



October Branch Meeting

Artificial Intelligence

Dr. James Morris

**Emeritas Professor of Computer Science
Carnegie Mellon University**

Thursday, October 13, 2022 10:00 AM

**TechNook in Murrysville Community Library
4130 Sardis Road
Murrysville, PA**

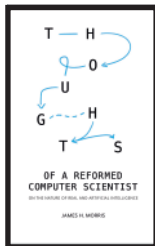
Contents

Branch Meeting	p. 1
President's Letter	p. 2
Reading for Pleasure	p. 2
Directory	p. 2
New Officers	p. 2
Book Sale	p. 3
Voting	p. 4
Membership	p. 4
In Memoriam	p. 4
Calendar	p. 5

Artificial Intelligence -- we hear those words frequently now, but what do we know about it? Professor Morris has seen the evolution and development of Artificial Intelligence over his long career and is uniquely qualified to discuss it. He will provide his views on several questions such as: How did Artificial Intelligence start in the 1950's? What can it do today? What are its benefits and drawbacks? How can we control its future?

Dr. Morris is a native of Pittsburgh and had a sixty-year career in computer science spanning his time as a student at Carnegie Tech and MIT, as a faculty member at Carnegie Mellon and Berkeley, and as an innovator in computer science and artificial intelligence (AI), including work at the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center where he was part of the team that developed the Alto System, a precursor to today's personal computers. For five years, he directed the Information Technology Center at Carnegie Mellon, a joint project with IBM which developed a prototype university computing system, *Andrew*. From 1992 to 2004 he served as department head, then dean in the School of Computer Science. He held the Herbert A. Simon Professorship of Human Computer Interaction from 1997 to 2000. He also founded Carnegie Mellon's Human Computer Interaction Institute, Robot Hall of Fame and the Silicon Valley Campus. From 2004 to 2009 he was the dean of the Silicon Valley campus.

Prof. Morris has written a memoir: *Thoughts of a Reformed Computer Scientist on the Nature of Real and Artificial Intelligence*, available from Amazon.



President's Letter

In preparing for October's Reading for Pleasure discussion of Denise Kiernan's epic *The Last Castle* which chronicles the life of the Vanderbilts and the construction of the Biltmore mansion, I found myself thinking how much our AAUW statement of purpose stands true as a reflection of that era and a beacon to guide us forward.

Our founders stated as their purpose in the 1881 By-Laws, "The Association shall develop a program to enable college graduates to continue their own intellectual growth, to further the advancement of women, and to discharge the special responsibilities to society of those who have enjoyed the advantages of higher education."



Edith Dresser Vanderbilt bloomed in her service to others at the Biltmore. Having an almost feudal sense of noblesse oblige and a generous heart, Edith started a school for the

domestic arts, a Boys' Brigade, a Young Men's Institute for the black community, a hospital, and a craft education program which evolved into Biltmore Industries.

Just as Edith served at a time when America's richest families profited extravagantly, income equality grew wider, and social pressures began to shred the fabric of society, we, too, live in an era of cultural upheaval. We also have the opportunity – and the obligation – to fulfill the purpose of our original charter. Through our commitment to providing intellectually stimulating and diverse programming for the entire community, to promoting life-long learning through our support of the Murrysville Community Library, and to encouraging reading through our annual Book Sale, our book group, and our annual donation of books to elementary children, we continue on the path set for us over one hundred years ago.

Diane Kaufmann

Coming Your Way

The updated 2022-2023 Branch Directory will be emailed to you after receiving Board approval in early October. Check your email inbox before our Branch meeting on Thursday, October 13th. Don't forget, you can download the Directory to your iPad or smartphone so that it is always at hand.

Diane Kaufmann



Reading for Pleasure

Reading for Pleasure will meet Thursday, October 27 at the home of Carol Gezon at 10:00 AM. We will review *The Last Castle* by Denise Kiernan. See you there.



Bethia Schulz.



2022-2023 Branch Officers
from left to right: Sally Haleen,
Diane Kaufmann, Diane Conway,
Susan Petrie and Carol Gezon

Book Sale

at Murrysville Community Library

Thursday, November 10 **9:30 - 5:00**
Friday, November 11 **9:30 - 5:00**
Saturday, November 12 **9:30 - 3:00**

As stated in the September Focus, we are having a semi-annual used book sale (UBS) at the Murrysville Community Library (MCL) in November. The Library staff are willing to do the heavy lifting and moving of boxes, but we need AAUW volunteers to help cull and sort throughout October until November 9th; help the Library staff set-up the UBS; and then work the three days of the UBS.

Books will be sorted as to **fiction, non-fiction,** and **children's** with extra boxes for the trash or Half Price Books (HPB). Betty Hollingsworth is the person to contact for sorting and culling.

Set-up Day is Wednesday, November 9th. We need volunteers to take the books out of the boxes and place them on the appropriately designated tables. Then on Thursday and Friday we need volunteers from nine to five (Library hours and the UBS are 9:30-5:00) and on Saturday we need volunteers to work the UBS from nine to three. (Library hours and UBS are 9:30-3:00) Take-Down will be from 3:00 to 4:00 or so on Saturday. At that time we need volunteers to fill boxes of any unsold items and volunteers members willing to have boxes of unsold books loaded into their car trunks to take to Half Price Books within the following days.

We all need to work together on this important fundraiser which benefits our Murrysville Community Library and our Murrysville Area AAUW programming. NO HEAVY LIFTING is required but your time and participation is greatly appreciated.

Annie S. Rivers



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sign-up Coordinator
Betty Hollingsworth

Volunteers for Culling Books
Saturdays During October until Set-up Day

Set-up Volunteers
Wednesday, Nov. 9 **3 - 5**

Volunteers During the Sale
Thursday, Nov. 10 **9 - 1 and 1 - 5**
Friday, Nov. 11 **9 - 1 and 1 - 5**
Saturday, Nov. 12 **9 - 1 and 1 - 3**

Take-down Volunteers
Saturday, Nov. 12 **3 - 5**

Drivers to take books to Half Price Books

Saturday after the sale closes
During the following week
Drivers must be willing to go to HPB;
wait at HPB for book sale to be processed;
and contact Annie Rivers afterwards
to come collect the proceeds.

Please contact Betty Hollingsworth (above) to sign up for your desired job(s) and time slot(s).



General Election Voting Information

The following is some basic background information about the coming election:

Westmoreland County Election Bureau
2 N Main Street, Ste 109
Greensburg, PA 15601
Phone: (724) 830-3150

Allegheny County Election Office
542 Forbes Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: (412)350-4500
www.alleghenycounty.us/elections

Important Deadlines:

Registration deadline: October 28
Mail and absentee ballot deadlines:
Request a ballot: November 1
Return ballot: November 8 by 8 pm

First-time voters: photo ID required
Student ID with photo is accepted

Who can vote:

18 years of age by voting day, Nov. 8
At least 30 day resident of Election District
Citizen of the US for at least a month

PA new state voting districts:
most of our members in Murrysville area are in
#55 and #56 for PA House; #39 for PA Senate.

PA Congressional district:
#12, including part of Allegheny and western part
of Westmoreland County.

For all election information, go to:
www.vote.pa.gov

Susan Greenberg
Public Policy Chair

Membership

Our September meeting got off to a great start with 21 members and 11 guests attending. It was good to see so many people there to hear the wonderful talk about Albert Galletin. Many of the guests were there because they were invited by friends. That is wonderful! I hope this continues!

Welcome to our newest member, Dana Nelson! Please be sure and greet her at the next meeting. You will recognize her by the blue ribbon holding her name tag. The board decided to have all new members wear blue ribbons so we can recognize them and greet them. Great idea!

See you all at the next meeting!

Sally Haleen
Membership VP


In Memoriam

Lavina (Vee) Wood, former member, passed away in September.

Marian Weihe, former member and a past president, passed away in August.



October 2022

6	Thurs.	9:45 AM	Board Meeting - MCL Meeting Room† Board members please let Diane Kaufmann know if unable to attend.
13	Thurs.	10:00 AM	Branch Meeting - TechNook† in the Murrysville Community Library, 4130 Sardis Road.
17	Mon.		Deadline to email Focus articles to Donna Beard
27	Thurs.	10:00 AM	Reading for Pleasure at the home of Carol Gezon. If you plan to attend, please let Carol know.
28	Fri.	9:30 AM	Duplicate Bridge at the home of Carol Gezon. If you plan to attend, please let Carol know.
31	Sun.		Happy Halloween 

† The Murrysville Community Library (MCL) Meeting Room is located at the entrance to the Murrysville Community Library, 4130 Sardis Road. The TechNook is located in the main library room just before the main stacks.

The FOCUS is published monthly, except in July and August, by the Murrysville Area Branch of the American Association of University Women. President: 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.