



Volume 83, Issue 4

December 2012/January 2013

Randi Blauth, President

Linda Robertson and Cathy
Kotanchik, Editors

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 7, 5pm, Dinner Meeting
on the Southside. Friends Invited

January 6, 2 pm, Mini-Meeting

January 16, 7 pm, Mini-Meeting

January 17, 11:30, Mini-Meeting

January 23, 10 am, Mini-Meeting

January 28, 7 pm, Mini-Meeting

AAUW-Bethlehem Website

Bethlehem-pa.aauw.net

FACEBOOK Home:

AAUW Bethlehem PA

BETHLEHEM BRANCH

BETHLEHEM BYLINES

Cultural Pot Luck Dinner Make Your Reservation TODAY!

Friday, December 7, 2012
Northampton Community College
Fowler Center
511 E. Third Street 18015
5 - 8 pm

Holidays. A time for connecting and reconnecting, meeting new friends and reminiscing with friends of old. A time for sharing -- food, fun, traditions, memories, and laughter. A time for giving thanks -- for friendships, for families near and far, for our blessings of wealth, health, and happiness.

As Jack Frost starts to nip at your noses, please come in from the cold and join us for a time of holiday celebration! Our branch is hosting a Cultural Potluck dinner. Please bring your loved ones *and* especially potential members as well as a dish to share, perhaps one that is a treasured family recipe. If you'd like, you can provide the recipe and family story to share with all. Trisha will collect all information and distribute the collection as a branch holiday cookbook. If your stove is out of order, a \$10 donation would be appreciated.

Please **RSVP form by December 1 to Trisha Moller** so we can have an accurate headcount. Thanks to the Board of Directors for providing



setup/cleanup and hospitality.

Please send reservations by December 1 to Trisha

Moller. Email is preferred:
(trisha@fraboni.net). US Mail is:
728 W. Market Street, Bethlehem
PA 18018-5211 Include the
following information:

Name(s) of attendee(s)

Food that you will share:

Appetizer: hot/cold

Salad: pasta/greens

Dessert: cake/cookies/pie/other

Country of Origin of your dish!

If you have questions, you can
call Trisha at 610-758-8263.

Bacchae

Phyllis Wargo (610-797-9158)
We study "Wines Around the World". Bacchae will meet again at 7 pm on Valentine's Day, Feb 14, at Louise Wisser's house with Linda Robbins as co-hostess. They will share their research about the Eastern European wines we'll be tasting that night. In the meantime, happy holidays and happy wine tasting to all!

The Out to Lunch Bunch

Jeanie Keller (610-865-3543) In November, ten of us enjoyed a delightful meal together. Think about joining us on January 15 at noon at The Café on West Broad Street, Bethlehem. Call your reservation to Linda Robbins at 610-246-4416 or email her at: Lrob164832@aol.com by January 12. All AAUW members are invited to our luncheons.

Diversity, Deeds and Dialogue

This inter-branch study group meets the fourth Wednesday. Our next meeting will be held on November 28 at Moravian College. We are working to create an eye-opening program for the March 2013 inter-branch meeting on the subject of the media and its representation and misrepresentation of women. We are reading interesting articles on weight and body image and on the media's efforts to commodify feminism. For more information: Ruth Skoglund at rskoglund@rcn.com or telephone 610-509-9263.

President's Pen



Whenever I visit aauw.org I'm amazed at the wealth of information, opportunities, and activities that there are for us! Have you visited the site lately?

Our branch contributes to the Legal Advocacy Fund and the Educational Opportunities Fund every year with a portion of the proceeds from our annual Book Fair.

You can contribute, too. Please take some time to look at the list of AAUW funds and all the programs they support for women and girls. Our organization is amazing.

Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year!

Randi Blauth

Support AAUW Funds

AAUW members across Pennsylvania have continued their tradition of generously donating to AAUW Funds. Linda Hallman, Executive Director of AAUW, congratulates us for outstanding achievements in fundraising during 2011.

Please consider including AAUW in your year-end giving, through the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund (#9170), the Leadership Program Fund (#4339), the Public Policy Fund (#4337), the Legal Advocacy Fund (#3999), the Educational Opportunities Fund (#4336), or one of the AAUW Giving Circles.

The deadline for 2012 contributions is December 31. Donations may be made via U.S mail to: AAUW Development Office, P.O. Box 98045, Washington, DC 20090-8045, or online at:

<http://www.aauw.org/contribute/support.cfm>

New Committee Forming! What's STEM?

The first meeting of our STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) committee was held on November 20. If you have an interest in promoting STEM fields to women and girls, this is the committee for you! Please contact Randi Blauth and let her know you'd like to help!-read4joy@ptd.net or call 610-974-9711.

Public Policy Compiled by Bernie Gardiner

Campaign Update

The 2012 election was a show of force by women, who this year represented 53 percent of the electorate. The millennials, voters under the age of 29, increased their 12 percent share in 2010 to 19 percent of all voters this year. AAUW can be proud of its Action Fund's *It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard* Campaign, which represented an unprecedented investment in making women's voices heard in the election and engaging millennial women to create lifelong voting habits.

This year's election has sent a record number of women to Congress. There will now be twenty women serving in the Senate and eighty-one women in the House of Representatives. New Hampshire provided another election highlight by becoming the first state with a woman governor and an all-female Congressional Delegation.

In a recap of the election results, AAUW President, Carolyn Garfein, observes, "Although our work to advance education and equity for women and girls is far from over, today we can sit back and give ourselves a pat on the back for a job well done....Thank you to the AAUW members and branches that got creative and inspired everyone around them with their passion."

AAUW Public Policy Positions

AAUW's mission is to promote and protect education, civil rights, and women's rights. It will continue to fight for fair pay and promote women's health issues and will closely follow the student financial aid changes expected in the 2013-2014 academic year.

AAUW supports a **balanced** approach to prevent our country falling off the fiscal cliff. If sequestration (automatic spending cuts) occurs, there will be massive funding cuts for education, women's health, and civil rights, unless it is applied equally to both defense and discretionary spending.

Amanda Holt, a citizen advocate, spoke on Pennsylvania's legislative redistricting plan at the November AAUW East District meeting. AAUW-Bethlehem members, who attended included Randi Blauth, Bernie Gardiner, and Ruth Skoglund.



Paperback I

Polly Hinder (610-865-0358) We will meet January 17 at 7:30 pm to discuss *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson. We welcome new members.

Paperback II

Debbie Spinney (610-865-4843) We will not meet in December; our next meeting is January 15 at 7:30 pm at the home of Brenda Tomlinson. Joanne Wagner will lead a discussion of *Every Last One* by Anna Quindlen. New members are always welcome.

Paperback III

Barbara Myers (610-867-5222) No December meeting. On January 9 at 1 pm at Myrna Sims' Andie Silhanek leads a discussion of *Birds Without Wings* by Louis de Berniers. On February 6 at Nancy Disario's Dianne Schellenberger leads a discussion of *Winter Garden* by Kristen Hannah. New members are welcome.

Paperback Mystery

Linda Robbins (610-264-4416) On January 22. We will discuss the mysteries of Martha Grimes, the author's style and character treatment. It will be a perfect time to join the group. Call Linda for the details. New Members are welcome.

Contact Information Changes

Ann Minner has a new email: annminner211@gmail.com Her phone is now 843-232-6482.

Sympathies of the Branch

To the family of Dorothy Fair who died at the age of 98 October 26. She was stalwart AAUW member and took delight in serving as a greeter at any meeting we had at Kirkland Village.

Study Groups

Lynn Bittner (610-838-1648) There has been interest shown for a new study group "Out to the Movies". It is always more fun to share a movie with friends and possibly have a meal prior to or after the film. We are just starting our planning. We still need someone to chair the group. Even better would be co-chairs. If that interests you, call Lynn or email her at lynbit@mailbag.com.

A ONE-WOMAN GET OUT THE VOTE EFFORT!

Member Marge Gotshall got out the vote big time! She called approximately 25 new voters, whom AAUW-Bethlehem/Easton had registered, to remind them to vote and had some interesting conversations, too! Many thanks to Marge for her help!

AAUW-Student Affiliates at Moravian College

Visit them on Facebook. Go to: AAUW Student Affiliates at Moravian College

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

Student Affiliate Activities

The AAUW Student Affiliate Group (SAG) has been busy. We've concluded a great few months of energizing our campus about the election, we've begun to collaborate with other campus groups for a major future event, and we've co-sponsored and contributed to various projects on campus that correspond with our goals of empowering women and educating about women's issues.

After working to get students registered to vote, our efforts culminated on Election Day. We decorated the campus in red, white, and blue. On Election Day we hosted a voting table at which we handed out information, directed voters who were registered on campus to their polling place, and provided refreshments. One of our members, Tom Lazaro, dressed up as Uncle Sam. He was a huge hit and also got great press for our group! We hosted an election watch party that night open to the whole campus, at which we finally took a moment to exhale and took pride in the excitement that our efforts generated on campus.

Another event that we hope raises awareness is the STEM program that we will co-host next semester. We have already begun to collaborate on this event with other student groups including the ACM-W (Women's Association for Computing Machinery), the Brain Club, and the Art Club. We will invite Girl Scout troops within the region to the all-day program, focused on STEM issues. The day will include a leadership and self-esteem workshop led by our members, who attended this summer's NCCWSL conference.

In addition to our own activities, we have sponsored and contributed to other campus programs. One that was especially successful was a presentation on November 5 by Planned Parenthood's Heather Schumaker about how the election would effect Planned Parenthood and women's health. The event was hosted and organized by one of Dr. Zaremba's students, Molly Rambo, and sponsored by the Student Affiliate Group. Some of our members, including Kate Cohen, Melissa Walters, Tom, and myself will be contributing to the *Estrogen Bomb* on our college radio station, WRMC, on November 16. The *Estrogen Bomb* is an all-day radio broadcast, hosted by Dr. Zaremba's student, Corrin Magditch, with the mission to "educate, empower, and discuss issues revolving around women and feminism."

We have more great programs and events already planned for the future. In the immediate future, we plan to host a two-week drive on campus to collect baby items for the Nurse-Family Partnership. We will be sending out all-campus e-mails to make people aware of the drive, and we will be sitting in the college's HUB every day during the second week handing out information and asking people to contribute. We are especially excited about what is on the horizon. Next semester will include two of our biggest events: Take Back the Night and Pay Equity Day.

Steve Delturk
For SAG

Bus Trip Scheduled - May 11, 2013 Barnes Foundation and Rodin Museum in Philadelphia

Philadelphia is known as a cultural Mecca, but its reputation is burning even more brightly with the opening of the Barnes Foundation and the renovations to the Rodin Museum, both along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. **Make your reservation now** for the Saturday, May 11, 2013 day-long outing.

The bus leaves from Enzo Travel, 3320 Airport Road at 8 am. First stop is the Barnes Foundation, a world-renown collection of Impressionist and post-Impressionist paintings and objects. We will pick up audio guides and proceed through the galleries at our own pace. Save time to visit their exquisite gift shop, before leaving at noon. Our driver will drop us off in Old City for lunch on our own - a list of restaurants will be handed out. At 2 pm we re-board our motor coach for a 2:30 pm reservation at the Rodin Museum. Our one-hour guided tour allows us time to concentrate on galleries of interest before leaving at 4:15 pm. We return to Bethlehem at approximately 6 pm.

Cost is \$75 per person. Cost includes museum admissions, bus transportation, and driver gratuity. MEMBER-ONLY reservations will be accepted until December 15. (Do not wait; reservations to the Barnes are hard to get. Bus seats will be assigned in the order of checks received). If there are seats after December 15, reservations will be open to family members and friends. After January 1, 2013, reservations will open to the public.

If you want to sit with someone, it is best to mail your checks together in a single envelope. Call Lynn with questions at 610-838-1482. Refunds only if YOU find a substitute.

Make check payable to AAUW-Bethlehem and MAIL TO LYNN BITTNER, 1707 Keith DR, Hellertown, PA 18055.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

TRAVELING WITH: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

Cost is \$75 per person. \$ _____ included.

Addresses For Elected Officials

Senator Robert Casey: 393 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510 (202-224-6324) or 840 Hamilton ST, Suite 301, Allentown, PA 18010 (610-782-9470)

Senator Patrick J. Toomey: 502 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510 (202-224-4254) or 1150 South Cedar Crest Blvd, Allentown, PA 18103 (610-434-1444)

Charles W. Dent: 702 West Broad ST, Bethlehem, PA 18018 (610-433-6790) or 1009 Longworth House Office Building, Suite 200 Washington, DC (202-225-6411)

State Legislators

Lisa M. Boscola: 458 Capitol Building, Senate Box 203018, Harrisburg, PA 17120-3018 (717-787 4236) or 559 Main ST, Suite 270, Bethlehem, PA 18018 (610-868 -8667)

Robert L. Freeman: 207 Irvis Office Building, Box 202136, Harrisburg PA 17120 (717-783-3815) or 215 Northampton ST, Easton, PA 18042 (610-253-5543)

Steve Samuelson: 104 E Broad ST, Bethlehem PA 18018 (610-867-3890) or 34 East Wing, Box 202135, Harrisburg PA 17120 (717-705-1881)

Are you an AAUW member? **Subscribe to Washington Update**, a members-only weekly e-mail bulletin with an insider's view on public policy and politics news, resources for advocates and programming ideas! **Subscribe today!**

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Nominating Yvonne Payne
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Update: 2012 Giving Back Project Branch Partners with VNA's Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) We Have Already Surpassed Last Year's Total!

Treasurer Myra Jones reports that as of November 17, 2012 fifty-five donors gave a total of \$3,310 to the Giving Back project. That is a lot of books, nursery rhyme CDs, and mothers' manuals!



If you recall, honorary chair Louise Wisser suggested in her video that AAUW members might really step up to the plate and aim for \$4,000. This would have seemed out-of-the-question two weeks ago, but now... Could we actually do it?

If you have not made your gift, there is still time. 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 Sara Klingner, the NFP manager, in December. If you have a question call Myra Jones (610-865-3419) or Louise (610-867-8253).

Many of us are blessed with strong, healthy children and grandchildren who have so many advantages. For the most part, we never worry about them having the privilege of a good education. Your gift to *Giving Back* could provide a meaningful step on the road to self-sufficiency for a first-time young mom. Can we do with one less holiday present to help make a difference? (Mail checks to Treasurer Myra.)

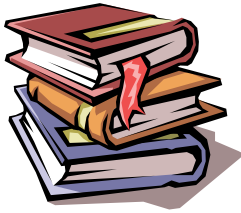
Sara Klingner, the program manager of the Visiting Nurse Association of St. Luke's Nurse-Family Partnership program and Louise Wisser, our honorary chair of 2012 Giving Back, sat down for a conversation about NFP in October. You can view this video by clicking on the link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OEH_zRMPNHc

November's Take Action New Bethany Ministries

For more actions to take on the issue of homelessness in Bethlehem consider:

Participating in Events: Luminaria Night, Saturday December 8. Buy kits at \$10 for the first (10 bags with sand and candles) and \$5 for subsequent kits. Go to newbethanyministries.org to order.

Donating goods or money: Needs include: baby items, socks, pantry food, bedding, coffee maker, peanut butter, canned meats, cereal, and diapers. Checks can be for the Endowment or operating budget and can be in memory/honor of a loved one.



TAKE ACTION

October – *Don't Judge a Library by its Cover*

For more actions to take throughout the year on this issue, consider...

Volunteering at your local library!

Supporting your **local library** through donations to:

- Buy-A-Book gift program
 - Endowment Fund
 - Children's Endowment
- Friends of the Library

Joining the Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries: <http://www.pcbllpa.org>

Liking the Pennsylvania Library Association on Facebook: *Pennsylvania's 5.6 Million Library Cardholders Can't Be Wrong*

Supporting the **PA Forward** action plan by:

- Lending your support by joining the coalition of Pennsylvanians who are helping power PA Forward.
- Providing Financial Support by donating to PA Forward. There are opportunities for both individuals and organizations/companies.

Telling your story of how libraries have already delivered value to you and your family in one of the five areas of literacy.

Contacting your elected officials (*in person, letters, phone calls, email, Facebook, and Twitter*) and let them know how important this initiative and libraries are to the future of Pennsylvania.

Learning the State and the Federal issues, research, and legislation

Inviting legislators and local elected officials to come to your library, if not for a personal tour, then for an event or meeting. Not only will you show how much the library is involved in the community, but you will build a stronger relationship with your representatives.

For more information on this issue, please see...

- PA Forward site: <http://www.pafoward.org/>
 - Pennsylvania Library Association site: <http://www.palibraries.org/>
- The Bethlehem Area Public Library site: <http://www.bapl.org/>

BASIC

CIVIL & SOCIAL

FINANCIAL

INFORMATION

HEALTH

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POST ELECTION ANALYSIS FROM
LISA MAATZ, AAUW PUBLIC POLICY
DIRECTOR

- It takes three elections for voting to become a habit
- Millennials were 19% of the national turnout
- Senior citizens were 19% of national turnout
- More married women supported Governor Romney
- More single women supported President Obama
- There are now 20 women senators and 81 representatives—the highest number ever
- New Hampshire will send an ALL FEMALE delegation to Washington
- First Asian woman to serve in Congress, first openly gay senator to serve
- Both parties spoke to women's issues

Congress is closer to reflecting the diversity of our country. The AAUW Mission Statement reminds us of our commitment to diversity every day. Our branch, and its Get Out the Vote partners, should be proud of its contribution to our community, state, and country.

Thank you to all the members who took part in AAUW's yearlong *It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard* campaign! The campaign kicked into high gear the month before the election as we continued to educate women voters. AAUW states and branches nationwide made reminder calls to millennial women in their communities, while others canvassed door to door. The AAUW Action Fund is proud to note that women turned out to vote in droves, making up 53% of the electorate, and young people exceeded their record turnout from 2008.

AAUW January Mini-Meetings

Combat the winter blahs by participating in mini-meetings centered around timely topics. These meetings will be in homes around the city for easy access during potential bad weather. As a courtesy, *please contact your hostess to let her know you will be attending!* Space availability may limit attendance. Members may attend as many mini-meetings as they choose.

The Other Big Talk: Parents & Adult Children Discuss End of Life Issues

On January 6 at 2 pm, Linda Robertson hosts and leads discussion. Using Dr. Ira Byock's new book, *The Best Care Possible: A Physician's Quest to Transform Care Through the E-O-L*, we will use case studies, talk about what lists of important numbers and information YOU need to create (ever thought what will happen to your Netflix account or frequent flier points?), and offer techniques to keep adult children from tearing up or rolling their eyes whenever the topic of Hospice care is broached. Contact information: 610-865-2087 or linda.c.robertson@gmail.com

"Friending" the Internet: Learning Facebook and other Social Media programs

On January 16 at 7 pm, Fran Bentkowski hosts Trisha Moller, who will teach us the ins and outs of Facebook, answer questions about social networking, and demonstrate the basics of online account of friends. We can explore Skype, YouTube: online videos of all types from the serious newsworthy to the stupid, and Twitter – another online social networking service and micro-blogging service (short one liner texts) where a user can follow friends, experts, celebrities, and breaking news. **Laptops are welcome!** Contact information: 610-866-7462 or fbentkowski@verizon.net

AAUW Bridge Club

We are AAUW and community members who meet the third Thursday to enjoy bridge. On January 17, we meet at Kirkland Village for lunch in the Marketplace at 11:30 am, followed by bridge in the Sun Room. Please call Shirley Daluisio (610-866-7919) before January 7 to be included for the January meeting or to join us on a regular basis.

Social Security Benefits

On January 23 at 10 am, Deb Spinney hosts Ginny Stanglein, an AAUW member, who has worked as a claims representative in Bethlehem's Social Security office for 35 years. Ginny will share her knowledge of this government retirement program which impacts all of us. Who is eligible, what benefits are available and when and where to apply are some of the topics Ginny will address. This will be an extremely helpful look at an occasionally confusing topic. Contact information: 610-865-4843 or dspin202@ptd.net.

AAUW January Mini-Meetings—Continued

Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide

On January 28 at 7pm, Randi Blauth will show an abridged version of “Half the Sky”, the phenomenal book-turned-documentary which is taking the world by storm and inspiring multi-generations to make a difference in the lives of women and in turn, changing the world! If you have not read the book or viewed the film, you must attend. It is shocking, inspiring, heart-breaking, empowering, and full of hope all in one. A passionate discussion is sure to follow. Contact information: 610-974-9711 or read4joy@ptd.net.

Every January, we call upon our own talented members to present from their area of expertise. Please try to make one or more of these meetings to show our support and appreciation of their efforts. We promise you will learn so much in an hour or two while enjoying good conversation and fellowship.



SAG member Tom Lazaro as Uncle Sam on Election Day at Moravian College.

Contributed Photo

113th Congress Faces Pressure on Agreements on K-12 Education

Representative John Kline (R-MN), who remains chair of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, predicts that pressure to do more will elicit bipartisan agreements on K-12 education. U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan will likely have a second term, in which he will face five key, and contested, issues in a Congress that remains divided: No Child Left Behind waivers, Race to the Top grant program, No Child Left Behind reauthorization, education budget cuts, and balancing support and opposition for a “common core” national curriculum. AAUW believes that quality public education is the foundation of a democratic society. We advocate an equitable, bias-free public education system and responsible funding for all levels of education. AAUW will work to reauthorize and improve the Elementary and Secondary Education Act; pursue programs aimed at closing the achievement gap and increasing access to higher education; prevent the expansion of vouchers; and fight to protect and enforce Title IX.

Spelman College to Replace Athletic Program

Spelman College, a historically black women's college in Atlanta, announced that it will end its athletic program to focus on wellness programs. Spelman spends about \$1 million on sports, but only 4% of students participate in athletics. The college will now spend that money on new health and fitness initiatives, such as improving fitness facilities, that it says will benefit all 2,100 students attending the school.

AAUW

Linda Robertson
1842 Kenmore Avenue
Bethlehem PA 18018-3339

Time Sensitive Material

Book Fair 2013
Excitement In The Air

After meeting with the captains to review policies before writing the publicity pieces, we were surprised by the flurry of NEW and interesting ideas for this 51st year of Book Fair.

For this to happen, we need all our past volunteers and new ones, too. When we start the work, it will be helpful to have new eyes on the job and more new ideas.

Yvonne Payne is heading up the recreation category this year, but she also is in charge of the art books. She will need several volunteers to help with specific sections.

If you were a book seller in the past, consider helping with the sorting. No need to lift heavy boxes and you can request your area of interest.

Don't forget the Holiday season is upon us coming and when friends and neighbors weed out books to make room for gift books, be sure and tell them about donating to the Book Fair.

The calendar of events for the Book Fair is on the AAUW-Bethlehem website. Please mark down all the important dates, so you don't conflict with your six-month dental check-up. KICK OFF KOFFEE IS ON **TUESDAY** THIS YEAR. Happy Holidays.

Linda Robbins

(610-264-4416, LRob164832@aol.com)

Linda Zimmerman

(610-866-1319, T2Lzimmerman@PTD.net)