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Bethlehem Bylines Brief

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 11

MAY 2018



2018 Scholars Reception a Festive Affair

Fran Bentkowski, chair, Scholarship Committee served as emcee of our Branch's important Scholarship Reception.

More than 80 members, family and friends watched as Cathy Kotanchik was honored for her three years as Branch President and Rita Bergstrom, Co-Chair Book Fair announced that this year's sale netted \$41,000. Each scholar received a certificate while Fran shared information about their high school experience and anticipated college majors. Everyone enjoyed the refreshments provided by Bacchae Wine Study Group.

Our Branch can make these awards because of the many hours of hard work that members and community volunteers donate to make our Book Fair the best in our region. Many thanks to Rita Bergstrom and Co-Chair Debbie Spinney for their leadership.



Recipients are excited and getting ready to accept their award, while proud family members are lined up to sign in.



Bethlehem Branch Awards..... And the Celebrated Women are....



Branch member Rita Bergstrom was recognized at the “Member Making a Difference” at the April meeting. She is the co-chair of our Book Fair and her enthusiasm has encouraged many new volunteers. Rita’s co-chair Debbie Spinney was honored by being named the “Outstanding Woman of 2018”. Debbie has a long history of branch service including holding many positions and in 2016 became the chair of our chief fund-raising effort – Book Fair. We thank both these role model women for their volunteer service.

MAY I PRESENT TO YOU...

The 2018 Scholarship Recipients

Linda Adodoadji (Freedom High School) who received the Senior Women’s Club of Bethlehem Scholarship. Freedom High School Scholars who received Book Fair Scholarships were Lydia Burnett, Morgan Cahill, Kira Hoerres, Cassandra Murphy, Isabella Pompa, Tejpal Randhawa, Emily Saulino, and Victoria Urquiza. Liberty High School Scholars were Nessa Cartagena, Teagan Cobb, Gabrielle Harvilla, Lucy Kitch-Peck, Katherine Luther, Eleni Prodes, Esther Rhee, Aivlys Roque-Alicea, Alison Olivia Sahaydak, Sarafina Schultheis, and Anna Wescoe. In addition, the Branch awarded scholarships to three women whose education was interrupted. They are Carley Blanchard and Ester Henderson who attend DeSales University and Sydjea Linton who is a student at Cedar Crest College.



Group Information

Paperback II Study Group :“Happy Reading this summer” Joanne Wagner,610-392-0891

AAUW Paperback I New members are welcome. Please call Myra Saturen 610 974-9385..

Out-to-Lunch Bunch We're having our next lunch on Tuesday, June 19, at noon, in the garden of the Limeport Inn (1505 Limeport Pike, Limeport, PA)! Lynn Bittner will be our hostess, so let her know by Friday, June 15. Lynn's email is still out of order, so please call her at 610-838-1482. Grab your fanciest garden hat and join us.
-Jeanie Powers

Diversity: Deeds and Dialogue: Members of this group come from the Bethlehem, Easton and Allentown branches to discuss issues around race, age, gender and more. This group is concerned with social action as well as social justice. We meet the 4th Wednesday, of the month at 7:00pm. If you have any questions, please contact Rosemary Baker robaker356@gmail.com

Mystery Paperback Information: Linda Robertson LCRob123@PTD.net

Bacchae :Bacchae ended this year with the annual dinner on May 10 at Hampton Winds. First meeting for the next year will be on Sept 13 at 7:00 at Phyllis Wargo's house. Happy summer to all.

From the desk of Yearbook Editor Shirley Daluisio

REMINDER FROM YEARBOOK EDITOR--

Once dues deadline (June 30) occurs, I will be finalizing the Bethlehem Branch Yearbook 2018-2019 entries. If you have any address/ phone/email changes which you have not previously submitted to me, Finance officer L. Robbins, membership chair A. Hammersmith, please do so immediately.



2018-2019 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INFORMATION

To help our Finance Officer submit her Membership report on time, we ask that those of you who have not yet responded to the 2018-2019 AAUW-Bethlehem dues renewal form to please do so to meet the June 30 deadline. Why not do it today?

You can snail mail your dues check for \$85 to Linda Robbins at 65 Colonial RD, Allentown 18109-9411

RENEW MEMBERSHIP TODAY !!

Our Yearbook Editor Shirley Daluisio is recovering from surgery. She will be off her feet for six weeks. Please join me in sending Shirley a GET WELL CARD SHOWER

3811 Oakland Road Bethlehem PA 18020

BOOK FAIR 2018

The 56th Annual AAUW Book Fair is almost ready to be “put to bed”; a few final reports need to be written. Planning and participation by the Co-Chairs, members and volunteers made this year’s Book Fair successful, as well as an opportunity for us to share the event as friends and colleagues. For the record, our sale grossed \$43,395.75 this year! We continue to be amazed that we can sell enough donated, used books to earn such a marvelous amount.

On May 16, we celebrated our 2018 Scholars. It’s important to note that our scholarship funds are a direct result of the many hours and hard work from our members and community volunteers. In 56 years the branch has given away over \$700,000 in scholarships!!

Debbie and Rita want to thank everyone who gave us their time and talents to make this year’s Book Fair successful. We truly enjoyed working hand in hand with each one of you.

NEXT BOOK FAIR: JUNE 27-JULY 1, 2019



Opening day of Book Fair 2018 and smiles all around from superb volunteers.



A Successful April Program... Pre Book Sale Access at Supper and Sale Event



The April program, this year was the Book Fair Sup and Shop Event. It allows all members access to Book Fair prior to the doors opening to the public. There were about 25 people in attendance this year. Branch elections were held. Deb Spinney and Rita Bergstrom were also presented the branch awards with certificates and beautiful bouquets. It was the beginning of another successful Book Fair fundraiser and program.

Many THANKS to Mary Dawson for all her hard work as Program Vice President.



AAUW PA Annual Conference April 13-15, 2018 Silver Springs PA



*A THEMATIC APPROACH TO BRANCH
PUBLIC POLICY...*

*Presented at the 89th ANNUAL PA AAUW
State Convention by
Stacey Zaremba and Shelley Speirs
Bethlehem Branch Public Policy Co-Chairs*

*Below: Post presentation discussion with
Cathy Kotanchik and Barbara Price.
The Bethlehem Branch, lead by Shelley and
Stacey, held more public policy events than
any other PA branch in 2017-2018.*



*After successful presentations, Sue McNamara and
Randi Blauth enjoy a well deserved glass of wine
with Lee Wolfe from the Lansdale Branch, who is
the new PA State Programming Chair*

*Table of combined Bethlehem and Easton Branch
members gather at convention for fellowship as
well as information. Convention gives you the op-
portunity to meet new members and reconnect with
old friends.*

The Silence of Good Girls

Were you taught to never talk about religion, politics, or money? Were you taught never to raise your voice in public, avoid conflict, and behave like a good girl should?

Many members of our branch were born to a generation that was taught to button it up. Were you and your mothers free to voice your own opinions in your homes and in your communities or were you encouraged to “keep calm and carry on?”

I was thinking about this because I learned that there is a philosophy of racism known as “white silence.” Many white people do not speak up when we witness or see someone experience racism. This silence allows the degradation of others. It condones prejudicial behavior because no action or defense was taken when witnessing an injustice. White silence is being complicit with injustice when you could do or say something. Do you think many white people, women in particular, don’t speak up due to the way we were raised? Do you think that the rules of our upbringing are so ingrained that even when we know that something is wrong, we don’t say or do anything because we don’t want to step outside the comfort zones that we have created our whole lives? Is our silence “good girl” behavior? Is it white privilege? Or could it be a combination of both?

What can you do if you have a friend who says something you know is prejudicial? What can you do in a store if you witness a problem? You can be that witness who stands silently watching; don’t leave the victim alone. I’m suggesting that we say to our friend, “What makes you say that?” or “Where did you hear that?” or “I disagree, I think....” or “Did you say.....?” All these things, done in a non-confrontational way, can diffuse a situation or start a conversation, or plant a seed.

White silence is not good for anyone. Don’t you think?

Randi Blauth
Diversity Chair

*there's a
moment when
you have to choose
whether to be
silent or to
stand up.
malala*

MEMBER SERVICE DATA BASE AVAILABLE TO ANY MEMBER

If you need names of new members to contact for participation in study groups, volunteer at book fair, serve on committees, invite to Let’s Read Math or any other reason, you can find this information very easily.

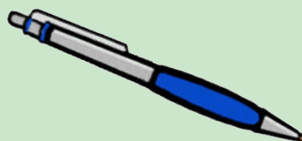
Locate your AAUW membership number
Go to AAUW.org
Search area- type MSD can be found on TOOL BAR
From choices- select MSD
Enter MSD
Enter membership number
Select branch roster

This will give you a complete list of members and contact information and you can compare to yearbook to see who is new or if original contact information is in error.

Linda Robbins
Finance Officer



The President's Pen...



It is the time for graduations, weddings, summer vacations. It is the time for letting go of daily routines and letting our hair down. It is the time we go a bit easier on ourselves. June is the time to walk, bike, run, swim, or just read a book to recharge our batteries.

June is also when AAUW Bethlehem celebrates the successes of the year. You only have to glance through your past Bethlehem Bylines to see that Program VP Mary Dawson and her committee did a marvelous job with the variety of programs offered to our members. You will also see that this year we welcomed the Lehigh University Student Affiliate, who join our Moravian Student Affiliate in trading their youthful enthusiasm and insight for our support and experience. If you were fortunate enough to attend our Book Fair Scholarship Reception in May, you saw firsthand the caliber of high school girls that we support in their quest for further education. Now, log onto www.AAUW.org, and you will see that you are part of something much bigger than AAUW Bethlehem.

For most of us, we can now relax, while our new Executive Committee puts together a plan for the coming 2018-2019 year. This year, I can relax, too! After three years as President of Bethlehem AAUW, I am happy to leave the day to day running of the Branch to someone else.

I have truly enjoyed participating as your president in Branch, State and National meetings. I never tire of hearing how AAUW continually strives to develop the ways and means to promote a fair playing field for women and girls, in the classroom, on the campus, in the workplace, in the boardroom, or in the legislature.

Many branch members have helped me throughout my three years as President. Linda Robertson enlisted me to join the Bylines staff and has offered advice and support ever since. Susan McNamara encouraged me to take on the office of President-Elect and has remained my mentor. President Ruth Skoglund coached me during her tenure and passed along a well-run branch. Each of the officers with whom I have had the pleasure to work have been indispensable in carrying out the day to day duties of the branch. Finance Officers, first, Beth Corroda, and, now, Linda Robbins, have given me friendly support to make sure nothing slips through the cracks. I could not have survived without Secretary Jo Ann Kelly's help with Minutes and Bylaws. And a special nod goes to Shirley Daluisio who always made sure I was on track.

My sincere thanks go to all the branch members for their support and friendship. Now I look forward to being *Past President*.

Cathy Kotanchik



IF YOU ARE ON FACEBOOK, "like" and "follow" our branch page. Then, share, share, share!

Get the word out to your friends about all the great things AAUW does!

@AAUWBethlehem



LIKE

AAUW MISSION:

The advancement of equality for women and ALL through

Research ... Education ... Advocacy ... Philanthropy

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 135 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

Goto AAUW.ORG for more information!

MISSION and MEMBERS MATTER



Beth Corroda
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Bethlehem PA 18017