



Volume 80, Issue 7

May 2010

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 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.

**Bethlehem AAUW Website**  
aauwbethlehempa.org

#### **Mark Your Calendar**

May 5, 4 pm, Meeting at Susan McNamara's to evaluate surveys

May 11, 7 pm, Scholars' Reception

June 1, 4 pm, Board of Directors' Meeting and Supper

## BETHLEHEM BRANCH

# BETHLEHEM BYLINES

## May Reception for Scholars Book Fair Funds Record Number of Scholarships

**Central Moravian Education Building  
Tuesday, May 11, 2010  
7 pm**

The parents, friends, and relatives of scholars from Liberty High School, Freedom High School and Saucon Valley High School will be proud observers as AAUW-Bethlehem confers well-deserved scholarships on eighteen young women at our final meeting.

Members of the Scholarship Committee are Myra Jones, Norma Ferguson, Sandy Utley, Louise Wisser, Lynda Schoeninger, and Fran Bentkowski (chairman). After many interviews and hours spent reviewing the qualifications and applications of this year's candidates, the Committee will be introducing this year's recipients to our Branch members.

The majority of these awards are funded by the 2009 Book Fair. At press time, Book Fair Co-Chairs Nancy Disario and Karen Donald reported that "more than \$32,000" was raised at our 2010 Book Fair, setting the stage for another wonderful scholarship program next year.

We will also celebrate Jeanie



2009 AAUW-Bethlehem Scholars



Keller as the recipient of this year's Branch *Outstanding Woman Award* and Myra Jones as our *Emerging Star*. Jo-Anne Horn will be recognized as the 2010 Educational Foundation honoree.

Many thanks to Bacchae and the Current Book Exchange for providing refreshments.

### **Bacchae**

Phyllis Wargo (610-797-9158)  
Our final meeting is a May 13 dinner at 6 pm at the Hampton Winds Restaurant, Northampton Community College. This year, wines are from countries in the southern hemisphere. We welcome new members.

### **Great Books Discussions**

Cathy Barrett (610-868-9100)  
We meet the second Wednesday of the month from October through May at 7:15 pm in the Bethlehem Area Public Library, 2nd floor. Following a brief business meeting, discussion starts at 7:30. On May 12 the reading is *Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri (p. 363)

### **The Out to Lunch Bunch**

Jeanie Keller (610-865-3543) All AAUW members are invited. The final luncheon of the AAUW year will be held at *Yianni's Taverna* on Seidersville Road at noon on May 18. Please make reservations with either of the hostesses, Jan Fredericksen (610-838-1525) or Betty Wellner (610-868-4609) by May 15.

### **Our Sympathies**

To the family of Mary Louise Wheeler who died April 25, 2010, at Kirkland Village.  
To Cathy Barrett and her family on the loss of her daughter Lynn from cancer on May 1.

### **Branch Every-Member Survey**

Results are being tallied and will be reported in the next newsletter. In the meantime, many thanks to the record number of members who sent in responses. Your participation continues to energize our branch leadership.

## **President's Message from Susan McNamara** **Keep the Change until Women Have Real Change**

(President Susan's message ran as a *Town Square* guest column on April 20, 2010 valley-wide in the *Morning Call* newspaper.)

To recognize Equal Pay Day the Bethlehem-PA Branch of the American Association of University Women is assisting our Student Affiliates at Moravian College in holding a bake sale, a time-honored fundraising technique, on April 20 from 11 am to 2 pm in the Hauptert Union Building on the College's north campus. All customers will have the opportunity to buy delicious homemade baked goods, courtesy of our members. A little twist to this sale is that males will have to pay \$1 for their cookies, while all females will be charged \$.77. According to the U. S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Labor Statistics, women who work full time earn about 77 cents for every dollar men earn.

Because of the wage gap, since 1960, the real median earnings of women have fallen short by more than half a million dollars compared to men. Minority women face a larger gap. Compared to white men, African American women make 67 cents on the dollar (African American men make 78 cents); Hispanic women make about 58 cents (Hispanic men make almost 66 cents).

Tuesday, April 20, 2010 is Equal Pay Day. The date represents how far into the year a woman must work to earn as much as a man earned in the previous year; almost an extra four months.

Many years of family-friendly legislation in action such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, Pregnancy Discrimination Act, and policies such as flex time and telecommuting have increased options to create a win-win situation for women and their employers, but women's paychecks still lag significantly behind those of men.

According to Catherine Hill, senior research associate at the AAUW Educational Foundation, "There's a gap here that economists agree can't be explained away by women's choices. What we want to do is continue to take an active role in changing the persistent inequity in women's paychecks by learning about the real roots issue, relying on facts over rhetoric, and creating work environments that are conducive to all workers with family responsibilities, regardless of gender".

The American Association of University Women has long fought to end wage discrimination. Wage discrimination lowers total lifetime earnings thereby reducing women's benefits from Social Security and pension plans and inhibiting their ability to save not only for retirement but for other lifetime goals such as buying a home and paying for a college education. New research calculates that the pay inequity shortfall in women's earnings is about \$210,000 over a 35-year working life.

**Continued on Page Four**

# Public Policy Notes

## Obama Administration's First Year Plus

Compiled by Myra Saturen

What thoughts does the public policy department of AAUW have about the Obama Administration's first year? AAUW has published some opinions on our national website. Among the highlights:

### Pay Equity

The first bill President Obama signed after his inauguration was the *Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act*. This legislation restored protections that had been weakened by overturning the Supreme Court's ruling in *Ledbetter vs. Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company* (2007). The act, enacted by the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, reinstated previously-established terms for filing pay-discrimination lawsuits. AAUW applauds the bill, but there is still more work to be done to bolster women's rights to be paid on a par with men doing the same work. (Women are still paid, on average, a little more than 77 cents to the dollar earned by men.) To this end, AAUW is striving for the passage of the *Paycheck Fairness Act*. This bill, introduced in 2009 by Hillary Clinton and Representative Rose DeLauro, calls for a study of data collected by the Equal Economic Opportunity Commission and proposes voluntary guidelines to show employers how to evaluate jobs with the goal of eliminating unfair disparities. The bill was passed by the House of Representatives on January 9, 2009, and action by the Senate is pending.

### Education

*Education to Innovate* is an initiative President Obama launched in January. It encourages training opportunities in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields by allotting \$400 million in public/private partnerships and for the education of 10,000 new math and science teachers. AAUW has long supported promoting STEM professions.

### Hate Crimes

President Obama recently signed into law the *Matthew Shephard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act*. This measure, named for two fatal victims of hate crimes, expands the 1969 *United States Federal Hate-Crime Law* to include crimes motivated by a victim's actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. The 2009-2011 Public Policy Program of AAUW advocates "freedom from violence and fear of violence in homes, schools, workplaces and communities."

You can read much more about AAUW's responses to the Obama Administration's first year by going to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

### **Paperback I**

Marie Boltz (484-851-3435) On May 20 at 7:30 pm at Froy Thompson's we will discuss *Thirteen Moons* by Charles Frazier. June 17 we will meet at a restaurant to discuss *Losing Battles* by Eudora Welty. The summer book is *Day after Night* by Anita Diamant.

### **Paperback II**

Shirley Daluisio (610-866-7919) On May 25 at 7:30 pm at Joanne Wagner's home Debbie Spinney will lead discussion of *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson.

### **Paperback III**

Pat Michael (610-861-2948) On May 11, Barbara Myers (610-867-5222) will host and lead discussion of *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett. This best selling novel is an interesting character study and riveting social commentary on Southern families.

### **Mystery Paperback**

On June 9 we will have a picnic supper and choose books to read in the fall. Contact Connie White (610-867-8398) for information and to make a reservation.

### **Going Places**

In May we will get together for a planning meeting. All are invited to participate. Please contact either Shirley McBride at 610-317-9603 or Jeanie Keller at 610-865-3543.

### **Directory Update**

Katherine "Kit" Jones: Her new email: [jonesbay@verizon.net](mailto:jonesbay@verizon.net)

### **Congratulations to Our Newly Elected Leaders**

At the April meeting, branch members unanimously elected new officers to a term of two years. We thank the Nominating Committee for its diligence.

President: Susan McNamara  
(second term)

Co-Vice Presidents, Program: Linda Zimmerman and Joanne Wagner

The members of the Nominating Committee: Randi Blauth, Nancy Disario, Marge Gotshall, Cinda Jensen, Margaret Mahoney, Linda Robertson, and Sandy Utley.

### **Women & Girls Now Have Better Shot at Fair Play**

AAUW strongly supports the new *Title IX* athletics guidance issued by the Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights. The new guidance rescinds the deeply flawed 2005 "Additional Clarification of Intercollegiate Athletics Policy: Three-Part Test - Part Three." Under the 2005 clarification, schools could use non-responses to a spam-like e-mail survey to demonstrate a lack of interest in athletics and to justify cuts to women's programs.

"Statistics show that girls thrive when they participate in sports - they are less likely to get pregnant, drop out of school, do drugs, smoke, or develop mental illness. In addition, a recent study found that women who played sports growing up had a lower obesity rate even 20 to 25 years later in life," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. "These benefits are just part of the reason that AAUW continues to be one of the leading voices advocating for vigorous *Title IX* enforcement," said Hallman.

## **President's Message Continued from Page Two**

Two of the Moravian College seniors we are partnering with commented that they had never thought about pay equity until our bake sale conversation when they heard the litany of statistics. One was indignant that her hard work in college wasn't going to be recognized 100% in the American workplace -- for the sole reason that she is female.

Just because President Obama signed the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act in January 2009 doesn't mean pay equity for women is assured. Our work is not done.

Come to our bake sale. We'll be the women dressed in red, since women are always "in the red". Besides cookies, cupcakes and brownies, you can pick up information flyers or sign a petition to encourage our Congress persons to continue sponsoring effective pay equity legislation.

My personal hope is that, in the very near future, my college senior friends will be deciding how to invest or spend an additional 23 percent of earned income when the time comes that we truly have pay equity in the U.S.

*Susan McNamara*

## **Membership Report From Yvonne Payne**

Congratulations to our newest member Joann M. Trotsky. She is a graduate of Moravian College with a bachelor of science degree in education (1964) and she earned a master's degree in education from Lehigh University in 1965. She has her school psychology certification and is retired from the Bethlehem Area School District.

Joann's contact information is: 1155 Yorkshire Road, Bethlehem 18017-3017; Telephone: 610-868-3459; Email: jmt1155@PTD.net (please add to your directory pages).

## **Going Places Study Group To Tour Sculpture Grounds**

On Saturday, May 22 the group will travel to Hamilton NJ to explore the Grounds for Sculpture, a 35-acre park that is home to 250 contemporary sculptures. An exhibition of works by the late Keith Haring is of special interest to Lehigh Valley residents. The outdoor and indoor park and museum was the dream of J. Seward Johnson, sculptor and philanthropist.

For information and to make a reservation, please call Marge Gotshall (610-866-7746) by May 20.

## Our 2010 Women of Special Honors

### AAUW-Bethlehem Recognizes Members' Exceptional Service

At the April AAUW meeting we announced the names of women who have been honored by our branch for their special attitude toward volunteerism.



Jeanie Keller

Jeanie Keller is our *Outstanding Women of the Year*. She worked as a paralegal for 20 years and volunteers as a Northampton County Court Advocate for *Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley*. She has been a member since 1993 and has served as Branch President (2000-2002), on the Nominating Committee, Co-Vice President for Program, Vice President of Membership and chaired several study groups. Jeanie was the first AAUW scholarship recipient to join the Bethlehem Branch right after her graduation from Cedar Crest; she earned a Master of Arts degree in Political Science at Lehigh University.



Jo-Anne Horn

We are honoring Jo-Anne Horn by presenting our 2010 Education Foundation (EF) contribution in her name. Jo-Anne's continuing work for our branch helps makes this gift possible. She has been a member since 1969 and has served as Sale Captain for Book Fair, EF Chairman, and Board Secretary as well as acting as an organizer of several study groups.



Myra Jones

Our *Emerging Star* is no newcomer to our branch, but she is a first-time member of the Board of Directors, serving as branch treasurer. Myra Jones has belonged to AAUW since 1973. With Jo-Anne, she has served as Book Fair Sale Captain for many years. Myra retired from a long career as an elementary teacher in the Bethlehem Area School District, immediately becoming involved with *Let's Read Math*.

Congratulations to all our recipients. Enjoy your well deserved recognition!

#### Best Companies

*Working Mother* magazine announced the winners of their Best Companies for Hourly Workers survey. The 500-question survey measured companies on their benefits, job training and development, advancement programs, child care, flexibility programs, and paid time off. The 2010 winning companies include CCLC, McDonald's USA, Marriot International, Sodexo, the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinic and UNM Hospital.

#### Barbie Goes Tech

A recent survey on Barbie.com gave site visitors the chance to choose Barbie's next career. According to Mattel Inc., while the majority of young girls voted for an anchorwoman, adult voters (led by many women bloggers) flooded the website making computer scientist the winning career. After learning about the survey, many computer scientists launched internet campaigns to encourage others to vote for a career in which women made up only 18 percent of degree earners in 2008. Female computer scientists are hoping that the new tech-oriented Barbie will spark an interest in computers among young girls. AAUW's *Tech Savvy* (2000), *Women at Work* (2003), and *Why So Few?* (2010) research reports have documented the troubling shortage of girls and women preparing to work in science, engineering, technology, and math. In order to close this gap, AAUW supports efforts that train teachers to encourage girls and other underrepresented groups to pursue careers in these fields.

## Officers

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### AAUW Help Line

800-326-2289

10 am to 5 pm

Or

Connect@aauw.org

### Association Website

Www.aauw.org

“There is a fountain of youth: it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of the people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will truly have defeated age.”

Sophia Loren

### AAUW Board Meeting

The Board of Directors of Bethlehem-AAUW meets June 1, 4 pm. Branch members may attend upon request. Call Susan McNamara at 610-216-4905.

## Pay Equity Bake Sale Kudos From Susan McNamara

“**Big Success**” is the obvious headline for our AAUW- Bethlehem/Moravian College Student Affiliate’s first event!

Deserving a thank-you and congratulations are founding members of the Affiliate and leaders of the *Pay Equity Day Project* Celeste Rosati and Colleen Siti.

Without the generosity of branch members who provided an array of baked goods, the project would have been impossible: Marie Boltz, Shirley Daluisio, Bernie Gardiner, Marge Gotshall, Jo-Anne Horn, Joan Jones, Myra Jones, Margaret Mahoney, Mardi Metzger, Bev Nehilla, Lynda Schoening, Jane Snyder, Debbie Spinney, Ginny Stanglein, Nancy Treiber, Joanne Wagner, Phyllis Wargo, and Mary Westwood. Many were simultaneously working on final preparations for Book Fair and also managed to stop by the sale as ‘women always in the red.’ Our “thank you” to all can’t be loud enough!

Finally, gratitude goes to our Branch Student Affiliate Liaison Trisha Moller for help with planning, student mentoring, and navigating details. Linda Robertson for the petition forms, writing and publicity, and AAUW recognition for the event.

Above all, I appreciate the enthusiasm that all brought to what was a new Branch project—a project that gave AAUW-Bethlehem a forum in which to increase public awareness of a significant mission-related issue; to offer action opportunities in support of Pay Fairness; and allow for some fun as well.



AAUW-Bethlehem and its Student Affiliate group at Moravian College raised \$200 for *Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley*. Recognizing that, on average, women earn 23 percent less than men for equal work female buyers of baked goods were charged 77 cents while men paid one dollar for a similar portion. Seniors Colleen Siti (far left) and Celeste Rosati present a check to Turning Point’s executive director Nancy McCullar.



## **AAUW**

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Time Sensitive Material

## **2010 Book Fair is Now History New Advertising Standard Set**



Through the generosity of Chet Taylor and his family Book Fair made history this year. For the first time, we used electronic billboard advertising. The Taylor Family Shell Gas Station at the corner of Schoenersville and Illick's Mill Roads displayed our notice for book collecting for several weeks and then highlighted the actual sales days. Book Fair Committee members are convinced this special advertising brought many new friends to our event. THANK YOU, Chet Taylor!

AAUW-Bethlehem Book Fair goes high tech.