

Coming Branch Events

September 11
Member potluck.....1

September 16-18
View/discuss “Sinners”1

September 18
¡Adelante! Book Club.....5

September 24
Book-Bees in MSLC spelling bee.....7

October 13
AAUW-sponsored Forum Lunch.....2



Thursday, September 11 AAUW State College Member Potluck

5:30-7:30 pm, Tudek Park

The time is here to reconnect with branch members and greet new members, at our fall Member Potluck on **Thursday, September 11, 5:30-7:30 pm**. It will be held at [Tudek Park Pavillion #1](#), 400 Herman Drive, off Martin Street in State College, the pavilion on the left that is just behind the restrooms.

Bring your favorite dish, salad, or dessert to share; that is all. We will provide paper products and beverages. **Sign-up here today:** bit.ly/4mWmno6.

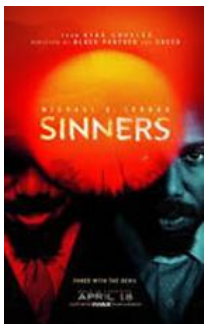
Half-Price Membership for new members who join at the potluck

Invite a friend or colleague to come with you, as a potential AAUW member. If they join the branch at the potluck, their membership dues will be half-price for the first year.

Share this link: bit.ly/AAUWSCMembership.

—Renee Cloutier & Betsy Manlove, Program VPs

September 16-18 Event – *Sinners* watch party & related discussion



Great news! The branch Membership Committee is hosting an outdoor showing of the recently released movie ***Sinners*** on **Tuesday, September 16, 6:00-8:30 pm**, at Carline Crevecoeur’s home. If it rains, it will move inside. Rated 97% by [Rotten Tomatoes](#), the film is set in 1932 in the Mississippi Delta, starring criminal twin brothers who return to their hometown to start over.

On **Thursday, September 18, 6:00-7:30 pm**, we will meet at Foxdale Village, (second floor Meeting Room) with our guest speaker, the Reverend Kevin Barron, to analyze the rich cultural history of African Americans, Chinese, and Irish communities as depicted in *Sinners*—exploring the subtle but significant ways these narratives were portrayed. **RSVP for both nights:** membership@aauwstatecollege.org.

PENN STATE FORUM

AAUW State College-sponsored Penn State Forum Lunch & Program



Monday, October 13, 11:30 am-1:00 pm

With Caroline Fitzgerald: *Barbie, Beyoncé, Taylor Swift, and the Inevitable Prosperity of Women's Sports*

Tickets available now!

Caroline Fitzgerald has been selected as the AAUW State College-sponsored Penn State Forum speaker scheduled for **October 13 at the Penn Stater, Deans Hall**. Caroline is the Founder and CEO of GOALS—a consultancy and media platform dedicated to growing women's sports. She has dedicated her career to empowering individuals through innovative approaches for personal and professional development.

The examples of Barbie, Beyoncé, and Taylor Swift have undeniably proven that when women consumers are prioritized, profits soar. And when it comes to an entertainment product, women's sports are perfectly positioned to serve an historically underserved female audience. This talk will make “the business case for women's sports” and discuss how women's sports are at a tipping point and are poised for incredible growth ahead.



GOALS is a transformative organization focused on leadership coaching, skill-building, and goal setting. “*The stories are all too common: pay gaps on and off the field, exploitation, lower endorsements, poor facilities, lack of coverage; the list is endless.*” Caroline's work has made a significant impact on youth empowerment, corporate leadership, and community development. Her unique perspective on mindset and performance has earned her recognition as a thought leader in personal development.

Purchase your ticket today: https://aauwstatecollege.org/lectureship_women_leaders/

PUBLIC POLICY

Public Policy Primer Look-Back

At the August 13 *Public Policy Primer*, held at Foxdale Village, Public Policy Co-Chair **Dianne Gregg** discussed the significance of the 2025 Pennsylvania Supreme Court retention vote. The three judges who will be up for retention have supported issues related to the AAUW's

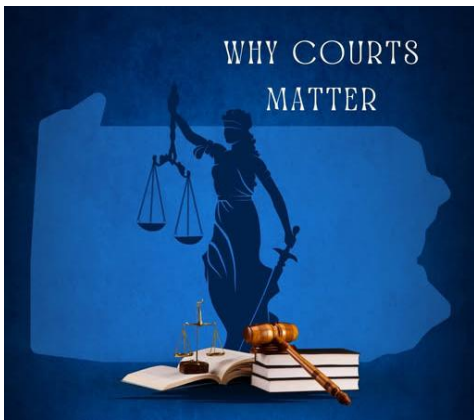
mission. Dianne encouraged members to familiarize themselves with the issues at stake, and to support all three incumbent candidates for judicial retention in November.



Kat Miller spoke about several avenues for contacting potential voters and encouraging turnout for odd-year and midterm elections, including VoteForward (<https://vote fwd.org/>) and Postcards to Voters (<https://postcardstovoters.org/>). They also reviewed how applications such as 5Calls (<https://5calls.org/>) make it easy to contact the offices of our elected representatives. The goodsuniteus.com website was mentioned as a way of searching a brand to see its' politics. While the AAUW is a nonpartisan organization, members were encouraged to speak up about the issues affecting education, equity, the wage gap, and more.

Above: New member Kat Miller shared information on being in touch with elected officials. Here is a link to Kat's presentation: [8-2025 Public Policy Primer](#).

League of Women Voters Centre County to Host *Why Courts Matter*



Tuesday, September 2, 7:00 pm
Foxdale Village Auditorium

The League of Women Voters of Centre County and Foxdale Village will host an evening with former Centre County Judge Thomas Kistler titled *Why Pennsylvania Courts Matter* on Tuesday, September 2, 7 pm at the Foxdale Village Auditorium (500 E. Marylyn Ave, State College). The event is open to the public. Registration is not required. To attend via Zoom, contact lwvcentrecounty@gmail.com for the link.

With five statewide judges up for retention votes on this November's ballot, it is a critical time to understand the court system in Pennsylvania and how it affects citizens' lives. Thomas Kistler, now a Senior Judge for Pennsylvania courts, will provide an overview of our state's court system and answer live and zoom audience questions.

LWVCC hopes this community event will help voters learn about the Pennsylvania Court system, and the Judge Retention votes on the ballot November 4, 2025.

A Pennsylvania judge is first elected in a partisan race, then is on the ballot for retention at the end of their term. The non-partisan retention vote (judges are not identified by party on this ballot) is either a YES to retain, or a NO to not retain. Retained judges continue to serve, and

face retention votes until their retirement. Judges not retained will finish their term, and then the Governor appoints a new judge to serve until the next odd-year election.

Join the Constitution Day *Centre Celebration*

Saturday, September 20, 10 am-2:30 pm



Making Our Voices Heard, Roundtable Discussion

The Centre County Constitution Day Celebration will be held on Saturday, September 20 at the Delta High School on Westerly Parkway, State College. There will be deliberative roundtables on issues of importance to our democracy.

David Hutchinson, Constitution Day Chair, explains that attendees will be asked to address several foundational questions: What values do Americans share? What could we do to make our political conversations more productive? How might the Bill of Rights be adapted for today? These are not questions with easy or simple answers. The U.S. Constitution remains the practical framework for how our democracy functions. But the leaders of that era could not have anticipated everything, and they knew that important issues were being left for future generations to resolve. Trained moderators who will ensure that every voice is heard, and will be shared with both the community and our elected officials.

There is no cost to attend and walk-ins will be welcome but registration is preferred. Sign up today: <https://wpsu.psu.edu/constitutionday/>. Share flyer: www.constitutiondaycentre.org/.

BRANCH COMMITTEES

Engage with branch by becoming active on a committee!



If you are not currently “engaged” with the branch, or would like to shift directions, check out the full list of engagement opportunities through branch committees, and more: [ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#).

Most of the committees/activities on the Engagement Opportunities list are in need of new members and all welcome your interest! They look forward to hearing from you.

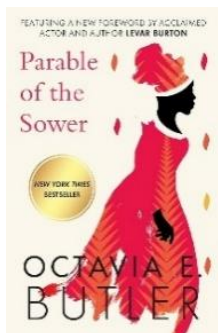
Ongoing meetings – The following committees have regularly scheduled meetings:

- **Diversity** –Meets the third Friday of every month for coffee and conversation, 9-10 am at Kitchen Garden (in the Hills Plaza on South Atherton Street). Contact Naana Nti, diversity@aauwstatecollege.org.

- **Programs** – Meeting virtually September 18, 8-9 am. Starting October, meets every other month on the 3rd Thursday, 8–9 am. Contact Renee Cloutier and Betsy Manlove, programs@aauwstatecollege.org, for meeting link.
- **STEM** – Meets virtually on Mondays, 4-5 pm. Contact Carol-Beth Book and Michele Crowl, stem@aauwstatecollege.org, for meeting link.
- **Technology** – Meeting virtually Tuesday, September 16, 3-4 pm, with a focus on gmail for beginners through intermediate learners. Starting October, meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 3-4 pm. Contact Angie Hughes, technology@aauwstatecollege.org, for the meeting link.
- **Walk & Talk** – Meets Tuesdays and Thursdays through October, 7:30–8:30 am, Boalsburg Military Museum. Invite others to join us! Contact Carline Crevecoeur, membership@aauwstatecollege.org, if weather is in question.

DIVERSITY

Join ¡Adelante! Book Club: Thursday, September 18, 2:30 pm



Join us virtually on September 18 when we discuss *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia Butler. It is a 1993 speculative fiction novel by Octavia Butler, set in “a post-apocalyptic Earth heavily affected by climate change and social inequality.” **More:** [Parable of the Sower](#). **Questions?** [Sophie Penney Leach](#).

Meeting link: bit.ly/AdelanteDiversityBookClub.

Additional meeting dates and selected books: **November 20**—*Becoming Ms. Burton* by Susan Burton and Cari Lynn; **January 15**—*Babel* by R.F. Kuang.

E is for Equity



Continuing our series on DEIB, this month we are looking at Equity. Equity is to ensure fair treatment for everyone. We all should be given the same opportunities and the resources we need to use those opportunities. At our metaphorical dinner party, Diversity is everyone getting a chair; Equity is everyone getting a chair where they can see and reach. A key takeaway is not to confuse Equity and Equality. This short video from Keith Scott explains the difference between the two: [What Is Equality vs. Equity? | Keith Scott](#).

Mark your calendar for a **November 20 panel discussion on diversity** during the branch meeting. See how DEIB supports our mission in the [2025 AAUW Strategic Plan](#).

—Branch Diversity Committee: Naana Niti (Chair),
Carline Crevecoeur, Sophie Penney Leach, Denise Rupert, Maria Schmidt

MEMBER FOCUS



We are happy to introduce new branch members **Kathryn Grossman and Carmen Miller**. Welcome!



Kathryn Grossman — kmg2@psu.edu

I am a retired French professor and Victor Hugo scholar, with interests in both the utopian/dystopian dimensions of his novels and their popular adaptations. Though no longer in the classroom, I continue to pursue my research and occasionally engage in public commentary on current events.

Besides long daily nature walks with my German shepherd, I enjoy reading, traveling with my spouse and teenage granddaughters (now devoted Francophiles!), and supporting my friends, church family, and a wide range of social and environmental causes.



Carmen Miller — carmenmiller007@yahoo.com

Hello, I am Carmen Miller. I hold a degree in journalism and ESL from Vasile Goldis University of Arad in my home country of Romania. While there, I served as editor-in-chief of a children's magazine, and authored three books. I am also very interested in iconography and have toured various European countries with exhibitions on this topic.

As a proud mother of three, one of whom is on the autism spectrum, I have found inspiration in my children to pursue my passion for cooking traditional Romanian food. I created a program tailored to my autistic daughter, which has turned out to be beneficial for improving speech, fine motor skills, and outgrowing sensory challenges. I have taught my children how to cook and enjoy sharing their cooking videos on YouTube and TikTok. I am currently working on creating a home-based support program for children with autism that incorporates cooking, and am also writing my fourth book, which documents our family's journey with autism, and developing a family business.

I am thrilled to be part of AAUW and look forward to being involved and sharing my talents and experiences. I am always happy to share my culture's food and be of support to others.

Time to renew your AAUW membership?



Branch members whose membership is due for renewal within the next month should have received an e-notice from AAUW National. For the majority of branch members (those who have been members more than a few years), memberships were due in July.

To RENEW, visit bit.ly/2025AAUWMembershipForm, complete form, and mail with check for \$94 to the address at the bottom of the form. Please add “renewal” in the check memo line. **QUESTIONS?** Ask Membership VP **Susan Chyczewski**, membership@aauwstatecollege.org.

Member Birthday Round-up

Brighten a
Member's Day

We would like to start recognizing branch member birthdays in the *Branch Bulletin* or in *Weekly Notes*. That would give members a chance to send birthday greetings to those listed. Please send your birthday date (not year or age) to bulletin@aauwstatecollege.org this month!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



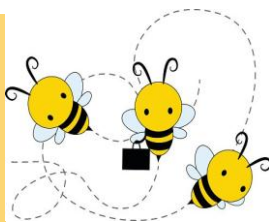
Branch joins CC4H Robotics at Spikes game

AAUW State College joined branch Community Action Grant recipient CC4H Robotics on August 8 at a Spikes Game.

CC4H Robotics brings together 4th-12th graders to learn more about robotics, providing hands-on activities including robot demos and project kits for kids. More: www.cc4hrobotics.org.

Left: Branch members Carline Crevecoeur and Susan Chyczewski staffed an AAUW State College info table alongside CC4H Robotics.

Branch *Book-Bees* to participate in MSLC Spelling Bee September 24. 5:30 pm – join us!



Once again, AAUW State College will participate in the annual Mid-State Literacy Council Spelling Bee, planned for **Wednesday, September 24**. Our team, ***The Book-Bees***, including past champions and finalists **Martha Hummel** and **Morgen Hummel**, are joined this year by **Angie Hughes**, a former Pennsylvania state spelling bee participant.

Join our “cheer team” - The Bee is held virtually but we love to have branch members and friends join the team at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 277 West Pine Grove Road, Pine Grove Mills. The actual Bee starts at **6 pm**, but **all are welcome to come at 5:30 pm** to meet the team, spur them on, and enjoy some snacks together. If you are able to bring a small snack to share, contact [Connie Schroeder](mailto:Connie.Schroeder@aauwstatecollege.org).

Used Book Workshop shifts to fall hours



Book donations were very brisk this summer! Thank you to all who volunteered or donated books. The workshop will be closed September 1 (Labor Day). Fall hours (starting 9/2) will be **Mondays, 6-8 pm** and **Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9 am-2:30 pm**. Check out bit.ly/Book_Donation before coming. The workshop is located off 2197 High Tech Road, across from State College Regional Airport.

COMMUNICATIONS

New Marketing & Communications VPs bring talent and fresh energy



When branch members **Angie Hughes** and **Dina Liberatore** (left) started their terms as Marketing & Communications VPs this summer, they took on their positions with positivity, creativity, and talent.

Angie maintains our social media presence, oversees the branch website, and cloud storage using Google WorkSpace. Recently, she created a Technology Committee that is offering monthly tech classes and tutorials.

Dina has forged new relationships for marketing with Happy Valley Adventure Bureau, Spotlight PA, and others. She also has big plans for additional ways to promote our May 9-12, 2026 book sale.

The branch is really fortunate to have Angie and Dina in the lead with our current and future marketing and communication needs. Their vision and friendship make for an effective team! If you would like to join them, drop them a line at com@aauwstatecollege.org.

–Connie Schroeder, 2023-2025 Marketing & Communications VP

AAUW State College is on YouTube!



The branch now has a YouTube channel where recorded Zoom sessions will be uploaded for future watching or re-watching at your convenience. So far, there are two videos on our public channel - last year's *School Vouchers Program*, and the recent *Public Policy Primer* meeting. We are still learning, so quality will improve over time. **Subscribe:** <https://www.youtube.com/@AAUWStateCollege>.

Talk of the Town from Spotlight PA

SPOTLIGHT PA

Interested in what's happening around State College and beyond? Sign up for *Talk of the Town* — Spotlight PA State College's free newsletter delivering essential news from across north-central PA. Every weekday, you will get curated stories, unique events, and a closer look at the people, places, and food that make our region shine. Join 6,000+ subscribers and stay connected with nonprofit, nonpartisan journalism that puts your community first.

Talk of the Town Signup: <https://www.spotlightpa.org/newsletters/talkofthetown/>.

BRANCH BEHIND-THE-SCENES

2025-2027

Elected Branch Officers

President – Carline Crevecoeur
president@aauwstatecollege.org

President-Elect – Molly Kunkel
pres-elect@aauwstatecollege.org

Immediate Past Presidents Council
ipprescouncil@aauwstatecollege.org

Co-Secretaries

Lee Carpenter, Amy Wilson
secretary@aauwstatecollege.org

Treasurer – Gail Agans
treasurer@aauwstatecollege.org

Marketing & Communications

Angie Hughes, Dina Liberatore
com@aauwstatecollege.org

Membership – Susan Chyczewski
membership@aauwstatecollege.org

Programs – Renee Cloutier
Betsy Manlove
programs@aauwstatecollege.org

Full Board listing – [Board Leadership](#)

Questions – info@aaustatecollege.org



Branch board meetings

Monthly branch board meetings are open to all members to attend. Learn about what is going on and offer your input.

Catch up with us: [8-2025 Board Meeting minutes](#)

Next board meeting:

Monday, September 8, 11:30 am–1:00 pm

In-person: College Township Council Room (second floor).

Virtual - NEW Zoom meeting link:
bit.ly/AAUWSCBoardZoom.



Branch Bulletin Updates

Submission deadline: **Monday, September 29**

Send to: bulletin@aauwstatecollege.org.

Issue date: **Monday, October 6**

Note: Submissions of achievements or personal interests are also welcome for coming bulletins.