



Volume 82, Issue 6

March 2012

Susan McNamara, President

Linda Robertson, Editor

#### **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**

March 23, 1:30 pm Tea honoring past Book Fair Chairs

March 30, 11:45 am Book Fair Luncheon

April 10, 6 pm, Book Fair Supper & Sorting

April 13-15, State Convention

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

Bethlehem-pa.aauw.net

FACEBOOK Home:

AAUW Bethlehem PA

## BETHLEHEM BRANCH

# BETHLEHEM BYLINES

### Inter-Branch Luncheon:

Sponsored By

**Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton and Pocono Branches of AAUW**

**March 10, 2012  
Northampton Country Club  
5049 William Penn Highway  
11:30 am**

Our speaker Lisa Maatz is the Director of Public Policy and Government Relations at the American Association of University Women. As its top policy adviser, Maatz works to advance AAUW's priority issues on Capitol Hill and in the White House. She is a sought-after speaker across the nation and on Capitol Hill, and leads several coalitions working to advance opportunities for women and girls.



Recently featured in the book, *Secrets of Powerful Women*, Maatz has developed a reputation for her strategic approach to legislation and advocacy. She is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Ohio University, has two master's degrees from Ohio State, and holds an adjunct appointment with the Women and Politics Institute at American University.

We present the 2012 Gateway to Equity Award to Stephanie Hnatiw, executive director of the YWCA Bethlehem, who has led the way for the advancement of equity for women and girls, not only in her present position, but in numerous ways throughout her career.

In the 1970s, Ms. Hnatiw joined the National Organization for Women and began to work for the equality of women. When she came to Allentown she saw that



women in executive roles needed more support than what the Allentown-Lehigh County Chamber of Commerce was providing. Stephanie, with others, created the Chamber's Executive Women's Task Force. When her daughter was diagnosed with severe disabilities, Stephanie began to work to increase opportunities for the disabled. When Stephanie was diagnosed with breast cancer, she wrote and received two grants from the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation for the YWCA to work with women who lived in the Allentown and Bethlehem Housing Authorities so they could get free breast health education and mammograms. Ms. Hnatiw serves on the board of directors of Quilts for Kids, a national organization that distributes quilts worldwide to children who are in need of comfort and warmth, and has served on many boards of directors in the Lehigh Valley. Stephanie also began a new program at the YWCA on racial justice education for staff and works tirelessly at the YWCA on issues of equity and equality for women and girls.

### Bacchae

Phyllis Wargo (610-797-9158)  
On March 8 at Fran Bentkowski's with Jeanne Eroh as co-host. We will taste and study pinot noirs. Anyone interested in joining the study group is invited.

### Current Book Exchange

Marge Gotshall (610-866-7746) No meetings. Next rotation starts in April and we are seeking two new members. Each member buys a recently published book, which is passed throughout the group on a monthly basis.

### The Out to Lunch Bunch

Jeanie Keller (610-865-3543) All AAUW members are invited to our luncheons. Jeanie is our March hostess. Call her to reserve your place by March 16 to meet for lunch at noon on March 20. We will visit *The Mint* gastropub at 1223 W. Broad Street. Check their menu at [bethlehemmint.com](http://bethlehemmint.com).

### Diversity, Deeds and Dialogue

This inter-branch study group meets the fourth Wednesday of the month. On March 28 at 7 pm we will be at Wegmans (route 512) to continue discussing *The Framework of Poverty* by Ruby Payne. For detail contact Randi at [read4joy@ptd.net](mailto:read4joy@ptd.net) or phone 610-974-9711.

### Mystery Paperback

Linda Robbins (610-264-4416) On March 27, Yvonne Payne (610-867-6575) hosts a discussion of *Rose* by Martin Cruz Smith.

## President's Message from Susan McNamara

It's hard to believe that it's mid-February: little snow on the ground, a crocus here and there in bloom and daffodil and tulip shoots popping up. Not much reason to complain of cabin fever: with ice-free streets and sidewalks and mild temperatures, we've been able to venture out often for walk/runs, entertainment, social events. And, if there were ever a year in which to plan a January meeting - let alone three mini-meetings, this was it. I participated in all three, left each energized by the chance to chat with members and guests, and shared ideas about three 'hot' topics. I join with others in voting this **Out of the Box** experiment a success and in thanking hostesses and presenters.

I suspect that even with the breaks of this winter, most of you, like me, are beginning to feel the stirrings of a wish for spring. As I turn to the March and April calendars, I see that there's much to look forward to in AAUW.

We have two luncheons scheduled for March and you'll definitely not want to miss either. When one of the guests invited to the **March 10<sup>th</sup> Inter-Branch Luncheon** learned that Lisa Maatz was our speaker, she asked, "How did you manage this - she's so in demand?" I don't know why we are so fortunate, but, having heard her speak, I do know she is outstanding - dynamic, smart, funny! If you haven't sent in your reservation (Use form Page Six), I urge you to do so...now! I'm sure many of you have already sent in your Rsvps for the **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book Fair Luncheon on March 30<sup>th</sup>**. In addition to lots of celebrating, I understand the Fair Committee has some surprises in store.

Of course, for so many of us, March and April already mean a calendar filled with days and hours committed to Book Fair itself. Our Co-Chairs Linda Robbins and Mary Anne Mitrison and some captains have already been preparing for months. Yes, work but also the camaraderie among branch and community members, the fun of unexpected discoveries - a misplaced, check, graduation or wedding pictures, and the pride in a job always well done and very appreciated by the large community of book buyers!

In April we also will have new opportunity for another community project when we join with Allentown and Easton branches, the YWCA, Moravian College and others for **Ten Days to Pay Equity** beginning on April 8th. Instead of baking goodies for a Pay Equity Day on April 17<sup>th</sup>, in this our third annual Pay Equity event we will be calling attention to and educating about pay fairness issues across the Lehigh Valley by posts on Facebook, letters to editors of local press, a day in which women wear red (because they're always in the red), a phonathon for calls to congressional representatives, an "unhappy hour" in recognition of inequity, petition drives at a mall. Some actions will take only a couple of minutes on a single day, some a couple of hours; some can be done by two volunteers, some by a group. Sample letters to editors, op-ed pieces will be provided. As you learn more about this event in the next weeks, please begin to think of just how you might help us all make a difference on this important issue. There's an opportunity for everyone in each of our groups to make a contribution, large or small!

*Susan McNamara*

## Public Policy

### Compiled by Bernie Gardiner

#### State of the Union Highlights AAUW Priorities

President Obama brought national attention to the gender pay gap and called for "equal pay for equal work". He would like higher education to be within everyone's reach and wants "world-class" education for every child. He asked Congress to prevent the doubling of student loan interest rates and to extend the tuition tax credit. The President demanded the resources to keep good teachers, to reward teachers, and advocated teaching beyond standardized tests.

In addition to the concerns mentioned in the State of the Union address, AAUW is advocating for full funding of Pell Grants, a strong commitment to reproductive rights, and a call for the passage of the Violence Against Women Act.

#### Outstanding Woman

Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ) resigned and left behind a big hole, both in Congress and in the hearts of many. She has shown great courage after having been shot in the head at a "Meet and Greet" in Tucson last year. She is an inspiration to women, especially to women considering a run for office.

#### State Higher Education Funding Falls 7.6 Percent

Congress has cut \$6 billion across 41 states in higher education funding. The result is the loss of financial support for needy students, fewer course offerings, larger classes, merging of academic departments, and so on. AAUW strongly believes making higher education affordable and accessible helps women reach financial security and economic independence and is good for the whole country.

#### Survey Takes Comprehensive Look at Black Women in America

A national survey by the Washington Post and Kaiser Family Foundation of 800 black women revealed a demographic both confident and vulnerable. Nearly three-quarters said now is a good time to be a black woman but they worry about being able to pay their bills. Half surveyed consider racism a "big problem" and nearly half are concerned about discrimination.

#### The 26th Annual National Girls in Sports Day

Chartered in 1986 by Congress, the National Girls in Sports Day honors and recognizes the positive influence of sports participation in the lives of women. The 2012 celebration marks the 40th anniversary of Title IX, the landmark legislation that bans sex discrimination in schools.

"AAUW advocates vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education. Title IX's impact on women's athletic participation is one of the country's greatest civil rights success stories, changing the playing field dramatically for girls and women in sports."

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, Bernie Gardiner, at [bnkgardiner@rcn.com](mailto:bnkgardiner@rcn.com) or call me at 610-861-2925.

#### Paperback I

Norma Ferguson (610-515-1901) On March 15 at 7 pm Mardi Metzger (610-866-1257) will host us as we discuss *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot.

#### Paperback II

Debbie Spinney (610-865-4843) On March 20 at Phyllis Wargo's at 7:30 pm we will discuss *Forgotten Garden* by Kate Morton. On April 17 author Eileen Schwab will discuss her book *Promise Bridge*. We are opening this meeting to all AAUW members who read the book and would like to attend the discussion at Joanne Wagner's.

#### Paperback III

Barbara Myers (610-867-5222) On March 7, Yvonne Payne hosts a discussion of Daniel Defoe's classic *Moll Flanders*. New members are welcome.

#### Going Places Group

March 8 we meet at 9:15 am to travel to the new Sigal Museum, Easton, where AAUW-Easton will present *Easton Women in History* after which we tour the museum and lunch at Olive Garden. For reservations or information call Shirley McBride at 610-3179603.

#### Want to Play Bridge?

If you are interested in playing monthly bridge (or being on the substitute list) with AAUW, contact Shirley Daluisio as soon as possible at 610-866-7919. Thursday March 15 at 11:30 we meet at Kirkland Village for lunch and bridge. Grace Halkins is our sponsor.

#### Change of Address/Email

Ruth Skoglund, 731 Elmhurst Avenue, Bethlehem 18017.

Randi Blauth, [read4joy@PTD.net](mailto:read4joy@PTD.net)

## Equal Pay Day April 17, 2012

Statistically, the wage gap remained unchanged. Women's earnings were 77.4% of men's in 2010, compared to 77.0% in 2009, according to U.S. Census statistics based on the median earnings of all full-time workers. Both men's and women's earnings showed slight increases from 2008 to 2010. In 2010, the earnings of African-American women were 67.7% of men's earnings and Latinas' earnings were 58.7% of men's earnings. Asian-American women's earnings dropped from 90% of men's earnings to 86.6%. In Wyoming, the state with the worst wage gap, women's earnings represented only 63.8% of men's earnings, down from 65.5% in 2009.

Why April 17th? That is how far into 2012 a woman needs to work and earn to equal what a man earned in 2011.

Wear **RED** on Equal Pay Day to symbolize how far women and minorities are "in the red" with their pay.

### Our Sympathies

To Myrna Diel Sims on the death of her mother Dorothy (Gibson) Diel at age 96 on February 10.

AAUW-PA President  
Margaret McGrath  
[mcgrathaauwpa@gmail.com](mailto:mcgrathaauwpa@gmail.com)

AAUW Help Line  
800-326-2289  
10 am to 5 pm  
[Connect@aauw.org](mailto:Connect@aauw.org)

Association Website  
[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)  
AAUW-PA Website  
[www.aauwpa.org](http://www.aauwpa.org)

## Book Fair: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CHANGE IS INEVITABLE; GROWTH IS OPTIONAL CHOOSE WISELY

Book fair volunteers noticed a few change last year and they were well received by the comments from our customers. We have a few more surprises for them and ourselves, this year.

I am pleased to serve as Book Fair Chair, with co-chair Mary Anne Mitrising. We are looking forward to a really exciting, fun year. And we do it all with your help and enthusiasm.

KICK OFF KOFFEE -Wednesday, March 21. Everyone is welcome to come and hear about the special events for this special year. New members, old members, call me to volunteer and I will try to grant all your wishes. This is one of my favorite days, renewing old friendships and meeting new people.

Watch *Community Spotlight* on RCN. President Susan McNamara and Linda Robbins will discuss Book Fair on this television interview to air: April 3 at 7 pm, April 4 at 1:30 pm and April 5 at 7 pm.

On March 20 and March 23, both @8:30 pm, Fran Bentkowski and Cinda Jenson can be seen on *Taking the Initiative*. RCN cable channel 60 and Service Electric Cable channel 51, or on [www.takingtheinitiative](http://www.takingtheinitiative) post-broadcast. This is their second year and I'm sure of at least a Golden Globe or People's Choice Award.

Let's make this Anniversary year a banner year for the branch, the community and the scholarship recipients.

*Linda Robbins*

610-264-4416 or [Lrob164832@aol.com](mailto:Lrob164832@aol.com)

*Mary Anne Mitrising*

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

## AAUW-PA Convention: Building A Powerful Network

### April 13 - 15, 2012

### Pittsburgh PA

### Register before March 25 for Early Bird Rates

### Register online with Paypal

### Go to [aauwpa.org](http://aauwpa.org)

## AAUW-Bethlehem 2012-2013 Dues Renewal Form

### Please Complete Paying Your Dues by May 15, 2012

Dues for 2012-2013 total \$75. Of this amount, \$16 stays with the branch to support programs and activities; \$49 (of which \$46 is tax-deductible) goes to National in support of advocacy work for women's equity and graduate level scholarships; and \$10 goes to AAUW-PA.

Please complete form and mail to Treasurer Myra Jones, who can answer questions about the availability of partial dues assistance (**a member must re-apply annually**). You may choose to make installment payments as indicated.

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Response Form for 2012-2013 Dues

Make checks payable to **AAUW-Bethlehem** and mail to Myra Jones at 2229 Main Street, Bethlehem PA 18017-3700. (telephone 610-865-3419)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

First                      Maiden                      Last

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Number & Street              City                      State      Zip & 4

Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

College(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name                              Degree                      Graduation Year

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name                              Degree                      Graduation Year

Payment of \$75 Dues: \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed

Three installments of \$25: \_\_\_\_\_ March 15

\_\_\_\_\_ April 15

\_\_\_\_\_ May 15

**Annual fee for non-member study group participant is \$20.**

Dues must be paid to the AAUW-Bethlehem Treasurer by May 15 for member information to be included in the 2012-2013 Yearbook.

**April 21 Diversity Workshop**  
Trainers (one is our own Randi Blauth) from the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) will conduct this workshop in the Priscilla Payne Hurd Academic Building, room 116, on Moravian College's North Campus from 9:30 am-12:30. The NCBI works to prevent prejudice and intergroup conflict in communities throughout the world. The session offers insights into creating and sustaining understanding among ourselves and others in our communities. The interbranch Diversity, Deeds, and Dialogue study group is organizing the event. There are 15 spots available; to register call Randi at 610-974-9711 or email [read4joy@PTD.net](mailto:read4joy@PTD.net).

### Survey Monkey Voting: A Success

In January 2012 our branch used, for the first time, the instrument Survey Monkey to vote on whether to add the elected position of "President-Elect" to our Bylaws. President McNamara and Web mistress Cynthia Weber report that the vote was unanimous. Forty-five members voted through Survey Monkey and another six called in their votes. The bylaws change passed 51 to 0 and the Nominating Committee will seek a candidate for the position of President-Elect at its November meeting. Yvonne Payne chairs the committee. One unexpected result is that AAUW-PA asked our branch to create a poster explaining the process of voting electronically for the State Convention in April. Using this instrument saved the branch the cost of postage and printing.

**Officers**

President Susan McNamara  
610-861-8066  
[Smc8066@yahoo.com](mailto:Smc8066@yahoo.com)

Past President Cinda Jensen  
610-866-0389  
[cindajen@aol.com](mailto:cindajen@aol.com)

VPs/Program  
Joanne Wagner 610-258-9259  
[jmfwagner@live.com](mailto:jmfwagner@live.com)

Linda Zimmerman 610-866-7319  
[T2Lzimmerman@ptd.net](mailto:T2Lzimmerman@ptd.net)

VP/Membership  
Yvonne Payne 610-867-6575  
[paynespitzer@hotmail.com](mailto:paynespitzer@hotmail.com)

Secretary Mary Anne Mitrisin  
610-837-7693  
[Mitrisin@rcn.com](mailto:Mitrisin@rcn.com)

Treasurer Myra Jones  
610-865-3419  
[mejones@entermail.net](mailto:mejones@entermail.net)

**Committee Chairs**

Book Fair 50th Anniversary  
Nancy Disario 610-867-8533  
[jdisario@hotmail.com](mailto:jdisario@hotmail.com)

Karen Donald 610-746-0337  
[kdonald@ptd.net](mailto:kdonald@ptd.net)

Calendars Marge Gotshall  
610-866-7746  
[Geeg@mymailstation.com](mailto:Geeg@mymailstation.com)

Historian Joan Jones  
610-867-0151

Nominating Sandy Utley  
610-867-1893  
[sutley@ptd.net](mailto:sutley@ptd.net)

**Nominating Committee Report**

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Sandy Utley (chairman), Marge Gotshall, Linda Robertson, Randi Blauth, Louise Wisser, Yvonne Payne, and Shirley Daluisio, proposes the following slate for the 2012 -2014 term of office:

- President: Randi Blauth
- Co-Vice President, Program: Olga Conneen
- Co-Vice President, Program: Trisha Moller

The following have been nominated to be the 2012 - 2014 members of the Nominating Committee: Susan McNamara, Karen Donald, Judy Lappen and Phyllis Wargo. Yvonne Payne will serve as committee chairman. We will hold the election of officers at the branch meeting on April 10.

*Sandy Utley, Chair  
Nominating Committee*

**March Inter-Branch Luncheon**

Saturday, March 10, 2012 at 11:30 am  
Northampton Country Club  
5049 William Penn Highway, Easton PA 18045

Directions: From Allentown, Bethlehem or Easton: follow I-78E to PA-33N (Exit 71). Take Wm. Penn Highway exit and turn right for 1/2 mile. From Pocono: follow PA-33S to Wm. Penn Highway. Turn left for 1/2 mile. Northampton Country Club is on the left.

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Reservation Deadline: **March 3, 2012** Return to Susan Nenstiel, 2889 Aronimink Place, Macungie PA 18062. (Phone 610-965-0663) Make check (\$25 per person) payable to AAUW-Allentown.

NAME(S) (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRÉE: Chicken Salad \_\_\_\_\_ Trio Salad Plate \_\_\_\_\_ Shrimp Caesar \_\_\_\_\_

## The Story of Book Fair: 1963 - 2012



BOOKS ARE DEPOSITED by Mrs. Richard Young and Mrs. Reuben Aldrich, committee members for the AAUW Book Fair, for the annual event to be held in March. The barrel is one of several at strategic points in Bethlehem.

Caption refers to Mrs. Richard Young and Mrs. Reuben Aldrich.

The first Book Fair was held in 1963 at 451 Main Street, which is today the home of Artfully Elegant in downtown Bethlehem. The chairmen were Fran Scully and Jan Adams whose efforts raised \$1600. In 1964, the sale moved to City Motors at Broad and Linden Streets and stayed there until 1968. From 1969-1971 Book Fair's home was the Pennsylvania Playhouse across from the Memorial Pool and Ice Rink complex. In 1971 Ann Jones gained permission to use the Ice Rink Building, and the Rink was our home until 1997. In the early days AAUW members often stored and sorted books in their homes. Later, barrels were placed at selected stores in the community for donations of books. It was often a challenge for our shorter members to get to the bottom of the barrels and to separate the books from the trash, which was also tossed in the barrels.

For the first 25 years Book Fair always had two chairmen. One would be in charge and the other would assist. The following year, the assistant would be in charge and there be a new person to help her. In this way many members took their turn in chairing the Book Fair. By 1968, sales totaled \$16,000.

In 1987 Patience Haruta became the chairman of Book Fair. For six years she made Book Fair an important part of her life. We will always remember Patience for the time and hard work she put into making Book Fair a success. We expanded into the Pool Building and books had to be carted back and forth between the two buildings. Sales made at both buildings exceeded \$20,000.

In 1998 Claire Ashby instituted a program of captains. Myrna Sims became the chairman and ten people volunteered to be captains. The captains opened and closed the building during the sorting period and committed to working two days each week. The use of captains proved successful and continues to this day. Also in 1998 the Ice Rink was no longer available and the Pool Building became the home of Book Fair.

Myrna served as chairman for eight years (as well as 2 previous years) until 2006 when Nancy Disario and Karen Donald became chairmen. They were succeeded by Linda Robbins in 2011. During the last three years sales have been over \$30,000. This year Mary Anne Mitrisin joins Linda as co-chair and we all look forward to the 50th Book Fair.

*Karen Donald, 610-746-0337*

*Nancy Disario, 610-867-8533*

### Committee Chairs

#### Book Fair

Linda Robbins 610-264-4416

[Lrob164832@aol.com](mailto:Lrob164832@aol.com)

Mary Anne Mitrisin

610-837-7693

[Mitrisin@rcn.com](mailto:Mitrisin@rcn.com)

#### College/University Relations

Trisha Moller 610-758-8263

[trisha@fraboni.net](mailto:trisha@fraboni.net)

#### Communications

Linda Robertson 610-865-2087

[LCRob123@PTD.net](mailto:LCRob123@PTD.net)

#### Diversity Randi Blauth

610-974-9711 [read4joy@ptd.net](mailto:read4joy@ptd.net)

#### Educational Foundation and Public Policy

Bernice Gardiner

610-861-2925

[bnkgardiner@rcn.com](mailto:bnkgardiner@rcn.com)

#### Information Technology

Cynthia Weber 610-837-9615

[cynthia@acweber.net](mailto:cynthia@acweber.net)

#### Scholarships/Bylaws

Fran Bentkowski 610-866-7462

[fbentkowski@verizon.net](mailto:fbentkowski@verizon.net)

#### Study Groups

Olga Conneen 610-691-5371

[oconneen@me.com](mailto:oconneen@me.com)

#### Yearbook

Shirley Daluisio 610-866-7919

[budshirl@hotmail.com](mailto:budshirl@hotmail.com)

#### Book Fair Luncheon

Invitations to the March 30th event have been mailed. Please return the reservation insert by the March 13 deadline.

## AAUW

Linda Robertson  
1842 Kenmore Avenue  
Bethlehem PA 18018-3339

Time Sensitive Material

## January Mini Meetings A Success

The Branch's first-ever mini-meetings were held in the homes of Ann Brown, Myrna Sims and MaryAnne Mitricin, who all graciously provided refreshments.

At Ann's home, Janet Fricker and Liza Holzinger from the Bethlehem Area Public Library explained to ten guests the challenges facing libraries and about Lower Saucon Township's continuing participation in the library network.

Myrna hosted eleven members who pondered the effect of e-books and e-readers now and in the future. In a discussion led by Linda Robertson on how books are published, sold and read and how this industry is rapidly evolving, the audience decided the consequences are many and the future is unknown.

Ten people, including two of our Moravian affiliates, met at MaryAnne's to view the film *The Help*. Randi Blauth led a lively discussion comparing the film with the book. Questions were raised concerning the authenticity of the story telling of the experiences of the black domestic workers in a film which evoked great emotion with diverse audiences.

