



BEAVER VALLEY BRANCH NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2025

CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE - DEB NEWTON and ROBERTA GOOD

Summer is a time for chillin' and that has literally been the case with temperatures far below the norm. But according to the Old Farmer's Almanac, the prediction is for a hot and dry (??) summer in western Pennsylvania. So, with the official start of summer on June 20th, we can hope.

While we take a break at this time from our monthly meetings, there are still many ways to support our mission and engage in activities with the various interest groups and in helping prepare for the October 4th annual kitchen tour fund raiser. In these challenging times, you may also consider being a 2-Minute Activist for gender equity. AAUW National provides all the tools that you will need to make it easy to contact your legislators on pertinent issues.

On June 14th, four members and two officers attended the Western District meeting at Fox Chapel with several members of the AAUW PA board in attendance including PA President Cindy Hall. The meeting, *Building our Statewide Relationships to Sharpen our Local Impact*, delivered a strong message of our belonging to a community that champions equity for women and girls and understands the value of higher education in helping women attain economic security.

A big shout out to fellow member Kacie Kirkpatrick who not only stepped up to be on the State election committee but also recently accepted the position of AAUW PA Administrator Director. Please join us in wishing Kacie well in assuming an officer role on the State board. Have a safe and wonderful summer!

Roberta and Deb

Save the Date! UPCOMING BRANCH MEETINGS/EVENTS: "SAVE THE DATES"

July & August: Branch on Summer Break!

August 18: 6:00pm, Board Meeting at Vanport Presbyterian Church

September 6: Fall Branch Luncheon, Wooden Angel

KITCHEN TOUR – VICKIE SCOTT

I am still seeking someone to lead the Accessories Sale. Linda is willing to mentor this volunteer. There is a sub-committee who is willing to work.

Your contributions to this sale can be dropped off at the following locations. Leave your name with your contributions in case we have questions.

- Linda Loboazzo's home 2202 Darlington Road, Beaver Falls (leave items on back porch)
- Vickie Scott's home 1242 Avondale Drive, Industry (pull up the driveway and place in the breezeway between house and garage)

A quick review of 2025 Kitchen Tour facts:

- New marketplace location is the IBEW Local 712 Building at 217 Sassafras Lane, Beaver.
- The tour is Saturday, October 4, 2025.
- We will setup the marketplace **during the day** on Friday October 3, 2025. The setup to be completed by 4:30 pm. Start time(s) for the sub-committees to be slightly staggered and assigned.

What is happening during the summer? I need volunteers during July, August, and September. Text or leave a message with Vickie (724.462.6782). These work meetings will be small groups at Vickie's home in Industry (1242 Avondale Drive).

1. Envelope stuffing for the branch membership mailing. Need two more people. To be scheduled as soon as I have the tickets ready.

2. Signage cleanup and repairs. Need one or two heat guns plus another couple members. To be scheduled in August as soon as the signage date stickers are ready.
3. Support the Accessories Sale.

FINANCE - NANCY MAHOSKY

STILL NEED TO PAY DUES?

To have your information included in the yearbook, dues must be paid by June 15, 2025. **You can still pay by check in the amount of \$82 made payable to AAUW Beaver Valley Branch and mailed to Nancy Mahosky, 1904 17th Street, Beaver Falls, PA 15010. An addressed envelope for your convenience was included in the April mailing.**

Members may also pay online using a credit or debit card. Click on the Membership 2025-26 tab to access.

Your information will be listed in the next newsletter.

SHAPE THE FUTURE FREE MEMBERSHIPS EARNED

Congratulations to our branch for recruiting 4 new members in the calendar year 2024. This entitled us to 2 free national and state memberships for 2025-26. These free memberships were chosen by a raffle held at our May 3 luncheon. The lucky winners were Lea Kretchmar and Andrea Challis.

Please continue to recruit new members. Dues for new members are only \$54 (half-price). It's a real bargain! Plus, our branch will earn one free membership for every 2 recruits applicable to 2026-27 dues. Ask potential members to contact Mary Beth Quinn or Kim Litz for an application. This application is also available on our website for downloading. Just click on the Membership Application 2025-26 tab.

THANK YOU

Many thanks to all members who donated this month. Member Vickie Scott donated \$100 to our General Fund. Member Patricia Von Dreele overpaid for the May luncheon and donated the extra \$5 to the General Fund. In June, Pat also donated an additional \$18 to the General Fund. Member Kacie Kirkpatrick overpaid her dues and donated the extra \$5.19 to the General Fund. Every donation helps us meet our budget!

2026 KITCHEN TOUR RECIPES NEEDED!!!

The 2025 recipe book is complete, but we need fresh recipes for the 2026 Kitchen Tour. Please search for your favorites and submit to Nancy. Typed recipes are preferred but a photocopy, picture, or even something handwritten is also OK. Email to nmahosky@comcast.net or send it in the old-style mail. PLEASE HELP!!!!!! Any recipes not used in 2026 will be saved for the future.

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 and Christmas luncheon 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.

There are buttons on the website to pay dues.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome new member Karen Coates. Read all about her in the membership section.

YEARBOOK UPDATES

Any changes to addresses, phone numbers, email, or university degrees should be sent to Nancy Mahosky, financial officer. Changes must be made by June 15 to be published in the yearbook. Later changes will be published in the newsletter.

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

SMILING FACES NEEDED!

Our photographers, Lea Kretchmar and Kim Litz, are trying to obtain photos of all members for the website. It's password-protected so only other members can see it.

The following members need to have their lovely picture taken:

Karen Coates	Debbie Daquila	Patty Davison
Michelle Donner	Joyce Hoppa	Millie Koos

Angela Manno	Judy McDermott	Carey McDougall
Abigail McFarland	Katherine Miller	Karen Mitch
Amy Palaich	Paulette Potter	Vickie Scott
Joann Soltes	Meghan Solomon	Patricia Von Dreele
Janet Wise	Yvonne Zier	

If you have a headshot that you would like to publish, text or email it to Lea. So, if you see Lea or Kim heading your way, SMILE!!!!



MEMBERSHIP NEWS – KIM LITZ, MARY BETH QUINN

Recruiting new members doesn't stop in the summer!
Encourage your friends, neighbors, relatives and colleagues to join the Beaver Valley Branch of AAUW – the only Five-Star Branch in the State of Pennsylvania!

COMMUNITY – JODEAN BROOKS AND JOANN LECRONE

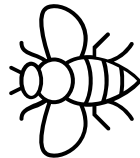
GIRLS' RECOGNITION NIGHT

April 16, 2026, is the new date for Girls' Recognition Night. Christine Kubala and Mar Murray will join the committee as new members. Jodean reached out to members about any changes to their committee status.

Boscov's will hold Friends Helping Friends on October 22nd, from 8 am to 11 pm. Registration is completed and is posted online. In the past, this

event has contributed \$100.00 to our budget. Passes will be available at our meetings and during the kitchen tour.

QUEEN B EVENT



A preview of our 2025-26 programs was an event presented by the Beaver Valley Launch Box of Penn State Beaver, called “Queen B.” During this annual event, ten young small business owners were honored as Beaver County Queen Bs for their entrepreneurship. The Launch Box supported them in business development by connecting them to local resources, providing ongoing educational programming, and offering access to Penn State legal clinic services. Responding to questions from the moderator, the panel of these ten women shared insights on building their businesses, their successes, and advice for others on overcoming the fear of failure. One of our members, Abby McFarland, was honored as a Queen B for establishing her own martial arts studio, River Forge, in Beaver. The program concluded with questions from the audience directed at individual panel members. We look forward to hearing more about the Beaver Valley Launch Box next year at one of our meetings.

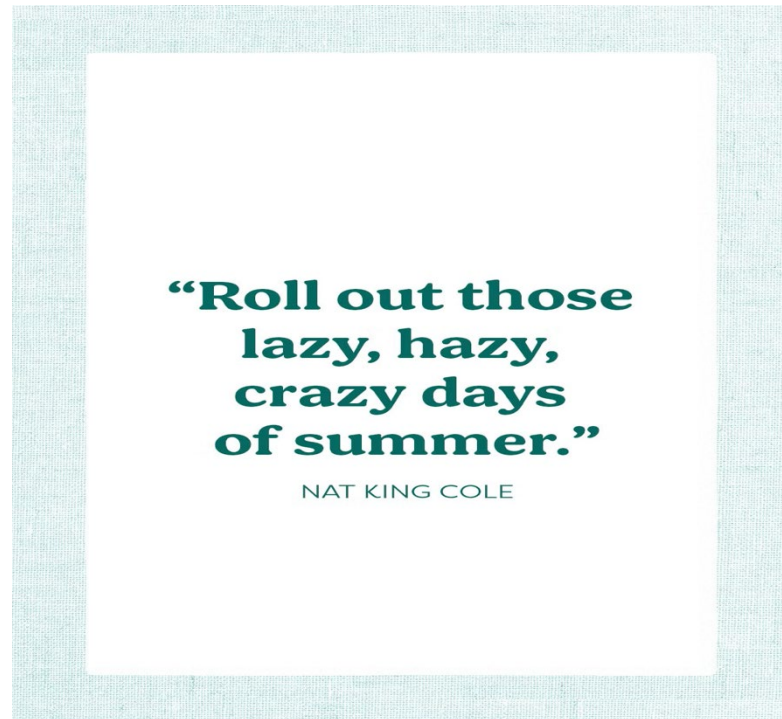
PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE – DEB NEWTON

The following updates were presented on a PA AAUW June 9, 2025, zoom meeting by PA Public Policy Chair Sandra Miller.

❖ Economic Justice

- Paid Leave: House Bill (HB) 200 was voted out of the Labor and Industry Committee in March and is awaiting action on the house floor.
- Pay Equity: HB 630 was passed out of the House on May 5th with a vote of 102-101. This bill has been sent to the Senate Labor and Industry Committee. It is not expected to see a vote until the budget is resolved.

- Minimum Wage: HB 1549 was introduced and passed out of the Labor and Industry Committee on June 4th on party lines. It has been sent to the Rules Committee for re-consideration with hope that it will be included in the budget negotiations. The bill sets the minimum wage to \$15 on January 1, 2026.



EDUCATION – ROSE HOMISH

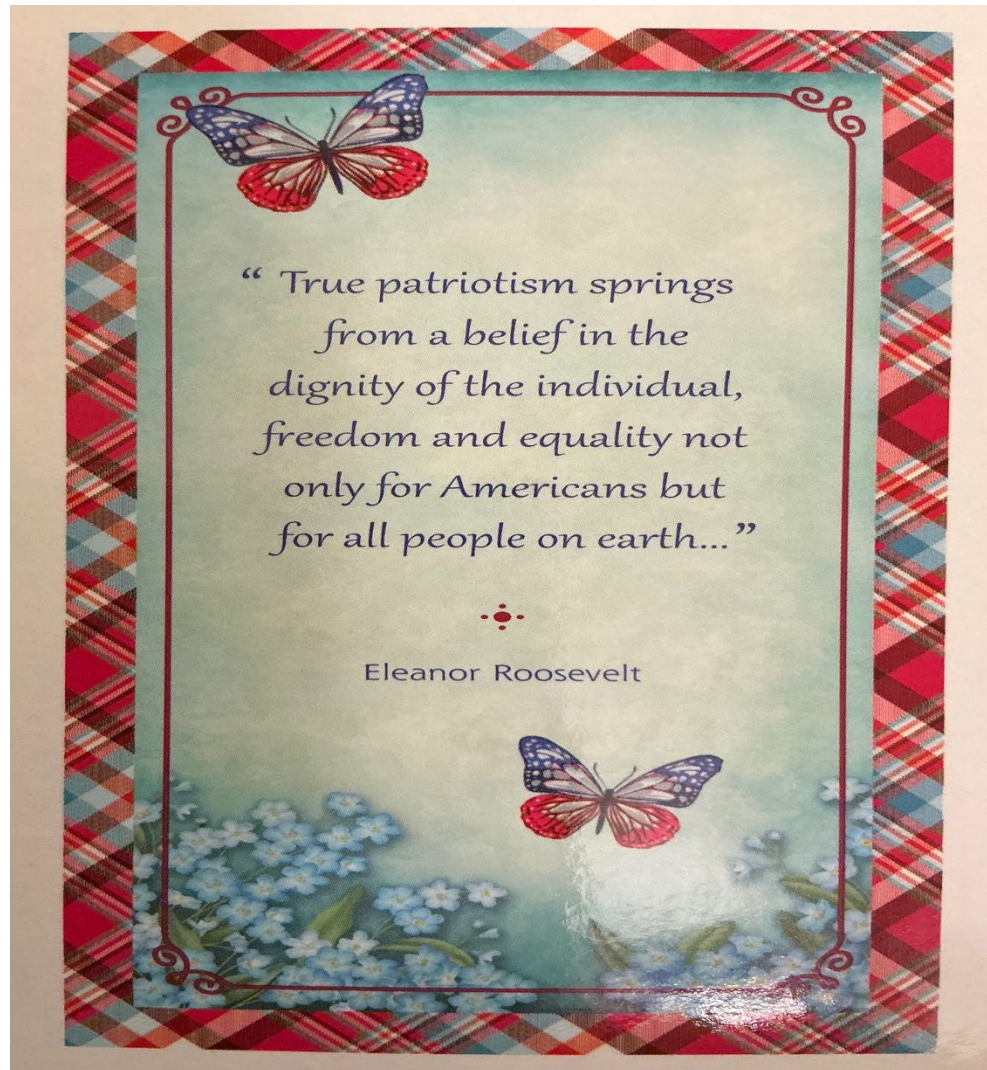
1. Chronic absenteeism is still high... 28% nationally.
2. Gov. Shapiro has increased the budget by more than \$600 million for public schools. June 30th is the deadline.
3. The Department of Education is still in flux whether it will close totally and return control for decisions to each state.
4. Student teacher Support Program Funding.....proposed for 2025-2026 \$40 million for stipends for student teachers in PA. \$10, 000 plus the promise to teach for 3 years in PA.
5. Test scores for Reading & Math are not good for the US.....PA fares a little better.
6. O June 2, the PA House Education Committee passed House Bill 1500, a cyber charter school reform bill that sets a flat tuition rate of \$8000 for each regular education student and aligning Special Education with cyber's actual costs.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY JODEAN BROOKS AND JOANN LECRONE

On May 22, Jodean and Joann met Autumn Sabo at Penn State Beaver to volunteer at the Patch Project sites. Autumn had recently planted ten forest patches around the county, and we returned to three patches to retag and add new plants. The sites we visited were the Penn State Beaver, CCBC, and New Brighton patches.



DEIB - LEA KRETCHMAR



I formally resigned from my role as Chair of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEI&B) Committee, effective immediately.

My decision comes as I prepare for a move to Sherwood Oaks in Cranberry. While I will be stepping down from this leadership role, I remain committed to a smooth transition and am more than willing to work closely with my successor until August to ensure continuity.

It has been a privilege to serve in this role, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this meaningful mission.

Please consider taking this position as it is required by National AAUW and your name is needed for the yearbook



INTEREST GROUPS



~ANTIQUES GROUP – JACKIE HEANEY

In **June**, we visited the Beaver Area Heritage Museum's vintage book collection. Midge Sefton shared with us the process that is used when accepting any type of donation to the museum. It was very informative, and we had to force ourselves to leave.

We do not meet in **July and August**.

The **September** activity for the Antiques Group will be a field trip to the Hoyt Mansion in New Castle on Tuesday, September 9th. A one hour guided tour at \$10/person will begin at 11:00. The Hoyt Mansion reflects the golden age of life in Lawrence County during the Industrial Age. It was built from 1914-1917 at a cost of \$250,000. In today's dollars, it would be \$5.6 million. The home boasts many accoutrements, ahead of the time, that today are standard features in most homes. Lunch will follow at the nearby Crane Room Grille. Any member who is interested in joining Antiques Group for the tour should contact Jan Landsbach (724) 846-3905.

For our **October** meeting, we will be gathering on the 13th at the Chippewa Eat N Park's private room at noon. The topic is "Jewel of the Nile" vintage and antique jewelry. Please join us for lunch or dessert and share your antique/vintage jewelry. Contact Jan Landsbach if interested.

On **November 10th**, we will be meeting at the home of Bonnie Reyes. Clar McMichael will be providing dessert. Topic: “Button, Button, Whose Got the Button?” Antique/Vintage buttons.

For **December**, we are planning a field trip: Holiday at Old Economy. Tentative date December 12th, 2025. Vicki Scott: Coordinator.

We will not be meeting in **January, February, and March**.

~FEMMES – JEAN MACALUSO

JULY 2-- NARCISI WINERY.



Picture yourself at a Tuscan villa overlooking the rolling hills of the countryside. With weather permitting and under the grape arbor, we will capture that scene.

Outside seating is determined by “first come, first served” basis, so we should be there at **11:00** when it opens. Added features are the wine-tasting bar, wine shop, and gift shop. In the past, this place has always generated much interest, so let’s return after several years; some of us remember our enjoyable Garden Group winery tour. Make this one of those summer dates when you plan to connect with friends that you see once a year. Mark your calendars and remember the change in time to **11:00**. Located in Gibsonia, off Rt. 8, on Rt. 910.

AUGUST 6—THE GRILLE AT BRIDGEWATER CROSSING

Close to home and sitting on the patio by the river, we will enjoy a summer afternoon at THE GRILLE, at Bridgewater Crossings. This relatively new bar/restaurant offers a variety of lunch choices and summer cocktails at affordable prices. The two factors of being close

proximity to home and a new restaurant in town should entice locals who have not been there yet to try it. We will meet at 12:30, so I hope to see many of us there.

SEPTEMBER 3—SEVEN OAKS.



Not much more can be said about this country club since it is very familiar, but no matter if inside or outside dining, being surrounded by the scenic beauty is so calming. Join us for another pleasant summer afternoon there at 12:30.

Post this FEMMES Summer Schedule, and I hope that you will include us on these designated dates during your relaxing summer. Please notify me no later than Tuesday morning, preceding the date, if you plan to join us.

Enjoy the summer!

Jean Macaluso

724-581-6050 text

jean.macaluso@yahoo.com Please reply directly to me.

~GARDEN – DEB MANGELLI

June 25, 2025, Wednesday

Fairlamb Lavender Farm & Shop

741 Georgetown RD, Sandy Lake, PA 16145



Jodean Brooks made the arrangements to tour this lovely farm at 11am. Cost is \$50 for the group. So far 13 are interested. They'll have lavender tea & cookies for us. There are many restaurants in the area.

July 30, 2025, Wednesday

Ginger Gardens at 8th Ave & 35th ST on College Hill, Beaver Falls at 11am. Anna Wargo, owner, will give us a tour of her flower gardens & a bouquet arranging class. Debbie Newton arranged this outing.

August 27, 2025, Wednesday

Raccoon State Park fall wildflower tour at 10am with Shane Miller and lunch at Janoski's.

September 20, 2025, Saturday

Garden tour of Adele Rutherford's Garden in Shaler Twp at 11am. She won the garden of the year award in 2024. She has many raised beds with ample walking space, both vegetables and flowers that she started from seed. Jean Macaluso suggested this tour. Adele sent me videos of her gardens & she is excited we want to visit.

I will be issuing more information via email to each garden group member prior to each date. Stay tuned to an interesting summer of garden tours.

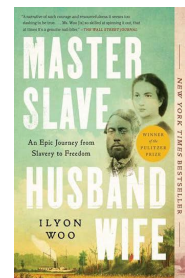
~LITERATURE 1- LINDA LOBOZZO

BOOK: *MASTER SLAVE HUSBAND WIFE* by Ilyon Woo

WHERE: Quality Time in New Brighton

WHEN: **11:30 Tuesday, August 12, 2025**

LEADER: Jodean



~AAUW AFTER HOURS JODEAN BROOKS KACIE KIRKPATRICK

Five members and two friends gathered on May 31 to make lady locks. Under the guidance of Pam Powers, we learned how to roll the dough, cut it, wrap it, and fill the cookies. At the end of the class, we took home four dozen delicious cookies.



Who did it? Eight members enjoyed a night out at the R-Act Theater in Rochester. The play, *Murder at Ringside*, was a murder mystery set during the Tri-State Boxing Championship. Newcomer Billy “Kid Lightning” Jones is set to face Joey “The Grizzly” Bear, a disgraced boxer making a comeback. The match ends when Joey’s sleazy manager, Bugsy King, drops dead. Who did it? Was it one of the boxers? Was it Ma Jones, Billy’s mother and manager? Could it have been Billy’s girlfriend, Anna Mae Harper, a woman with a past? Or maybe it was Bugsy’s girlfriend, the tacky Mitzi Astoria. Will Bugsy’s murderer be revealed, or are they all down for the count? At intermission, the AAUW group discussed who the murderer was. Despite sending the wrong person to jail, we thoroughly enjoyed the play and our night out.

ENJOY YOUR
Summer