



Volume 82, Issue 4

December 2011/January 2012

Susan McNamara, President

Linda Robertson, Editor

Sarah Dunn, Technical Advisor

#### **AAUW Value Statement**

By joining AAUW we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

#### **Mission & Diversity Statement**

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

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to members to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national orientation, disability, or class.

#### **Mark Your Calendar**

December 18, 3-5 pm, Holiday Open House

January 11, 10 am Mini-meeting, Saucon Valley Area

January 28, 1 pm, Northeast Bethlehem Area

#### **AAUW-Bethlehem Website**

[aauwbethlehempa.org](http://aauwbethlehempa.org)

FACEBOOK Home:

AAUW Bethlehem PA

## BETHLEHEM BRANCH

# BETHLEHEM BYLINES

## Come to Our Holiday Open House Sound the Call! Tis the Season

**Sunday December 18, 2011  
3 to 5 pm  
610 West Macada Road**

Put on your party clothes and join us for an afternoon of good cheer and friendly conversation.

Linda Zimmerman and Joanne Wagner, Program co-chairs, will provide wine, spirits, and soft drinks, the opportunity to challenge friends to a game of pool or darts, and maybe a carol sing by the fireplace.

We invite you to supply the appetizers and dessert tidbits (finger food size please).

Spouses are welcome and we hope all will be intrigued by Linda's collection of unique German nutcrackers.

Please plan to attend. You can complete the reservation form on Page 6 and send it to Linda Zimmerman no later than December 10 (why not do it today).

#### Driving directions:

Coming from the North: Go south on route 512 (Center Street) to the 3rd stop light after you go under route 22. This is Macada RD. Turn right and go down the hill, across the Monocacy Creek (watch the humpy bridge), and up the hill. The house is about 10 houses from the



creek on the right side. It is tan brick with brown shutters.

You may park in the driveway or in the neighborhood across the street. Do not park along Macada RD. It could be dangerous.

Coming from the South: Go north on route 512 (Center Street) to Macada RD. Turn left and continue as above.

Coming from Schoenersville Road: Macada RD is the street across from entrance to the Lehigh Valley Hospital just south of route 22. Go east on Macada past stop light at Jacksonville RD for about 15 houses.

### **Bacchae**

Phyllis Wargo (610-797-9158)  
Darlene Borst hosts the meeting on February 9 with Louise Wisser as co-host. We will taste and study Rieslings. Anyone interested in joining the study group is invited.

### **The Out to Lunch Bunch**

Jeanie Keller (610-865-3543) All AAUW members are invited to our luncheons.

### **Diversity, Deeds and Dialogue**

We will meet on November 30 at Randi Blauth's to discuss our meaningful passage selections from *A Home on the Field*, and the reading on *White Privilege*. On December 15 at 6 pm, we will meet for pizza and a movie (*Crash*) at the home of Carolyn Connors. On January 25, Toni Hoffman will host the meeting. Contact Randi at read4joy@verizon.net or phone 610-974-9711.

### **Mystery Paperback**

Linda Robbins (610-264-4416). Our next meeting is March 27 at 1:30 pm. The book, published in 2000, is *Rose* by Martin Cruz Smith. Potential new members should contact Linda for details.

### **AAUW Calendar Sale**

#### **Important AAUW Fundraiser**

Marge Gotshall (610-866-7746) has just TWO spiral-bound calendars left. At a cost of \$6, the calendars benefit the AAUW-Bethlehem Scholarship Program for area high school seniors. Call Marge to get your calendar and start the new year right.

## **President's Message from Susan McNamara**

On the discussion agenda of the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of our Board was the submission from Bethlehem for the 2011-2012 AAUW-PA Branch Highlights recognition: A "summary of an event, process, change or initiative" that might be about 'something old that's still working, something new you've tried... something borrowed or adapted...or something else you're proud to report or think would help others.'

A consensus, almost instantaneously, was that our collaborative projects and events are most noteworthy and in a variety of ways meet all the criteria! Just as quickly members arrived at a paragraph heading "**Stepping Out of the Box**" and specifics: In March 2011, we joined AAUW members from Allentown, Easton, and Pocono Area branches for a discussion of racism and white privilege using *The Help* as a touchstone. We followed this program up with the formation in late spring of a diversity interest group and in mid-summer with a *The Help* movie night joining again members from Allentown and Easton. In April we worked with our Moravian College Student Affiliates to hold our second Pay Equity bake sale and campus speak-out. AAUW-Bethlehem also was a co-sponsor of, and participant in, the college's *Take Back the Night* reception, march and candle-light speak-out. Members joined Student Affiliate faculty advisor, Professor Stacey Zaremba, a member of the Bethlehem YW and named President of the Y Board in August, in the Y's Race Against Racism in April 2011. The Presidents of the four collaborating branches accepted the challenge of serving as the steering committee for the Eastern District meeting held in October 2011. Together, we are exploring options for the creation of a web common calendar for these four branches. In September, Membership Chair, Yvonne and I, responded to a reach-out from two faculty members at Northampton Community College NCC) interested in AAUW-Bethlehem and STEM. At present, an NCC and AAUW-Bethlehem C/U partnership along with inter-face with AAUW-Easton is being explored.

"Stepping out" highlights that these events are taking us beyond our branch's prior geographic and organizational boundaries. It emphasizes movement from discussion to action. It includes initiatives that incorporate more collective use of available technology. It points to focus on activities linked to the broader AAUW Mission concerns related to equity. In short, 'somethings' old, 'somethings' new, 'somethings' borrowed and a collective of things of which we are, and should be, very proud!

With all this stepping out, however, it is important to acknowledge some accompanying risks. In whatever way or ways we define or describe "the box," this metaphor connotes a place of safety, predictability, security, and comfort. "Stepping out", then, carries with it a risk of diminishing or losing those protective walls. And, it is true that, for example, Pay Equity Day can, and does, still provoke some hostility, even if only from a few on a college campus.

Continued on Page Nine

## Public Policy

### I WILL BE HEARD — VOTER EDUCATION AND ELECTIONS NEWS

**Compiled by Bernie Gardiner**

AAUW believes that the women's vote is critical. We are proud to launch a serious investment in getting out the women's vote for the 2012 election. With the new *It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard Campaign*, AAUW will work to educate women across the country about the rights and privileges that are at stake in the upcoming election. We will increase the volume and direction of women's voices and commit ourselves to getting women to the polls in record numbers. (Quote from AAUW's Washington Update Page.)

AAUW, in its efforts to provide education and information throughout the coming year in preparation for the election, has asked all of the branches to participate. We can do this by providing information through research and by making sure our voices are heard through the internet, writing for the newsletter, through discussions and study groups.

#### A Woman Who Has Made a Difference

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, the first woman on the Supreme Court, has continued her work through activism even after 6 years of retirement. She served on a commission that studied the Iraq War and she has tried to persuade states that appoint judges to elect them. She also hears Appellate Court cases. She has a strong belief in the need for judges who reflect diversity.

Please send your thoughts on the issues or people of "note" to me so that we can successfully pursue this venture on behalf of AAUW and women everywhere.

#### Half of Working Women Do Not Get Paid Maternity Benefits

A recent Census Bureau analysis showed that the share of women given time off for pregnancy, birth, and child care has decreased, with about 50% of working first-time mothers forced to pass up paychecks to stay at home. Unlike many other countries, the United States does not have a federal policy on paid parental leave. The lack of paid leave is more likely to affect those with less education.

AAUW believes that creating a work environment that helps employees balance the responsibilities of work and family is smart for businesses and good public policy. AAUW is committed to greater availability of and access to benefits and policies that create a family-friendly workplace environment, which are critical to women's equitable access and advancement in employment.

If you have questions, contact [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) or call 800-326-2289 between 10 am and 5 pm Monday through Friday. If I can help, e-mail me, at [bnkgardiner@rcn.com](mailto:bnkgardiner@rcn.com) or call me at 610-861-2925.

*Bernie Gardiner*  
*Public Policy Chair*

#### Paperback I

Norma Ferguson (610-515-1901)  
Norma will host a discussion of *Russian Winter* by Daphne Kalotay. A star of the Bolshoi Ballet, a remarkable jewelry collection, and a mysterious secret make this new novel a page turner. Contact Norma for time and directions.

#### Paperback II

Debbie Spinney (610-865-4843) At 7:30 pm on January 17 at Lynda Schoeninger's we discuss the thought-provoking novel *Room* by Emma Donoghue. Shirley Daluisio will be leading the discussion.

#### Paperback III

Barbara Myers (610-867-5222) On January 11 at 1 pm, Nancy Disario hosts and leads a discussion of *Cleopatra: A Life* by Stacey Schiff. On February 1st Myra Sims hosts a discussion of *Dreams of Joy* by Lisa See. New members welcome.

#### Going Places Group

On December 7 the group will carpool to the Michener Art Museum, Doylestown to see the exhibit: *The Painterly Voice - Bucks County Fertile Ground*. The exhibition is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view some of the finest paintings from the 19th and first half of the 20th century, rarely make available to the general public. The exhibit will focus particularly on Buck County's landscape tradition - Garber, Redfield, Spencer, Coppedge and their many friends and colleagues, who were part of the New Hope art colony. We will also see an exhibit of quilt art. Lunch and shopping in downtown Doylestown. For reservations or information call Yvonne Payne at 610-867-6575.

### SAVE THE DATE

We will be having a luncheon to celebrate our 50th year of Book Fair on Friday, March 30, 2012. You will be receiving an invitation after the holidays. We would like to know if anyone has Book Fair memorabilia, pictures or ideas to share. Contact: Karen Donald or Nancy Disario.

### Marcellus Shale Discussion

In *The Quest: Energy, Security, and the Remaking of the Modern World*, author and Pulitzer Prize winner David Yergin proves that energy is truly the engine of global political and economic change, as well as central to the battle over climate change. From the jammed streets of Beijing, the shores of the Caspian Sea, and the conflicts in the Mideast, to Capitol Hill and Silicon Valley, Yergin takes us inside the decisions and choices that are shaping our future. Without understanding the realities of energy examined in *The Quest*, we may surrender our place at the helm of history.



Thank you Polly, Susan, and Marge  
For Assembling the 2011 AAUW-  
Bethlehem Holiday Giving Back  
Project

## Tech Talk by Trisha Moller Yard Sale Findings - Tech Talk style

One woman's trash is another woman's treasure, as the old saying goes. Finding a bargain is always a thrill but now, the internet has brought garage sale-ing to a whole new level. Today it is even easier to turn your junk into money or to find valuables for a steal... saving time, money and the environment! You never know what you will find and even more surprising is actually finding that one random item that you do want! Check out these sites:

### **FREecycle:**

<http://www.freecycle.org/>

Freecycling, or Free Recycling, is the act of giving away usable unwanted items to others instead throwing them away. The online network [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org) hosts a mailing list to do this for members at no cost. "It's a grassroots and entirely nonprofit movement of people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free in their own towns. It's all about reuse and keeping good stuff out of landfills." Since it's organized by region, you would belong to the "Bethlehem group".

To participate, one has to sign up as a member (no deep personal information needed). Then you are allowed to post as well as accept offers of free "stuff", anywhere from household items to large appliances and TVs to trinkets to cardboard boxes! Instead of chucking it into the garage or leaving it on the curb with a "free" sign (hoping it doesn't rain!), members give it all away on freecycle with a click of a button. (Personal Note: We are renovating our basement into a usable playroom/guest room and creating a brand new ¾ bathroom. We just found a FREE stand alone shower to use in our project!)

### **CRAIGSLIST:**

<http://allentown.craigslist.org/>

Wikipedia describes Craigslist as "a centralized network of online communities, featuring free online classified advertisements – with sections devoted to jobs, housing, personals, for sale, services, community, gigs, résumés, and discussion forums." With Craigslist, think "online classifieds" section of the newspaper. Whereas freecycle promotes strictly FREE items, Craigslist items are sold for money, albeit at a great discount just like at yard sales. The range of stuff bought/sold on Craigslist is more extensive and a bit more valuable (or in better shape) and includes tangible items as well as services too! Similar to freecycle, you would become a member of the "Lehigh Valley group" and then post or accept offers, at no cost for submissions. (Personal note: I obtained *much* of my baby items from Craigslist, including "big ticket items" like strollers and swing to random used toys and crafts.)

The history (from Wikipedia) is that "Craig Newmark began the service in 1995 as an email distribution list of friends, featuring local events in the San Francisco Bay Area, before becoming a web-based service in 1996 and expanding into other classified categories. It started expanding to other U.S. cities in 2000, and currently covers 50 countries."

If you'd like help navigating these sites, please contact Trisha Moller at [trisha@fraboni.net](mailto:trisha@fraboni.net) or 610-758-8263.

## UPDATE! AAUW-Bethlehem Holiday Philanthropy Nurse-Family Partnership

Through Thanksgiving Thursday, 57 of our members had donated \$2,595 to support the literacy portion of the Visiting Nurse Association of St. Luke's Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) project. It is not too late to make your contribution.

Please be sure to write your check directly to the "VNA of St. Luke's, NFP Project" so you receive a credit for income tax purposes. Our aim is to have the gifts to present to the NFP before the holidays. If you have a question call Myra Jones (610-865-3419), Louise (610-867-8253) or Susan McNamara (610-216-4905).

### AAUW-PA 2011-2012 Awards and Recognitions

The state board has revamped the awards and recognitions program. The Emerging Star and Humanitarian awards are retired; other awards are being revised or clarified, so please read the current criteria. Please note that all branch submissions will be recognized by AAUW-PA.

At this time, the AAUW-Bethlehem Nomination Committee invites nominations for the following awards, to be sent to Susan Mc Namara, Bernie Gardiner, or Fran Bentkowski by December 10, 2011; please include a brief statement of recommendation.

#### **Outstanding Woman**

Outstanding Woman is awarded to a member of a branch for meritorious service to the branch and to the community over multiple years. It is up to the branch to determine if they wish to award it to a person more than once.

**Branch TEAL Award:** This recognition is for a recent-term contribution by an unsung branch hero or a branch member exemplifying the spirit of AAUW. This award honors a member of the branch who made a big difference in something important to the branch within the last year. The recipient is chosen by the branch and need not be a branch officer or committee chair.

**Special Honoree(s):** A longstanding member whom the branch believes should receive a special AAUW-PA award.

**Education Fund Honoree(s):** An individual(s), not previously recognized for an award, who over time has demonstrated dedication to AAUW-Bethlehem, its mission and activities.

**Gateway to Equity:** This branch award recognizes someone in the community, who has advanced equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, or research. The award is traditionally given on International Women's Day, in early March. Recommendations to be sent to Randi Blauth.

AAUW-PA President  
Margaret McGrath  
mcgrathaauwpa@gmail.com

AAUW Help Line  
800-326-2289  
10 am to 5 pm  
Connect@aauw.org

#### **Association Website**

www.aauw.org  
AAUW-PA Website  
www.aauwpa.org

#### **AAUW Gives Thanks**

The American Association of University Women would like to pause to give thanks for the many opportunities and advancements for women and girls during 2011.

Although there is no way for us to list all of the advances for women and girls that we have seen this year, here are just a few to reflect upon and give thanks:

We're thankful for AAUW's new research report, *Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School*, the most comprehensive, nationally representative report conducted on sexual harassment in middle and high schools in a decade.

We're thankful that the Norwegian Nobel Committee announced that three women, Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Liberian activist Leymah Gbowee and Yemeni opposition leader Tawakkul Karman, were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their courageous contributions to peace, democracy, and international women's rights.

We're thankful that the Internal Revenue Service ruled that breast pumps may be purchased with money from pretax flexible spending accounts or, for women without such accounts, a tax deduction for the pump.

**Officers**

President Susan McNamara  
610-861-8066  
Smc8066@yahoo.com

Past President Cinda Jensen  
610-866-0389  
cindajen@aol.com

VPs/Program  
Joanne Wagner 610-258-9259  
jmfwagner@live.com

Linda Zimmerman 610-866-37319  
T2Lzimmerman@ptd.net

VP/Membership  
Yvonne Payne 610-867-6575  
paynespitzer@hotmail.com

Secretary MaryAnne Mitrising  
610-837-7693  
Mitrising@rcn.com

Treasurer Myra Jones  
610-865-3419  
mejones@entermail.net

**Committee Chairs**

Book Fair 50th Anniversary  
Nancy Disario 610-867-8533  
jdisario@hotmail.com

Karen Donald 610-746-0337  
kdonald@ptd.net

Calendars Marge Gotshall  
610-866-7746  
Geeg@mymailstation.com

Historian Joan Jones  
610-867-0151

Nominating Sandy Utley  
610-867-1893  
sutley@ptd.net

**Holiday Open House Reservation Form**

Return by **December 10, 2010** to Linda Zimmerman, 610 W. Macada RD, Bethlehem, PA 18017 or email: [T2Lzimmerman@ptd.net](mailto:T2Lzimmerman@ptd.net). Please put **AAUW** in subject line. Call Linda with any questions (610-866-7319).

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I will bring:

Appetizer: \_\_\_\_\_ hot \_\_\_\_\_ cold \_\_\_\_\_ cheese platter

Salad: \_\_\_\_\_ pasta \_\_\_\_\_ green

Dessert: \_\_\_\_\_ cake \_\_\_\_\_ cookies \_\_\_\_\_ pie \_\_\_\_\_ fruit platter \_\_\_\_\_ other

I/we prefer: \_\_\_\_\_ red wine \_\_\_\_\_ white wine \_\_\_\_\_ beer \_\_\_\_\_ soft drink

**Never Too Early**

**Looking forward to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary another Successful Year**

For those of you who shop early for the holidays, and give and receive books as gifts, it's time to remind all your friends, relatives and neighbors to empty those shelves and clean out the toy boxes to get ready for a new year of reading. And the AAUW-Bethlehem Book Fair team will be happy to take those books off their hands.

A quick email to everyone in your address book or just cut, paste and forward this page of the newsletter can make the request. If you are not able to store the books over the winter, call or email us and we will find a warm home for them until March.

We are working behind the scenes to assist our captains and sorters with new and improved signs for the sorting table. We want to make sorting fun and uncomplicated.

Book Fair always welcomes new volunteers.

*Linda Robbins*

*610-264-441 or [Lrob164832@aol.com](mailto:Lrob164832@aol.com)*

*Mary Anne Mitrising*

*610-837-7693 or [Mitrising@rcn.com](mailto:Mitrising@rcn.com)*

## What I Thought I Knew

I've been thinking a lot about inclusion lately. What, exactly, does it mean? Encarta Dictionary states that inclusion is the addition of somebody or something to, or the presence of somebody or something in, a group or mixture. Is inclusion good, bad or both? Our group, Diversity, Deeds, and Dialogue, tackles issues like this. We've discussed fear and why humans fear. Do we exclude people because of fear? Some research says that **fear stems from what we think we know about something or someone, not what we don't know!** I always thought fear came from the unknown. Perhaps I had heard the quote once too often! I really had to wrap my brain around this. So, I'm scared of what I think I do know? Let's try that out a few times. I'm scared of deer ticks because I have experienced Lyme's disease. I'm scared of driving in New York City because the traffic is usually awful and the drivers are impatient. So, that's what I think I know. But not everyone bitten by a deer tick develops Lyme's disease, nor are all New York City drivers impatient. Where does this experiment leave me? It leaves me with the understanding that **what I think I know isn't always accurate.**

Let's apply this hypothesis to people. We might think that all old ladies are crabby and are to be avoided. But is that true? We might think that all teenagers are loud and obnoxious because that's sometimes been our experience. But that's not always true. Stereotyping gets us nowhere. It prevents us from taking the next step toward someone. There's the point. Grouping people into categories might make us feel more comfortable because it gives us a basis of *knowing a person*- but do we really? If we categorize people, doesn't that make them outsiders? Or does it just give us a way to identify them according to what we know? Everyone has an outer shell they wear without choice: age, gender, race, for example. Inside is a creamy filling- an interesting mix of things we can't know from looking at the outside. Think of a box of Whitman's Sampler chocolates. We'll never know what's on the inside unless we open the box! So, maybe that teenager is recently back from a trip to Haiti after helping earthquake victims, and maybe that old lady marched in the civil rights movement or went to Woodstock! We need to take the risk and go outside our comfort zones. We need to embrace the unknown and peel back the layers to find the delicious inside. We need to remember that there are all kinds of people in our country and community and if we stereotype, we might be **in danger** of never knowing them.

"Inclusion is acknowledging and honoring our individuality, while moving towards unity" (United Cerebral Palsy). It sounds good to me. How about to you?

*Randi Blauth*  
Diversity Chair

## Committee Chairs

### Book Fair

Linda Robbins 610-264-4416

Lrob164832@aol.com

MaryAnne Mitrisin

610-837-7693

Mitrisin@rcn.com

### College/University Relations

Trisha Moller 610-758-8263

trisha@fraboni.net

### Communications

Linda Robertson 610-865-2087

LCRob123@PTD.net

### Diversity Randi Blauth

610-974-9711

read4joy@verizon.net

### Educational Foundation and Public

#### Policy

Bernice Gardiner

610-861-2925

bnkgardiner@rcn.com

### Information Technology

Cynthia Weber 610-837-9615

cynthia@acweber.net

### Public Policy Bernice Gardiner

610-861-2925

bnkgardiner@rcn.com

### Scholarships/Bylaws

Fran Bentkowski 610-866-7462

fbentkowski@verizon.net

### Study Groups

Olga Conneen 610-691-5371

oconneen@me.com

### Webmistress

Sue Pettit 610-868-2298

esap2@rcn.com

### Yearbook

Shirley Daluisio 610-866-7919

budshirl@hotmail.com

## Suggested Geographic Groups for January Meetings

Bethlehem Township & nearby: Blauth, Boorujy, Covington, Daluisio, Ferguson, Hammersmith, Jensen, McNamara, Michael, Miner, Musselman, Pettit, SantaMaria, Stauren, Schoeneck, and Shoeningner

Central Bethlehem Area: Achey, Barrett, Beebe, Bentkowski, Borst, Boscola, Cooper, Corroda, Dimmick, Fincke, Fisher, Foster, Houser-Wenzel, Jones (M.), Keller, Kim, Lappen, McGeady, Nehilla, Parlin, Patterson, Richards, Riley, Seaman, Skelly, Sterner, and Wisser

North Bethlehem Area Subgroup "A": Conneen, Disario, Dragotta, Eroh, Guldner, Horn, Jones (J.), Knoll, Mahoney, Metzger, Myers, Payne, Robbins, Sims, Terres, Weber, Werner, and Zimmerman.  
North Bethlehem Subgroup "B": Basile-Borgia, Donald, Hess, Kelly, Loupos, Mitrisin, Rothman, Snyder (N.), Spinney, Stephen, Thompson, Utley, and Wagner.

South Bethlehem Area: Bittner, Boltz, Brown, Frederiksen, Light, McBride, Merry, Niewoehner, Seidenberger, Skoglund, Stanglein, Wellner, and Zarembo.

West Bethlehem Area: Ashby, Barnette, Gardiner, Gotshall, Hinder (Polly), Hinder (Shoshanna), Hunter, Kramer, Lovingood, Moller, Robertson, Shellhammer, Silhanek, Snyder (Jane), Szanyi, Tomlinson, Treiber, Wargo, and White.

These lists are only suggestions. You may want to go to all three meetings and that is fine. Remember to call the hostess to let her know you are attending.

## Mini-Meetings Start the New Year

Instead of a traditional January Branch Meeting we can choose to attend one, two, or three mini-meetings being hosted by our members. Although suggested geographic areas are listed in the sidebar, all are welcome at each and every session.

Ann Brown (1514 Willowbrook Drive, Lower Saucon Township, 18015, phone 610-861-5122) is delighted to host a mini-meeting on **Wednesday January 11<sup>th</sup>** from 10 am to noon (Weather Delay date is Tuesday January 20<sup>th</sup>). Janet Fricker the executive director of the Bethlehem Area Public Library and Liza Holzinger, special events manager, will present the Library's campaign to expand and relocate the Children's Room and also comment on recent newspaper articles on whether or not Lower Saucon Township will remain in the library system. This will be a very informative and exciting session.

Myrna Sims (768 Redfern LN, Bethlehem 18017; phone 610-865-1566) will host a WEEKEND mini-meeting on **Saturday January 28<sup>th</sup>** at 1 pm (Weather date is **Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup>** at 1 pm) with Linda Robertson as the presenter. The subject is the e-book versus print copy books. We will touch on how people's brains may be changing because of e-books; eye doctors' concerned about the possibility of back-lit screens on hand-held readers damaging eyes; and even how will your pile of 'beloved' books – books that you return to over and over – could be affected if everything is eventually located on a reader. Feel free to bring your Nook, Kindle, or Fire and tell us why it works for you!

Randi Blauth (4825 Country Top CT, Bethlehem 18020; phone 610-974-9711) will host a movie night and discussion. Details about the date, time, and film title to be announced.

In each case the hostesses suggest casual dress. As a courtesy, please call your hostess to let her know you will be attending.

If there is a branch member who would like to either offer an additional program or serve as a hostess, please contact Joanne Wagner at 610-258-9259 or [jmfwagner@live.com](mailto:jmfwagner@live.com).

## Welcome to Our Newest Member

Randi Tillman lives at 4250 Crosswinds Drive, Easton, PA 18045. Her contact information is: Home 610-829-1256; Cell: 914-329-9859; and [rst4251@aol.com](mailto:rst4251@aol.com)

She received her bachelor of arts degree in 1973 from Tufts University and her doctorate of dental medicine in 1977 from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. In 1998 she earned a masters in business administration from Columbia University.



## President's Message Continued from Page Two

A book discussion of racism in the south in the 1960s does stir up some discomfort in many of us when talk turns to issue of present-day 'white privilege.' More reliance on technology prompts for some feelings that "I'm just not smart enough" or "it's all too much for me." When we think about sustaining membership in AAUW with the recognition that women holding college degrees are increasingly representative of a broadly diverse in terms of age, race, creed, sexual orientation, class, and disability, we worry that AAUW-Bethlehem just might not be or become any more 'our organization.'" With events, plans, activities that sometimes provoke hostility, challenge our sense of self-worth or prompt on-going examination of beliefs and opinions, it's only to be expected that we sometimes want to resist change, feel obligated to defend and protect that box.

Simultaneously, however, for those of us in AAUW-Bethlehem, another expectation can be that these are opportunities in which the very defining attributes of AAUW can flourish: as advocates of life-long learning, we can grab hold of our immediate, and very human, resisting responses by acknowledging and working through them in 'teachable moments'; we can stretch out to participate in study/interest groups that encourage candid discussion or even difficult dialogues on controversial topics, we can sponsor activities that address contemporary issues and problems. In short, the very act of acknowledging the risks that accompany those choices and actions of which we are proud, can free us to continue subscribing to and promoting the core values of AAUW. It can remind us of the intelligence, sensitivity, and dedication that AAUW women for 130 years have brought to the challenges of facing down barriers to equity in spite of the risks, personal and collective. We can continue to extend our boundaries.

*Susan McNamara*

## Message From Trisha Moller

### Thanks for Supporting Our Moravian College Affiliates

I just wanted to send an extra special thank you to all members who attended the November showing of the documentary "Miss Representation". It was SO wonderful to see so many of our members come to support the students! The students appreciated your input in the discussion as well as presence on campus. You made a greater impact than you realize! As you saw, we have a VERY strong group of student leaders and I hope that this will just open the doors to more collaboration, networking and personal growth for all. You truly are positive role models to the girls and to myself.

Thank you for your time and care and support!

### Some Progress in Equity in High School Sports

A recent report on gender and high school sports participation showed some progress toward closing the gender gap from 1993-94 to 2005-06, but progress slowed after 2000. In addition, the report, *Progress Without Equity: The Provision of High School Athletic Opportunity in the United States, by Gender 1993-94 through 2005-06*, showed that girls were provided proportionately fewer sports participation opportunities in each school year in all geographic regions. AAUW believes that expansion of athletic opportunities for girls and women must continue at both the high school and college levels because it is important not only for the participants themselves but also for the benefit of the greater community.

### Pittsburgh High School to End Single-Sex Education

Pittsburgh Public Schools Superintendent Linda Lane recommended that the George Westinghouse Academy discontinue single-gender classes by February. Lane said she was dissatisfied with statements made during staff training for single-gender classes. The ACLU had notified the district of their plan to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights because they believe single-gender classes violated a federal law that says students can't be forced into single-sex education. AAUW believes single-sex education without proper attention to civil rights protections can reinforce problematic gender stereotypes, increase discrimination, and restrict the educational opportunities open to both girls and boys.

**AAUW**

Linda Robertson  
1842 Kenmore Avenue  
Bethlehem PA 18018-3339

Time Sensitive Material

**Part of the Enthusiastic Audience at Moravian College Screening  
A Standing Room Only Crowd of 90 attended *Miss Representation***

