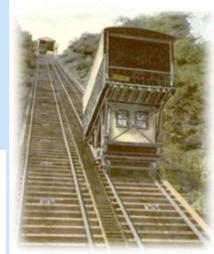




Inclined to AAUW



July-August, 2020

Volume XXVI, No. 4

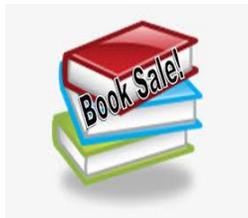
"HELLO...FROM THE OTHER SIDE!"

Those lyrics from Adele's song seem very appropriate. For over three months we have been on the "other side" of a door, a mask, a screen, etc. and have been separated from family and friends.

So many of our AAUW activities (Nancy Drew Presentation, the Scholarship Banquet, the April and May meetings, etc.) have been cancelled; as well as most activities in the community.

We are now in the "green phase" and let us pray that some normal semblance of life can be had amidst the still present virus.

So, let's go **GREEN!** AAUW members ready to **GO!**



**All aboard!
All hands on
deck!**

by Ann Furlong (akfurlong@verizon.net)



Yes, it is time to think about moving ahead.. After months of uncertainty, we have been told by the Galleria management that we should proceed with the planning for the Book Sale in October. (Covid-19 permitting)

This is exciting news and certainly good news for the Scholarship Fund. The sale is planned for October 14-17, with set up on the 12th and 13th. Definite dates for book collection and book sorting have not yet been finalized. As in the past, we ask all of you to help as much as possible. So when you are called to collect books from donation sites, or asked to help sort and requests are made for scheduling during the sale itself please be ready to say, "Yes, of course I will be there".

We all are so anxious to get back to a normal life. This is AAUW normal: working together for a common goal, To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. Let's get to work!



Write-Read-Write



by Paulette Solomon (pmsolomon12@atlanticbb.net)

Four AAUW members-Laryssa Duncan, Doris Leidy, Marie Olshefski, and Paulette Solomon met with the fourth grade students and teachers at Windber Elementary on March 11. After brief presentations about reading as a lifelong activity, reading genres, and library cards, the ladies presented the students with their WRW gifts and letters.

To heighten the suspense, Mrs. Elyse Cameron, Windber's fourth grade language arts teacher and the school WRW coordinator, had the 79 students wait till everyone had his/her package to unwrap their books. The children were thrilled; many students sought out and personally thanked one of the AAUW members present.

Bookmarks and Easter pencils were also given to the students. Mrs. Cameron was given a Hoss's gift card in appreciation of her efforts to include WRW in her classroom. Due to the current medical crisis and mandated school closings, we don't know when, or if, we will receive the student thank you letters.

Picture by Doris Leidy.

Directory Updates!



The new AAUW directory will be published in August. If you have changed your mailing address, phone number, or email address over the last year, please send the details by July 31 in an email to gayeager@gmail.com or call Georgia at 255-3322.



Visit and LIKE our Facebook page
AAUW-Pa Johnstown Branch
<https://www.facebook.com/jpaaauw/>
 Thank you Jessica Clifford and Billie Zahurak.

Visit our Website:
<http://aauwjohnstown.org>
 Thank you Barb Zaborowski

Visit our pictures:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/aauwjohnstown/albums>
 Thank you Judy Petrusic

Tuesday Book Club

by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)



Front: Maryann Minahan, Nancy Miller, Doris Leidy, Margaret Barron,
Back: Faye Lear, Anne Fattman, Jo Romani, Deanna Haddle, Linda Drusak, Ann Furlong

The AAUW Tuesday Book Club has been meeting for over 20 years. The faces change, but the great conversations, fellowship and fun are always present.

The club meets the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 PM from September to May. We meet at members homes or at restaurants. We have a great covered dish luncheon in May.

Each member nominates two books for the reading list. The members then vote and the list and the location of meetings can be found in the yearly AAUW Directory.

To attend, contact Ann Furlong at akfurlong@verizon.net

LET'S HELP THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED US

by Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)

We have been blessed with a community that has supported our mission: to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy education, philanthropy and research. Below is a list of business that have made a financial donation to our books sale or Trivia Events.

Because businesses have been closed the last months due to pandemic restrictions, let us resolve to patronize these "givers" as we "give back".

SHEETZ
 Big Dogz
 Slovenian Savings & Loan
 Spangler Subaru
 Associates in Family Eye Care
 MERHO Credit Union
 Hindman Funeral Home
 Follow Charley Car Wash
 H.F. Lenz Company
 Applebee's
 Burger King
 Five Guys

Valley Dairy
 Em's Subs
 Rizzo's
 G.A.P Credit Union
 Orion Jewelers
 D'Arcs Pizza
 Giant Eagle
 Orion Jewelers
 Mimos
 The Rambler
 Mr. T's Barber Shop
 Press Bistro

Tony's Subs
 Stuver's Nursery
 Balance Restaurant
 Eat n Park
 Body & Soul Massage
 Homewatch Caregivers
 Market Basket
 D'Arcs Tavern
 Phoenix Tavern
 Pizza Hut
 Pappy's Plzza
 Makin' Waves



2020 AAUW Scholarship Awardees

by Nancy Miller (carlnanmiller@verizon.net)



Olivia Chappie



Jennifer Durica



Ashley Pauley



Erin Shaffer

Even though we couldn't have our Scholarship Luncheon this year, we were able to identify the four scholarship recipients before lockdown. The four schools in rotation this year were Greater Johnstown CTC, Forest Hills, Conemaugh Township, and Richland. It's sad that we were unable to meet them in person to celebrate their fine scholastic achievements, but we congratulate them. All are outstanding young women. Read on!

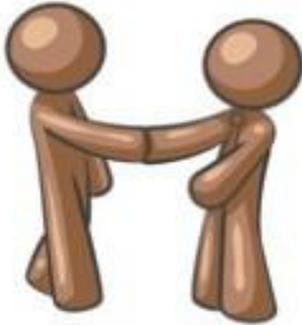
Olivia Chappie is from Greater Johnstown CTC. She earned her Certified Nurses' Aide License through the Health Assistance Program at GJCTC. At GJCTC she participated in Skills USA and National Technical Honor Society. Her home school is Windber, where she participated in Cross Country, Musical, Yearbook, Drama Club, and National Honor Society. Her community activities include Camp PARC, Dance, and Youth Group. Olivia plans to attend Allegheny College of Maryland majoring in the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program.

Jennifer Durica is from Conemaugh Township High School. You may have seen the article about her outstanding volleyball career having been named to the District 5, Somerset County, and All State teams in the May 13th Tribune-Democrat. She also lettered in varsity Track and Field and was the varsity Boys' Basketball statistician. She was the 2019 West Pac Pole Vault Champion. Her other activities included Students Against Destructive Decisions, Serving our Neighbors, Rotary, Student Council VP/P, Spanish Club, Musical, School, County, and District Chorus, and "Connumach/Contawnian" Editor in Chief. She was a Tribe Team Mentor, Junior High Volleyball Camp volunteer, and Volleyball Marathon Coordinator. Her community activities include coaching gymnastics, being a church festival volunteer, and belonging to her church Youth Group. She has demonstrated both academic and athletic excellence. Jennifer plans to attend Penn State University, Altoona to study kinesiology.

Ashley Pauley is from Forest Hills High School. Number 1 in her class, she was a member of National Honor Society, Drama Club and Ski Club, and treasurer of Spanish Honor Society. Her community activities included Forest Hills Rabbeater Club, Cambria County 4H Dairy Club, and Girl Scouts. She plans to study Early Childhood Education and Special Education at UPJ

Erin Shaffer is from Richland High School. She was Senior Class Treasurer, a member of National Honor Society, a performer in RPAC productions, a member of chamber chorus, and a District, Region, and State qualifier for PMEA chorus. She plans to study Secondary Education/Social Studies at UPJ

We congratulate these young women on their achievements. We wish them great success in their future endeavors.



Membership Corner

by Georgia Yeager

(gayeager@gmail.com)

We had great plans this spring for AAUW, and it all went by the wayside as we hunkered down to avoid the coronavirus. Here we are several months later as the state starts to open up, and we try to resume a life in the “new normal.” There is hope for the future! I am hopeful that AAUW will be holding a Meet and Greet in the fall and that we will be selling books in October. We just need the support of our members to help us grow even stronger in 2020 and 2021.

All member dues should have been paid by June 30. If you haven’t renewed your membership yet, please do so as soon as possible. Dues for the membership year 2020-21 are \$70.

You can pay on-line using the link that was sent to you in the invoice generated by National AAUW. If you prefer, you can send a check made out to “AAUW Johnstown Branch” to Georgia Yeager, 1022 Haverford Street, Johnstown, PA 15905. Also, there is a mail slot in my garage door if you just want to drop it off. Part of my hope for the future of AAUW is that each of you will renew your membership.

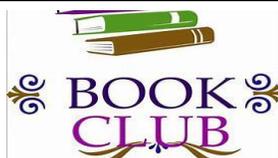
This spring, many of you recommended women for membership. The coronavirus interruption caused many of them to delay joining until we are back together this fall. I will make those contacts again and hopefully we will have additional new members. Our current membership stands at 85. In addition to our 81 previous members, we have four new members who joined this spring: Terri Foster, Dr. Gina Kupchella, Barbara Petersen, and Martha Banda. I can’t wait until we can properly welcome you four to AAUW!

We also have several members that were new in 2019-2020. We did not get to see much of you because of curtailed activities. Those members are Lori Hutchison, Carolyn Orr, Nicole Kirsch, Linda Leffler, Lynn McCormick, Karen Rizzo, Mary Lou Susko, Francine Keifer, and Madeline Gyure. We hope you are planning to renew your memberships.

AAUW typically does not have summer activities, so we hope to see you all this fall with a Meet and Greet to celebrate everyone. (Details in the next newsletter.)

Books at the Boulevard

by Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com)



AAUW's evening book club meets on the second Thursday of the month at the Boulevard Grill. Currently we are trying to work out virtual meetings or outdoor, socially distant meetings. We are not sure what form our next few meetings will take, but we are still reading books, and we would love any interested AAUW members to join us! Typically, the person who has selected the book of the month will lead the discussion, but there is no pressure there. We are an informal, fun-loving group. Join us for drinks, dinner, and great discussion!

Our line-up of books for the summer and fall are as follows:

July – *If You Tell: A True Story of Murder, Family Secrets, and the Unbreakable Bond of Sisterhood* by Gregg Olsen (Pat Grzybicki, leader)

August – *Daisy Jones and the Six* by Taylor Jenkins Reid (Paula Tomko, leader)

September – *My Family and Other Animals* by Gerald Durrell (Beth Thomas, leader)

October – *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr (Karen Rizzo, leader)

November – *Hope Never Dies, Obama Biden Mysteries #1* by Andrew Shaffer (Billie Zahurak, leader)

December – *The Christmas Mystery* by Jostein Gaarder (Beth Thomas, leader)

For more information or to join us, contact Billie Zahurak at billiegirl20@hotmail.com

Thank you, Pat!

As my tenure as President comes to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank-you to the membership for allowing me to serve in this capacity for the last four years. I took on this responsibility after only a few years as a branch member and a very brief stint on the Board. I was assured by many that I would have help in carrying out the job, and I was not let down. I appreciate the support, guidance and encouragement that I have been given, and am especially thankful for the new and deeper friendships I have developed along the way. I hope to stay active in various endeavors of our group as we continue to grow and evolve, and look forward to working with many of you in the years ahead..... Pat Grzybicki



Pat Grzybicki



Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Right to Vote in Central Park

by Paula Tomko (paulatomko@gmail.com)

The Public Policy Committee has tentatively scheduled a 100th Anniversary Celebration of the passage of the 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote, for Saturday, August 15th. The celebration is scheduled from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM in Johnstown's Central Park.

The Public Policy Committee is monitoring the Covid-19 situation which has had everyone staying at home and cancelling all events. We are looking to the Pennsylvania Department of Health for guidance. Current Covid-19 Green Phase guidelines allow for gatherings of more than 250 people and CDC guidance (masks, social distancing, and washing hands) must be followed.

While we continue to monitor the situation, we still need to plan the event. If you are interested in volunteering to help plan, and execute, this 100th Anniversary celebration, please contact Paula Tomko, Public Policy Chair at paula.tomko@gmail.com or call 610-207-7998.

Deadline!!

Don't forget!! We need your completed ballot by

JUNE 20, 2020!

A simple majority is needed for election of officers; but 2/3 (56 members' votes) are needed to ratify by-law changes.

**THIS IS IMPORTANT AS OUR NEW OFFICERS
BEGIN THEIR TERM ON JULY 1ST!**



by Paula Tomko
(paulatomko@gmail.com)

During the Covid-19 stay at home orders, AAUW has been creating webinars and content that can be used by branches for Programming?

AAUW has been hosting webinars for women on wide variety of topics – Professional Writing, Advocacy on Social Media, Building Your Personal Brand, the 2020 Election, STEM During Covid-19 that will help with career advancement, political advocacy. During Covid-19, AAUW was reaching more women than ever before with these webinars. You can view them here: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/events/equity-network/events/>

After the George Floyd protests, AAUW CEO Kim Churches was seen reading “Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption” by Bryan Stevenson. Kim highly recommends the book.

You can learn to be an advocate using AAUW Pennsylvania’s “Advocacy in a Box” tools. You can find them at <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/advocacy-in-a-box/>

You can be a Two Minute Activist using AAUW national’s Two Minute Activist tools. These tools can be found at: <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

AAUW 2020 -2021 by Paula Tomko (paulatomko@gmail.com)

AAUW is going back to basics in 2020 – 2021 and focusing on the mission. What does that mean exactly? There is a renewed focus on Public Policy and a push for each member, and each branch, to work on AAUW’s Public Policy Priorities. Yes, ladies, we need to get political.

AAUW has found that a focus on our Public Policy Priorities is needed now more than ever as the current administration is hurting, not helping women and minorities. We see this with the new Title IX Rules issued in May. If you have not done so, please read Kim Churches Opinion piece in Newsweek. (<https://www.newsweek.com/trump-administrations-new-title-ix-rules-are-attack-students-metoo-opinion-1503216>)

Here is a partial list of AAUW’s Public Policy Priorities for 2019 – 2021:

- Education and training.
- Economic Security.
- Leadership.
- Vigorous support of Title IX.
- Voter Registration and Get Out The Vote (GOTV).

To see the full list of the Public Policy Priorities:

(<https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2020/02/Public-Policy-Priorities-2019-2021-nsa.pdf>)

The Public Policy Committee will be meeting in late June or early July to begin the work for 2020 – 2021. Look for an email inviting anyone who is interested to attend the next meeting.

Please contact Paula Tomko, Public Policy Chair, if you would like to get involved with GOTV, Voter Registration, or calling legislators.



REMINDERS

MISSION

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

VISION

Equity for all.

VALUES

Nonpartisan.

Fact-based.

Integrity.

Inclusion and intersectionality.