

Upcoming AAUW Events

Book Club

Monday, September 8; 7 pm
“My Friends” by Fredrik Backman
Marina Young 48 W High St., Apt 201
RSVP to Wendy Armour Dickinson [here](#)
Preview remaining Book Selections on page 6

“Nonsense”

Deadline to respond September 15 for October 5
performance at Messiah University
More information on page 3

Breakfast Club

Saturday, September 20; 9 am
Cracked Pot (36 N. Hanover St., Carlisle)
RSVP to Wendy Armour Dickinson [here](#)

Submit to the October Branching Out By

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

September Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 23, 7 pm
“Talking Across the Political Divide”
John Sigel from Braver Angels
Dickinson College HUB–Side Rooms 204-205

Junior Achievement Volunteers Needed

Thursday, September 25, Big Spring High School
October 28 or 29, Carlisle High School
More information on page 4

Advocacy Day at the State Capitol

Wednesday, October 29; noon
State Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg
More information on page 5

October Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 28; 7 pm
“Challenging Global Gender Violence at the Local Level”
Susan D Rose, Professor Emerita, Dickinson College

Talking Across the Political Divide

September Membership Meeting
Tuesday, September 23; 7 pm
Dickinson College HUB Side Rooms 204-205



Our country is more divided than ever, with too many of us isolated from those who hold different views. This division is damaging our communities, straining families, and preventing us from working together for the common good. Would you like to learn about a way forward? Would you like an opportunity to be part of the solution rather than succumb to the problem? Join us as John

Sigel of Braver Angels shares how this cross-partisan, volunteer-led movement is helping Americans bridge divides through respectful dialogue and common-ground action.

Letter from the President

A huge thank you to all who joined us at our August Social! What a terrific way to start our year!

Not enough credit is given to those who work so hard behind the scenes to make this event so successful: Janet Kacsur and Terri Glueck, our Membership Co-VPs who planned and organized the evening, Pat Markowski and Mary Berwick who organized the Silent Auction, Molly Shane and Barb Attivo, our Finance Officers, who kept track of the auction receipts, and Virginia Mauk, for producing our wonderful Yearbook, not to mention our many volunteers who helped with set up and clean up. THANK YOU ALL!

Make sure to **mark your calendars for our September 23 Branch Meeting**. This will be the needed follow-up to our special February Topic Talk: Revive Regroup Refresh, where we helped one another process the election and how best to move forward. Our September speaker is the local representative of **Braver Angels, a cross-partisan movement to bridge the partisan divide**.

Please make a point to come because we can't create change if we can't speak to one another.

Kate Elkins
President



Rachel Andreoli and Meta Bowman

August Member Social and Silent Auction were hits!

Thanks to everyone who attended, brought guests, and bid on the wonderful items in the silent auction. A whopping 52 people attended, and six brought guests, most of whom became members on the spot. Welcome to new members Rachel Andreoli, Madelyn Campbell, Karen Casamassa, and Laura Rogers. Plus, Marie Frey is new to our chapter, and we are so glad to have her.

You could feel the enthusiasm in the room as old friends reconnected and new people were introduced to our members. In addition to dinner, Kate led a business meeting which focused on many upcoming events, speakers, and partnerships with other groups. That was a great preview of the opportunities and advocacy work coming up. We also played a lightning round of AAUW Bingo (a light-hearted way to slide in some chapter trivia), and Pat Markowski was the winner.

What a great way to keep our branch strong with new members and to kick off the year's programming.

Silent Auction Results

A very special thank you to Pat Markowski for compiling the items for the Silent Auction and to the members for their generous donations for the Auction. Thanks, too, to all who purchased an item along with the members who gave cash donations.

Auction totals were \$1121.50 and \$600 in donations! Wonderful.

Mary Bloser Berwick
AAUW Funds Chair



Loretta Maddox and her friend Kathy



Marjorie and Don Mowery



Jami Mirandou and Lisa Fall



Terri Glueck considers a bid

Community Activities Updates

Summer Garden Party

The Community Activities Committee thanks member and master gardener, Maureen Cantwell, for hosting AAUW members for a fun summer Garden Party! Maureen, with assistance from member Lorelei Coplen, shared her beautiful gardens, educated us on the benefits of using native plants, pollinator planning and host plants for monarch caterpillars. Maureen also provided tips on how to successfully rid our gardens of invasive weeds. Members also enjoyed delightful refreshments and conversation following the garden tour. Everyone left feeling inspired to work on their own gardens!



Virginia Mauk



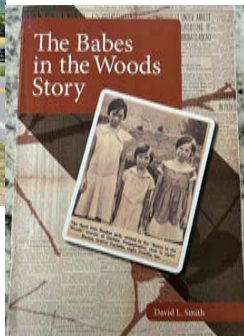
Anyone for the Theater?

You are invited to enjoy an afternoon of musical theater as AAUW travels to Messiah University for the student production of **"Nunsense,"** a musical comedy that premiered off-Broadway in 1985. The performance will be in Messiah's Poorman Black Box Theater.



The Little Sisters of Hoboken, residents of Mt. St. Helens Convent and teachers at the school, have a problem. It seems Sister Julia (Child of God) has accidentally killed off 52 sisters with a botulism-laced soup. But even worse, the remaining nuns only had enough cash to bury 48 of the dearly departed; the other four are in the freezer. The Little Sisters must raise money for a proper burial before the health inspector comes!

We will be purchasing tickets for the **Sunday, October 5, 2025, 3:00 P.M.** performance. Cost is \$15 per ticket. If you would like to join the group, please send your check payable to **AAUW Carlisle Branch** to Cindy Sutton, 1 Briar Oak Lane, Carlisle, PA 17015 by **September 15**. Carpooling arrangements will be made at a later date. As always, guests are welcome!



Join us on a beautiful fall 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 Social time; 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 October 1 to Patty Stibitz [HERE](#) or Gail D'Urso [HERE](#). (Do NOT use the general AAUW Carlisle 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.

WINE AND A MYSTERY?

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

5:30-8:00 pm

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

Volunteers Wanted



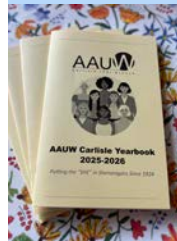
Support the Branch's STEM initiative through volunteer opportunities with Junior Achievement's STEM program. Volunteers lead detailed, scripted activities with a small group of ninth-grade students for about 30-minute periods during the school day. The day consists of multiple rotations for the activity. Additionally, volunteers can access videos explaining and modeling the actual activity prior to the actual day. Also, hands-on training is provided before the students arrive. Background knowledge is NOT needed, rather a willingness to work with a group of students who find the day as a break from the routine.

Current opportunities for volunteers are: September 25 at Big Spring High School and October 28 or 29 at Carlisle High School. As a thank you to volunteers, breakfast and lunch are provided. If you have questions or want to volunteer email either Lillian Wong [here](#) or Barb Attivo [here](#).

2025-26 AAUW Yearbook Now Available

This year's copy of the AAUW Yearbook is designed, printed, and ready for distribution to all AAUW Carlisle Members! Yearbooks were distributed at the August Social. They will also be distributed at the September 23 Branch meeting. For those who have not picked up their Yearbook by that date, it will be mailed.

Your Yearbook is all things AAUW Carlisle Branch. Information includes Branch Meeting dates, times, and locations, Book Club selections and meeting dates, past award information, and of course, the Member Directory! Use this information to take advantage of all AAUW Carlisle has to offer and connect with your AAUW friends.



Enjoy!

Virginia Mauk
Yearbook

UNFINISHED REVOLUTION: TOGETHER WE STAND



2026 AAUW Atlantic States Regional Conference
September 25-27, 2026
Lancaster County Convention Center
Lancaster, PA

Mark your calendar NOW for the Atlantic States Regional Conference to be held in Lancaster in 2026.

And be thinking of ways you can help make this wonderful event a success!



Saturday, October 11 is an "Open Garden Day" at the Garden Bower in Shermansdale.

For more information, visit their website:

<https://thegardenbower.com/>

More info coming soon!

2025-26 Book Club Calendar—Start Reading Now!



Date	Time	Hostess	Book
Mon, Sept 8	7 pm	Marina Young	My Friends by Fredrik Backman
Mon, Oct 6	7 pm	Cherry France	The Mystery of Mrs. Christie by Marie Benedict
Mon, Nov 3	1 pm	Cindy Sutton	Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed for Men by Caroline Criado Perez
Mon, Jan 5	1 pm	Wendy Armour Dickinson	Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
Mon, Feb 2	1 pm	Kathy Weigl	The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate
Mon, Mar 2	1 pm	Virginia Mauk	A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy who Helped Win World War II by Sonia Parnell
Mon, April 6	7 pm	Patricia Markowski	The Briar Club by Kate Quinn
Mon, May 4	7 pm	Darlis Simonton	When Women Ran Fifth Avenue by Julie Satow
Mon, Jun 1	6 pm	1794 Whiskey Rebellion	Dinner to select books for the coming year

Public Policy Updates

Public Policy would like to welcome everyone back to another year of advocacy and shenanigans!!

Wednesday, October 29 Advocacy Day at the PA State Capitol

Wear your AAUW t-shirts, bring your placards, and join us in the Main Rotunda at 12pm for a Press Conference. We need to let our legislators know the importance of passing the Family Care Act, and then visit the AAUW PA table in the East Wing.

Tuesday, November 4 MUNICIPAL ELECTION DAY

Is it too early to start thinking about the election? No! This one is important as we will be electing judges and new members to the school board.

Please make sure you are registered to vote and have a plan.

Excellent resources:

<https://www.vote411.org/pennsylvania>

<https://www.vote411.org/ballot>

Please stay tuned for more engaging opportunities this fall!

Theresa Rice and Kelly Spasic
Public Policy Co-Chairs

AAUW Carlisle 2025-2026 Board Members

Elected Officers

President: Kate Elkins

Vice President: Nancy Sigrist

Membership VPs: Janet Kacsur, Terri Glueck

Program VPs: Jeanna Som, Grace Nguyen

Finance Officers: Molly Shane, Barb Attivo

Secretary: Meta Bowman

Appointed Committee Chairs

AAUW Funds: Mary Bloser Berwick

Communications: Marina Young

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: Ann Pehle

Appointed Coordinators

Newsletter: Peggy Jennings

Social Media: Kate Elkins

Trailblazers: Gail D'Urso, Cherry France

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.



Like us @AAUWCarlisle

Like us @AAUW Pennsylvania

More from the August Social!



Theresa Rice, Ann Pehle, and Peggy Jennings



Jeanna Som

