to pick and choose what works for them. Policy is important, but so is camaraderie!

Wendy has served as Branch President and Past President as well as State President while maintaining membership in both the Carlisle and Harrisburg branches during part of that time.

Barb Attivo

Barb continues her Branch leadership service, following two terms as Finance Vice-President, in the roles of STEM co-chair and as a member of the Governance Committee. Barb is faithful to AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls. She, along with Lillian Wong, is leading the effort of establishing a Branch partnership with CASD in the new "Girls in Engineering Club" at Lamberton Middle School.

Becky Morganthal

Along the same lines as Community Activities and Interest Groups, the Kaffeeklatsch, created by Becky as AAUW Funds Chair, offers the same important interaction during these times of isolation. These fun, social and cleverly profitable gatherings helped reconnect members to each other this summer before we resumed in person programming. The Kaffeeklatschs also speak to different segments of our membership allowing them to pick and choose what events worked for them. Policy is important, but so is camaraderie!

Becky's fundraising acumen has been on full display throughout all of the Funds' Committee initiatives - the Kaffeeklatschs, the August Social Silent Auction and the Holiday Brunch opportunity. In 2022, Becky will launch the Scholarship appeal, the Scholarship Banquet opportunity and provide organizational support to our summer Branch Yard Sale.

Becky has served as Branch President, Past President and the 95th Anniversary Celebration Chair, as well as the President of Rotary Club.

Katie Perkowski

Katie confidently assumed a solo role this year as our Public Policy Chair and determinedly continued the robust public policy work that her committee is known for despite the pandemic. She organizes community events such as our voter registration booth at Harvest of the Arts as well as initiating collections for Community CARES and the YWCA Pad Pantry.

Katie also serves on the DEIB Committee and worked at the Welcome Expo at Carlisle Barracks, recruiting new members. This past summer, Katie volunteered with the SPY Program run by AAUW member Jeanna Som.

Cindy Sutton

Cindy has planned terrific, informative, fun activities during the most challenging public health crisis of our lifetimes. Her research uncovered hidden gems and new places of interest to our members. These included a historic walking tour conducted by the Dickinson College House Divided Project, a visit to the Cumberland County Historical Society's special exhibit, "A Woman's Place: The Changing Role of Women in Cumberland County," and a fantastic visit to the Bower Native Plant Garden and Sculpture Park in Shermans Dale.

Cindy has served as Branch President, Past President and Secretary, and currently serves on the Scholarship Committee. This spring, Cindy will begin working on preparations for the AAUW Funds Committee Branch Yard Sale.

AAUW Pennsylvania Achievement Awards

In addition to the awards given to individual members, AAUW PA also recognizes the achievement of branches. This year, the Carlisle Branch was awarded AAUW Pennsylvania Achievement Awards in the following three categories:

- in recognition of our "Per Capita Giving" (\$90.30);
- as the "Top Branch - Governance and Sustainability" fund (\$500); and
- in recognition of "Total Giving" (\$7,856).

Kathleen Gorak
Branch President

Beyond Suffrage a Success!

After three years of planning with ten community partners and a long pandemic delay, our women's economic security forum, **Beyond Suffrage: Reclaiming the Future**, was held on May 5.

Twelve speakers and expert panelists spoke to the many barriers women face competing in today's economy which were only magnified by the pandemic. Over 50 attendees enjoyed enlightening presentations and animated breakout sessions.



There will be much more to report in the

future as we prepare our white paper and equity quilt to be presented to legislators. For now, I'd like to express my gratitude to all of the partners who participated in the extensive planning and execution of the event.

But I am especially grateful to the AAUW Carlisle members on the organizing committee who I called the A Team: Nancy Sigrist, Cherry France, and Gail D'Urso. Without them, this would not have been possible. As we had to manage many moving parts and changing circumstances, their support and dedication were invaluable!!

I'd also like to thank Katie Perkowski for her terrific job as moderator, Ann Pehle for her welcome remarks, and those who stepped up to assist during the event including Cindy Sutton, Pat Markowski, Virginia Mauk, Carole DeWall, Stefanie D'Amore.



Kate Elkins
Beyond Suffrage Chair

RALLY FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS



On Saturday, May 14th, I attended the Harrisburg “Bans Off Our Bodies” rally on the Capitol steps along with thousands of other women and men of all ages who came together in support of reproductive rights for women. AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell sent emails to members across the country earlier in the month encouraging each of us to find a rally to attend in our own communities. The Harrisburg rally was but one of 400 other rallies across the nation planned after a Supreme Court draft opinion overturning Roe vs. Wade was leaked. Governor Tom Wolf and representatives of Planned Parenthood, religious communities and other reproductive right advocates spoke at the rally on the Capitol steps.

For more information on where AAUW stands on reproductive rights see: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/position-repro/>.

Kathleen Gorak
Branch President

The **Program Committee** is looking for members to provide **refreshments at the September 27, March 28, and May 23 Branch Meetings for the 2022 - 23 year**. You will coordinate with other members who have already signed up for those dates. Contact Gail (gailcdurso@gmail.com) if you can help. Thanks in advance.

Janet & Gail

INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES

Wendy Armour Dickinson, Interest Group Chair

Book Group

Selection of Books for 2022 - 2023 - 6:00 pm at Fiddler’s (1 Mayapple Drive) on June 6.

Breakfast Club

9:00 am at Sage (22 West Pomfret) on June 25

Dine Out

6:00 pm at Momma Spriggs (160 York Road) on June 29

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).

Wendy Armour Dickinson
Interest Group Chair

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS
Gail D'Urso and Virginia Mauk, Membership VP

AAUW Carlisle Membership Renewal Update

AAUW National has updated the process for renewing memberships. Their new process puts you in the driver's seat, giving you the opportunity to both renew your membership and update your information. Why is this better? Because, as you renew, you will double check your name, address, email, phone number and degrees, ensuring your information is correct. Yearbook Editor, Mary Brunski, will then pull this verified information to create the 2022-23 AAUW Carlisle Yearbook. The Yearbook is your resource for all things AAUW Carlisle-members, programs and more!

The new process goes like this:

1. Log on to www.aauw.org and click the "log in" tab.
2. If you have not previously created an account and updated your password, then click "RESET PASSWORD."
3. Head to your email and open the email to reset your password. Click the link and create your password and press "SUBMIT." Once you have created and submitted your password you will immediately be directed to the "Personal Snapshot" of your AAUW information where you can RENEW your membership.
4. Click "RENEW" and verify your information, including degrees. Continue to press NEXT until you are asked to select type of membership (Lifetime or National). Select one and click NEXT.
5. Add your Branch and State by scrolling down to PA2011 (Carlisle Branch Dues) and select the dot. Click NEXT.
6. The next screen will have PA (Pennsylvania State Dues) preselected. If not, be sure to select the PA dot. Click NEXT.
7. This will direct you to the Check Out page. Select your payment (pay now-new credit card) and enter your credit card information. Click SUBMIT.
8. A new screen with your payment information, "Order Summary" will pop up for you to print. You will also find a receipt in your email from infosf@aauw.org with your payment information.

Easy-peasy! If you do have questions, feel free to contact Virginia Mauk at 240.338.2862 for assistance.

Gail D'Urso & Virginia Mauk
AAUW Carlisle Membership Co-Chairs

AAUW FUNDS

Becky Morgenthal, Chair

AAUW Fund Scholarship Awards Banquet – Opportunity Results

At the April 26th Scholarship Awards Banquet, the membership supported the first opportunity fundraiser for the 2022-2023 Scholarship fund by raising \$300. The Fund committee thanks Cindy Sutton for her donation of the beautiful flower arrangements as our opportunities. Our Branch has supported the Scholarship Program for over 20 years. We can be proud of our commitment to support continuing education for women who need our financial support.

Enjoy the summer. Watch for the Opportunity fundraiser details for the August Branch meeting.

Becky Morgenthal
AAUW Fund Chair

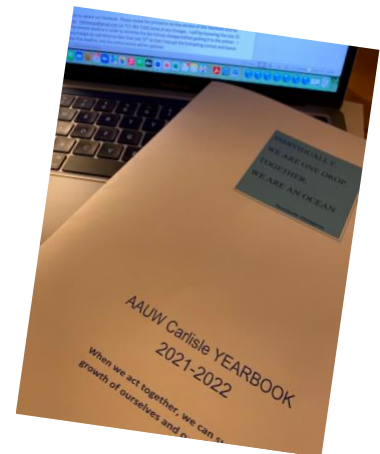
YEARBOOK

Mary Brunski, Editor

AAUW Carlisle Member Yearbook Updates

It's time again to update our Yearbook. Please review the printed or on-line version of the Yearbook and let Mary Brunski - mbtexaspa@gmail.com (or 717-385-7160) know of any changes. I will be honoring the July 15 membership renewal deadline in order to minimize the last minute changes before getting it to the printer. I ask that any changes be submitted no later than July 15th so that I may get the formatting correct and layout done. After that deadline, only the online version will be updated.

Mary Brunski
Yearbook Editor



Just a friendly reminder.....

As is AAUW Carlisle's summertime tradition, we have combined June/July in this edition of the newsletter. Our next publication will be in August. Watch for email updates should there be events over the summer not shown here. Happy summer everyone!

Nancy Sigrist & Stacey Gatch
Newsletter Editors

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Katie Perkowski, Chair

Gateway to Equity Award Winners

(Continued from page 1)

children while their parents were at work. In response to the rising need in the community, under Som's direction SPY branched out to four locations in the summer of 2021, expanding total enrollment to 157 students.

Every summer, impressive positive outcomes are reported for SPY students with over 80% of campers showing improvements between pre and post camp reading and math testing scores. In addition to academic programming, students receive breakfast and lunch, beginning swim instruction, enrichment programming, books to take home and keep, and school supplies to begin the school year.

Manal El Harrak is a recipient of the 2022 AAUW Gateway to Equity Award for her work at Sadler Health Center reducing health disparities, while expanding services and access to affordable, high quality health care for the community during a pandemic.

Ms. El Harrak assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer for Sadler in the fall of 2019, having previously served as Chief Operating Officer. Under El Harrak's leadership Sadler provides comprehensive primary care, dental care and behavioral health services at its facility in downtown Carlisle and dental care at its Perry County location to nearly 10,000 patients a year.

El Harrak led Sadler through the challenges of the COVID pandemic, pivoting to serve the needs of their patients and community by administering tests and vaccines to thousands of community members. In response to COVID-19's exacerbation of healthcare disparities and the ongoing needs of the growing underserved, uninsured, and immigrant populations within Cumberland County, El Harrak spearheaded a campaign to open a new facility in eastern Mechanicsburg that will offer comprehensive and culturally competent care to approximately 4,000 patients in the first year and 8,000 patients in subsequent years.

Eastern Cumberland County is home to 25,917 (2018) low income residents accounting for 18% of the total population. Additionally, 16% represent a population made up of racial and ethnic minorities. In 2018, an estimated 5,711 people in this part of the county were uninsured, yet only 695 were identified as receiving care, leaving more than 88% of these uninsured patients underserved or without access to care. Sadler's new health center will offer primary care for pediatric and adult patients, dental care, behavioral health services, insurance enrollment and Medication-assisted Treatment for substance use.



Katie Perkowski
Public Policy Chair

**AAUW Carlisle
2021-2022 Board Members**

Elected Officers

Branch President – Kathleen Gorak
Membership VPs – Gail D’Urso, Virginia Mauk
Program VPs – Judy Wheaton, Janet Kacsur
Finance Officers – Linda Brunski, Cherry France
Secretary – Mary Berwick
Past President – Ann Pehle

Appointed Committee Chairs

AAUW Funds – Becky Morgenthal
Communications – Pat Markowski
Community Activities – Cindy Sutton
Interest Groups – Wendy Armour Dickinson
Public Policy –Katie Perkowski
Scholarship – Lillian Wong
STEM – Barb Attivo, Lillian Wong

Off Board Chairs

College Liaison – Donna Bickford
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging – Beth McKinley
Historian – Kathleen Brennan

Other Appointed Positions

Newsletter Editors – Nancy Sigrist, Stacey Gatch
Social Media – Kate Elkins
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

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.

Programs

Contact Janet Kacsur (jkacsur@hotmail.com) or Gail D’Urso (gailcdurso@gmail.com)

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.*

Get Active



Like us @AAUWCarlisle

Like us @AAUW Pennsylvania