Presidents’ Greetings

Hello! Autumn is definitely here with us in central Pennsylvania. We hope that with all of your activities—work, volunteering, family commitments—you have had an opportunity to celebrate nature and take a few deep breaths.

Speaking of celebrations, our 100-year anniversary Gala celebration was a true festival of fun. Many media pieces, exhibits, and presentations that led to the Gala gave us and the community a historical look at our AAUW State College Branch. Much has been accomplished and a firm foundation has been established. We can be proud of our accomplishments as we support the mission of our organization. And, once again, thank you to the many people who participated not only in the Gala but also in the year-long preparations.

The Gala represented an excellent mark in time as we look forward to the future of AAUW at the national, state, and local levels—one organization with one mission. AAUW State College has been and will continue to be a viable player in that mission.

Currently, the Executive Board is looking at issues such as continued financial strength, organizational infrastructure, and activities to continue to promote our strategic plan. We have a very strong AAUW State College, thanks to those who have been a part of our 100-year history. As our Centennial Gift to the Forum Speakers Series at Penn State University illustrates, we have the

Totally Rad: Myths and Truths of Radiation
Wednesday, November 2
6:00-7:00 pm: appetizers and drinks
7:00-8:30 pm: Science Pub Program

Big Spring Spirits
198 Match Factory Place — Bellefonte

Join Branch member and Penn State Breazeale Nuclear Reactor Engineer Candace Davison for an evening of rad fun, sponsored in part by AAUW State College Branch. We’ll have a great radiation trivia game via Kahoot. Contact Michele Crowl, michele@mydiscoveryspace.org for a reservation—that will get you a ticket for a free drink! Nonalcoholic drinks will also be available.

We offer this program in the format of a Science Café/Science Pub. Such cafés exist all over the world and can be held anywhere folks want to get together. In our area, many local groups who are interested in science have begun to hold a Science Pub on the first Wednesday of each month, as a way to learn something interesting and just get to know each other. Successful cafés foster “an informal atmosphere where all participants feel encouraged to participate. They are dynamic, two-way interactions between a scientist and the public.” (www.sciencecafes.org)

Our café will include women scientists and any AAUW members or others who would like to join us. The speaker this month will be our own Candace Davison, who will talk about radiation myths and misconceptions.

Did you know?
Radiation is used to sterilize many prepackaged medical, pharmaceutical and consumer products that can’t be sterilized with heat because they will melt or change. Items such as surgical gloves, contact lenses, eye drops, and ointments are a few examples.

Directions to the Big Spring Distillery: Take Benner Pike or I-99 to Bellefonte and head towards downtown. As you approach downtown, the Match Factory buildings are on your left. Turn left into the complex, and you’ll see the Big Spring Distillery on your right. Park and walk into the distillery, close to the edge of Talleyrand Park.

www.aauwstatecollege.org
I’d like to thank—one more time—the Centennial team members for making the Centennial Gala a reality. There were a lot of behind-the-scenes logistics, and we were really happy with the outcome. The board gave the committee autonomy in decision-making, and we valued their confidence in us. I’d also like to thank my Co-Chair Talat Azhar. Although she has been in Pakistan since the beginning of August, she lent support in her own way. She guided us through some decisions via email and she has been with us in spirit.

Nearly 100 people attended the gala! About half of them were members of the branch, and the other half were book sale volunteers, AAUW grant recipients, family, and friends. During the social hour, people learned more about branch history through lots of pictures, and there was some fun music representing every decade of the past 100 years. It was great reconnecting with so many people who all believe in AAUW State College.

—Connie Schroeder, Centennial Co-Chair


Cordy Galligan, Marketing and Communications VP for AAUW, came to congratulate the branch and inspire us. She also surprised us with a true story on AAUW’s first research project in 1885. It showed that college doesn’t make you sterile! She suggested that when introducing AAUW to potential members, their attentions are always heightened when she shares this story. Learn more: http://www.aauw.org/2013/05/13/college-doesnt-make-you-infertile/

Rennie He, a Humphrey Fellow who volunteers at the Used Book Workshop, presented a “Chinese Knot” to Centennial Co-Chair Connie Schroeder. The knot portends good luck and prosperity—for our next 100 years! It is now hanging at the Book Workshop for all to enjoy.

Sherry Crassweller and husband Rob (left) were spotted working at the Used Book Workshop on the morning of the Centennial Gala, but by 5:00 pm they were enjoying a drink with Angela Sommers and her husband Bruce at the gala. Doing it all!

Nancy Weinreb, Eileen Leibowitz, and Trudy Levine have been members for a long time, and found the chance to catch up on things.

AAUW State College Community Grant Recipients: Seated: Georgia Abbey, Leadership Centre County; Connie Wheeler, AAUW Philanthropic Priorities and Funds Distribution Chair; Amy Wilson, Mid-State Literacy Council. Standing: Sophie Penney, Leadership Centre County Board of Directors; Cheryl White, Centre Volunteers in Medicine; Jennifer Shuey, Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts.

Branch members Carol Hodes and Suzanne Kerlin (Scholarship Co-Chair) enjoyed the moment.

Branch members Dianne Gregg (Public Policy Co-Chair) and Connie Wheeler (Philanthropic Priorities and Funds Distribution Co-Chair) were happy to cast aside their titles for the evening.

Branch member Christine Bishop and Global Connection Executive Director Sharon Shen exchanged notes during the social hour.

More Gala Memories on page 7.
**STEM Committee Updates**

Michele Crowl has assumed the position of co-chair of the STEM Committee, working with Mary Dupuis as the second Co-Chair. They invite other AAUW members to the committee. Michele is taking RSVPs for the November 2 Science Pub gathering, where Candace Davison will speak and lead a fun activity on radiation.

Our November STEM meeting, on November 7, will discuss the summer camp scholarships granted by AAUW to middle school girls, and will explore camps in addition to the Science U camps we have been including. All AAUW members are welcome to the meetings or to join the committee. For details, contact Mary or Michele.

Michele Crowl - Michele@mydiscoveryspace.org
Mary Dupuis—mjmdupuis@aol.com

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**POST-GALA GATHERING:** Several Branch members made good use of the visit from Cordy Galligan, AAUW National Vice President, Marketing and Communications. They met with her for breakfast the morning after the October 16 Centennial Gala to exchange notes, learn, and brainstorm. Front: Billie Willits and Cordy Galligan. Back: Jennifer Karch, Candace Davison, Charlene Harrison, and Michele Crowl. Not pictured: Connie Schroeder, Star Campbell, and Cindy Hall, who caught up with the group afterwards at the Used Book Workshop.

**Have You Heard?**

Best wishes to **Beverly Henshaw**, who is moving to 14534 Bison Path, Surprise, Arizona 85345. She plans to find an AAUW Branch there.

Her son, Brad, is ill with cancer in Seattle, Washington.

Get Well wishes to **Jean Lee**, who had a knee replacement on October 17.

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**The measure of a society is the way it treats its women and girls.**—Michelle Obama

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*(LOG, p. 1)*

build on our history and create our future by advancing equity for women and girls.

Please, as you read through this and future newsletters, identify something that interests you and contribute to the future. Or, give us new ideas. Time is one way to volunteer but ideas are equally important.

Thank you for continuing to support AAUW State College. We are rich in history and striving for the future.

All the best, Alison and Billie
Branching Out

Candidates on Your Ballot for the General Election 11/8/16

Public Policy
Dianne Gregg and Mary Dupuis
Public Policy Co-Chairs

Suspecting you have heard more than you want about the Presidential race, we are not adding to that, but we do have a fresh piece from National about the Senate race. You’ll find the link below. The other races on your ballot have not gotten enough attention, so we are providing links to the candidates’ websites. At bottom, we cover the ballot question—please do read that.

For those thinking of writing in people not on the ballot, please don’t. All that does is add length to the already overlong day of the non-partisan elections workers who have to count and record those non-votes. Please pick a candidate for every race. Your vote truly does matter too much to throw it away.

NOTE: Candidates are listed in ballot order, starting with the party holding the Governor’s Office.

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT
Republican: Donald R. Trump and Michael R. Pence. www/donaldjtrump.com
Green: Jill Stein and Ajamu Baraka. www.gp.org
Libertarian: Gary Johnson and William Weld. www.lp.org

Democrat: Katie McGinty. Katiemcginty.com
Republican: Pat Toomey. www.toomeyforsenate.com
Libertarian: Edward T. Clifford III. www.lp.org

PENNSYLVANIA ATTORNEY GENERAL
Democrat: Josh Shapiro. www.joshshapiro.org

PENNSYLVANIA AUDITOR GENERAL
Democrat: Eugene DePasquale, incumbent. www.eugene4pa.com
Republican: John Brown. www.brownforag.com
Libertarian: Roy A. Minet. www.lp.org

PENNSYLVANIA TREASURER
Republican: Otto Voit. www.voitforpatreasurer.com
Libertarian: James Babb. www.lp.org

5th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
This is a rematch from 2014.
Democrat: Kerith Strano Taylor. www.kstforcongress.com
Republican: Glenn G.T. Thompson, incumbent. www.friendsofglennthompson.com

PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:
Centre County is split among four State House Districts:
76th: Minority Whip Rep. Mike Hanna, D. vs. Stephanie Borowicz, R.
77th: Rep. Scott Conklin, D., has no opponent.
81st: Richard Rogers, D., vs. Rep. Richard Irvin, R.

BALLOT QUESTION: One amendment to the PA Constitution is proposed. [Another amendment has been advertised in the CDT, but that one would be voted on later if passed by the Legislature.]

Currently the mandatory retirement age for all elected judges is 70. A Yes vote would raise that to 75. A No vote would keep it at 70.

(ELECTION, back page)
AAUW Dollars at Work

Earlier this year, our AAUW State College community grants program, which is administered through the branch’s Philanthropic Priorities and Funds Distribution (PPFD) committee, awarded $84,620 in local grants and projects. Interfaith Human Services received $1,000. We’re pleased to introduce IHS here, along with their new Executive Director Wendy Vinhage, who joined AAUW State College this fall. Wendy is also featured on page 4. Learn more about Interfaith Human Services at http://www.ihs-centrecounty.org/.

Interfaith Human Services

AAUW State College has been supporting IHS’s financial care program for several years. This program helps Centre Countians in need achieve financial stability through education and help with paying bills and getting out of debt.

Nearly 80 people are enrolled in the Financial Care program, and half of them are women. AAUW’s grants help us continue to work one on one with individuals to develop and maintain a balanced budget, pay bills, review spending habits, make recommendations to reduce expenses, and determine long-term goals to help them become financially self-sufficient.

For the majority of the individuals enrolled in our program, we provide individual money management counseling, and act as their representative payee (similar to a financial power of attorney.)

Since our program began in 2007, not a single client has ever had their utilities turned off or were evicted from their homes because of being unable to pay bills. We have AAUW’s support to thank for much of that.

Without essential support from AAUW, we would struggle to provide the same quality of personalized attention to our clients.

Women have been referred to our program because their own family members were taking advantage of them. We also help single mothers who struggle to make ends meet. Many of the women we work with have mental health diagnoses and intellectual disabilities and need a hand to help them take control of their finances.

With AAUW’s support, we will continue to help more low-income families become financially stable and less reliant on other nonprofit and government services that already have limited resources. Thank you, AAUW. We couldn’t help our neighbors without you.

—Wendy Vinhage, IHS Executive Director

Penn State AAUW Students on the Move

Our first project will be a tabling event held at the end of October. Having realized the importance of student participation in the upcoming election and the role that not only the future president but also other federal positions will have in advancing women, Penn State AAUW will have a voter education table. We will offer information on polling locations and the candidates who will appear on the ballot (presidential and non-presidential) as well as a summary of these candidates’ stances on issues of interest to AAUW.

We will also host a monthly roundtable, where students and community members will discuss a topic and learn from each other. Our first roundtable will be in November and is titled Pizza Rolls, Not Gender Roles. We’ll talk about gender roles and the ways in which they manifest themselves on campus, in our culture, and globally.

Keep up with us on Facebook (Penn State AAUW) or on our website: http://pennstateaauw.weebly.com/

—Heather Gardner, President

It was wonderful having four members of the Penn State AAUW student group attend the AAUW State College Centennial Gala, including Katie Pysher, Carly Cherwony, Katelynn Stanley, and Heather Gardner.
In recognition of its 100th anniversary, AAUW State College has established the AAUW State College Centennial Speaker endowment at Penn State. The $100,000 endowment will help underwrite the costs of bringing speakers who have made significant contributions to women’s equity to the Penn State Forum Distinguished Speakers Series.

Connie Wheeler, Centennial Gift Chair, noted that the Branch wanted a gift that would meet AAUW’s mission to advance equity for women and girls, bridge town and gown, and exist in perpetuity. Committee member Sally Kalin added that AAUW’s focus on equity is broad and includes, but is not limited to, educational, socio-economic, health, and legal equity for all.

The endowment and selection of speakers will be managed by the Penn State Forum, which sponsors a series of speakers/luncheons throughout the year that attracts several hundred attendees. Forum chair Lori Bechtel-Wherry is excited about the endowment, commenting, “On behalf of the Forum, I express our appreciation to the AAUW for their historic gift. Their generosity supports our continued focus on the ongoing challenges regarding women’s equity.” AAUW State College Centennial Speakers will maximize their reach by engaging with the university and local community through additional talks and seminars.

More Centennial Gala Memories

CENTENNIAL GIFT PRESENTATION: To commemorate 100 years as a branch, AAUW State College awarded $100,000 to the Penn State Forum Distinguished Speaker Series. Pictured: Connie Wheeler, Centennial Gift Committee Chair; Sally Kalin, AAUW State College Finance VP; Lori Bechtel-Wherry, Penn State Forum Chair; Blannie Bowen, Penn State Forum Administrative Head; Billie Willits, AAUW State College Co-President.

Members Susan Youtz and Linda Higginson revisit times past and present with Blannie Bowen, representing the Penn State Forum. It was fun to see a variety of fashion statements at the gala.

The Centennial Gala evening was made complete with entertainment provided by Fuse Productions, including songs from Cabaret, Camelot, and more. The addition of a musical performance at the Gala was reminiscent of the “musicales” that the branch held as fundraisers from the 1920s—1940s.
**MEMBERSHIP MATTERS!**

**Please Step Up and Spread the Word!**

A note from your Membership Co-Vice Presidents

We need your help in meeting our membership goals. We are asking each AAUW State College Branch member to recruit one new member at the special rate of $37.50.

Please contact your friends, neighbors, and colleagues. There are women in our community that would like to be a part of the effort to advance AAUW’s agenda both locally and nationally. When you ask women to become involved, you are not asking for a donation, you are providing them with an opportunity to help some pretty amazing local women.

Be sure to explain the good AAUW does for all women and how they can become involved immediately. We have a number of exciting programs in the works, like the November 2 Science Pub (page 1) and the Humphrey Fellows Luncheon on January 27. Our Used Book Workshop is another great way to become connected—see notice on back page for details.

When sharing membership info with a potential member, please write your name on the form as the referring member, and use the special $37.50 rate. The membership form is available online at our website (http://www.aauwstatecollege.org/membership2015.pdf). Printed forms are available at the Used Book Workshop. You will be recognized in the next newsletter for your efforts.

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**New Member Spotlight**

**Ann Gray**

*anngray3031@gmail.com*

In January 2016 I retired from Penn State University after 31 plus years in the University Budget Office. During my tenure, I was primarily involved in financial, student and employee data analysis for various state and federal reports, as well as studies for the senior administration. I am looking forward to participating in the AAUW Used Book Sale and other activities which help to promote the advancement of women.

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**Sally Heffentreyer**

*saheff@gmail.com*

Hello! I’m the assistant director for creative services in University Marketing at Penn State. I’ve enjoyed working with talented colleagues during the past 30 years at the university, in both my job and in teaching courses in the College of Communications. That college was called the School of Journalism many years ago when I graduated with a B.A. in journalism. Two months later I landed a job as a newspaper reporter in Pottsville, Pa. Later, I returned to Happy Valley as news adviser at The Daily Collegian, the independent student newspaper. When hired by Penn State after that, I was fortunate to be encouraged to earn an M.A. degree in media studies while working full-time.

I’ve had wonderful volunteer experiences, as a tutor with the Mid-State Literacy Council and with the board of Friends of Schlow Centre Region Library. I’m looking forward to AAUW!

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**Wendy Vinhage**

*wenwills@gmail.com*

Hello, my name is Wendy Vinhage and I am the executive director of Interfaith Human Services. I spent most of my life living near the beaches of the Florida panhandle. After moving to State College in 2010, I became interested in working more with nonprofits. Today, I am happy to work at one that helps low-income families.

For years, AAUW State College has supported Interfaith Human Services’ Financial Care Program, which helps low-income individuals receive one-on-one money management counseling. I am inspired by AAUW’s generosity, providing essential funding for dozens of programs that provide opportunities for women and girls in our community. I am excited to be a member of this amazing organization and look forward to working with AAUW on its many projects.

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**Top Recruiter**

Thank You, Cindy Hall

for recruiting new members since the beginning of September.
October 4 Lunch Brings People and Resources Together

The Cultural Empowerment for Women Luncheon, co-sponsored by the Community Diversity Group and AAUW State College, was held at the Penn Stater on October 4th. Nearly 50 women attended.

After lunch, there was a panel discussion focused on networking opportunities, including taking courses through OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, www.olli.psu.edu), meeting others through culturally based groups, and via https://www.meetup.com/cities/us/pa/state_college/.

Prior to sitting down to eat, the CEW lunches feature a networking time, where attendees have an opportunity to learn more about each other. Above, Naana Nti (left) a CDG and AAUW member along with Della Bubé (right), another AAUW State College member, visit with Sharon Shen, the new Executive Director of Global Connections.

AAUW State College Pitches in for United Way Day of Caring

AAUW State College and Legacy Realty worked together to paint a porch at Centre Furnace Mansion. Standing: Jennifer Karch. Front: Samantha Robinson, Amy Pase, and Christine Bishop.

For the October 6 Centre County United Way Day of Caring, Branch members volunteered around the grounds and inside at Centre Furnace Mansion. They teamed up with Legacy Realty, landlord of the Used Book Workshop. Missing: Mary Atchley, who couldn’t be found when pictures were taken.

Branch member Chriss Schultz dug in and did some garden work.

Naana Nti got down to work cleaning some cupboards.

AAUW State College and CDG member Pat Kephart (right) registers lunch attendees.
**DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

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**MID-STATE LITERACY COUNCIL**

**Literacy Coordinator**

A part-time position is available involving coordination of the literacy program.

**Responsibilities will include:**

- orienting & assessing students
- developing & implementing instructional plans
- training & supporting volunteer tutors

Employee will work 30 hours per week with limited travel to outlying areas. Background in education and valid driver’s license required; knowledge of reading instruction is a plus.

**Submit resume and cover letter to:**

Mid-State Literacy Council—Executive Director
248 Calder Way, Suite 307
State College, PA 16801
mslc@mid-stateliteracycouncil.org

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**Share Your News!**

The story deadline for the next newsletter is **Monday, December 19**. Send to connieschroeder@gmail.com.

Personal news may be sent to Louise Tukey, *Have You Heard* columnist, tukey@psu.edu.

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**Women’s International Night**

**Thursday, November 3**

[http://www.gc-cc.org/events/womens-international-night](http://www.gc-cc.org/events/womens-international-night)

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**Women’s Intercultural Book Groups**


**Check us out!**

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**Barnes & Noble Bookfair**

A percentage of your book purchase will benefit Mid-State Literacy Council!

**Saturday, November 12**

**Barnes & Noble**

365 Benner Pike-State College

**11:00 am - 12:00 pm:**
- Story/Craft Time with Author Jodi Moore and her dragons
- 12:00 pm-12:30 pm: Drum Circle with Jenn & Chris Bittner
- 12:00 pm-2:00 pm: Children’s Maker Activity, with Discovery Space
- 12:30 pm-1:30 pm: Author Event with J.L. Delozier, author of *Type and Cross*

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**Used Book Workshop**

176 Technology Drive, Suite 400
Boalsburg, PA 16827
(814) 466-6041

**Branch Co-Presidents:**
Billie Willits—billieswillits@gmail.com
Alison Franklin—amy125@psu.edu

**Program Co-Vice Presidents**
Dianne Gregg

**Finance Vice-President**
Sally Kalin—sallywkalin@gmail.com

**To renew or update your membership, contact:**
Membership Co-VPs
Connie Schroeder—connieschroeder@gmail.com

**Marketing & Communications VP**
Victoria Sanchez, vsanchez@psu.edu

**State Literacy Council**
Mary Dupuis

**Directions to Workshop:**

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**Madam President**

In 2014, Nikki Gutgold, a Penn State professor and author, wrote *Madam President*, a children's book about five women who paved the way for our having a woman President. This sounds like a wonderful book to share with your children/grandchildren, and it’s available at Webster’s in State College. With this year’s Presidential election, it may be the perfect time to check it out.