

AAUW Scholarship Awardees



by Nancy Miller (carlInnanmiller@verizon.net)

Thee Johnstown Branch AAUW awarded Leora G. Rager Scholarships of \$1500 each to three local students on Sunday, April 9, 2017 at an Awards Luncheon at Sunnehanna Country Club. Claudia Schrefler (l), a student at Forest Hills High School will attend Bucknell University and major in Mathematics/Statistics. Laura Bivens (c), a student at Conemaugh Township High School, will attend the University of Pittsburgh and major in Engineering. Mikayla Beck, a student at Richland High School will attend St. Francis University and major in Occupational Therapy.

Thanks to the membership for making the Scholarship Luncheon a success. the three recipients seemed very happy and excited to be there. Perhaps we've found some future members. Now we need a successful book sale so that we can do a repeat next year.

Treasurer's Report

by DorisLeidy,
dorisleidy19@gmail.com

Debits: \$1,531.38

Credits: \$2,367.85

**Balance as of 4/13/17
\$39,218.87**



Dues Reminder!

by Linda Messer
(Lm3523@gmail.com)

2017-2018 dues

Please send \$60 check made out to "AAUW Johnstown Branch to Doris Leidy, 1032 Hillside Trial, Johnstown, PA 15905 **by June 1, 2017**



by Rita King (rita@nick-and-tony.com)

The Dining Club will meet on **Friday, May 26th at 5:45 PM at The Strip Steakhouse**, corner of Southmont Blvd and Franklin St (GPS 1171 Hunt St.) **The June 30th meeting will take place at 5:45 PM at Meo Cucina, 429 Somerset St.** All members and guests are welcome to come and enjoy good food and conversation! Contact Rita King if you are planning to attend so that she can make reservations 814-288-4172.



Shenandoah Showcase September 21-22, 2017

by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)



Don't forget...the Shenandoah Trip, graciously allotted to AAUW by Epic Journeys owner and AAUW member, Cyndy Watters, as a fund raiser. **For every AAUW member or person referencing AAUW who participates in the trip, our branch will receive \$25.** I emailed registration forms and itinerary to members. If you want more information or need the forms please contact me 814-659-1682 or call Epic Journeys at 814-495-9383.



by Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com)

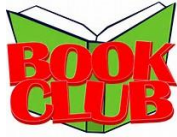
On Saturday, March 25, 2017, AAUW partnered with Goodwill Industries of the Conemaugh Valley to provide a luncheon and tea for young girls in the GoodGuides program. Our newest AAUW member, Cindy O'Conner, is Program Manager at Goodwill and in charge of GoodGuides Youth Mentoring Program. The tea was held at the Moxham Lutheran Church where the GoodGuides meet. In addition to a lunch of sandwich wraps, fruit salad, and chips, there was a program of activities for the girls. President Pat Grzybicki introduced the program. District Attorney and AAUW member Kelly Callihan followed with a message of inspiration and caution. She spoke about keeping on the right course by developing a strong moral compass, setting goals, and leaning on the support of family. She also added cautionary words from her experiences with those who have strayed from the course.

Ann Furlong prepared a great selection of conversation starters that generated a lively exchange among the girls and AAUW members at each table. Rita King and Mary Kay Moore volunteered to attend to increase the number of AAUW members for table discussions. Dr. Barbara Zaborowski put together folders of Penn Highlands information that were given to those girls who are planning for college.

Tea and cookies followed lunch. Ann Furlong, Doris Leidy, Georgia Yeager, and Bonnie Pekich donated their home-baked cookies. The GoodGuides have a great selection of teacups that, conveniently, are stored at the church. AAUW member Diane Lopez from the YWCA generously lent us teapots and tiered cookie stands.

Billie Zahurak, a newer AAUW member, provided a closing motivational presentation with her take on following dreams and achieving happiness. The girls were thrilled with the gift cards as their parting gifts! Thank you to those members who donated gift cards and/or money to purchase them. Your generosity enabled us to add these "door prizes!"

In addition to those already mentioned for their contributions, this event would not have been possible without the help of Cindy O'Conner, Billie Zahurak, Ann Furlong, Doris Leidy, Pat Grzybicki, Georgia Yeager, Tina Rogers, Eileen Tweed, and Paula Tomko - from planning to clean up, an extraordinary committee!



by Jo Romani

AAUW is setting up an evening book discussion group this fall for those who cannot attend the Tuesday afternoon group. If you are interested in belonging please send me the following information : (The group will meet eight times following the monthly schedule of the Tuesday group)

- a. name, email address, phone number
- b. what nights you cannot attend (example: You have a standing commitment every Tuesday)
- c. prefer meeting out at restaurant or hosting at your home once a year

Contact me at ; Jo17 Sanzio@Aol.com or at 288-2056 which will send it directly to my cell phone. The books will be the same that the afternoon group will select at the May meeting.



Francine L. Cashaw has been awarded the Johnstown Branch AAUW "Gateway to Equity" Award. Mrs. Cashaw has an Associate of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education and an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Child Development. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, director of "In His Hands" Puppet Ministry for 18 years and advisor of the NAACP Youth Council of Johnstown for four years. She has also directed several youth Christmas pageants and Christian adult dramas. Mrs. Cashaw believes that education is the passport to a fruitful and abundant career and this has encouraged her to help others. She is currently employed at East Side Elementary School as a tutor and an Americorps worker.

ATTENTION! Committee Chairs

by Linda Messer(Lm3523@gmail.com)

Committee Chairs should bring all/completed attendance slips from their events this year to the May meeting at Hoss's for annual free membership drawing at that meeting.

STEM in the 19th Century

by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)

Our bi-annual STEM program will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2017 from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM. The event, "STEM in the Nineteenth Century" will give girls an exciting look at Science, Technology, Engineering and Math in that time frame as it applied to the construction and use of the Allegheny Portage Railroad. The girls will learn: how to telegraph information and how gears, inclined planes, steam engines, etc. were used to transport barges over the mountains. The event will be held at the Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site (<https://www.nps.gov/alpo/index.htm>) , just east of Ebensburg off RT 22 E. National Park Service Ranger Doug Bosely and Dr. Barbara Zaborowski have been instrumental in developing this cooperative effort. I will be contacting members of the STEM committee in early August to start working on the event.



April 24, 2017 : 7:00 PM at the Discovery Center on Broad Street. "Flight 93" Presentation

May 22, 2017: 6:00 PM at Hoss's Restaurant Business meeting and election and installation of new officers

Public Policy

by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)

PA's "successful EITC program" is successful at circumventing the Pennsylvania Constitution

PA Constitution Article III, Section 15: Public School Money Not Available to Sectarian Schools
No money raised for the support of the public schools of the Commonwealth shall be appropriated to or used for the support of any sectarian school.

Pennsylvania's EITC and OSTC programs were carefully crafted to circumvent Article III Section 15 of the PA constitution and divert public tax dollars to private and religious schools with no fiscal or performance accountability.

Every tax dollar diverted to private and religious school under the EITC program is a dollar that is not available to the general fund. For FY 14-15 there were 1096 recipients of EITC funds totaling over \$108.3 million.

Furthermore, the scholarship organizations that distribute the funds get to keep 20% of the money. Comparable programs in Florida only direct 3% of the funds to those intermediary organizations."

A list of the 100 top recipients (receiving \$67.6 million) can be found at <http://keystonestateeducationcoalition.blogspot.com/2016/10/pas-successful-eitc-program-is.html>
In addition to numerous large amounts funding religious schools you will also see several of the Philadelphia Main Line's most prestigious private schools on this list.

AAUW recognizes the fundamental right to education and the reciprocal benefits of inclusive public education to society. Voucher schemes fail students and taxpayers by providing neither. (national AAUW)

Use AAUW Resources!

by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)

I hope our members are aware of and using the great resources for our Johnstown Branch.

Our **website**, which is maintained by Dr. Barbara Zaborowski, contains a calendar of events, minutes of our meetings, description of committees and offices can be found at <http://aauwjohnstown.org/>

Our **Flickr Account** holds hundreds of pictures taken by Judy Petrusic at our many events. If you find a picture you like you can download them onto your computer. Find pictures at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/aauwjohnstown/albums>

Our Facebook is full of pictures, comments, posts and information of past and future events. Member Billie Zahurak keeps the website updated. <https://www.facebook.com/jpaaauw>

Congratulations!

by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)



Congratulations to fifty year member, Dr. Florence Warfel. Dr. Warfel was awarded a life-time membership by President, Pat Gryzbicki, at the April 9th Scholarship/Awards Banquet. Dr. Warfel has been a dedicated AAUW member. Her professionalism and compassionate nature make her a role model for all.



by Deanna Haddle
(jdhadd1@gmail.com)

Just a reminder that we need gift cards for our "Gift Card Tree" to be raffled off along with a lottery tree and a "Pittsburgh" basket, during our book sale.

Some of you may have received gift cards for Easter and may receive others for Mother's Day. If it is a gift card that you probably won't use; please re-gift it to AAUW for our tree.

I will be sending a letter to all that you can use to ask for cards from local businesses. The letter will make your request legitimate. I know I always "hit up" my beautician and nail salon. Every little bit helps.

The basket, lottery and gift card tree brings in around \$800, a much needed jolt for our declining book sales. Remember the book sale funds our scholarships

Branch Elections

by Pat Grzybicki
(dsap@atlanticbb.net)

The Nominating Committee (Pat Grzybicki, Kathy Howanek, Doris Leidy and Nancy Miller) announces the following slate of candidates for this year's election.

Vice-President Membership:
Georgia Yeager

Vice-President Fundraising:
Deanna Haddle

Treasurer: Barbara Zaborowski

Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor, with the nominee's consent, at the May 22 Business Meeting; with voting to occur immediately afterward.

A special thank you to Linda Messer, out-going Membership VP, Doris Leidy, out-going Treasurer and Barbara Zaborowski, out-going Fundraising VP for their time and effort in positions that are essential for the maintenance of our organization.

Gerrymandering & FDPA

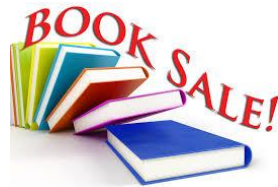
by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)

On March 22, 2017 we had a wonderful, informative presentation by Fair Districts PA speakers, Tony Crocarno and Suzanne Broughton. If you were present you were made aware of how gerrymandering diminishes your vote and how important it is to get Senate Bill 22 and House Bill 563 through the PA legislature. Rep. Bryan Barbin, who attended the event agreed that gerrymandering needs to be stopped.

I am asking members to please register with Fair Districts PA at <https://www.fairdistrictspa.com/>. The greater the membership, the greater the impact on PA legislators.

FDPA has just announced that they are holding their first Harrisburg Lobby Day on Tuesday, May 9, 2017. It will start with a press conference in the Capitol Rotunda from 11:00- 11:30 AM. After a quick lunch, we will be visiting legislators in their Harrisburg office.

Myself and three other AAUW Members are planning to attend. If anyone else is interested please call me at 814-659-1682



by Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com)

AAUW will hold its annual Used Book Sale at the Galleria Mall, June 7-10. Book collection is now underway through May 20. Collection sites include Giant Eagle and Family Video in Richland, East Hills Recreation, the YMCA and YWCA, Randy's BiLo, and Ace Hardware and Ameriserv in Westmont. Check your bookshelves for those books you no longer want!

In addition to donating books, you might also consider donating your time to help sort them. It's a lot of fun and you get to know other AAUW members in the process! Sorting occurs most Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 1 and 3 in the storage unit area of Ace Hardware. If you can spend some time sorting, call Ann Furlong at 255-2935.

We also need volunteers to help at the mall. Rita King is organizing the schedule of workers. We especially need people on Wednesday, June 7. Please call Rita at 288-4172 if you can help during the sale.

Anne Fattman has coordinated those picking up book donations. If you are scheduled to pick up books at one of the donation sites, please honor your commitment. Our storeowners are very generous with us, but they don't want stacks of books overflowing in their place of business. We try to keep them happy!

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and our ability to award scholarships depends on a successful book sale. It takes many hands to collect, sort, set up, sell, and pack up leftovers. **PLEASE donate your time to this important fundraiser.**

In addition to needing help on sale days, we need help on book sale set up which is Monday, June 5 at 11:00 am at the Galleria. Come and help get thousands of books on the tables! Clean up and pack up is Saturday, June 10 starting around 2 pm, just before the sale ends at 4 pm. We need volunteers to put the leftovers back in boxes for Goodwill to pick up.

Mark the week of June 5-10 on your calendars for book sale set up, sales, and take down. Sale hours are 9 am to 9 pm Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (June 7, 8, and 9) and 9 am to 4 pm on Saturday, June 10. We need everyone to participate. Get to know our growing membership and have some fun at the annual book sale!



The PA-AAUW July Summer Retreat will be held on July 22, 2017 at the Genetti Hotel in downtown Williamsport. The topic of the summer retreat will be to share programming and membership recruitment ideas. Members are encouraged to attend!



by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)

Soon, AAUW members in good standing with up-to-date email addresses at with the AAUW national office will receive an email with instructions to vote online. This email will contain a unique, personalized link that will allow members to vote online without having to provide their member ID or voter pin. Because the personalized email is unique to each member, it CANNOT be shared. Please do not delete this email until after you voted. Members can also navigate to the online ballot from the AAUW homepage and then enter their member ID and voter PIN. Those numbers will be included in the voter email and on the back of your Spring Outlook magazine.

Every two years AAUW members have a unique opportunity to shape the future of this storied organization. This year we are voting for Board Chair, Board Vice Chair, Board Directors, proposed changes to bylaws, Public Policy Program and resolutions. Go to <http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/> for voter guides, candidates profiles, and all the information you need to vote and encourage others to vote.



The AAUW National Convention

The AAUW National Convention will be held in Washington, D.C. from June 14-17, 2017. The proximity of the convention is wonderful for us in Pennsylvania. Please consider attending! For more information to <http://convention.aauw.org/register/>

Inspiration

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”...Margaret Mead

"A woman is like a tea bag - you can't tell how strong she is until you put her in hot water".... Eleanor Roosevelt