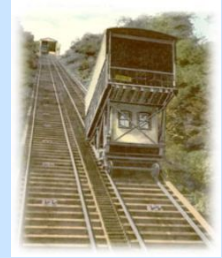




Inclined to AAUW



January/February, 2024

Volume XXX, No. 1 Page 1

Write-Read-Write

By Heidi Staib (staibfam@aol.com)



Our Johnstown chapter chose the Greater Johnstown School District to participate in our annual Write/Read/Write project. We were able to purchase books and write letters to 212 students in 11 homerooms. Thanks goes out to all the members who took letters and bought books. Many members gathered to wrap extra books and write extra letters. We are very grateful to the Conemaugh Township Rotary club for their generous donation of book money.



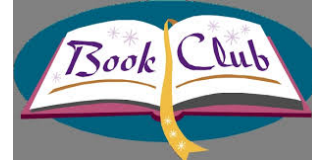
Book Sale



By Ann Furlong
akfurlong@verizon.net

The fall collection period wound up on November 27. All the books that came in have been sorted and packed. Please tell friends and associates that we will not be collecting again until April.

A GREAT BIG thank you to all the helpers this time around. We had a new location, a new routine and lots of confusion to begin with. But you all stayed with it, smiled and got on with the job. That was really appreciated. Rest on your laurels until April. Then we start all over again.



Books at the Boulevard

By Shellby Custer (shellbyc@aol.com)

BRRRRR!!!! Warm up with a good book and great conversation!

Books at the Boulevard will continue to meet at the Boulevard Grill the second Thursday 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.

Here are the upcoming books (The booklist can also be found in your Membership Directory) Again, anyone wishing to attend, please let us know so that we can make the proper reservations and arrangements

Date	Title	Author	Leader
1/11	<i>True Biz: A Novel</i>	Sara Novic	Madeline Gyure
2/8	<i>The Distant Hours</i>	Kate Morton	Doreen Miller
3/14	<i>Angry Housewives Eating Bonbons</i>	Lara Landvik	Jennifer Batche



by Ann Furlong
akfurlong@verizon.net

AAUW Dining Group

The Dining Group will kick off the new year at Trophy's Bar and Grill on St. Claire Road on January 17th at 5:45 PM..

On February 21st at 5:45 PM we will revisit Craft in downtown Johnstown. Craft is always an interesting adventure in eating. Please consider joining us if you have never been. And remember that friends, spouses, relatives, significant others and all are welcomed guests.

FYI

Johnstown Branch AAUW Website

<http://www.aauwjohnstown.org>

The password to access the "members only" section is

Ibelong21



By Dr. Debe Mack
debemack@gmail.com

We are wrapping up 2023 on a great note! Our recent Speed Networking event was a tremendous success, fostering connections and conversations among our members. It was heartening to witness the energy and enthusiasm as individuals came together to network and share experiences.

I am delighted to announce that, as a result of this event, we welcomed six new incredible members to our AAUW Johnstown community. [Inserts with details for the yearbook have been mailed to all members]! Each new addition brings fresh perspectives and passion, enriching our collective commitment to advancing equity and education for women and girls.

As we step into the new year, let us embrace a spirit of growth and engagement. Our collective efforts have made significant strides, and together, we can further expand our impact. Let us continue to nurture an environment that encourages collaboration, advocacy, and empowerment. I encourage each of you to get involved, share your ideas, and actively participate

in our initiatives. Whether it's volunteering, attending events, or contributing your expertise, every effort plays a vital role in propelling us towards our goals. Let us seize the opportunities that the upcoming year presents to us. Together, let us strive for a year of growth, inclusivity, and continued commitment to our mission.

Thank you all for your ongoing dedication and support. Her is to a new year filled with possibilities and impactful contributions!

Warm Regards,
Debe Mack



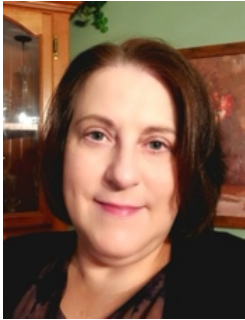
Please check out our FaceBook Page:

<https:// AAUW-Pa Johnstown Branch>

and our flickr account

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/aauwjohntown/album>

Let's Meet Some New Members!



Teresa Hochfeld

Theresa Hochfeld - As a Pennsylvania native and graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a BA in Political Science, I moved to Johnstown in 1996, eventually settling in Westmont next door to the best neighbors in the world, Kathy & Jim Howanek. How lucky was that!

I have worked a variety of jobs over the years, but my most rewarding job ended last year as my husband, Eric and I became empty nesters when my youngest graduated from college. Now with both my kids living in Philadelphia, I am starting to reimagine life after kids.

To keep busy, I recently started working at the Admissions Welcome Center at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. It has been as engaging and as challenging as I hoped it would be. My interest in the AAUW was sparked by many conversations over the years with Kathy about the book sale and because of my background as a Girl Scout leader. The AAUW's mission of empowering young women is a cause that I strongly believe in and hope to support by joining AAUW and working on the Public Policy committee.

When not travelling the turnpike to visit my kids, my husband and I like to visit museums and historic homes, walk the local trails and spend time watching Pittsburgh sports.

Janice Forosisky Born and raised in the City of Johnstown, Janice Johnston Forosisky continues to reside in the Moxham neighborhood with her husband David. Janice is very involved in Moxham Renaissance, and for many years was president of the organization.



Janice Forosisky

Janice attended UPJ, graduating with a Bachelor's in Education, and post-graduation worked as a preschool teacher with Cambria County Child Development Corporation, also working at First National Bank.

Outside of work Janice took time to raise her family of three sons, focusing on the care and education of her youngest, John, who was born with Down Syndrome. She has volunteered on numerous committees, including the Cambria County LICC and MH/ID board, and in 1996 she took a position with Tuscarora Intermediate Unit 11 in the Parent to Parent of Pa program. and retired in 2018.

Retired in 2018, Janice is very happy to join AAUW Johnstown.

Let's Meet Some New Members!



Beth Stem

Beth Stem - My name is Beth Stem. I am a retiree after a long and rewarding career in education. I began my career as an admissions and student aide professional at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown where I graduated with a BA in Speech Communications. I later became the first Director of Admissions at then Cambria County Area Community College. I earned an MEd in School Counseling from Indiana University of Pennsylvania eventually becoming a school counselor at Westmont Hilltop Jr/Sr High School where I spent nearly 20 years. I retired in 2020.

I have been happily married to my husband, Rick for 30 years and we have one daughter who is a Speech Language Pathologist. She and her husband live in Pittsburgh. My family is my greatest blessing, and I am fortunate that retirement has afforded me the opportunity to spend more time with them.

Rachelle Hrabosky was born and raised in Johnstown, PA. She graduated from Ferndale Area High School in 1985. From there, she attended the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and graduated in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. She worked as a foster care caseworker, a caseworker in a partial hospitalization program and as an adoption caseworker.

In 2001, Rachelle proceeded to attend school again at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and graduated in 2003 as Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. She was a member of Pi Lambda Theta Honor Society.

In 2005, she was employed by Ferndale Area School District, her alma mater, first as an aide in the K4 program and then in 2006 as an elementary teacher. She continued teaching until 2015 when she became the elementary principal for the district after obtaining her Master of Education degree from California University of Pennsylvania. In 2022, Rachelle decided to return to the classroom and is currently teaching second grade at FASD.

Rachelle was married to the late Douglas Hrabosky and has three sons. She enjoys baking, traveling, and gardening. She is a volunteer for Cambria County Special Olympics.



Rachelle Hrabosky



By Ann Furlong
(akfurlong@verizon.net)

Second Tuesday Book Group

The Second Tuesday Book Group will meet on January 9 and on February 13. The meetings will be by Zoom unless it is determined that the weather will permit meeting at the Westmont Eat n Park. January's book is *Ruthless Tide* by Al Roker. In February the book is *To Tell the Truth* by Lewis Simons. Please consider joining in. The books are always interesting and the company is the best!

Holiday Luncheon 2023



On December 2, The Boulevard Grille's Speakeasy served as the perfect backdrop for our Holiday Luncheon, again fully decked out with lovely Christmas decorations to set the ideal mood. Forty-five attendees enjoyed the intimate setting, with a delicious array of soup, salad, and sandwiches—and not to mention festive Christmas cookies from Country Delight in Davidsville.

As always, it was so nice to socialize in such a relaxed atmosphere, relishing pre-meal drinks, conversation, and plenty of laughs. Program Committee member Joyce Radovanic helmed a challenging game of Christmas Bingo, with small prizes handed out to the winners. Festive themed baskets (one each for tea, coffee, hot cocoa, wine, cocoa, wine, and Italian) put together by Program Committee members were also raffled off, as



was a gift certificate for the Boulevard's Sunday Brunch for two (worth about \$50) generously donated by our banquet host, Don Kasprzyk.



Many thanks go out to the Program Committee members who helped put together the baskets and the luncheon. We collected a record \$382 in donations for the Literacy Council from our generous members. Happy Holidays, everyone!

After a post-holiday break, we look forward to seeing everyone at our next Business Meeting on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at 1:00 PM in the Cambria County Library Community Room downtown.



Thanks to Claire Montoya for the pictures!



By Kathy Howanek (khowanek@hotmail.com)

By the time that you read this, we will have wished each other Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year! We will have celebrated together, apart, sometimes even alone and with a variety of traditions that helped to make us who we are today.

In college, I had a poster in my dorm room which read something like this: We are each in some way like all other people, like some other people and like no other person. I love that sentiment and the promise of unity, diversity and individuality living in harmony in each of us. That amount of positive energy multiplied by 70 members should make 2024 an extraordinarily productive year for our branch.

Fortunately, we will be announcing several opportunities to channel that energy in the coming months. Our February meeting which will be held at the Cambria County Library on Saturday, February 10 at 1:00 PM will feature a short program by Karen Struble Myers, President and CEO of the United Way of the Laurel Highlands. She will discuss the United Ways ALICE project. The February meeting will also serve as our next community outreach opportunity, as we collect non-perishable food items to stock the food pantry at Franklin Street Church, where our branch originated. You will receive a reminder closer to the date of the meeting. The branch board will meet in January, so the February meeting will have updates on committee and board actions.

I hope that the weather and virus season allow for a record turnout to our membership meeting and that we will see each other in person.



JANUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Tuesday Book Club 1:00	10	11 Books @ Boulevard 6:00	12	13 Board Meeting Noon CCL
14	15	16	17 Dining Group 5:45	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Books @ Boulevard 6:00	9	10 Membership Meeting 1:00 CCL
11	12	13 Tuesday Book Club 1:00	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Dining Group 5:45	22	22	23
25	26	27	28	29		