



Members of the Girls of Steel robotics team pose for a group photo with CMU robotics Professor Chris Atkeson and characters from the Disney film "Big Hero 6."

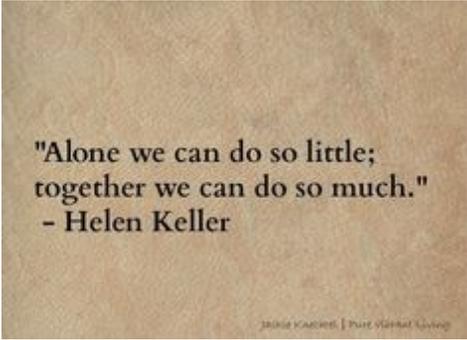
Gateway to Equity Award - CMU's Girls of Steel

Accepting the award: Dr. Theresa Richards
FIRST Robotics Program Coordinator, Carnegie Mellon University

This award was established by AAUW-PA to recognize an individual group, organization, or business that has shown by action and philosophy the promotion of equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, or research.

This year, our branch is pleased to present the Gateway to Equity Award to Carnegie Mellon University's Girls of Steel because they have made it their mission to not only build great robots, but also to support women and children's involvement in STEM. They are a strong, determined, and bold team inspiring girls and women to think both technically and creatively.

April 20, 2016 Ryan Room, La Roche College
6:30 p.m. Branch Meeting
7:00 p.m. Award Presentation & Program
Refreshments to follow program



"Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much."
- Helen Keller

President's Note

I can't believe it is April and it is snowing. March went by so fast, and we got a lot accomplished as a branch. Our Shape the Future-Women in Sports event was a great success. Thank you Maripat Kwaczala and your team for a job well done. Gene Collier and Carol Semple Thompson were awesome speakers, and I enjoyed hearing their message.

We are 5 weeks away from our AAUW Tech Savvy Conference. With the help of La Roche college (Peggy Schmiedecke and La Roche's awesome Marketing department), and AAUW National, our Tech Savvy press release titled, "AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch to Host Dynamic STEM Program for Girls at La Roche College," was posted on April 4 and soon to be picked up by other media outlets.

We still need your help in **getting the word out!**
Our registration page is open **on our new website**
domain name <http://northhills-pa.aauw.net/>.



TechSavvy
by AAUW



REGISTER NOW

There are several new webpages that informs you about our Tech Savvy agenda for students and adults, description of workshops, and links to our generous sponsors (Alcoa Foundation and La Roche), our keynote speaker [Elisabet Rodriguez Dennehy](#), and workshop collaborators ([Girls of Steel Robotics](#), [Junior Achievement](#), [Trusst Lingerie](#), [Imagine Careers](#), [Wells Fargo](#), [FASE \(Female Alliance for STEM Excellent\)](#), [Penn State-New Kensington](#), [La Roche College](#) professors: Dr. Don Fujito, *Dr. Becky Bozym*, Jane Arnold, Jeff Perdue, Dr. Kate Silvis, and Michaela Noakes). Check them out! Share, Post, Tweet, and tell everyone you know!

There are several AAUW April events that are happening that you can participate in. The run down is the following: Equal Payday is April 12, State Convention is happening April 15-17, and our general meeting is April 20. At our next general meeting will be welcoming Pittsburgh's Girls of Steel Robotics as they are our Gateway to Equity Awardees, and voting on our Membership Vice President and Finance officers

Hope to see you all there.

Susan Banerjee, Ph.D.
President

BRANCH CALENDAR

April Happenings

4/12/2016 Morning Book Group

Planning Meeting & Luncheon

Hostess: Donna Martin, 9:30 a.m.

4/18/2016 Bookers of the Evening

Plainsong

By Kent Haruf

Reviewer; Jane Depee

Hostess: Cindy Stewart, 7 p.m.

4/20/2016 Branch Meeting and Program

"Gateway to Equity Award"

La Roche College - Ryan Room

Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

4/27/2016 Lunch with the Bunch

Location: LaFeria, 12:30 p.m.

Latin American Cuisine

May Happenings

5/10/2016 Morning Book Group

Killing Mr. Watson

Reviewer: Barb Matthews

Hostess: Fran Bogus, 9:30 a.m.

5/16/2106 Bookers of the Evening

The Wives of Los Alamos

by TaraShea Nesbit

Reviewer: Debbie Rosenfelder

Hostess: Debbie Rosenfelder

5/18/2016 Annual May Dinner

Locations: Frescos, 6 p.m.

Finance Report for March

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Beginning balance: | \$4395.03 |
| Income: | 124.00 |
| Expenses: | 594.85 |
| Ending balance: | \$3924.18 |

PICTURES FROM OUR "SHAPE THE FUTURE- WOMEN IN SPORTS" EVENT



3

l. to r.

Member: Sr. Rita Yeasted

Guest Speaker: Gene Collier

Sports Journalist, Comedian



l. to r.

President: Susan Banerjee

Guest Speaker: Carol Semple Thompson

Golf Professional

Membership VP: Maripat Kwaczala

Bookers of the Evening

by Peggy Garbooshian

The Bookers of the Evening will meet April 18th at 7:00, at the home of Cindy Stewart. Jane Depee will review *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf who has conjured up an entire community and immerses the reader in that community's dramas. Reviewed as "compelling and compassionate", *Plainsong* is a story of family and romance, tribulation and tenacity, set in the High Plains of east of Denver.

Pittsburgh for CEDAW

Submitted by Peggy Schmiedecke

AAUW PA has supported CEDAW initiatives for many years. The AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Board unanimously voted to endorse and join an ever-growing coalition of organizations led by the **Women and Girls Foundation, New Voices Pittsburgh, the Women's League for International Peace and Freedom, and the Women's Law Project** and more than 60 individuals working to make Pittsburgh a CEDAW city! Our endorsement will be added to this list at <http://pgh4cedaw.org/>

CEDAW is the Convention to End all Forms of Discrimination Against Women. The United States is one of only 7 countries (along with countries like Sudan, South Sudan & Iran) that have not signed this U.N. treaty so a grassroots approach is needed. Several U.S. cities have already implemented a CEDAW ordinance and nearly 50 other cities around the country have taken up the challenge. **Let's make Pittsburgh one of them!**

DONATE GENTLY USED BOOKS FOR KIDS IN NEED!

Gerry Collier, who works for the Department of Human Services and is a brand new branch member, asked to share this information.

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services held a book drive last spring to be distributed at our Summer Food Program. Summer Food is a free lunch program for kids, offered at about 90 sites throughout the county. For 11 weeks this program feeds between 3,000 – 4,000 children daily, in neighborhoods whose children would have received free or reduced lunches during the school year. It is designed to ensure that the kids in low income neighborhoods have a daily nutritious meal throughout the summer. Our goal with the book distribution is to provide the children with much needed reading material. Many children who participate in the Summer Food Program do not own books of their own. The distribution was a success last year and the children were appreciative and very excited to be able to choose a book or two and take them home.

In 2015, approximately 3000 books were collected and given out to the children. Even with the large number of books collected, we were unable to provide books at every site. We are committed to expanding the program this year by distributing the book to all Summer Food Sites. **We are again asking for new or gently read children's books for kids 12 and under, to be distributed this summer. Picture books, early reader books and chapter books, appropriate for children ages 8 – 12 are requested.**

Please bring your donated books to the April meeting or the May dinner. If you are unable to attend either meeting, you may drop them off at the home of Maripat Kwaczala, 1933 Dubonnet Ct., Allison Park.

Thanks!



NEW BRANCH MEMBERS!

I am pleased to announce that as a result of our *Shape the Future* event, we have 5 new branch members!

by Maripat Kwaczala

Please update your directories.

And make sure to look for our new members at future Branch meetings and please introduce yourself to welcome them into our group.

Thank you!

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Judy Dillon
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 412-216-1434
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Julie Leroux-Ross
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 Pittsburgh, PA 15237
 412-596-9193
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Marlene Mihalsky
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 Sewickley, PA 15143
Chico3431@yahoo.com

Stand Against Racism

submitted by Jan Peischl

Between **Thursday, April 28 and Sunday, May 1**, YWCAs throughout the-country will work closely with hundreds of organizations and thousands of individuals.

The YWCA Greater Pittsburgh Center for Race and Gender Equity is calling on organizations, corporations, schools, hospitals, houses of worship, and government agencies in the Pittsburgh region to become a “**Participating Site**” of the National YWCA Stand Against Racism.

The goal of the event is simple: to raise awareness that racism still exists in our community and that it can no longer be ignored or tolerated. Our strength is in numbers! We hope you will be one of them!

Asking you to be aware of activities in our area.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

NORTH HILLS-MCKNIGHT AAUW DUES FORM FOR 2016-2017

Membership dues include national, state, and branch dues at the same rate as last year. Dues are \$70. (National-\$49, State-\$10, Branch-\$11) (\$46 is tax deductible)

Rejoin NOW for greatest raffle chances!

Now is the time to renew your North Hills-McKnight Branch membership. This qualifies you for our *free membership raffle drawing*. If you pay your dues by the end of April, you will be entered **TWO times** for a drawing that will refund the full \$70. If you pay by May 18th, you will be entered **ONE time** for the free membership drawing.

Even though we have a new branch name, please make checks payable to **North Hills-McKnight AAUW**. You may bring your **CHECK** and **THIS FORM** (if you want to change any of your information in the current directory) to the April 20th branch meeting or the May 18th Dinner meeting.

Or, mail check and form by June 15, 2015 to:
Katherine Keith, 130 Woodbine Lane, Mars, PA 16046

Branch Directory Information: enter the **changes** as you want it printed.

_____ Put X here if you want and extra directory. Add \$2 write check for \$72

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work: _____

Cell: _____ Email: _____

Degree(s) earned: _____

Major(s): _____

College/University: _____



ANNUAL MAY DINNER

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Social time at 6:00 p.m. (cash bar) Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Frescos

10545 Perry Highway, One Wexford Square
Wexford, PA 15090

Buffet Menu

Farmhouse Salad
Asiago Chicken (Sundried Tomato Butter Sauce)
Roasted Salmon (Dill Thyme Butter)
Balsamic Roasted Yukon Potatoes, Roasted Baby Carrots (Honey Butter) Penne Pasta
with Tomato Cream
Artesian Bread, Coffee/Tea
Sorbet

Dinner costs \$35.00. Guests are most welcome

Please send your check, payable to North Hills - McKnight AAUW to:

Betty Kroniser, 920 Camelot Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Reservation and Payment Deadline is May 8, 2016

Are You a Tech Savvy Girl?

You will be after a day of hands-on fun with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics!

Tech Savvy prepares you to be a scientist, engineer, or technology expert. A special session for your parents and families shows them how to help you on your path to college and a career.

Are you ready?

Who: Girls in sixth through ninth grade

Where: La Roche College
Zappala College Center
9000 Babcock Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

When: May 14, 2016
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Cost: \$10.00 per student, \$5 per adult
Breakfast and lunch are included in the registration fee. Student will receive a t-shirt.

Register at <http://northhills-pa.aauw.net/tech-savvy/>

We thank our Sponsors and Collaborators. A complete list is located at the AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh website <http://northhills-pa.aauw.net/>

Questions? Want to register? Visit www.aauw.org and search for "Tech Savvy."





Press Release: AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch to Host Dynamic STEM Program for Girls at La Roche College

<http://www.laroche.edu/Templates/NewsDetail.aspx?id=6889>

PITTSBURGH, April 4, 2016 – Although women hold close to half of all jobs in the U.S. economy, they hold less than 25 percent of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) jobs. AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch (formally North Hills-McKnight Branch) is one of 23 AAUW National Tech Savvy sites working to improve those numbers.

On May 14, North Hills Pittsburgh Branch will host an AAUW National Tech Savvy program. The daylong event is designed to show girls firsthand how STEM fields can lead to exciting careers. The event, part of the AAUW National Tech Savvy Pilot Program and funded in part by Alcoa Foundation, will welcome an estimated 150 girls in grades six through nine and their families to La Roche College.

Peggy Schmiedecke, La Roche's assistant director of admissions and AAUW representative, said "Middle school is a critical time when girls start to make decisions about their future. La Roche College believes no matter the science, Tech Savvy will offer opportunities to the girls and show them how to prepare for amazing STEM careers right here in Pittsburgh."

Event information and registration is available at <http://northhills-pa.aauw.net/tech-savvy>.

"This is our first year planning Tech Savvy, and we are very thankful for the overwhelming support from our local community," Dr. Susan Banerjee, president of the [AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh branch](#), said. "We know girls want to make a difference, so we will once again give them hands-on, real-world problem-solving activities to show them STEM is relevant and fun. A very important piece of our programming is exposing the girls to outstanding women mentors, so they, in turn, will mentor other girls."

AAUW's Tech Savvy and similar programs offer a way to increase the number of women in the STEM pipeline. Alcoa Foundation partners with AAUW in the United States and Hungary to support these programs and increase STEM opportunities for girls.

"Alcoa and Alcoa Foundation value diversity in the workforce and are committed to supporting girls in pursuit of STEM focused careers," Alcoa Foundation Program Manager Ryan Kish said. "Through engaging, hands-on programs like Tech Savvy, we can work with AAUW and educators in our community to create excitement and awareness of careers that students and parents may not know even exist."

Recommendations and suggestions for how institutions and employers can foster more women in these fields, particularly in the lucrative engineering and tech jobs, appear in AAUW's research report, ["Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing."](#)

“This is an exciting time for women and girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics,” Ana Kay Yaghoubian, STEM senior manager at AAUW, said. “What’s great about Tech Savvy is that it’s a family affair. Parents take part in the conference because they are an important part of the solution. We want moms, dads and other supportive family members to encourage girls to pursue their STEM passions because too many girls still get the message that those fields aren’t for them.”

Created in 2006 by Tamara Brown, former president of the AAUW Buffalo, N.Y. Branch, Tech Savvy has since served more than 5,000 girls. As a result of her work, Ms. Brown was honored as a White House Champion of Change.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) empowers women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. The nonpartisan, nonprofit organization has more than 170,000 members and supporters across the United States, as well as 1,000 local branches and more than 800 college and university partners. Since AAUW’s founding in 1881, members have examined and taken positions on fundamental educational, social, economic and political issues.

Alcoa Foundation is one of the largest corporate foundations in the U.S., with assets of approximately \$480 million. Founded 64 years ago, Alcoa Foundation has invested more than \$635 million in communities worldwide. In 2015, Alcoa Foundation contributed more than \$22 million to nonprofit organizations throughout the world, building innovative partnerships to improve the environment and educate tomorrow’s leaders for careers in manufacturing and engineering. The work of Alcoa Foundation is further enhanced by Alcoa’s thousands of employee volunteers who share their talents and time to make a difference in the communities where Alcoa operates. Through the company’s signature Month of Service program in 2015, 47 percent of Alcoa employees took part in 1,000 events across 24 countries, benefiting more than 300,000 people and 400 nonprofit organizations.

About La Roche College: *A private liberal arts college in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, La Roche College offers more than 50 undergraduate majors, six graduate degree programs and one doctorate program, with particular strengths in education, business, criminal justice, psychology, and health and medical sciences, as well as interior design and graphic design. This residential college provides a vibrant campus community for more than 1,500 men and women enjoying 30-plus student organizations and an exciting NCAA Div. III athletics program. Founded by the Sisters of Divine Providence in 1963, La Roche College embraces its Catholic heritage while welcoming people of all faiths and backgrounds. With a legacy of social justice and a commitment to international exchange, La Roche College educates students to be lifelong learners and achievers in an increasingly diverse and global society.*

MISSION STATEMENT OF AAUW ASSOCIATION AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

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

MISSION STATEMENT OF AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

LAF provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

AAUW MEMBERSHIP

AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate's or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In principle and 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.

BRANCH CONTACT INFORMATION

| | |
|---|---|
| Branch Presidents: Susan Banerjee | 479-283-3358 or owo.syg@gmail.com |
| Branch Program VP: Betty Kroniser | 412-367-4897 or BJK15237@comcast.net |
| Branch Membership VP: Maripat Kwaczala | 412-366-0194 or kwaczala1@verizon.net |
| Viewpoints Editors: Maryann Anderson & Sylvia Lynn | 412-486-3233 or reming80@verizon.net 412-486-0151 or sylviaklynn@gmail.com |

Branch Website: <http://northhill-pa.aauw.net>

CONNECT2AAUW: 800-326-2289 or connect@aauw.org

Association Website: www.aauw.org

State Website: www.aauwpa.org

VIEWPOINTS

AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch
Linda Tozier, Distribution Manager
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because equity is still an issue

