

May AAUW Events

Book Club

Monday, May 6

Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone

RSVP [here](#)

AAUW Carlisle 100th Anniversary

Friday, May 10

Plaque Unveiling 10 am

Evening Celebration 6 pm

Breakfast Club

Saturday, May 18 at 9 am

Sunrise Cafe 231 N. Hanover St., Carlisle

RSVP [here](#)

Spring Idyll in The Bower

Saturday, May 18, 9:30am - 12:00pm

1190 Bower Rd., Sherman's Dale PA 17090

Find out more and RSVP [here](#)

Deadline for Submission to the Combined June/July Branching Out

Monday, May 20

Submit [here](#)

Dine Out

Wednesday, May 22 at 6 pm

Momma Spriggs

160 York Rd., Carlisle

RSVP [here](#)

Branch Yard Sale

Friday, May 24 & Saturday, May 25

Find out more [here](#):

May Membership Meeting

Our Children Continue to Struggle...

But We Can Help!

Meta Bowman, MSW, LSW

Tuesday, May 28 at 7 pm

First Presbyterian Church on the Square

Find out more here



Our Children Continue to Struggle... But We Can Help!

Tuesday, May 28 at 7 pm.

First Presbyterian Church on the Square

Our last branch meeting for fiscal year 2023/2024 will feature Meta Bowman, a three-time winner of AAUW Carlisle Higher Education Scholarship. Meta will touch upon poverty, mental health, and the school environment, all topics of relevance and importance. She will introduce us to various opportunities that exist to help families face these challenges.



Meta has been working at Dickinson College in various roles, with her most recent as the Program Coordinator for the Center for Civic Learning & Action (CCLA). In this role, she has been a part of the strategic planning and formation of the Cumberland County Reentry Coalition. She also serves as the Chair of the Education Committee under the Pennsylvania Reentry Council. She has directed (& co-directed), programmed, and led CONNECT: The Summer Collaboration for nine years serving community middle school students. Prior to coming to Dickinson, she spent six years working at the Galerie St. Etienne in New York City in several positions, with the last being both in high-level art sales and as an art registrar. She has also worked in appraising, cataloguing, and teaching art in Pennsylvania. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Dickinson College, a Master's in Social Work from Shippensburg University, and is a Licensed Social Worker in the State of Pennsylvania. She is also on the Board of Directors for the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy.

We hope you will join us for this informative presentation.

Lillian Wong
May Meeting Chair

Letter from the President

May in Pennsylvania is absolutely beautiful and, as I look out on my garden and see the fruits of my labor in bloom, it makes the often tedious work of gardening so worthwhile.

This month we are also fortunate to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of AAUW Carlisle, whose first seeds were planted on May 10, 1924. This AAUW garden we have tended, along with hundreds of other members over these many decades, has grown into our vibrant and impactful branch, recognized across the state. Not every idea and effort has borne fruit and we have had to make adjustments with the changing climate. But change is necessary in order to be successful over time and we continue to evaluate what works and what doesn't, what we do best and what to let go of.

We are especially thrilled that AAUW CEO, Gloria Blackwell, is joining us for our celebration! We'll also hear from a panel of amazing current and former AAUW Dickinson members on how they envision our organization moving forward.

See you all on May 10 at the plaque unveiling at 10 am and then for our very special evening celebration, beginning at 6 pm!

Kate Elkins
President



Celebrating our scholarship recipients

An evening to remember!

On a beautiful day, on a beautiful campus where our Carlisle branch began 100 years ago, the Scholarship Committee awarded five \$2000 scholarships to brilliant, enthusiastic and talented young women.

In a room filled with 40 branch members, guests and family, we enjoyed fellowship, dinner and offered congratulations to each of the recipients as they continue in their educational journey.

Members of the committee introduced Rebekah Becker of Marywood University (by Zoom), Lily Bistline of Loyola Maryland, Colleen Leshar of Liberty University, Iman Muhammad of HACC, and Lauren Stroup of Wilson College. We, the audience enjoyed the talk given by each recipient describing their ambitions. Clearly, they echo the AAUW mission statement in their life and future.

Thank you, Scholarship Committee, Gail D'Urso, Carolyn Freberg, Kathleen Gorak, Sharon Heller, Rose Smith, and Cindy Sutton, for reviewing eleven applications with interviews and lending their expertise to our selection of recipients. Thank you, Becky Morgenthal, Chair of Funding, for coordinating contributions from our generous donors!

Lillian Wong
Scholarship Chair



Scholarship Recipients Lauren Stroup, Colleen Leshar, Iman Muhammad, Lily Bistline. Not pictured is Rebekah Becker who accepted her scholarship on Zoom.

Spring Idyll in the Bower

Saturday, May 18, 9:30am - 12:00pm
 1190 Bower Road, Sherman's Dale PA 17090

The Bower is a 36 acre meadow and woodland site on a north slope of the northern Appalachian Mountains. Located in Perry County Pennsylvania, The "Bower" is a sanctuary where art and the natural world co-exist harmoniously. The Bower landscape features wild and introduced native plants in abundance throughout an enhanced open landscape and woodlands complimented with large-scale sculpture and land art.

AAUW members who joined our previous autumn tour will be eager to see how different the various landscapes look as they awake for Spring! Abundant flowering and native plants and creative sculptures await around every turn of the gently winding paths. Come recharge yourself in this wonderland of Nature! More information and pictures go [here](#): RSVP to Jenifer Johnson [here](#) or phone 717-776-9499. Parking is limited, so please carpool with other members.



Book Group

Date	Time	Hostess	Book
Monday, May 6	7:00 pm	Pat Markowski. 88 Presidents Dr. Mechanicsburg	<i>Everyone in My Family has Killed Someone,</i> by Benjamin Stevenson
Monday, June 3	6:00 pm	Marcello's	

Membership Renewals

It is the time of year when many of us are accustomed to renewing our membership in AAUW. The process has changed since we are now renewing on a staggered basis reflective of our individual expiration dates. Watch for more information regarding this process.

Nancy Sigrist and Cindy Sutton
 Membership Co-Vice Presidents



News From National—AAUW Update

You have until noon on May 15th to vote in the AAUW national elections. If you have been ignoring the emails from vote@simplyvoting.com, please don't. Open the next one you receive and cast your vote. It literally takes longer to delete the email than to vote.

AAUW is proposing a Bylaw change to eliminate the degree requirement for membership. This is referred to as "open membership." Resources (2024 proposed bylaws; Open Membership toolkit; AAUW Election FAQ) can be found [here](#).

Another resource and information source is [here](#).

Ann Pehle

AAUW Pennsylvania Nomination & Elections Co-Chair

YOUR VOICE COUNTS

Watch for an email from vote@simplyvoting.com with your unique Elector ID and Password. That is all you need. Before closing the email, **VOTE**. It will take you about 90 seconds.

There's much work to be done.
We shouldn't have to depend
on college graduates to do it.



MISSION & ACTION

AAUW's newsletter

April 2024

The April Mission & Action email (sent April 18, 2024) from Gloria Blackwell contains interesting updates on important issues. I outlined them here. For details, see the email.

- "A major action this month that I am thrilled to share is AAUW awarding **\$6.25 million** to **260 exceptional fellows and grantees** to achieve their academic and professional goals or lead community-based projects that empower women and girls! We are so proud that AAUW is unique among nonprofits with the distinction as the oldest non-institutional funder of graduate-level women. And your support continues to be vital to increasing higher education access and opportunity."
- Great news for pregnant employees! The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) issued a [final rule](#) to implement the [Pregnant Workers Fairness Act](#) (PWFA), providing clarity that will allow pregnant workers the ability to work and maintain a healthy pregnancy and help employers understand their duties under the law. **Last fall, AAUW organized more than 1,600 comments in favor of robust and inclusive regulations.**
- Remember the havoc heaped upon colleges and universities when Education Secretary DeVos rewrote the sexual assault regulations in Title IX to favor the aggressor? Well, the Biden administration has been working since taking office to rewrite the regulations. . .and expects to finalize long-overdue updates soon. The updated regulations strengthen important protections for student survivors of sexual harassment and assault; provide clarity on protections for pregnant and parenting students; and explicitly state Title IX's prohibition on sex discrimination in education, including discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Congressional challenges to implementing the new Title IX rules are expected.
[Click to tell Congress you support Title IX.](#)

Public Policy News



On April 10, Kathy Gates attended the press release rally at the State Capitol to support the passage of a paid family and medical leave program in PA. The House voted on HB181, which has been introduced in the Senate. Barbara Price, Public Policy PA, encourages you to write to your legislators to ask them to vote for the Family Care Act. Also on April 10, Fair Districts PA attended a press conference at the State Capitol to support Representatives Steve Samuelson and Mark Gillen, who introduced House Bill HB 1776, an amendment to the PA Constitution to create an independent redistricting commission.

HELP MONITOR SCHOOL BOARD ACTIVITY

We continue to encourage members who live in the following districts to help monitor school board activity, including agendas, meeting minutes, and newspaper articles, and attend meetings in person or remotely: Carlisle Area, Cumberland Valley, Big Spring, South Middleton, West Shore, Mechanicsburg, Lebanon, or Northern York County. AAUW PA is working with a new coalition, Pennsylvanians for Welcoming and Inclusive Schools (PAWInS), to create effective strategies to challenge extremist use of school board power and legislative policies. If you learn of an issue in your school district, we will contact PAWInS and AAUW Pennsylvania for guidance on our advocacy efforts. If you are interested, please contact Ann Pehle (apehle@outlook.com, call or text 401-644-6488) for more information.

Here's why:

- Several AAUW members in the Big Spring School District have been monitoring the past three Board meetings, beginning when there was a motion not to allow the YWCA to offer programs in the schools without Board consent. After a lot of community pushback, including us, that some Board members were singling out the YWCA and second-guessing the trained professionals in the district, the programs for elementary students were approved, albeit on an "opt-in," not an "opt-out" basis. This means students whose parents are not as engaged and miss the permission slip may miss out on programs they could benefit from.
- Books some have found controversial have been taken off library shelves for review in South Middleton School District ([South Middleton SD Book Review](#)).
- Cumberland Valley School Board voted unanimously to cancel anti-bullying speaker Malik Pancholy, in part, because he is gay. However, community outcry forced the Board to reconsider their decision and the presentation at Mountain View Middle School will go ahead as planned.

We welcome new members to the Public Policy Committee. We meet via Zoom on the first Thursday of the month at 2:00 pm. We look forward to your participation.

Kathy Gates
AAUW Carlisle Public Policy Chair



Support "Open Up AAUW"
openupaauw.org

AAUW PA Conference

Great speakers were the hallmark of the April conference -- Evolution of the Fight: Looking Back to Move Forward. Want to see the fun? Use this [link](#) for photos.

And watch for full coverage in the May Keystoner!

Ann Pehle
AAUW PA Conference Committee Member



Carlisle Branch Members



Gisele Fetterman and her very tall "Uber Driver" John.



Featured Speaker Gisele Fetterman



Kate Elkins, Featured Speaker Valerie Arkoosh, Cherry France

BRANCH YARD SALE

The Third Annual AAUW Carlisle Branch Yard Sale is almost upon us! Now is the time to box up your flotsam and jetsam to bring to this May fundraising initiative. Your donations will contribute to raising money to help fund our Higher Education Scholarship, and registration fees for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) and Camp Invention. What better motivation for cleaning-up and boxing-up unwanted stuff?



Once again, the sale will be held in conjunction with the Chapel Hill Neighborhood Yard Sale on Saturday, May 25th. Yard Sale Co-Chair Carole DeWall will be the hostess with the “mostess” when she opens her garage and shares her driveway to receive your donations May 22nd and 23rd between the hours of 9 am and 8 pm at 330 Acre Dr., Carlisle. We also really need folding tables - these should be dropped off on Sunday the 19th between 1 pm and 6 pm - as should any jewelry donations, so they may be assessed for sale at Marjorie’s Jewelry Shop.

All donations should be ready to sell - clean and **unbroken**. Please do not pre-price your donations. Unsold items may be picked up by donors at the end of the sale at 3 pm on Saturday, otherwise all unsold items will be taken to other local organizations accepting donations or put out at the curb with a “Free” sign.

Anyone willing to help with this fundraiser, please contact Kathleen Gorak by phone or text 717-386-7466 or email kg1562@gmail.com AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. We especially need people to sell on Friday morning, May 24th from 7 am to noon, and Saturday, May 25th from 6:30 am till 3pm. Clean up will be on Saturday from 2 pm - 3 pm.

Let’s make this the most profitable Yard Sale yet!!

Kathleen Gorak
Yard Sale Co-Chair

Good Items to Donate				Please Do Not Donate	
Baskets	Bicycles	Books	Children’s Clothing	Adult Clothing	Car Seats
Crafting Materials	Decorative Objects	DVDs	Fabrics/Yarn	Electronics	Encyclopedias
Games	Garden Stuff	Holiday Decorations	Jewelry	Hats	Magazines
Kitchenware	Lamps	Mirrors	Office Accessories	Shoes	Stuffed Animals
Pet Carriers	Picture Frames	Plants/Seedlings	Plant Pots	Textbooks	Upholstered Furniture
Purses	Sports Equipment	Small Furniture			

AAUW Members Out and About in the Community...



Courthouse and Old Graveyard Tour



Several members enjoyed an architectural and historic tour of Cumberland County's Old Courthouse (our fourth court building since our 1750 founding), site of two notable trials involving Underground Railroad activity. We then learned the true story of Molly Pitcher and other notable military veterans buried in the old Public Graveyard. Look for information on our next outing to The Bower, May 18th, in this newsletter!



Janet Kacsur and Gail D'Urso worked with Mary Carlton and War College spouses at Jessica's Closet to match young women up with fantastic prom dresses on April 14 at New Life Church. Mary is a friend to AAUW, joining the panel at Trailblazers 2022, discussing her primary ownership and the success of C-Luv Thrift in Carlisle.



Judge Jenifer is in the House!



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, Lilian Wong

Appointed Off Board Committee Chairs

College Liaison: Elizabeth White-Hurst

Historian: Mary Bloser Berwick

Appointed Ad Hoc Committee Chairs

100th Anniversary: Jean Foschi, Jeanna Som

Appointed Coordinators

Newsletter Editor: Peggy Jennings

Social Media: Kate Elkins

Trailblazers: Gail D'Urso, Barb Attivo

Webpages: Stacey Gatch, Sharon Heller

Yearbook: Virginia Mauk

Zoom Coordinator: 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

Not receiving branch information?

Make sure emails from aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com aren't going into your junk or spam folder.

Get Active! Committees seeking members



Join the Program Committee!

Do you know an individual or organization doing impactful work that AAUW members should hear about?

Do you want to learn more about topics related to AAUW initiatives?

Join our program planning committee!

The Program Committee for the 2024-25 year is forming now. We would like to have as many members involved with this process as possible to ensure a selection of diverse and engaging programs next year.

Contact Deb Sweaney
dlsmo@embarqmail.com
Gail D'Urso
gailcdurso@gmail.com

Join the Public Policy Committee!

The Public Policy Committee would like to invite AAUW members, but in particular our newest members, to join our team. You are welcome to attend one of our PPC Zoom meetings on the 1st Thursday of the month at 2:00 pm or volunteer at any of the events. We look forward to your participation.

Contact Kathy Gates
kgates808@comcast.net

Join the Membership Committee!

Contact Nancy Sigrist
ncsigrist@gmail.com
Cindy Sutton
suttonc3@gmail.com



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