

Presidents' Letter

In the interests of all of our members during the virus pandemic, all AAUW Murrysville Branch activities are cancelled until September, when we hope to bring you time to socialize over brunch and a fascinating speaker. The programs that had been scheduled for April and May this year, have been rescheduled for next year. For now, please follow the CDC guidelines and stay healthy.

The Board had its first online meeting, thanks to help from Diane Conway's son-in-law, Shubankar. At that meeting, we approved the Branch's budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021, approved the revised policy statement, and established an online voting procedure for President and Secretary for 2020-2022. The membership is being asked to vote by email to approve the budget and election of officers.

As we continue to plan for future activities, please consider what topics you would like to have for our programs and tours and send them to our Vice President Diane Conway, dianeconway52@gmail.com. Also, please let her know if you would like to be a coordinator for a program or tour.

Please mail your dues for 2020-21 to Carol Gezon before June 1.

The April Focus showed pictures of the two Westmoreland Heritage Trail markers sponsored by our Branch. If you take a walk on the rail trail, mindful of social distancing, you will see them at 13½ miles and 17½ miles. One is half a mile west of Meadowbrook Road towards Monroeville and the other is near the former Smartie Arties west of Export. The spring flowers are blooming along the rail trail in the Turtle Creek gorge below Meadowbrook Road and also in Duff Park.

Looking forward to getting together during better times ahead,

Janet and Susan



shutterstock.com • 171456133

Vote by Mail



The new Pennsylvania mail-in voting option allows voters to vote by mail without needing a reason, and COVID-19 is reason enough to stay away from the polls. As you are probably aware, the PA primary election has been moved to June 2, so you now have until May 26 to request a mail-in ballot at the web site www.votesPA.com, but don't wait; avoid the rush!

Susan Greenberg,
Public Policy Chair

Not Everything Is Cancelled

SUN is not cancelled.
SPRING is not cancelled.
RELATIONSHIPS are not cancelled.
LOVE is not cancelled.
READING is not cancelled.
DEVOTION is not cancelled.
MUSIC is not cancelled.
IMAGINATION is not cancelled.
KINDNESS is not cancelled.
CONVERSATIONS are not cancelled.
And most of all, HOPE is not cancelled.



Dues in the Time of Coronavirus (Write that check now for 2020-2021)

Yes, things are different this year. Since we will not meet again this Spring, we are requesting you mail in your dues check by June 1, 2020. AAUW operates on a fiscal year of July 1 to June 30, and we have to provide payment for the coming year. Dues remain at \$85 for members and \$25 for affiliates. That breaks down to \$59 for AAUW National dues, \$10 for the State Association, and \$16 for our branch operating budget. Remember \$56 of the National dues is tax deductible because AAUW is a 501(c)3 organization.



We need these checks, made out to AAUW, mailed to Carol Gezon before June 1, 2020, at:

Carol Gezon
3309 Hermar Court
Murrysville, PA 15668

Please also include any changes in address, phone number or email, so that the branch directory may be updated.

If you have questions, email Carol at cwgezon@windstream.net or phone 724-989-9595, or Laura Livingston at livingla@comcast.net or phone 724-331-5773.

Laura Livingston, Membership
Carol Gezon, Finance

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.