

# West Side Stories

Western Sussex (DE) Affiliate



empowering women since 1881

## Travelling with Catherine Mackler

Last May, we had the pleasure of virtually travelling with Catherine Mackler on her cross country adventure. Catherine and her friends, Erin Johnson and Maria DeMott, travelled over 13,000 miles, criss-crossing the USA. Catherine had worked hard in college to graduate early in order to take time off to travel.

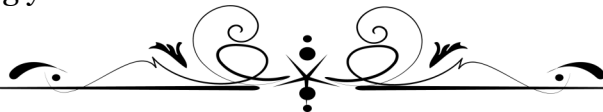
The trio travelled all over the country, from the East Coast to the West Coast. Camping was their main source of lodging throughout the trip. They took recommendations, like taking the A1A highway in Florida. Also in Florida, they went to the Keys and took a boat trip.

In New Orleans, Catherine's favorite city, they took a ghost tour and a trip to the Bayou. In Texas, they visited Big Bend National Park and the Rio Grande River. In New Mexico, a favorite state, they visited Carlsbad Caverns and White Sands State Park. They visited Colorado and went skiing, say Bryce Canyon, the Grand Canyon, Lake Mead, and Death Valley.

They saw the Pacific Ocean, and the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. Catherine said that her favorite site was Lake Tahoe.



The girls' adventure reminds us that there is a lot to see and do out there, and we should take chances every now and then to be adventurous. Thank you Catherine for sharing your adventures with us!



September  
Issue 2017

**2017-18**

## Meeting Dates

**Sept 27**

**Nov 29**

**Jan 24**

**March 28**

**May 23**

**STATE**

**MEETING:**

**Saturday, Sept 9**

**10:30 am**

**Vincenzios**

**Restaurant**

**Dover, DE**

**[http://](http://vincen-)**

**vincen-**

**[zosmenu.com/](http://vincenzosmenu.com/)**

**September**

**Program**

**Estate Planning**

**Michelle Procino**

# Officers for 2017-18

President/Administrator

Joyce Mackler

Program

Gerry Mitchell and Shirley Blackwell

Membership

Josie Hunsberger

Finance

Ellen Wright

Public Policy

Judy Cullen

Communications/Newsletter

Mikki Madden

Diversity/International Affairs

Rajani Purandare

AAUW Funds

Ellen Wright

Bylaws

Joyce Mackler

Secretary

Barbara Hinz

Past President

Pat Davidson

Each member should receive an updated version of the membership of the Western Sussex Branch. You will find each member listed as well as their address, any email contacts, and a phone number or 2. Please use this when contacting membership.

If you information changes, please let Josie Hunsberger know so that she can let the branch know of these changes. It's important to stay connected.

We currently have 37 members.



Destiny Wyatt is our Delaware Aerospace Academy Scholarship winner. Destiny participated in the academy this summer. She is currently a middle school student attending Seaford Middle School. We look forward to meeting Destiny and hearing a bit about her experience.



## A Word from our President

Welcome back to the beginning of a new year of Western Sussex AAUW membership. Your Board has met several times over the summer to plan for this year. During our first meeting on September 27th, we will ask you to vote on the budget that Ellen has put together for us. A copy is in this newsletter for your review. In addition to our September program, we have also planned our November and January programs and are working on our March and May programs. If you have any ideas or would like to be involved in the program planning please contact Gerry or Shirley.

Those of you who attended our May meeting had the opportunity to meet this year's recipient of our high school scholarship. During our September meeting you will meet our Delaware Aerospace Academy Summer Camp scholarship recipient. Unfortunately, we have not had any applicants for our DTCC Women's Continuing Education Scholarship, in spite of all of the work that Jean and Gerry did last year to promote the scholarship. Jean is once again meeting with staff at DTCC to find other ways of promoting this scholarship. This fall, Lisa will be heading up a committee to review and revise our high school scholarship criteria and application. If you would like to take part in this, please let Lisa know.

Each year, our scholarship offerings are slightly over our annual fund-raising for the scholarship fund. This has not been a problem so far because there have been several years that we have not awarded the \$1000 DTCC scholarship due to a lack of applicants. However, the Board feels that there is a need to maintain a balanced budget without carrying funds over from the prior year. As you know, we have had a raffle each fall to raise money for our operating funds. This has been necessary because our dues earnings of \$5 per member (approximately \$150 total) do not cover our operating expenses. Currently, the dues for other Delaware branches are: Middletown \$5, Coastal Georgetown, Newark and Wilmington \$10, and Dover \$20. We would like you to consider the need to raise our branch dues to cover our operating expenses thus leaving our fundraisers to completely support our scholarship offerings. Of course, this will be subject to a vote and if passed, would not take effect until next year.

Lastly, there are opportunities for branch members to serve on the state board and committees. Help is needed in the area of public policy, programs and bylaws. Please email our state president Penny Deiner if you are interested. [pennyd@udel.edu](mailto:pennyd@udel.edu). We look forward to seeing everyone at our September meeting. Please remember to RSVP to Shirley and bring a guest.



### TREASURER'S REPORT SEPT 2017

#### Operating Expenses Acct:

Beg. Bal. = **\$1870.17**

Income = **\$295.00**

March Dinner = \$224.00

Dues (2) = \$71.00

Expenses = **\$233.10**

Manor House = \$233.10

**Ending Balance =  
\$1932.07**

#### Scholarship Account:

Beg. Bal = \$3883.87

Income = \$.64 (interest)

Expenses = \$0

**Ending Balance =  
\$3884.51**

Respectfully Submitted:

Ellen Wright

Treasurer



Special Congratulations go out to Miss Sierra Snigier, who was out 2017 High School Scholarship recipient. Sierra spoke at our last meeting, thanking the branch to the scholarship and telling up of her plans to attend University of Pennsylvania in Altoona. Sierra's leadership skills were evident in the brief time she chatted with us. Sierra was accompanied to the meeting by her dad, Ed Snigier.



As the fall season approaches, now is a great time to check the following:

1. Clean out your summer clothes—donate what you didn't wear to a local charity.
2. Check the batteries in your smoke detectors.
3. Check the expiration dates on your spices, pantry items, and even your bottled frig items. Discard outdated items.
4. Get out and enjoy the cooler weather when you can!

## BOOK SALE

The Seaford Library will be having their annual Book Sale from October 5th through the 7th. They are looking for gently used books. (Another great thing to purge this season) Children's and teen's books, paperbacks, classics, mysteries, biographies, novels, cookbooks; you name it. (No encyclopedias or textbooks please). You may drop them off at the circulation desk at any time. Please contact Jean Gandek if you have any questions.

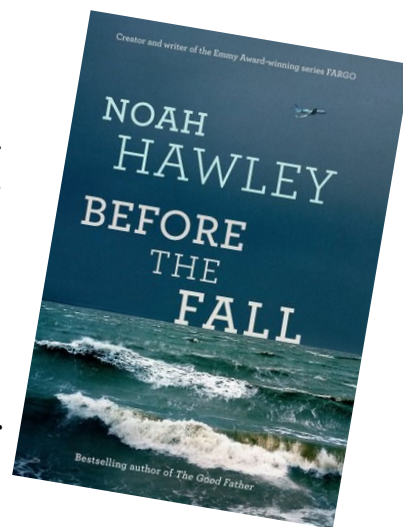
This is our library's largest project of the



## Book Club Info

The book selection for the August meeting of the Book Group was Before the Fall by Noah Hawley. It is the winner of the 2017 Edgar Award for Best Novel and 2017 International Thriller Writers Award for Best Novel.

"On a foggy summer night, eleven people depart Martha's Vineyard on a private jet headed for New York. Sixteen minutes later, the unthinkable happened: the plane plunges into the ocean. With each chapter, Hawley peels back another layer of the lives of those onboard that fateful flight; meanwhile, the media speculation and accusations in the days after the crash threaten to overwhelm truth and decency." Amazon



The next book is Hidden Figures. Please see Barbara





**July 1, 2017—June 30, 2018**

### **Operating Account**

Operating Account	2016-17	2017-18
Dues	\$123.00	\$450.00
Raffle	\$700.00	\$150
Check not cashed	\$6.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$829.00</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>

### **Expenditures**

AAUW Action Fund	\$200.00	\$200.00
Insurance	\$185.00	\$185.00
Programs	\$86.00	\$100.00
Newsletter	0	\$25.00
Postage	0	\$20.00
Geranium Sale	0	\$30.00
Candidate Forum	0	\$20.00
Miscellaneous	0	\$20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$471.00</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>

### **SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT for 2017-18**

<b>REVENUE</b>		<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Bank Interest	\$5.00	Undergrad Scholarship	\$1200.00
Geranium Sale	\$2300.00	DT&CC Scholarship	\$1000.00
Raffles(s)	\$60.00	DE Aerospace Academy	\$600.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3005.00</b>		<b>\$2800.00</b>



### **SUNSHINE NOTES**

For publication in our next newsletter, please send any articles, news items, and Sunshine Notes to Mikki Madden @mikki.madden@wsd.k12.de.us

Please keep Gerry Mitchell in your thoughts and prayers. Greg, her youngest son suffered a stroke in August. He has a long recovery period ahead of him. While each day is a blessing of small steps forward, it's not been easy for Greg, his bride Beth, his mom, and his older brother. Gerry is staying in Wilmington at this time (Greg and Beth live about 20 minutes from the hospital). Greg is out of ICU, but is not fully ready to move to a rehab facility. Cards would be appreciated. Please send to Gerry's home address.



**Western Sussex Branch AAUW**  
**Leading women in Western Sussex County since 1940**  
**2017-2018 Membership Form**

Renewing Member: \_\_\_\_\_ New Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Recruited by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

As you join the Western Sussex Branch AAUW, make a commitment to the Board to be an active member of the organization. Participation provides the opportunity to network with other professional women from all walks of life and to attend informative and interesting programs.

Please complete this form and return it with your dues to Josie Hunsberger, our branch membership vice president. Please make checks payable to **Western Sussex AAUW**.

**PLEASE NOTE: NO INCREASE IN DUES!**

**Dues**

Association \$49.00  
State \$6.00  
Branch \$5.00

**Send dues to:**

Josie Hunsberger  
33 Rivers End Drive  
Seaford, DE 19973

302-628-1597 home

**Total** \$60.00

302-236-4873 cell

**Tax deductible information:** AAUW national dues are \$49.00, of which \$46.00 is tax deductible by the individual member; \$3.00 of that national dues payment is not tax deductible because it will be used to support the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) activities (Lobby Corps and election-related activities).

**Please supply the following information.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBERS: HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a seasonal address? Please write in the address and dates applicable:

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ATTENDED \_\_\_\_\_

DEGREE & DATE RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_

## NEWSLETTER MAILINGS

I would like to receive my newsletters by (please circle one):

- a. Email at the above address
- b. Post Office Mail at the above address
- c. Post Office Mail at the seasonal address

## TRANSPORTATION

I would like to have transportation to meetings. YES NO

I am able to provide transportation for a member who needs it. YES NO

## MEMBER PARTICIPATION

Please indicate in which committees or activities you would like to participate. Each branch member should participate in at least one branch committee or activity.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarships
- \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Tree
- \_\_\_\_\_ School Board Candidate Forum
- \_\_\_\_\_ Geranium Fundraiser
- \_\_\_\_\_ Book Group
- \_\_\_\_\_ Program Planning
- \_\_\_\_\_ Publicity
- \_\_\_\_\_ Public Policy
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sunshine

## TENTATIVE CALENDAR

Board meetings: second Tuesday of every month (subject to change); dinner meetings: fourth Wednesday; interest groups: Book Club Meetings TBA

September	Dinner Meeting and Program w/ Del Tech Scholarship Winner
November	Dinner Meeting and Program
January	Dinner Meeting and Program
March	Dinner Meeting and Program
April	Geranium Sale
	Scholarship Selection Meetings
	School Board Candidate Forum
May	Annual Dinner Meeting and Program w/ High School Scholarship Winner



**AAUW IS A TOP-RAT-**



## SEPTEMBER MENU:

**\$14.00 for your meal**

Baked Ham with Pineapple Glaze and Applesauce on the side

Broiled Salmon with Lemon Butter Sauce (Tartar and Cocktail Sauce on the side)

Cheesy Scalloped Potatoes

Green Peas

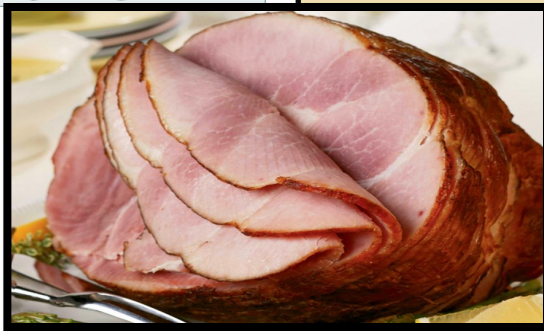
Green Beans

Prepared Salad

Carrot Cake

Lemon Raspberry Cheesecake

Coffee, Tea, and Water



*Please RSVP for dinner to Shirley Blackwell at 629-8806 or blackwell629@comcast.net by 9/20. Please let Shirley know if you will be bringing a guest.*

# Let's Build Membership!

AAUW membership is a great way to share a woman-centric community organization with friends and family. Invite a woman you admire to a meeting to see what we do. Make it casual and welcoming, without pressure to join. Let the camaraderie speak for itself. If you have any questions, please call or see Josie Hunsberger, Membership Chair.

