

Bethlehem Bylines Brief

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APRIL 2023

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www.bethlehem-pa.aauw.net

61st ANNUAL USED BOOK FAIR

April 27-May 1, 2023

Bethlehem Ice Rink 345 Illicks Mill Road Bethlehem 18017

Preview Day-

April 27 Thursday 2pm-6pm

Admission: \$20 2pm-4pm

\$15 4pm-6pm

Free Entry Days -

April 28 Friday 10am-6pm April 29 Saturday 10am-5pm

April 30 Sunday 12pm-5pm Half Price Day May 1 Monday 9am-12pm Bag Day—\$10 a bag

Cash and Checks ONLY; No Credit Cards accepted

Book Donations Accepted:

April 3 - April 25, 2023, Mon-Sat, 9am-12pm

For information go to bethlehem-pa-aauw.net

Send us your email through our website for notifications of future sales.

Proceeds benefit scholarships and other educational programs.

VOLUNTEER!!

KICK-OFF KOFFEE APRIL 4TH 10AM BETHLEHEM ICE RINK

Executive Team Message...

The 61st Annual Book Fair Is Here! COME JOIN US!

As you read this article it is not too late to join us! We would love you to come and volunteer some hours for the 61st Book Fair!

Section Chairs are coming Monday, April 3 around 12 to see the layout and check out their sorting boxes. Tuesday, April 4 at 10 am is our version of a Pep Rally - Kickoff Koffee (without the coffee!!!). Come and join us and meet the incredible team of volunteers who will spend hours sorting and pricing all the books.

We can find a job for anyone who wishes to spend some time at the rink and help us. This is an outstanding community event and people far and wide wait to not only donate, but buy, buy, buy. If you can't make Tuesday, stop by any day Monday thru Saturday 9-12 and we will be happy to give you a short lesson on sorting or pricing or toting books!

Let's make this year another rousing success towards Scholarships for local girls.

Rita Bergstrom Amy Fields 2023 Book Fair Co-Chairs



FREE BOOKS TO NONPROFITS

If any Branch member knows of a nonprofit agency that would like free books, etc. for their clients, please contact AAUW Book Fair Nonprofits Coordinator Shirley Daluisio—home 610-866-7919 or email budshirl@hotmail.com

On Monday, May 1, 2023, the last day of Book Fair, from noon-2 pm, pre-registered non-profit agencies will be allowed to take any of the unsold items from our AAUW Book Fair tables at the Ice Rink. There will be plenty of books to choose from. We want to donate as many of these leftover books as possible. The more non-profits that are able to participate in this "Last Day Book Fair Tradition" the better. Do you know of a non-profit that could benefit from getting free books? If you can think of one, let Shirley know.

Please forward the name of the nonprofit agency, the contact person name and way to contact them (phone, email) to Shirley.

Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers April 25, 2023 at 6 p.m.

As we have done in past years, The Bethlehem Branch will hold its Annual General Meeting during the Sup 'N Shop program at the Bethlehem Ice Rink on Illicks Mill Road on April 25th at 6:00 p.m. At this time, we will hold the election for Branch officers commencing their two-year positions on July 1, 2023. We have one nominee for each open position.

Finance Officer Linda Robbins

Membership Co-Vice Presidents Kathryn Kahler and Debbie Spinney

We can accept nominees from the floor at the meeting, but please have the Branch member's agreement to be nominated beforehand.

Nominating Committee: Louise Wisser, Jane Williams, Jo Ann Kelly, Brenda Tomlinson

Nominating Committee for 2023: Brenda Tomlinson, Chairman: Jo Ann Kelly, Nan Faust

Book Fair 2024 Co-Chairs Announcement

Bylines is happy to announce that **Joan Howe and Debbie Spinney will be Co-Chairs** for the 62nd Annual Book Fair in 2024. Thank you for taking on this responsibility. Your leadership and your willingness to volunteer for these roles are greatly appreciated by all members. Every book fair attendee, community and branch volunteer, branch member and scholarship recipient thank you.

Remember... The more members involved the better.

Book Fair needs leaders and volunteers to be successful.

There will be a large poster at this year's Book Fair that will list all the ways you can help Debbie and Joan. Many jobs are done in the fall and winter well before Book Fair begins. There is a role for every volunteer. It doesn't matter what you can do, we will find a task that matches your abilities. All help is greatly appreciated. Thank you for being generous with your time. Look forward to seeing you volunteering and shopping at Book Fair 2023.

Equal Pay Day 2023 — March 14th —

Look at the current state of the gender pay gap. Women working full-time, year-round are paid 84 cents, and all earners (including part-time and seasonal) are paid 77 cents on average for every dollar paid to men.

Why are we still talking about the gender pay gap? Because it has barely changed in decades, and these historic inequities were further exacerbated when the COVID-19 crisis hit. Women over the past three years, especially women of color and mothers, were pushed into part-time or seasonal work, or out of the workforce all together. As elected officials continue efforts to rebuild our nation in the wake of the dual public health and economic crises, they must do better. We cannot build back an economy that works for everyone without ensuring that all women can work with equality, safety, and dignity—

Starting with pay equity.

PROGRAM NEWS -SPRING HAS FINALLY SPRUNG!

March was a busy month for the Program VPs - planning for our two March programs and looking forward to the big event - The Book Fair this month.

We greatly enjoyed our "Coffee and Conversation" March 18th program, led by our member Jane Williams. We had a good turnout of about 21 members. Through Jane's questions and our answers to each other, we got to know each other and learned to listen and understand and not just converse. We discovered things we have in common. We hope to have another "Coffee and Conversation" program with Jane in the future.



WHAT EVENT (PERSONAL GREATEST IMPACT ON YOUR LIFE? HOW DID IT CHANGE YOU? HAT "GIFT" OR CHARGE DID YOU DO YOU NOW

Jane Williams

(above) Questions that allow you to share your story and learn the stories

members getting to know each other better through Coffee and Conversation.

As of this writing, we are looking forward to our informative March 30th program "Digging In The Past For Our Futures". This topic is about LGBTQ+ archives and exploring archives. We will let you know all about it in the next Bylines.

The Book Fair Sup n' Shop is on Tuesday, April 25th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. We would like members to bring a dessert. If you would like to contribute, please let us know ahead of time and what dessert you plan to bring. Email Kristina - krisinrb@aol.com.

See you at the Book Fair!! Help out if you can!

Kristina Hollingsworth, VP Programs Linda Federico, VP Programs

Membership Matters

April is Book Fair, and at the end of the month, we conclude our work and efforts with our Annual Sup and Shop, the induction of our new Board Members, and the announcement of 2023 Award Winners. It is an evening of celebration and gathering for our membership to reflect on the hard work and efforts as we end the 61st Book Fair.

During the weeks leading up to this event, we need many volunteers to help support our Book Fair Team. Please consider helping one day or many. Our Membership Team needs helpers to hand out "thank you cards" for book drop-offs at the door. We need people to greet and welcome all who offer book contributions. Please bring a friend, they do not have to be a member to help, and just maybe, you may lead a friend to join this community of leaders who work for women and young girls to break through the barriers facing women and families today. We make a difference in lives. Please contact Kathy Kahler or Ann Brown if you are willing to help greet, welcome, and hand out thank cards.

Ann Brown, VP Membership Kathy Kahler, VP Membership



The Book Nook

One Italian Summer by Rebecca Serle

What if someone you love dies, and unexpectedly, you bump into them as a younger version of themselves? That is what happens to Katy when she takes a trip to the Amalfi Coast - a trip planned by her mother as a mother/daughter get-away before her mother's death. This is a story of love, loss and finding oneself, set in a beautiful Italian beach town surrounded by the glimmering sea, filled with sunshine and delectable food. Get your passport out. You'll want to make your plane reservations when you finish reading.

The Great Bridge: The Epic Story of the Building of the Brooklyn Bridge by David McCullough.

This is an incredible factual book about the Brooklyn Bridge. This nonfiction book is full of amazing details and specifics about the bridge and would be a good companion book to *The Engineer's Wife*.

On Another Note - The American Library Association has reported that 2022 had 1,200 challenges to books. This is double the average requests in years past. One of the differences is that many of the challenges are being made by groups with a political agenda, not local parents and are requests for multiple titles, not a single book. The majority deal with perceived LGBTQ or Black issues/authors. The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison, To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee, and Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck are three of the most challenged titles.

Judicial Primary Election

This year's primary election in May 16, 2023. Voting for judges can be confusing. If you're not in the legal profession, how do you even know who these individuals are? I've done my best to figure out who you'll be asked to vote for.

It's safe to say that each state in our country selects their judges differently, with a combination of appointments and partisan and nonpartisan elections. PA elects most of their judges. Here is a simplified overview of May's primary judicial elections:

Here are the candidates.

State Supreme Court – ultimate authority on matters brought before lower courts 1 seat

Democrat Daniel McCaffery Philadelphia **Beaver County** Deborah Kunselman Democrat

Montgomery County Republican Carolyn Caluccio Republican Patricia McCullough Alleghany County

Superior Court – handles appeals in criminal and civil cases from Courts of Common Pleas. Think of it as the "People's Court"

2 seats

Democrat Timika Lane Philadelphia Pittsburg Democrat Jill Beck Philadelphia Democrat Pat Dugan Harry Smail Republican Westmorland

Republican Maria Battista Clarion

Commonwealth Court – handles original cases brought by and against the commonwealth and appeals from state agency decisions. Think of it as the "Government Court"

1 seat

Democrat Bryan Neft **Allegheny County** Philadelphia Democrat Matt Wolff Republican **Josh Prince** Berks Cumberland+

Megan Martin Republican

Court of Common Pleas – hears appeals in cases from the Magisterial Courts

Democrat/Republican Brian Panella Forks Township Republican/Democrat Nancy Aaroe Bethlehem Township

Magisterial Courts – handles whether serious criminal cases go to the Court of Common Pleas, preliminary hearings, setting bail, decide minor cases like housing and small claims. Many candidates are running.

Check your local district and ward. VOTE!

Information:

Bacchae: Bacchae met in March on Zoom, tasted, and evaluated two wines from the Napa Valley. We thoroughly enjoyed the Beringer Brothers Bourbon Barrel Aged Cabernet Sauvignon-- as well as scrumptious chocolate cupcakes! We will meet next on April 13 at 3 p.m. at Phyllis Wargo's house with Amy Fields as co-hostess. Again, we will taste and rate two wines from the Pacific Northwest and/or northern California. Any questions? Contact Phyllis Wargo

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging: The next meeting is Thursday April 6. Contact Rosemary Baker for further information. Thank you.

Mystery Paperback: No meeting in April; see you at the book fair.

<u>Paperback I:</u> Paperback I will meet on Tuesday, **April 25th at 1:00** (Please note new time.) in the home of Froy Thompson. We will discuss *The Engineer's Wife* by Tracey E. Wood. Based on the true story of an American Icon, *The Engineer's Wife* delivers an emotional portrait of a woman transformed by a project of unfathomable scale. It takes her into the bowels of the East River, suffragette riots, the halls of Manhattan's elite, and the temptations of P.T. Barnum. This is a biography of a husband and wife determined to build something that lasts, even at the risk of losing each other. "Emily's fight for women's suffrage is put on hold and her life transformed when her husband

Washington Roebling, the Chief Engineer of the Brooklyn Bridge, is injured on the job. Untrained for the task, but under his guidance, she assumes his role despite resistance and overwhelming obstacles. As the monument rises Emily's marriage, principles, and identity threaten to collapse". (adapted from Barnes and Noble description)

Paperback I warmly welcomes new members. Please call Mardi Metzger for information.

<u>Paperback II:</u> At the Paperback II meeting on March 21, Debbie Spinney led a wonderful discussion of the book *This is How It Always Is* by Laurie Frankel. Some members shared very emotional and personal experiences related to the book. We related to this book as a parent, grandmother, friend, cousin, teacher and spouse of LBGTQ+ people. We want to learn more about the new terminology and use the correct pronouns to show that we see them, care about them, and accept them. Our next meeting is April 16 at the home of Phyllis Wargo. Ginny Stranglein will be the Reviewer for the book *The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner. Please contact Marylou Vernon, marylou.vernon53@gmail.com, if you would like to join us next month.

<u>Public Policy Study Group:</u> We met on March 13 and had a lively discussion on a variety of issues. We are not meeting again until June 12th 2:00 at Joan Howe's house. Members invited! All voices are welcome. Contact Joan Howe, 610-509-3113, joanlhowe3@gmail.com for any additional information.

Out to Lunch Bunch: The Branch's Out to Lunch Bunch met at Melt at the Shops at the Promenade on March 8, 2023. Gathered was the largest group that we could remember with a couple of new attendees. There was a lot of bright conversation around the table. Our next gathering will be at the Clubhouse Grill at the Bethlehem Municipal Golf Course. We have picked that site since it is across from the Ice Rink and we will be in the throes of Book Fair! With that in mind, we will meet at **1pm** to allow the sorters, section chairs, and co-chairs time to wrap up the morning. We will see you on April 12, 2023 at 1 pm at the Clubhouse Grill.