

AAUW May 2023 Newsletter



Co-Presidents Report

Well, this 2022-2023 year has flown by and our last meeting is May 6 at the Wooden Angel. This is a great time to see your friends and we hope to see all of you there.

We are still looking to fill several committee chair positions for next year (Scholarships, Newsletter, DEI and Public Policy/Policies). Please step up.

Have a wonderful summer. Looking forward to starting next year off with our September luncheon.

NEWS FROM THE FINANCIAL OFFICER, NANCY MAHOSKY

IT IS DUES COLLECTION TIME!

National dues paid to AAUW by current members has increased by \$5 for 2023-24. Total dues amount is \$78. Remember that each of us receives a member scholarship of \$15 to help with the payment. The April mailing contained an addressed envelope to return with your dues payment. Deadline is June 15.

AAUW has eliminated the 16-month membership for new members. All memberships are for one year.

April 1 began a new cycle of recruitment of new members. Remember dues for new members are only \$52 (half-price). It's a real bargain! Plus our branch will earn one free membership for every 2 recruits.

Make sure to read the dues announcement that was mailed to you. It contains information on how to pay by check and important deadlines.

Three free national and state memberships will be raffled off at the May 6 luncheon. Value is \$67. The only requirement is dues payment prior to or on the day of the raffle.

MEET OUR CCBC AWARD WINNER KAYLA PORUPSKY

Every year, our branch sponsors the AAUW Beaver Valley Branch CCBC Award. Criteria are strong academic performance, financial need, and preferably majoring in a STEM field. CCBC selects the winner and the amount is \$1000. This year's award went

to Kayla Porupsky of Beaver who is majoring in education. Kayla will be attending our May 6 luncheon so please say hello and learn more about her.

THANK YOU!

Member Patricia Von Dreele donated her \$15 dues scholarship amount to our General Fund and paid the full dues price. Thank you for your generosity, Pat!

KITCHEN TOUR UPDATE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SATURDAY, SEPT. 23, 2023

Spring cleaning? Getting into those cupboards and drawers? When you discover those gently used items just waiting to be replaced, think KITCHEN TOUR! The purse sale has expanded to include jewelry, scarves, and fashion accessories. Remember: \$1243 in profit last year!

YEARBOOK UPDATES

Any changes to addresses, phone numbers, or email should be sent to Nancy Mahosky, financial officer. Any other updates should be sent to Pam Powers, yearbook editor.

5 STAR BRANCH COMMITTEE

Our branch is beginning the process of earning stars through the national 5 Star Recognition Program. Stars are given in the areas of Advancement, Public Policy, Governance, Programs, and Communications. Members serving on the committee (so far) include Nancy Mahosky, Roslyn Ionta, Vicky Scott, Lea Kretchmar, Jean Macaluso, Sharon Nerone, Marianne Turner, Kim Litz, Roberta Good, Linda Lobozzo, Patty Rock, Mary DeSanzo, and Deb Newton. Others are welcome! It is a great opportunity to think about our purpose as an organization and to plan for the future. Contact Nancy for more information.

So far, we have completed the requirements for Star #3 Governance by writing a strategic plan and a succession plan. Star #4 Programs is also complete as we have 4 programs that are aligned to the strategic plan. Finally, Star #5 Communications is done as our social media pages have 3-4 posts on DEI. Not bad for 2 hours work!

ONLINE BILL PAYMENT

Are any members currently using online bill payment? You can easily add our branch as a biller and have your bank send us a check for dues or luncheon payments or even donations!

Checks will be printed and mailed to Nancy. Make sure to allow enough time for the check to arrive before the deadline.

CREDIT / DEBIT CARD PAYMENTS

We are working hard to allow members to use a credit or debit card for payments. A button will be shown on the website or Facebook page that allows you to enter your card number. Please understand that the use of a card requires a fee so you will pay a little more for this service. You will be notified when a button is available. A Social Media Chairperson is needed before we can start this program!

NEW MEMBERS

Our membership total is now 87 (11 are new) which surpasses last year's total. We have also earned 3 free 2023-24 national memberships through the Shape the Future program.

AAUW AWARDS

The awards committee was pleased to honor members at the April 13 branch meeting for their activities over the past year.

“NAMED GIFT HONOREES” -

SHARON NERONE - Program VP who plans a variety of programs for all of our branch meetings. Also chairs the Accessories Committee of the Kitchen Tour.

JEAN SNITGER - Manages all the yard signs for the Kitchen Tour from going to the printers to distributing signs and posting them all over the area giving great publicity to the KT.

MARIANNE TURNER - (to be awarded May 6) A new member who stepped up to serve as branch Secretary. Organized all vendors for the Kitchen Tour and plans to secure more for KT23. Volunteers at Girls Recognition Night.

“MEMBER MAKING A DIFFERENCE” - *NANCY MAHOSKY* - Served as the branch Financial Officer for 16 years keeping financial records in perfect order. Collects your dues annually! Interacts with National & State AAUW regularly submitting dues and data as required.

“OUTSTANDING WOMAN OF THE BRANCH” - (to be awarded May 6) *FRAN COLAFELLA* - Visits each home on the Kitchen Tour interviewing homeowners & gathering details of the kitchens. Composes descriptions for the Ticket Booklet. Collects & organizes recipes for the Recipe Booklet. Secured all KT printing courtesy of First Energy.

“GATEWAY TO EQUITY” - (to be awarded May 6) *NORM MITRY, President & CEO, Heritage Valley Health System.* Largest employer of women in Beaver County who are gainfully employed in all levels in the medical field. Offers career advancement opportunities including a tuition reimbursement program.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARDEES!!

BEAVER COUNTY EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Executive Director: Jamie Connelly

Email: beavercountyeducationaltrust.org

Phone: 724-513-1633

NEW "EDUCATION HALL OF FAME" INAUGURAL CLASS SELECTED

The Beaver County Educational Trust has selected its' inaugural class of inductees to the Beaver County Education Hall of Fame.

Five individuals from Beaver County will be inducted during a dinner gala ceremony on:

Tuesday, May 9 from 6-8 PM at the Willows, Industry.

Reservations are required. \$55/per person, Beef or Chicken entrée selections

Purchase tickets online or contact Jamie Connelly

Checks payable to: Beaver County Educational Trust

Inductees:

Jean Macaluso – AAUW member who has impacted education in Beaver County for over 40 years as teacher, guidance counselor, assistant principal, director of pupil personnel services and assistant superintendent. Jean also taught at CCBC and Geneva College. *Come to this event to support Jean's achievements.*

James "Jim" Johnson – founding director of the aviation program at the Community College of Beaver County.

Paulette Miller – former Executive Director of Beaver County Rehabilitation Center, BCRC. Provided educational and vocational opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or a mental health diagnosis.

Dr. Dan Matsook – helped establish the Central Valley School District school merger. Teacher, assistant principal, high school principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent.

"Teacher of the Year" – Isaac Dixon, Rochester Area School District.

The 2023 AAUW Beaver Valley Branch scholarship recipients are:

Non-traditional

Erica Keefer – Erica lives in Beaver and attends Geneva College. Her major is Early Childhood Education/Special Education. Unfortunately she will not be able to attend our May luncheon.

Saoirse Kelly – Saoirse lives in Hopewell Township and attends CCBC. Her major is Biology and she plans on becoming a Physician’s Assistant.

*** I asked Saoirse how to pronounce her name, this is her response.....And my name is Irish & thus impossible (though you're close), it's SAYRE-sha, or basically Sara with sh in it.

High School

Mallory Bible – Mallory will graduate from Central Valley and plans to attend Baldwin Wallace University. She plans to get her bachelor’s degree in Communication Sciences and then her master’s in Speech-Language Pathology.

Kate Trevelline – Kate will graduate from Blackhawk and plans to attend Ohio State. Her major will be chemical/nuclear engineering.

Kennedie Koehler – Kennedie will graduate from Western Beaver and plans to attend CCBC. She will pursue a career in radiology.

FEMMES

One of our favorite restaurants, but where we have not been for quite a while is the LOG CABIN in Zelenople. It appears on our schedule for Tuesday, May 2, so I **hope** that many of us will gather there at 12:30 for good food and friendly conversation. Please contact me by the preceding Saturday if you plan to join us, and I hope you do.

Jean Macaluso

KITCHEN TOUR “The Kitchen is the Heart of the Home.”

Plans are coming together as we are almost at the point of securing five kitchens and five chefs.

Meanwhile, our loyal and capable committee members are also fulfilling their tasks as they reported at our recent meeting.

- We are extremely pleased and grateful that FIRST ENERGY will again donate their printing services.

- Members will be asked to submit recipes to Fran Colafella under the theme of “Recipes from the Heart” which could be comfort food, family favorites, Grandma’s tradition, or heart-healthy recipes.
- A new twist for lunch: Instead of selling tickets for a salad buffet or box lunch, there will be three food trucks at the school where patrons can purchase BBQ, Greek, or Mexican food and then enjoy their lunch at seating in the vendor area. Something different. Hope it works.
- Members will be receiving information about the Bake Sale, Accessories Sale, Raffle Room, and Interest Groups’ contributions toward a raffle basket.
- Finally, the good news is that someone has stepped forward to chair the Kitchen Tour in 2024 which means our successful fundraiser will continue! VICKIE SCOTT has willingly volunteered and, as she works with me, she will become well acquainted as it evolves this year. Please welcome Vickie with the same enthusiasm and cooperation that I have enjoyed over these past years.
- If you have any questions or suggestions, please Jean.

KT poem

It’s been a year

Since we’ve had a tour,

So now is the time

To open your doors

And find purses, jewelry, and fashion accessories galore.

Throughout the years you’ve accumulated lots of stuff

Give us everything that you’ve had enough.

Drop off your collections at Linda’s or Fran’s

By September 9 so we can plan.

Let’s make this K-Tour a great success,

And bring us back

To what we do best:

Awarding women the chance to pursue,

What they were always

Meant to do.

You can drop off your fashion accessories at

Frances Pickard

1530 River Road, Beaver

Or Linda Lobozzo

2202 Darlington Rd. Chippewa **If no one answers the front door, just leave bags on back patio.**

Public Policy WOMEN SERVING IN PA LEGISLATURE

A century after the first women were elected to Pennsylvania's state legislature, women are now for the first time leading both Chambers with President Pro Tempore Senator Kim Ward (Republican, District 39 Westmoreland County) in the state Senate and Representative Joanna McClinton (Democrat, Philadelphia/Delaware) serving as House Speaker. Each woman in their acceptance speeches voiced the need for change and reform with a focus on issues that unite lawmakers from both parties in efforts to build cooperation and professionalism. Gradual Progress.....More women in the State legislature helps to reshape public policy debates regarding issues relative to education, care for children and older adults, and equal pay. In 1975, just 8 lawmakers serving in the 253 member PA legislature were women. Now 80 who serve in the House and Senate are women, less than 1/3 of the members. The Commonwealth ranks 27th in the Country for percentage of women in its legislature. In an article with Spotlight PA (independent, nonpartisan news outlet) Representative Donna Bullock (Democrat, Philadelphia), who chairs PA Legislative Black Caucus, noted $\frac{2}{3}$ of people earning minimum wage (\$7.25/hr) in the State are women. Rep. Bullock further commented, "she often felt the need to explain to some of her colleagues what it means to be a PA woman. PA women are our workers, they are providing for their households, they are people working at minimum wage."

Membership Mentoring Team – Jodean Brooks, Mary Beth Quinn

Would you like to make our Branch Meetings more welcoming for new members? Join our Membership Mentoring Team and we can “brainstorm” together as to the responsibilities of this team. Let’s make our new members feel that they are a part of an amazing group of women!

Contact Jodean Brooks at jodeanbrooks@gmail.com or
Mary Beth Quinn at mbquinn.51@verizon.net

Literature 1

BOOK: *Four Friends* by Robyn Carr.....From #1 New York Times bestselling author Robyn Carr comes the story of four friends determined to find their stride. Ultimately, they'll discover what it means to be a wife, mother, lover, friend...and most important: your true self.

WHEN: Tuesday, July 11

WHERE: Jackson's

TIME: 1:00

DISCUSSION

LEADER: Dorothy H.

Literature II

Literature II will be meeting on Thursday May 11th at the home of Ann Niemann and be discussing “The Violin Conspiracy” by Brendan Slocum. Kathi Harris will be leading the discussion and Fran Colafella will be bringing dessert.

Literature 3

Literature 3 Book Group will meet at the Wooden Angel on May 16 at 12:30. Kathy Miller will lead discussion of “The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo” by Taylor Jenkins Reid .