

We Celebrate. We Recognize. We Sally Forth*

Please Join Us To Honor Branch and Community Woman Leaders

**Peggy Grove,
Harrisburg Branch
2024 Community
Woman of the Year**



Peggy Grove is an entrepreneur, a science and math teacher as well as a tolerance teacher, a community activist, a suffragette, philanthropist, and Vice Chair of the Pennsylvania Democratic Party. She founded the Academy of Medical Arts and Business in 1980 in a flood ravaged building at Third and Boas Streets, which at the time was in a dicey neighborhood. The Academy was a dream which she started with \$500, a desk made of a door atop 2 cinder blocks, and a manual typewriter. The use of the building was rent free for the first year courtesy of owner Ollie Rosenberg. Her second business was to buy several small apartment buildings with Ollie, rehab them, and lease them in the affordable housing market. In 1979, along with starting the Academy, she ran for and won a seat on the Mechanicsburg School Board and subsequently was appointed to the Cumberland Perry Vo-Tech Board. Through recommendation of Linda Robertson, Peggy concurrently became part of the Pennsylvania Commission for Women. Over the past 20 years, she has established many scholarships for area schools as well as for Reno NV High School, her alma mater. Presently, through connections with fellow Rotarians, she brought together three transitional housing programs for homeless military

Saturday, May 18, 2024,
the AAUW Harrisburg Branch
Annual Spring Luncheon
beginning at 11:30am

Duke's Riverside Bar & Grille
313 S Front Street
Wormleysburg, PA 17043



veterans on 20 acres of vacant land that she owns south of the PennDOT building in Harrisburg - to VOPA she has donated 5 acres to be dedicated on May 29, 2024; to Tunnels2Towers - the use of 8.5 acres (in progress); and to Eden Village, 6.5 acres' use. Program details are available online.



right: Thomas Zimmerman Jr., Veterans Outreach of Pennsylvania's co-founder and chairman, Harrisburg



Mayor Wanda Williams, and Peggy Grove celebrate the June 5, 2023, groundbreaking for Veterans Grove, tiny homes transitional community depicted to left. Read the details at <https://oneunitedlanaster.com/nonprofits/in-harrisburg-a-nonprofit-builds-a-tiny-house-village-for-homeless-veterans/>



Barbara received the Harrisburg DAR's prestigious Historic Preservation Medal in October, 2023, for her 32+ years "uncovering and restoring Midland Cemetery in Steelton". Details and pictures at <https://www.youtube.com/>

Barbara Barksdale, often introduced as the "Cemetery Lady" throughout the country, was given this title due to her tireless work for the restoration and preservation of the historic Midland Cemetery in Swatara Township. She has spent years researching the ancestors and finding the graves, including her own grandfather's who is buried at Midland. This started out as a search for family and ended up finding the American history that lays in these hallowed grounds. She has spearheaded a large group of volunteers and professionals in her 30+ years working to preserve historic African American cemeteries across Pennsylvania and around the country where United States Colored Troops are interred.

**Barbara Barksdale,
Our 2024 Gateway to
Equity Award
Recipient**



May 2024 Letter from Our Co-Presidents Christine Zuzack and Jane Pomerantz



Dear Members,

As our term expires in May, we write to you for the last time as your Co-Presidents of AAUW - Harrisburg Branch. And what a year it has been! For an organization that is over 100 years old, we have continued to support an active agenda of programs, activities, and public policy initiatives that keeps our Branch vibrant and energetic.



All of these initiatives would not be possible without the dedicated service of our officers and committee chairs who guided these undertakings. They are to be applauded for their efforts for the variety and diversity of our Branch's offerings. And kudos to you too, the membership, who have supported our Branch with your participation in programs, contributions for our charitable efforts, and committee involvement. It takes a village, too, for all of this to happen.

Congratulations to the new officers who were elected at the April Branch meeting. We thank them for stepping up and volunteering to serve. Please help them when asked for assistance so the strength of our Branch can continue. They will be officially installed at the May Luncheon. I hope you can all attend this festive event on May 18 and meet your new leadership team, honor our Community Woman of the Year, and engage with other members and long-time friends.



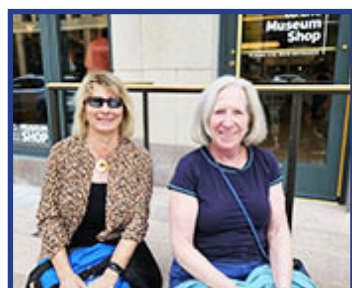
Finally, don't forget to vote by May 15 on the AAUW-National ballot for access to membership for all women. You received an email that provides instructions on accessing the ballot to vote. If we are an organization that supports women, we need to be inclusive of all women.

Thanks for letting us serve as your Co-Presidents for the past year. So long, but not farewell!

Jane Pomerantz & Christine Zuzack

Editor's note: Chris and Jane have represented us within the Branch and in the community, from dining "around" casually and with FPA, to culture Vulture trips, to walkathons, to Midtown

Scholar events, to conventions and hobnobbing with 'celebrities'. We all thank you for your thoughtful, exemplary leadership.



In this issue:

- p. 3 Spring luncheon information, reservation
- p. 4 2024 Branch Scholarships information
- p. 5 Public Policy and Partnerships updates
- pp. 6 - 8 Carpe Diem
- p. 9 AAUW PA Conference Highlights with our member attendees
- p. 10 the April Branch Meeting Alice Marshall Collection tour
- p. 11 Out and About with our members
- p. 12 AAUW 2024 By-Laws Membership requirements change/vote details - ***This is a must read***
- p. 13 Special Interest Groups

Upcoming AAUW Events at a Glance

May 10 - Carlisle Branch 100th Anniversary Celebration

May 11 - at Open Stage; *What the Constitution Means to Me*

invitation for group attendance from Cindy Dlugolecki and Kathy Gates

May 15 - final Day to VOTE on the AAUW-National ballot for universal access to membership .see p

May 18 - Noon - Spring Luncheon at Duke's ; Honors, Recognitions and Installation of Officers for 2024 - 2025. See below for reservation form

September 27 pm (Friday) - through Sunday, September 29 noon Mid-Atlantic AAUW Conference in Glen Allen, VA - covering 13 Atlantic seaboard states from New York through Georgia

Saturday, May 18, 2024,

AAUW Harrisburg Branch Annual Spring Luncheon
Honoring of Women Who Are Branch and Community Leaders
and Installation of Our Executive Officers for 2024 - 2025

11:30 am - Social & Sign In
Noon - Luncheon Buffet
12:45 pm - Speakers
1:30 pm - Business Meeting

Please submit this form with
your check for **\$30.00 per reservation**
payable to: AAUW HBG Branch
mail to: Eileen Carson
1925 Green Street
Harrisburg PA 17102-2227

Duke's Riverside Bar & Grille
313 S Front Street
Wormleysburg, PA 17043

***** Reservation deadline is May 10, 2023. *****

_____ # of Luncheon Reservations

Name _____

Phone number _____

email _____

An Italian Buffet
Baked Ziti (with Meat Sauce, Italian Sausage and Cheese);
Italian Chicken Breasts (with Onions & Peppers);
Pasta with marinara sauce and veggies.
The meal includes a salad station, rolls, ice cream for dessert, iced tea, coffee, and hot tea.

There will be a cash bar.

Share the Festivities.
Bring a friend (s) !



Announcing Scholarships Available for
the 2024 - 2025 Academic Year

The American Association of University Women, Harrisburg Branch,
announces five college scholarships available to women in the Central Pennsylvania region
who are pursuing degrees in the 2024-2025 academic year.

The Beverly J. Smith Memorial Scholarship (\$2,500) will be awarded to a female resident of Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry County, or Northern York School District who attends an accredited college or university in Pennsylvania in pursuit of a bachelor's degree. Requirements include completion of 60 credits, a minimum 3.40 GPA, demonstration of financial need, and enrollment as a full-time student for the 2024-2025 academic year.

The Member Memorial Scholarship (\$1,500) will be awarded to a female resident of Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry County, or Northern York School District who attends an accredited college or university in Pennsylvania in pursuit of an associate or bachelor's degree. Requirements include completion of 15 credits, minimum 3.00 GPA, demonstration of financial need, and enrollment on at least a half-time basis (6 credits per term) for the 2024-2025 academic year.

The Ronald D. and Kathleen A. Krausse STEM Scholarship (\$1,500) will be awarded to a female resident of Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry County, or Northern York School District who attends an accredited college or university in Pennsylvania in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in a STEM major. Requirements include completion of 30 credits, minimum 3.00 GPA, demonstration of financial need, and enrollment as a full-time student in the 2024-2025 academic year.

The Sally C. Chamberlain Scholarship (\$1,500) will be awarded to a female resident of Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry County, or Northern York School District who is seeking to resume or renew academic work for credit towards career employment or advancement, for example, those who have experienced interruptions in their post-secondary education and want to resume their studies. Requirements include completion of 15 credits toward an associate or bachelor's degree, a minimum 2.9 GPA, demonstration of financial need, and enrollment on at least a half-time basis (6 credits per term) at a college or university in Pennsylvania for the 2024-2025 academic year.

The Monique and Ernie Guenin Memorial Scholarship (\$1,500) will be awarded to a female resident of Lebanon County who attends an accredited college or university in Pennsylvania in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in a STEM major. Requirements include completion of 30 credits, minimum 3.00 GPA, demonstration of financial need, and enrollment as a full-time student in the 2024-2025 academic year.

Download each separate application under the appropriate description at

<https://harrisburg-pa.aauw.net/scholarships/>

Deadline: Postmarked or received by email by July 31, 2024

Contact Information: AAUW Scholarship Committee at HbgAAUWScholarship@gmail.com

Additional Information is available at <https://harrisburg-pa.aauw.net/scholarships/scholarship-faq/>

The awardees will be honored at one of our branch luncheon meetings. The scholarship recipients may also receive branch support to attend the annual National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). The awardees are members of the Branch for the year and are encouraged to join programs and activities as their time allows. AAUW encourages them to continue their membership to lend a hand to those that follow and to make lasting friendship and ties to help guide their futures.

Public Policy Updates, Links, and Events with Public Policy Chair, Kathy Gates



Mechanicsburg Jubilee Day- Thursday, June 20th we will be at the "94th Edition of the Largest, Longest running, One-Day Street Fair on the East Coast (maybe the country!)." For anyone that is pondering volunteering, this fair is a long day (10:00 AM

• 9:00 PM) and we could really use your help. Sign up at

<https://www.fairdistrictspa.com/events/p2#filter> by scrolling down to the event.

*****Given the timing of this event, we may run into some Legislative hopefuls as well. Let's make sure they know going in that they should support us! For all of our tabling events we have a tent, table, chairs and all the materials you will need.



above: Kathy Seidl (left) and Kathy Gates (3rd from left) helped at the Fair Districts PA table.

left: Kathy Gates and Sherry Eichorn pose with their Pro Family Care Act signs.

AAUW Harrisburg members Kathy Gates, Kathy Seidl and Sherry attended the Family Care Act Coalition rally and the Fair Districts Rally in support of the Fair Districts Amendment HB 1776, both on April 10, 2024, in the Capitol rotunda.

Don't forget to read Kathy Gates' emails of April 9 and April 14, 2024, detailing **April's 1 Minute Advocacy Action**, and detailed information regarding legislation



for Pennsylvania school funding and how you can help from **Susan Spicka, Executive**

Director, Education Voters of PA



The Proposed Public Policy Priorities for 2024-2026 on which members already had an opportunity to comment are outlined in detail in the email of April 10, 2024. No changes were proposed by the membership or the public policy committee. We will hold a live vote on the proposed priorities at the **Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, May 4 at 10 a.m. on Zoom** (link to come). Your attendance is important because members should have a voice in their adoption.

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 Priorities. 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.

In brief: AAUW PA advocates tools/actions detailed in that email

- To enable members and all citizens to participate fully in a representative democracy and self-governance
- To support a quality system of public education
- To improve the economic self-sufficiency of all women
- To improve the operation and transparency of government

Our mailing address is: AAUW PA

65 Hummingbird Lane
Port Matilda, PA 16870-7953

Add us to your mailing list.

Remember to sign up for AAUW Two-Minute Activist - <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

Opportunities and Updates For and By Our Members

Just wanted to share this lovely thank you email from our NCCWSL scholarship (and last year's STEM scholarship) awardee, Harleen Kaur.

Leigh Ann Chow
Scholarship Chair

Good afternoon Ms.Kratzer/ Ms.Chow ,
That is wonderful news, and I am so happy to hear it! Thank you so much for this incredible opportunity! I am very glad my previous accomplishments stood out to you, and I'm grateful for this leadership opportunity. All the women at the AAUW Harrisburg branch have had an incredible impact on me with my studies, and now the incredible leadership skills and amazing experience that I will gain from the NCCWSL event in May. Thank you again for this amazing opportunity, I am truly thankful for this chance to attend NCCWSL.

Kind regards,
Harleen Kaur



Harleen Kaur

Sent in response to this award notice from the Scholarship committee :

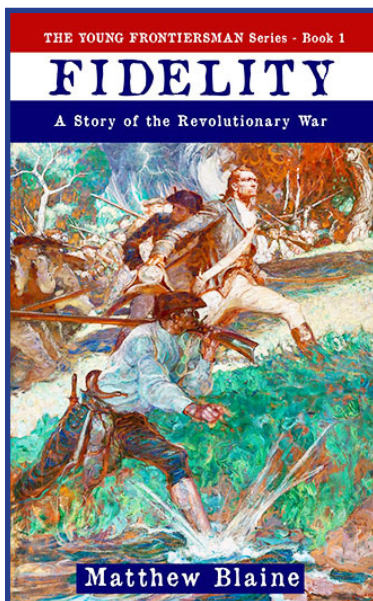
Hello, Harleen,

We are delighted to let you know that you have been selected to receive a scholarship to attend NCCWSL in May. We were so impressed by your previous accomplishments and are pleased to award you this amazing leadership opportunity.

Mary Kratzer and Leigh Ann Chow

AAUW member, Alane Balchunas, is happily promoting her brother Matthew's debut into American literature. The local publishing house, Sunbury Press, has published the first two of his four-book "The Young Frontiersman" series under his pen name Matthew Blaine.

"Fidelity: A Story of the Revolutionary War" and "Allegiance: A Story of the Ohio Country".



Matthew initially wrote them as "ripping good yarns" for a teenaged readership, but his publisher is promoting them to a general audience interested in history. These short books are fast-paced high adventures, incorporating historical figures and events into the lives of his young protagonists, the ranger and scout Barnabas Locke and the Abenaki visionary, Squando.

The theme that underpins the books is how our nation's western expansion resulted in uprooted lives, land grabs, and broken treaties with our native peoples.

As Alane describes the process, "It started out as a fun project during the pandemic but it morphed into something unexpected. Matthew calls himself a "storyteller," not an author, historian or expert in any field. Graciously, he allowed me free rein in creating the equine characters who trot through his pages."

The first two are now available for sale online through
SunburyPressBookstore.com.

Two more are forthcoming: "Alliance: A Story of the Great Plains"
"Identity: A Story of the West Among the Tribes."

https://www.amazon.com/gp/new-releases/books/10367796011/ref=zg_b_hnr_10367796011_1

School Boards: The Battleground for the Education Culture Wars - Happening Locally and Deserving Our Attention



Across the country, we have seen school boards, and candidates for school boards, taking up controversial policies that have led to banning books from school libraries; the censorship of curriculum in school classrooms due to individuals finding content “objectionable”; and policies leading to the prevention of safe school climates for students of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

View the AAUW National Public Policy Committee’s webinar to learn how one AAUW state board is fighting back and what you can do locally.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsPelf6OMPM>

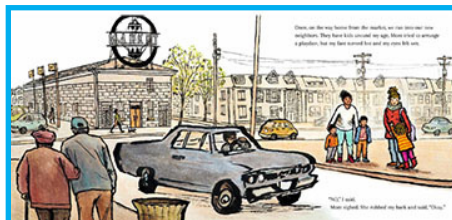


Harrisburg author, illustrator releases new children’s book featuring familiar Harrisburg city locations.

Lauren Castillo, author of 2015 Caldecott Honor book *Nana in the City* and illustrator of numerous picture books, tells the story of a hesitant child, a single parent, and a calm rescue dog who provides a grounding presence in *Just Like Millie* (Candlewick, Apr.). Castillo has reflected about drawing her Harrisburg, Pa., neighborhood, concise picture book manuscripts, and dogs as icebreakers for the socially

anxious. With appearances from the Broad Street Market, Midtown Scholar Bookstore, Elementary Coffee, Raising the Bar, and more, this is a must-have for Pennsylvanians!

Reviews : The art, created with ink, watercolors, and soft pastels, sensitively portrays the characters’ emotions while depicting their lively neighborhood. A heartening picture book on a timeless topic: making friends.



Lauren Castillo

**May 10, 2024
Carlisle PA Branch
100th Anniversary Celebration**

Join us for the unveiling.

**Location: Memorial Hall
& Old West Hallway of
Dickinson College
230 W Louthier Street
Carlisle, PA 17013
Time: 10:00 am - 11:00 am**

Dickinson College and the Carlisle Branch of the American Association of University Women have worked together to commemorate the Branch’s 100th Anniversary by orchestrating a plaque to be installed in the hallway of Old West .

The Branch has been meeting at Dickinson College, currently in the Holland Union Building for many years, and has selected this way of acknowledging the partnership.



**It's Time to Renew
Your AAUW membership!**

Per the email you will receive directly from Katrina Sun Breeze, follow the directions to renew online as follows:

To renew you will click, [HERE](#) to enter and confirm new password and access your Personal Snapshot.

In your Personal Snapshot, click the **RENEW** button at the bottom of the screen to update your profile and renew your NATIONAL, BRANCH and STATE memberships!

We hope that you are as proud as we are of the progress we've made together in 2023. Please renew by your due date so you can be counted as a member in good standing, and we can continue to build on our work together to make a difference for women and girls!

Thank you for all of your support,
Katrina Sun Breeze
Senior Director, Institutional
Advancement



For help, watch video on how to self-renew
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUdb8AtpKg>

or email connect@aauw.org 800.326.2289



Title IX Rules Released:

On April 19, 2024, The U.S. Department of Education finalized a range of critical updates to its regulations interpreting and enforcing Title IX, restoring and reinforcing vital civil rights protections for all students to access school spaces and programs free from sex discrimination **effective August 1, 2024.**

In response, a coalition comprising over 20 organizations, including the National Women's Law Center, Know Your IX (a project of Advocates for Youth), National Center for Transgender Equality, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, **AAUW**, Human Rights Campaign, PFLAG National, and GLSEN, issued Here is the beginning of the Title IX Coalition Statement.

"Students across races, places, and genders prove every day that they can do great things, especially when they can attend school without fear of harassment or discrimination. We commend the Biden administration for listening to the expert voices of students, advocates, parents, educators, and researchers, and for delivering on their commitment to clarify Title IX's vital civil rights protections. By rescinding the Trump administration's harmful and restrictive sex harassment rule, and making protections clearer for survivors, pregnant and parenting students, and LGBTQIA+ students, this rule will ensure every student has the freedom to learn and to be themselves. We look forward to working with the Biden administration and school administrators to ensure the rule is implemented."

To read the full statement and list of participating organizations, refer to:

<https://nwlc.org/press-release/advocates-for-gender-justice-civil-rights-and-student-rights-respond-to-biden-administrations-finalization-of-new-title-ix-rule/>



Highlights With the Harrisburg Contingency



Branch members showed up in force!

I-r Lee Johnson, Marge Gingrich, Carol Stark, Christine Zuzack, Cindy Dlugolecki, Kathy Gates, Erica Meloy, Sherry Eichorn, Judy Daniels, Kathy Seidl, Lillian Grieco, Mary Kratzer, and Jane Pomerantz. (Marcia Hajduk was busy with our auction basket.)

Saturday Dinner Keynote Speaker : Gisele Fetterman
Nonprofit Founder, Hugger, Dreamer

Gisele Fetterman, born in Rio de Janeiro, came to the United States a Dreamer. Backed by her first hand insight into the plight



of marginal people, she has devoted her life to creating safe places where families can come and feel embraced and supported



Christine Zuzack, Sherry Eichorn and Erica Meloy got attendees properly registered.

with dignity. **Free Store 15014** repurposes and distributes donated items at no cost to their shoppers. **412 Food Rescue** volunteers collect surplus food from retailers and distribute to non-profits



that serve the food insecure. **For Good PGH** focuses on empowering local female entrepreneurs, implementing initiatives that help change family outcomes, and initiatives on inclusion that promote tolerance and diversity.

Gisele recently founded

The Hollander Project, a business incubator for female entrepreneurs.



And yes, Gisele is a recently certified volunteer firefighter with the Rivers Edge Volunteer Fire Department in Braddock PA!

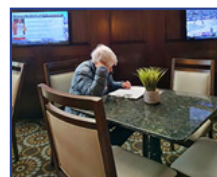


2024 AAUW PA Special Honoree Barbara Price with PA Public Policy Chair Sandra Miller, PA President Cindy Hall and PA Nominating & Elections Chair Ann Pehle



President's Award for Exemplary Service honoree Pat Byerly with PA President Cindy Hall, Dot McLane (Lansdale), Bylaws Chair Deb Roney and PA Nominating & Elections Chair Ann Pehle.

Marge Gingrich was the very proud winner of the PSU basket!



Yes, there were (short) breaks. Sherry Eichorn takes a moment to review the agenda.

below: Gisele's Uber driver demonstrates his unique phone. Lynne Alvine, Gisele's friend and introducer, is in the background.



Chris gets a selfie.



Branch members who purvey the written word to AAUW and the world. I-r Rebecca Gardner, PA-AAUW Market/Communications VP; Carol Stark, the Connection editor; Cindy Dlugolecki, resident playwright; Mary Kratzer, Hbg By-Laws Co-Editor.

For Our Thursday, April 18, 2024, Branch Meeting,
We Had A Private and In-Depth Tour of the
The Alice Marshall Collection
at the **PSU Harrisburg Madlyn L. Hanes Library**
led by Head Library Archivist **Heidi Abbey Moyer**



Heidi began the tour with samples of the unique and widely varied genres of Alice's collection - from cards and postcards to buttons to one of a kind autographed correspondences. Note the TMI display in the background for the 45th anniversary.



Deep in the back room stacks, Heidi fields questions from Kathy Gates, Carol Nechemias, Kathleen O'Malley and Marge Gingrich.



Jane Pomerantz, Mary Kratzer, Lee Johnson, Judy Daniels, and Joan Swetz are cued up for their turn in the stacks.

Alice Marshall wore many hats in her life - Harrisburg-area journalist, magazine editor, speech writer, researcher, compiler. But, what we experienced in the PSU library archives was the historical ephemera amassed by her lifetime of collecting materials on women's history non-stop. She donated her mammoth collection - believed to be one of the largest, privately compiled collections on women's history in the country - of over 7,500 books, pamphlets and periodicals, as well as unnumbered thousands of other items about, for, and by women - originally housed in her home - to Penn State Harrisburg in 1991. Her interest stemmed from her fascination with the contradictions between the realities of women's lives and the stereotypes of women's behavior.



a young Alice Marshall



A collection treasure - Norman Rockwell's Saturday Evening Post cover of May 29, 1943, with Rosie the Riveter, sandwich in hand, one foot on a copy of Mein Kampf.



Our members always enjoy a good informative get together.
.l-r: Kathy Gates, Cindy Dlugolecki, Mary-Ann Daniels, Kathy Seidl, Kathleen O'Malley.
In bkgrd: Jane Pomerantz and Marcia Nye.



above: Alice moved into the computer age with her journalism.
left: Alice and a bit of her treasure.



Cards and buttons and books in the stacks - oh my!



We Are Out & About! Welcome Spring!!



4.19.24 The Walking Group hiked through picturesque Shenks's Ferry Wildflower Preserve in Conestoga on a warm spring afternoon. In the pic are MaryAnn Daniels, Kathy Bard, Barb Warfel, Deborah Saline, Jane Pomerantz, and our outing organizer, Lee Johnson.

5.1.24 The Walking Group had a great turn out at Wildwood Park to hike the 12th annual *Art In The Wild* trail. The goal is to present quality outdoor art using natural materials. front l-r: Jane Pomerantz, Lee Johnson, Cheryl Williams, Carol Buskirk, Marcia Hajduk. back row: Barb Warfel, Kathy Bard, Linda Humes, and Marcia Nye.



Chris Zuzack, Jane Pomerantz and Maggie pose in the "Spirit Gate" installation.



It should come as no surprise that Chris Zuzack is out on the links with her golfing BFFs - here at Regents' Glen Country Club in York. Those Azaleas are STUNNING!



5.3.24 Carol Nechemias was with the Harrisburg Bike Club riding through Rehoboth Beach and Cape Henlopen State Park.



Erica Meloy is on a tour of Spain and Portugal with Ruth McGinley. Quinta Da Pacheca winery in Lamego, Portugal offers these old barrels on their sides for photo memories.



4.11.24 As part of returning to her Maryland roots, Kathy Silks joined AAUW Howard County and attended her first meeting, "I was surrounded by instant friends. They made me feel so welcome! I truly am blessed."

Harrisburg Branch Leadership
June 2023 - May 2024
The Executive Committee

 Co-President Christine Zuzack & Jane Pomerantz	 Co-President
 Membership Co-Vice Presidents MaryAnn Daniels & Kathy Silks	 Membership Co-Vice Presidents
 Program Co-Vice Presidents Carol Nechemias & Lee Johnson	 Program Co-Vice Presidents
 Co-Secretaries Emily Dugan & Margaret Gingsch	 Co-Secretaries
 Finance Chair Ellen Carson	

Pictorial Directory

And a Harrisburg Branch PSA:

The 2023-2024 Pictorial Directory has been updated to include all active branch members through May 31, 2024.

See MEMBERS ONLY section : <https://harrisburg-pa.aauw.net/>

The AAUW Board of Directors and Governance Committee recommend approval of the following Bylaw Amendment to eliminate the degree requirement for membership in AAUW

Amendment Summary

THE PROPOSED REVISION OF ARTICLE III of the WOULD:

Replace the Individual Members paragraph of the Membership Qualification provision (currently Article III Section 2 a) with new language indicating the sole requirement for membership is support of AAUW's purpose.

Delete the provision on Student Associates (currently Section 3) since students would be allowed to join as full members of AAUW thus eliminating the need for a Student Associate provision.

Renumber Section 4 Dues as Section 3 and delete the reference to "categories of membership" in this section to permit the board to set different dues for student members as previously allowed when Student Associates were listed as a separate category rather than included as part of the Individual Membership category.

Make no changes to Article III Section 1 or Sections 5 and 6 on Life Membership and Membership Decisions, except that Section 5 Membership Decisions, and Section 6 Affiliates would be renumbered as Sections 4 and 5, respectively, with no other change.

The AAUW Board of Directors and Governance Committee recommend approval of the following bylaw amendment to eliminate the degree requirement for membership in AAUW. This change will align our membership practices with our purpose of advancing equity for women and girls and enable us to include members with the diverse backgrounds and perspectives needed to achieve our purpose in today's world.

We remain committed to higher education as a pathway to eliminate barriers that hold women back and to enhance their leadership opportunities at all levels. We admire the effort of the inspiring women who have led the way in earning their degrees. We recognize, however, that in today's world higher education degrees are one of several paths needed to advance equity for women and girls. Professional certifications, on the job training, career technical experience and life experience all are alternative paths to obtaining education and the skills needed to become leaders and advocates for ending discrimination against women.

When AAUW began its work, higher education and professional careers were denied to most women. That is no longer the case. More than 50% of college degrees are currently being awarded to women, and women are now attaining powerful positions in business and government. Yet discrimination against women continues. Eliminating the degree requirement enables us to expand our voice and our reach, our ability to fulfill our purpose, and will open more opportunities to address the needs of all women.

AAUW's name, which continues to have significant brand recognition for AAUW as a women's rights organization, will remain the same if the amendment is adopted.

Key Dates for 2024 Membership requirement Change Vote -

- **April 3: Voting opens (online voting is encouraged)**
- **May 15: Online voting ends at 12:00 pm ET and results announced online**
Your participation is highly encouraged

To read more details, see:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/2024-aauw-proposed-by-laws-changes/>

To vote April 3 through May 15, watch for emails from vote@simplyvoting.com with your unique Elector ID and Password to vote.

*****Be sure to check your SPAM or JUNK folder.*****

Branch Special Interest Groups

With the exception of the book groups and Culture Vultures, all of whose meetings require planning and preparation before attending, all our SIG's meet through the suggestions of group members and are of somewhat an impromptu nature which does not usually fit into *the Connection's* publishing timeframes. **To get involved:**

*****Email the *Contact* for a group that interests you and be added to their eblast list re: coming events.*****

Culture Vultures

Contact: **Barb Warfel** warfelb@yahoo.com 717-774-5559

Upcoming Potential Trip: trip to the Philadelphia Art Museum to the Pennsylvania-born Mary Cassatt exhibit.

Due to bus cost and exhibit entrance timing, Barb recommends a group taking the train to Philly, going to the museum and taking the train back on a day in June.

Anyone interested, please contact Barb via her email above toward solidifying plans.

Dine Around

Contact: **Kathy Silks** kms107@outlook.com 717-315-5440

This group meets once or twice monthly to enjoy great meals and lively conversation at a wide variety of local and regional restaurants, with dinners planned potentially on the second Wednesday ; lunches on the fourth Wednesday.

**** All group members receive email notices of venues and dates.****

Morning Paperback Book Group

Contact: **Dorothy Brown** dorothymb4ever@gmail.com Meets - 3rd Thursday. 10:00 am to noon.

May 16, 2024 "Horse: A Novel" by Geraldine Brooks will be reviewed by Lee Johnson and hosted by Lillian Grieco.

June 20, 2024 Planning Picnic - to be hosted by Dorothy Brown

Please contact Dorothy to verify if you plan to attend as sometimes capacity is limited.

Nonfiction Book Group

Contact: **Chris Zuzack** czuzack@hotmail.com Meets - 2nd Thursday beginning at 1 pm .

May 9, 2024 "The Other Slavery: The Uncovered Story of Indian Enslavement in America" by Andres Resendez Reviewer TBA

June 13, 2024 2024-25 Selection Day

Please contact Chris for locations of these meetings.

Walking Group

Contact: **Lee Johnson** lee6646@verizon.net

The Walking Group has been especially active during these good weather months. If you would enjoy occasional walking excursions with AAUW companions, this group is for you. Anyone may propose a walk (or even a hike) and we'll see who would like to go along.

*****Please Welcome Out Newest Group*****

Exploring Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Contact: **Kathy Silks**, DEI chair kms107@outlook.com 717-315-5440

Group members meet monthly (in person and via Zoom) to build deeper awareness, understanding, and cultural competence. Activities include book and media resource reviews, topical discussions, and shared experiences.

Participation is limited to twelve members for ease of discussion.

If interested in either of the following groups, please touch base with that contact for current status.

Chefs at Home Contact: **Joan Swetz** jswetz3@yahoo.com

This group plans and prepares gourmet meals in each other's homes.

Fine Film Group Contact **Erica Voss Meloy** ericameloy@comcast.net

The group meets approximately once a month, usually at the Midtown Cinema, usually for a matinee - for the movie, coffee, and conversation.

AAUW CIVILITY STATEMENT

A respectful and inclusive environment is essential for us to achieve our mission: advancing gender equity through research, education, and advocacy. AAUW members have a responsibility to demonstrate civility towards the entire AAUW Community, including both AAUW members and staff, and all have a right to be treated with civility and respect.

AAUW Harrisburg is committed to fighting for justice and long-term and lasting change and will collaborate with government officials, educators, and community organizations to address systemic racism and inequality in our community. To make a change, we must ACT, identifying ways in which each of us can optimize our recognition, acceptance and inclusion of all diverse groups and our roll in achieving equality in all its aspects in our community and our country, from patronizing minority owned businesses to contacting our government leaders. AAUW Harrisburg's Co-Presidents Christine Zuzack and Jane Pomerantz; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Chair Kathy Silks; and Membership Co-Vice Presidents MaryAnn Daniels and Kathy Seidl are leading this important effort.



OUR MISSION

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

OUR VALUES

Nonpartisan. Fact-based.

Principled. Inclusive and

Intersectional with *Equity for All*.

2023-2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Presidents - Christine Zuzack

& Jane Pomerantz

Program Co-Vice Presidents - Carol Nechemias

& Lee Johnson

Membership Co-Vice Presidents -

MaryAnn Daniels & Kathy Seidl

Finance Officer - Eileen Carson

Co-Secretaries - Cindy Dlugolecki

& Margaret Gingrich

Nominating Committee - Marcia Hajduk

& Erica Voss Meloy, co-chairs.

Kathy Seidl, Kathy Silks, & Barbara Warfel

Please
"Like" us
on
FaceBook!



AAUW Harrisburg



2023/2024 Board meetings

will be held live or via *Zoom* on the second Thursday of
each month from 3:00 - 4:30pm

next meetings:

May 9, 2024, and June 13, 2024 (joint Board meeting)

Christine Zuzack or Jane Pomerantz will send meeting agenda
information to all Board members

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Editor:

Carol Stark

*****Newsletter Contributions*****

Any members who wish to contribute an article, upcoming event notice,
or news item to the newsletter may do so by emailing them in the form
of a Word document no later than the twentieth of the preceding month,
to:

hbgauwnewsletter@gmail.com

Pictures Welcome!

Pictures of any AAUW events, or branch members taking part in any
other relevant community events, may be sent in as well.

Picture submissions should be in jpeg format.

Thank you! *Carol S*