





Volume XXVI, No. 1



BOOKS AT THE BOULEVARD

by Billie Zahurak (billiegirl30@hotmail.com)

Books at the Boulevard welcomes 2020!

The AAUW's evening book club, Books at the Boulevard, meets at 6:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at the Boulevard Grille. Please join us in January when we discuss and plan our upcoming books for the year. Everything is very low-key in the group, and we have a great time.

The person who chooses the book tends to lead the discussion, but there's no pressure there, either. Just come, have a drink, enjoy some lively discussion on books and current events and enjoy a night out.

Our December choice was "Letters from Father Christmas" by J. R. R. Tolkien, so we do like to keep things festive.

Again, if you plan to join us in January, come with a couple book choices that you'd like to read with the group. All are welcome!

Please contact Billie Zahurak with questions at BillieGirl20@hotmail.com or Georgia Yeager directly if you plan on attending, as she makes the reservations each month.



Christmas meeting of Books @ Boulevard

We'd love to welcome some new members in 2020.



by Doris Leidy (dorisleidy19@gmail.com)

The Literacy Council is so grateful for your donation of \$318.00.

We currently have 22 active tutors working with 27 individuals on a multitude of different levels of reading, grammar, spelling and math. We also have 3 tutors working with the Cambria County Prison. They tutor a combined total of approximately 40 per week.

The Literacy Council is self-funded so we rely totally on donations to replace our students' workbooks and teaching materials.

Again, thank you for your generous donation.

The Board of the Cambria County Literacy Council





Andrew M. Mattis Jr.

Andrew M. Mattis is the 2019-2020 recipient of the AAUW Johntown Branch Scholarship, generated by the branch's endowment at PHCC. Mr.Mattis expressed "his deepest gratitude for the assistance in his efforts to continue his education at Penn Highlands Community College." Congratulations Andrew!



by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com

Don't forget to check out AAUW pictures at:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/albums/aauwjohn stown/albums

Judy Petrusic, our excellent photographer, has pictures of all our events in albums. You can download any of the pictures!



by Doris Leidy dorisleidy19@gmail.com

> AAUW's Thirsty Thursday will be held on **Feb. 6, 2020** at the Luna Azteca Restaurant, 1790 Goucher Street from 5:00-7:00 PM

Come and join the fun! Talk, laugh and learn more (maybe too much) about your fellow AAUW members. Bring a friend. All are Welcome!



BANQUET

by Nancy Miller (carlnanmiller@verizon.net)

The scholarship committee will begin in January to identify our scholarship recipients and plan for our banquet to be held April 26, 2020 at Sunnehanna Country Club.

The three schools in rotation this year are Forest Hills, Richland and Conemaugh Township. We will also be presenting a \$1500 scholarship to a Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center student. The fact that we are awarding four scholarship is due to the \$1500 donated by Brad and Jen Hindman for our dispersal.

We will also be presenting our AAUW Named Gift, Outstanding Woman, and Member Making a Difference awards which will be determined by the Board.

The Gateway to Equity Award will be presented to a woman who has made significant contributions to the community.

Mark your calendars for April 26 now. This is our most important function of the year.

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 Dy Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com)



For the past two years, our local AAUW Board has voted to support the annual Clara Barton Forum with a \$50 donation. So what is the Forum and why is it important to us? First of all, it is the AAUW Mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Our Vision is equity for all, and our Values are non-partisan, fact based, integrity, inclusion, and intersectionality. In other word, as AAUW members, we support who and what we are when we give opportunity to young girls. That is exactly what the Clara Barton Forum does.

The Forum was the brainchild of Pamela Mayer, Pam Halcrow, and Don Dudley who wanted to help young women, ages 16-21, learn skills essential for goal-setting, decision-making, and problem solving. In addition, they wanted young women to develop positive relationships with local women mentors from diverse backgrounds who have overcome obstacles, taken control of their lives, and become successful.

To this end, young women from Cambria, Somerset, and Westmoreland counties, who are selected by their high school guidance counselors, attend a day-long event of activities, presentations, and mentoring sessions. Each young woman is assigned a mentor to whom she can turn for guidance and who will maintain contact with her throughout the school year.

In recent years, the Forum has been held at the Johnstown Red Cross Building during the first week of November. Our \$50 donation allows two young women to attend. The Clara Barton Forum is aptly named since Clara Barton founded the Red Cross in 1881, and she was present with the Red Cross in Johnstown during the flood of 1889. Clara (Clarissa Howe) Barton exemplifies service to humanity. If she were alive today, she would certainly receive the AAUW Gateway to Equity Award for her dedicated service to others, for opening paths for women in the new field (at that time) of volunteer service, and for being an outstanding role model for women and girls.



AAUW State Convention

April 2020 is just around the corner and it will be time for our AAUW PA State Convention. So you need to mark your calendars for **April 24-26**, **2020** at the Best Western Premier **The Central Hotel and Conference Center in Harrisburg**.

Celebrating 100 Years of Suffrage

A block of rooms has been set aside for AAUW...mention this when you make your reservations. Room rate is \$119.95 plus tax for single or double rooms. Registration costs for the Convention are: \$145 for the full conference (all three days),\$120 for Friday and Saturday, and \$110 for Saturday only.

Johnstown Branch AAUW will pay for any member's registration fee. The cost of the hotel and travel must be paid by the participant.

Register at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAUWConvention2020





by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)

"How to Slay a Gerrymanderer"

Paula Tomko, branch Public Policy chair, submitted an application for an AAUW-PA grant to fund a cooperative event with Fair Districts PA, Cambria County. AAUW-Pa has granted us a \$500 grant as soon as we determine the date of the event.

The event will be held at computer labs at Pennsylvania Highlands Community College in January or February. A digital presentation from Justin Villere, of Draw the Lines PA, will show participants how to use computer software which allows one to draw congressional maps. These maps can then be submitted to the Draw the Lines Competition that will be held sometime in May.

The Youth and Higher Education divisions will award regional prizes (\$500 for 1st place; \$250 for 2nd place; plus honorable mentions). The statewide grand prize winners from each division will be chosen from regional honorees and receive \$5,000.

AAUW plans to approach local school districts to send interested teachers and students to this event. Note that Act 48 credits will be available to teachers who participate. Depending on the response we will then open the competition to local colleges and to the public.

Once the date is set, it will be emailed to you. The Public Policy Committee may need some help the night of the competition and will be contacting interested members.



by Kathy Howanek (Khowanek@hotmail.com)

Thanks to everyone who participated in the October collection. We ended our sorting and packing activities with a lower number of total boxes than this time last year but the permanent collection box at the Galleria has already begun to make up the difference. A word of warning to the sorters...we have a few hours work accumulated already! Of course the upside of that is a post sorting lunch at Jakes in the New Year.

We were also able to take advantage of our standing relationship with the Galleria to have a table of our Christmas books available for sale at the same time as the last Candles in the Cove sale. It was an experiment and I think that we learned that Christmas shoppers are not looking for used books and people interested in used books are looking for the big sale and lots of variety. We made only \$35 but enjoyed the Christmas spirit around us. Thanks to all who volunteered to participate that day.

As you can see, with this and any of our projects it is the enthusiastic willingness of our members to pitch in that yields results. We have a great group!!!



Samantha Yarnick



Congratulations....



Kyrstin Grumbling

to Samantha Yarnick, a 2018-2019 recipient of the AAUW Women Scholarship at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. Samantha is a Johnstown resident who is majoring in Nursing. Samantha enjoys the Nursing Program: her classmates, the clinicals and names Dr. Katrancha as an encouraging professor. She thanks AAUW and "hope to repay the community by using my education to care for people in need."

to Kyrstin Grumbling, a 2018-2019 recipient of the AAUW Women Scholarship at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. Kyrstin is a junior majoring in Early Childhood Education with a Special Education Certificate and a Psychology minor. She says "her passion for children comes from her volunteer work in New Mexico with the Navajo Tribe and in Guatemala.". She thanks AAUW for investing in her future.



Membership Corner

by Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com

Happy 2020 to everyone! May the new year bring good health and happiness to all of you and lots of new members to AAUW! We stand at 80 members and two people have already told me they plan to join in the spring. AAUW's vision for women is strong – in fact, it's 20-20 (excuse the pun!). We should be attracting lots of women. Wouldn't it be great to top off at 100 members? Let's do it in the new year.

Don't forget that this year our membership drive will be in March. Membership dues for the 2020-21 AAUW year can be paid starting March 15, so any first-time members can pay the \$40.50 Shape-the-Future rate in March and enjoy membership from March 2020 through June 2021. We will have a membership event in March, so watch next newsletter for the details of the wine and cheese Meet and Greet.

Right now, however, I need from each of you the names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of prospective members – or as much contact information as you can give me. I will be sending letters to them in early February to invite them to the Meet and Greet.

Our organization is only as strong as our membership. If everyone can give me the name of at least one person who might want to join, we can continue to grow. There are people where you live, work, go to church, and exercise as well as other places. Just give me the contact information and I will do the rest.

Please forward to me the names and contact information by February 1 (<u>gayeager@gmail.com</u> or (814-255-3322).

February Meeting

SAVE THE DATE! February 22 at 12:30 at Library Community Room .Larissa Duncan will be updating us on her job as AAUW Historian. Hope to see everyone there!

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Books @ Boulevard 6:00	10	11 Board Meeting 11:00
12	13	14 Tuesday Book Club 1:00	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	39	31	

JANUARY 2020

FEBRUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 Deadline for Membership Info
2	3	4	5	6 Thirsty Thursday 5-7	7	8
9	10	11 Tuesday Book Club 1:00	12	13 Books @ Boulevard 6:00	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 AAUW Meeting 12:30 CC Library
23	24	25	26	27	28	29