



February Branch Meeting
The Innocence Movement
and Prosecutorial Misconduct
Bill Moushey

Thursday, February 13, 2020 9:30 AM
Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room
4100 Sardis Road, Murrysville, PA

Contents

Branch Meeting	p. 1
Presidents' Letter	p. 2
Library Donation	p. 2
Reading for Pleasure	p. 2
In Memoriam	p. 2
Great Decisions	p. 3
Calendar	p. 4




Stories are often seen in our news reports of wrongly convicted, exonerated, freed prisoners. Renowned investigative journalist, William Robert Moushey, Jr. will speak on the topic of 'The Innocence Movement and Prosecutorial Misconduct' at the February 13th Branch meeting.

In his career, Bill Moushey has investigated a wide range of crime and punishment issues. Mr. Moushey, a professor of Journalism at Point Park University, developed and directed the Innocence Institute of Point Park University from 2001-2012. There he devised a journalism reporting curriculum to investigate allegations of wrongful convictions in Western Pennsylvania. More than 100 students participated. 250 stories appeared in the Post-Gazette under his byline, resulting in 17 convictions being overturned.


Mr. Moushey was an investigative reporter for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette from 1986 through 2008, during which time he was a finalist for the 1997 Pulitzer Prize for his expose on the federal witness protection program. In 1997 he was the winner of the coveted National Press Club's Freedom of Information Award.

Our February speaker is the author of the 1998 book, *Win At All Costs*, documenting overzealous prosecutions rising to the level of misconduct and he also wrote the book, *Game Over: Jerry Sandusky, Penn State and the Culture of Silence*.

This program is sure to be insightful and informative. It is free of charge and open to the public. Please join us.

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AAUW-Murrysville Branch

Snow Policy
If Franklin Regional Schools are cancelled,
AAUW meetings are cancelled.
If Franklin Regional Schools are delayed,
AAUW meetings will be held as scheduled.



Presidents' Letter

Welcome to the new year, 2020!

Weren't we lucky to have a snow-free meeting in January? Fifty-four people came to hear Ronald Cowell give a very informative talk about "The Current State of Education in Pennsylvania."

Already the Board is thinking ahead to recruiting officers for next year. We will vote on candidates for President and Secretary in April.

We also need a new Book Sale chair for 2020, who can start in August by forming a steering committee.

The Board position of Hospitality Chair is vacant this year but will be reestablished next year. That person is responsible for planning refreshments for the September Brunch, December Cookies & Hot Beverages and May Salad Luncheon. She may organize a committee to help, if desired. The Chair for our May Salad Luncheon must be selected by the beginning of April. The report from last year's luncheon is available as a guide.

If you are interested in being part of the Board, please talk to Susan or Janet. We welcome new additions to the Board!

Do you know of a special person or organization that has made a significant contribution to our community by volunteering or providing services? Send your nominations for the AAUW Community Service Award in writing to Susan or Janet by February 6.

We look forward to seeing you at our February Branch meeting! Refer to our snow policy on the front page of the Focus if snow is in the air this month.

Susan and Janet
Co-Presidents

Library Donation

Prior to the January branch meeting, our donation check was presented to the Murrysville Community Library. These funds were raised during the November Book Sale.



Reading for Pleasure

The next reading for pleasure will be on Thursday, February 27 at 10 AM. The book selection is *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio. The discussion leader is Judy Johnson and the host is Nancy Pottmeyer. Please RSVP Nancy if you are planning to attend.



Laura Livingston

In Memoriam

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Frank Muzika, brother of member Rose-Marie Muzika.



Great Decisions 2020

Great Decisions 2020 discussion group meetings will begin on February 14, 2020, and will be held every Friday morning from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM through April 3, 2020. The Meetings will be in the Murrysville Community Library Meeting Room. The official Foreign Policy Association Great Decisions DVD will be shown prior to the discussion at 9:30 AM in the same room. Watching the thirty minute DVD and reading the article in the Great Decisions booklet are optional, but highly recommended.



February Schedule

February 14 9:30 AM Climate Change and the Global Order

led by Chuck Greenberg

Climate change has become one of the defining issues of our time. As much of the world bands together to come up with a plan, the U.S. remains the notable holdout. What

is the rest of the world doing to combat climate change? What impact will the effects of climate change have on global geopolitics?

In this election season, being an informed citizen is even more essential. Join in the discussion, or just listen -- all are invited.

Because of the discussion leaders' personal schedules, the topics will not be in the order presented in the briefing booklet. The dates, topics and discussion leaders for February are listed in the next column.

The order of the topics and discussion leaders for March and April will be announced in the March Focus issue.

The following topics still need discussion leaders. Please let Annie or Barb know which discussion you will volunteer to lead.

India and Pakistan

Red Sea Security

U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle

The Philippines and the U.S.

The meetings and the DVD viewings are open to the public. Feel free to bring a friend to any discussion meeting. One does not have to buy a booklet or register to attend any or all meetings.

Great Decisions Co-Coordinators

Annie S. Rivers

Barb Glozik

February 21 9:30 AM

China's Road into Latin America

led by Annie Rivers

As the Trump administration continues to withdraw from the world stage, China is looking to fill the void. How does Latin America fit into China's "One Belt, One Road" plan? How will the relationship with China affect the region? Should the U.S. be concerned about China's growing "sphere of influence?"

February 28 9:30 AM

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

led by Susan Greenberg

Almost every nation has enacted laws criminalizing human trafficking, and international organizations, governments, and NGOs sponsor a large variety of projects to curb trafficking and slavery. Billions of dollars have been allocated to these efforts. What is the international community doing to combat slavery and trafficking? What are the experiences like for those being trafficked?

February 2020

6	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Board Meeting - MCL Meeting Room† Board members please let Susan and Janet know if unable to attend.
13	Thurs.	9:30 AM	Branch Meeting - MCL Meeting Room†.
14	Fri.	9:30 AM	Great Decisions - Climate Change and the Global Order. MCL Meeting Room†
17	Mon.		Deadline to email Focus articles to Donna Beard.
21	Fri.	9:30 AM	Great Decisions - China's Road into Latin America. MCL Meeting Room†
25	Tue.	11:00 AM to 9:00 PM	MCL Dining to Donate at Applebee's
27	Thurs.	10:00 AM	Reading for Pleasure at the home of Nancy Pottmeyer. If you plan to attend, please let Nancy know.
28	Fri.	9:30 AM	Great Decisions - Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking. MCL Meeting Room†
28	Fri.	1:00 PM	Duplicate Bridge at the home of Annie Rivers. If you can not attend, please let Annie know.

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

The FOCUS is published monthly, except in July and August, by the Murrysville Area Branch of the American Association of University Women. Co-Presidents: Susan Petrie and Janet Sutton, 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.