

THE READING BRANCH LINES

Volume 58 No. 01

September/October 2022

Reading, PA

AAUW Reading Branch



1923-2023



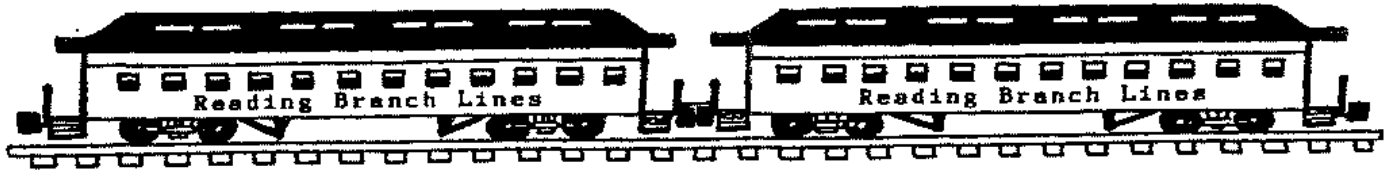
Reading Branch General Meeting
Tuesday, September 27, 2022
Albright College Roessner Hall, Room 100
1940 N. 13th Street, Reading, PA 19504
12 Noon – Luncheon Meeting

Welcome to our first general meeting for the year. This luncheon meeting will have a program hosted by the Literature Interest group. There will be a poetry reading by Susan L. Pena and other AAUW members from the book Call Us What We Carry by Amanda Gorman. Coffee, a cold drink and sandwiches will be provided. Members may bring a side dish or dessert if desired. Please come and join us. RSVP to Virginia Schulze-Johnson by September 20th if you plan to attend so that we may plan accordingly.

LUNAFEST

Sunday, October 30, 2022
12:00 Noon Lunch at the Goggleworks
1:00 PM Films at Reading IMAX Theatre
30 N. 2nd Street
Reading, PA 19601

This year LUNAFEST will again be held in conjunction with the Reading FilmFest. It will be held the same week and the films will be shown at the IMAX Theatre, the same location as the FilmFest. We are planning a lite lunch at the Goggleworks Café across the street before the film showing this year. Tickets are available on the LUNAFEST website for attending in-person or virtually. Tickets for in-person attendance can also be purchased from local branch members, without the service charge included with the online price. See more details on page 3.



If anyone has any suggestions for a new interest group please let our co-presidents or one of our board members know.

September

Culinary Diversity, Wed, September 21, 12 Noon
Lunch at New Holland Coffee Company
832 W. Main St, New Holland, PA 17557
(717)-355-0565
Contact: Joanne Wrigley

Cultural Arts – No activity currently planned
Contact: Ellie Hunt

Fine Arts – Wed., September 28, Trip to Winterthur
Lunch on the premises
Exhibit of Jackie Kennedy
Carpooling possible
Contact: Carol Toomey

Home Arts –Wed., Sept. 7, 12 Noon
Covered dish luncheon
Location: Elaine Wynosky's home
Contact – Judy Druckenmiller –

October

Culinary Diversity – Wednesday, October 19 – 12 Noon
Lunch at Castaneds's Mexican Restaurant
323 Main Street, Denver, PA 17517
(717)336-0044
Contact: Joanne Wrigley

Cultural Arts – No Activity planned
Contact – Ellie Hunt (610) 670-1808

Fine Arts – Wednesday, October 26 – 11:30 AM
Lunch: Park Place Diner & Restaurant (717)336-2210
2270 N. Reading Road, Denver, PA 17517
Program: Adams Antiques- Antique Clothing &
Uncle Funky's - Vintage Clothing
Contact: Eileen Ritz
please call after 5 PM - Carpooling possible

Home Arts – Wednesday, October 5
An October meeting will be scheduled at the September
meeting. For more information contact Judy after
the September meeting.
Contact: Judy Druckenmiller

Literature – Monday, October 24
Program: Review of Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward
Reviewer: Judith Kraines
Location: Pat Hummel's home
Hostess: Pat Hummel

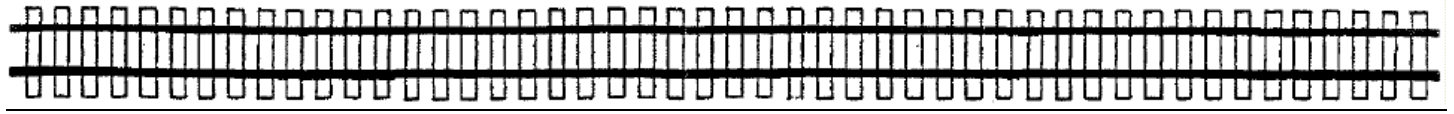
Condolences: One of our members, Mildred Neideigh passed away April 29, 2022, after our May/June newsletter was finished. A card was sent, from the branch to family members at that time. Sincere sympathy to members who were friends of Mildred's.

We are saddened by the passing of Eileen LePage last week. Eileen was a long term AAUW member having joined in 1974. Services will be held on September 16 at 12:30 p.m. at Edward J. Kuhn Funeral Home, Inc., 739 Penn Avenue, West Reading.

New Members:

Courtney Stevens rejoined our branch this year. Welcome back Courtney!

Katie O'Connell joined the branch this year. Katie is the daughter of Janet Schlegel. Welcome Katie!



It's Personal

by Judith Kraines, Public Policy Chair

In an average year, gun violence in America kills 40,000 people, wounds twice as many, and has an economic consequence to our nation of \$557 billion, according to Everytown, a gun safety organization. This is five times the budget of the Dept. of Education, Everytown says. If shooting tragedies could be prevented, we would have adequate funds for schools, libraries and other things AAUW members value.

Costs include:

- * Police and ambulance services and the training and equipment they need
- * Security upgrades at schools, religious institutions, and other facilities
- * Emergency health care and continuing health care for survivors
- * Mental health care for the trauma of violence.

We pay through our taxes, our health insurance, and - because many companies provide their employees with health insurance and must ramp up their security - through rising prices of everything we buy.

Congress recently passed the first major gun safety legislation in decades, HR 7910. It doesn't ban any weapons and it expires in ten years. It does require enhanced background checks for younger gun buyers, but does not ban those under 21 from buying semiautomatic guns. It supports and provides some funding to encourage states to pass red flag laws. It funds some mental health and school safety programs. It cracks down on straw purchases. It does not impose universal background checks or ban the sale of large-capacity magazines. There is no mandatory waiting period for a gun sale. There is no license requirement to purchase an assault weapon.

Will it change our costs? Probably not. We live in a violent gun culture and it costs us dearly.

LUNAFEST

The LUNAFEST film festival screens live at 1 pm, and includes a lite lunch at 12 Noon, jewelry sale, and social networking! Our post film discussion offers our audience members the opportunity to expand the movie experience! LUNAFEST recommends attendance by those over 16 years old. Tickets can be purchased for \$30 online for the live screening which includes a lunch and films, and \$12.50 for the online virtual screening, at Eventive.com or Lunafest.org/screenings. Tickets will be available from AAUW members for the live screening for \$25 and tickets can be purchased at the door for \$30(lunch and films), if still available, or \$10 (films only).

Our fundraising efforts will be applied to AAUW branch operating expenses, and projects and events that benefit women in Berks County.



Book Bonanza

Unfortunately, Due to the amount of renovations needed before Book Bonanza can be held in the county building, the area of the building that Book Bonanza will use will not be ready for 2023. The executive committee is planning to meet to seek another location to hold a sale next year. We will let everyone know when there is more information.

AAUW READING BRANCH

1171 Schoffers Road
Birdsboro, PA 19508

Diversity Statement

In principle and in 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.

Mission Statements

AAUW advances equity for women and girls, through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Branch Lines

Editor – Eileen Ritz **Web Site:** reading-pa.aauw.net **Email:** aauwreadingpa@gmail.com

Jewelry Sale

Vintage jewelry is preowned jewelry that is no longer wanted. We have decided to continue collecting jewelry again this year as a fundraiser. If you, family, or friends have jewelry that you/they would like to donate to our fundraiser please call Eileen Ritz or bring it along to a meeting. The jewelry sale supports our branch's operating budget. Rings were especially popular items. We have even sold bags of broken items. People make crafts out of the broken jewelry. We plan to sell jewelry again this year at LUNAFEST

Redner's Tapes

Ellie Hunt is still collecting cash register tapes from Redner's Market. This is another fundraiser to support our branch projects. If you shop at Redner's, please save **your** tapes and send or give them to Ellie. Please note the following requirements when handing in Redner's TAPES

They require the entire sales receipt. Bonus card must be used for the purchase.

They will only take receipts or tapes from 3 years back from the day she hands them in.

Next time Ellie will be handing in tapes from 2021, 2022, and maybe 2023.

If you have any questions, call Ellie Hunt.

Board Meeting

NOTE: The next board meeting is Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at 4:00 PM on ZOOM.