

## September Membership Meeting

### *Life in Cumberland County in 1924* *Tuesday, September 26, 7:00 PM*



What was life like in Cumberland County in 1924? That year was only the second time that women were allowed to vote! To those living in the 20's, life was changing so fast! In honor of our upcoming 100th anniversary, we'll explore the day-to-day

lives of local residents through a presentation tailored to AAUW interests by Shawn Gladden from the Cumberland County Historical Society.

We will also be able to peruse a collection of artifacts from the period.

Please note that this meeting **will be held at 7:00 PM at the Historical Society, 21 N. Pitt Street in Carlisle.**

PRESENTER: Shawn Gladden, Executive Director, Cumberland County Historical Society

With over 20 years experience as a museum professional, Shawn moved to the Carlisle area last year from Ellicott City, Maryland. He holds a B.S. in History from Towson University and an M.A. In History from George Mason University. Shawn also studied History at Cambridge University in the U.K. as part of a fellowship.

## From the President

We are still basking in the high of the Summer Retreat in Gettysburg on July 29, where our branch bookended the day's events. The retreat opened with four members of our Beyond Suffrage team receiving AAUW PA's Gateway to Equity Award for our Equity Quilt and White Paper.

Mid-day, our Civics 9-1-1 team, led by Marybeth Ulrich, gave a presentation about the series — why we felt it was necessary, how we structured it, the panelists we selected, and the positive feedback we received. Those who attended our presentation were happy to hear that the series was recorded and available on our website if their branch may want to do something similar.

And, to close out the day, our Beyond Suffrage team gave the plenary presentation on *The Path to our Economic Security White Paper*. We gave an overview of the three-year long road, beginning with our Women's Rally in January of 2019, the COVID-interrupted Beyond Suffrage Forum, the creation of our white paper for legislators, to our media event in the Capitol Rotunda. Demand was high for hard copies of the white paper which we hope other branches will use as they lobby their representatives.

All who attended the Summer Retreat were also fortunate to hear the inspiring words of Rep. Donna Bullock — a true AAUW ally in Harrisburg. And we were especially honored that AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell came from Washington, D.C. to spend the day with us and hold a town hall fielding questions from PA members. We extended an invitation to her for our 100th Anniversary Celebration in May and hope she'll be able to attend!

We can all be VERY proud that, after the day in Gettysburg, every branch in the state knows about the great work we do in Carlisle!

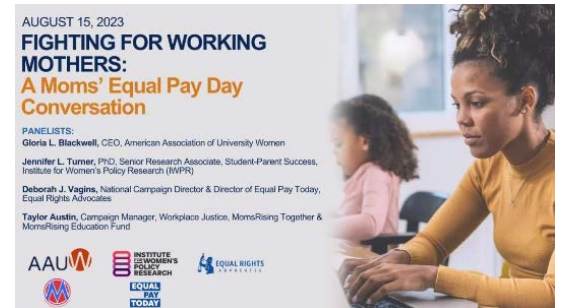
*Kate Elkins*  
**President**

## News from National *Moms' Equal Pay Day*

AAUW hosted a fabulous webinar on August 15, 2023 – Moms' Equal Pay Day. Yes, it takes an additional 7.5 months for mothers to earn the same annual wages as fathers. Gloria Blackwall, AAUW CEO was joined by other prominent organizations to shine a light on this issue. It was a lively discussion of facts, antidotes, passion, and advocacy. Definitely worth your time to watch the recording. <https://youtu.be/BKJ66opWHQQ>

New research from Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) was introduced.

<https://iwpr.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Mothers-Equal-Pay-Fact-Sheet-2023-FINAL.pdf>



### **STEMEd For Girls Fall season starts September 6 with “Pathways to STEM” session**

AAUW's successful STEMEd for Girls program is back! We're proud to offer another full season of lively, informative, and engaging virtual workshops that will pave the way for girls' success as they move through high school, into college, and eventually on to a career in a STEM field. This program is designed especially for girls in grades 9 through 12 and their caregivers and is completely free. Share with your local communities and professional groups to expand our reach!

[Learn more and register.](#)

### **Ms. Magazine Membership**

As part of a special partnership, we're pleased to offer new and renewing AAUW members a free, one-year membership to the legendary Ms. Magazine which includes four print issues. [Sign up](#) to get yours today!

**Ann Pehle**

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

May 10, 2024  
 AAUW Carlisle 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
 Celebration

## Branch Fundraising

### *Silent Auction Raises Record Amount!*

At the 2023-2024 Silent Auction, we sold 29 items and collected \$1,266; cash donations received was \$400 with a grand total of \$1,666. Another record sales and donations toward funding our projects for 2023-2024.

Last year's silent auction earned a generous \$1,649 on 26 items. Our 2023-2024 silent auction hit an all-time record of \$1,666, an increase of \$17 plus 3 items from the previous year.

I want to thank Pat Markowski for organizing this year's donations and I also want to acknowledge the hard work of our treasurers, Cherry France, and Molly Shane. This is a lot of work for the treasurers at the end of the evening and their tracking last minute cash donations. Thanks to everyone who donated auction items and those who gave cash donations, Great job!



*Silent Auction Items*

AAUW Carlisle Branch members never fail to amaze me with your generosity. Can't wait to see what happens next year. Put your thinking caps on now to try and beat the new record of \$1,666 in sales and donations.

Next fundraiser will be for the Scholarship Fund at the Holiday Brunch in December. Hope to see you there.

**Becky Morgenthal**  
**AAUW Fund Chair**

### **2023-24 AAUW Carlisle Yearbook Packed With Great Information—Use It!**

The AAUW Carlisle Yearbook is out and ready for your use! It's jam packed with great information to help you make the most of your membership in the upcoming year. Use it to review what AAUW is all about, the importance of your membership and the impact it makes on women and girls across the US. The Yearbook is an overview of our Board of Directors, this year's programming, book club information, awards and of course the member directory. Don't throw the Yearbook in your junk drawer! Use it! Identify your board members, put the programs on your calendar and make a point to attend, read a book and attend book club and watch your newsletter for other interest group activities.

Most importantly, use your Yearbook as a resource to get to know your fellow members. See if a member lives nearby, give them a call and carpool to a meeting. Compare background, education and degrees to see what you have in common. If you attended an event and sit next to someone you would like to get to know better, look up their number and give them a call (or, when you attend an event, sit next to someone you haven't met and get to know them)! Yearbooks are available for pick up at monthly programs. If you find an error, let me know as updates will be published and the information can be shared.



AAUW Carlisle is of course about our mission but it is also about making connections with women of common goals--Get started today!

**Virginia Mauk**  
**Yearbook**

## AAUW Carlisle 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

### *AAUW Carlisle's First President, Mary Curran Morgan*

Mary Curran's college pictures show a pretty, petite, athletic, young woman. We know from college publications at the time that she was very popular with her fellow students. What is not readily apparent is how smart and determined she was. Graduating second in her class in 1888, she was working on an advanced degree at Dickinson when she fell in love with a fellow Dickinson graduate, James Henry Morgan. Mary did not abandon her studies when they married in 1890; she was awarded her Masters in 1891.



*Mary Curran*

Mary was beside Dr. Morgan's side as he rose to become the President of Dickinson. In the Dickinson archives there are copies of letters, memos, and forms regarding President Morgan's efforts to meet the AAUW's eligibility requirements. These papers take up several archival boxes and span over a decade. What is missing from these boxes are the conversations he had with his wife Mary about the need for Dickinson to make significant changes including appointing a dean of women, ensuring properly run women's dormitories, and instituting parallel programs for women and men. While I have absolutely no proof, I am sure that those conversations happened. I would have loved to have heard them!

We may not have a record of her conversations with her husband, but a woman who attended Dickinson in the early years of the twentieth century wrote of the support and mentoring she received from Mary Curran Morgan. This woman was not alone as there are other women who talked of Mary's support.

It was not until 1923 that the national AAUW organization added Dickinson to their list of eligible schools and Mary was finally able to invite women to an organizational meeting for a new AAUW chapter. The charter meeting was held May 10, 1924, one hundred years ago this spring. Mary Curran Morgan was elected our chapter's first President and she served in that role until her unexpected death on April 22, 1927. She was on a train, headed to a board meeting of the Methodist Children's home, when she suffered a fatal heart attack. She left behind her husband and three children who would all graduate from Dickinson.



*Deborah Sweaney & Kate Elkins*

Her work not only changed the college but Carlisle as well. She helped to start our local YWCA and worked to improve our community through the Civic Club. She was instrumental in changing the role of women in our Commonwealth serving on committees that organized the American Association of University Women at the state level.

When I read the reaction to her unexpected death. It is obvious that the Dickinson community loved and respected her. They mourned her passing, and in her honor cancelled all athletic events the weekend after she died.

Mary Curran Morgan made a difference with her life. She left us a proud legacy. We, as members of the Carlisle chapter of AAUW, can look to her story for inspiration.

*Deborah Sweaney  
Program VP*

## Public Policy

The Public Policy Committee met on August 15th. We are looking for venues to volunteer or collaborate with other like-minded organizations to do voter registration this fall. If you have some suggestions, please contact anyone on the Public Policy Committee.

The Committee has scheduled a CASD School Board Candidate Forum for Monday, October 23rd from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the Fowler LGI Auditorium in the Carlisle High School. We are working with their technology staff to work with us the night of the event and live stream the event. Please plan to attend this event. Watch for more information as we finalize the plans for the CASD School Board Candidate Forum.

**PA Family Care Act:** There is a bipartisan solution on the table in Harrisburg. Please consider calling your state Senators and Representatives and ask them to support the PA Family Care Act. You should not need to choose between your job, your source of financial security, and:

Caring for your elderly father or mother after surgery, or

Tending to one of your children being treated for an acute condition, or

Overseeing your own recovery after medical treatment, or even

Requiring maternity/paternity time when you are blessed with a newborn, adopted, or foster child.

Moreover, employers in Pennsylvania shouldn't need to pick between the health of their businesses and loyalty to their employees. Paid family leave is a family value; it is a Pennsylvania value.



Do you know about **Women2Women**? It is a women's organization that briefs Congress directly on issues important to women. We frequently poll women nationwide to fully understand the issues they care about most, including healthcare, equal pay, education, childcare, and access to capital. If you would like to participate, contact <https://www.joinw2w.com/>

**Kathy Gates**  
**Public Policy Chair**

## Your Membership Matters! *Off to a Great Start!*

The lifeblood of our vibrant organization is in constant renewal with the growth of our active and dedicated membership. It shows the enthusiasm of our members when we welcome personal friends, colleagues and neighbors and inspire them to join us in our mission and to share in our fun! *The Membership Committee would like to thank each and every one of you for your support and recruitment efforts as we kick off our membership drive for the 2023 – 2024 fiscal year!*

### August Membership Social

We were so delighted with the turn out for our August Membership Social this year! Well over 60 fun loving ladies, including 16 guests, attended this event held at the Second Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Attendees enjoyed a light summer supper, table games, a generous silent auction put together by member donations, nostalgic recalls from the past 100 years since our founding and updates from several of our committee chairs. The fun was capped off with a musical video highlighting music from past decades to the present put together by Cindy Sutton with the technical expertise of her son, Jesse. Members and guests alike could not resist belting out the lyrics as the music played! So fun!

We were able to offer new membership fee discounts using AAUW National's Shape the Future Program. Several attending guests signed up or took applications home with promises of completion over the next few days.

Many thanks to the many volunteers including Patty Stibitz, Janet Kacsur, Virginia Mauk and Gail D'Urso and others who helped with set up, greeting members and guests and clean up! Cindy and Nancy are most appreciative!!!



## Spouses Club Welcome Event

Each year, the AAUW Carlisle Membership Committee joins with other non-profits and local businesses to welcome families of the Army War College staff and students to our beautiful area. Our objective is to tell everyone about our branch, our mission and the many good things we do in this area for women and girls. On Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, our efforts brought two new members to our branch with a number of additional applications taken by prospects for completion at home. Thanks to Virginia Mauk, Gail D’Urso, Cindy Sutton and Nancy Sigrist for manning the AAUW table.



Nancy Sigrist and Gail D’Urso

**Nancy Sigrist and Cindy Sutton**  
**Membership Co-Vice Presidents**

## Interest Groups and Upcoming Events

### AAUW Carlisle Co-Sponsoring Clarke Forum Program

Thursday, September 14 at 7:00 pm



The majority of women in the US will use the birth control pill at some point in their lives. Yet, there is very little information out there for women or their partners about what the pill does to the brain. This means that being on the birth control pill makes women a different version of themselves than when they are off of it. In this talk, Sarah E. Hill of Texas Christian University will discuss what we know and don’t know about the pill and women’s brains and behavior. She will also talk about why this information matters for men and for those who care for women’s mental and physical health. Lastly, Hill will urge researchers to conduct better, more inclusive science that teaches men and women

about who they are and how their brains work, whether they are on or off of medications like the birth control pill. **A book sale and signing will follow the program.**

The program is sponsored by the Clarke Forum for Contemporary Issues and co-sponsored by the Women’s & Gender Resource Center, the Office of LGBTQ Services, the AAUW Carlisle Chapter, the AAUW Dickinson Chapter, the Pre-Health Program, and the departments of chemistry, economics, political science, and psychology. This program was initiated by the Clarke Forum’s student project managers.

### 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
9/11	7:00 PM	Cherry	<i>Georgia O’Keeffe, A Life</i> by Roxana Robinson
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 September 9 at 9:00 AM at Sunrise Café (231 North Hanover Street, Carlisle)

**Dine Out**—Wednesday, September 20 at 6:00 PM at Momma Spriggs (160 York Road, Carlisle)

AAUW Events				
Date	Time	Event	Registration links	Link to Article
Sept. 9	9:00 am	Breakfast Club at Sunrise Café 231 North Hanover Street. Carlisle	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="#">Page 6</a>
Sept. 14	7:00 pm	Clarke Forum presentation: Women’s Brains and the Birth Control Pill		<a href="#">Page 6</a>
Sept. 11	7:00 pm	Book Club-Cherry Hostess- <i>Georgia O’Keeffe, A Life</i> by Roxana Robinson	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="#">Page 6</a>
Sept. 17		Tour of Ladew Topiary Gardens	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="#">Page 7</a>
Sept. 20	6:00 pm	Dine Out at Momma Spriggs 160 York Rd, Carlisle	RSVP <a href="#">here</a>	<a href="#">Page 6</a>
Sept. 20		Newsletter Submission Deadline	Submit to <a href="mailto:hellers@pa.net">hellers@pa.net</a> and <a href="mailto:peggy@drj4college.com">peggy@drj4college.com</a>	
Sept. 26	7:00 pm	Membership Meeting: “Life in Cumberland County in 1924” Cumberland County Historical Society (21 N. Pitt Street, Carlisle)		<a href="#">Page 1</a>

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



Wander amongst the beautiful paths of Ladew Gardens, with 22 acres of spectacular award-winning gardens, more than 100 remarkable topiaries, a mile-long Nature Walk, and native Butterfly House.

Ladew, named “One of the Top 5 Gardens in North America,” deemed “the most outstanding topiary garden in America” by the Garden Club of America, and featured as one of “Ten incredible topiary gardens around the world” by Architectural Digest, is located in the Maryland countryside 20 miles north of Baltimore. Designed and developed by Harvey S. Ladew (1887-1976), the Gardens and historic Manor House are known throughout the world.

Admission to grounds and Butterfly House is \$17 for adults, or \$12 for seniors and students. A separate tour of the Manor House is available for an additional \$7. The Ladew Café offers a delicious menu featuring artisan sandwiches, salads, and sweets -- eat in, or take your selection outdoors for a picnic! Our group will carpool from Carlisle, leaving at 9:00am. Return time can be flexible; the Gardens close at 5:00pm. Please RSVP, and indicate your willingness to drive, by September 10, to Jenifer Johnson at [jjpackard56@gmail.com](mailto:jjpackard56@gmail.com) or 717-776-9499.

For more details and images of Ladew Gardens, visit their website: [www.LadewGardens.com](http://www.LadewGardens.com).  
from Jenifer Johnson, AAUW Carlisle Community Activities -- 717-776-8499)

**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 (nominated)  
**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**

**100<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:aauwcarlisleinfo@gmail.com)

## Get Active

### Committees seeking members\*

**Fundraising**

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

**Membership**

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

**Public Policy**

Contact Kathy Gates [kgates808@comcast.net](mailto:kgates808@comcast.net) for more information.

*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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