



AAUW

Volume 82, Issue 3

November 2011

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

November 8, Election Day

November 9 am Breakfast Branch Meeting, Starters Clubhouse at Bethlehem Golf Course

December 18, 3-5 pm, Holiday Open House

AAUW-Bethlehem Website

aauwbethlehempa.org

FACEBOOK Home:

AAUW Bethlehem PA

BETHLEHEM BRANCH

BETHLEHEM BYLINES

Let's Get Physical!

Breakfast and Exercise at Starters

Starters Clubhouse Grille

400 Illicks Mill Road

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

9 am -11 am

Are you interested in healthy longevity? Would you like to reduce stress, help yourself focus, calm your mind, and improve your circulation and flexibility?

Then join us at our November breakfast meeting at Bethlehem's Municipal Golf Course where you can order from the menu, and then have some fun with an introduction to the ancient art of Tai Chi (tie chee) by Brian Kunsman, master at the Bethlehem Kung Fu Center.

The gentle gestures of Tai Chi stimulate the body's energy system and can be used in cardiac rehab. Tai Chi has been proven over centuries to provide not only physical but also mental rewards for people of all ages. There is every reason to try it out for yourself.

Dress in comfortable clothes with flat shoes or sneakers, and keep in mind...aging is inevitable but falling apart isn't.

Please consider inviting a friend to join us. This is a great way to introduce AAUW-Bethlehem.



From the North Beginning at Route 22:

Exit Route 22 at Route 512 (Center Street). Turn left at end of ramp onto Center Street and go south until you pass two large churches on the left. Turn right just before the first light after the churches onto Illick's Mill Rd. Turn right immediately after the Pennsylvania Playhouse. Follow the lane and park at the top of the hill behind the Clubhouse.

From the South Beginning on Route 378

North: Cross South Mountain to Bethlehem. Follow Route 378 North to where it splits and bear right towards Easton. Merge left onto Route 22 East. Exit from Route 22E at Route 512 (Center Street).

Turn left at light at end of ramp and go south until you pass two large churches on the left. Follow directions as above from this point.

Bacchae

Phyllis Wargo (610-797-9158)

We will meet at 7:30 pm on November 10 at Linda Robbins' house with JoAnn Kelly as co-hostess. We will be tasting and discussing Malbecs from different regions. No meeting in December. 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. On November 15 at noon we will dine at the *Greek Island Café* at Schoenersville and Catasauqua Roads. (formerly called the Westgate Diner) Please call our hostess Polly Hinder (610- 865-20358) with reservations by November 12.

Diversity Group Has New Name to Match Its Goals

Our AAUW inter-branch diversity group has a new name--**Diversity, Deeds, and Dialogue**. We are beginning to live up to our name by having enlightening dialogue about oppression, difference, and privilege. We are reading the thought-provoking article *So You Think You're an Anti-Racist? Six Shifts of Consciousness for Well-Intentioned White Folks* and journaling about our thoughts and discoveries. We plan to meet next on November 30. We invite everyone to try us out. Contact Randi at read4joy@verizon.net or phone 610-974-9711.

Mystery Paperback

Linda Robbins (610-264-4416) On November 29 at 1:30 pm Linda Robbins hosts and Joanne Wagner leads a discussion of *The Blind Assassin* by Canadian writer Margaret Atwood.

President's Message from Susan McNamara

For many of us in AAUW-Bethlehem, October has been a month of travel. For some the trips have been made via autos and/or planes to distant lands or continents. For others of us, the journeys this month have come by means of video, power point presentations or talks.

On October 11, a full audience of members and guests went to Nepal via Myra Jones' filmed missionary trip travelogue. Learning about the daily lives of women and girls in this still largely patriarchal society and about educational efforts supported by the Moravian Church was a highlight of this journey.

On October 22, we joined with members from eleven other branches for an AAUW-PA District East meeting at Northampton Community College. With the promise of a panel presentation on the 'hot' public policy issue, of Marcellus Shale, members were joined by friends, spouses, and other interested community folks. Beginning with the geological perspective offered by Dr. Dru Germanoski of Lafayette College, we traveled below the earth's surface to its substructures and back in time thru many geologically formative eras and events that make up the history and biography of Marcellus Shale. We went upstate to the town of Towanda, Bradford County, presently the heart of drilling territory in the Northeast of PA for a 'bird's eye view' of the impact on the landscape, economy, and culture of the community with AAUW member, Towanda resident, and Chesapeake Energy Corporation Community Advisory Board leader Joyce Kerrick. Tracey Carluccio, Deputy Director of Delaware RiverKeeper Network, took us back in time to the age of the Industrial Revolution, dawning and dying, for an understanding of the potential impact of the era of shale drilling on the Delaware River. Finally, we travelled to Harrisburg to learn from AAUW member and State Senator Lisa Boscola about the status of legislative efforts to address shale drilling fiscal and environmental issues.

While we certainly didn't carry away any typical tourist souvenirs from our visit, we definitely left with an understanding about Marcellus Shale that is both much broader and deeper than that which most of us had before this meeting. Many were surprised to learn, for example, that from a geologist's perspective, concern about destruction of aquifers from drilling is largely misplaced (reports of incidents of flaming tap water produced by methane gases from a variety of sources have long pre-dated shale fracking). Most were unaware that gas companies have created citizen advisory boards and hold regular town meetings in affected communities. Eye-opening as well was the consensus among panelists that the most serious concerns about Marcellus Shale drilling relate to the issue of scope; that is, the risks to landscapes, rivers and streams, water and food, community cultures and economic well-being consequent from an exponential increase in the number of drilling activities, wells, pipelines.

Article continued on Page Nine

Public Policy Take Action with AAUW Compiled by Bernie Gardiner

<http://www.aauw.org/act>

Connect2AAUW at 1-800-326-2289

Did you know that you can sign up friends and family members to use the AAUW Take Action Network? They do not have to be members of AAUW. Go to the Take Action Page and follow the instructions for sign up. The Network lets you make your positions known to specific members of Congress by simply clicking on highlighted words/phrases in the text provided by AAUW. It also explains AAUW's position on current and long-standing issues.

What's Happening?

President Obama has launched an initiative to encourage women in the pursuit of education and careers in math and science. He also invited three American women to the Oval Office to honor them for their participation in the Google Science Fair. These women won the top places in the Google Science Fair. Their work included treatment for ovarian cancer for women who had developed immunity to chemotherapy treatment, improving living conditions to prevent asthma attacks and to alleviate symptoms in the home and the potential connection between carcinogen-producing marinades and grilled chicken. The women were ages 16 and 17 years.

Three women won the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize for work that sparked reform in Liberia and Yemen.

Believe it or not! A 96-year old woman was denied a voter ID card in Tennessee because she couldn't produce a marriage license. This law requiring proof of a change in name, as in marriage, will be enforced in several states in the 2012 election. The woman had a birth certificate and a voter registration card when she applied for the ID card. She also had a copy of her lease and proof of rent payments.

Occupy Wall Street: The 99% Group asserts "no true democracy is attainable when the process is determined by economic power". The group urges Americans to use their right of assembly to protest corporations' use of economic wealth to influence the political process.

AAUW supports Obama's Job Creation Bill (on the AAUW Website) and encourages advocating on behalf of workers and students for pay equity, earned sick days, student debt reduction and improved working conditions.

If you have questions, contact 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 or call me at 610-861-2925.

Paperback I

Norma Ferguson (610-515-1901)
Please contact Norma for information about November.

Paperback II

Debbie Spinney (610-865-4843) At 7:30 pm on November 15, Louise Wisser will host and Phyllis Wargo will lead the discussion of *Firefly Lane* by Kristen Hannah. On January 17 at Lynda Schoeninger's we discuss *Room* by Emma Donoghue. Shirley Daluisio will be leading the discussion.

Paperback III

Barbara Myers (610-867-5222) On November 2 at 1 pm, Jane Snyder hosts and Pat Michael leads a discussion of *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson. New members welcome.

Current Book Exchange

Marge Gotshall (610-866-7746) We exchange hard-back books on the best sellers list to read individually - no meetings. New members welcome. Call Marge for details.

Going Places Group

On December 7 the group will travel to 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 made available to the general public. The exhibit will focus particularly on Bucks 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.

Need a ride to Meetings?

We want all interested members to be able to come to the general meetings so if you need a ride, call and we will match you with another member from your geographic area who has volunteered to provide rides. (One of our volunteer drivers is Shirley Daluisio in the northeast.) Please call Yvonne Payne at 610-867-6575 and she will arrange pick up for you.

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.

Change of Address

Sister Gunnel Sterner is relocated to Moravian Village; her address is 526 Wood Street #303, Bethlehem PA 18018-4456.

AAUW Calendar Sale

Important AAUW Fundraiser

Marge Gotshall (610-866-7746) has spiral-bound calendars with large date blocks available for \$6 that benefit the AAUW-Bethlehem Scholarship Program for area high school seniors. Study group chairs should call Marge to get calendars to take to their meetings. She will have calendars at the fall branch meetings.

Tech Talk by Trisha Moller “Check it out...”

If you haven't checked out the following, please do. Interesting and thought-provoking information will be found!

AAUW Dialog (Discussion Information Advocacy Log) is an online blog where knowledgeable AAUW staff contributors share opinions (as well as facts!) about current women's issues. The writers highlight the topics in a short, one page article. Readers then can comment below and continue the topic as an online conversation. The most recent posts discuss how women are affected by sexual harassment and bullying, Wall Street, the Supreme Court and the White House, STEM fields, healthcare, and equal pay. Check out: <http://blog-aaauw.org/>

Don't miss the **Facebook article in “The Keystoner”**, AAUW PA's newsletter!. Lisa Frikker-Gruss, AAUW-PA's Social Media Coordinator, gives basic pointers and explains the different uses of Facebook. Use our AAUW Bethlehem page as well as AAUW Pennsylvania and AAUW-PA pages to play around with the social media tool!

AAUW Moravian College Student Affiliate By Trisha Moller

The Moravian students started the 2011-2012 year full of excitement! Their plans for the Fall semester include:

Wed. Nov. 16, 7pm, "Miss Representation": There will be a viewing of the documentary, open to all of the campus. The powerful film combines stories from teenage girls, interviews from female national leaders, facts and statistics, which all discuss the media and its affect on girls. Refreshments will be available during the film. After the film, we will discuss its impact. AAUW Branch members are encouraged to join us. (**Ed. Note:** Watch the incredible official trailer for this film on UTube - then come see the film.)

“The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don’t have any.” Alice Walker

Nov. (date TBA), Two Minute Activist Petition Drive: Students will host a laptop station as a way of recruiting virtual signatures for letters to our senators via AAUW National's Two Minute Activist website.

Late Nov. (date TBA), “Sexual Harassment Brown Bag Lunch”: There will be a panel discussion about sexual harassment in conjunction with a selected reading. Details to follow.

Dec. Holiday Drive for the Nurse-Family Partnership: We will accept donations of cash (to buy items such as diapers and formula), baby items, and gifts for the moms.

AAUW Bethlehem branch members are welcome to *all* events on campus! The students look forward to attending our branch meetings, as well.

AAUW-Bethlehem Wants to Make the Holidays Brighter for the Nurse-Family Partnership

Louise Wisser Serves as Project Honorary Chair

Sara Klingner, the nurse manager of the Visiting Nurse Association of St. Luke's Nurse-Family Partnership program made a powerful presentation to our members at the September branch meeting. If you missed the meeting, you can see a video of her talk on our Facebook page or at www.aauwbethlehempa.org. Sara emphasized the importance of literacy in this award-winning program serving first time moms and their babies.

This year, we ask you to join with the members of the AAUW-Bethlehem Board of Directors and make a gift in support of reading. Our combined gifts will buy the board books, nursery rhyme CDs, and invaluable teaching manuals the moms use for the first two years of the babies' lives.

Last year our members generously contributed more than \$3,000 to Turning Point. With every annual charitable project, we give back to our communities. This year our project is truly widespread as the NFP serves clients all over the Greater Lehigh Valley.

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 by early December. If you have a question call Myra Jones (610-865-3419), Louise (610-867-8253) or Susan McNamara (610-216-4905).

Social Security Bill in the House

Please urge your representative in the House of Representatives to cosponsor a bill that would close Social Security's funding gap by lifting the cap on payroll taxed for Social Security purposes. Today, 94% of Americans pay into Social Security on the basis of their whole salary - but the wealthiest 6% do not. Because the cap for individual income stands at \$106,800, someone who makes that much pays exactly the same amount into Social Security as someone making two million dollars.

The *No Loopholes in Social Security Taxes Act* (H.R. 797) would gradually lift the cap so that by 2033, the wealthiest 6% of Americans will be on equal footing with everyone else. This plan would extend the full solvency of Social Security for the next 75 years, ensuring that the program continues to help provide retirement security for future generations.

Take Action by visiting [AAUW Two Minute Activist](#).



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

Remember How Long It Took Women to Get the Vote!

Don't Let Rain, Errands or Meetings Interfere

Vote November 8, 2011

Polls Open from 7 am to 8 pm

Bad politicians are sent to Washington by good people who don't vote.

William E. Simon

FBI Moves to Broaden the Definition of Rape

An FBI subcommittee announced that the definition of rape used by the agency should be replaced with a broader, more accurate, definition. The subcommittee recommends the new definition include anal and oral rape, as well as rapes involving male victims. The current definition, written 80 years ago, only includes sexual assaults that involve force and vaginal penetration and has been criticized as being too narrow, resulting in the exclusion of thousands of rapes from the FBI's annual Uniform Crime Report. The proposal is subject to approval of the full advisory board in December. AAUW supports the FBI's proposal to update the definition of rape.

AAUW-Bethlehem Welcomes New Member

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 Mitrisin
610-837-7693
Mitrisin@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

Dianne (Blose) Schellenberg lives at 630 Seventh Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18018-5232. Her contact information is: Home: 610-868-5424; Cell phone: 610-730-5431; and dschelle@yahoo.com

She received her doctor of psychology degree in 2005 from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dianne is a working psychologist and was a member of AAUW-National who elected to extend her membership to the local and state level. She is a member Paperback III.

Study Groups: Let's Talk About New Opportunities

There's been interest expressed in starting up the AAUW bridge club once again. The problem seems to be finding substitutes for those who are sick or away on vacation. If you'd like to participate in this group as a regular member, or even as an occasional substitute, let me know. Also, I'd like to remind you that we're looking into starting some new groups. A few people have indicated they would be interested in a needlework group or a film/event outing group. You can contact me at oconneen@me.com or 610-691-5371. Let's see if we can get these up and running before the holidays.

*Olga Conneen
Study Group Chair*

Thanks To Marcellus Shale Committee Members

Events like the October 22, 2011 AAUW-PA East District meeting do not happen, run smoothly, or turn out successfully without the contributions of many individuals. In short, I could not have managed this program without the help and support of these many: Northampton Community College that most generously turned over to us the entire Alumni (Gates Center) building for the event without charge. Mary Lou Collis, College Room Scheduler, was contact person par excellence! The committee of branch presidents: Roz Cozzolino, Allentown; Toni Hoffman and Marian Cunningham, Easton; Sonya Cole, Pocono area; and members Ellen Hemmerich, Pocono Area and Linda Robbins, Allentown/Bethlehem were the mainstays of program brainstorming, speaker outreach, hospitality and lunch; day of meeting branch good will ambassadors; and trouble shooters. Linda Robertson worked on notices and fliers; Cinda Jensen, Yvonne Payne and Olga Conneen helped with lunch and hospitality, and Easton's Fran Kennedy managed the registration tables. Allentown's Susan Nenstiel was our expert Treasurer and Reservation clerk. Finally, the Bethlehem members sacrificed a lovely Autumnal day out of doors to attend the program. To all, I extend a deeply felt THANK-YOU!

Susan McNamara

Let's Read Math Plans and Presents The King's Commissioners



During several planning meetings over the summer, the AAUW-Allentown and AAUW-Bethlehem members of *Let's Read Math* worked to align their presentations more closely with the PSAS (Pennsylvania Standards Alignment System). The group presented *The King's Commissioners*, one of the newly revised lessons, to fourth grade classes at Miller Heights Elementary School in mid-October. In November we have two FULL days at Muhlenberg Elementary.



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
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Diversity Randi Blauth
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Educational Foundation and Public Policy
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Information Technology
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Public Policy Bernice Gardiner
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Scholarships/Bylaws
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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, Booruji, Covington, Da-luisio, Ferguson, Hammersmith, Jensen, McNamara, Michael, Miner, Musselman, Pettit, SantaMaria, Stauren, Schoeneck, and Shoeninger

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

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

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

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 feel drawn to a topic in a different area and that is fine.
More information in the December newsletter.

A New Idea for a New Year

It's official - our resolution for 2012 is to beat the winter blahs. Our membership chairman, Yvonne Payne, has divided our members into geographic living areas so that we will not have to travel far to a central location to get together. Instead of a traditional January Branch Meeting we plan to gather in small groups at the homes of members who volunteer to host. Each hostess will choose the date and time she would like visitors. Maybe your group would like to learn more about a current news topic, share recipes and bake something together, discuss politics, have a computer lesson, watch a video and discuss it... it all depends on the members of your group and their individual interests and strengths. Sound complicated? No way! The Program Co-chairs will help to get you organized.

Now, look at your local group list and notify Joanne Wagner as soon as possible, at **610-258-9259** or at **jmfwagner@live.com**

- if you would like to be the hostess for your group and what January date and time you choose, **and**
- any topic of interest you would like to suggest and whether you would like to be the leader

Joanne will then notify the members of each group who the hostess will be, when their meeting will be, and what their topic/topics are. From then on, the hostess will be the contact person for her group.

In January each member should let her hostess know one week in advance if she plans to attend. Refreshments always make gatherings more fun, so each person might bring a small snack to share and the hostess will provide beverages. If the weather looks iffy, plans can be changed more easily with a small group than with the entire branch membership.

So, let's not wait. Let's get things started today to beat the winter blahs. Please contact Joanne by November 20.

*Linda Zimmerman
Joanne Wagner
Vice Presidents, Program*

President's Message Continued from Page Two

We left as well with panelists' suggestions about measures for addressing the concerns including: a moratorium on drilling permits to allow for essential impact analyses and recommendations; strengthened regulations; adequate financing DEP and especially for support of the staff adequate to meet the health and safety demands posed. Asked about citizen action, panelists suggested calling to legislators NOW, signing a Riverkeeper petition on the moratorium and/or attending a Delaware River Basin Commission Hearing on November 21 as options.

In the afternoon, we turned attention to matters primarily AAUW - national, state, and district: news from the National Convention in June, membership incentives, the SAVE-U petition, the AAUW-PA Public Policy Grant funded ad campaign in support of increasing voter registration for 18-35 year-old women, 2014 AAUW-PA office nominations, and the April 13-15 Convention.

With packets of hand-outs and notes in hand, this day's travelers were sent off with a few snapshots of initiatives and perspectives that might whet branch appetite for more venturing out at home: Lansdale's STEM project, awarded recognition at National Convention, as a model; a film event featuring the Miss-representation DVD to be shared throughout the District; the e-book discussion group; the Archive project; networking on Facebook and friending AAUW-PA; and Ten Reasons AAUW is Important to a young professional.

October certainly has been a month rich in programs that extend our informational frameworks and exercise our thinking muscles. It seems perfect timing, then, to have scheduled for November a program in which we will be stretching our bodies as we learn about and try out Tai Chi. Plan to join us!

Susan McNamara

Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School New AAUW Report Due Out November 2011

Based on findings from a nationally representative survey in May and June 2011, this report presents the most comprehensive research to date on sexual harassment in grades 7 through 12. and reveals some sobering statistics about the presence of sexual harassment and the negative impact it has on students' education.

The report concludes with concrete recommendations and promising practices for preventing sexual harassment directed at school administrators, educators, students, parents, and community members.

AAUW has been at the forefront of research on sexual harassment for more than a decade starting with the 1993 *Hostile Hallways* survey and the 2001 follow up *Hostile Hallways* report: *Bullying, Teasing, and Sexual Harassment in School*. A PDF copy of the new report can be ordered at www.AAUW.org.

Moravian Star Pin

At her Nepal talk, Myra Jones wore a silver pin with a blue crystal the Moravian Church is selling as a fundraiser to support education in Nepal. The cost is \$60. For information call Myra at 610-865-3419.

Louisiana School Board Halts Single Sex Classes

The Vermilion Parish, LA school board agreed to end a middle school program that segregated core curricular classes by sex. The decision is part of a settlement between the Vermilion Parish School Board and clients represented by the American Civil Liberties Union and the ACLU of Louisiana. The school board agreed not to institute sex-segregated programs at any of the 19 schools in Vermilion Parish through the 2016-2017 school year. The lawsuit said that the program at a middle school in Kaplan, LA, violated Title IX and the Equal Protection clause of the Constitution.

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. Even where separate programs are established, they have tended to be distinctly unequal, with fewer resources allocated for girls programs. As a result, both the Constitution and Title IX have placed limits on the availability of single-sex education, while at the same time explicitly allowing for single-sex programs that are carefully constructed to remedy existing or past discrimination. AAUW believes policies and reforms that allow women and men to excel are beneficial for society as a whole.

AAUW
Linda Robertson
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Bethlehem PA 18018-3339

Time Sensitive Material

Wine Study Group Tours Finger Lakes Region



The wine study group, Bacchae, visited New York's Finger Lakes in early October on their second 'educational' trip. Group coordinator Phyllis Wargo, assisted by Linda Robbins, made arrangements.

Photo by Myra Jones