

Coming Branch Events
Mark Your Calendar

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TODAY! (February 3), 11:30 am-1:30 pm

To attend via Zoom: <https://bit.ly/4av11c5>

Join the All-Member Town Hall

As a follow-up to its October 2024 retreat, our Strategic Plan Implementation Task Force will hold a “Town Hall” for all branch members. It will be held at the College Township Building, 1481 East College Avenue (upstairs) on **Monday, February 3, 2025, 11:30 am-1:30 pm**. Bring a lunch!

The task force promises a fun and interactive session that will examine key branch priorities, such as branch financial support, succession planning, communications for today and tomorrow. ALL members encouraged to participate!

From Waste to Well-Being: Empowering Change Through Food Recovery

Thursday, February 20, 6:30-7:30 pm

This program is the story of feeding a community: how Penn State students are turning food



waste into donated meals. **Adeline Peat** and **Anna Janaszek** are senior nutrition majors at Penn State who are a bold example of how two women’s leadership is making a positive difference.

Adeline and Anna noticed the large number of unserved meals from dining halls on campus and decided to do something about it. In 2023, with the help of a couple of friends, they launched the Food Recovery Network at Penn State, which is now a student organization with 40 members. This program will be held in the **Schlow Centre Region Library Community Room**. **Learn more:** PSU Food Recovery Network

Share flyer: <https://bit.ly/3BOZeli> **RSVP Today:** programs@aauwstatecollege.org

--Betsy Manlove and Rennee Cloutier, AAUW State College Branch Co-Vice Presidents

MEMBERSHIP FOCUS

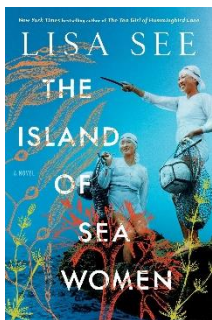
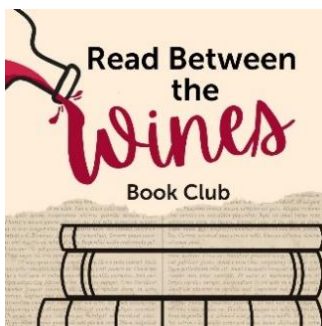
January 14 ReGift Party Revisited



It was fun finding that unexpected gem! Gifts ranged from surprising, wonderful, and quirky. **Pictured left to right:** *Laura Miller, Grace Hamilton, Virginia Luehrsen, Laurel Zydney, Carline Crevecoeur, Susan Chyczewski, Carol Hodes.*

Several AAUW State College members extended the good vibes of the holidays a little longer by coming together last month for a ReGift Party.

Branch Membership Co-VP Carline Crevecoeur hosted the event. She reports that a good time was had by all.



Join us for *Read Between the Wines*: Tuesday, March 11, 5:30 pm, Location TBD

For our next *Read Between the Wines*, we will read *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. A work of historical fiction, this book explores “complexities of female friendship and an eye-opening portrait of a country ravaged by decades of conflict and unrest.”

More: [The Island of Sea Women](#)

We will also have a brief discussion on *The Personal Librarian*, to tie in with our visit to the Morgan Library & Museum in April (see page 3). The location of the gathering will be provided when you RSVP to membership@aauwstatecollege.org.



Time to renew your AAUW membership?

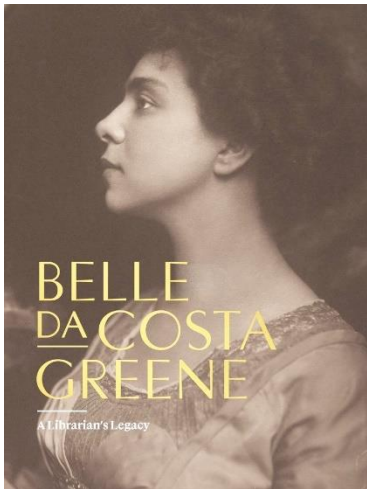
Time to renew your AAUW membership? Members receive an email renewal notification from AAUW the month prior to their renewal date.

RENEW ONLINE through AAUW National – respond to the email reminder from National or go to [AAUW Membership](#) on National’s webpage where you will be asked to reset your password.

RENEW BY MAIL – go to bit.ly/AAUWSCMembership and click on “Join by Mail” at the page bottom. Print the form and send with a check to address listed.

QUESTIONS? Contact Membership VPs **Susan Chyczewski** and **Carline Crevecoeur** at membership@aauwstatecollege.org.

**Tuesday, April 22, Bus Trip to NYC to see the
Morgan Library & Museum Exhibition:
Belle da Costa Greene, A Librarian Legacy
Send your reservation today.**



Plans continue to formulate for our Fullington bus trip to **New York City on April 22, 2025**. The trip coincides with the 100th anniversary of the [Morgan Library & Museum](#). Our primary interest is the [Belle Greene Exhibit](#), featuring the life of J.P. Morgan’s personal librarian. The Morgan describes this exhibit as the most important one of their centennial year.

A few years ago, we learned about Belle da Costa Greene when we read *The Personal Librarian* in our *¡Adelante!* book group. It described the true story of Belle, a woman of color, passing as a white woman to achieve success in the art and literary world. Next month, our *Read Between the Wines* book group will discuss the book (page 2), as we gear up for the trip.

There will be time to explore New York City on your own after we visit the Greene exhibit and other parts of the library/museum. The area adjacent to the library is a wonderful place to dine, shop, and more. The library/museum tour will run 1-2 hours.

We secured a fabulous rate of \$60 per person for the bus. The library admission cost is \$25 for adults and \$17 for seniors (65 and older).

The cost of meals is on your own. In next month’s *Branch Bulletin*, there will be information provided on meal stops, the day’s schedule, and other logistics. Stay tuned!

We are now accepting reservations and payment for the trip. Please send in your check today for the bus and admission fee combined—either \$85 for adults or \$77 for seniors. Mail your check, made out to “SCAUW, Inc.” (just one “A”), with your name, phone number, and email, to AAUW State College, Box 735, State College, PA 16804. Starting in March, if seats are available, guests will also be welcome. The registration deadline is when the bus reaches its capacity of 54 people.

Questions? Email membership@aauwstatecollege.org.

Cheer on the Lady Lions Basketball Team, Thursday, February 27



Support women-led teams! Join branch member **Carolyn Donaldson** at the Penn State Lion’s basketball game against the Purdue Boilermakers on February 27. It is a 6:00 start at the Bryce Jordan Center, and the first three people to respond are invited to attend *for free!*

These three free tickets are courtesy of Carolyn, with seats right behind Coach C. Contact membership@aauwstatecollege.com for your ticket today. Additional tickets can be purchased for seats in the same section—see bit.ly/3EgQoOk to purchase. ALL attendees are invited to a meet-and-greet with the coach and players. Thank you, Carolyn!

Explore Branch Engagement Opportunities



Whether you are a longtime member or have joined the branch recently, if you are not currently “engaged” with the branch, or would like to shift directions, check out the list of engagement opportunities today: [ENGAGEMENT](#)

--Carline Crevecoeur and Susan Chyczewski, AAUW State College Membership Co-Chairs

DIVERSITY



National Day of Racial Healing brings out a crowd in State College

For the second year and with a proclamation (left) from Mayor Ezra Nanes, the second *National Day of Racial Healing State College* took place on January 28. The event was held across the country, inspired by the Kellogg Foundation. Lunch was provided and followed by facilitated discussions.

Above: Tonya Black, Director of DEI for SCASD, speaks with Amber Concepcion, Centre County Commissioner.

The event brought together about 90 community members, committed to building a just and equitable society that values, respects, and empowers all people. AAUW State College served as lead co-sponsor along with the Community Diversity Group and the State College Borough.

Branch holds final *International Perspectives on Women in Society* with the Humphrey Fellows

The *International Perspectives on Women in Society* program, featuring two Penn State Humphrey Fellows, held January 29, was well received. The program was moderated by branch member **Carolyn Donaldson**. Speakers included **Nauzika Kovacs** from Hungary and **Kallaya Tantiyaswasdikul** from Thailand. Recollections of their personal and professional lives in their home countries were informative and, at times, inspiring.



Left to right: AAUW State College members Carolyn Donaldson and Maria Schmidt; Humphrey Fellows Arevik Petrosyan, Karla Miranda, Nauzika Kovacs, Kallaya Tantiyaswasdikul; AAUWSC members Angela Hughes (rear), Sally Kalin, Naana Nti, Christine Bishop, Carol Hodes, and Sue Johnston. **Branch members not pictured:** Sherry Crassweller, Suzanne Kerlin, Nancy Weinreb.

With the Penn State Humphrey Fellows program slated to end this year, 2025 marks the 13th and final year of this annual program. It will surely be missed in the future.

Penn State celebrates Black History Month, including February 5-8 African American Music Festival



Hosted by the Penn State School of Music, the festival celebrates the rich cultural heritage of African American music and will showcase African American musical traditions, including spirituals, blues, jazz, and contemporary works.

Learn more: [February 5-8 Music Festival](#) All events: [PSU Black History Month](#)

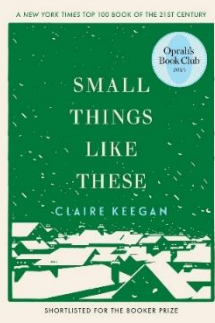


Tuesday, March 4, Cultural Empowerment for Women Lunch & Program, 11:30 am-2:00 pm

Let's Talk About What We Don't Talk About: Navigating Mental Health is the theme of the March CEW Lunch. It will be held at the Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center. The cost for lunch is \$20 by mail (make out checks to

“Community Diversity Group”) and reservations are **due February 25**. You can pay **\$22** online or at the door but must RSVP by **February 25th**. Register Today: bit.ly/4hvZWmC

¡Adelante! Book Club: Thursday, March 20, 2:30 pm, via Zoom



Join us for our virtual book club on March 20, when we will read ***Small Things Like These*** by Claire Keegan. It is a New York Times bestseller that was shortlisted for the 2022 Booker Prize, and a winner of the Orwell Prize for Political Fiction. *¡Adelante!* group leader Sophie Penney Leach reports that there are six copies of the book in Schlow Library, and it is also available for Kindle or as an audio book. **Meeting link:** bit.ly/AdelanteBookClub
Meeting ID: 815 5138 0837; **Passcode:** 410856

Diversity Committee: *Naana Nti (Chair), Carline Crevecoeur, Denise Rupert, Malu Tejada, Sophie Penney Leach, Maria Schmidt, and Carmen Vanderhoof*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Community Outreach: sharing our story



Last month, we welcomed the opportunity to share our community outreach in the *Centre Daily Times*, via their regularly scheduled *Helping Hands* column. As we prepare for this May's 63rd AAUW State College Used Book Sale, it is more important than ever to share the story of where book sale dollars go. Special thanks to Communications Team member **Dina Liberatore** for a terrific summary: [1-29-2025 CDT Helping Hands Column](#).

Meet an AAUW State College STEM grant recipient:



Saturday, February 15, Empower Conference

The Penn State Empower Conference, sponsored by GWIS (Graduate Women in Science) is a recipient of an AAUW State College STEM grant that helps fund conference expenses.



The conference features well-known and influential voices in the STEM fields to share, inspire, and network. Branch STEM Co-Chair **Carol-Beth Book** reports that while most of the attendees are graduate students, it is open to high schoolers

through professionals and retirees, and only costs about \$6 for non-Penn State students. Learn more: <https://empowerpsu.wixsite.com/empower-conference>.

We will invite participants to our May book sale, and hope that many will be able to join us as volunteers and/or shoppers there. **Share Flyer:** [February 15 Empower Conference flyer](#)

Branch undergraduate scholarship applications sought through March 31



AAUW State College Scholarship Chair **Leslie Laing** reports that applications for 2025 branch undergraduate scholarships will be accepted through **March 31**. Interested applicants may apply at <https://www.grantinterface.com/sl/bJCRww>.

Approximately four recipients will be selected. Scholarships range from **\$3,000 to \$7,000**, depending on the financial need and circumstances of the recipients. For additional scholarship information and eligibility criteria: [AAUWSC Scholarships](#).

BOOK WORKSHOP & SALE

Getting ready for May 17-20 AAUW State College Used Book Sale



WORKSHOP - Closing date to be announced this month

After steady work by volunteers for almost nine months, the days of accepting books for the sale, along with sorting and pricing them, are coming to a close.

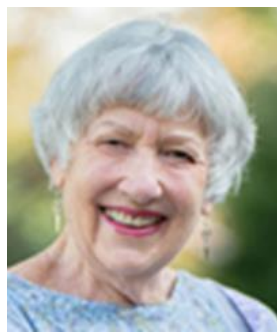
Thousands of boxes of books, packed and ready for the sale, are their own reward, but we still owe heartfelt thanks to *all* of the volunteers who have attended weekly. And we could not run the workshop without faithful leadership there, and that includes **Dina Liberatore** (Monday nights), and **Sherry Crassweller** and **Suzanne Kerlin** (Tuesdays and Wednesdays).



Dina Liberatore



Sherry Crassweller



Suzanne Kerlin



Mary Ann Blair



Donna Trapp

Next time you see our workshop leaders and sale chairs, make sure to tell them thank you.

SALE - Used Book Sale volunteer scheduling to begin this month

Used Book Sale Chair **Donna Trapp** shares that she will be sending out the volunteer sign-up form shortly, starting with those who have volunteered previous years. Branch members will be notified ahead of community volunteers. Questions? Contact [Donna Trapp](#) today.

AAUW BEYOND THE BRANCH

Branch to host AAUW Pennsylvania summer retreat June 27-28, 2025



AAUW State College is hosting the AAUW Pennsylvania Summer Retreat on June 27-28. It will be held at the Wyndham Hotel in Boalsburg. AAUW members representing 30+ AAUW branches from around the state will attend. Friday evening will feature a “meet and greet,” and we hope to also lead a tour of a local landmark or two. Saturday will feature workshops, networking, and more. For now, mark your calendar to attend. Visit <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/meetings/retreat/> for updates.

2026 AAUW Atlantic Regional Conference to be held in Lancaster



AAUW Pennsylvania is confirmed to host of the 2026 AAUW Atlantic Regional Conference in Lancaster, Pa. It will be held at the Lancaster County Convention Center Marriott Hotel on **September 25-27, 2026**.

The AAUW Atlantic Region includes 13 states on the eastern seaboard, presenting a wonderful opportunity to learn and network with AAUW members from diverse settings. Stay tuned!

BRANCH BEHIND-THE-SCENES

NOMINATIONS

Branch Nominations & Elections Committee for 2025-2027 underway

The work of the Nominations & Elections Committee, charged with filling open officer positions for the coming cycle (2025-2027) is about to begin. Thank you to **Nina Cowart, Candace Davison, Dina Liberatore, and Vasundara Varadan**, who

have volunteered to serve on the committee. Once the group selects their chair and determines which current officers will not be remaining in their positions, they will begin the process of contacting branch members who may be interested in branch leadership.

Please review the following listing – [Officer Positions 2025-2027](#) - and ask yourself if you would like to join the officer team. Then, you will be ready, should a committee member contact you. Nominations of others as well as self-nominations are welcome and will be kept confidential. Stay tuned for queries over the coming month.

Monthly board meetings open to membership



Branch board meetings are open to *all members* and are a great way to learn about what is going on and to offer your input. To catch up on branch business, review the minutes from the last board meeting: [January 13, 2025 board meeting minutes](#).

The next board meeting will take place via ZOOM **Monday, February 10, 2025, 11:30 am–1:00 pm**. Meeting link: www.bit.ly/AAUWSCBoardMtg



Branch Bulletin dates

The next *Branch Bulletin* will be issued **March 3**. The submission deadline is **Monday, February 24**. Please send items to editor [Connie Schroeder](#).