



Volume 82, Issue 7

April 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

April 3, Take Back the Night

April 10, 6 pm, Book Fair Supper & Sorting

April 10, Sing Out for Pay Equity at the Library

April 13-15, State Convention

AAUW-Bethlehem Website

Bethlehem-pa.aauw.net

FACEBOOK Home:

AAUW Bethlehem PA

BETHLEHEM BRANCH

BETHLEHEM BYLINES

It's Book Fair Time!

**April 10, 2012
Memorial Pool Building
307 Illick's Mill Road
6 pm**

Show your team spirit and come to help get books organized for our 50th Annual Book Fair. Meet at the Memorial Pool Building on Tuesday, April 10, at 6 pm. There will be a light dinner of salad and hoagies along with a short branch meeting, followed by members sorting books. Desserts and beverages will be provided by Bacchae. Remember that Book Fair is our major source of funding for our scholarships and *Let's Read Math* program. We need **your** help!



We will have elections of officers too. 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 agreed and are nominated to serve on the 2012 -2014 Nominating Committee: Susan McNamara, Karen Donald, Judy Lappen and Phyllis Wargo. Yvonne Payne will be committee chairman. Our thanks to the Nominating Committee for a job well done.

President Susan will announce the recipients of the branch's Outstanding Woman, Teal, and Educational Foundation Honoree awards.



Bacchae

Phyllis Wargo (610-797-9158)

On April 19 at 7 pm at Joanne Wagner's (610-258-9259). We will taste and study sparkling white wines. Anyone interested in joining the study group is invited.

Current Book Exchange

Marge Gotshall (610-866-7746) No meetings. For the next rotation 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. Our April hostess is Sister Gunnel Sterner (610-691-8961). Call her to reserve your place by April 14 to meet for lunch at noon on April 17. We will join her in the dining room of her new residence, Moravian Village.

Diversity, Deeds and Dialogue

This inter-branch study group meets the fourth Wednesday of the month. For detail contact Randi at read4joy@PTD.net or phone 610-974-9711.

Want to Play Bridge?

If you are interested in playing monthly bridge/being on a substitute list with AAUW Afternoon Bridge group, contact Shirley Daluisio (610-866-7919) as soon as possible. April 19 we will meet at Kirkland Village for lunch in the Market Cafe, followed by bridge in the Sun Room.

President's Message from Susan McNamara

It will come as no surprise to many of you that I am devoting this message to our **Lehigh Valley 10-days of Pay Equity** events. I write just after our successful Inter-branch Luncheon. We had a sunny day, good food, and an audience of 85 women, including a large group from Bethlehem. We were moved and inspired by the stories and work of each Gateway to Equity recipient. We were roused to action by speaker Lisa Maatz as she offered an AAUW status report and a "reality check" on a number of issues about which women care, from those related to women's health to voting and, yes, Pay Equity.

Encouraged by the support for our Inter-branch Diversity programs and luncheons, our Lehigh Valley AAUW branch presidents believe it's time for another collaborative event. Pay Equity Day seems an ideal issue around which to rally and here are a few reasons:

The need for action: In spite of the landmark *Equal Pay Act of 1963*, the ratio of women's to men's median annual earnings has remained stagnant at 77 cents to the dollar for full-time wage and salary earners with the gap even greater for most women of color.

The Power of numbers: Beyond AAUW-Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, and our Moravian Student Affiliates, we will be joined by the YWCA as named supporters of these Pay Equity Events. In addition, we have the promise of the participation of women from a number of other Valley organizations and institutions.

The Power of a model of civil activism in a community: Our objective is to increase awareness of issues related to Pay Equity and opportunities to act in support of needed legislation and compliance with existing regulations.

The Value of Teachable moments for girls and young women: Whether students, daughters, granddaughters, nieces, friends, they need us to show them how it's done and help them understand why.

We hope you agree and will plan now to participate!

In the next two weeks, you will receive a calendar of activities and events included in these 10 days, beginning on **April 8th**. In the calendar you will find a date for the day on which we'll all **wear red** - because women are still in the RED; an invitation to attend an **Unhappy Hour**; and a notice of a **Flash Mob and Pay Equity Sing Along**. Along with the calendar, you will be able to access a **sample letter** to the Editor, a **script** for a phone call to congressional and state representatives, and **messages** for a Pay Equity Facebook Post and Tweet.

You can go solo: write a letter, make a phone call, and/or tweet. You can invite others to join you in wearing red or bring your granddaughter to the sing-along. You can join your book group in sitting at a table on the Library's front porch to hand out Pay Equity Fact Sheets or get signatures on a petition. You can go out with other AAUW-Bethlehem members to deliver a petition to Representative Boscola's office. In short, with one act or many, you can support this event and **Make a Difference!**

Susan McNamara

Public Policy

Compiled by Bernie Gardiner

On the 192nd birthday of leading suffragist Susan B. Anthony, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Action Fund launched [It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard](#), a nonpartisan voter education and turnout effort aimed at maximizing the electoral power of women in the 2012 election.

As the largest generation since the baby boomers, today's 18- to 30-year-olds present the strongest opportunity to increase voter turnout among women. Millions of young women will be eligible to vote for the first time this year, and many others have yet to establish the habit of voting. As part of this national campaign, the AAUW Action Fund is providing [grants to 15 target states](#) to help them increase the influence of women in shaping public policy through grassroots outreach and voter registration.

"AAUW stands on a rich history of civic engagement and voter education," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. "We recognize the power of a single vote, and we will do everything we can to encourage all citizens to cast an informed ballot. Women must get involved in the political process to ensure that the issues they care about get the attention they deserve."

In addition to mobilizing young women, the My Vote campaign will also focus on critical issues that affect women's everyday lives, such as jobs, college affordability, and health care, including access to birth control.

"This campaign takes an approach that is unique to AAUW," said Seth Chase, AAUW's national field director. "We have hundreds of branches across the country with ties to their local communities and college campuses. Our members have the opportunity to establish lasting relationships with young women, to engage them on the issues, and to encourage them to vote and be heard."

As part of the My Vote campaign, AAUW is also sponsoring "Every Four Years: Presidential Campaigns and the Press," an interactive exhibit at the Newseum in Washington, D.C. The exhibit includes historical information about the suffrage movement, particularly how candidates' wives became more influential in elections after women won the right to vote in 1920. The exhibit features campaign ads, artifacts used by the press and candidates on the campaign trail, and an interactive voting booth where visitors can cast "ballots" for the 2012 presidential election. The exhibit will be updated throughout the 2012 campaign and will run through Inauguration Day 2013.

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) On April 19 at 7 pm Norma (610-866-1257) will host us as we discuss *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese. In May, Randi Blauth hosts a discussion of *The Faith Club* by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner.

Paperback II

Debbie Spinney (610-865-4843) On April 17th Paperback II will be reviewing *Promise Bridge* by local author Eileen Schwab. We are excited that the author will be leading the discussion at this meeting and we welcome any AAUW members who have read her book to attend. Please contact our hostess for the evening, Joanne Wagner (610-258-9259), if you will be able to attend. On May 8, Linda Zimmerman hosts our discussion of *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* by Amy Chua. Note that we are meeting earlier in May so that we can attend the scholarship meeting. New members are welcome.

Paperback III

Barbara Myers (610-867-5222) On May 2, Bernie Gardiner hosts a discussion of Jodi Picoult's *Sing You Home*. We will consider recommendations for reading selections for the fall meetings. In June we will have a luncheon. New members are welcome.

Going Places Group

In mid-May we will travel to Wheatland, the home of President James Buchanan. Call Marge Gotshall (610-866-7746) for details and to make your reservation.

Pay Equity 2012

Join our branches, YWCA, the Student Affiliate group at Moravian College and others by participating in 10 Days of Pay Equity April 8-17, 2012.

Together we can educate all citizens of any age, gender, or race of the pay gap!

Resources for Pay Equity National AAUW's website is a great resource with history, overviews, statistics and legislation as well as additional links to information.

- <http://www.aauw.org/act/laf/library/payequity.cfm>
- <http://aauw.org/learn/research/simpleTruth.cfm>
- <http://www.aauw.org/learn/research/behindPayGap.cfm>

For more information and data about women in the workforce, visit our **government websites:**

- <http://www.bls.gov/spotlight/2011/women/>
- <http://www.bls.gov/bls/cpswomendata.htm>
- <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/cwg/data-on-women>

National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) is so informative, with several resources including state-to-state wage gap data:

- <http://www.pay-equity.org/info.html>

An **Interactive Map** depicting career wage gap by state, sorted by education and by profession: http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/04/gender_wage_gap.html

AAUW-PA President
Margaret McGrath

mcgrathaauwpa@gmail.com

Book Fair: 50th Anniversary

If you have never participated in the Book Fair before, this is your year. Come out and join in the fun and see what's old and what's new. It's not too late to bring ideas. We love challenges.

This is the AAUW Book Fair, of which we are all members or community volunteers. We need all of you to make this a huge success for our own personal satisfaction, for branch recognition, and for the funding of scholarships for women and girls and the *Let's Read Math* program.

Mary Anne and I have been working hard behind the scenes, Opening Day is behind us, but there is lots more work to come. Please add us to your "things to do list".

Suggestion from one member: send the book sale flier from newsletter to everyone in your address book now for donations and again, when sale begins. I DID!!!

Important Dates:

After broadcast of 3/23

March 30

April 3 & 5 (7pm)

April 4 (1:30 pm)

April 10 (6 pm)

March 21-April 23

Tuesday, April 24

www.takingtheinitiative

50th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon

Community Spotlight-RCN

Community Spotlight- RCN

Book Sale Dinner/Branch meeting

Book Fair Sorting (Mon - Sat, 9 - noon)

Sale begins with Preview Day

When we call and ask you to volunteer during the sale, please say "YES".

Linda Robbins

610-264-4416 or Lrob164832@aol.com

Mary Anne Mitrísín

610-837-7693 or Mitrísín@rcn.com



The Branch's Sympathies

To Jack and Marilyn Merry the good friends of our long time member Arlyne Mullins who died March 4, 2012.

To Marie Boltz on the death of her father Jacob Cohen March 26, 2012 at the age of 102.

Members in the News

The County of Northampton appointed Ann Terres to the Gracedale Advisory Board to guide decisions about the county-owned nursing home.

Myrna Sims had a March 25 letter to the editor printed in the *Morning Call*. She commented on the recent Doonesbury cartoon strip that focused on the Texas law requiring women seeking abortion services to undergo an invasive transvaginal probe ultrasound and commended the paper for agreeing to run the strip.

Primary Election Day

April 24

Your Vote Counts!

Take Back the Night Rally

Support and join the Moravian Student Affiliate's March and Rally for Violence against Women Tuesday, APRIL 3, 2012. For the March, meet outside the South campus dorms at 6pm. For the Rally, meet at 7:15pm at Johnston Hall (the athletic and recreation building) on North Campus.

AAUW-Student Affiliates at Moravian College

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

We Welcome Our Newest Members

Barbara Subber: She is a graduate of Stetson University (1968) with a bachelor of arts degree in English. Barb retired from 33 years of service at the Bethlehem Area Public Library and has a full life as a volunteer: weekly service at St. Luke's Hospital in the one-day surgery unit and fundraising for the choir of Trinity Episcopal Church. She is a member of a breakfast club and a book club and studies tai chi. Her friend Olga Conneen introduced her to our branch.

Mary Dawson: Mary is a graduate of Moravian College (1974) with a bachelor of arts degree and of Florida State University (1977) where she earned a masters of Library Science degree. She is a retired children's library and an accomplished gardener. Mary is also a good friend of Olga's.

Christina Farr Zaharchuk: She is a Cedar Crest College (2004) graduate with a Bachelor's of Fine Arts degree. Christina has a friend in Paper Back II who encouraged her to join our branch. Christina's interests are fabric crafts and photography. She has had varied jobs and now works at Joann Fabrics where her joy is helping customers find the right fabric and color mix.

Stephanie Hnatiw Receives Award



Diversity Chair Randi Blauth presents Stephanie, executive director of the Bethlehem YWCA, with the 2012 Gateway to Equity Award at our March Inter-branch luncheon. The award recognizes a community member who has advanced equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

10 Days of Pay Equity

According to AAUW's [Behind the Pay Gap](#) (2007) research, "just one year after college graduation, women working full time already earn less than their male colleagues, even when they work in the same field. Ten years after graduation, the pay gap widens.

Why is April 17, 2012 considered Pay Equity Day? This date symbolizes how far into 2012 women must work to earn what men earned in 2011. The wage gap is even greater for most women of color. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2010 the ratio of women's to men's median annual earnings was **77 cents to the dollar** for full-time wage and salary workers.

As quoted from www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/cwg/data-on-women:

"The *Women in America* report describes levels and trends in women's employment, earnings, and time use. The Bureau of Labor Statistics is the main source of the data (bls.gov). As the report indicates in regard to employment:

- The participation of women in the workforce rose dramatically through the mid-1990s, but has been relatively constant since then.
- Workforce participation among men has declined, but women are still less likely to work in the paid labor force than are men. When women do work, they are much more likely than men to work part-time.
- Women continue to spend more of their time in household activities or caring for other family members; they also do more unpaid volunteer work than men.
- Despite their gains in labor market experience and in education, women still earn less than men.
- In part, this is because women and men work in different occupations, with women still concentrated in lower-paying and traditionally female occupations.
- Because women earn less and because two-earner households have higher earnings, families headed by women have far less income than do married-couple families."

As stated on the national AAUW website, "thanks to the hard work of AAUW Action Network members and our coalition partners, President Obama signed the [Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act](#) into law on Jan. 29, 2009." However, we still have experienced setbacks as well. "In November 2010, the Senate failed to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, a comprehensive piece of fair pay legislation passed by the House of Representatives in January 2009. The bill would have updated the landmark Equal Pay Act of 1963 by closing loopholes, strengthening incentives to prevent pay discrimination, and prohibiting retaliation against workers who inquire about employers' wage practices or disclose their own wages." (http://www.aauw.org/act/issue_advocacy/actionpages/payequity.cfm)

Trisha Moller

C/U Liaison to Moravian College Student Group

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)

Adrienne Rich: 1929-2012

I am here, the mermaid whose dark hair streams black, the merman in his armored body We circle silently about the wreck we dive into the hold. ... We are, I am, you are by cowardice or courage the one who find our way back to the scene carrying a knife, a camera a book of myths in which our names do not appear.

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10 DAYS TO PAY EQUITY

SPONSORED BY AAUW BRANCHES: ALLENTOWN, BETHLEHEM, EASTON AND THE BETHLEHEM YWCA

OBJECTIVE:

To have women throughout the Lehigh Valley bring awareness about pay inequity to their respective communities.

CALENDAR:

April 8 Check out AAUW Bethlehem and AAUW Pennsylvania Facebook postings.

April 9 Letters to Editor for Lehigh Valley papers. Submit: April 3
(Do YOU feel strongly enough to write a letter?)

April 10 Community Awareness: volunteers distribute Pay Equity Fact Sheets & seek petition signatures at Bethlehem area Public Library to be given to elected representatives . 3:00PM-6:00 PM. We MUST have three volunteers. Call Susan at 610-861-8066.

April 11 Unhappy hour at Looper's Bar &Grille, 5:30 pm-7:30 pm
313 E. 3 St., Bethlehem Phone: 610-882-2424

April 12 Women wear red (**because women are always in the red**).

April 13 Deliver petitions to state and national representatives at their Lehigh Valley offices. (addresses provided)

April 14 Practice the Equal Pay song alone or with your group.

April 15 Tweet Pay Inequity Is A Hidden Tax and post statement on your Facebook page.

April 16 Volunteers join Student Affiliates at Moravian College for a phonathon to state and congressional representatives from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM or call on their own. (phone numbers to be provided)

April 17 Equal Pay Day Flash Mob and Sing-Along at Payrow Plaza, City Hall, Church Street, Bethlehem 12:15 PM-1:30 PM

For additional information and materials: Bethlehem-pa.aauw.net

LGBTQIA-An Alphabet for Today's World

A Relevant Primer for Understanding Other Communities

The communities represented by the above letters are not always commonly understood and many of us don't know who to ask or where to go for more information. So, I present a researched primer on common terms used to identify those communities. This information comes from two websites: Lehigh University LGBTQIA Support Services, and UC San Diego LGBT Resource Center.

- L-Lesbian - females who are attracted romantically, erotically and/or emotionally to other females
- G-Gay - sometimes used to represent males who are attracted to males in a romantic, erotic, and/or emotional sense. OR a term used in LGBTQI communities as a whole or individual identity label for anyone who doesn't identify as heterosexual.
- B-Bisexual - a person emotionally, physically, and /or sexually attracted to men and women. It doesn't have to be equally split between genders and there may be a preference.
- T-Transsexual/Transgender - a person who identifies as a member of a gender other than expected based on anatomical sexual organs.
- Q-Queer - an umbrella term that embraces a matrix of sexual preferences, orientations and habits of the not-exclusively heterosexual and monogamous majority. Some take offense to the term by outsiders.
- Q-Questioning - self-explanatory
- I-Intersex - ambiguous genitalia or a person with inconsistencies between their external genitals and their chromosomal or gonadal characteristics
- A-Ally - someone who advocates and supports members of a community other than their own-reaching across differences to achieve mutual goals

I hope that this information broadens our understanding and opens the door to some interesting and informative conversations with your family and friends.

Randi Blauth
Diversity Chair

April 21 Diversity Workshop

Trainers (one is Randi Blauth) from the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) will conduct the workshop in the Priscilla Payne Hurd Academic Building, room 116, on Moravian College's North Campus from 9:30 am -12:30 pm. 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

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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

The Equal Pay Song To the tune of “The Caissons Go Rolling Along”

Unexplained and unfair inequality is there -Women’s pay gap is still going strong
Choose a field, choose a job, Doesn’t matter, we get robbed - Women’s wages are crawling along
For it’s sev’nty seven cents to a dollar earned by men - Shout out the numbers loud and long!
To let them know that pay equity is slow, and that women deserve equal pay.

Equal pay for equal work, benefits and all the perks, Fair wages should not be a quirk
Full-time work, part-time too, should be paid what’s fair and due - Shouldn’t matter if it’s me or you
For it’s time for change in the working world you see, Women’s pay affects our families!
So where-e’er you go be sure to let them know that women deserve equal pay.

It’s not right, be aware women’s pay gap is there, Causing hardships in our senior years
Equal pay every day would chase poverty away And the future would be without fear
For it’s sev’nty seven cents to a dollar earned by men - Shout out the numbers loud and long!
To let them know that pay equity is slow, and that women deserve equal pay.