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Bethlehem Bylines Brief

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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION 2020

AAUW BETHLEHEM is proud to present the following awards to our branch members

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Linda Robertson, a member and officer in both Harrisburg and Bethlehem branches, has been granted Honorary Life membership with a certificate from Association and a 50 year pin. She is exempt from paying any future Association, State and Branch dues.

OUTSTANDING PERSON

Ann Brown, has been the person behind the scenes, always volunteering to assist in any branch endeavor or project; photographer, 80th anniversary program, graphic design, computer artistry, and Shape the Future events. She is a humble volunteer and is celebrated by her peers. She currently serves as co-chair of Program.

MEMBER MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Madison Scarfaro, a new member who has accepted the position of Web Designer, a challenging task with information coming from many sources. She accepted this position while serving as a campaign manager for her mother's political campaign and working on HB 276- Marsy's Law, a constitutional amendment to expand victim's rights. As a younger member she is a breath of fresh air and is active in board and branch meetings.

GATEWAY TO EQUITY

Senior Judge F.P. Kimberly McFadden, the first female judge appointed to the Northampton County Bench. Decades later she was elected by her colleagues to serve as President Judge and served from 2008-2013. She was called a trailblazer by her peers and a source of guidance and inspiration, known for her blunt talk, punctuality and no nonsense approach to the bench. The most important tribute to her was her enduring legacy of fairly and impartially imparting justice and wisdom to all who appeared in her court. Having a woman in that role was so new, "no one knew what to do with me"

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION NAMED GIFT HONOREES

Linda Robertson, as a member of Bethlehem AAUW, she has served on the board and attended meetings for the past 18 years; 12 years as Bylines Editor, 18 years as Publicity/Communications Chair, and 2 years as Co- Program VP and a member of the new Executive Team. She is active in all branch activities and study groups and had been outstanding in keeping the branch active and relevant in the 21st century.

Shirley Daluiso, a member for 47 years serving on the board and attending board meetings for 14 years; 2 years as Study Group Chair, 12 years as Yearbook Chair and 2 years as Co-Program VP for 2 years and member of the Executive Team. Shirley is detail oriented and has also served as assistant to the President for several past presidents.

Both Shirley and Linda have formed a strong foundation for the successful running of the organization. Their attitudes and commitment are infectious and inspiring.

Awards Committee: Linda Robbins, Chair, Linda Zimmerman, Jane Williams

Group Information :

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. Using various media, the group examines the role of society in the problems of diverse populations (age, gender, race ability and religion).
Meeting: Wednesday, August 26 at 7:00pm via Zoom. **Reading:** Parts Two and Three from Stamped from the Beginning by Ibram Kendi. If you have any questions, please contact Rosemary robaker356@gmail.com

Mystery Paperback The mystery book club will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2020. Because of the ongoing pandemic we will again hold our meeting by Zoom. Colleen Hauser will lead the discussion of “A Cold Day for Murder” by Dana Stabenow. Our next meeting after that will be on Tuesday, Oct. 27. New members are always welcome. Please contact Mary Dawson for more information.

Paperback I :Members choose and read same paperback book of various genres for discussion . Please contact Myra Saturen myra125@hotmail.com with any questions.

Paperback II PPBII will have their first meeting of the 2020-2021 season on Tuesday, September 15th at 7pm. At this point we are still meeting physically at Shirley Daluisio’s home. Our book for September is “The Secret Keeper” by Kate Morton. If plans change and we decide to use Zoom I will send out an email to all members. Because of Covid 19-March through June we met on Zoom to have our PPBII BOOK GROUP MEETINGS. We averaged about 12 people per meeting. We had good discussions plus everyone talked about what they were doing at home to take up their time since all were staying at home and not going out except to shop for food. We all look forward to meeting in person in September. And we welcome new members. My contact cell # 610-392-0891 My email address is: jmfwagner@live.com
 Joanne Wagner, PPBII BOOK GROUP Leader

WELCOME WELCOME WELCOME ...

to our new member

Bonnie Baron. Bonnie is a resident of Bethlehem, PA. She graduated from Seton Hall University. In 2003, she retired from being an elementary school teacher. Her interests include genealogy, reading, history, and doll collecting. She also enjoys spending her time sewing and knitting.

Let’s knit her into the fabric of our group.



Executive Team Message

We welcome our new Executive Team Members, Olga Conneen, Mary Lou Vernon, and Phyllis Wargo, the newly elected co-VP's of Program. They have planned interesting and relevant programs for you this year, with Plan B in place, should we not be able to gather in a large group. We are honing our skills with ZOOM, to be able to bring you our programs and speakers online. If you are able to send and receive emails on your smart phone, you will be able to participate. If not, we will try to publish a synopsis of each program in the next newsletter.

As your Executive Team, our major responsibility is to ensure that all the areas important to the operation of the Branch continue to function. We need more members to step up and help. If you would like to work with ANY of our committees, please contact a member of the Executive Team or the specific Committee Coordinator. When you receive your 2020-2021 Yearbook in the next month (Many, many thanks to Shirley Daluisio for her continued hard work on this important annual publication!) look for the list of Committee Coordinators to see the various groups we have. If you are already in a Study Group, ask your fellow members in which committees they participate.

As we face our personal challenges this year, we should also keep in mind the underemployed, underpaid mothers and caregivers who are trying to cope during the Pandemic. Check out what AAUW is doing for them by watching our National and State Webinars. Go to aauw-pa.aauw.net to watch the recorded Webinar with PA's First Lady, Frances Wolf. Search for the 2020 PA Yearbook on the website by clicking on Meetings/Annual Meetings Yearbooks/2020 Yearbook. Our Bethlehem branch award winners are featured in its pages. And, of course, visit our Facebook page and as well as our website: bethlehem-pa.aauw.net.

You are an important part of our AAUW community.
Please reach out to each other and stay connected!

Your Executive Team



The Moravian College AAUW group met virtually several times over the summer to discuss plans for the upcoming year.

Topics we will address during the 2020-2021 academic year:

Get Out the Vote

Women's Health

Intersectionality

The February Branch Program

Take Back the Night

We are also working to increase our social media presence.

Welcome to the New Year from the Program Committee

It's hard to believe that August is already here and that it's time to think about what our branch will be doing for the 2020-2021 year. Probably the most significant word associated with this year's activities is tentative.

Because of Covid-19, we have struggled with planning activities. But despite the challenges, we have a variety of interesting programs planned for the year, some of which have already been modified. So we'll give it our best shot and adapt as we go.

The September meeting, a presentation of our Gateway to Equity Award, will honor recently retired Northampton County Judge F.P. Kimberly McFadden as our recipient. She will give a talk, "Life on the Bench and in the Courtroom" along with Attorney Barbara Hollenbach.

Since Zoom has suddenly become a way to stay connected, we will utilize that format for our September meeting. Originally planned as a meeting at Moravian Village on September 12 at 1:00 pm, it has been changed to a Zoom format with the same date and time. (Connecting details for Zoom will follow.) If you haven't used Zoom, please download it to your computer from [zoom.com](https://zoom.us). (You can get a Basic download of Zoom for free.) Then later you can follow the connecting details that we will send you.

Graduating cum laude from Bryn Mawr College in 1974 and receiving her Juris Doctor degree from Villanova University in 1978, Judge McFadden was admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania in 1978. She was appointed to the Court of Common Pleas by Gov. Robert Casey in 1988. In November of 1989 she was elected to a full ten-year term, and she was then retained by voters for additional ten-year terms in 1999 and 2009. She served as Northampton County's first elected President Judge from 2008-2013. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, as well as the Pennsylvania and Northampton County Bar Association.

Judge McFadden has been the recipient of the Two Rivers Area Chamber of Commerce Athena Award, the YWCA Woman of the Year Outstanding Public Servant Award, and the Woman of Influence Award for Government. She has also been very active in the community by serving on Advisory Boards of DeSales University, Bethlehem YWCA, Project of Easton, Inc., Lehigh Valley Task Force Against Sexual Abuse, Northampton Community College Adult Literacy Program, Ballet Guild of the Lehigh Valley, Celtic Fest, Inc., and the Banana Factory Council. She also devoted her time to being a member of the YWCA Commission on the Status of Women and an assistant Girl Scout/Brownie leader. In addition, Judge McFadden has been an Area Admissions Representative for her alma mater, Bryn Mawr College, for over 25 years.



Attorney Barbara Hollenbach, who practices in Allentown with Norris McLaughlin P.A., graduated from Pennsylvania State University, Dickinson School of Law. She earned her Juris Doctor degree in 1978, and her practice areas are Workers Compensation: Employer/Insurance, Estate and Trust Litigation. She has been selected to Super Lawyers in 2006, 2008-2020.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for September 12 and watch your email for more details. If you plan to attend the Zoom meeting, please contact Phyllis Wargo at pdwargo@aol.com or call at (610) 797-9158 by Sept. 8. We will be sending email invitations with the link to our Zoom session.

Scholarships

Yahoo!! We did it. Things were looking bleak for scholarships during the lockdown and canceling of the book fair, BUT...

Thanks to our state going green, the scholarship committee has good news to report. Bethlehem AAUW will continue its tradition by awarding scholarships to two nontraditional students. Thanks to some creativity on the part of the committee, interviews were able to be held once Northampton County went green. During the more restrictive phases, we communicated with our adult applicants via e-mail. One of the gals finished her collegiate work in the spring, and one gal informed us that she was moving out of state. Thanks to the hospitality of our own Louise Wisser, the committee interviewed the other two candidates. Nothing came easy this year, and interviewing was no exception. Louise graciously offered her back yard with social distancing and masks the order of the day. However, as the time approached, a deluge ensued. But the committee was not to be deterred. Louise moved cars from her garage, placed chairs at the correct distance, and the committee and applicant donned masks, and the interview was underway! Please meet Emily Werley.



Emily will continue to attend Cedar Crest College majoring in Business Administration after having attended NCC. She hopes to be taking classes in Industrial Analysis and Strategy, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Human Resource Management, and Employment Law. Currently, Emily works at Green Pond Nursery as an office manager. After she graduates (hopefully) in May 2021, she would like to partner with an existing landscaping company and eventually start her own gardening business. Emily hopes by completing her education that she will be able to provide for herself and a family and the mini zoo she plans to have in her backyard.

The following week the weather cooperated, and our second candidate was interviewed in Louise's beautiful backyard. And with a bit less drama and much better weather, we are pleased to present Maribel Rivera. She is currently working approximately 24 hours a week as a certified Pharmacy Technician at the Muhlenberg Campus of LVHN after obtaining her certification through Lincoln Tech. Her goal is to become a social worker/counselor. She will continue her classes in Quantitative Analysis in SW and Crisis Intervention this fall at ESU. In addition to taking care of her 15-year-old son, she volunteers for Reconstructing Lives Ministry taking Bible study and encouragement to prisoners. She hopes to impact women of all ages and young adults in such a way that they will look beyond the "I can't" to the "I can" and "I will." She is striving to attain her degree by 2023-24.



These two young women will receive their scholarships to help them as they continue their coursework this fall. We are disappointed that we could not offer funds to our local high school gals this year, but we can be proud that two very deserving women will be able to continue their educational journeys thanks to our branch's efforts.

The Scholarship Committee (Fran Bentkowski, Myra Jones, Louise Wisser, Norma Ferguson, Jo Ann Kelly, Marie Boltz, Cathy Kotanchik)

BOOK FAIR 2021

We hope that you and yours have fared well, are safe and not going too crazy at home. Normally, we would report that Book Fair 2020 was “put to bed” after our pot luck luncheon, bills paid, reports written, and a de-briefing completed. As you all know, those were not, nor are they now, “normal times”.

What is “normal” is thinking and planning for Book Fair 2021, as best we can. Although it would seem that there isn’t much to do during the summer months, our brains don’t stop and planning continues. When you get your Yearbook, you will see that our traditional Sup and Shop is scheduled, and the dates for the actual sale will run from a Wednesday to Sunday as opposed to Thursday to Monday. There will be more information to come in future Bylines and/or emails.

Many of you were friends with Mary Pat Beebe, who passed recently, and we send our condolences to you and her family. Mary Pat was a very active member of our AAUW branch, and it was her wish that her books be donated for our Book Fair. Her son, Daniel, delivered 15 boxes of books to me, which are stored in my basement. I had several neighbors, who were moving to a new city or state, and know about the Book Fair, brought books to me to hold for next year. There are other members holding donations in their homes until April, 2021. If you have donations from others, and have a place to keep them until April, that would be helpful; my basement can only hold so many boxes.

Amy and I met with Debbie in July and we are now “officially” in possession of **THE NOTEBOOK**, and the mantle has been passed. It contains a plethora of information from previous Chairpersons as well as Book Fair history and statistics.

We both learned a great deal from Debbie and look forward to being Co-Chairs for 2021. We are also excited to be working together and ready to continue planning and working on Book Fair 2021. As the summer progresses, we hope that you remain well. Please Stay Safe, Stay Home, Stay Well.

Rita and Amy
Co-Chairs

Voting By Mail



If you plan to Vote by Mail in the November election, please be sure to order your ballot now. You must be registered to vote. You can apply online with a valid PA driver’s license or PennDOT photo ID. You can sign up to be a permanent mail-in ballot voter so you can automatically receive ballots by mail for the rest of the year. (If you did this for the May primary, you should automatically receive a ballot for the November election without taking any additional steps.) Visit www.votespa.com and click *Mail-in & Absentee Ballots* on the toolbar for all the information you will need.

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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!**

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