



Save The Date

Sunday, February 15th – The Carnegie Museum of Art. There will be two exhibits by Dwayne Michals; **Storyteller** (a variety of photographs) and **Collector** (his personal collection).

Also being featured that day is an exhibit by photographer Teenie Harris: **Civil Rights Perspectives**.



And if neither of those interests you, the Carnegie Museum of Natural History is right next door, featuring their permanent collection of Dinosaur remains, minerals, and other natural riches.

The museum is located at **4400 Forbes Avenue in Oakland** (just a couple of streets away from the PAA). **Admission** is as follows: \$17.95 Adults; \$14.95 Seniors; \$11.95 for Students with ID or children 3-18.

You can contact the museum for more information and directions (**412.622.3131**) or you can go to their website at www.cmoa.org. Please contact Karin if you will be attending so we don't leave you standing all by yourself for hours in the lobby.

Saturday, March 14th – Our meeting will be at the PAA beginning at **10:30 – 11:30** – Program and Book Club. Coffee and pastries will be served.

The featured book is **The Alchemist** by Paulo Coelho and Pat Byerly will lead the discussion with interesting and thought-provoking questions. (See **page 3** of this newsletter for background on the book and the author.) Pat did an amazing job with the last discussion; you won't want to miss this next one.



In addition and during that meeting, we will be acknowledging the anniversary of our Branch Charter, and celebrating its 130th year of service to women and charitable organizations in the Pittsburgh area. Our Branch was chartered on February 24, 1895.

Weekend April 10-11 – State Meeting (more details in the March newsletter but if you need to make travel arrangements early, please contact President Pat Byerly for information aauwpgh.president@gmail.com).

Saturday, May 9 – The AAUW Pittsburgh Branch will have a Member Appreciation Meeting. More details to follow, but the meeting will be held at the PAA beginning at noon and lunch will be free of charge.

And finally,...

June, 2015 – The Board will have its final meeting of the year. Although the meeting attendance is limited to Board members, it is the Planning Meeting for next year's activities, so please feel free to contact President Pat Byerly with questions, comments, and ideas.

AAUW MISSION

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

About AAUW

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.

Because AAUW is a 501(C)(3) charitable membership organization, most of your national dues are tax deductible on your personal federal income tax return.



In lieu of our regular **February** meeting, members can visit the Carnegie Museum of Art to view two exhibits by Dwayne Michals (details on left).

FYI-----The March meeting will be held on **Saturday, March 14** at the PAA in Oakland located at:

4215 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 1521: **9:30 – 10:30** Board Meets
10:30 – 11:30 Program and APB Book Group
 (412) 621-2400
www.paaclub.com

In addition, there will be a surprise for Joyce Martin during the meeting, who will be celebrating her 90th birthday on April 18th. **IT'S A SECRET; PLEASE DO NOT MAKE ANY SLIPS ABOUT THIS SURPRISE WITHIN JOYCE'S EARSHOT, and please make every effort to attend this very special meeting.**

Finally, we hope to have time during the meeting for a craft project. Check out this site for information about String Beading.

<http://www.beadforlife.org/en/frontpage/us>

The Knit Wits

I hope you will continue to be involved in our projects. If you need them, patterns are available for Chemo Caps, and slippers or you can use your own favorite patterns. As always, donations of (scrap or new) yarn are appreciated; the craft-ladies in the group will make good use of them.



The Show-goers By Marci Henzi, Group Chair

At our meeting in January, there was interest in seeing **Jesus Christ Superstar** at the Palace Theatre on Good Friday, April 3rd at 7:30 PM. Tickets (Orchestra Center) were purchased on January 15—the first day of ticket sales to the public; they can still be purchased at www.thepalacetheatre.org. The Palace is located in Greensburg. While public transportation is not an option, tickets are more affordable than in the Theater District and free parking is available. This musical runs April 2-4.



Interest was also expressed in seeing **Madeline** at the Carnegie Performing Arts Center. There will be performances on March 20, 21 and 22. Tickets are available at the door. A date to see the show as a group will be determined at our meeting in March.

Please let me know if you would like to be included in either of these events but need a ride. If you prefer to call, my phone number is in our Branch Yearbook. If there is a movie you would like to see and need a friend from the branch to see it with, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Here's What Happens In February

2nd – Groundhog Day - The celebration of Groundhog Day began with Pennsylvania's earliest settlers. They brought with them the legend of Candlemas Day, which states, "For as the sun shines on Candlemas Day, so far will the snow swirl in May..." Punxsutawney held its first Groundhog Day in the 1800s. The first official trek to Gobbler's Knob was made on February 2, 1887. So the story goes, Punxsutawney Phil was named after King Phillip. Prior to being called Phil, he was called Br'er Groundhog.

14th – Valentine's Day - St. Valentine's Day began as a liturgical celebration one or more early Christian saints named Valentinus. Several martyrdom stories were invented for the various Valentines that belonged to February 14, and added to later martyrologies. Today, Saint Valentine's Day is an official feast day in the Anglican Communion, as well as in the Lutheran Church. The Eastern Orthodox Church also celebrates Saint Valentine's Day, albeit on July 6 and July 30, the former date in honor of the Roman presbyter Saint Valentine, and the latter date in honor of Hieromartyr Valentine, the Bishop of Interamna (modern Terni). In Brazil, the Dia de São Valentim is recognized on June 12.

16th – President's Day - the term "Presidents Day" was informally coined in a deliberate attempt to use the holiday to honor multiple presidents and is virtually always used that way today.

18th – Ash Wednesday - Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting, is the first day of Lent in Western Christianity. It occurs 46 days (40 weekdays plus 6 Sundays) before Easter and can fall as early as 4 February or as late as 10 March. Ash Wednesday is observed by many Western Christians, including Catholics, Lutherans, Methodists, Anglicans, and Presbyterians.

19th – Chinese New Year - Chinese New Year is an important traditional Chinese holiday celebrated at the turn of the Chinese calendar. In China, it is also known as the **Spring Festival**, the literal translation of the modern Chinese name. Chinese New Year celebrations traditionally run from Chinese New Year's Eve, the last day of the last month of the Chinese calendar, to the Lantern Festival on the 15th day of the first month, making the festival the longest in the Chinese calendar. Because the Chinese calendar is lunisolar, the Chinese New Year is often referred to as the "**Lunar New Year**". 2015 is The Year of the Goat.



President's Report

Many thanks to Karin Neilson for giving us a wonderful presentation on her recent trip to Iceland. The pictures and stories from her trip gave us (especially me) a new perspective and was enjoyed by everyone at the January meeting.

The branch is financially sound, and while we have not yet awarded a 2015 scholarship we are still looking and taking applications. If you know a female graduate student who has at least one more year of study please let her know that there is a scholarship available. Details can be found on our web site at: <http://pittsburgh-pa.aauw.net/scholarships/>

As you can see, Karin has been very active in lining up our remaining schedule and Marci has found many interesting shows for us to consider. Thank you both for the terrific job you are doing.

Our membership is holding steady at 22 members. Which reminds me, membership renewal forms will be mailed to you at the end of March. If you renew at or by the May meeting you will receive a special gift. You must attend the May meeting to receive your gift.

I will have the Flower Power fundraising catalogs at the March meeting. If you are interested in placing an order and can't make the meeting, just let me know and I will mail one to you.

I personally want to thank everyone for being an AAUW member as well as a member of this branch. Your membership means a lot to this branch and AAUW.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Byerly

Don't forget to like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/AAUW-Pittsburgh->

Elected Officers

President, Patricia A. Byerly
aauwpg.president@gmail.com
Program Vice President, Karin Neilson
aauwpg.programVP@gmail.com
Finance Officer, Bernie Cerasaro
aauwpg.financeOfficer@gmail.com
Secretary, Marci Henzi
aauwpg.secretary@gmail.com

Supporting Liaisons and Committees

Scholarship Committee Chair, Bernie Cerasaro
aauwpg.scholarship@gmail.com

Interest Groups

The Knit Wits. Group Chair, Karin Neilson
aauwpg.programVP@gmail.com

The Show-goers. Group Chair, Marci Henzi
aauwpg.secretary@gmail.com

APB Book Discussion Group. Group Chair, Patricia Byerly
aauwpg.president@gmail.com

APB Book Discussion Group

Please come and join us in the APB (AAUW Pittsburgh Branch) Book Discussion Group's next book discussion. All branch members are welcome. You can even bring family and friends if they are interested.

This meeting of the APB Book Discussion Group will be held on March 14, 2015 (coffee and pastries will be provided) at the PAA. The discussion starts at 10:30.



I am excited about our next book discussion. The book selected is *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho. Books were distributed at the January meeting. If you weren't able to attend the meeting, the book can be purchased for your Kindle for around \$5.99 and paperbacks are available on Amazon.com for under \$6.00 (plus shipping).



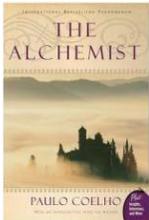
The Alchemist was first published in 1988 and then published May 1st 1993 by Harper Collins.

Paulo Coelho's enchanting novel has inspired a devoted following around the world. This story, dazzling in its powerful simplicity and inspiring wisdom, is about an Andalusian shepherd boy named Santiago who travels from his homeland in Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of a treasure buried in the Pyramids. Along the way he meets a Gypsy woman, a man who calls himself king, and an alchemist, all of whom point Santiago in the direction of his quest. No one knows what the treasure is, or if Santiago will be able to surmount the obstacles along the way. But what starts out as a journey to find worldly goods turns into a discovery of the treasure found within. Lush, evocative, and deeply humane, the story of Santiago is an eternal testament to the transforming power of our dreams and the importance of listening to our hearts.

Source: http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/865.The_Alchemist

The Alchemist

by Paulo Coelho



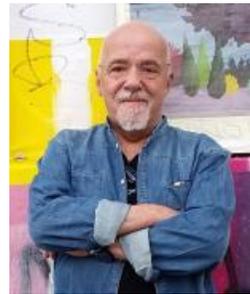
About the book . . .

Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy, has a dream about finding a treasure in the pyramids of Egypt. A gypsy woman and an old man claiming to be a mysterious king advise him to pursue it. "To realize one's destiny is a person's only obligation," the old man tells him. "And, when you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it."

With the courage of an adventurer, Santiago sells his sheep and travels to Tangiers in Africa. After a thief steals his money, Santiago takes a job with a crystal merchant who unwittingly teaches Santiago important lessons for his long journey ahead. After working at the crystal shop for a year, Santiago earns enough money to cover his losses and return home. But then something unexpected happens. On a desert caravan, Santiago meets an intriguing Englishman. The Englishman's passion for knowledge and his relentless quest to uncover the secrets of alchemy inspire Santiago to pursue his own dream of finding the treasure. As the Englishman searches for the two hundred year old alchemist who resides in the desert oasis, Santiago falls in love with a young woman, Fatima. Exposed to the greatest and eternal alchemy of all—love—Santiago thinks he has found the treasure. But the greatest test of all is yet to come.

With the help of the alchemist, Santiago completes the last leg of his journey—dangerous and infused with discoveries of the most profound kind—to find that the treasure he was looking for was waiting for him in the place where he least expected.

This story, timeless and entertaining, exotic yet simple, breaks down the journey we all take to find the most meaningful treasures in our lives into steps that are at once natural and magical. It is about the faith, power, and courage we all have within us to pursue the intricate path of a Personal Legend, a path charted by the mysterious magnet of destiny but obscured by distractions. Santiago shows how along the way we learn to trust our hearts, read the seemingly inconspicuous signs, and understand that as we look to fulfill a dream, it looks to find us just the same, if we let it.



Paulo Coelho

About the Author . . .

One of the most influential writers of our time, Paulo Coelho is the author of many international bestsellers, including *THE ALCHEMIST*, *ELEVEN*, *MINUTES*, and *MANUSCRIPT FOUND IN ACCRA*. Translated into 80 languages, his books have sold more than 165 million copies in more than 170 countries. He is a member of the Brazilian Academy of Letters and has received the Chevalier de l'Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur. In 2007, he was named a United Nations Messenger of Peace.

Source: <http://www.readinggroupguides.com/reviews/the-almchemist>

February Birthdays



Please join me in congratulating Jean Henderson as she celebrates her birthday this month:

02/19 – Jean Henderson