



AAUW

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June 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

June 12, Joint Board Meeting

July 7, AAUW-PA Summer Retreat

AAUW-Bethlehem Website

Bethlehem-pa.aauw.net

FACEBOOK Home:

AAUW Bethlehem PA

BETHLEHEM BRANCH

BETHLEHEM BYLINES

National Conference for College Women Student Leaders AAUW-Student Affiliates Awarded Prestigious Scholarships

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) was held at the University of Maryland, May 31-June 2. Four of our own AAUW Student Affiliates from Moravian College attended: Arielle Brent (AAUW-PA Scholarship recipient), Katelyn Cohen (AAUW National Scholarship recipient), Casey Hilferty and Macaire Kolchin (both full financial support from Bethlehem branch). We have never had students attend the conference, let alone secure scholarships!

Participants attend talks and workshops, learn, grow, get energized, and make a difference. The keynote speakers were Lilly Ledbetter and Mayda Del Valle. Ledbetter is an activist and author, who has played an integral role in the fight for equal pay for women. Del Valle is a poet and writer, who toured with a nonprofit, nonpartisan project created to encourage young voter registration for the 2004 presidential elections, performed at the White House in 2009, and was named by *Smithsonian* magazine as one of America's Young Innovators in the Arts and Sciences.

The Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony recognizes leaders who



From Left: Macaire, Kate, Casey, and Arielle.

have made great contributions in their professions or communities. Awardees are leaders in their fields, innovators of unique programs and services, and advocates for promoting equity for women and girls. The Women of Distinction Awards honor excellence and also ingenuity and the ability to overcome barriers that still exist for women. The 2012 Women of Distinction are: Noorjahan Akbar, Co-founder and Assistant Director, Young Women for Change; Alison Cohen, President, Alta Bicycle

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Bacchae

Phyllis Wargo (610-797-9158)
The opening meeting of the fall season will be at Phyllis' house at 7:00 pm. At that time, we'll discuss the agenda for the new year and plan a day trip to a winery.

The Out to Lunch Bunch

Jeanie Keller (610-865-3543) When we resume in the fall, all AAUW members are invited to our luncheons.

Diversity, Deeds and Dialogue

This inter-branch study group meets the fourth Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting will be held on June 27 at Rosemary Baker's.

We will continue to read and discuss *Grassroots: A Field Guide for Feminist Activism* authored by Baumgardner and Richards. We are also beginning to plan the March 2013 inter-branch diversity program. Come join us! Future meeting hosts are: July 18 - Randi Blauth; August 22 - Toni Hoffman; September 19 - Norma Ferguson. For information: Ruth Skoglund at rskoglund@rcn.com or phone 610-509-9263.

Want to Play Bridge?

Please call Shirley Daluisio at 610-866-7919 if you are interested in becoming a regular or substitute player for monthly bridge, resuming play in 2012 September or October, third Thursday of most months. Open to members and non-members.

Email Update

Jan Seaman has a new email; please use jrouxseaman@gmail.com

President's Message from Susan McNamara

On June 12, the 2011-2012 branch board members will convene for their final meeting of this year. We will welcome those members joining the board in the 2012-2013 year and bid farewell to those retiring...for at least the coming year. Above all, we will celebrate the year past and the year to come!

So it is that, as I am among those retiring, my final Message, while uncharacteristically brief in words, is a heartfelt one: A TOAST--To a board whose commitment, energy, and willingness to look ahead, take some risks and step up to action have made the job of the president so very rewarding. To members, whose enthusiasm for life-long learning, generosity in giving, and service in support of AAUW values and mission has been inspirational to its leadership. To a branch whose vitality, sustained for over eighty years, guarantees that its president's brags about it are never exaggerations! To all...with gratitude...

TAK	ASANTE	DANKE
	MERCI	DEKUJI
	GRAZIE	OBRIGADO
ASKA	ESKERRIK	THANK YOU!

Susan McNamara



Our Moravian College Student Affiliates get ready to drive to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

Public Policy Compiled by Bernie Gardiner

Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act Becomes Latest Controversial Measure In House

The House and the Senate are, once again, at odds: this time over a reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

According to *The Los Angeles Times*, here is the difference in two bills, one a version passed by the Senate and one, in which protections were removed by the House, soon to be voted on. "Currently the law offers anonymity to victims of domestic abuse who are applying for residency visas so that their applications cannot be sabotaged by their abusers. To encourage victims of domestic abuse crimes to remain in the U.S. and cooperate with police, witnesses are able to apply for a special residency visa and eventually apply for permanent residency. Both of these safeguards have been removed from the House bill."

The VAWA was originally passed in 1994 and has been reauthorized twice.

The Bill H.R. 4970 will undermine critical Violence Against Women Act programs and fail to prevent violence on campuses. "The bill expressly rejects protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans. It also guts confidentiality rules that help ensure victims of violence who are immigrants seek the assistance they need."

The Obama administration has sent a veto threat stating that the House bill excludes protections for Native Americans and the gay community.

AAUW is asking you to call your representative, visit AAUW Two-Minute Activist or click on the "Take Action" link in the upper right hand corner of the AAUW internet site to tell him or her to vote against H.R. 4970, a version of the Violence Against Women Act.

Go to the Movies on June 22

The Invisible War premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in January. It is a documentary featuring plaintiffs from lawsuits supported by AAUW. The film is about sexual assault in the military and will be released June 22, 2012 in major cities.

Apply for Funds to Hold a Campus Program

AAUW members may apply for up to \$750 to hold an event on a sex discrimination topic. For event ideas, review the LAF Campus Outreach Program in a Box.

If you have questions, contact connect@aauw.org or call 800-326-2289 between 10 am and 5 pm Monday through Friday. E-mail me, Bernie Gardiner, at bnkgardiner@rcn.com or call me at 610-861-2925.



Paperback I

Norma Ferguson (610-515-1901)
We will meet on June 24 at 6:30 pm at Chess'n Checkers Restaurant on Airport Road to discuss *Powder Necklace* by Nana Ekna Brew-Hammond. We welcome new members.

Paperback II

Debbie Spinney (610-865-4843)
New members are welcome to our fall meetings.

Paperback III

Barbara Myers (610-867-5222) On June 6 we will meet at Prime Restaurant for a social. No book discussion will be held. On July 11, Yvonne Payne will host a discussion of *Year of Wonder* by Geraldine Brooks. Mary Anne Mitrisin will lead the discussion. August 1, Dianne Schellenberg hosts a discussion of *Last Letter From Your Lover* by JoJo Moyes. Barbara Myers will lead the discussion. New members are welcome.

Paperback Mystery

Linda Robbins (610-264-4416) New Members are welcome.

Donation to Book Fair

The Activity Committee of the City Line Avenue location of Lafayette Ambassador Bank sent a check for \$100 to Book Fair. Ms. Pat Royer, a member of the Activity Committee, explained that the award was made at the recommendation of Mary Jane Trembley who attends Book Fair's Preview Day every year. We thank the bank for recognizing the work of AAUW-Bethlehem members and Book Fair volunteers in raising money for scholarships.

Subscription Special: It Pays to be a Member

The Bethlehem Press always provides AAUW-Bethlehem with great publicity and we thank them. This entertaining and informative weekly paper is now offering AAUW-Bethlehem members a very special deal on a one-year subscription. You can get a 52-week subscription for only \$15 instead of the regular \$23.40. Call 1-800-596-6397 before September 1 to speak to a representative and secure this rate. When you call, mention the promotion code BOOK to get this special rate.

Note Cards Support *It's My Vote: I Will be Heard* Campaign

Recently AAUW National sent out attractive note cards featuring original artwork by AAUW members. A donation to AAUW Funds ensures that young women continue to have the information and motivation to make their votes heard at the polls this year. These cards are free; if you wish to make a donation of any amount to support AAUW's educational outreach please mail your gift to AAUW, Box 98045, Washington DC 20090-8045 or online at aauw.org.

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AAUW-PA Website
www.aauppa.org

ANNIVERSARY SALE - A YEAR TO REMEMBER

As we pack away the supplies and signs, have a much needed massage to rid ourselves of our aches and pains, we should reflect on all the good things that happened this year. We found \$160 crisp new bills in a box of books; gross proceeds over \$32,000, donations were up by over 100 boxes, sales were brisk all five days, new captains joined the ranks, new members joined the branch, we had extra help and eye candy on the last day to empty the pool building and we have the satisfaction of a job well done, six weeks of fun and laughter and guaranteed scholarship funds for 2013.

Our publicity, arranged by Linda Robertson, included many newspaper photos, interviews, publicity articles and, we had TV coverage on two programs in March.

The community raved about the signage, the fine sorting and told our cashiers it is the "best book sale in the Valley". Those of us who work the other end should spend some time in the sales room to hear the compliments of our customers. Many of these signs are the work of Sue Pettit and Linda Zimmerman and they make shopping easy.

Many other individuals kept us sane and rested and are too numerous to mention, but there is a special place in Heaven for these wonderful souls, both men and women.

We work on the planning of the Book Fair year round, so if you have a thought, idea, suggestion you would like to share or if you would like to volunteer next year, please contact us. The kick off koffee for Book Fair 2013 (!) will be March 20. See you there.

Book Fair Chairs

Linda Robbins

610-264-4416

lrob164832@aol.com

Mary Anne Mitrisin

610-837-7693

mitrisin@rcn.com



Thank you, Lehigh University wrestlers.

We Welcome Our Newest Members

Sharon Lee-Bond: She is a graduate of Penn State University having earned a bachelor of science degree (1990) and of Thomas Jefferson University where she earned a doctor of philosophy degree (1996). She is an associate professor of biology at Northampton Community College.

Nancy Marsac: She is a graduate of Cedar Crest College having earned a bachelor of arts degree (1968) and of Lehigh University where she earned a master of education degree (1970). Nancy is a longtime volunteer with Book Fair.

Jane Oberman Mann: She is a graduate of Penn State having earned a bachelor of science degree (1966). Jane attended the May coffee honoring former Book Fair chairs and decided to rejoin the branch.

Dorothy Viglione: She is a graduate of West Chester University having earned a bachelor of science degree (1967) and Masters Equivalency (State of PA 1988).

Mary B. Adams: She is a graduate of Regis College having earned a bachelor of arts degree and of Boston University where she earned a master of public administration degree.

Carolyn Serva: She is a graduate of Penn State University having earned a bachelor of science degree in mathematics/Sec CB.S. Math/Sec Ed Cert (1997) and of Alvernia University where she earned a master of business administration degree in community service and economic leadership (2003).

Officers

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Smc8066@yahoo.com

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Historian Joan Jones
610-867-0151

Nominating Yvonne Payne
610-867-6575
paynespitzer@hotmail.com

Scholarships...What a Finale!!

Members in the News

Trisha Moller asked a question about how can women not just survive, but thrive during an on-line video conference sponsored by AAUW and the Jason Project.

On May 14, Myra Jones presented an illustrated talk on her experiences in elementary schools in Nepal to the Hi Neighbors group at First Presbyterian Church.

Randi Blauth was recognized May 18 for 10 years of service at the NCC staff appreciation dinner.

AAUW-Student Affiliates at Moravian College

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

Wanted: Newsletter Editor

Our branch needs help with the *Bylines* newsletter; training will be provided. If you are interested in hearing about the position of editor or assistant editor, please call Linda Robertson at 610-865-2087 or email her at Lcrob123@PTD.net.

Pay Equity video at City Hall Plaza

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ywcabbethlehem/videos>

AAUW-Bethlehem ended the year on a high note by providing scholarships to 22 high school seniors and four "non-traditional" women returning to school. Over \$26,000 was presented at our end of the year Scholarship Dessert Reception, held for the first time at Advent Moravian Church. Moms, dads, spouses, grandparents, aunt, uncles, godparents, and siblings and children came to see the awards presentations. Members who attended were treated to biographies of each senior that showed how deserving they all were. And our non-traditional students brought a tear to our eyes as they expressed their gratitude to AAUW for helping them to reach their dreams of securing college degrees. Eleven of our seniors were from Freedom, ten were from Liberty, and one was from Saucon Valley. And the Senior Women's Club of Bethlehem award (which we administer) went to a senior from Liberty High School.

This wonderful evening is only possible through the efforts of many! Thanks to Mystery Paperback and Paperback II for providing wonderful goodies including the beautiful cakes honoring the recipients and for taking care of the set up and serving. And thanks to our program chairs, Linda Zimmerman and Joanne Wagner for securing Advent Moravian Church. The social hall is beautiful, and the easy access and ample parking were very much appreciated. And to Yvonne Payne for making out recipients feel like stars with their name tags!

And I would again like to thank the members of the scholarship committee for the countless hours they put in to this labor of love. Thanks to Norma Ferguson, Myra Jones, Lynda Schoeninger, Sandra Utley, and Louise Wisser. Your dedication is truly appreciated!!

Our ability as an organization to provide these funds would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of all who worked diligently to make the book fair a rousing success. Thanks to chairs Linda Robbins and Mary Anne Mitrisin, AAUW members, and volunteers! Your efforts at our 50th Book Fair will allow us to make this possible again next year!

Fran Bentkowski

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Share; Liza Donnelly, Cartoonist and Writer, *The New Yorker*; Sandra Fluke, Women's Advocate and Georgetown Law Student; Michel Martin, Host, *Tell Me More*; and Maggie Williams, Founding Partner, Griffin Williams Consulting.

Our Moravian students experienced an exciting, program-packed, life-changing weekend. Thank you, branch members, for all of your support of the Moravian Student Affiliates. With your help, our future leaders are gaining an experience of a lifetime!

To find out more about NCCWSL, visit: <http://www.nccwsl.org/>

*Trisha Moller
C/U Liaison*

A Toast to an Exciting Year

What a year this has been! Let's raise our glasses with a toast to the Bethlehem branch. Not only did we change-up branch meeting times and locations for several meetings, but we also participated in a District East conference, an Interbranch Luncheon, and we highlighted our fiftieth Book Fair with a celebratory luncheon. We were introduced to St. Luke's Nurse Family Partnership, traveled vicariously to Nepal, tried out Tai Chi, learned about our public library and e-books, focused on diversity and bridged the generation gap. We also conveyed Book Fair proceeds and best wishes to our many, worthy scholarship recipients.

Let's not forget to toast our President, Susan McNamara, and her enthusiastic, unwavering guidance through these exciting times. She set the bar high and we accepted her challenge.

One more toast goes to all the study group members who provided food, beverages, and hospitality at our branch meetings. It was a year to come out, get involved and celebrate. If you didn't, you missed some outstanding, heartwarming, educational and entertaining opportunities. Next year-- be there!

Linda Zimmerman

Joanne Wagner

Book Fair Fiftieth Anniversary Luncheon Memories

We wanted to thank everyone who came to our 50th Book Fair Luncheon at the Hampton Winds Restaurant on March 30. We also wanted to thank our committee: Myrna, Cinda, Margaret, Claire and Sue Pettit for their help in planning this fun event.

We all enjoyed the delicious lunch and reminiscing about 50 years of Book Fair history. Nine former chairmen spoke and our State Senator Lisa Boscola, who is one a member of AAUW-Bethlehem, spoke and presented the branch with a handsome citation from the Senate of Pennsylvania. Claire Ashby emceed a Book Fair Jeopardy game and Sue Pettit produced a professional looking DVD of Book Fair memories. Please contact us if you want to borrow the DVD.

Many former chairmen and workers wrote in to tell us their favorite memories but Margaret summed it up by saying:

" My favorite moment was just before the doors are unlocked on opening day when one can look around at neatly organized tables of books and think, wow! We have done it again! "

Let's hope we can do it again and again!!

Nancy Disario and Karen Donald

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 (610-866-8667)

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)

Most Waitresses Cannot Afford Basic Needs

90% of female servers are not paid enough to afford housing, utilities, and basic needs. (2012 Basic Economic Security Index) (75% of male servers cannot afford basic needs.) The federal provision that established a sub-minimum wage for tipped workers at \$2.15 per hour is unchanged since 1991. The federal full minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour (\$15,000 a year). Restaurant Opportunities Centers wants to raise the federal minimum wage for tipped workers to 70% of the regular minimum wage. Gender inequality is widespread among restaurant workers; female workers averaged \$1.53 per hour less than male restaurant workers in 2009, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.



Book Fair Scholars

From Liberty High School:

Michelle Barakat (Susquehanna University), Megan Collins (Boston University), Kristin Epsaro (Bloomsburg University), Junro Guo (Bowdoin College), Rachel Ledyard (University of Delaware), Sarah Litz (State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry), Lianne Luu (Penn State University), Stephanie Mark (University of Pennsylvania), Genesis Mateo (West Chester University), and Rebecca Rasmussen (DeSales University).

From Freedom High School:

Sarah Bilheimer (Juniata College), Victoria Bonners (Houghton College), Julie Boylan (University of Maryland), Amanda Carman (Delaware Valley College), Robyn Collette (Shippensburg University), Abigail Cooke (Kings College), Alexa Curto (Johns Hopkins University), Ashley Eichlin (Penn State University), Navea Frazier (University of Chicago), Janice Lee (Temple University) and Gabrielle Spadaccia (Delaware Valley College).

From Saucon Valley High School:

Emma Schanzenbach (University of Pittsburgh).

Non-Traditional Students

Susan Bennicas (DeSales University), Kattia Krouse (Cedar Crest College), Delia Marrero (Moravian College), and Sandra Ross (Northampton Community College).

Senior Women's Club of Bethlehem Scholarship

Rebecca Merkel (LHS) to Bloomsburg University)

Memories from the Scholars Reception



race AGA!NST racism

5k Walk/Run | YWCA of Bethlehem

Saturday, June 16, 2012
Hanover Township, Northampton County

REGISTRATION



9:15 a.m. Start
Corner of Adler Place & Highland Ave.

**eliminating racism
empowering women**
ywca

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Look for updates on our Facebook page at
www.facebook.com/ywcabethlehemPA



New member Dr. Sharon Lee-Bond (Left) with Yvonne Payne and Trisha Moller at the Scholars Reception.

Committee Chairs

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Time Sensitive Material

Wine Study Group Closes The Year with Dinner



Bacchae members enjoyed their season's celebration dinner at the culinary arts program's Hampton Winds Restaurant at Northampton Community College.