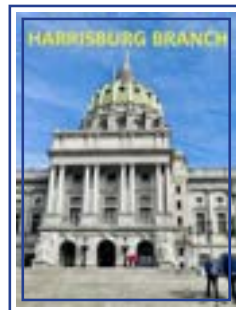


# AAUW the CONNECTION

empowering women since 1881

American Association of University Women  
HARRISBURG BRANCH

September  
2025



AAUWHarrisburg.org

ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025,

AAUW Harrisburg Begins Our 2025 - 2026 Year  
with our Annual Fall Luncheon Honoring Our Scholarship Recipients  
and with Guest Speaker, Danielle M. Conway, Penn State Dickinson Law Dean  
and Donald J. Farage Professor of Law

***"Solidarity: Women Supporting Women  
Through Precarious Times"***

'There is no time like the present to engage in coalition building to support communities that need and deserve equality and justice for all. Dean Conway's talk will highlight the importance of coalitions throughout history, and how we can leverage the wisdom from those who have been practicing relationship building.'

Danielle M. Conway is the dean and Donald J. Farage professor of law at Penn State Dickinson Law and the School of International Affairs. A leading expert in procurement law, entrepreneurship, intellectual property law, and licensing intellectual property, Dean Conway joined Dickinson Law after serving for four years as dean of the University of Maine School of Law and 14 years on the faculty of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, William S. Richardson School of Law, where she was the inaugural Michael J. Marks Distinguished Professor of Business Law.

Prior to her deanships, Dean Conway was a member of the faculties at the Georgetown University Law Center and the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She also served as a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Australia and later as Chair in Law at LaTrobe University, Faculty of Law & Management in Australia. focused on, among other areas, advocating for public education and for actualizing the rights of marginalized groups, including Indigenous Peoples, minoritized people, and members of rural communities. Dean Conway's most recent publication focuses on different aspects of building an anti-racist law school, legal academy, and

313 South Front Street  
Wormleysburg, PA 17043



legal profession through leadership, vision priorities, and transformational diversity, equity, and an inclusion-focused academic community. She is the co-recipient of the inaugural Association of American Law Schools' (AALS) Impact Award. In January 2025, Dean Conway was named President-Elect of Association of American Law Schools. In 2016, Dean Conway retired from the U.S. Army with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel after 27 years of combined service.

AAUW Harrisburg Branch  
Fall Luncheon  
Saturday  
September 13, 2025  
Duke's Riverside

Social - 11:15 am  
Buffet lunch - noon

# September Has Arrived and We Are Back In Action Led By Returning Co-Presidents MaryAnn Daniels and Kathy Seidl

We look forward to another consequential year and are honored and humbled to continue to serve as your Co-Presidents. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. With all of your support and friendship, we will move forward to a dynamic 2025-2026 year where we will all continue making a difference, for AAUW and for our world!

Maryann Daniels  
and Kathy Seidl,  
Co-Presidents



August 5: Presidents past and present: Kathy Seidl, Chris Zuzack and MaryAnn Daniels spent one of our "warm" summer nights supporting the Harrisburg Senators.

## SIGNIFICANT DATES - SEPTEMBER 2025

**September 13, 2025** - Fall Luncheon  
Duke's, Wormleysburg PA

September 8, 2025 - *Behind the Ballot* zoom - see p.11

September 18, 2025 - PA DEIB  
zoom book club meeting  
see p. 4



May 8, 2025 - First Board Meeting for 2025-2026 with attending members l-r: Cindy Dlugolecki, Alice Kirchner (Co-Secretaries), MaryAnn Daniels (Co-President), Barbara Passeri-Warfel (Membership Co-Vice President, Kathy Seidl (Co-President), Kathy Gates (Public Policy Chair), and Eileen Carson (Finance Officer). The Board shows off our AAUW Harrisburg attire. Contact Kathy Seidl if you are in need of our glam.

In this time of  
Exceptional Activism  
including  
live demonstrations,  
Please See  
PP. 8 - 9  
regarding  
"AAUW Guidance for  
Public  
Demonstrations:  
Taking Action Safely  
and Strategically"

Please welcome  
Catherine Lawrence to the  
Harrisburg Branch of AAUW

August 1, 2025:  
Board members  
old and current en-  
joyed the outdoor  
performance by  
Third Stream Jazz  
at Ft. Hunter. l-r :  
Past President Erica  
Meloy, Web/SIG Chair Carol Buskirk, Membership  
Co-VP Barbara Passeri-Warfel, Co-President Kathy  
Seidl, Past President Christine Zuzack - AAUW gener-  
ated friendships are lasting.



## In this issue:

- pp. 1 -2 - Luncheon details, etc
- P. 3 - AAUW Involvement Opportunities
- pp. 4 - 6 - PA & National information
- p. 7 - the Burg article
- pp. 8 - 9 Safety Info for Demonstrations
- p. 10 - Area Opportunities
- p. 11 - Midtown Scholar Bookfest
- pp. 12 - 13 - Culture Vultures trips
- pp. 14 - 15 - Membership News
- p. 16 - Special Interest Groups

# HELP WANTED/NEEDED

## - A Little Can Go A Long Way



### Position: AAUW FUNDS CHAIR for the Harrisburg Branch

Unlike most of our other chair positions, the AAUW Funds Chair's responsibilities follow the calendar year - January through December - with final submissions tallied with the national office at the end of the year. Between local money raising, individual contributions to national in the Harrisburg branch's name, and a lump sum set aside in the budget, we were able to donate a total of \$2,000. this year. Karen Cullings has served us well and we thank her for her time and effort in exploring initiatives to raise monies for our contribution to the national effort as well as local projects. We are now in need of a member interested in exploring creative ideas for our 2025 Funds campaign. Are you up to the challenge?

### Position: PRESIDENT ELECT for the Harrisburg Branch

The President Elect assists the President in her duties in any way needed, and prepares for a term as President, and shall act in the absence or disability of the President. She will serve on the Executive Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee and collaborate in preparing the branch budget for the upcoming year in conjunction with the President, Immediate Past-President, Finance Officer, Dues Treasurer, and Finance Chairperson.

- The Girls Who Went Away, Ann Fessler
- You're the Only One I've Told, Dr. Meera Shah
- A Woman in Berlin, Anonymous
- S. A Novel About the Balkans, Slavenka Drakulic

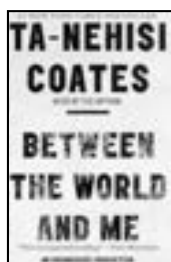
### Position: DEIB CHAIR for the Harrisburg Branch

The DEI CHAIR (DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION and BELONGING). AAUW advocates vigorous enforcement of and full access to civil and constitutional rights for all people — across race, ethnicity, age, socio-economic status, religious beliefs, disability, gender identity and sexual orientation, and geographic location. The DEI Chair would facilitate study of the history of and current state of these rights in any manner available to branch members interested in becoming more educated and informed - from zoom book reviews; to keeping apprised of local, regional, and state situations regarding these rights, to compiling a "scrapbook" or files of information collected - and overseeing the group's discussions. For details and materials for building DEIB awareness, see <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/dei-b/>

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/leader-resources-tools/dei-toolkit/>

### AAUW PA Continues its 2025 DEIB Book Series !

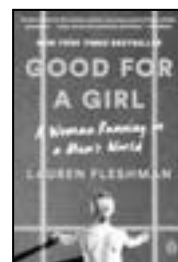
September 18, 2025



October 30, 2025



December 4, 2025



#### Other Titles Considered:

- Women We Buried, Women We Burned, Rachel Louise Snyder
- Pachinko, Min Jin Lee
- The Distance Between Us, Reyna Grande
- They Called Us Exceptional and Other Lies that Raised Us, Prachi Gupta
- Mad Honey, Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan
- Invisible Women, Caroline Criado Perez
- The Fight for Privacy, Danielle Keats Citron
- Stamped from the Beginning, Ibram X. Kendi
- Master Slave Husband Wife, Ilyon Woo
- What Made Maddy Run, Kate Fagan
- Strong Like Water, Aundi Kolber
- Algorithms of Oppression, Safiya Umoia Nobel
- Don't Ask the Blind Guy for Directions, John Samuel
- The Boy Who was Raised as a Dog, Bruce Perry and Maia Szalavitz



# PA and National Events and Initiatives - ReCaps and "Coming Soons"

## And On the Topic of Membership and Its Value...

Membership Renewal is in full swing for Harrisburg Branch members. Those memberships under the 'old' system run from July 1 to June 30. **"Newer" members'** terms run from one year of the date of joining.

While National will email reminders, we also want to encourage you to rejoin our Branch for another year of wonderful programs, opportunities to volunteer, supporting public policy initiatives, and enjoying special interest group activities.

You may renew online at <https://www.aauw.org>. Click Log in (upper right) with email and password. Please make sure you also renew state and branch membership online when renewing national. (It is not automatic). Contact Diane Shoop, Co-VP for Membership if you would like detailed instructions or have questions. You may also use a paper application from the Branch website to renew (<https://harrisburg-pa.aauw.net>). National dues are \$74, state \$12, and branch \$26.

Thank you,

Diane Shoop & Barbara Passeri-Warfel, Membership Co-Vice Presidents

## New Funds To Consider In Giving to Our National Organization

**Defend Higher Education , Public Policy Fund** – both now live on our donation page along with the **AAUW Greatest Needs Fund** :

<https://my.aauw.org/donation-product-detail>

- **4513 - Defend Higher Education**

The Defend Higher Education Fund will enable AAUW to elevate the critical higher education issues impacting women, mobilize advocates across the country, provide strategic resources to students, staff and faculty on campus, and fuel investments in the infrastructure and technology necessary to move our mission forward. Your support ensures AAUW can effectively fight on behalf of women on campuses across the country and ensure that AAUW remains a trusted and powerful voice for equity.

- **4514 - Public Policy General**

The Public Policy Fund is focused on increasing the impact of our Action Network through growing the number of advocates across the country and providing timely, accurate, and actionable information about our key issues. This fund helps equip branches across the country with timely, customized talking points on core policy issues like Title IX, student debt, and pay equity. Support to this fund enables AAUW to reach and energize new advocates—strengthening our collective impact in the fight for gender equity in education and the workplace. Katrina Sun Breese, AAUW National Senior Director of Institutional Advancement



- **9110-AAUW Greatest Needs Fund**

The Greatest Needs Fund is a vital source of unrestricted support that allows AAUW to respond quickly and effectively to emerging challenges and opportunities. When you support the Greatest Needs Fund, you enable AAUW to sustain core operations, advocacy efforts, and program expansion. You support initiatives like economic empowerment programs, voter engagement campaigns, and policy advocacy, ensuring AAUW can amplify its impact, adapt to evolving needs, and continue leading the fight for gender equity. Your contributions to this fund are crucial for AAUW's agility and long-term sustainability, empowering the organization to drive meaningful change. These funds are carefully managed to maximize impact, ensuring every dollar serves AAUW's mission.

## The AAUW 2025 Limited Edition Member Created Notecards Have Arrived . Buy and Support!



Purchase of these notecards give you the artistry of our membership, while helping fund continuation of our core work -

- Advocacy to defend Title IX and civil rights protections
- Salary negotiation and financial literacy training
- Training advocates to protect educational equity
- And powerful advocacy for gender equity at every level

Creating lasting change takes more than beautiful notecards — it takes all of us.



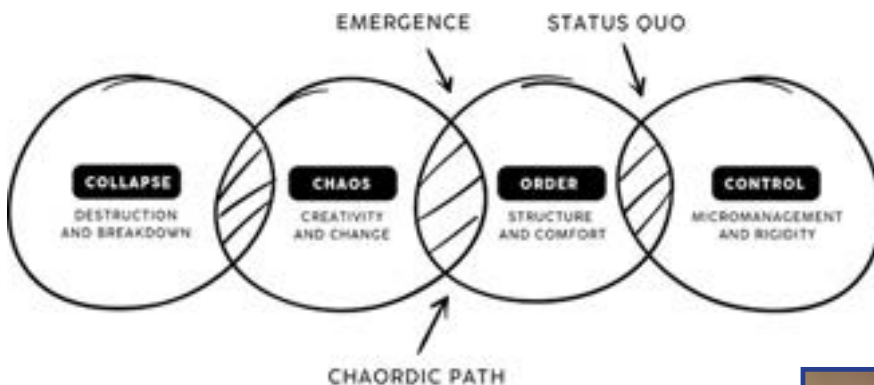
## "Harvest of Notes" Highlights

The conference started with the moderator ("Spud") introducing participants to the Chaordic Path which illustrates the need for balancing the seeming opposites of Chaos vs Order when an organization is experiencing growth and change. Copious notes, analyzing the many breakout discussions - all worth reviewing for use in approaches to growing our branch, are available on our website if you log in to the **Members Only** drop down.



Per Mary Kratzer, "the facilitator for the retreat, really kept everyone engaged." (despite the unfortunate lack of AC!)

below: Harrisburg had seven very active branch members attending the Retreat. l-r: MaryAnn Daniels, Lee Johnson, Barbara Passeri-Warfel, Kathy Seidl, Kathy Gates, Erica Meloy, and Mary Kratzer.



Breakout sessions assigned members listening skills specifics to develop and then share with their branches as tools. right: Kathy Seidl, and a thought generating powerpoint.



left: Barbara Passeri-Warfel compares and shares views on pertinent branch membership stimulation ideas.

below left: Erica Meloy and Kerry Smith (3&4 from left) were one of two sets of sisters attending.



below middle: Kathy Gates (standing) engages in ideas with members from other branches.



below right: sharing session l-r: MaryAnn Daniels, Lee Johnson, Kerry Smith, Barb Passeri-Warfel, Kathy Gates, Erica Meloy, Mary Kratzer, and Kathy Seidl.





★ Save the Date! AAUW  
Atlantic Regional  
Conference 2026 ★



Mark your calendars! 📅 Join your AAUW colleagues and friends from 13 states at the Lancaster County Convention Center & Marriott Hotel in Lancaster, PA on September 25-27, 2026!

📍 Why Lancaster? Lancaster is one of America's oldest inland cities, rich in history and culture!

Explore:

- 🍴 Amazing restaurants & coffee shops
- 🛍️ Unique boutiques & Central Market
- 🍷 Wineries & breweries
- 🍁 Fall festivals happening throughout the city!

✈️ Getting There:

- 🚆 Amtrak station in Lancaster
- ✈️ Harrisburg International Airport (30 miles away)

More details on the conference  
and travel options coming soon!  
Stay tuned! 🔥





2023 grant awardees Kathy Seidl and Jordan Pine at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

## LIFTING UP

*For more than a century, AAUW Harrisburg has helped empower, support women.*

BY PHYLLIS ZIMMERMAN

**F**or Kathy Seidl, joining the Harrisburg Branch of the American Association of University Women "changed my life."

In the 46 years since, Seidl gained "experience in speaking to people," becoming the branch's board president five years after joining. The overall experience also boosted her confidence, eventually landing her employment as vice president of community relations at WITF.

"Our members are from all different backgrounds," said Kathy Seidl, who joined in 2019. "I like the connections I've made here. I've made some wonderful friends and connected with continuing education institutions."

Seidl serves as the Harrisburg branch's co-president with MaryAnn Daniels. The branch, funded through dues and donations, currently has 90 members.

"It's a challenge sometimes to get people to step up to the plate in today's society," Seidl said. "But the positive is, we have a very dedicated board." So, what is AAUW all about?

Its stated mission involves aiding women's higher education, economic security, inclusion and empowerment.

"Together, we can defend the rights of all women and ensure that education remains a powerful path to equity and opportunity," according to the organization's website.

The Harrisburg Branch was founded in 1921, after which followed a series of notable accomplishments through the 21st century, according to Seidl, the local branch's historian.

- In the 1920s, AAUW Harrisburg co-founded Harrisburg Community Theatre and established a student college loan fund.
- In the 1940s, branch members were active in developing a zoning program for Harrisburg.
- In the 1960s, the branch began sponsoring an annual Harrisburg Allied Arts Festival featuring the Harrisburg Choral Society, the Civic Ballet, Harrisburg Community Theatre and the Harrisburg Symphony.
- In the 1970s, the branch established student loan funds at Messiah College, University Center and Penn State's Capital Campus, as well as a full-tuition scholarship at HACC.

In the 1990s, the branch established the Martha M. Dohner Memorial Scholarship and began offering "Gender Equity Model" presentations to school and community organizations.



Kathy Seidl, Co-President; Jordan Pine, Community Woman of the Year; Bobbi Carmichael, Gateway to Equity Honoree; MaryAnn Daniels, Co-President.

For the 2000s, the branch began community outreach work with the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg that included creation of the Betty Sullivan Memorial Library. In the 2010s, AAUW Harrisburg began educational workshops on salary levels.

Each year, AAUW Harrisburg awards scholarships to deserving young women in central Pennsylvania pursuing degrees in the upcoming academic year. The branch's 2025-26 scholarship winners will be announced at this year's fall membership meeting. The application deadline is July 31.

Scholarships are open to female residents of Cumberland, Dauphin or Perry counties or Northern York School District attending an accredited Pennsylvania college or university and demonstrating financial need.

- The \$2,500 Beverly J. Smith Memorial Scholarship is for pursuing a bachelor's degree. Elizabeth Björnsen, a Messiah University biomedical biology major, was the branch's 2024-25 winner.
- The Member Memorial Scholarship comprises two \$1,500 awards for attaining an associate's or bachelor's degree. A winner last year was Sherlyn Martinez, a Shippensburg University special education and early childhood education major.
- The \$1,500 Ronald D. and Kathleen A. Krause STEM Scholarship is for attaining a bachelor's degree in a STEM major. Carmen Boyogueno, a Penn State psychology/neuroscience major, was the 2024-25 winner.
- The \$1,500 Sally C. Chamberlain Scholarship is for women seeking to resume or renew academic work for credit towards career employment or advancement. The branch's 2024-25 recipient was Lauren Stroup, a Wilson College nursing major.

AAUW Harrisburg also presents community awards on an annual basis. Bobbi Carmichael received the branch's 2025 Gateway to Equity Award for her work educating about women and the women's movement through music. Jordan Pine received the 2025 Community Woman of the Year Award for her work in combating human trafficking with Greenlight Operation, while branch member Carol Stock was honored as this year's Outstanding Branch Member.

"It's a challenge sometimes to get people to step up to the plate in today's society," Seidl said. "But the positive is, we have a very dedicated board."

For information about AAUW Harrisburg Branch and to learn about scholarship opportunities, visit [www.harrisburg-aaauw.net](http://www.harrisburg-aaauw.net).

**PSA - The Burg** magazine offers free advertising space for community events.

For any program open to the public, Please prepare a 4 to 5 line description, including date, time, location, and send it to TheBurg no later than the 10th of the month prior to the month of the event.

**THE BURG**

GREATER HARRISBURG'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE





## AAUW Guidance for Public Demonstrations: Taking Action Safely and Strategically

Taking to the streets can be a powerful expression of solidarity and a way to create real, lasting change. For many, public demonstrations are not only a response to injustice but also a reminder of the strength we have when we act together.

Demonstrations can be energizing and transformative. They serve as a source of motivation and resolve to keep pushing for equity. AAUW members have long turned passion into purposeful, collective action—even when political forces attempt to reverse progress. But it's also important to acknowledge that while everyone has the right to public assembly—not everyone can or wants to protest in person.

If you are willing and able, this guide is here to help you show up strategically, safely, and in alignment with AAUW's mission.



### Before You Go

- **Understand the purpose.** Ask: *What is this event trying to achieve?* Is it focused on raising awareness about a specific policy issue or injustice? Is it a response to a current event or part of a long-term advocacy campaign? Protests are most impactful when they clearly communicate what their goal is. Knowing the purpose will help you determine whether and how to participate meaningfully.
- **Research the organizers.** Ensure the demonstration is nonpartisan and aligned with AAUW's mission, values, and public policy principles. Look for events that center the voices of those most impacted and are committed to nonviolence and safety.
- **Evaluate alignment.** Do you feel comfortable supporting the demands or messaging of the event? Do the organizers have a track record of inclusive, nonviolent & respectful action?

#### Note for AAUW Branches and State Affiliates:

- Review AAUW's [Civility Matters](#) statement and help foster a respectful, inclusive environment as we advance gender equity through research, education, and advocacy.
- AAUW Branches and Affiliates should not endorse any activities or act in a manner that could imply AAUW approval or disapproval of a campaign candidate in a partisan election.
- Individuals attending partisan events must do so in a personal capacity—not as representatives of AAUW.

### Preparing to Participate

- **Dress for comfort and weather.** Wear comfortable shoes—you may be walking or standing for long periods. Bring layers, sunscreen, or rain gear as needed.
- **Pack essentials.** Carry water, snacks, and a small first aid kit if possible.
- **Charge your phone.** Make sure it's fully charged, and bring a portable charger if you have one. Have emergency contacts written down in case your phone battery dies.
- **Bring your AAUW pride.** For nonpartisan demonstrations aligned with AAUW's mission, values, and public policy principles, you're encouraged to show your affiliation through signs, AAUW shirts or buttons. Send us your pictures at [advocacy@aauw.org](mailto:advocacy@aauw.org).
- **Respect others privacy.** Taking photos and videos at a demonstration can help spread a movement's message. But it's important to protect the privacy of fellow demonstrators by refraining from posting photos or videos in which others can be identified.



## Safety and Civility

- **Understand the risks.** Even peaceful demonstrations can become unpredictable. Your safety is your responsibility. AAUW is not liable for any consequences arising from participation.
- **Do not engage with counter-protesters.** Maintain distance and vigilance. If needed, alert event marshals or law enforcement to any threats.
- **Know your surroundings.** Identify exit routes, stay with a buddy, and have emergency contacts accessible.

## Keep the Momentum Going!

Demonstrating is one step on the path to change—but sustained progress takes long-term commitment. The fight for gender equity in education needs all of us, and there's always more you can do to deepen your impact.

- **Act.** Follow up with elected officials. Let them know why you showed up and what you want them to do. Use AAUW's Action Network to write, call, or attend local meetings. Your voice matters—keep using it.
- **Share.** Talk to friends, neighbors, and fellow members about the issues that moved you to act. Post on social media, write a letter to the editor, or host a community discussion. Change spreads when we speak out.
- **Join.** Become an active member of AAUW's Action Network. Sign up for an advocacy training as an individual or a branch to build your skills and confidence in becoming a more effective advocate and connect with other action-takers. Our trainings help members build skills—from storytelling to legislative strategy—that can strengthen their advocacy for years to come.
- **Give.** Your support fuels the work. Consider donating to AAUW's Public Policy Fund or our Defending Higher Education Fund to ensure we can keep training advocates, mobilizing members, and defending equity in every state and every classroom.

Together, we are building the long-term power it takes to defend and expand women's access to education and opportunity. Whether you march, organize, lobby, or give—every action helps move us forward.

We are being give an opportunity to practice these skills locally ...



AAUW PA is working with Planned Parenthood and other organizations to advocate at the Capitol on **November 18** on behalf of women's health. We need your support! Bring your family, friends, spouses, partners! All are invited to participate. Details will be forthcoming once plans are finalized.

# Area Offerings For and Including Our Members

## OLLI Completes Successful Harrisburg Pilot, Announces Regular Programing Beginning Fall 2025

Penn State Harrisburg is now offering Osher Life Long Learning courses. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Penn State is a membership-based, volunteer-driven organization offering courses in Harrisburg, University Park, and York, Pennsylvania. OLLI, a service of Penn State Outreach, offers **community members — age 50 years and better** — the opportunity to learn, explore, and connect through education and social enrichment.

Penn State has been recognized for our work by the Age-Friendly University Global Network,” says Penn State Vice President for Outreach Larry Terry. “We’re proud to be part of a select group of institutions of higher learning who promote and support healthy and active aging.” **Our Co-President Kathy Seidl** serves on the curriculum committee. <https://olli.psu.edu/>



Wednesday, June 25, 2025: OLLI members gathered with Penn State staff, faculty, and leaders in the state capitol to celebrate the successful launch of OLLI programming in Harrisburg. They look ahead to future learning opportunities, and the broad variety of courses, trips, and interest groups offered to OLLI members. **Carol Buskirk** - 2nd row, 2nd from right - pink hat.

## AAUW Harrisburg has been invited by League of Women Voters

- to join them in sponsoring a table at the NAACP of Greater Harrisburg Annual Freedom Fund Dinner taking place on 10/11/25 at the AFSCME Conference Center.

AAUW member Lillian Grieco will be the point of contact for the event. We encourage all who are able to plan to attend to show unified support for the Greater Harrisburg Area NAACP. Please see the Save the Date notification below for more information.



**Save the date!** LWVPACAPREG members have been invited to attend the NAACP of Greater Harrisburg Annual Freedom Fund Dinner. This year's keynote speaker is State Representative Napoleon J. Nelson, Sr., Chair, The Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus. The reception starts at 5 PM. The program starts at 6 p.m. The theme for this year is “Momentum Unleashed: Be Focused, Fierce, and Moving Forward. Unite in Action”. This theme encapsulates the NAACP's mission, which encourages individuals and communities to remain dedicated to pursuing equality, be relentless in seeking economic equity, and consistently fight against discrimination and bias. The fee for this event is \$100.00 for each person.

Please email Lillian G. at [Liliangrieco@verizon.net](mailto:Liliangrieco@verizon.net) by **September 15th** if you plan to attend.

Checks should be made out to Greater Harrisburg Area NAACP

and mailed to LWVPACAPREG at 2003 Green St., Harrisburg PA 17102.

A Recommendation from Jean Handley

## Behind the Ballot : Fireside (zoom) Chat Regarding Pennsylvania Supreme Court Retention Elections



September 8, 2025 : 5:00 to 6:30 pm - a discussion of the upcoming judicial elections. <https://www.pmconline.org/events/behind-ballot-fireside-chat>

## Your Branch AAUW Funds Committee is Working on the Where, When, and How of producing a Fundraiser in Sync with our Nation's 250th Anniversary?

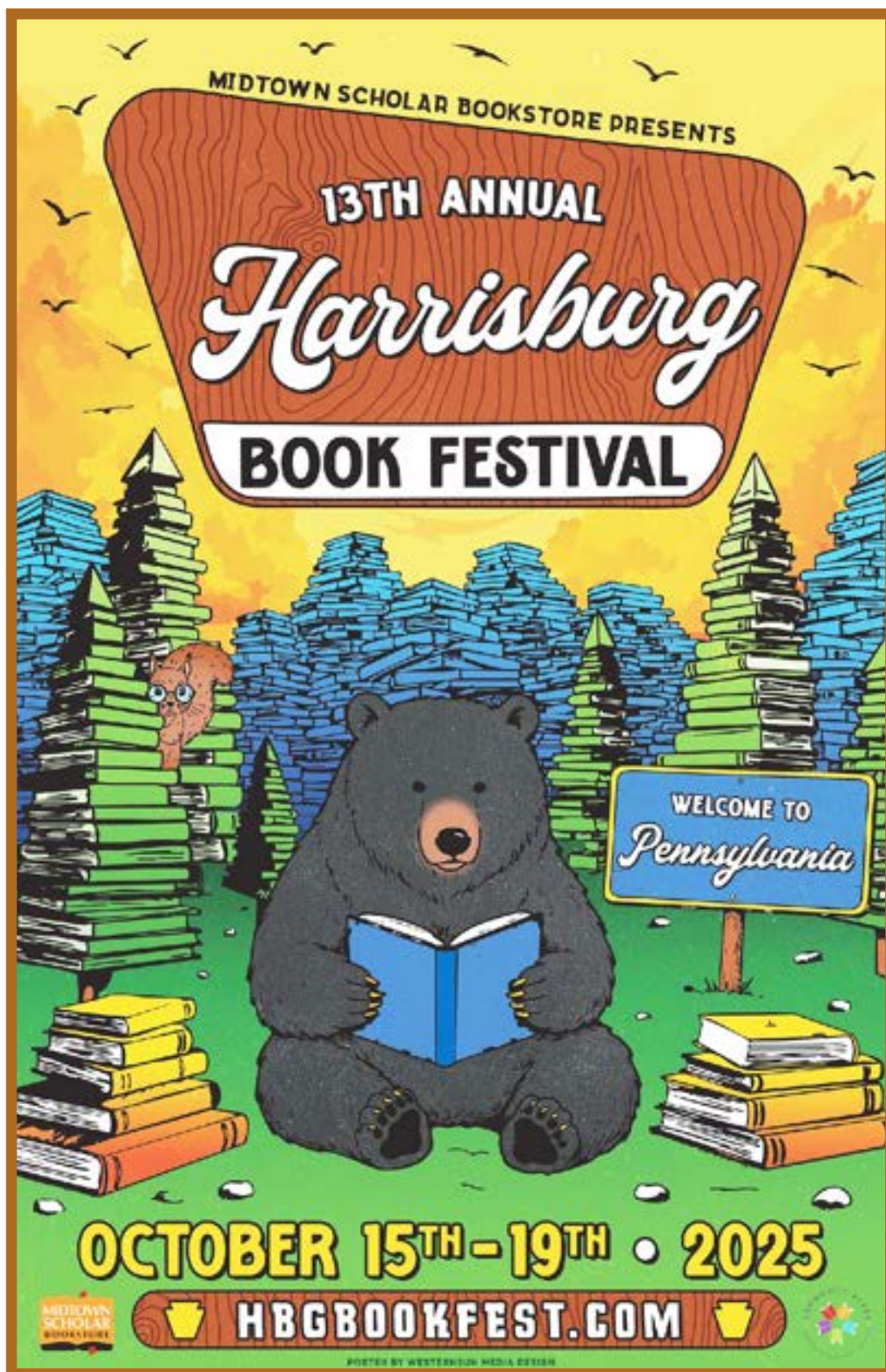
National has reached out to all branches asking for help to meet its financial deficit.

Board members of AAUW-Harrisburg have discussed a play and Cindy Dlugolecki has offered to stage a concert/reading open to the public of her history based musical, QUILL-ADELPHIA as a possible fund raiser. The play is timely as it celebrates the country's Constitutional Convention and the beginning of our Democracy...

Who is Jacob Shallus and how did he, son of a German immigrant and a humble assistant clerk in the Pennsylvania State Assembly, become the man chosen to put pen to parchment? Keep watching for updates and how you can be a part.





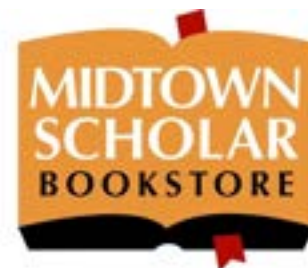


Hours:

Tues - Fri + Sun:

10am - 6pm

Sat: 9am - 7pm



1302 North 3rd Street |  
Harrisburg, PA 17102

**It's back** — and bigger than ever. The Harrisburg Book Festival is proud to host

**our annual outdoor tent sale**

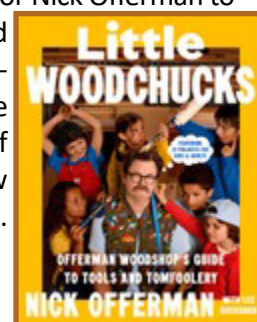
with over 30,000 used books priced at \$1, \$2, and \$3.

The book sale will take place on Verbeke Street in front of the Broad Street Market, and adjacent to the book store, throughout the entire Festival -

*- Rain or shine!*

### BOOK RELEASE EVENT

Welcome actor, comedian, and New York Times bestselling author Nick Offerman to FNB Field to celebrate the release of his new book.



Proudly presented by the Midtown Scholar Bookstore and Community Reads, the Harrisburg Book Festival celebrates the written word and its power to inspire, provoke, and delight. Featuring an outdoor tent sale, award-winning authors, and children's day programming, the Harrisburg Book Festival promotes a culture of reading and community in the heart of Pennsylvania's state capital — all while surrounded by thousands of books at one of the nation's leading independent bookstores.

Date: Wednesday, October 15  
Doors Open: 6pm; Event Starts: 7pm  
Tickets: All tickets are GA.

# Culture Vultures Fall NYC Bus Trip

## Sunday, October 19th, 2025 : The Frick Collection



The Frick Collection  
1 East 70th Street  
New York NY 10021

**The Frick** - Internationally recognized as a premier museum and research center, the Frick is known for its distinguished Old Master paintings and outstanding examples of European sculpture and decorative arts.

The Collection originated with Henry Clay Frick (1849–1919), who bequeathed his home, paintings, sculptures, and decorative arts to the public for their enjoyment. The institution's holdings—which encompass masterworks from the Renaissance through the nineteenth century—have grown over the decades, more than doubling in size since the opening of the museum in 1935.

A critical component of the institution is the Frick Art Research Library, founded in 1920 by Helen Clay Frick, daughter of the museum's founder. Join us to see this newly renovated building and collection.

Depart -7:30 AM from Capital City Mall ( Behind JCPenney's ) 3506 Capital City Mall Drive, Camp Hill, PA  
Lunch on your own  
Depart NYC- 4:30 PM

\*\*\*\*\*Reservations must be made by **September 18, 2025** \*\*\*\*\*

Trip includes transportation and admission ticket.

**Cost \$150.00** - Your check, paid in full, is your reservation.

Please make checks payable and send to: Barbara Warfel  
619 Haldeman Blvd.  
New Cumberland, PA 17070 call -717-774-5559

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NYC - Frick Tour - Sunday, October 19th 2025

NAME\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE\_\_\_\_\_Cell\_\_\_\_\_

e-mail\_\_\_\_\_

Your check, paid in full, is your reservation. Please make checks payable to:  
Barbara Warfel  
619 Haldeman Blvd.  
New Cumberland, PA 17070 call -717-774-5559

**Cancellation policy:** A refund will be made if the trip is canceled. If you cancel, you will receive a full refund, only subject to operator's ability to resell your seat. Your canceled check is your receipt.

Waiver: I waive all claims for myself, my heirs, and assigns against the sponsors of this trip and will hold them harmless for any and all injuries or illness which may result from my participation.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_



# Culture Vultures On the Move

Contact Barb Passeri-Warfel [warfelb@yahoo.com](mailto:warfelb@yahoo.com)

## American Association of University Women- Harrisburg presents: *Discover the Canadian Maritimes and Coastal Wonders*

**September 21 – October 1, 2025** - Contact Barbara Warfel for more specific details and an  
11 Day 16 Meals E-mail brochure [warfelb@yahoo.com](mailto:warfelb@yahoo.com)

From the nautical beauty of Peggy's Cove to the rugged splendor of the Cabot Trail, the Maritimes will enchant you. Choose how you explore Lunenburg – at the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic or on a locally guided walking tour. Partake in a PEI tradition with a supper of fresh lobster and mussels. Visit the Anne of Green Gables Museum and learn about potato farming. See the 4-story high Hopewell Rocks. Savor

### Itinerary in Brief:

Days 1 - 4 spent in Halifax,  
Nova Scotia and region  
Days 5 - 8 Baddeck - Cabot  
Trail, Prince Edward  
Island  
Days 9 - 10 Saint John



a traditional Maritimes seafood feast beside the Bay of Fundy, where some of the world's highest tides are recorded. Explore interesting inventions at the Alexander Graham Bell Museum. Learn a few handy Gaelic phrases and join in the fun of a "milling frolic." Take a ferry ride to Prince Edward Island, the "Land Cradled on the Waves Don't miss the rugged beaches, picturesque fishing villages, and rich seafaring history of Canada's amazing Maritime Provinces.

brochure link is

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1277117>

## American Association of University Women- Harrisburg presents: *Mediterranean Coastal Journey : Mediterranean Spain, France & Italy*

**April 25, 2026 - May 10, 2026** - Contact Barbara Warfel for more specific details and an  
16 Days 24 Meals E-mail brochure [warfelb@yahoo.com](mailto:warfelb@yahoo.com)

Explore the glittering Mediterranean coast on an immersive journey connecting the Spanish, French and Italian Rivas. Taste your way along the Mediterranean coast sampling traditional Catalan specialties in a 17th-century farmhouse, flavorful Provençal cuisine in Marseille, and traditional focaccia in Genoa. Enjoy the iconic must-sees and venture to gems off the beaten path, like the rolling hills of the Tuscan countryside. Take a step into the culture and meet the locals. From chameleonic Barcelona to sun-kissed Nice; from glamorous Monaco to the rolling hills of the Chianti countryside, find your dream Mediterranean journey

Basic Tour completes on May 10, 2026.



Barcelona Cathedral

### Itinerary in Brief:

Days 1 - 4 spent in Barcelona  
Days 5 - 6 Costa Brava  
Days 7 - 8 Marseille  
Days 9 - 10 Nice  
Days 11 - 13 Italian Riviera  
Days 14 - 16 Tuscany & Countryside  
- post - tour overnight stay at Hotel  
Borgo di Cortefreda as an extension

Marseille beachfront



brochure link is

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1328392>

## Locally, Regionally, Internationally - Harrisburg Branch Members Explored the World Once Again While the Summer Weather Expanded the Options.



left: Kathy Seidl and Erica Meloy spent a fabulous June touring Italy - from Capri, to the leaning tower of Pisa, in Tuscany, to a gondola ride in Venice!



below: Carol Buskirk introduced her granddaughter to the Forest Canopy walk in Costa Rica on a Road Scholar Grandparent-Grandchild tour- "I LOVE Costa Rica with it's fantastic biodiversity!"



above & left: Marcia Hajduk and Tom Diffenbach spent some super weeks in China, with Tom working in August at the 2025 Global Future Space Scholars Meet in Beijing, China. 280 high school stars from China and other countries created, collaborated, communicated, competed, and made many friendships. As an added bonus, they spent time with Bella and her family, including a hot pot dinner.



above: Branch members Helen Khanzhina, Lee Johnson, Dorothy Brown and Marcia Nye spent two weeks at Girton College, University of Cambridge, participating in the Girton Global Programmes - Lifelong Learning.

below: Grace Huber and Kathleen Gorak share ideas in the kitchen of Grace's Mt. Gretna cottage where she hosted *Pot Luck and a Play* on June 26th.  
More pictures on p.16.



above: During August, Carol Buskirk and daughter Mattie explored Yellowstone including the Grand Prismatic Springs, a relatively new Yellowstone attraction. Needless to say, if there are treetops to explore, Carol will find them.



right: Erica Meloy and Barb Passeri-Warfel enjoyed time in the herb and Peace gardens at the Rosemary House in Mechanicsburg. Note the teapots abounding on the tree!

Carpe Diem  
Department



# Making Memories with Friends

Summer  
2025



left: Grace Huber opened her wonderful cottage, a short walk from Mt. Gretna Playhouse, to branch members on June 26 for Pot Luck and a Play. If pictures tell a story, everyone had a great time!

We are Very Serious About Our Pot Luck.

below l-r: Lillian Grieco, Helen Khanzhina, Carol Buskirk, Alice Kirchner, Barb Passeri-Warfel, MaryAnn Daniels, Marcia Nye.

Below middle: Kathy Gates, Lillian Grieco, Marcia Nye, Lee Johnson, Carol Buskirk, Helen Khanzhina, Kathleen Gorak, Christine Zuzack.



PSA from Marcia Nye:

I want to remind everyone that I have lots of cups, napkins and disposable spoons, etc. for any event and I'll make it easy for anyone to collect some or just come see what is here.



above & left: Several AAUW members and friends attended the Penguin Project performance of *Cats* at Whitaker Center.

left: Mary Kratzer and Olivia Stark-Blosser (Grizabella). above: l-r Molly Lemke (a former scholarship recipient) and friend, Allison Stark, Erika Stark, Violet Pursell, Olivia Stark-Blosser, Carol Stark.

Left bottom: Someone has the Sillies. l-r: Chris Zuzack, Grace Huber, Rosemary Cahill, Alice Kirchner. Barbara Passeri-Warfel gets the shot.

Center: Kathy Gates and Becky Cotich talk about cabin life in front of one of the panelled walls for which these homes are known.

Center middle: Lee Johnson and Marcia Nye enjoy the porch - another traditional element of these homes.



Center bottom: Alice Kirchner found one of the must have rockers.



below: Marie Thau, Chris Zuzack, Paula Stellings-Ruth, and Lillian Grieco celebrated at the Daphin Highlands Golf League end of season lunch.



Kathleen Gorak and Kathy Seidl joined the many who gathered on the steps of the Pennsylvania State Capitol on Labor Day Monday as part of the "Workers Over Billionaires" national protest.



August 2: The Walking Group takes advantage of the weather. seated : Marcia Nye, Kathy Bard, Barbara Whetstone. standing: Carol Buskirk, Barb Passeri-Warfel, Lee Johnson, Erica Meloy.



# Harrisburg 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 for coming events.\*\*\***  
and refer to <https://harrisburg-pa.aauw.net/special-interest-groups/>

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## Chefs at Home

Contact: **Joan Swetz** [jswetz3@yahoo.com](mailto:jswetz3@yahoo.com)

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

## Culture Vultures

Contact: **Barb Warfel** [warfelb@yahoo.com](mailto:warfelb@yahoo.com) 717-774-5559

Special Upcoming Trips:

***Discover the Canadian Maritimes and Coastal Wonders:* September 21 - October 1, 2025 p. 14**

***The Frick Collection: Fall NYC Bus Trip:* Sunday, October 19th 2025 p.13**

***International tour of the Mediterranean Spain, France and Italy Coast* , April 25 to May 10, 2026 p.14**

## Dine Around

Contact: **Carol Buskirk** [cmbuskirk@verizon.net](mailto:cmbuskirk@verizon.net)

The group meets once or twice monthly to enjoy great meals and lively conversation at a wide variety of local and regional restaurants, with dinners on the second Wednesday and lunches on the fourth Wednesday. Members take turns hosting, which involves contacting members by e-mail, making reservations with a restaurant (your choice or one suggested by the group), and being there. All group members receive email notices of venues and dates.

The next Lunch will be on **Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at 1 p.m., at the Hershey Pantry, 801 E Chocolate Ave, Hershey, PA 17033.** We will have separate checks. Contact Patricia Gallagher (or text 717-512-5101) by 11 a.m. on Wednesday, September 24.

\*\*\* There is No Dinner planned at this time.\*\*\*

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

## Fine Film Group

Contact **Erica Voss Meloy** [ericameloy@comcast.net](mailto: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.

## Fiction Book Group

Contact: **Patricia Riker** [pmriker@gmail.com](mailto:pmriker@gmail.com) Meets - 3rd Thursday from 10:00 am to noon.

**September 18, 2025** *My Friends* by Hisham Matar reviewed by Dorothy Brown: hosted by Mary Jean Holmes  
*Please contact Mary Jean to verify if you plan to attend as sometimes capacity is limited.*

The 2025 - 2026 Schedule is now available on our website under -

<https://harrisburg-pa.aauw.net/files/2025/07/FictionBookGroup2025-26.pdf>

## Nonfiction Book Group

Contact: **Chris Zuzack** [czuzack@hotmail.com](mailto:czuzack@hotmail.com) Currently Meeting - 2nd Thursday from 12:30 - 2:00pm

**September 11, 2025** *How to Stand Up to a Dictator* by Maria Ressa, reviewed and hosted by Lillian Grieco

The 2025 - 2026 Schedule is now available on our website under -

<https://harrisburg-pa.aauw.net/files/2025/05/Non-FictionBooks1015-26.pdf>

## Walking Group

Contact: **Lee Johnson** [lee6646@verizon.net](mailto:lee6646@verizon.net)

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.



## AAUW HARRISBURG DIVERSITY STATEMENT

AAUW Harrisburg condemns racism. We are committed to building a more just society where everyone, no matter the color of their skin, can live without fear, pursue their life goals, and thrive. Systemic racism is firmly rooted in the U.S., and today's injustices mirror our shameful history — from police brutality to inequality in educational opportunities to the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on communities of color. Our country needs healing. That healing will only come with justice.

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.



### 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*.

### 2025-2026 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Presidents - MaryAnn Daniels  
& Kathy Seidl

Program Vice President - Joan Swetz

Membership Co-Vice Presidents -

Diane Shoop & Barbara Passeri-Warfel

Finance Officer - Eileen Carson

Co-Secretaries - Cindy Dlugolecki  
& Alice Kirchner

2026 Nominating Committee -

MaryAnn Daniels & Kathy Seidl

- Co-Chairs

Lillian Grieco, Lee Johnson,

Erica Voss Meloy

Please  
"Like" us  
on FaceBook!



AAUW Harrisburg

### 2025/2026 Board Meetings

will be held live at Perkins Restaurant, 7 Erford Rd, Lemoyne,  
or via Zoom, on the second Thursday of each month  
from 3:00 - 4:30 pm

next meeting: [September 11, 2025](#)

MaryAnn Daniels or Kathy Seidl will send the meeting agenda  
and information to all Board members

### *The Connection*

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by

Harrisburg Branch AAUW

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[HarrisburgAAUW@gmail.com](mailto:HarrisburgAAUW@gmail.com)

[AAUWHarrisburg.org](http://AAUWHarrisburg.org)

Editor:

Carol Stark

717-829-5630

### \*\*\*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:

[hbgaauwnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:hbgaauwnewsletter@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.***