

Upcoming AAUW Events

Child Care Town Hall

(Co-sponsored by AAUW Carlisle)
Thursday, September 5, 6 pm
Upper Allen Township Building, Mechanicsburg
More Information on page 5

Book Club

Monday, September 9, 7 pm
The Demon of Unrest by Erik Larson
Wendy Armour Dickinson;
1111 Pheasant Drive, North
RSVP to Wendy Armour Dickinson [here](#)
Preview 2024-25 Book Selections on page 4

Breakfast Club

Saturday, September 14, 9 am
Sunrise Cafe (231 N. Hanover Street).
RSVP to Wendy Armour Dickinson [here](#)

Topic Talk—Paid Family Leave

Thursday, September 19, 7 pm
Location TBA
RSVP to Theresa Rice [here](#)

Submit to the October Branching Out Before

Friday, September 20
Submit to Peggy Jennings [here](#)

September Membership Meeting

Why Girls Should Learn History
Tuesday, September 24, 7 pm
HUB Side Rooms
Dr. Cathy Gorn, Executive Director,
National History Day
More Info Here

October Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 22, 7 pm,
Dickinson Stern Center
Jerry Mitchell, PA Attorney General's Office
Protecting Yourself from Fraud & Scams
Preview future Membership Meetings on page 6

Why Girls Should Learn History

Know History; Know Self

Acclaimed historian and educator, Dr. Cathy Gorn will launch AAUW Carlisle's second century of programming on Tuesday, September 24 at 7 pm in Dickinson's HUB Side Rooms with a message entitled, "Why Girls Should Learn History."



Dr. Cathy Gorn is the Executive Director of National History Day (NHD.) She joined NHD in 1982 when the organization was in its infancy. Her efforts fundamentally shaped National History Day into a highly acclaimed international program that offers a new approach to teaching history.

Dr. Gorn received her B.A. in English from Kent State University in 1982, and her Ph.D. in history from Case Western Reserve University 1992. She made numerous presentations on history education at forums for historians and teachers, including the National Council for the Social Studies, the American Historical Association, and the Organization of American Historians. Her publications on teaching history to young people have appeared in many professional journals. In addition, Dr. Gorn contributed to and served as editor for more than 40 curriculum guides and projects for National History Day.

Dr. Gorn has directed nearly three dozen national institutes for teachers of history and social studies. She served two terms on the Education Advisory Committee for the First Freedom Center, the Education Committee of the American Bar Association, and the Presidential Advisors for the National World War II Museum. Dr. Gorn currently serves on the White House Historical Association Education Committee and the National Capital Radio & Television Museum Board of Trustees.

Her work has recently been featured on:

CBS Sunday Morning: Watch [here](#)
and the PBS News Hour: Watch [here](#)

Letter from the President

I hope you all feel as recharged as I do and are looking forward to the first year of our second century!

Our Program Committee has terrific speakers lined up; Public Policy is busy planning voter education efforts ahead of this critical election and has at least two Topic Talks in the works.

Some of us monitoring local school boards have not been able to take the summer off as some new board members have been pushing a non-inclusive “Christian Nationalist” agenda, attempting to block new Title IX regulations from going into effect.

AAUW was instrumental in getting Title IX passed in 1972 and supports the new regulations. I spoke at the Big Spring School Board meeting, on August 5, representing AAUW Carlisle in our support of Title IX.

I shared that, although a federal judge in Kansas has issued a temporary stay, according to the Education Law Center, “The Kansas decision does not have any effect whatsoever on state laws, such as the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act (PHRA)”. This is our state non-discrimination statute. Any district attempting to “test” whether state or federal law would take precedence, runs the risk of costly litigation — monies better spent on educating our students.

In a Zoom meeting with Pennsylvania Branch Presidents, we found out that, had it been up to our state, the Bylaws change to remove the degree requirement would have passed! Through a concerted effort by many across the state, we increased voter participation by 10%. I’d like to give a special thanks to Ann Pehle, Molly Shane and Jenifer Johnson for making a difference for Pennsylvania and our branch!

Here’s to another fabulous year!

Kate Elkins

A Note About Member Contact Information

Because our newsletter is posted to our public website, for privacy reasons, we will no longer include personal email addresses or phone numbers as text in the newsletter. We will include only a “clickable” link with the embedded email address. If that function doesn’t work on your computer, please consult the branch Yearbook for member emails and phone numbers.



Junior Achievement Volunteers Needed!



Our January 2024 branch meeting showed how easy it was to participate as a volunteer supporting Junior Achievement (JA) STEM activities for 9th graders. We had the script in hand and completed the actual activity. Now is the time to put those experiences to work.

The first opportunity is Tuesday, October 29 and Wednesday October 30 at Carlisle High School. Volunteers will receive a video link to the activity in advance and hands-on training for the activity the day of volunteering. JA makes all the necessary arrangements and sends assignments and parking information well in advance.

For more information or to volunteer contact [Lillian Wong](#) or [Barb Attivo](#) (click name for email link).

Silent Auction Sets New Fundraising Record!

At the 2024-2025 Silent Auction, we sold 22 items for \$1,071 and received \$855 in donations for a grand total of \$1,926. Another record sales and donations toward funding our operating expenses for 2024-2025. Last year's silent auction earned a generous \$1,649 on 26 items.



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!

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 \$1,926 in sales and donations.

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

Becky Morgenthal
AAUW Fund Chair

***Welcome New Members
Joining at the August
Membership Social!***

***Meta Bowman and
Jennifer Waleski***



AAUW Yearbook: Your Guide to the 2024-25 Year

This year's AAUW Yearbook is ready for your use! Yearbooks were distributed at the August Social or via mail; they are your guide for the upcoming year. The Yearbook contains the current list of board members, information on branch meetings, book club selections and meeting times, and interest group information. Most importantly, the Yearbook contains AAUW Carlisle branch member information. Whether you are a seasoned member or a new member, this information is shared so you can connect with other members! Perhaps you are looking for a ride to a meeting; look to see if someone lives close by and give them a call. Perhaps you met another member at a meeting and would like to continue your conversation but don't have their contact information. Well, you do! It is all in the book! Volunteers are always needed; connect with committee chairs listed on the Board of Directors page and offer your time to make an impact within the branch and the community. It is also fun to look through the member listings to see where others received their education—another way to make a connection. Make your Yearbook a go-to for all things AAUW Carlisle and ENJOY!



Virginia Mauk
AAUW Yearbook

Book Group



Date	Time	Hostess	Book
Monday, Sept 9	7:00 pm	Wendy	<i>The Demon of Unrest</i> ; Erik Larson
Monday, Oct 7	7:00 pm	Virginia	<i>Animal Farm</i> ; George Orwell
Monday, Nov 4	1:00 pm	Kathy	<i>The Frozen River</i> ; Ariel Lawson
Monday, Jan 6	1:00 pm	Panera	<i>The Women</i> ; Kristin Hannah
Monday, Feb 3	1:00 pm	Pat M	<i>James</i> ; Percival Everett
Monday, Mar 3	1:00 pm	Panera	<i>Dinners with Ruth</i> ; Nina Totenberg
Monday, Apr 7	7:00 pm	Janet	<i>Lives of Girls and Women</i> ; Alice Munro
Monday, May 5	7:00 pm	Darlis	<i>Within Arm's Reach</i> ; Ann Napolitano
Monday, June 9	6:00 pm	DINNER	1794 Whiskey Rebellion

Public Policy Updates

Welcome back to a new AAUW Carlisle Program Year! Our Public Policy members have been busy planning some excellent learning opportunities and here are just a few.

With the General Election right around the corner, please take some time to look over voter guides and resources. Voter education and voter registration should not be neglected. [Voter Issue Guide](#)

We are bringing back the Topic Talk Series! Although there are many issues AAUW supports, we chose to focus on these 3 this year: Paid Family Leave, Child Care, and School Board Issues and Advocacy. Our Topic Talks are designed to be led in smaller settings and are conversation driven. Our first Topic Talk is on Paid Family Leave and will be held on Thursday, September 19 at 7pm. Stay tuned for more information.



Please consider joining our amazing Public Policy team as we are always looking to grow! You don't need to have any background knowledge in public policy, just a passion to support, encourage, and advocate for policies that empower women and girls. We meet the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm via ZOOM. If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please contact either [Theresa Rice](#) or [Kelly Spasic](#) (Click to connect to email addresses).

As new Co-Chairs, we look forward to a great year promoting AAUW.

Theresa Rice & Kelly Spasic
Co-Chairs Public Policy

What's Up in Pennsylvania? News from AAUW Pennsylvania

Every month, AAUW Pennsylvania holds an AAUW issue-based Zoom webinar. August's was on Title IX and the new regulations intended to repair the damage done by the DeVoss regulations in 2022. Go [here](#) to see the recording and catch up on previous events.



There is still time to register for the Atlantic Regional Conference. Pennsylvania is making a significant planning and presenting contribution. Come to show your support for Kate Elkins and Cherry France who are

conducting a Swap Shop session on Saturday. Four of the ten swap shop sessions are led by an AAUW Pennsylvania member. Yep, I am proud of AAUW Pennsylvania's contribution to the success of this new event. <https://aauwatlanticregionalconference.com/>

Because I know you like to plan, mark your calendar for the **AAUW Pennsylvania 2025 Summer Retreat on June 27-28, 2025, in the State College area.** You don't want to inadvertently schedule a vacation and have to miss this event! 😊 Details will be shared as they are finalized.

Ann Pehle
AAUW Pennsylvania College/University Liaison
AAUW Pennsylvania Nomination & Elections Co-Chair



News from National AAUW

The best summary of AAUW happenings is in the monthly newsletter from Gloria L. Blackwell, AAUW CEO. If you are a member, you received this email (it comes from memberinfo@email.aauw.org)—so look in SPAM or JUNK or another folder in your computer files or emails.

When reading Gloria's email, be sure to register for the Member Gathering via Zoom on September 10, at 4 pm ET. AAUW National will recognize outstanding supporters and branches and share updates on our work in Policy, Programs, Membership, and more. Register [here](#).

Ann Pehle
AAUW Pennsylvania College/University Liaison
AAUW Pennsylvania Nomination & Elections Co-Chair

Child Care Town Hall

The Cumberland County Commission for Women will hold a town hall, co-sponsored by AAUW Carlisle, Thursday, September 5, at 6 pm at the Upper Allen Township Building, 100 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

Please join us for this important discussion on a critical issue predominantly facing women.

*All are Welcome; No Registration Required;
Child Care Provided.*

The Cumberland County Commission for Women, United Way, AAUW, PA Chamber of Business and Industry, and TriCounty Community Action will discuss barriers and access to child care and possible solutions in a way that will provide economic mobility for families.

The topics to be covered will include:

- Why is childcare so expensive?
- What are the challenges providers are facing?
- What is the economic impact on families of the high cost of childcare?
- What solutions are available to curb costs and encourage upward economic growth?



Child Care Town Hall

A Community Led Conversation on Access, Affordability & Solutions to Child Care in Cumberland County

Let's really talk about child care.

Whether you're a parent in the county, a provider facing barriers, or a community/business partners who understand the importance of quality care for your employees, this open door and community **centered town hall is designed for YOU.**

This public community forum will seek public and stakeholder feedback addressing the difficulty finding, affording, and defining the economic need for child care in the county.

Details:
September 5, 2024
Upper Allen Municipal Building
6:00pm - 8:30pm

This event is open to all – no registration required.

Note: Child care is provided on site.

Speaker	Agenda	Timing
Commissioners Kelly Neiderer & Jean Foschi CCCW Hosts	Kick Off, Introductions, Level Set on Expectations	15 mins
PA Governor's Commission for Women: Moriah Hathaway	Statewide Issue Overview / General Messaging on Child care Needs in PA	15 mins
United Way of Pennsylvania: Kristen Rotz	True Affordability / Economic Barriers / ALICE Data Centered in Cumberland County / Solution Ideas	25 mins
Tri County Community Action: Sheila Derr & Jen Crottsley	Local Case Stories of Cumberland County Families / Solution Based Suggestions / Barriers for Providers	25 mins
PA Chamber of Business and Industry	Economic Impact for Children and Families / Provider Concerns / Solution Ideas	25 mins
Commissioner Kelly Neiderer & CCCW Hosts	Open Dialogue and Q&A With Attendees	25 mins
CCCW Hosts	Closing Remarks and Next Steps	10 mins

Questions? Email CumberlandWomen@gmail.com



AAUW Carlisle 2024-2025 Board Members

Elected Officers

President: Kate Elkins

Vice President: Nancy Sigrist

Membership VPs: Cindy Sutton, Janet Kacsur

Program VPs: Deborah Sweaney, Jeanna Som

Finance Officers: Cherry France, Molly Shane

Secretary: Marina Young

Appointed Committee Chairs

AAUW Funds: Becky Morgenthal

Communications: Pat Markowski

Community Activities:

Interest Groups: Wendy Armour Dickinson

Public Policy: Theresa Rice, Kathy Spasic

Scholarship: Lillian Wong, Gail D’Urso

STEM: Barb Attivo, Lilian Wong

Appointed Off Board Committee Chairs

College Liaison: Katie Schweighofer

Historian: Mary Bloser Berwick

Appointed Coordinators

Newsletter Editor: Peggy Jennings

Social Media: Kate Elkins

Trailblazers: Gail D’Urso, Barb Attivo

Webpages: 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.

Preview this year’s Membership Meetings!

Tuesday, October 22, 7 pm, Dickinson Stern Center
Jerry Mitchell, PA Attorney General’s Office
Protecting Yourself from Fraud and Scams

Saturday, December 7, 10 am, HUB Social Hall
Holiday Brunch

Tuesday, January 28, 7 pm HUB Side Rooms
Maureen Cantwell, PSU Master Gardener, Cumberland County
Vegetable Gardening

Thursday, February 25, 7 pm, HUB Side Rooms
Lisa Kessler-Peters
Life and Redemption after Experience in the Justice System

Tuesday, March 25, 7 pm, HUB Side Rooms
Marcia Drozdowski, CEO of Carlisle YMCA
Trailblazing the World of Female Executive Leadership

Tuesday, April 29, 6 pm HUB Social Hall
Scholarship Banquet

Tuesday, May 27, 7 pm, HUB Side Rooms
Emily Schmidt
Cracked Pot—Aging Out of the Foster Care System



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Like us @AAUW Pennsylvania