

Bethlehem Bylines Brief

Editor Beth is mending, but slowly. Here is the final BBB for 2019/2020.

Be safe till we can gather again.

Dues are \$85 and should be mailed to **Linda Robbins, 414 Kenilworth Court, Bethlehem 18018**. Questions – call 484-347-4416.

While you are home, sheltering-in-place, please take a few minutes to remit your dues for 2020-2021. Although you have until June 30 to stay active, your branch officers would GREATLY appreciate your prompt action – it helps us so much to do our job. The Finance Officer must submit our dues to National and State, as well as to the membership chairs for follow-up. You also help our faithful yearbook chair, *Shirley Daluisio*, to prepare the branch yearbook for the printer. Shirley faces many last-minute items and it helps to have membership information as soon as possible.

Without a book sale this year, additional donations for scholarships are gratefully accepted – please mark on the memo line of your check.

Here is the reason I ask you to send me the full-page dues notice you received, regardless of whether you are submitting dues, or additional funds to assist in scholarships or for a donation to National.

I save all dues notices for several years and file alphabetically, so I can easily verify if dues are paid. When I don't receive the notice, I must rely on check deposit slips for verification (in another file). After all dues are submitted, I go back and check the National database to assure all personal mailing, email and phone information is correct. Then I check for any comment on Program and submit to Program chairs, so your voice is heard, as well as any other pertinent comments. If I have half or quarter sheets, they slip to the bottom and could be lost in the folder.

Thanks for being considerate and I wish you well in the coming months and hope to see you when we resume **normal** branch operations.

Linda Robbins
Finance Officer



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www.bethlehem-pa.aauw.net

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?

Webinar on Paid Family Leave

May 20, 2020 ~ 7 – 8:15 PM

Implement Paid Leave and Paid Sick Days: an issue of AAUW's Gender Agenda

Unlike most developed countries worldwide, the U.S. does not guarantee paid time off for illness, family care or parental leave. The nation's lack of paid sick and family leave is endangering both the physical and economic wellbeing of countless American families.

- **Federal**: pass the Family and Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY) Act and the Healthy Families Act.
- **Pennsylvania**: pass the Family Care Act paid leave insurance program, HB1739 and SB580 which have bi-partisan support in both the house and senate.

The Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition (BCWAC) is this webinar's host. Panelists include the Family Care Act campaign's Marianne Bellesorte from Pathways PA, an AAUW-PA Gateway to Equity Award winner. The event features messages from Family Care Act sponsors, Rep. Wendi Thomas, (R-178). and Sen. Maria Collett (D-12). This legislation is bipartisan.

This will be a Zoom webinar where you will be able to ask questions or simply listen in. The event is free, but you must register in order to participate.

Register for the event at <https://bcwac.org/events/upcoming-events/>. You will receive an email with the link so you can participate.

The webinar will also be live-streamed on the Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition's Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/BucksCountyWomensAdvocacyCoalition/>

The Slate of Branch Officers Elected in First-Ever Electronic Vote

In keeping with Governor Tom Wolf's rules about sheltering-in-place, Branch members voted electronically for the slate as proposed by Debbie Spinney's Nominating Committee. Vice-president, Membership, Mary Dawson reports that the vote exceeded the required percentage needed to elect these great volunteers. Congratulations to our new officers: Cathy Kotanchik (Secretary) and the Program Team of Olga Conneen, Mary Lou Vernon and Phyllis Wargo.

AAUW – MORAVIAN UPDATE

2020 – 2021 Officers

President	Norah Dolan
Vice President	Eliza Grigsby
Treasurer	Camaryn Wheeler
Secretary	Taylor Verrekia

AAUW received a Moravian College Certificate of Excellence for “Best Political Awareness Campaign” for its Red Sand Project, which is a participatory artwork which uses sidewalk interventions to create opportunities for people to question, connect and take action against vulnerabilities that can lead to human trafficking and exploitation.

Mairead Young who served as the secretary of AAUW-Moravian received the prestigious “Alumni Prize for Outstanding Achievement in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences”.

While AAUW had to cancel the 11th annual Take Back the Night March and Rally – the Moravian Community was invited to join a live webcast of the first even Global – Take Back the Night. Although not quite the same as our in-person campus event, the readings,

stories, and information, were meaningful and empowering.

Alyssa Flannery won The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Outstanding Achievement Award in Women’s Studies and Advocacy. This award is presented to a graduating senior who shows exceptional promise in the field of Women's and Gender Studies.

Executive Team Message: IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE

The AAUW–Bethlehem Branch Executive Team is winding down the 2019–2020 activity year and wants to express that IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE to serve the members of the Bethlehem branch. The Team worked hard to embrace the mission, vision, values of AAUW and presented certain programs to fulfill those: Branch members wore purple sashes to celebrate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, heard the voices of women about their incarceration and re-entry to society, learned details about the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, and interacted with /supported the young women of our AAUW–Moravian College and AAUW–Lehigh University Student Groups.

The Executive Team appreciates the support of every AAUW–Bethlehem member. We wish everyone a safe summer and look forward to seeing smiling faces at branch meetings in the fall.

Shirley Daluisio, Program VP, 2018–2020

ZOOM MEETINGS AND SUCH!

The members are still busy with masks and Zoom meetings. Keeping our spirits high and feeling connected is very important at this time.

Be well, Friends.

MARYLOU VERNON A BIG CONTRIBUTOR OF MASKS.

BACCHAE MEETING FOR APRIL

PAPERBACK 2 MEETING FOR APRIL

In Memoriam: Evelyn Musselman

Evelyn Musselman was a proud AAUW member and her obituary noted she was the 2006 AAUW–Bethlehem Outstanding Woman of the Year. She died April 21, 2020 at 89. Seldom do we receive comments when branch members are notified of a death. This time was an exception:

- Mrs. Musselman was a wonderful person and a great teacher. Our sons had her in elementary school and it was a terrific experience!
- She was a talented teacher and fondly remembered.
- She was such a classy lady and so kind.
- I first met Evelyn in the 1960s when the Musselman family moved to Jennings Place near Cathy Barrett. I often babysat for the Barrett girls and would see Evelyn's family. She was always so gracious and kind to everyone and in later years we would often talk about our children and teaching.
- She always had a lovely smile.

Branch Members	Life	Honorary Life		
National:	\$59.00			
State:	10.00		\$10	\$0
Branch:	<u>16.00</u>		<u>16</u>	0
Total	\$85.00		\$26	

\$56 of AAUW National Dues is considered tax deductible as a charitable contribution. \$3 goes to support your AAUW Lobby Corps and election-related activities and is not tax deductible.

State and Branch Dues are NOT considered tax deductible as charitable contributions.

Additional contributions are encouraged and appreciated, particularly if you are a Life or Honorary Life Member. Your contributions make a significant impact in the life of women and girls through AAUW Initiatives.

PLEASE RETURN ENTIRE FORM EVEN IF NOT SUBMITTING ANY FUNDS

Return this form with your check payable to AAUW-Bethlehem to:

Linda Robbins
414 Kenilworth Court
Bethlehem, PA 18018

If you have any changes to your contact information (especially email address), please indicate below.

Name: _____ email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City/zip: _____

What did you find interesting/engaging/informative this year? _____

Do you have suggestions for future programs? _____

Comments: _____