



Advancing equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

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www.aauwstatecollege.org

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**Join us Saturday, March 28
AAUW State College at 110:
Women Taking Charge**

This year, AAUW State College celebrates its 110th year as a branch. In recognition of this, Branch Historian

Jackie Esposito will give a talk about the history of our branch at the American Philatelic Society, [100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte](#), on **Saturday, March 28, 11 am-12:30 pm**. The event is offered in collaboration with the Centre County Historical Society and the American Philatelic Society. Jackie also serves as the Collections Management Chair for Centre County Historical Society.

AAUW State College has been a force for change and support for women in Centre County for 110 years. This program will touch on some highlights of the branch's efforts and examine the impact of women who are

focused on a singular mission for good.

A few examples include advocating for the first woman on Penn State's Board of Trustees; funding Schlow Library and the Women's Resource Program; developing a network for after-school kids; establishing a successful and profitable used book sale; offering scholarships for returning adult women. By spearheading numerous community and social justice initiatives, the State College branch has been impactful.

Plan to attend this program on the fascinating history of our branch! Please register by **March 20** at programs@aauwstatecollege.org. **Share flyer:** [3-28-2026 AAUWSC History](#).

View CCCHS Award Presentation for Jackie Esposito

As a follow-up up to last month's *Branch Bulletin* story on Jackie's recent award from the Centre County Historical Society, the presentation of the award is now available on C-Net: [CCHS January 18 Annual Recognition Program](#). The portion pertaining to her award starts at 53.38, and her remarks about the power and purpose of archives start at 1.08.26.

Celebrate Women's History Month - [Women's History Month](#)

By presidential proclamation, March is Women's History Month, honoring women's contributions in American history. Locally, learn more about the 110-year history of the women in AAUW State College, by attending the March 28 program with Branch Historian Jackie Esposito (details page 1). At the state level, consider this special invitation, **RSVPs due March 11:** [March 25 Women's History Month Lunch & Panel with Pennsylvania's First Ladies & Jill Biden](#)



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

February 26 program explains Community Action Grant process

Thank you to Community Action Grant Co-Chairs **Sherry Crassweller** and **Carolyn Donaldson**, for providing a thorough overview on February 26 of AAUW State College Community Action Grants. The next Community Action Grant cycle runs **September 1-November 1, 2026**. Learn more: [GRANTS](#).



Branch scholarship program March 19; application deadline March 31

Interested in learning more about the AAUW State College branch scholarship program? Branch Scholarship Chair **Leslie Laing** will provide an overview of the branch undergraduate scholarship program on **Thursday, March 19, 6-7 pm**, in the Foxdale Meeting Room (second floor). Applications for [2026 Branch Scholarships](#) will be accepted through **March 31**.



STEM Outreach: February 8 *Let's Read Math* sparked young minds

Several elementary school-aged children attended the AAUW State College STEM Committee-sponsored program titled *Let's Read Math: Learn about Shapes*, held February 8 at Schlow Centre Region Library.

Branch member **Candace Davison**, who leads this program, was assisted at the event by STEM Committee members Kristin Dreyer and Laura Miller.



Left: Branch member Laura Miller and student intern Asher DePrest share how shapes are used in the construction of bridges.

Take a virtual tour of the Breazeale Nuclear Reactor March 5

On **Thursday, March 5**, Breazeale Nuclear Reactor will offer a virtual tour of the facility, **1:30-3:00 pm, via Zoom**. Branch member **Candace Davison**, the first woman licensed as a Senior Reactor Operator on the Penn State Reactor, will serve as co-instructor for this OLLI-sponsored tour. The Penn State Reactor serves as a crucial facility for nuclear engineering education, research, and training. [REGISTER HERE](#).

Learn all about the AAUW State College STEM program April 16

Mark your calendar for **Thursday, April 16, 6-7 pm**, when AAUW State College STEM Co-Chair **Michele Crowl** will present an overview of the STEM Committee and STEM grants. It will be held in the Foxdale meeting room.

Thank you to AAUW State College from Graduate Women in Science, Empower Conference organizers



AAUW State College was a proud sponsor of the Penn State Empower Conference on Saturday, February 7, a one-day professional and personal development event for individuals in STEM careers, hosted by the Graduate Women in Science (GWIS) State College Chapter.

This year, Empower reached new heights with 220 attendees. The conference continues to serve as a dynamic and supportive space for students, researchers, and STEM professionals to share ideas, build community, and develop the skills needed to create meaningful impact. With AAUW State College's \$2,500 STEM grant, the conference was able to provide valuable programming that empowered attendees to innovate in their fields, influence positive change, and inspire the next generation of scientists.

Above: *The conference was funded, in part, with a branch STEM grant.*



Above, Conference speakers - Left: *Kristin Dreyer is a branch member and former STEM co-chair. Right:* *Latisha Franklin benefited from an AAUW [NCCWSL](#) grant from the branch some years ago.*

Events like Empower would not be possible without the commitment of partners like you.

—*Shreya Mathela, PhD Student, Empower Conference Senior Co-Chair GWIS State College*

BOOK WORKSHOP & SALE

Book workshop to close for donations on Tuesday, March 10

**CLOSING
SOON!**

Reopening July 7

The Used Book Workshop will close for 2026 sale donations on **Tuesday, March 10** and reopen for 2027 sale donations July 7.

Workshop co-lead **Suzanne Kerlin** comments, “We are having an excellent year at the book sale workshop. The book donations are plentiful and of an impressive caliber. We have a number of new volunteers join the tried and true this year. At this time there are over 3,000 boxes of books processed. We anticipate that we will take about the same number of boxes of books to the sale this year as last.” Thank you to all the book donors and workshop volunteers who make the annual book sale possible!

Marketing the book sale...behind the scenes

Lots of marketing has been happening for the Used Book Sale! An article has already been



submitted to the AAUW PA *Keystoner*, and the *Helping Hands* article for March 19 will appear in the CDT. We confirmed 15-second radio ads with WPSU and designed ads for the Toilet Paper and Elevator Pitch in the HUB on campus. We’re listed in BookSaleFinder.com. And lots, lots more. There is still more to do, and suggestions for additional avenues to get the word out are welcome; email me at dina.liberatore@gmail.com. Most importantly, follow us on social media and invite your friends! We’re on Facebook and Instagram @AAUWSCBookSale! And feel free to share a book sale flyer with friends and colleagues so they can mark their calendar: [Book Sale Flyer](#).

—Dina Liberatore, AAUW State College Marketing & Communications Co-VP

Sign up to volunteer at the May 9-12 Used Book Sale today!

It’s time to sign up for your volunteer shift(s) at the book sale! We will also need help on May



7 Move-in Day, when we set up for the sale in the morning and load/unload books later that day. Here’s the Volunteer sign-up link: bit.ly/AAUWSCBookSaleVolunteers

Once you sign up, you will receive a confirmation email. This will be the only notice of your shift until the official book sale newsletter comes out. As always, if you have any questions please drop volunteer scheduler [Donna Trapp](#) a line. Thanks for your interest in volunteering!

Left: Branch member Cecelia Doty unpacks puzzles at the 2025 Move-in.

DIVERSITY

National Day of Racial Healing event brings out a crowd

February 3, 2026, marked the third annual National Day of Racial Healing in State College.



Branch members attending the event included: *Naana Nti (AAUW State College Diversity Chair), Deb Smith, Linda Higginson, Leslie Laing, Denise Rupert (seated), Sophie Penney, Carol Eicher (Community Diversity Group Chair), and Grace Hampton.*

Thanks to an original suggestion to participate in this from branch member **Sophie Penney Leach**, the local event was adopted by AAUW State College, the Community Diversity Group, and the Borough of State College. This year's event drew a capacity crowd of 80

attendees, including high school students, administrators, clergy, and community members.

Dr. Leah Hollis, Penn State College of Education, delivered a keynote address featuring historical movements that dehumanized, enslaved, and colonized people and countries. Dr. Wanda Knight, Penn State College of Arts and Architecture, spoke about intersecting characteristics of individuals, including but going beyond race. Discussion followed with a jointly created yarn art piece co-created by community members, led by branch member **Denise Rupert**. Several branch members served on the event's planning committee.

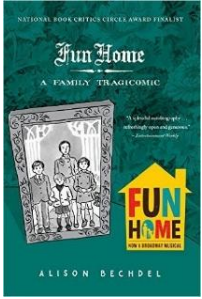
Community Diversity Group & AAUW lunch and program on retirement security Wednesday, March 18; sign up today



The Community Diversity Group and AAUW State College will host a panel discussion titled *Taking Care of Your Health for Retirement Security: The time to start is now!* at their Cultural Empowerment for Women luncheon. It will be held on **Wednesday, March 18, 11:30 am-2:00 pm, at The Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center**. This event is open to the public.

The cost to attend is \$23 by mail, and reservations are due March 11. You can pay **\$25** online or at the door but must RSVP by March 11. Click here to register and select payment option: [March 18 CEW Lunch Registration](#). We have a limited number of scholarships for individuals with limited means. Request when you register.

Join ¡Adelante! Book Club: Thursday, March 19, 2:30 pm (virtual)



Join us on March 19th as we discuss *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic* by Alison Bechdel. It is described as a graphic memoir that explores themes of sexuality, family secrets, and identity. It was adapted into a Tony Award-winning musical. **More:** [Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic; Questions? Sophie Penney Leach](#). **Meeting link:** bit.ly/AdelanteDiversityBookClub.

Branch Diversity Committee: Naana Nti (Chair), Linda Higginson, Sophie Penney Leach, Denise Rupert, Maria Schmidt, Melissa Landrau Vega

PUBLIC POLICY

Tell your legislator to oppose the SAVE Act

The [SAVE Act 2.0](#) poses a serious threat to voting rights. This bill would impose unnecessary paperwork and photo ID requirements on voters, while dismantling online and automatic voter registration systems. In practice, it could prevent up to 21 million U.S. citizens from voting. These barriers would disproportionately harm people of color, voters with disabilities, older adults, and women—especially those whose names

have changed due to marriage or divorce. More from the League of Women Voters: [SAVE Act: A Push to Restrict Voting Access](#)

AAUW stands for fair, accessible elections for all. Congress must reject this bill. As of March 1, 2026, the U.S. Senate had not yet voted on the House-passed Save Act, which requires proof of citizenship to register to vote, but the vote is expected to take place any day now.

Today, use the AAUW Two-Minute Activist, to Oppose the SAVE Act 2.0:

<https://aauw.quorum.us/campaign/110677/>

2026-27 State Budget for Education mostly a win

Governor Shapiro has published the 2026-27 budget, which would begin July 1, 2026. The 2025 budget was passed so late that many school districts had to take out loans and spent millions on interest. We hope that will not happen this year.



The 2026-27 budget is good for public education. There is, again, money budgeted to close the Adequacy Gap. In addition, all school districts receive at least \$50,00 even if they don't have an adequacy gap. SCASD is in that category. The Governor has proposed additional Charter School reforms

resulting in savings to taxpayers. Increases in basic and special education would not enough to keep up with inflation.

There are opportunities to advocate for the budget. Education Voters PA is planning an **Advocacy Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, May 6**, details forthcoming. Calls and letters to your state representative and senator in their home office are also encouraged. A thank you to Governor Shapiro for his advocacy of the budget is also welcome.

For a copy of slides on the state budget, assembled by Education Voters PA director Sue Spicka, contact me at education@aauwstatecollege.org.

—Sue Johnston, AAUW State College Education Chair

AAUW Pennsylvania Public Policy Priorities 2026-2028

AAUW Pennsylvania has requested member input on their [2026-2028 AAUW Pennsylvania Public Policy Priorities](#). Please submit your [FEEDBACK](#) on the priorities by **March 14** (5:00 pm). It will be reviewed by the Public Policy Priorities Committee. Your input matters!



MEMBER FOCUS

Branch Awards Committee names 2026 recipients

At the AAUW State College February board meeting, the board approved the recommendation of the Awards Committee to recognize the following members/groups for annual recognition from the branch at the Awards & Scholarships Brunch on **Saturday, May 30**, and from AAUW Pennsylvania. Congratulations, all! The Centre County Council for Human Services Rose Cologne dinner recognizing Carline Crevecoeur will take place on **Thursday, April 23**. See page 9 for details and mark your calendar.



—AAUW State College Awards Committee: *Chriss Schultz and Suzan Kerlin, Co-Chairs; Anne Ard, Susan Johnston, Betsy Manlove, Sue Poremba, Sue Werner*

Outstanding Woman – Candace Davison



Candace, a longtime member of the branch, has provided strategic leadership and collaboration as she performed the roles of co-President and co-Membership VP. She continued that leadership by helping to found and nurture the original STEM Committee and guide its outreach to girls in the community. With her scientific background and expertise, Candace is a great role model to young women interested in STEM. She now leads the

Past-Presidents Council, a newly formed group to provide knowledge, assistance, and back-up for the current President and committee chairs while also editing our branch handbook/directory and supporting our branch website. Candace can always be counted on to get the job done, no matter what the request is.

Member Making a Difference – Angela Hughes and Gail Agans

Angie Hughes came to our organization with a breadth and depth of knowledge in social media and technology. In just a few months, she has significantly strengthened our branch’s digital presence and internal processes, which has been a huge help to the branch and individual members. Through her leadership and organization, she has given us back a lot of control over our own website. She worked to create a Technology Committee. Angie manages our social media presence with consistency and creativity that keeps our organization relevant to members and outsiders alike.



She is a pleasure to work with, is innovative and creative, and seems to genuinely enjoy what she does.

Gail Agans has distinguished herself in her first year as the Financial Officer of our C-3 incorporation. Assuming the mantle of Financial Officer of an active organization with a fundraising event involving tens of thousands of dollars is a huge challenge. Gail has accepted this challenge without missing a step, mastering branch financial procedures, policies, and processes and identifying areas when improvements might be possible. She has made our branch better. She exemplifies the spirit of AAUW State College through her participation in branch programs and activities



Gateway to Equity – National Day of Racial Healing-State College

Our recognition of the National Day of Racial Healing-State College represents AAUW’s commitment to embrace diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. This year, 2026, marks the community’s third National Day of Racial Healing-inspired local event.



Founded by the Kellogg Foundation, the national event is a time to contemplate our shared values and create a plan to

bring ALL people together and inspire collective action to build common ground. AAUW State College is a co-planner and co-sponsor of the local event, working in partnership with the Community Diversity Group and State College Borough.

Named Gift Honorees - AAUW State College Board, led by Board President Carline Crevecoeur



Board of Directors

Members include President Carline Crevecoeur, joined by Molly Kunkle, Sally Kalin, Dina Liberatore, Angela Hughes, Betsy Manlove, Amy Wilson, Lee Carpenter, Gail Agans, Sherry Crassweller, Naana Nti, Mary Dupuis, Dianne Gregg, Leslie Laing, Mary Ann Blair, Kat

Miller, Sophie Penney Leach, Connie Schroeder, Linda Friend, Jackie Esposito, Grace Hampton, Suzanne Kerlin, Susan Johnston, Susan Werner, Carol-Beth Book, Michele Crowl, Chriss Schultz, Susan Chyczewski.

CCCHS Volunteer of the Year at Rose Cologne Dinner – Carline Crevecoeur

Upon joining AAUW State College in 2021, Carline started by actively contributing to the membership, education, and diversity committees. From 2023 to 2025, she served as Membership co-Vice President, and she is currently our branch president. She frequently fills other positions while seeking replacements, with a strong commitment toward simply getting the job done.



Carline leads by example. She has hosted many membership events at her home, led mission-based programs, greeted new members, recruited a more diverse group of members to join the branch, and continued to instill leadership in others. She is extremely committed to increasing our visibility in the community and strongly encourages collaboration and networking with other community groups. Carline provides strong leadership in running monthly board meetings and has an amazing breadth of talents, leadership ability, and a vision to go with it.

Recognizing Our Honorees: April 23 & May 30

Thursday, April 23 – Honoring CCCHS honoree Carline Crevecoeur

Centre County Council for Human Services Rose Cologne Dinner

Mountain View Country Club, Boalsburg

5:45 pm Cash Bar, 6:30 pm Buffet Dinner, cost to attend: \$45

By March 27, please mail check to “AAUW State College” to Gail Agans, AAUW SC Treasurer, 400 Brush Valley Road, Boalsburg, Pa. OR [Reserve/Pay Online.](#)

Saturday, May 30 – Recognizing all honorees listed above

AAUW State College Awards & Scholarships Banquet, Wyndham Hotel, Boalsburg

Brunch & Awards, 10 am–1:00 pm, details TBA in April *Branch Bulletin*

Brighten a member's birthday this month



Angie Hughes – March 2; Carol Eicher – March 19

It is nice to be remembered. Your birthday greeting to the above member(s) just may make their day. If you have not shared your own birthday yet, please send the date (but not the year) to bulletin@aauwstatecollege.org today.

Time to renew your AAUW membership?



Branch members whose membership is due for renewal within the next month will receive an e-notice from AAUW National. There, members may renew online. Or, **RENEW** membership at [AAUW State College Membership Form](#), and mail with check for \$94, which includes membership in the local, state, and national organization, to the address at the bottom of the form. Add “renewal” in the check memo line. **QUESTIONS?** Ask membership@aauwstatecollege.org.

Accessing our online branch calendar

For up-to-date branch event information, visit <https://aauwstatecollege.org/aauw-member-events/>. This page will direct you to log in to our website. If you need a log in, contact Angie at technology@aauwstatecollege.org.

**BRANCH
EVENTS
CALENDAR**

The link to the member calendar is also available in the Members Only portal.

ENGAGEMENT: BRANCH & BEYOND

Engage with the 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 list of [ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#). Most committees and activities need new members, and all welcome your interest.

Committees/interest areas include - Awards; Book Groups; Community Action Grants; Diversity; Education; Marketing & Communications; Membership; Programs; Public Policy; Scholarship; STEM; Technology; Used Book Sale; Used Book Workshop. Most committees/activities need new members, and all welcome your interest. Check us out!

September 25-27 AAUW Atlantic States Regional Conference



AAUW State College to fund registration costs and most meals

AAUW Pennsylvania is host of the second [AAUW Atlantic States Regional Conference](#). AAUW members from 13 states will attend. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet and learn from other AAUW members. Please consider this seriously.

Some Conference Highlights *(additional information to be added):*

Friday 1:30 pm – Keynote from Gloria Blackwell, AAUW CEO; **Saturday am** - Voting rights panel including the League of Women Voters CEO and sexual harassment in the workplace; **Saturday pm** – *Trending Topics*: AAUW Lobby Corps and Advocacy (Meghan Kissell), Civics Education, Pennsylvania Constitution and Judicial Autonomy; *Moving the Needle*: Branch and state presentations; **Sunday am** - People Demanding Action; Unite and Rise, League of Women Voters CEO; Women's Rights, Working Together, Law School Dean

Good news! At the February AAUW State College board meeting, **the board decided to cover the \$249 conference registration cost** for up to 25 branch members to attend. This also covers all meals, except for dinner on Saturday night, when attendees may “dine-around” at one of 60 restaurants within three blocks of the hotel!

Conference Registration Steps

- To qualify for branch payment, members must register **by June 19** (one month earlier than the conference deadline listed on the conference webpage).
- [REGISTER HERE](#), click the Individual Registration tab, and fill out the attendee information. Under "Responsible Party," select "Yes, my branch is paying for my registration. The representative responsible for payment is Gail Agans."
- Notify Gail Agans, treasurer@aauwstatecollege.org, as soon as you have registered.

Hotel – Members are responsible on their own for lodging. The conference hotel is the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square. Book today at [Hotel Reservations](#). The reduced hotel rate of \$225 a night is only available if registration is done through this portal. If the room is shared, each roommate pays \$115/night. Alternatively, the Holiday Inn on Chestnut Street is nearby, about a 7-minute walk to the hotel.

Transportation Options – Drive: The hotel is about 125 miles from State College, a relatively easy drive. We are now collecting rideshare information from members who may be able to offer a ride. **Train:** Departs from Lewistown daily – [Amtrak Schedule](#) – early reservations could cost as little as \$60 round trip. The train also saves from paying parking @ \$15/night.

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

Co-Marketing & Communications VPs
Angie Hughes, Dina Liberatore
com@aauwstatecollege.org

Membership Co-VPs – OPEN*
membership@aauwstatecollege.org

Programs – Betsy Manlove
programs@aauwstatecollege.org

Full Board listing – [Board Leadership](#)

Questions –
info@aauwstatecollege.org

Invite to Branch Board Meetings

Monthly branch board meetings are open to all members who would like to attend. Learn about what is going on and share input. For the record of a recent meeting, see [2-2026 minutes](#). Join us at our next meeting: **Monday, March 9, 12:00–1:00 pm**

In person: College Twp. Council Room (2nd floor)
Zoom meeting link: bit.ly/AAUWSCBoardZoom

Dial-in numbers: [301-715-8592](tel:301-715-8592); **Meeting ID:** 875 1248 8158; **Passcode:** 571829. If dialing in via cell, tap the phone number link and it will auto-dial the meeting ID and passcode.

Branch Bulletin Dates



Submission deadline: **Monday, March 30**

Send to: bulletin@aauwstatecollege.org

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

Issue date: **Monday, April 6**

*Officer Opening:

We are in search of two Membership VPs to work together. Duties include maintaining membership records, welcoming new members, and planning membership-focused activities.

Position Details: president@aauwstatecollege.org.



AAUW State College: 5-Star Recipient - AAUW State College received 5-Star recognition from AAUW National for outstanding efforts in 2024-2025, centered around five key areas: advancement, public policy and advocacy, governance and sustainability, programming, and communications.