



## December Branch Meeting

### Great? Inventions of the Past

Dr. Jerry Colclaser

Thursday, December 8, 2016 9:30 AM

Municipal Meeting Room  
Murrysville Community Library  
4100 Sardis Road

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Invite your friends, neighbors and family members as our December speaker, Dr. Jerry Colclaser, leads us on a humorous tour of the patent process. Dr. Colclaser is a retired professor of electrical engineering at the University of Pittsburgh. He also had a career prior to teaching as an electrical engineer at Westinghouse. During his Westinghouse tenure, he was inventor or co-inventor of 21 patented inventions. He made 56 patent applications to achieve the 21 that were granted. In researching the patent application process, he noticed some pretty wacky items which have received patents. Thus the title of our program.

December's meeting is also the kickoff to the holiday season, so festive cookies, coffee and tea will be served.



 Like us at  
AAUW-Murrysville Branch

#### Snow Policy



If Franklin Regional Schools are cancelled,  
AAUW meetings are cancelled.

## President's Letter

Congratulations on a great Book Sale! Not only did the preparations and sale run smoothly, but we grossed \$700 more than last year. First-time Chair Jane Kerr did a fantastic job keeping us organized, and her enthusiasm was wonderful! Many thanks to the volunteers who worked so diligently during the weeks leading up to the sale, to the sorters who helped arrange and display the books on the tables, and to all those who spent long hours at the sale. And a huge thank you to the three men who emptied the closet for us! The two gift baskets were super, and I hear the winners were thrilled. Thank you again everyone! What a fun and rewarding event.



Our December meeting with Dr. Jerry Colclaser promises to be delightfully entertaining. I hope you all plan to attend. Bring a friend, enjoy some holiday cookies and coffee/tea, and decide if YOU feel some of those past inventions were really great? Or not.

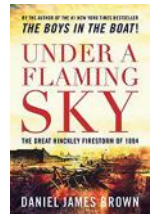
After our many balmy Fall days, it is difficult to think about that white stuff. However, as cold weather approaches, please keep in mind our Snow Policy as highlighted on page one.

Happy Holidays,

Susan Petrie

## Reading for Pleasure

Daniel J. Brown tells the story of the two great forest fires that in 1894 converged on Hinckley, Minnesota. In *Under a Flaming Sky*, the first and only book to chronicle this dramatic story, he recounts the events surrounding the fire. Please join us for our November/December meeting with the discussion led by Annie Rivers at the home of Patti Vargo, 2621 Patrice Dr., Murrysville at 1:00 PM on December 1. Note the late starting time to accommodate the morning Board Meeting. To RSVP either email or call Patti.



Last month at Marge Hanes' house someone left *When Breath Becomes Air*. Contact Marge if it is yours,

Sally Haleen

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## Membership

Welcome to our newest member:

Cynthia Adams

Betty Hollingsworth

## Great Decisions 2017



It's that time of year again when we get a chance to see what's in store for us from the Foreign Policy Association and its GREAT DECISIONS Discussion Program. Now is the time to

sign up for the GREAT DECISIONS 2017 Briefing Book and to start thinking about the topics we will be discussing in the spring.

Once again we will be meeting in the Murrysville Municipal Meeting Room on eight Wednesday mornings from approximately the end of February through April. The exact dates will be announced in 2017. We will meet from 10:00 AM until 11:30 AM. As suggested last spring, if a DVD of documentaries on each topic is offered, we will be playing the appropriate one thirty minutes before the discussion that begins at 10:00 AM.

The discussion topics this year are as follow:

- "The Future of Europe"**
- "Trade and Politics"**
- "Conflict in the South China Sea"**
- "Saudi Arabia in Transition"**
- "U.S. Foreign Policy and Petroleum"**
- "Latin America's Political Pendulum"**
- "Prospects for Afghanistan and Pakistan"**
- "Nuclear Security"**

A short summary of the above topics are available from [fpa.org](http://fpa.org) (Foreign Policy Association) or from a hand-out on the membership table at the Branch meetings. The books come out in January.

If you have any questions, contact Annie S. Rivers.

## 2016 AAUW/Murrysville Community Library Book Sale

I extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you who helped in so many different ways to make our sale a success! I am still in awe of your amazing teamwork in action.

Like that bittersweet moment when we turn the final page of a captivating novel, the Book Sale committee and I have mixed feelings as we are about to close the book on the 2016 Book Sale (more details at the December branch meeting and in the January FOCUS). It was such rewarding fun helping our community, but now we have to wait a year for the next sale.

Oh, but do not despair. As voracious readers, we have already started another captivating "book": the 2017 sale. I look forward to sharing the plans for next year with you!

Jane Kerr  
Chair, Book Sale Committee



Super Sort Day



Book Sale Day

December 2016			
1	Thurs.	9:30 AM	<b>Board Meeting</b> – Municipal Meeting Room† Board Members, please email Susan if you cannot attend.
1	Thurs.	1:00 PM	<b>Reading for Pleasure</b> at the home of Patti Vargo. Please RSVP to Patti if you plan to attend.
2	Fri.	10:00 AM	<b>Duplicate Bridge</b> at the home of Nancy Veyo. Please let her know if you cannot attend.
8	Thurs.	9:30 AM	<b>Branch Holiday Meeting</b> – Municipal Meeting Room† Bring a guest!
12	Mon.		<b>Focus Deadline</b> – Email articles to Donna Beard.
25	Sun.		 
1	Sun.		

† The Municipal Meeting Room is located at the entrance to the Murrysville Community Library, 4100 Sardis Road.



Check out our Facebook page at **AAUW-Murrysville Branch**

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