

## Editorial



by Dr. Barbara Zaborowski (bzabor@pennhighlands.edu)

Last weekend at the AAUW PA Conference at Seven Springs, Kim Churches, CEO of AAUW gave a presentation in which she outlined the upcoming national bylaws changes. Of course, the only one that I was really interested in hearing about was the proposed change to remove the educational requirement for membership. Now I had read all the information the state had provided and even looked at the national website hoping to understand why an organization dedicated to advancement and equity for women would want to remove the education requirement for membership; but it wasn't until I heard Kim talk about the change that I understood it and saw the potential in it.

Kim explained that at the national level, when approaching foundations such as Microsoft, Ford, and Kellogg that the membership requirement was seen as exclusionary and therefore did not meet the foundation's criteria for awarding funds. The education requirement was stopping the organization from getting potentially millions of dollars in foundation awards that could be used to directly help women and the branches that provide programming for women. Likewise, Kim also explained that in order to support initiatives for women the national organization has to fund those programs out of its own operating budget. So, if we want the national organization to continue to offer programs for women and girls, and we are okay with keeping the educational requirement and eliminating the opportunity to get foundation awards, we need to be prepared to pay more in dues.

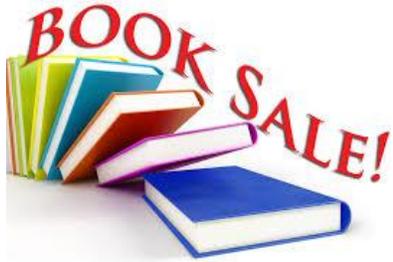
Kim also talked about the possibilities the elimination of the education requirement provides in who we can talk with and engage about the organization. Think about it...without the education requirement we can now talk with women in the trades (carpenters, electricians, small business owners, EMTs, etc.), we can start to engage young women while still in high school (think about a possible program similar to what Rotary and Kiwanis do), and we can still promote education and advancement by empowering all levels of women in the area to strive to improve their own situations.

So, before I heard Kim Churches, I was adamantly opposed to removing the education requirement for membership, after all, I had invested a lot of time and money in my own education...but then I saw the opportunities that exist in our area for really fulfilling the mission of AAUW to improve the lives of women and girls. I'm now going to vote to remove the educational requirement and I hope you will too.



## *Dining Club* by Rita King (rita@nick-and-tony.com)

On May 25, 2018, the AAUW Dining Club will meet at the "New Balance" restaurant at 5:45 PM at 415 Main Street. The June meeting will be held June 29th at 5:45 PM at the "Fresh Harvest" restaurant, 1600 Cambridge Place, Laurel View Village, Davidsville. Come, bring friends! Enjoy good food and good conversation. Call Rita King @ 814-288-4172, to make your reservation.



by Kathy Howanek (khowanek@hotmail.com)

It's spring, when an AAUW member's fancy turns to thoughts of BOOKS! Collecting, sorting, packing and ultimately selling them. If you have not yet signed up for one of these fun activities, please consider volunteering to work at the book sale itself.

Set up occurs Monday and Tuesday June 11 and 12 with the sale itself running June 13, 14, 15 and 16. If you don't get a call from Rita King who is scheduling the workers, please give her a call at 814-288-4172 to volunteer. It's a great way to get to know other members and of course you can set aside some time to shop yourself. The variety and price cannot be beat.

The first day of the sale is always a busy one and if you are new and not comfortable with working the check out please know that there is lots of other work to do keeping the tables restocked and as orderly as possible and helping customers. These jobs need to be done every day during the sale, but most especially on Wednesday.

We are also in need of volunteers to sell raffle tickets (hint, hint, Aurora Gilmour!) for one Pittsburgh basket and some gift card trees. On behalf of the book sale committee, I promise that all new volunteers will be warmly welcomed and patiently schooled.

It is work, it is fun and it allows us to help young women in our area. If you have any doubts or questions, please don't hesitate to call or email me. 814-659-2928 or khowanek@hotmail.com.

**See you at the book sale!**



## RECRUITING TIME! "95 IN 95"

By Georgia Yeager  
(gayeager@gmail.com)

It is time to start thinking about new members for our branch. Please send the name, address, phone, and email (if known) of anyone you know who might like to join AAUW to me at [gayeager@gmail.com](mailto:gayeager@gmail.com) or call me at 255-3322.

We have decided to hold the Meet and Greet in September this year, so I need to have the information about prospective members no later than July 15. But if you know of someone right now, send the information so you don't forget!

After the vote on the by-laws change this spring, we will know whether or not we can invite women without degrees, but right now, the requirement holds.

I stole Barb Zaborowski's idea: Let's have 95 members in our 95<sup>th</sup> year! Yes, AAUW Johnstown Branch is 95 years old this year, and we can make a real difference in our community impact and our advocacy for women and girls with more members. We are at 78 right now if everyone renews a membership, and, of course, we always lose a few. So let's shoot for at least 25 referrals for membership.

**LET'S HAVE 95 IN 95!**

*Women Wine & Connections*



**Thirsty Thursday**

by Doris Leidy (dorisleidy19@gmail.com)

**May 3, 2018**

**Asiagos (top of Incline)  
709 Edgehill**

Members are invited to come, relax and connect with other AAUW members.

Drop in anytime between 5-7. Hope to see you there



by Mardy Huss (outlander@atlanticbb.net)

Don your bonnet and indulge in "Bygone Pleasures, an Afternoon Tea at The Grand Halle," starting at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, May 6.

Featured among the sweets and savories to be served will be special items donated by some of the area's foremost caterers, including Anthony's, Asiagos, Flair of Country, Green Gables, and Joey Dels.

An appetizer of chilled pear bisque will be followed by delicious savories and fancy breads, accompanied by clotted cream and lemon curd. Delightful desserts will complete the menu. Of course, a variety of teas will be available.

National Park Service Ranger, Doug Bosley will present a program filled with actual images of life at the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club. This resort for Pittsburgh's wealthy was located up the little Conemaugh River from Johnstown; the failure of its dam caused the 1889 Johnstown Flood.

Musical entertainment will be provided by the Roof Garden Chorus of Somerset, an *a capella* men's chorus of 20 voices that performs barbershop-style music, directed by Philip Parlock, II. A barbershop quartet also will sing several selections.

Contact Eileen Tweed (petweed@atlanticbb.net) about sitting at the AAUW table.

**Tickets to the Bygone Pleasures Tea are \$20.00.**

**Seating is reserved and tickets must be purchased in advance. To purchase tickets:**

**Call (814) 536-7986.**

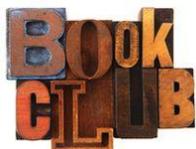


# TREASURER'S REPORT

by Barbara Zaborowski (bzabor@pennhighlands.edu)

2017-2018 Budget  
July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018

Net Ordinary Income	Budget Amount	Received	Variance
Book Sale	\$7,900.00	\$0.00	\$7,900.00
Fundraising	\$1,500.00	\$334.39	\$1,165.61
Grants/Donations (STEM)	\$1,000.00	\$5,450.00	-\$4,450.00
Donations			\$0.00
Dues (Active members x \$60)	\$3,720.00	\$1,802.00	\$1,918.00
Local Dues		\$27.00	\$27.00
Interest		\$10.01	\$10.01
Miscellaneous		\$927.50	\$927.50
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$14,120.00</b>	<b>\$8,550.90</b>	<b>\$7,498.12</b>
Expenses	Budget Amount	Expended	Variance
President	\$1,325.00	\$48.76	\$1,276.24
Membership	\$600.00	\$565.19	\$34.81
Programming	\$1,000.00	\$1,077.10	-\$77.10
Fundraising	\$250.00	\$32.00	\$218.00
Communication	\$150.00	\$33.45	\$116.55
Education	\$5,250.00	\$4,522.16	\$727.84
Treasurer	\$900.00	\$662.49	\$237.51
STEM	\$5,450.00	\$3,048.34	\$2,401.66
Book Sale	\$3,400.00	\$1,701.83	\$1,698.17
Special Projects	\$400.00	\$423.42	-\$23.42
Dues	\$3,720.00	\$1,802.00	\$1,918.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$22,445.00</b>	<b>\$12,114.74</b>	<b>\$10,330.26</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>\$14,120.00</b>	<b>\$8,550.90</b>	<b>\$7,498.12</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$22,445.00</b>	<b>\$12,114.74</b>	<b>\$10,330.26</b>
<b>Net Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>-\$8,325.00</b>	<b>-\$3,563.84</b>	<b>-\$2,832.14</b>



## Boulevard Grill

By Georgia Yeager

The Boulevard Grill book club would like to have **YOU** as a member! We will meet on Thursday, May 17th at 6:00 PM. **The book selection for May is *The Hypnotist's Love Story* by Liane Moriarty.**

While the group regularly meets at the Boulevard Grill, we took a break in April to meet at Georgia Yeager's house where we had a theme-based covered-dish dinner. Our April book selection was *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver, a book about her family's year of "eating locally" and featuring some of the recipes they enjoyed during their experiment.

If you are interested in joining the group, call (255-3322) or email ([gayeager@gmail.com](mailto:gayeager@gmail.com)) Georgia Yeager. We hope to see some new faces in May!

## Book Sale Raffle

by Deanna Haddle  
([jdhadd1@gmail.com](mailto:jdhadd1@gmail.com))



Because our profits from the book sale have been decreasing we added a basket/gift card tree raffle to the book sale. It has been pretty successful and we will DO IT AGAIN this June.

If you have any Pittsburgh paraphernalia (Pirates, Peguins, Steelers, Pitt) you want to get rid of ; or gift cards that you don't plan to use, please call Deanna Haddle @814-659-1682.

If you know business that might consider donating a gift card please ask; and remind them that we can provide a tax deduction form, as we are now a 501(c)3,

## Scholarship/Awards

by Nancy Miller ([carlnanmiller@verizon.net](mailto:carlnanmiller@verizon.net))



Scholarship Winners

**Izabella Hauger from Ferndale, Kate Csehoski from Greater Johnstown,**

Thanks to the membership for making the scholarship luncheon a memorable occasion for all. We had a full room of forty-seven attendees.

The high school scholarships went to Izabella Hauger from Ferndale, Kate Csehoski from Greater Johnstown, and Abigail Steinbeck from Windber. They are three amazing young women who are ..already assets to their schools and communities.

Congratulations also to our member awardees: Outstanding Woman - Doris Leidy; Member Making a Difference - Cynthia Watters; and Named Gift - Georgia Yeager. Our Gateway to Equity Award was presented to YWCA, represented by Dianne Lopez and Donna Keller.

Our College and University recipients from our endowed scholarships are Lindsey G. Geiser and Kristen N. Jeffries from UPJ and Timothy Borish and Kiara Younkin from Penn Highlands Community College.

This event is our shining moment to highlight all we do. I hope every member plans to attend next year.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

### *Annual Dues*

by Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com)

It's that time again when we renew our memberships for the coming AAUW year. You can pay your dues starting now, but definitely before June 30.

Before you send me your dues check, you need to know that dues for the 2018-19 AAUW year will be \$70 instead of \$60. The \$10 increase goes to National to support their various efforts at amplifying our voice on key issues to federal leadership, providing internships and educational opportunities for young women, working to provide women in the workplace with pay-equity, supporting all women in life-balance and gender equality, and providing the local branches with many support services. We are a women's organization; these are OUR issues and concerns. We have not had a dues increase as long as I have been a member - more than 15 years - and I'm not sure how long before that.

I know that \$70 might seem like a lot of money, but many professional organizations charge even more. AAUW provides me a lot of fun, socializing, and outreach opportunities in the local community. **I think it is \$70 well spent. It is like an investment in women and young girls! (Not to mention an investment in my personal enjoyment for the year!)** Another way to think of it is that the increase is less than \$1 a month. You can't even go to Starbucks for that!

**To make it easier for members, we are offering a payment plan of \$35 and \$35 or whatever amounts suit you for the next two months. It's a little more bookkeeping, but I am glad to do what helps the membership.**

Please send your checks payable to "AAUW Johnstown Branch" to Georgia Yeager, 1022 Haverford Street, Johnstown, PA 15905. At this time you can pay the whole amount or make a partial payment. To save a stamp, bring your checkbook to the Discovery Center on April 30 for the program on Civil War medicine or to Hoss's on Monday, May 21 at 6 pm for our final business meeting of the AAUW year.



PA AAUW is a sponsor of Fair District PA whose goal is fair redistricting in PA. With the League of Women Voter and Common Cause a court case caused the gerrymandered US Congressional Districts in PA to be redrawn.

The long term goal is to NOT have districts drawn by politicians, but by an INDEPENDENT COMMISSION of VOTERS. A rally to support the original HB722 and SB22 was held in Harrisburg on April 16th. Over 800 members of FDPA attended.

AAUW/FDPA members who attended are (left to right) Eileen Tweed, Bonnie Pekich, Deanna Haddle, Janice Eastbourn-Bloom and Georgia Yeager.

#THIS IS WHAT DEMOCRACY LOOKS LIKE!



# From the President's Desk

by Pat Grzybicki (dsap@atlanticbb.net)



## AAUW PA 89<sup>th</sup> Annual\* Convention

Kudos to Barb Zaborowski for organizing a fabulous state convention! Due to her wonderful organizational skills and attention to details, everything ran smoothly and enjoyably. There were 111 pre-registered attendees and also a few on site ones. This was the largest attendance in the last few years by more than twenty members! Great job Barb!!! Also, thanks to Deanna Haddle for co-presenting a STEM Session which shared our Branch experiences and ideas with others.

Our group had a great showing at the event as well. In addition to Barb, Deanna and myself, attendees included Ann Furlong, Kathy Howanek, Nancy Miller, Judy Petrusic, and Georgia Yeager. Thanks also to Joy Skelley, who came on Friday morning to help set-up and stuff goody bags for our registration table, and to all those members who collected and/or contributed to those bags. We received many compliments on them. The Johnstown Branch also had a display of our year's highlights created by Barb Zaborowski and provided a basket for the silent auction created by Georgia Yeager, Ann Furlong and Bonnie Pekich.

On Friday night, we heard a wonderful and energizing keynote speech given by new AAUW National CEO Kim Churches. By the time you read this, you should already have received a letter outlining her views on the proposed by-law change for membership requirements as well as our reaction to it. She also shared her vision and ideas for our organization as we move forward. Those of us in attendance felt fortunate to have been able to hear her speak. Saturday offered several sessions to attend, including information on health care for women and their families, social justice actions, hate crime prevention, closing the gender wage gap, building global citizens, college loans, and advocacy for one's political voice. Our dinner speaker was a representative from the Women's Law Project, who spoke about the process and difficulty of defending women's rights.

Sunday provided an update on the hot topic of Gerrymandering presented by Barbara Price and incoming AAUW State President Ann Pehle, as well as breakout sessions for Districts and Counterparts (President, Membership, Program and Public Policy). As you might gather, there truly was something to interest everyone. You will be hearing more details about some of these sessions and topics in the near future from some of our members. I believe that I can speak for all of us when I say that the time and effort in preparing for and attending this conference was well worth it. (And the food and accommodations were pretty good too!)

I encourage all members to attend future District and State meetings as you and they become available.

\*State Conventions will be held biannually after this year; alternating with the July Summer Retreats.



Your right to vote in an election is given to you by the Constitution as a right for all men and women. Many have fought and died for your right to vote. We should never take this liberty lightly and we should never fall into the trap of complacency. Many want to keep you from voting or tell you that it won't matter, but it does! Take a pledge to vote in the next election and all that follow.

AAUW is dedicated to making sure every woman is registered to vote and has the information she needs to cast her ballot. Too many of us fail to vote in primary or off-presidential year elections. **Please vote in the May 15th Primary and the November election**



Thank You

Paulette Solomon has stepped down from her role as Vice-President of Programming. We want to thank her for the dedication and hard work in bringing thoughtful, relevant programs to our membership. Paulette has served as Secretary and co-chair of the Write-Read-Write Program.

You aren't off the hook, Paulette! We know you will remain active in our mission to bring equity to girls and women

## Books for Babies



One of our great AAUW projects is "Books for Babies" Darlene Howrylak chairs this committee and we see her presenting books to Miranda Wilkenson of Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center's Neo-Natal Unit.

Books and instructions about the importance of reading to children are provided by our organizations to young Moms. We do "make a difference!:"



## Discover Downtown Johnstown

Visit over 30 participating businesses and listen to live music at different business locations thru out the downtown business.

**May 2018**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Thirsty Thurs. Asiagos 5-7	4	5 Grand Halle Tea 3:00
6	7	8 AAUW Book Club 1:00	9	10	11	12 Last day of Book Pickup
13	14	15	16	17 Boulevard Book Clug 6:00	18	19
20	21 AAUW Meeting Hoss's Restaurant 6:00	22	23	24	25 Dining Club 5:45 New Balance	26 Taste and Tour Johnstown 4-8
27	28	29	30	31		

**June 2018**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Book Sale Set up	12 Book Sale Set up	13 Book Sale 9-9	14 Book Sale 9-9	15 Book Sale 9-9	16 Book Sale 9-4
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Deadline for AAUW dues

**Thank you in advance to members who support our book sale and scholarships for local girls. Whether you collect, sort, sell, provide gift cards, etc.; we all work together, in friendship and fun to provide equity for girls and women in our community!**