

October Membership Meeting

“If I Could Do It Over, Would I Join the Military?”

Tuesday, October 24, 7:00 PM



The Only Easy Day Was Yesterday

Come and learn from our own AAUW Carlisle panel of veterans. We will present our individual journey in the military: from the decision to join, through the rigors of training, being accepted as a woman and as an equal, while maintaining our personal lives with family and community.

Please note that this meeting **will be held at 7:00 PM in the side rooms, Dickinson Hub in Carlisle.**

Panel: COL Ruth B. Collins, AUS; COL Julie T. Manta, AUS; LTC Carol McAnulty, USAFR; COL Marybeth Ulrich, USAF; CPT Lillian M. Wong, AUS.

From the President

This month has confirmed for me that the future of AAUW in our region is in very capable hands.

My confirmation came at the Clarke Forum event that we co-sponsored with the Dickinson AAUW Student Organization. The topic and speaker for the forum was suggested by Dickinson SO President Sofia Perrone, who also gave the opening remarks and introduction. The timeliness of the topic, ‘It’s Time to Talk About Women’s Brains and the Birth Control Pill’, was evidenced by the fact that the ATS auditorium was packed. I was so impressed with how poised Sofia was and what a natural leader she is!



From the September Board meeting: Marina Young was appointed Secretary, replacing Linda Brunski, whose family obligations must take precedence for now. The T-Shirt Fundraiser was a great success and will bring in \$874 towards our 100th Celebration. The board also approved the addition of one scholarship awarded to a qualified Perry County resident, which will be donated by a Perry County family.

Kate Elkins
President

AAUW Carlisle 100th Anniversary Celebration

Dickinson's Dean of Women, Josephine Brunyate Meredith

THE CONSUMMATE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN



By 1901, it was not unusual for smart women to graduate from Dickinson. The first class of women had gone out into the world five years earlier. However, not all women in 1901 were like Josephine Brunyate who graduated with Phi Beta Kappa honors in only three years. Upon graduation, she returned to New Jersey and took a high school teaching position. Seven years later it appeared that her life would take the traditional path of a minister's wife when she married Rev. Arthur J. Meredith. Then, tragedy changed her ordered existence. At only thirty-eight, she was left a widow with a young child when her husband died after only nine years of marriage.

In 1919, President Morgan still had not secured approval for Dickinson to be recognized by the National AAUW organization. Foremost among his concerns was that Dickinson needed a Dean of Women. He found his perfect candidate in Josephine Meredith. He offered her the job. With her acceptance, she soon changed Dickinson.

She had many "firsts" beside her name. She would become not only the first but the longest serving Dean of Women in Dickinson's history. She was the first woman to be named a full professor at Dickinson, and later when she retired, she became Dickinson's first Professor Emerita. According to her official biography, "her name became synonymous with 'order' and 'good standards' for generations of female Dickinsonians." Further described as "firm but sympathetic," Dean Meredith guided the co-eds at Dickinson from 1919 until 1948 seeing them through the passage of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, and World War II. Her biography notes that she remains one of the most interesting personalities in the college's history.

In many respects, Dickinson was ready to enter the ranks of AAUW schools in 1919. They just had to dot a few more "i's" and cross some more "t's." For her first few years in her new position, Dean Meredith worked tirelessly to do so. She met with numerous AAUW national officers and other Deans of Women. Her work paid off. Records show that the AAUW Committee on Recognition of Colleges and Universities acknowledged Dickinson College as an approved institution on December 29, 1922. Dean Meredith was the liaison between Dickinson and the national AAUW office and was requested to attend the North Atlantic Section of the AAUW in New Haven, Connecticut.

Mary Curran Morgan and Josephine Meredith became the leaders of the new Carlisle AAUW chapter, with Mary as President and Josephine as Vice President. When her good friend Mary Morgan unexpectedly died, Dean Meredith took over the duties as our chapter's President. Like Mary, she was active in Carlisle civic affairs and the YWCA. Dean Meredith not only affected Dickinson women but she also changed the climate for the men of Dickinson and no doubt Carlisle as well. During the first World War, it became necessary to name women to the faculty. One of my favorite source documents is a letter from Edwin E. Willoughby whose time at Dickinson was interrupted by World War One. He returned to Dickinson after the war and wrote: "...I left in June {after my freshman year} not expecting to return. However, when I returned next year Mrs. Meredith was the Dean of Women....{She} changed the school wonderfully in those two years. She is now perhaps the third most influential person there."

It has been over one hundred years since Josephine Brunyate Meredith became the Dean of Women at Dickinson. She clearly was a consummate professional woman and is still a role model today.

Click on the following link to see Dickinson women gather around Dean Meredith in 1948:

ia902904.us.archive.org/4/items/dkc-v-00138/DKC_v00138.mp4

Deborah Sweaney
Program VP

Public Policy

The Public Policy Committee has scheduled a CASD School Board Candidate Forum for Monday, October 23rd starting at 7:00 pm in the Carlisle High School. All 10 candidates for the open positions on the Board have accepted invitations to participate. The event is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters. It will be an evening where the candidates will share their ideas and opinions with opening remarks, answering questions and closing remarks. Candidates will also be available at the end of the event for a short "Meet & Greet" session. We will be looking for volunteers to help with various tasks that evening. If available, contact Kathy Gates at kgates808@comcast.net. Please plan to attend this event. Watch for more information as we finalize the plans for the CASD School Board Candidate Forum. Please see the invitation at the end of this newsletter.

Kathy Gates
AAUW Carlisle Public Policy Committee Chair

Your Membership Matters!

Welcome to Our New Members!

The Membership Committee is excited to announce that ten new members took advantage of the Shape the Future program that was offered at the August social and the next day at the Carlisle Barracks Spouse Club welcome event. Please be sure to welcome Amy Mangelsdorf, Kelly Spasic, Dr. Laura Johnson, Laurie Echevarria, Elizabeth Checchia, Rachel Andreoli, Stephanie Chaplinski Kane, Laura Minor, Gwendolyn Conway and Linda Markley.

In addition, long time member Deborah Snelson rejoined the branch. We are happy to have her back with us!

Get to Know Our New Members!

Those of us who have been a branch member in Carlisle for a while have been blessed with deep and enduring friendships. We want our newest members to have that same experience. Please reach out to someone you don't yet know and welcome them to our group. Introduce them to others and answer their questions as they learn about the many activities, programs and projects at our branch. Invite them to join you at one of our branch activities such as Breakfast Club, Dining Out or Community Activities, just to name a few.

Tip: At our branch meetings, new members are easy to spot. Look for the small leaf on their nametags which signifies newer members who may not yet know everyone.

Meet Our New Members!

The Big Ten

What do the three women cited below have in common? They are all new members of AAUW Carlisle! With ten new members to introduce to the branch membership, the profiles could overwhelm the newsletter. Prudence dictates that the ten new members will be introduced in groups over the next two or three newsletters. Please welcome the first three profiled below.

Linda Markley has been in the Carlisle area since 2013 when her husband retired from the Army. She is the mother of three, and has two grand-children. Her family recently endured a crisis when her year old grandson needed a liver transplant. His aunt, Linda's sister, was a donor match, and the little boy underwent the transplant surgery. Happily, both donor and recipient are recovering well.

Linda earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Georgian Court University near Trenton, New Jersey. As one of five children, she naturally gravitated to elementary education, and loved engaging the children and watching their progress during the short time she taught before she married and embraced life in the military. The Markley's were posted to Kentucky, Georgia, Germany and Virginia before her husband's retirement.

Linda describes herself as a “professional volunteer.” In Carlisle, she volunteers with Project Share, and she and her husband sponsor International Students at the War College. She also loves to read.

She was attracted to AAUW because she continues to want to meet people in the area, and she likes that the organization promotes women’s issues and that women support each other.

Elizabeth Checchia was the guest of Carol McAnulty at the August Social. She describes herself as a feminist at heart, and likes that the organization advances women’s position in life.

Elizabeth was born in Quebec Province, Canada, but has lived in Central Pennsylvania for 30 years. Her father was a Royal Canadian Mounted Policeman, and she has three brothers. She met her husband of 45 years while on vacation in Virginia Beach, Virginia. They met face-to-face only a few times and carried on a courtship mostly by mail. When they married, they had to make a decision about where to live. Because of the French separatist movement at the time, they decided it would be more prudent for them to live in the U.S. than for him to emigrate to Canada.

Elizabeth has had a long career as nurse anesthetist. She studied nursing at CEGEP Limoilou in Quebec City, earning her B.S. degree in 1974. She earned an advanced degree in anesthesia from Temple University in 1980, and did rotations at Episcopal Hospital and at St. Christopher Hospital in Philadelphia in the pediatric open heart surgery unit.

She likes reading, gardening, and hiking, often walking her rescue dog, Socks, on the Appalachian Trail.

Laura Minor was introduced to AAUW by Cindy Sutton. She loves the core of what AAUW stands for, empowering women, and AAUW Carlisle’s involvement in the community.

Laura is married with three children, one in college, one a junior in high school, and one in 8th grade. Their dog Tito, a rescue beagle mix, rounds out the family. She first came to Carlisle with her grandparents, and also lived in Carlisle while in college.

She studied sociology at Shippensburg University, earning a bachelor’s degree in 2001. She chose her major because she had been exposed to sociology in high school and loved it. Laura applied for an internship in sociology in Perry County, but the position was not open at that time. As so often happens, this propelled her into a completely different career direction. She took a job at the bank, starting as a customer service representative, and has been in bank branch management at Santander for 19 years.

Laura loves baseball at all levels. It has been and continues to be a recreational interest. She played baseball in high school, and she describes herself as a BIG Orioles Fan. She loves nothing more than watching her kids play the game.



Our September Branch Meeting was held at the Cumberland County Historical Society and we enjoyed an interesting presentation on Life in Cumberland County in 1924 by Shawn Gladden, Executive Director of CCHS. It was the first chance for many members to proudly sport our 100th Anniversary T-shirts.

Interest Groups and Upcoming Events

Upcoming Interest Group Schedule

Book Group—Here’s a look at the great line-up of interesting reads starting in September! Join us for the fun!

Date	Time	Hostess	Book
10/2	7:00 PM	Wendy	<i>Kindred</i> by Octavia Butler
11/6	1:00 PM	Darlis	<i>Begin Again: James Baldwin’s America</i> by Eddie S. Glaude, Jr.
1/8/24	1:00 PM	Kathleen G.	<i>Museum of Innocence</i> by Orhan Pamuk
2/5/24	1:00 PM	Virginia	<i>The Paris Bookseller</i> by Kerri Maher
3/4/24	1:00 PM	Cindy	<i>Horse</i> by Geraldine Brooks
4/1/24	7:00 PM	Patricia M.	<i>Fahrenheit 451</i> by Ray Bradbury
5/6/24	7:00 PM	Patricia Y.	<i>Everyone in My Family has Killed Someone</i> by Benjamin Stevenson
6/3/24	6:00 PM	Marcellos	

Breakfast Club—Saturday October 7 at 9:00 AM at Sunrise Café (231 North Hanover Street, Carlisle)

Dine Out—Wednesday, October 18 at 6:00 PM at El Rodeo (398 East High Street, Carlisle)

AAUW Events				
Date	Time	Event	Registration links	Link to Article
Oct. 2	7:00 pm	Book Club-Wendy Hostess- <i>Kindred</i> by Octavia Butler	RSVP here	Page 5
Oct. 7	9;00 am	Breakfast Club at Sunrise Café 231 North Hanover Street. Carlisle	RSVP here	Page 5
Oct. 18	6:00 pm	Dine Out at El Rodeo 398 East High Street, Carlisle	RSVP here	Page 5
Oct. 20		Newsletter Submission Deadline	Submit to hellers@pa.net and peggy@drj4college.com	
Oct. 23	7:00 pm	CASD School Board Candidate Forum Carlisle High School (623 West Penn Street, Carlisle)	Registration	Page 3

Tour of Ladew Topiary Gardens *Monkton, Maryland* *Sunday, September 17, 2023*



We had a fun and interesting visit to the Ladew Topiary Gardens and mansion north of Baltimore. Harvey Ladew bought the property because of his love for fox hunting and designed the gardens for the enjoyment of friends and visitors. The rains held off until it was time to tour the mansion, after which we enjoyed a delicious lunch in what was the former stables.

For more details and images of Ladew Gardens, visit their website: www.LadewGardens.com.

Jenifer Johnson, AAUW Carlisle Community Activities -- 717-776-8499)

News from National

Two Minute Activist

Advocacy for issues impacting women and girls is one of AAUW’s core strategic objectives. Therefore, as an AAUW member, advocating locally and at the federal level is something that you should do. Thank goodness, AAUW makes it very, very easy with Two Minute Activist.



When you sign up for [Two Minute Activist](#), you will receive an email with all the details and necessary information on an issue and AAUW’s position. In the body of the email, click on the Take Action box and you will be directed to a form (complete once and your information will be saved and populated the next time) and letter to the appropriate recipient. Many times, I modify the letter to make it my

own. All of this literally takes about two minutes.

So, don’t ignore the next email from **Meghan Kissell, AAUW advocacy@email.aauw.org** and TAKE ACTION!

Ann Pehle
AAUW Pennsylvania Nomination Committee Co-Chair

SAVE THE DATEs
 April 5 -7, 2024
 AAUW Pennsylvania Convention
 Central Hotel and Conference Center
 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

May 10, 2024
 AAUW Carlisle 100th Anniversary
 Celebration

**AAUW Carlisle
2023-2024 Board Members**

Elected Officers

President – Kate Elkins
Vice President – Mary Brunski
Membership VPs – Nancy Sigrist, Cindy Sutton
Program VPs – Gail D’Urso, Deborah Sweaney
Finance Officers – Cherry France, Molly Shane
Secretary – Marina Young
Past President – Kathleen Gorak

Appointed Committee Chairs

AAUW Funds – Becky Morgenthal
Communications – Pat Markowski
Community Activities – Jenifer Johnson
Interest Groups – Wendy Armour Dickinson
Public Policy – Kathy Gates
Scholarship – Lillian Wong
STEM – Barb Attivo, Lillian Wong

Appointed Off Board Committee Chairs

College Liaison – Elizabeth White-Hurst
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging – Beth McKinley
Historian – Mary Bloser Berwick

Appointed Ad Hoc Committee Chairs

100th Anniversary – Jean Foschi, Jeanna Som

Appointed Coordinators

Newsletter Editors – Sharon Heller, Peggy Jennings
Social Media – Kate Elkins
Trailblazers – Gail D’Urso, Barb Attivo
Webmaster – Stacey Gatch
Yearbook – Virginia Mauk
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

Committees seeking members*

Fundraising

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

Membership

Contact Nancy Sigrist (ncsigrist@gmail.com) or Cindy Sutton (suttonc3@gmail.com) for more information and to discuss your interest.

Public Policy

Contact Kathy Gates kgates808@comcast.net for more information.

*Not receiving branch information?
Make sure emails from aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com
aren't going into your junk or spam folder.*



Like us @AAUWCarlisle

Like us @AAUW Pennsylvania



***AAUW CARLISLE & THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CAPITAL REGION
INVITE YOU TO ATTEND
A CASD SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FORUM
7:00 PM
AT CARLISLE HIGH SCHOOL***



10/23

**MODERATOR - DR. SARAH NIEBLER
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
AT DICKINSON COLLEGE**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED TO ONLY 60 SEATS

The Forum will be recorded and available on YouTube after the event.