



Inclined to AAUW



March/April 2022

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2022 Scholarship Banquet

By Nancy Miller (carlnanmiller@verizon.net)

Our Leora G. Rager Scholarship and Awards Luncheon Banquet will be held at 1:00 PM Sunday, April 24, 2022 in the President’s Room at Sunnehanna Country Club. This function is where we present our scholarships, member and community awards which reflect our mission of gender equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. It’s very important that all members who can, attend. It’s a big celebration of US! It will be a full menu meal. The cost is \$25.00 per person.

This year we will present \$1500 scholarships to students from Westmont, Bishop McCort, and Conemaugh Valley. If any member has a connection to any of these schools, it would be nice if you sat at that recipient’s table.

Our Branch will also honor members who have contributed greatly to our group with Georgia Yeager receiving “Outstanding Woman” Award. Kenna Raymond and Madeline Gyure will both receive our “Member Making a Difference” Award for their work on the Golf Outing. This year we will honor all our Branch Life members who have been members for 50 years or more with the “Named Gift” Award. They are: Sarah Ashman, Margaret Barron, Anne Fattman, Dorothy Glass, Maryann Minahan, Adelle Picking, LeoraRager, and Florence Warfel. Come help us celebrate these amazing women at this very special event. Sherry Rae from UPJ will receive the “Gateway to Equity” Award given for community contribution.

RESERVATIONS ARE DUE BY **Friday, APRIL 16**. Use reservation form below. Check for \$25.00 for each attendee made out to **Johnstown Branch, AAUW**. SEND TO CLAIRE MONTTOYA, 510 VILLAGE ST. JOHNSTOWN PA 15902

RESERVATION FORM FOR SCHOLARSHIP & AWARDS LUNCHEON, APRIL 24, 2022

Name.....#Attending.....

.....

Send form with name and \$25.00 check for each attendee made out to “Johnstown Branch AAUW” to CLAIRE MONTTOYA, 510 Village St., Johnstown, PA 15902.

Write-Read-Write

Congratulations to our Literacy Committee for a very successful Write-Read-Write program this year.

4th Grade teacher, **Alyshia Mock**, coordinated with committee chair, **Heidi Staib** to make this wonderful event happen. Ms. Mock said "The students were so excited to receive the letters and books from the members."

Thank you notes are on the way!



Conemaugh Township 4th grade students participated in the AAUW Write-Read-Write Program.



The AAUW Tuesday Book Club will meet at 12:30 PM on March 8, 2022 at Eat n' Park in Westmont. The book being discussed is *The Star Crossed Sisters of Tuscany* by Lori Nelson Spielman

On April 12, 2022, the Book Club will discuss *The Paris Wife* by Paula McClain. The meeting will be at the home of Nancy Miller and will begin at 1:00 PM.



By Ann Furlong
(akfurlong@verizon.net)

The weather outside may be frightful but it is never too early to plan for our summer activities. So with that in mind, the dates have been set for **spring book collection. The dates chosen are April 18- May 13.** This enables us to start after Easter and lets us finish before Memorial Day.

We then have a month to devote to the Golf Outing, July to recuperate, and then dive into August and the Book Sale itself. As far as we know today, we can plan on the same collection places as before: Ameriserv in Westmont; Ace Hardware in Westmont; Randy's Bi-Lo, both Osborne Street and Windber locations; YMCA; Credit Union Complex on Donald Lane; and of course at our rooms at the Galleria.

We know that you will be ready to help to sort books and collect books when asked in April and May. We cannot do this without "all hands on deck". Thank you in advance for all of your hard work. This book sale demands work but the results are so worth it. The Book Sale remains our primary fundraiser.

Flood City Youth Fitness Academy

by Deanna Haddle (ldhadd1@gmail.com)

Our Branch has a wonderful history with the FCYFA. You may have seen in the news that the Academy recently received a grant for their after school program. This program feeds children from ages 6 – 15, supplies computers, arranges for tutors to help with their homework and provides physical fitness and creative programs. Many days they have 100+ students. It is truly a godsend to our community.

Recent renovations have made the learning facility larger and better. They are also partnering with UPJ to have education majors help with tutoring. Oscar Cashaw asks that AAUW members consider volunteering to help with tutoring, even one day a week, from 3:00-5:00 PM. You will be assigned one student in a subject area of your comfort for approximately 25 minutes. You will see four students a day.

Go <https://fcyfa.org> to see all the amazing programs and activities being provided. If you are interested in tutoring, call [\(814\) 539-0164](tel:8145390164)



By Claire Montoya (rmont1931@aol.com)

AAUW Johnstown

Financial Statement

	January 2022		Year to Date
BALANCE ON DEPOSIT JULY 1, 2021			47,082.51
INCOME			
Book Sale	0.00		9,289.00
Fundraising	0.00		4,252.00
Programming	0.00		1078.00
Education	0.00		0.00
Dues	0.00		821.00
Local Dues	0.00		19.00
Grants	0.00		0.00
Donations	0.00		200.00
Interest - Checking	.66		4.73
Interest - Savings	4.93		19.01
Amazon Smile	0.00		28.89
Miscellaneous	0.00		728.50
TOTA; INCOME		5.59	16,440.13
EXPENSE			
Book Sale	0.00		1,575.61
Fundraising	9.93		4,854.02
Membership	0.00		781.15
Programming	0.00		1,234.87
Education	1,500.00		1,500.00
Dues	0.00		894.00
President	573.00		780.96
Communications	0.00		92.58
Treasurer	0.00		300.00
Special Projects	0.00		0.00
Community Foundation	0.00		30,000.00
Other	0.00		0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE		2,082.93	42,013.19
BALANCE ON DEPOSIT			
Checking			14,255.89
Savings			7,253.56
TOTAL ON DEPOSIT TO DATE			21,509.45



By Deanna Haddle (dhadd1@gmail.com)

As a means of celebrating Women’s History Month (March) and to spotlight our ongoing collaboration with the Cambria County Community Library; AAUW is donating 9 books to the Library. The titles are:

- A Is for Awesome!: 23 Iconic Women Who Changed the World* (ages 1-3)
- Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History* (ages 8-12)
- Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World* (ages 2-6)
- 100 Immigrant Women Who Changed the World* (ages 6-12)
- She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World* (ages 4-8)
- Good Girls Don't Make History* (ages 12 - 16)
- Forces of Nature: Women of Science* (ages teen to adult)
- Black Women in Science* (ages 9-12)
- Strong Women : 15 Biographies of Influential Women History Overlooked* (ages teen to Adult)



Dining Club

by Ann Furlong
(akfurlong@verizon.net)

The AAUW dining group resumed on February 16th. The group met at Capri in Westmont and had a lovely evening. It was good to be together again.

We will go to The Fifth in Richland on March 16th. The time is 5:45. Let's hope even more of you can join in. Remember, guests are always welcome; this includes friends, neighbors, spouses, significant others and whomever else you would like to bring. Bon Apatite.



By Kathy Howanek
(khowanek@hotmail.com)

So many of our members enjoy fellowship and develop friendships via our branch activities. A variety of these, such as book clubs, dining group, fundraising events and committee work appeal to many different members. Some may be looking for something else and, to that point, the Branch Board discussed some potential mission related partnerships with local agencies who serve women. These may include drives for paper and cleaning products for women in need, special events like a “Pack the Purse” drive to benefit women who may need toiletries in an attractive package. So many other possibilities are out there where we could combine service and fellowship. This endeavor would work much more smoothly if one or two members would agree to take on the task of Service Coordinator. These members would organize workers and liaise with agencies and the Branch President. If anyone is interested or has questions, please contact Kathy or Georgia.

Program Committee

By Doris Leidy



The Committee decided to have February and March meetings on Zoom due to the Omicron variant of Covid.

FEBRUARY 28, 6:30 p.m. {on Zoom} - Before we start our meeting, Paula Tomko will give a 20 minute informative presentation.

MARCH 28, 6:30 p.m. {on Zoom} - Jill Henning, PhD, an Assoc. Professor of Biology at UPJ, will talk on infectious diseases followed by a Q & A.

Please mark **May 2nd** on your calendars. This is the date of our next meeting. The May/June newsletter will have all the information about this meeting. Hopefully, we will be able to meet in person.



Spotlight on Women Owned Businesses

By Deanna Haddle (jdhadd1@gmail.com)

AAUW supports girls and women in our community in many ways. As another way of celebrating “Women’s History Month”, it was decided to spotlight a different Women Owned Business on our Facebook page every day during the month of March.

Fifty-six WOB were sent the necessary form to participate in this free publicity for their business. We need all our members who are on Facebook to “follow” our page and be sure to “like” and “share” these promotions for WOB.

Thank you in advance for sharing the articles. A special thanks to member Marianne Spampinato for posting all the information on our Facebook page.

Committee Corner

If you haven’t found your “niche” yet in AAUW, check out the committees below. Call the Chairperson for more information!

AAUW Funds: Ann Furlong – 255-2935

Book Sale – Pat Gryzbicki – 255-5399

Bylaws/Public Policy – Paula Tomko – 610-207-7998

Communications – Deanna Haddle - 659-1682

Education/Scholarship/Literacy – Nancy Miller
255-6467

Finance Committee – Claire Montoya
538-0515

Historian – Laryssa Duncan - 609-721-3529

Membership – Shellby Custer – 242-1125



by Shellby Custer (shellbyc@aol.com)

Membership Corner

Welcome Spring!!

This is the time of year we start to thaw out and prepare for an active spring and summer, with many events in the calendar. AAUW events!

However, it is also the time of the year we start collecting our annual dues. National AAUW announced an increase in our annual dues, from \$73 to \$78 annually. (\$67 for national, \$10 for state, and \$1 locally). Dues will be accepted starting March 15 thru June 30, 2022. If you are unable to pay your dues or need help arranging payments, please contact me.

We are hoping to have some in person events so that we can meet our newest members. If you have not met them, please reach out to Becky Catalinet, Nanci Gaborek, Robbin Hoffman, Laura Huchel, and Joe Carney. A new member event is being scheduled. Please keep an eye or ear out for this in the spring.

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

Take care!



President's Update

By Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com)

I saw four robins in my yard this morning and countless other birds arriving and departing in flocks, seemingly happy that green grass is showing and the sun is shining! The birds are sure harbingers of spring even if Punxsutawney Phil did see his shadow.

Spring is surely not far away because the Golf Committee has already started planning the second annual AAUW Golf Outing which will be at Windber Country Club on Monday, June 27. The committee will be calling members for help in securing hole sponsors and prizes. If you are interested in serving on the committee, call Pat Grzybicki (322-7400) or Georgia Yeager (322-7154).

On behalf of the membership, I want to express my sincere thanks to the women who performed the in-house audit of our 2020-21 fiscal year financial records. **Maryann Minahan, Sara Barron, and Florence Warfel** gave up a Saturday afternoon to review our books and completed the audit very quickly. The speed of their work can be attributed to their knowledge of the process and the excellent record keeping of our treasurer, **Claire Montoya**. The auditors were very complimentary of Claire's record keeping.

Finally, remember that **Oct. 18, 2023, is the 100th anniversary of our Johnstown Branch**. We need the help of many hands and creative minds to make the anniversary celebration a success. We want to celebrate across a full year, and we want to take our celebration to the community. So we will need ideas for what to do and volunteers to serve on the committee. Contact Kathy Howanek or Georgia Yeager if you are willing to serve.

Georgia

PS If you are looking for something to do to relieve winter boredom, why not try joining the zoom meetings presented by National and State AAUW. The topics are relevant and provide information and ideas that may help us improve our Branch. **Watch your email for the registration information.** The webinar/zoom programs are free.



Volunteers Need for Voter Registration!!

AAUW is a non-partisan organization, but a strong proponent of voting rights. We will have tables set up at the following locations on the designated dates and time. Please call the person indicated to spend an hour or so helping with this critical public service.

Cambria County Library – April 22nd, 10 AM – 3 PM, Georgia Yeager 814-255-5070
Penn Highlands Community College declined as their student body is doing registration. Yea!

We are looking for other sites. We will notify you of any new sites by email. If you know of a possible site, please call Paula Tomko (610-207-7998).

Branch Awards

By Kathy Howanek (khowanek@hotmail.com)

Outstanding Woman Georgia Yeager

Georgia is the quiet force for advancement in our branch. She has consistently taken on challenges engaging more and different members in activities, and taking the lead on new



Georgia Yeager

fundraising opportunities. She serves as branch co-president, book sale co-chair, and was the prime mover in structuring and establishing the Finance Committee.



Madeline Gyure

Members Making a Difference

Madeline Gyure
Kenna Raymond



Kenna Raymond

Madeline and Kenna share this award, as relatively new branch members who took a leadership role in making our first Branch Golf Tournament a tremendous success. Their enthusiasm was contagious and the results outstanding. They represented the branch in an engaging and professional manner.

Gateway to Equity Award

By Kathy Howanek (khowanek@hotmail.com)

Sherri Rae is the Interim Director of the Office of Equity and Inclusion and Title IX Officer at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. In addition to her duties with the Office of Equity and Inclusion and Title IX, Ms. Rae currently serves as advisor to the Black Action Society on campus and has served as campus advisor for LGBTQ students. She is also a very active member in several and varied community organizations and local boards, including her current role as an Executive Committee Member of the Johnstown branch of the NAACP. Ms. Rae is also the Board President of



Sherri Rae

Cambria-Somerset Outstanding Young Woman Scholarship Program, Chair of the Board of Directors of Goodwill of the Southern Alleghenies and the Coordinator of the Johnstown Cinderella Project. Her efforts on behalf of, and most importantly in cooperation with, a wide spectrum of people exemplifies the true spirit of community.

Ms. Rae received a Bachelor of Arts in History and Master of Arts in counseling and educational psychology from Slippery Rock University.

AAUW National By-Law Change

ARTICLE V. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS Section 2. Nominations.

No later than eight months prior to elections, the Nominating Committee Chair shall notify all AAUW Individual Members of the Officer and Director positions to be elected by the Individual Members and request nominations. Qualified candidates may be proposed by individual members, the Nominating Committee, and other stakeholders, **subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.**

The Nominating Committee shall submit recommendations to the Board of Directors for its approval and announcement of the names of one or more nominees for each elected position to be filled. The Board of Directors shall have the power to refuse to place on the ballot for election any Individual Member nominated by **candidate proposed by one or more Individual Members, the Nominating Committee, or any other person.** The names of the nominees approved by the Board of Directors, with their credentials, shall be published for all Individual Members at least thirty days prior to the election.

In Memoriam



By Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com)

Two longtime members of AAUW have recently passed away: Rose Mary Hagadus on January 4 and Martha Banda on January 27. Both will be remembered by our AAUW Branch not only for their service to the organization, but also for their service to the community. Both Rose Mary and Martha were examples of strong, accomplished women, and they were definitely role models for women and girls in the Johnstown area.



Rose Mary Hagadus

Rose Mary Hagadus was the Executive Director of the Cambria County Community Arts Center for 34 years. During her tenure, among many other things, the Goldhaber-Fend building was constructed, the Log House and pond were refurbished, and the Ponus Doll Museum became a reality.

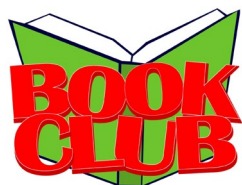
She brought Johnstown the annual Log Cabin Arts Festival each Labor Day weekend. Rosemary Hagadus was a strong supporter of all the arts in the Johnstown Area.

Martha Banda was known to Johnstowners for her public service. She was a member of many organizations and served on many boards including, among others, the Housing Authority, the Salvation Army, and Bottle Works.

Martha was the first female Democrat elected to city council, and she served four years as deputy mayor. She was a woman of many "firsts" including establishing the first Moxham Community Crime Watch. Martha was always an enthusiastic member of the AAUW Second Tuesday Book Club.



Martha Banda



Books at the Boulevard

by Shellby Custer (shellbyc@aol.com)

Books at the Boulevard continues to meet in person at the Boulevard Grill. However, due to increased cases of COVID we did meet by Zoom for January. We continue enjoying good books, good food, and great company! Each book has offered interesting discussion and insights.

The months of January and February we read *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell and *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks. We enjoyed conversation and questions about the difficult and relevant topics of each book.

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.

PLEASE NOTE: We decided to meet on Wednesday, April 13 due to holiday services on the 14th.

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

Here are the upcoming books.

MONTH and DATE	BOOK	AUTHOR	DISCUSSION LEADER
March 10	Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail	Cheryl Strayed	Shellby Custer
April 13	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 Garvis Graves	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
September 8	The Glass Castle	Jeanette Walls	Anna Antemann
October 13	The Book of Magic	Alice Hoffman	Georgia Yeager and Beth Thomas