



BRANCHING Out

A Publication of the AAUW Carlisle (PA) Branch – Organized 1924

AAUW - Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research

Volume 61, Number 10

June/July 2025

Upcoming AAUW Events

Book Club

June 9; 6 pm

The 1794 Whiskey Rebellion;
10 S. Hanover St., Carlisle

Gather to select books for the 2025-26 Reading Season!

Summer Breakfast Club Meetings

Saturday, June 14; 9 am

Saturday July 12; 9 am

Saturday August 9; 9 am

Cracked Pot (36 N. Hanover St., Carlisle)

RSVP to Wendy Armour Dickinson [here](#)

Submit to the August Branching Out Before

Monday, July 21

Submit to Peggy Jennings [here](#)

DEADLINE to Register for the AAUW PA

Summer Retreat!

June 22 All details on page 4

Wine and a Mystery

Tuesday, June 24; 5:30 pm

More Information on page 3

AAUW PA Summer Retreat

June 27-28; State College, PA

More Information on page 4

August Membership Meeting and

Annual Silent Auction

Tuesday August 26

August Membership Meeting and Annual Silent Auction Tuesday, August 26; 6 pm

As we prepare to take our June & July break, remember that our August membership meeting includes our annual Auction. As you travel through the summer, you might find some items that would fit the Auction.

Here are the criteria for auction items:

- Limit donations to one per person, or team up with another member to create a multi-item donation.
- All items must be unused, clean, and have all parts included
- Wine, jams, jellies, art, decorative and garden-related items are best sellers, as well as gift cards to local businesses and restaurants.
- To register a donation, email your item description to Pat Markowski [HERE](#) (Do NOT use the general AAUWCarlisle Email to register your donations) or call 717-458-8591. Include the value of the donation and a suggested starting bid. Registration will be accepted through August 21.
- On the day of the auction, deliver your items to the entrance table; the Fund committee will then place the auction item on the auction table with the bid sheets.

Enjoy the summer break!

Becky Morgenthal,
Chair Fund Committee



Letter from the President

It's that time of year when our gardens have come to life and we take stock of what we have planted and nurtured this past year and those before.

And when I look at what our branch —and the amazing women in it — has sown in the community, I have a true sense of gratitude. We have tended to the hard, and sometimes tedious, work to [create] the fertile ground in which our efforts can bear fruit and where others can find the environment to grow with us.

Sure, there may have been a few setbacks along the way — like the last National election — but nothing that we can't deal with together.

It is also the time when we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing board members who have given so much to the branch! Cherry France, Cindy Sutton, and Deborah Sweaney have devoted countless hours behind the scenes to keep our foundation strong and help to make AAUW Carlisle an example to branches across the State. We also thank Marina Young, who may be leaving her role as Secretary, but is taking over as Communications Chair from the indomitable Pat Markowski. Pat is retiring after EIGHT dedicated years. **Thank you all so much!**

Wishing you all a wonderful summer with family!

Kate Elkins
President

AAUW Funds Update

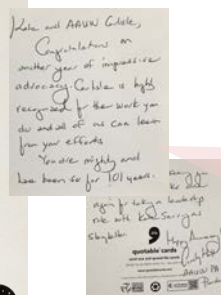
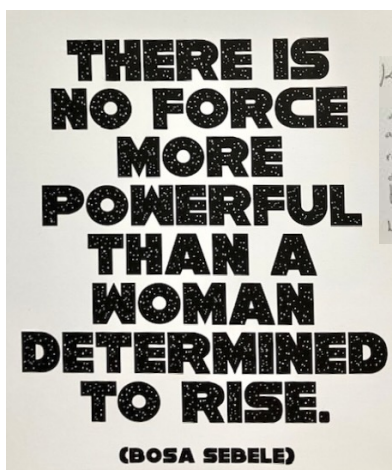
After 7 years of being the AAUW Fund Committee Chair, I have decided to step down. I am happy to report to you that Mary Berwick has agreed to take over the Chair position.

I would like to thank my committee members for all their support: Mary Berwick, Kate Elkins, Sherry Eichorn, Janet Kacsur, Pat Markowski, Virginia Mauk, Kelly Spasic, Cindy Sutton, and Lillian Wong.

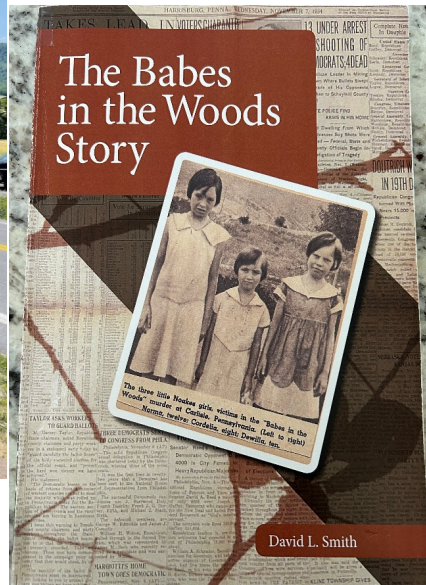
Over the years, the fundraising activities have raised more money to help the Scholarship Fund and the Operating Funds. I want to thank everyone who has supported these fundraising efforts no matter how small or large your donations.

The silent auction is our top fundraiser to cover the upcoming year's operating expenses. Full details on how to participate through your generous donations of auction items is found on page 1.

From AAUW PA President, Cindy Hall



Kate and AAUW Carlisle,
Congratulations on another year of impressive advocacy. Carlisle is highly recognized for the work you do and all of us can learn from your efforts. You are mighty and have been so for 101 years. I look forward to seeing you in June and thanks once again for taking a leadership role with Kate serving as storyteller.
Happy Anniversary! Cindy Hall AAUW PA President



WINE AND A MYSTERY?

TUESDAY, JUNE 24

5:30-8:00 pm

The Winery at the Long Shot Farm
1925 McClure's Gap Road
Carlisle, PA

Join us on a beautiful summer evening at a lovely setting in the Cumberland Valley to enjoy a glass of wine and learn about an event that shocked our community almost 100 years ago.

Mark your calendar and join Carlisle AAUW members and friends at The Winery at Long Shot Farm for this special event! Spouses and partners are welcome to join us.

5:30 - 7:00 Wine tasting; wine will be available for purchase

7:00 - 8:00 David Smith, a local historian and author, will share his research, a PowerPoint Presentation, and the book, *The Babes in the Woods*.

In 1934, a family's hopeful journey becomes one of desperation, ending in tragedy in Cumberland County.

RSVP by June 17 to Patty Stibitz [HERE](#) or Gail D'Urso [HERE](#). (Do NOT use the general AAUWCarlisle address to respond.)

We MUST have 20 people in order to schedule this event!

Tickets are not necessary, but we need to let Long Shot Farms know how many people to expect.



Like us @AAUWCarlisle

Like us @AAUW Pennsylvania

What's Up in Pennsylvania? News from AAUW Pennsylvania

LAST CALL for Registering for the AAUW Pennsylvania 2025 Summer Retreat June 27-28, 2025

Sor far, only five AAUW Carlisle members have registered. Don't miss hearing our very own Kate Elkins speak and the camaraderie of seeing friends from across the state and enjoying the company of other like-minded women. Deadline for [registration](https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/) is June 22, 2025

<https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/>



Location: Wyndham Hotel—Boalsburg, PA
(Just south of State College, PA)

Friday: Casual reception on the Patio sponsored by AAUW Pennsylvania for those who want to get to know other AAUW members from across the state or catch up with life-long friends

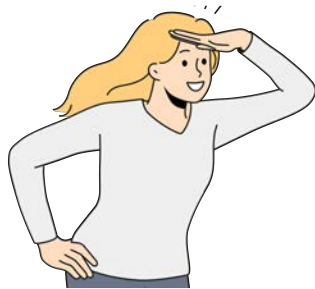
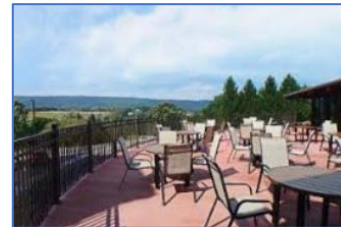
ATTENDING FRIDAY NIGHT IS NOT REQUIRED

Saturday: A different look/feel than past Summer meetings.

10:00am – 3:00pm will be an interactive day focused on topics that members have registered as priorities for branches.

Watch this [video](#) for an introduction from our facilitator about the day.

IT'S ONLY A 1.5 HOUR DRIVE. CARPOOL TO MAKE IT MORE FUN!



In other news, the AAUW Pennsylvania Annual Meeting was held virtually on May 3, 2025. Thank you for voting in the officer elections and for the Bylaw changes. The results were shared during the meeting—all candidates were elected and proposed Bylaw changes passed.

News from National AAUW

Have you tuned into the buzz? AAUW launched our new 2025 Strategic Plan — a powerful, purpose-driven roadmap that honors our proud legacy and propels us into a future of even greater impact.

Gloria Blackwell's May 22, 2025 email, **Mission & Action | AAUW's Roadmap for the Future** clarifies AAUW's strategic direction. This newsletter provides an introduction to the changes, reasons, and our responsibilities as AAUW members. You will find all the information you need at [2025 AAUW Strategic Plan](#) – be sure to scroll down for a thorough overview of our direction and intentions.

We Empower Potential

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

AMISH DINNER?

The Community Activities Community is gauging member interest in an Amish Dinner at the Country Store Cafe in Newburg, about 35 minutes from Carlisle.

Price: \$25 per person

Dates: Wednesdays or Fridays; Times as early as 4:30 pm.

Friends/partners welcome. See menu (YUM!!!)



Please contact Gail D'Urso [HERE](#) to indicate your interest and preferred dates and times. (Do NOT use the AAUWCarlisle email address to respond).

We need at least 25 people in order to schedule a group time.



COUNTRY STORE CAFE

717-530-9452

6352 McClays Mill Rd. Newburg PA 17240

Family Style Menu

Choice: Soup or Salad

Cream of Broccoli
Vegetable Beef Soup
Creamy Potato Soup
Tossed Salad
Lettuce W/Bacon Dressing

Choice of: 2 Side Dishes

Green Beans
Baked Corn
Steamed Broccoli
Creamed Celery
Glazed Carrots
Buttered Noodles

Choice of: 2 Meats W/Filling

Roast Turkey
BBQ Meatballs
Glazed Hamballs
Baked Chicken
Roast Beef

Choice of Gravy

Beef
Chicken

Choice of: Potato

Mashed Potatoes
Cheesy Potatoes

Choice of: 2 Pies & Ice cream

Coconut Cream Pie
Chocolate Cream Pie
Peanut Butter Cream Pie
Red Raspberry Cream Pie
Fruit Pies: Apple, Cherry, Peach
Shoofly Pie
Pumpkin Pie (seasonal)
Lemon Meringue Pie

Dinners Also include:

Homemade Dinner Rolls
Sweet or Unsweetened Tea

\$25.00 per person

\$13.00 per child ages 7-12

Children 6 and Under Free

Dinner Reservations Wed. or Fri. Evenings Only
Group Minimum 25 Adults...Prices include tax and Gratuity

Membership Matters

It's summertime! Our branch takes a break from regular monthly meetings, but not from the fun and policy work of AAUW. Stay connected in a number of ways:



Join community activities advertised in the newsletter and emails. The first will be on Tuesday, June 24, at The Winery at Longshot Farm. Enjoy time for relaxation with friends and learn about Babes in the Woods from a local historian.



Attend the 2025 PA-AAUW Summer Retreat on June 28 and interact with other AAUW members from Pennsylvania.



Take advantage of the webinars that AAUW national offers.



Mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 26 when we come together again at the August Social and Silent Auction. It's always an entertaining evening and a special time to invite potential new members. Watch for an invitation in the August newsletter.

And most importantly, remember to renew your membership when you receive a notice from national AAUW. More than fifty of our branch members will be asked to renew this summer. Your prompt response to the notice, either by renewing online or sending your check to P.O.Box 815 Carlisle, will be greatly appreciated and will ensure that your information is included in the next yearbook. If you need assistance or need to know your renewal date, feel free to reach out to the Membership Co-Vice Presidents, Janet Kacsur or Terri Glueck.

We look forward to a great year ahead of programming, advocacy, and connection with each other.

Members Recognized at May Branch Meeting

We have a tradition of celebrating the successes and contributions of our members with the annual "AAUW PA Member Awards" at the May Branch Meeting. The 2024 - 2025 recognitions highlighted the strength of the Carlisle Branch. We have so many exceptional members dedicated to our mission to improve the lives of women and girls! We are making a difference!



Nancy Sigrist and Lillian Wong

Receiving the **Outstanding Woman Award** for 2024-2025 was Lillian Wong. This award honors a member who exemplifies the ideals of AAUW, shows commitment to the community, and is an inspiration and role model for Branch members. As always, Lillian, who has chaired the Scholarship Committee for many years, worked with her co-chair and committee members this year to deliver an outstanding slate of recipients after receiving a record number of applications. She and her team also worked hard to make this year's Scholarship Banquet a very special event. Lillian also co-chairs the STEM Committee, helping to coordinate various Junior Achievement Programs, participates in various activities and programs, and can always be counted on to make significant contributions in a positive spirit.

The **Member Making a Difference** recognition went to Peggy Jennings. This award honors branch members for outstanding service in the past year. Peggy's work with the newsletter speaks for itself. Her new design and format has produced a more professional and readable publication keeping the members informed and up to date. She has often lent her graphic design expertise to produce various flyers and enhance the materials used by the Carlisle Branch. She never hesitates to find a way to make significant contributions to the work of the Branch even though she no longer lives in our geographic area.



Kate Elkins, Nancy Sigrist, and Ann Pehle surprised Peggy Jennings with a lunch meeting presentation in Lebanon, PA.

Named Gift Honorees are recognized for service to the Branch through their leadership, commitment, innovation or support. The Branch names a gift honoree for each \$500 donation that members or the Branch made to AAUW Funds in the past year. Our biggest donation year to date allowed recognition of twenty of our dedicated members for this award! They are Wendy Armour Dickinson, Gail D'Urso, Jean Foschi, Mary France, Sharon Heller, Jenifer Johnson, Janet Kascur,

Pat Markowski, Kate Elkins, Barb Attivo, Becky Morgenthal, Theresa Rice, Molly Shane, Nancy Sigrist, Kelly Spasic, Jeanna Som, Patty Stibitz, Cindy Sutton, Deborah Sweaney and Marina Young.



Named Gift Honorees Barb Attivo, Marina Young, Deb Sweaney, Patty Stibitz, Cindy Sutton, Gail D'Urso, Kelly Spasic, Jeanna Som, Kate Elkins, Molly Shane, Theresa Rice, Janet Kascur, Pat Markowski, Cherry France, and Nancy Sigrist. Not pictured were Wendy Armour-Dickinson, Becky Morgenthal, Sharon Heller, Jean Foschi, and Jenifer Johnson.

Nancy Sigrist
Vice President



Recognition of incoming branch officers Grace Nguyen, Barb Attivo, Terri Glueck, Meta Bowman, and Kate Elkins

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: Gail D'Urso & Virginia Mauk

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

Branching Out is published August to June by
the AAUW Carlisle (PA) Branch

Branch website is:

<http://carlisle-pa.aauw.net/>

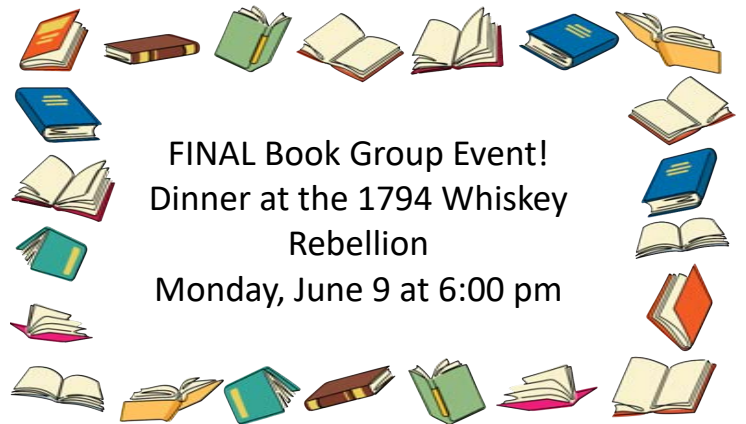
Like us on Facebook: @AAUWCarlisle

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.



FINAL Book Group Event!
**Dinner at the 1794 Whiskey
Rebellion**
Monday, June 9 at 6:00 pm



Enjoy the Summer!