

AAUW DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Co-Presidents Report

Happy Holidays to everyone. With Thanksgiving behind us, the rush is on for Christmas. We hope that everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving.

Our program for December is “Creative Greeting Cards.” Plan to meet on Thursday, December 7 at the First Presbyterian Church, 252 College Ave., Beaver. Refreshments begin at 6:30 with the program following at 7:00.

Meet Rosemary Macuga Thellman, sole proprietor of Row Press, a quaint card shop and art studio located in Beaver, PA. Rosemary, an artist and author, will give a brief presentation about her artistic background, the history of greeting cards and how she became inspired to design and print cards. The program will be interactive and thought-provoking.

This will be our last meeting until February 3, 2024. That meeting will be at 10:00 am with social time at 9:30 am. Wishing you all a wonderful and magical holiday season.

NEWS FROM THE FINANCIAL OFFICER, NANCY MAHOSKY

Please continue to recruit new members. Dues for new members are only \$53 (half-price). It's a real bargain! Plus our branch will earn one free membership for every 2 recruits. Ask potential members to contact Jodean Brooks or Mary Beth Quinn for an application. This application is also available on our website for downloading. Just click on the Membership Application tab.

If any printed copies of the application form are floating around, please make sure it shows a \$53 dues payment. It is embarrassing to us when a new member sends a check for an incorrect amount.

YEARBOOK UPDATES

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

KITCHEN TOUR THANK YOU

Many thanks to our honorary life member June Schutte who lives in North Carolina. June sent us a donation of \$100 towards the Kitchen Tour.

Many thanks to Kitchen Tour chef The Penalty Box for donating their \$100 expense check. The chef served delicious lemon chicken and loaded baked potato soup!

Latest profit for the tour is \$18,835.62.

BOCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

Community chair Jodean Brooks sold passes to the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Event held on October 18. \$100 was raised which will help support Girls' Recognition Night.

TRADES OF HOPE FUNDRAISER

At our November meeting on the 2nd, our guest speaker was Shelby Black-Couch with Trades of Hope. Shelby shared tangible ways to empower women & girls in vulnerable settings as well as why she believes education is the key to success for girls around the world. As a Trades of Hope Partner, Shelby empowers women to RISE UP out of poverty & trafficking by wearing & sharing HOPE alongside of her talented Artisan Partners from 16 countries around the world, including the USA. As a world-changing storyteller, Shelby shares inspiring stories about the impact behind the pieces in her collection as she sells her Artisan Partners handmade, fair trade artisanal goods -- jewelry, bags, accessories, home decor, holiday goodies & more!

Our AAUW Beaver Valley Chapter is doing a Trades of Hope fundraiser here in November, with 20% of the retail sales going to support our scholarship fund. This fundraiser will raise funds for our students... while providing dignified, sustainable jobs that pay a living wage to women in vulnerable settings.

Simply click, scroll & shop to change the world here:

<<https://stltohopopup.my.canva.site/aauw-beavervalley-chapter-fundraiser-with-toh>>

Join Shelby's VIP Group to stay in the loop as the holiday specials roll out this month! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/shelbybcsworldchangercollective>. If you have any questions about this fundraiser, you can reach out to Shelby (TOHShelbyBC@gmail.com or c: 330-554-6905). She's a Patterson/Beaver Falls resident & happy to assist you with creating brighter futures all around the world!

Please share our AAUW-TOH fundraiser link with those in your sphere of influence all November!

5 STAR BRANCH COMMITTEE

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.

Evaluation of our progress will be via a survey sent out in November. Members will be sent talking points to help with filling it out.

IF YOU CHANGED YOUR NAME, CHECK YOUR JOIN YEAR!

Any member who joined under one last name and then changed it needs to be certain that the join year recorded by national AAUW is correct. Nancy has that information and can check for you.

STATE DUES INCREASE FOR 2024-25

State dues are increasing for the first time in many, many years. They will be \$12 next year instead of \$10.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION CHAIRPERSON NEEDED

Please consider volunteering to be our DE&I officer for 2023-24. We need someone to post articles to Facebook and our web site and to assist with inclusion efforts to mirror the AAUW vision. Without a chair, we will not earn Star #3 for 2023-24. Please help!

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! Just add this biller information:

AAUW Beaver Valley Branch
1904 17th Street
Beaver Falls PA 15010

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

CREDIT CARD / DEBIT CARD / PAYPAL PAYMENTS

Our branch is now able to accept credit and debit card payments as well as Paypal transfers. There is a Donate button on the main page, the About Us page, and the Kitchen Tour page of the website. Members and friends of AAUW Beaver Valley may use this button at any time to submit donations.

We also now accept credit card or debit card payments made online for our branch activities. There will always be a link on the website when we begin to advertise an event. Just follow the directions.

There is always a small processing fee for these payments. However, when you consider the cost of a stamp and the time to write a check and prepare an addressed envelope, it is worth it! Payments were accepted for our Fall Brunch reservations and many members took advantage of it.

If anyone has a Paypal account, money can be sent directly to our branch Paypal account without a fee. See Nancy for directions.

FEMMES CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 WOODEN ANGEL 12:15 PM

Payments for the Christmas luncheon may be made online using a credit or debit card or a Paypal account. Look for the tab Christmas Luncheon 2023 and follow directions. Reservations must be received by December 3.

If you wish to be recognized on your birthday, just email the date (month and day only) to Nancy Mahosky.

RENEWING AND NEW MEMBERS

Our membership total is now 82 (8 are new). See membership article for more information.

ADDRESS, EMAIL, AND PHONE NUMBER CHANGES

Please contact Nancy Mahosky if you want your cell phone number published in the yearbook and distributed to members.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Our November Branch Meeting was a "Getting to Know Us" event and new member Kacie Kirkpatrick brought two guests. They both immediately joined on the spot! Thank you Kacie!

Meet Our New Members:

Lauren Gerard

Amy Palaich

Lauren Gerard holds a Bachelor Degree in Accounting from Geneva College. She is currently transitioning from a position at WesBanco to a position at PPG Paint. At WesBanco Lauren served as FIU Analyst conducting research and performing complex analysis of sensitive financial information and intelligence. She will hold the position of Operations Analyst at PPG Paint.

Lauren also serves as throwing coach for the Beaver High School track program. She is a valuable assistant to the head coach creating spreadsheets of team statistics. She is also developing a fundraising event (bingo) to raise funds for the Beaver track team.

Amy Palaich holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Resources Management from Geneva College. She also attended CCBC where she earned an Associate Degree in Nursing. Amy is currently employed at DaVita Integrated Kidney Care where she serves as a Renal Nurse Care Manager.

Amy loves the outdoors, loves to cook, and loves to travel. She finds joy in watching her grandchildren grow up and enjoys seeing the world through their eyes. She was a very active parent to her own children as they grew up. Amy Volunteered with the Girl Scouts as camp nurse as well as volunteering with football and soccer boosters.

Public Policy

Pennsylvania witnessed highest turnout for an odd year election in nearly a quarter century. A big factor for this turnout was the election of a State Supreme Court Justice. The results have the Democrats continuing to hold a majority on the PA Supreme Court

Debbie Mangelli Request

A golf buddy of mine is turning 90 on Jan 1. Her neighbor, Terri Bushyeager, is trying to get Rita 90 cards.

Could you ask the aaaw membership to partake?

They can send the cards to me at:
130 Walnut Ridge DR
Beaver Falls, PA 15010
Put Rita on bottom of card.

FEMMES

Just another reminder that the deadline for reservations for the Femmes Christmas Luncheon (12-14-23) is December 3. Please refer to November 11 email for full details, most important the meal selections:

Scrod—\$24

Quiche—\$22

Chicken Croissant —\$22

Send checks to Jean Macaluso

1030 Conway Wallrose Rd.

Freedom, PA 15042

The Beaver County Educational Trust is seeking nominations for its 2024 EDUCATION HALL OF FAME.

HALL OF FAME inductees exemplify the best in education in Beaver County.
They lead by example and inspire the next generation along with their peers.
They are the elite educators of their time.

Deadline for nominations is February 1, 2024

Go to their website for more information

<https://www.beavercountyeducationaltrust.org/beaver-county-hall-of-fame-nominations/>

Social Group

We are planning a social night to get to know our new members.

Where: The 19th Hole, 312 Blackhawk Rd, Beaver Falls, PA 15010

When: Dec 8

Time: 7:pm

Come join us for a drink and appetizers

RSVP: Jodean

Women's Center Donation

If you missed sending in your donations there is still time to bring gift cards to the December meeting.

Mary wanted to let us know that I delivered the gift cards to the Women's Center on Tuesday and they were very appreciative. These are the cards that were in the bag: 2 Amazon cards of \$25 each; 3 Target carts at \$25 each; 1 Applebee's card at \$25; one combination card of TJ Max, Marshalls at \$20; one Visa card at \$25; one Walmart card at \$15; one Mastercard at \$25; and one McDonald's card at \$20. This totals \$255. I

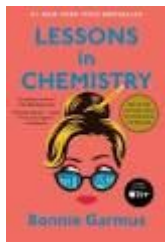
would be happy to take any additional cards if you want to suggest if anyone could not attend the last meeting and would like to contribute in December. If you would like, you may use this article in the next newsletter.

ANTIQUES GROUP

We visited the Vicary Mansion on December 6. On hiatus until April 24.

LITERATURE I

WHEN: Tuesday, January 9, 2024
WHERE: Jackson's
TIME: 1:00
LEADER: Linda L.
BOOK: *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus



LITERATURE 3

Book group III will meet January 16 (Wooden Angel 12:30) to discuss THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS by Vanessa Diffenbaugh. Bonnie Reyes will lead the discussion.

MOVIE GROUP

Pam and I will check for a movie in January. If a member has an idea for a movie, please contact Pam or Jodean. We will send an email to the members with the information.

GARDEN GROUP

We are on hiatus until spring.