

FOCUS

Murrysville Area Branch Pennsylvania AAUW

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March 2017



March Branch Meeting The Secret Service, Policing and Fiction JJ Hensley

Thursday, March 9, 2017 9:30 AM

Municipal Meeting Room Murrysville Community Library 4100 Sardis Road

Contents

Branch Meeting	p. 1
President's Letter	p. 2
Reading for Pleasure	p. 2
Service Award	p. 2
Membership	p. 2
Great Decisions	p. 3
Program Planning	p. 3
Tax Deduction	p. 3
Facebook News	p. 4
Problems Solved	p. 4
Calendar	p. 5

Why do we like crime/mystery novels? Do we enjoy the ultimate fast getaway from real life, the chance to solve a puzzle, the thrill of suspense, the engagement with a book that is a page turner? Books written by our guest speaker provide all those things, with a Pittsburgh connection. Author J.J. Hensley is a former police officer and former Special Agent with the U.S. Secret Service. Mr. Hensley's first novel, *Resolve*, was named one of the best books of 2013 by *Suspense Magazine* and was named a finalist for best first novel by the International Thriller Writers organization. Other novels include *Measure Twice* and *Chalk's Outline*. His newest book, *Bolt Action Remedy*, will be published in 2017. Copies of his books will be available for purchase at the meeting, with

payment in cash or check only.
You can find him on Facebook at hensleybooks, follow him on Twitter @JJHensleyauthor or read his Steel City Intrigue blog.











Like us at

AAUW-Murrysville Branch



Snow Policy

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

President's Letter

In spite of snow and change of venue, our February Program on "Islam in America Today" was a great success. Our wonderful speaker gave an excellent presentation, explaining many aspects about Islam. The audience of nearly 70, two-thirds of whom were guests, was thoughtful and attentive. And, the publicity was terrific! Thank you, Susan Greenberg and Michele Clarke.

Our tour to Eighty Acres
Restaurant in mid-February
was such a fun way to
brighten up a dreary month.
Attendees enjoyed some
wonderful wine and food tasting plus some
special time with the chef. Thank you,
Carol Gezon.

We are looking for someone or several people to organize our 45th Anniversary cocktail party on May 21. Please call me soon to volunteer for this fun, short-term job.

Looking forward to hearing JJ Hensley! See you March 9,

Susan Petrie

Reading for Pleasure

In August, 1984, Michigan housewife Betty Mahmoody accompanied her husband to his native Iran for a two week vacation. To her horror, she found that she and four year old daughter, Mahtob, were virtual prisoners in a country where women are near slaves and Americans are despised. Not Without *my Daughter* is a true story of her escape with her daughter after two years of searching for a route to freedom. In 2015, a companion memoir, My Name is Mahtob, was written by her daughter completing her story: escaping from Iran, growing up in fear, battling deadly disease and learning to forgive. It is the story of an extraordinary young woman's triumph over life-crushing trauma to build a life of peace and forgiveness.

Judy Johnson will serve as discussion leader. We are meeting at the home of Nancy Pottmeyer at 10:00 AM. Please RSVP Nancy if you plan on attending.

Sally Hallen

Membership

Welcome to our newest member! Susan Long

To our multitudinous guests from the February meeting: If you are interested in AAUW membership information, please contact me.

Betty Hollingsworth

Community Service Award Nominations

Do you know a person or organization who has provided exceptional service to our community? If you would like to nominate someone or an organization to be our Community Service Honoree, please contact a member of the honoree selection committee by March 31: Chair Sue Hauser, Michele Clarke or Lane Neff. The honoree will be announced at our May meeting.

2017-18 Program Planning

We have had another great year of programs and we are starting to work on the list of ideas for 2017-18. For those unfamiliar with the process of the program development, here is a summary:

- Ideas are sent to the program vice-president who summarizes and collates all the ideas for programs, tours and pop-ups.
- A list is compiled to enable the membership to review and give opinions on the ideas for tours and programs at the May meeting.
- The pop-up ideas are passed to Sue Hauser, our popper upper.
- A committee is formed (all members are welcome to participate) which meets to discuss the list considering the feedback from the May meeting.
- The list is pared down and dates tentatively selected during the program meeting discussion.
- Members of the committee volunteer to follow up on the ideas for each meeting and tour. Program coordinators are assigned to gather the information needed for planning.
- Everything is forwarded to the Program VP who works with the committee to list the final schedule. Significant communication takes place as the year is planned.

Voila!!! We have the great programs we do because of the combined work of many members. Each program or tour coordinator continues to finalize all the details. Written instructions are available to help, and we all help each other.

At this point, if you have any ideas for programs, tours or pop-ups, please forward as much information as you can, including contact information, to Michele Clarke at recfun@comcast.net.

It takes a village to build a great schedule of programs!

Great Decisions 2017



Great Decisions discussions continue with meetings on Wednesday mornings in the Municipal Meeting Room by the entrance to the Murrysville Community Library. A short thirty minute film will be

featured on each topic prior to the meeting. The film is optional for the group. The DVD will be shown at 9:30 AM and the discussion will start at 10:00 AM. The topics will be discussed in the following order:

3/1	"Conflict in the South China Sea" led by Janet Sutton
3/8	"Latin America's Political Pendulum" led by Annie Rivers
3/15	"U.S. Foreign Policy and Petroleum" led by Sue Hauser
3/22	"Saudi Arabia in Transition" led by Susan Greenberg
3/29	"Nuclear Security: The Enduring Challenge of Nuclear Weapons" led by Annie Rivers
4/5	"Prospects for Afghanistan and Pakistan" led by Bjoerg Granger

Please call me if you have any questions.

Annie S. Rivers

Tax Deduction

We pay yearly dues of \$75 – \$49 for the National Association, \$10 for the State Association and \$16 for our branch. Of the \$49 for the National Association, \$46 are tax deductible. Enter this as a 501(c)3 contribution along with other contributions to 501(c)3 corporations. If you have any questions, contact Nancy Veyo,

Facebook News Primer

So many people do not understand how Facebook (FB) works, especially the News Feed. Murrysville AAUW has a FB page and occasionally posts news to keep our members updated. Therefore, we want you to understand how your News Feed gets the information and how you can keep us at the top of your news list.

FACEBOOK News Feed...how does it work? This information is adapted from a FB instructional link. News Feed is the constantly updating list of stories in the middle of your home page. It includes status updates, photos, videos, links, app activity and likes from people, Pages and groups that you follow on Facebook.

First you need to use the search box to find our page (AAUW-Murrysville Branch) and then you need to "like/ friend" the page. And, PLEASE remember to hit "like" under the picture each time we post to continue to see our posts in a timely fashion.

How does News Feed decide which stories to show? Anytime you comment or give a "thumbs up", it is counted as an activity on the link. The stories in your News Feed are influenced by your connections and your activity on Facebook. The number of comments and likes a post receives and what kind of story it is (ex: photo, video, status update) can also make it more likely to appear in your News Feed.

If you feel you're missing stories you'd like to see, or seeing stories in your News Feed that you don't want to see, you can adjust your settings.

Here is how to adjust your news preferences so you can control what you see on your News Feed:

- Click on the three dots to the right of the News Feed words on the upper left.
- Choose preferences
- A list of icons will come up and you can select which ones you want to see "first."
- Please include AAUW-Murrysville Branch.

Problems Solved

We need submissions! So far, I have received only 13 responses. Maybe we don't need a new list? The deadline is March 31. Bring your ideas to the next meeting, email them to me or call me.



Don't worry about categories. Anything goes. We need the name of company or person,

phone number or email, location, any comments, and your name. No limit to number of recommendations!

Possible Categories:

- Auto Maintenance and Service
- Home Maintenance appliance repairmen electricians plumbers carpenters heating and cooling landscaping painters roofers concrete finishers
- Other services
 alterations
 attorneys
 photographers
 piano tuners
 leather repairs
 storage
 veterinarians

Put on your "thinking caps" and let's make this work! Thanks.

Judy Johnson

- Click on the icons for those feeds you wish to see early in your feed. Just chose who you want.
- A blue star will indicate your selections. You can always go back and change them again.

Other tips:

- Under Preferences you can also find a link to "unfollow" or "hide" posts or reconnect. The "unfollowed" do not know that you pushed them out of your consciousness.
- You can also click next to the News Feed line and chose either "top stories" or "recent stories."
- You may need to close out of FB to reset.

Please follow us on Facebook at AAUW-Murrysville Branch.

Michele Clarke

March 2017				
1	Wed.	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Great Decisions – South China Sea – Municipal Meeting Room†	
2	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Board Meeting – Municipal Meeting Room† Board Members, please email Susan if you cannot attend.	
8	Wed.	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Great Decisions – Latin America – Municipal Meeting Room†	
9	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Branch Meeting – Municipal Meeting Room† Bring a guest!	
13	Mon.		Focus Deadline – Email articles to Donna Beard at djbeard2@gmail.com.	
15	Weds.	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Great Decisions – Petroleum – Municipal Meeting Room†	
22	Weds.	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Great Decisions – Saudi Arabia – Municipal Meeting Room†	
23	Thurs.	10:00 AM	Reading for Pleasure will be hosted by Nancy Pottmeyer. If you plan to attend, please RSVP Nancy.	
24	Fri.	10:00 AM	Duplicate Bridge at the home of Sally Haleen. Please let her know if you cannot attend.	
29	Wed.	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Great Decisions – Nuclear Security – Municipal Meeting Room†	

[†] 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

The FOCUS is published monthly, except in July and August, by the Murrysville Area Branch of the American Association of University Women. President: Susan Petrie, Editor: Donna Beard, Email: MurrysvilleAAUW@gmail.com. The American Association of University Women, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate degree or equivalent, or baccalaureate or higher degree from a college or university or academically accredited institution. In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class. Membership is not by invitation. AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education and research. The Murrysville Area AAUW has an affiliate membership available to anyone who does not hold an associate or baccalaureate degree.