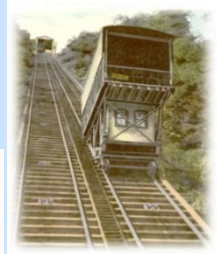




Inclined to AAUW



Sept/Oct, 2022

Volume XXIX, No. 12 Page 1



2022 August President's Report

By Kathy Howanek (khowanek@hotmail.com)

What a busy summer! Fundraisers, committee meetings, board meetings, all to prepare for our Branch's 100th Anniversary! You will read about fundraisers and standing committee work elsewhere in the newsletter, so I will briefly give you a progress report on the Anniversary Planning Committee's activities. Georgia has met with 50 year plus members who provided a wealth of information and suggestions. Committee chairs would do well to have at least one of these women on your committee!

Other committee members have secured the lighting of the Stone Bridge in March 2023, a meeting with Richard Burkert to discuss an exhibit at JAHA, and preliminary approval of a student affiliate at UPJ. A sub-committee is scheduled to review our archives at Cambria County Library on August 22 and discuss a display at the library. If any of you have photos from past events or past members that should be included in a display, please contact Georgia or me.

As part of the Cambria Memory Project, Barb Zaborowski has facilitated the digitizing of The Women of Cambria County. The link to the digitized book is on our website, just click on the picture of the book cover and off you go! It is a very interesting read. The next step is to investigate the cost of reprinting the book. It's a little too early to reveal the initial thoughts on the "party" for branch members, but we are hoping for a real treat for you. More to come!

Please be sure to read the committee reports in this and future issues! In an attempt to streamline our business meetings, committee chairs will have only a limited time for updates. As always, most of what you need to know about Branch happenings will be in the newsletter!

I appreciate you!



Dining Club

By Ann

Furlong(akfurlong@verizon.net.)

The Dining Club is planning on gathering on **September 14** at the **Stadium Pub** in downtown Johnstown. **The Time is 5:45.** On **October 19** the diners will meet at **5:45** at **Craft** next to the Stonebridge Brewery downtown. This is new and unique dining experience which all will enjoy. Please tell Ann Furlong before the event if you plan on attending. Text at 81-418-2312 or email at akfurlong@verizon.net.

Upcoming AAUW Programs

By Valerie Grash (vgrash@pitt.edu)

The Program Committee met on August 6, at the Westmont Eat'n Park to brainstorm ideas for this year's programming—and we're excited about what we've got lined up!

First, thank you to all who submitted a response to the online survey. It has helped guide our planning including the expressed desire by members to offer Zoom programming in addition to in-person events. While the pandemic isn't over, with proper precautions, in-person offerings are certainly our intention as we attempt to get back to "normal" (if that's even possible anymore).

However, some topics clearly lend themselves well to virtual programs, especially those offered by AAUW with national experts that we couldn't possibly host in-person. Therefore, you may notice more program offerings overall than in previous years, reflective of the rejuvenated sense of purpose this upcoming centennial celebration of our chapter brings. If you didn't get a chance to take the online survey, it is still available; if you would prefer to fill out a hard copy, let me know and I can provide you with one.

As for upcoming events, our fall **Membership Meeting** is slated for **September 28** at the downtown **Cambria County Library's Community Room, beginning at 6:00 p.m.** You'll note that date is a **Wednesday**, a change from previous years when meetings were held on Mondays—something our members mentioned they'd prefer.

We've also lined up the **Warehouse Room at the Boulevard Grill for our Holiday Luncheon on December 4**, with further details to follow.

On **October 12 from 6:00 to 7:00 PM**, Karen Calhoun from Fair Districts PA will speak to us and the public on **"Fix Harrisburg: How Unfair Rules Kill Bipartisan Solutions."** **Watch your email for a link to this Zoom presentation.**

There's always room at the table for anyone who would like to join our committee, even if just to volunteer supplying refreshments at one of our events. And, of course, we are always looking for new speakers and experiences for members. So, feel free to email (vgrash@pitt.edu), or call or text me (814) 288-7212.



By Ann Furlong (akfurlong@verizon.net.)

The Second Tuesday Book Group will resume meeting in September. The first date is **September 13** at **1:00 P.M. at the home of Doris Leidy, 1032 Hillside Trail**. The book is *Angry Housewives Eating Bonbons* by Lorna Landvik.

The **October 12** book is *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis. **The host is Margaret Barron at 135 Worth Avenue. The time is 1:00 P.M.**

New participants are always welcome. Come join the group for good conversation, good friends and a light refreshment.



Congratulations on a Successful Book Sale

By Ann Furlong (akfurlong@verizon.net.)

Good friends: Congratulate yourselves on conducting another outstanding Used Book Sale. So many of you pitched in to help starting last fall with the first collection and winding up on Saturday August 13 with the \$5 a bag sale.

There are so many chores to this endeavor and each one of you contributed in some way whether it was collection or sorting and packing, or sharing on Facebook, or working the sale set-up or working the sale itself. You were there. And the work paid off and the sale was a success.

And it isn't all work. It is fun to see old friends, it is satisfying to know a job well done, and don't forget Auntie Anne's pretzels!

So take a well deserved break and be ready to start all over again in October

Membership

By Shellby Custer (shellbyc@aol.com)

We welcomed 2 new members recently. Please welcome Dr. Debe Mack and Hanna Phenicie.

Many in person activities are planned for the upcoming year. If you have not met our newest members, please reach out to them.

The 2022-23 Membership Directory will be arriving on your doorstep any day. Please look out for it. All the upcoming member meetings and events are listed in there, as well as a directory of all our members. (Please contact me directly if there are any errors so that I may correct them.)

Hope all are well, and hope to see you soon at an upcoming event!

Public Policy Postcard Writing Campaign

By Paula Tomko (aauwpaulatomko@gmail.com)



As you know, getting voters out to vote is imperative in any election year, but never more so this year as we are electing the next Governor of Pennsylvania as well as the replacement for Pat Toomey's open Senate seat.

To get voters out in Cambria and Somerset Counties, the Public Policy Committee is holding a postcard writing campaign. We will be handing out packets of 10 postcards to members at the September 28th meeting. Each packet will include a voter list, postcards, and a script of what to write to each voter.

If you would like more than one packet, please contact one of the members of the Public Policy Committee.



Fall Book Collection

By Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com)



It's that time of year again for beautiful fall days... and for collecting books! The collection period will run from **Monday, October 3 until Monday, October 31**. You will receive a phone call asking if you will pick up books at one of the various collection sites, so please volunteer if you are able.

We anticipate that collection sites will be at the BiLo's on Osborne St. and in Windber; West Hill Fitness, AmeriServ, and Ace Hardware in Westmont; the YMCA and the YWCA; the Credit Union Complex on Donald Lane; and at the AAA entrance to the Galleria. (We are still confirming sites at this writing.)

Book drop-off will be at the Galleria Mall in our unit on the lower level across from AAA. You can drop off books while we are sorting on Mondays and Thursdays from 1 to 3 pm starting on Thursday, October 6 and ending on Thursday, November 3. Also, during that time frame, books can be dropped off on Wednesdays from 4 until 5:30 pm to accommodate people who are working.

We had a very successful book sale in August thanks to all members contributing in some way. **Please say "yes" when you are asked to pick up books.**

Balancing the Books

By Georgia Yeager (gayeager@gmail.com)



At the end of every fiscal year AAUW Johnstown Branch undergoes an in-house audit of its finances. On August 1, Maryann Minahan and Sara Barron went through the Branch's financial records and found the books to be in order with no irregularities.

Treasurer Claire Montoya was on hand to provide the documents and answer any questions. As usual, the auditors found Claire's records to be complete, organized, and very easy to audit.

The Branch is grateful to Maryann and Sara for their willingness to audit the books. The Branch is also appreciative of Claire's record keeping.

At the end of the fiscal year 2021-22 (June 30), the Johnstown Branch of AAUW had \$25,415.48 in checking and \$7,255.72 in savings for a total on deposit of \$32,671.20.



Don't forget to "friend" and share articles from the AAUW-PA Johnstown Branch FaceBook page. Thank you, Marianne Spaminato!

Don't forget that minutes, Johnstown AAUW branch history, newsletters, etc. can be found on our website <http://aauwjohnstown.org> Thank you, Dr. Barbara Zaborowski!



Books at the Boulevard 2022

by Shellby Custer (shellbyc@aol.com)

Here comes FALL!!!

Books at the Boulevard continue to grow and become an enjoyable space to discuss books, among many other subjects and topics. We continue enjoying good books, good food, and great company! The months of July and August we read *All Adults Here* by Emma Straub and *The Island at the Center of the World* by Russell Shorto. Each book provided great entertainment and vivid discussion.

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 Grzybicki (dsap@atlanticbb.net) know so that we can add you to our reservation.

Our booklist for the upcoming year (2023) will be listed in the Membership Directory, and will appear in upcoming newsletters. Again, anyone wishing to attend, please let us know so that we can make the proper arrangements.

| Month/Date | Book | Author | Discussion Leader |
|------------|------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Sept. 8 | <i>The Glass Castle</i> | Jeanette Walls | Anna Antemann |
| Oct. 13 | <i>The Book of Magic</i> | Alice Hoffman | Georgia Yeager/Beth Thomas |
| Nov. 10 | <i>11/22/63</i> | Stephen King | Joyce Radovanic |
| Dec 8 | <i>The Immortal Nicholas</i> | Glenn Beck | Beth Thomas |

By Ann Furlong (akfurlong@verizon.net)

This is a Good News, Bad News report. The Good News is that you donated an extra \$670 to the Endowed Scholarship Fund at the Community Foundation. The challenge amount was \$1,000. Now we have \$1,670 in unanticipated funds to send the CFA.

Unfortunately we did not meet the challenge but the response is till encouraging. Thanks to all who responded. Building this fund is a Branch priority so that we can guarantee the life of our scholarships.



By Kenna Raymond
(kennaraymond@gmail.com)

After 3 fun-filled Thirsty Thursday meetings this summer and because of Labor Day, there will not be a Thursday Thirsty meeting in Sept.

Be sure to join us on October 6th at The Balance Restaurant on Main St. in Johnstown. Stop in for a drink or have an appetizer/dinner. Bring a friend to join in the great conversations.

Here we go again...NEXT BOOK COLLECTION

October 3-31, 2022

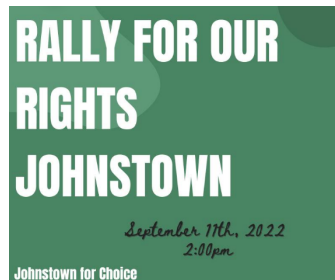
Please offer to pick up books
when you are called!

Public Policy Schedule for 2022 – 2023

By Paula Tomko (aaudpaulatomko@gmail.com)

At the August 31st Board Meeting, the Public Policy Committee made a commitment to hold a minimum of three Public Policy activities this AAUW fiscal year.

Sunday, September 11th the Public Policy Committee will be participating in the **Johnstown Rally for Reproductive Rights**. **The Rally will be held at 2:00 PM in Johnstown's Central Park** and is hosted by Women's March – Pittsburgh.



We encourage members to attend. AAUW PA believes that our lawmakers need to be made aware that women are perfectly capable of making their own healthcare decisions with the help of their families and under the direction of their physician.

Sunday, September 18th the Public Policy Committee will be meeting at **10:00 AM at Panera in Richland Town Center**. We will be putting together postcard packets for our postcard writing campaign.

If you would like to learn more about the Public Policy Committee and get involved in planning Public Policy Activities and Projects, please join us.

Later in the Fall, the Public Policy Committee will be hosting a discussion on the State of Education in Pennsylvania. Look for more information in an upcoming newsletter.

AAUW Johnstown Financial Statement

By Clair Montoya (rmont1931@aol.com)

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Balance | | |
| Deposit on July 1 2021 | | 47,082.51 |
| | | |
| Income | | |
| Book Sale | 9,375.00 | |
| Fundraising | 18,983.25 | |
| Programming | 1,928.00 | |
| Education | 0.00 | |
| Dues | 2,689.50 | |
| Local Dues | 45.00 | |
| Grants | 0.00 | |
| Donations | 200.00 | |
| Interest-Check | 7.81 | |
| Interest-Savings | 21.17 | |
| Amazon Smile | 63.49 | |
| Miscellaneous | 1,218.50 | |
| Total Income | | 34,531.72 |
| | | |
| Expense | | |
| Book Sale | 1,575.61 | |
| Fundraising | 6,077.01 | |
| Membership | 781.15 | |
| Programming | 2,174.87 | |
| Education | 4,683.00 | |
| Dues | 1,563.50 | |
| President | 982.61 | |
| Communications | 805.28 | |
| Treasurer | 300.00 | |
| Special Projects | 0.00 | |
| Community Foundation | 30,000 | |
| Total Expense | | 48,943.03 |
| | | |
| Balance on Deposit | | |
| Checking | 25,415.48 | |
| Savings | 7,255.72 | |
| | | |
| Total on Deposit to Date | | 32,671.20 |

AAUW Pennsylvania Public Policy Priorities 2022 – 2024

By Paula Tomko (aaudpaulatomko@gmail.com)

AAUW PA's public policy goals are to educate citizens about the impact of public policies on women and girls and to advocate for policies that will advance equity for women and girls. In Pennsylvania, AAUW actively endorses the national AAUW Public Policy Program. AAUW Pennsylvania supports good governance, an informed citizenry, and community dialogue on critical issues. Biennial priorities are intended to complement national priorities and to be a focus for active educational and advocacy efforts by members in the state.

To enable members and all citizens to participate fully in a representative democracy and self-governance, AAUW PA advocate

Awareness of issues so that members may be fully informed and empowered voters
Opposition to measures likely to suppress voting rights

- Support for efforts to increase civil discourse and compromise between those with opposing views
- Efforts to Get Out the Vote, including voter registration and use of social media to promote voting

To support a quality system of public education, AAUW PA advocates

- Opposition to the diversion of public funds to non-public elementary and secondary education, charter and cyber charter schools
- Support for a fair and adequately funded system of public education
- Strengthening secondary and post-secondary programs that provide women with education, vocational training, and support for success in the workforce, including nontraditional occupations
- Policies promoting inclusion, diversity, equity and justice in our schools

To improve the economic self-sufficiency of all women, AAUW PA advocates

- Pay equity and fairness in compensation and benefits
- Raising the minimum wage and tipped minimum wage to an amount that would provide a meaningful boost to family incomes in Pennsylvania and help grow the state's economy.
- Vigorous enforcement of employment anti-discrimination statutes
- Creating family-friendly workplace environments, including flexible workplace policies, paid leave for personal and family illness, and quality child-care facilities available to all parents regardless of their circumstances
- Improving retirement security
- Reducing the unprecedented level of student debt and the record high cost of college

To improve the operation and transparency of government, AAUW PA advocates

- Measures to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of government that can improve the well-being of women
- Efforts to end the practice of partisan redistricting, gerrymandering in Pennsylvania

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

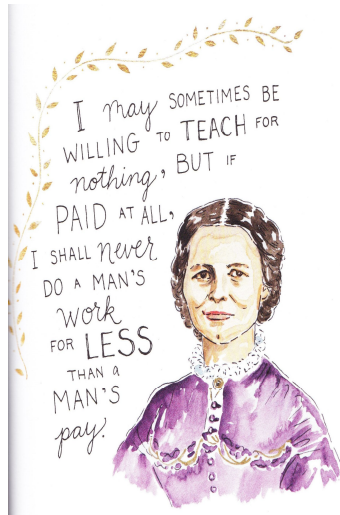
Communications – Deanna Haddle - 659-1682

Education/Scholarship/Literacy – Nancy Miller 255-6467

Finance Committee – Claire Montoya 538-0515

Membership – Shellby Custer – 242-1125

Program – Dr. Valerie Grash -288-7212



Clara Barton
Pic from *That's what She Said* by Kimoth Jo

YOU ARE INVITED TO AN IMPORTANT ZOOM WEBINAR.

When: Aug 25, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Pennsylvania Reproductive Rights after Dobbs

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_N9hZBHF2Shy0iubDSUxhma

We have heard from members that you are looking for greater understanding of the ramifications of the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* Supreme Court decision for Pennsylvanians, of

The presenter, Sue J. Frietsche, a senior staff attorney and founder and director of the Women's Law Project's Western Pennsylvania office, will discuss a case before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in which she represents abortion providers challenging the state's ban on Medicaid funds covering abortion. The case is based on the idea that abortion access is a right inherent in the state constitution based on Pennsylvania's Equal Rights Amendment, which says "equality of rights under the law" can't be denied based on sex. She will also discuss the recent law suit brought by Governor Wolf challenging the constitutional amendments included in SB106. what happens next and what we should be doing.



Welcome
Fall!

SEPTEMBER 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|----------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Bk @ Boulevard 6:00 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 Tues Bk Club 1:00 | 14 Dining Club 5:45 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 Public Policy Meeting 10:00 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Membership Meeting 6:00 | 29 | 30 | |

OCTOBER 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Thirsty Thursday 6:00 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Tues Bk 1:00 Zoom 7:00 | 13 Bk@ Boulevard 6:00 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 Dining Club 5:45 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

