



Christmas Fun!

by Nancy Miller (carlnanmiller@verizon.net)

Our Christmas Luncheon December 4 at The Balance Restaurant was a fun way to begin the Holiday Season. We filled the place with 48 attendees. The food and service were great, and everyone seemed to enjoy being able to gather again. It was nice that Mary Lou Wyandt's daughter, Marlena, was present to accept the the Named Gift Award in honor of her mother. Many thanks to Mary Jo Gardill and Charlotte Crissey from the Garden Club, enlisted by Program Chair Doris Leidy, for their interesting and informative presentation, to Claire Montoya for managing reservations, Deanna Haddle for doing the programs, and Georgia Yeager for general assistance. We collected \$164 in donations for the Literacy Council.



Heidi Staib, Carol Weimer (guest) & Claire Montoya



Marianne and Betty (guest) Spampinato



Happy AAUW Members



Georgia Kerrick & Dottie Glass

Happy Holidays to all!

President's Update

by Kathy Howanek (khowanek@hotmail.com)



Can it possibly be the end of the year?! Time truly does fly! With time being an issue at the holidays, I will keep this message brief.

First and most especially, "Thank-you" to Nancy Miller, Doris Leidy, Deanna Haddle and Georgia Yeager for providing such a delightful Holiday Luncheon! The food was delicious, the program interesting and informative, and as always, the company was outstanding. It was especially gratifying to see each other in person. Let's hope that vaccines triumph over variants and we can continue this trend.

As was mentioned at the Holiday Luncheon, the PA Branch Presidents had a ZOOM meeting in November, and I want to mention just a few of the highlights. The 5 Star Program has been renewed for July, 2021 through July, 2022. However, the criteria for the Advancement star must be completed by December 31, 2021. One criterion is for the Branch to donate to the Greatest Needs fund in honor of the 140th anniversary of AAUW. Another criterion is to increase contributions to the Greatest Needs fund by 25%. Any individual member who wishes to make such a donation should do so by December 31, 2021. This may be done online.

Improving and updating information sharing is a statewide issue. In that regard, please make sure that Shelby Custer has your updated contact information, especially current email and cell phone numbers.

Locally, our Board will be meeting on January 8, 2022. At this meeting we will be deciding on branch awards. The AAUW Gateway to Equity Award honors an individual, group or organization that has shown by action and philosophy the promotion of the AAUW mission of equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. If anyone has a nominee for this award, please submit the name of the individual or organization to a Board member before January 8. The Board will also be reviewing the leadership structure and goals for the second half of our business year. Again, any suggestions are welcome.

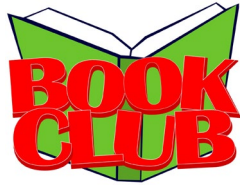
Finally, Happy Holidays to all and a wish that each of us finds peace, purpose and prosperity in 2022.



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by Ann Furlong (akfurlong@verizon.net)

AAUW members and guests met on Wednesday December 8 at Harrigan's in the Holiday Inn for a delicious meal and good company. All members are invited to join in the fun at any one of our evenings together. We will next meet at **The Fifth (formerly the Alibi Lounge) on January 19th** and at the **Westmont Capri on February 16th. The time is 5:45 PM.** Hope to see you there!



Books at the Boulevard

by Shellby Custer (shellbyc@aol.com)

Books at the Boulevard continues to meet in person at the Boulevard Grill. We have been enjoying good books, good food, and great company! Each book has offered interesting discussion and insights. The month of December we read *The Life an Adventures of Santa Claus* by L. Frank Baum. This led to a magical discussion about Santa, Christmas, and the holiday spirit. HO HOHO! We will continue to meet at the Boulevard Grill the second Tuesday of each month at 6pm. Anyone wishing to attend/join us please let me or Pat Gryzbicki (dsap@atlanticbb.net) know so that we can add you to our reservation.

Here are the upcoming books:

Again, anyone wishing to attend, please let us know so that we can make the proper

BOOKS AT THE BOULEVARD 2022

MONTH and DATE	BOOK	AUTHOR	DISCUSSION LEADER
January 13	Hamnet	Maggie O'Farrell	Georgia Yeager
February 10	People of the Book	Geraldine Brooks	Madeline Gyure
March 10	Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail	Cheryl Strayed	Shellby Custer
April 14	The Midnight Library	Matt Haig	Karen Rizzo
May 12	The Pull of the Stars	Emma Donoghue	Pat Grzybicki
June 9	Heard it in a Love Song: A Novel	Tracey GarvisGraves	Carolyn Orr
July 14	All Adults Here	Emma Straub	Kristie Murray
August 18	The Island at the Center of the World: The Epic Story of Dutch Manhattan	Russell Shorto	Madeline Gyure



**Board meeting on January 8th.
Cambria County Library
Noon - 3:45 PM**

It will be a "bring your own lunch" event, but there will be bottled water for everyone.

Fun – Raising!



Eileen Tweed & Laryssa Duncan enjoying a ride on the Christmas Train while working the AAUW Used Jewelry sale at the Galleria Mall!



Membership Corner

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

by Shellby Custer (shellbyc@aol.com)

Thank you to those who attended, participated in, and helped with the BE OUR GUEST MEMBERSHIP EVENT that was held on November 4, at the Bottleworks. It was a lovely evening. And as a result of this membership event we welcomed 5 new members!

Please welcome Becky Catalinet, Nanci Gaborek, Robbin Hoffman, Laura Huchel, and Joe Carney. Look for their Member Profiles in the next newsletter.

A BIG shout out to Kenna Raymond for all her work in making the Be Our Guest event happen. I cannot thank her enough.

An updated calling list is attached. Anyone who does not want to be called or would prefer a text message instead please let me know as soon as possible.

Thank you to our Calling Committee for their hard work in keeping us connected and reminded.

Please consider joining the Membership Committee in the New Year, as we look for ways to retain members and add new faces to our organization.

Take care!

AAUW Calling Committee 2021-22 (UPDATED 12/3/2021)

Calling Committee Member & Phone # Names to Call and Directory Page

Mary Hays Carney (266-3852) Adams – Custer pp. 8& 9
ADD Rebecca Catelinet; (814-255-2033/ 814-659-2781 C)

Betty Dugan (255-6503) Daisley - Gyure pp. 10, &11
ADD Nanci Gaborek (814-255-5295)

Mary Ann Minahan (288-3962) Haddle–Lopez pp. 12 & 13
ADD Robbin Hoffman (814-255-5749/ 814-244-6477 C)
ADD Laura Huchel (484-333-1595)

Mary Lou Susko (410-3402) Martin - Orr pp. 14& 15
CORRECTION Catherine Monk (814-288-1959)

Kenna Raymond (525-6916) Pagano – Romani pp. 16 &17

Eileen Tweed (255-6208) Romano – Susko pp. 18 & 19

Georgia Yeager (255-3322;322-7154) Thomas- Yeager pp. 20-21

NOTE: If you are unavailable to make calls; will be away or are sick and cannot make calls, please contact Shellby (242-1125) as back up.

Thank you for doing this job! It is important for a couple reasons. First, it a person-to-person contact among members; we do not want to forget anyone. Also, it ensures a good turnout for our meetings and events. We want our presenters to know, through our attendance, that we value their time and expertise. We also want our members to attend business meetings to stay current with AAUW information and to express their opinions about Branch business; no one feels left out.



Bling, bling, and more bling!

By Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com)

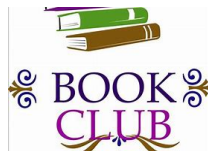
It was just a little fundraiser with no expenses – collect used jewelry and sell each piece for \$5.00. But it was a little fundraiser with a BIG payoff: \$925.00! On November 19, 20, and 21, AAUW sold used jewelry as part of the Galleria’s Holiday Market. It was so easy that we must do it again!

We send a big thanks to all who spent the day at Deanna Haddle’s house sorting the many donations. (There was some early buying going on, as well!) Our thanks goes out also to the many members who volunteered to sell at the table in the mall.



Claire Montoya & Valerie Grash

The project was chaired by Eileen Tweed, Doris Leidy, Claire Montoya, and Georgia Yeager. The co-chairs are grateful to those who helped with the project: DeannaHaddle, Patty Bailey, Mary Hays Carney, Laryssa Duncan, Anne Fattman, Ann Furlong, Val Grash, Pat Grzybicki, Madeline Gyure, Kathy Howanek, Lori Hutchison, Mary Kay Milavec, Nancy Miller, Joyce Radovanic, Kenna Raymond, Andrea Santoro, Marianne Spampinato, and Heidi Staib.



The AAUW Tuesday Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, January 11, 2022. This is a scheduled ZOOM meeting.** The book is *Before and After* by Judy Christie and Lisa Wingate.

The February 8, 2022 meeting is also a ZOOM meeting and *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman will be discussed.

Please call Ann Furlong (814-255-2935) if you want to participate in these book discussions. She will then relay you the ZOOM and time information.

reminder

There will be a **Business Meeting for all members on February 28, 2022. Location and Time TBA.**

All members are encourage to attend and join in the business of being an AAUW member



Thank you to: *Heidi Staib*

Heidi Staib assumed the chairmanship of the Literacy Committee this year and she started and her committee members started with a “bang”.

Write-Read-Write

Letters from the 4th grade classes at Conemaugh Township Area Middle School were received by AAUW members and collected at the Christmas Luncheon.

The books and letters were delivered to the classrooms and the students were thrilled with their books. Watch the next newsletter for more information and pictures of the happy recipients.

Books for Babies

Books were delivered to the Conemaugh Maternity Unit to continue our advocacy for early reading to babies.