

October Branch Meeting

October 31, 7:00 pm

Palmer Library

Title: The Clothes on Your Back Can Create Social Change

Presenter: Chris Singleheart

Brief Bio:

Chris Singleheart is a writer, speaker, blogger, and marathon runner who lives a life of meaningful action. She has done extensive volunteer work with numerous organizations, making it her mission to further the advancement of others. She is an art therapy student, and she shows her lighter side as Mistress of Ceremonies of Lehigh Valley Story Slam.

Brief Description of Presentation:

Throughout each day, you likely give much attention to what you put into your body. Have you considered the impact of what you put on your body? By merely getting dressed, you have engaged with the garment industry! Chris encourages you to care what you wear and outlines the many benefits of buying, wearing, and donating pre-owned clothing. She describes how to create a wardrobe that is both fashionable and socially responsible.

From the Presidents' Pen



Welcome to a new year! As your new Presidents, we are excited to be part of this wonderful organization.

AAUW nationwide is initiating the largest salary negotiation program on record in order to assist in closing the pay gap.

Women continue to be paid eighty cents for every dollar earned by a man. Men negotiate four times as much as women. It is time to learn the skills for change.

With elections close at hand many AAUW members are currently active in the process - participating in voter registration, making phone calls to legislators, sending postcards, canvassing and more. Thank you for your efforts in this important process.

We look forward to a fun and informative year with great speakers and fun activities to participate in together. Your voice is extremely important. Do not hesitate to e-mail us with ideas, questions, or concerns. Together we can make a difference.

Nancy Kinzli and Karol D'Huyvetters

nancykinzli@gmail.com

kadh54@gmail.com

Important: Please see Page 8 to make your reservation for the Evening at the Williams Center before October 29th. This program helps our scholarship fund and is a fun outing for all.

Get Out The Vote!



Our November elections are fast approaching, and we know many people, who are registered to vote, do NOT vote in the midterm elections. Voting is a privilege that we take for granted in the United States. In some countries, it is a law that citizens must vote, in other, citizens may vote but the outcome of the election is predetermined.

It's difficult to have representative government when only a small percentage of voters actually vote and it often depends on which party is better at getting the voters to the polls.

- All 435 U.S. House seats and 33 U.S. Senate seats are up for regular elections in the 2018 midterms.
- In November 2018, seats in 87 of 99 state legislative chambers, plus 36 gubernatorial seats, 30 lieutenant gubernatorial seats, 30 attorney general seats, and 27 secretary of state seats are up for election.

It's probably preaching to the choir because, of course, AAUW members are registered to vote and actually do go to the polls and vote. BUT...what about your children and grandchildren if they're old enough? Or your friends? Do they vote?

What can you do to GOTV?

- Take a family poll and urge those not already registered, to do so
 - Register voters by October 9
 - Mention "absentee ballot" to those who can't vote any other way
 - Give rides to those voters who need a ride to the polls
 - Make phone calls about the importance of voting
 - Call your local party committee and ask what you can do
- Go to <https://www.vote411.org> for more information.

Take action and make your voice heard!

Toni Hoffman
Public Policy Chair

News From the State Public Policy September Highlights

“Redistricting Reform to End Gerrymandering

From our Friends at Fair Districts

In the last few months there have been lots of questions about our redistricting reform efforts. *Are we giving up?* Not a chance. *Is it still possible to have an independent redistricting commission in Pennsylvania?* YES!

While we missed the immediate deadline for a constitutional amendment, a bill to create a citizen's commission for just congressional redistricting can be passed in just one legislative session.

We're also exploring ways to have an amendment passed in time to have legislative districts drawn by that same commission in 2021. *Is it possible?* We think so.

How can you help NOW? Make this an election issue.

We've emailed all PA candidates for state legislature, Congress, even governor and lieutenant governor, asking for their positions on redistricting reform. You can find responses on our [Know Before You Vote](#) page.

- Please take a look and see if your candidates have responded. (Make sure you look at the full response, not just the initial summary card.)
- If they haven't responded, please use the supplied email address to contact their campaign offices. **Ask them to email electioninfo@FairDistrictsPA.com to request a survey form.**
- If they've responded, send them a thank-you email!
- Please also consider attending candidate debates and town halls and asking: what will YOU do to help pass legislation to create an independent redistricting commission?"

AN OPINION ON AAUW MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT

When I joined AAUW Bethlehem, I was so proud. I had finally finished my bachelor's degree after having received my A.A.S. years before. I had taken various classes in those intervening years, but I still hadn't known what I wanted to do. As I approached forty, I finally figured it out. I returned to school when my children were young and finished my degree. As you can see, it took me many years to get that precious four-year degree. With a husband away often, it wasn't an easy thing to do with two young daughters at home.

During my years of membership, AAUW National has asked members to vote to change the membership requirement from a four-year degree to a two-year degree. I struggled with my vote. I had worked hard for my degree. It took years. I liked that I was a member. The membership requirement eventually did change (I can't remember if it was the first or second time it was up for a vote). Later, members were being asked to change the requirement from a two-year degree to no degree. Why not allow women who care about the same issues, but who haven't had the benefit of a college education or have vocational skills, be members, too? I struggled with my vote again. I had worked hard for my degree. But, also, I began to speak with other members who were struggling. I listened to the arguments: pro and con. How could our research be respected if we weren't an educated group? How could we claim to be an organization who fought for equity and equality if we weren't inclusive ourselves? Then I heard our national leader, Kim Churches, speak at our PA Annual Meeting last April. She advocated for dropping the degree requirement for those reasons and others. I got on board. The vote didn't pass. AAUW still has the two-year degree membership requirement.

I've met many women who care about the same issues I do, but I couldn't invite them to join AAUW because of the degree requirement. I find it embarrassing. I question myself. How can I be a member of an organization that excludes other women even when we fight for us all? All women should be part of the struggle, shouldn't they? No doubt, we'll be asked to vote on this issue again. Will we stay exclusionary?

—Randi L. Blauth
Dual member of Easton and Bethlehem Branches
Diversity Officer for the Bethlehem branch

Getting to Know New Members

Pam Reinholz



Pam lives in Palmer Township with her husband, Randy, daughter, Lauren, and son, Chris. Rounding out the family are 2 cats, Adam and Swag.

Pam received her BA in Political Science from the University of Delaware in 1984. She worked for many years as a Legal Assistant, including in the Law and Government Affairs Division of AT&T Corp. She served in the US Naval Reserve for 2 years as a Journalist. For the past several years, Pam has worked with middle school and high school students with autism; however this year, she will switch to a part time substitute teacher.

Pam's interests include reading, writing, walking, hiking, music, and political/social issues and is interested in the DDD interest group, Let's Read Math and public policy.

Kay Wolff

Kay grew up in Easton, however; it took her returning to Easton for her to realize that history happened here. She has volunteered through the years with the Historical Society and Canal Museum and is now involved with the Easton Cemetery. Upon graduation from Hood College Kay taught school in Maryland for 15 years. She received her master's degree from Penn State She moved back to Easton when she married her husband Marshall. They have a daughter, Amy.

Special Interest Group Invitations

EVENING BOOK GROUP A POSSIBILITY

In years past, our branch book group met on the third Monday of the month at 7 pm. Once all the members of the group retired, the meeting time was changed to the third Monday of the month at 1:30 pm; it became an afternoon book group. This excludes any member, still in the workforce, from participating in the book group where we have lively discussions.

If there is interest, our branch could have two book groups - one meeting in the afternoon and one meeting in the evening. The same book could be discussed at both groups or each group could decide their own reading agenda.

Please contact Toni Hoffman if you're interested in an evening book group and include best days and times.

Diversity: Deeds and Dialogue

Rosemary Baker and I, co-facilitate what we commonly call the DDD. This year, for the first time, we have chosen a theme to study and explore: mass incarceration and re-entry to society of people who have spent time in jail or prison. Our primary focus will be on women.

We have found that others in the Lehigh Valley are also working on the subject and hope to learn from them and join them in action. Some of us have joined the Hunterdon (NJ) Anti-Racism Coalition and share and learn with them one Friday night a month. They have formed a committee to study the same. Issues that we are studying now include: correspondence to and from a jail/prison, voter disenfranchisement, bail, education, and family visitation. Some of these subjects appear easy to handle, but one thing we have already learned: nothing is easy when a jail or prison is involved.

We plan to visit the Journey Home in Easton, a place for women to go to relax, do art, journal, and more. This safe, comfortable place is open to women trying to acclimate back into society as well as to all who need to find a common place to just be. We also plan to visit other programs and have speakers come visit with the group to educate us.

You are welcome to join us. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at each other's homes from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Randi L. Blauth
Co-facilitator, DDD

Out to Lunch

Contact: Janet Heffner (Looking for an interested chair or co-chairs)

Members meet for lunch once a month, weather and holidays permitting. All AAUW members are welcome to join this group.

The next luncheon will be held Wednesday, November 7, 12:30 at the Marblehead Grill. Let Janet or Shirley Schwarzbach know if you will be attending by Sunday, Nov. 4. A Holiday luncheon is being planned for early December at the Hampton Winds, NCC.

Update of Branch Programs 2018-2019

Easton Branch AAUW

<p>September 20th Thursday Palmer Library 7pm</p>	<p>Branch Meeting Meet and Greet Social Hour with Refreshments Interest Group Presentation</p>
<p>October 31st Wednesday Palmer Library 7pm</p>	<p>Branch Meeting Chris Singleheart The Clothes on Your Back Can Create Social Change</p>
<p>November 16th Friday Williams Center 8pm</p>	<p>Evening at the Williams Center Dar Williams Singer-Songwriter</p>
<p>December 9 Place TBD</p>	<p>Holiday Party</p>
<p>February 19th Tuesday Palmer Library 7pm</p>	<p>Branch Meeting Speaker -Mary Armstrong Lafayette Professor of Women's and Gender Studies Topic TBD</p>
<p>March 19th Tuesday Palmer Library 7pm</p>	<p>Branch Meeting Speaker - Henry Moore from the Lazarus House program - Addressing barriers for adults recently released from prison</p>
<p>April 6th Saturday Lille Syster Studio Easton 2 pm</p>	<p>Art of Flowermaking Laughter and Fun while Learning New Skills</p>
<p>April 27th Saturday Pomfret Club 11:30</p>	<p>Author's Luncheon</p>
<p>May 21st Tuesday First Presbyterian Church Easton 7pm</p>	<p>Spring Dessert and Scholarship Awards</p>



Annual Evening at the Williams Center

Friday, November 16, 2018

8 pm: Dar Williams

“Recognized as much for her staunch progressive ideals as she is for her unfettered acoustic flair, Dar Williams holds an audience in thrall with the sheer grace and honesty of her folk-pop songwriting. The New Yorker rightly identifies her as “one of America’s very best singer-songwriters.” At the heart of Williams’ work, spanning ten albums and four books, is her belief in friendship, human connection, and the transformative power of creating music together.”

Tickets: \$25

A portion of each AAUW ticket goes towards local scholarships. Spouses and friends are welcome to attend.

Please reserve tickets by October 29th to ensure a seat.

Please send reservations by October 29th to:

Rosemary Baker, 2625 Anthony Court, Easton, PA 18045

Make checks payable to: **AAUW Easton Branch**

Order Form: Evening at the Williams Center November 16, 2018

Name _____

Tickets for Dar Williams _____ (qty) @ \$25 each (unless sold out)

Total of check enclosed: _____ (payable to AAUW Easton Branch)

Notices Regarding the Newsletter

If any member has information that they wish to have published in the newsletter, please e-mail the information to **Nancy Kinzli and Karol D'Huyvetters**. This would include births, deaths, marriages, happenings at cultural institutions. We also encourage submissions of photos of events and anything that you think may be of interest to other members.

Please note, however, that **submissions must be in by the 15th** of the current month to be included in the following month's newsletter. Otherwise it will be in the following month's newsletter.

Insurance Notification

AAUW does not have an Automobile Insurance Policy. Please be informed that there is no implied or expressed authority for an AAUW member to use a member's car for AAUW business. The Easton Branch assumes no responsibility for any member using a car for this purpose.

Newsletter Ads

Do you have a business or service that you would like to promote? The charge for including an ad is only \$5 for each issue. They should be no larger than business card size and they must come from members. Payment for ads should be made to the finance officer and she will notify the newsletter editor that the ad is ready to be placed.

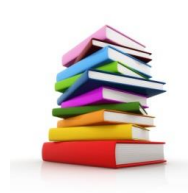
Newsletter Costs

As officers of the branch, your board is concerned with the rising cost of printing and postage and what it does to our bottom line. If you have computer access, please consider receiving our newsletter via email. It saves the branch money and trees!

Interest Groups

The Easton Branch has several interest groups created to stimulate discussions, encourage networking, and support the community. Every group looks forward to new participants. If you have ideas for new, additional groups, let Yvonne Payne (610-867-6575) know. Please note that a new group, Tapas Dining is commencing this Fall.

Book Discussion



Members choose fiction and non-fiction and discuss one book at each meeting. **Chair:** Toni Hoffman- Third Monday of month

Date: October 15, 1:30pm

Hostess: Rosemary Baker

Book: ***Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly***

Diversity: Deeds and Dialogue



Members come from the Easton, Bethlehem, and Allentown branches to discuss issues around race, age, gender and more. The group is concerned with social action as well.

Chair: Rosemary Baker

September 26 Randi Blauth's

We will finish reading *Becoming Ms Burton*

October 24 (See article on page 5).

Tuesday Afternoon Bridge Group



Chair: Rosemary Baker -

Tuesday afternoons

Call **Rosemary** for more information

Mah Jongg



Members are beginners learning how to play the game of Mah Jongg, American version.

Chair: Toni Hoffman

Oct. 8, 10:30

Oct. 22, 10:30

Rotating Gourmet



Chair: Lois Wildrick

This is a group of AAUW members and their spouses, as well as singles, who meet four times a year. Each member

chooses a recipe to prepare from a menu created by a committee, and the whole group shares in the cost of the meal. The people, menus and locations change with each meal. New members are welcomed. Two meals are planned for the Winter and Spring seasons. Members will be contacted later in the Fall.

International Relations:



Members meet to discuss current issues and important figures in the news in our ever more global environment. The 2018/19 year will focus on

governments that are moving toward populism and nationalism.

Chair: TBD

Hostess: Karol D'Huyvetters

Tuesday, Oct. 23, 1:30 pm

Topic: **East Asian countries: Immigration Policies and Movement toward Populism/Nationalism.**

Tapas Dining

Contact: Yvonne Payne

This is a group of AAUW members, (partners welcomed) who will meet to explore small dish dining. Each member will bring a dish to share.

Our first event will be held **Saturday, November 3, 6:00 pm at the home of Yvonne Payne.**

American Association of University Women

AAUW National	800.326.2289	www.aauw.org
Easton Branch		easton-pa.aauw.net
Co-Presidents	Nancy Kinzli, Karol D’Huyvetters	easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/
Membership	(Committee – Toni Hoffman, Rosemary Baker)	easton-pa.aauw.net/membership/
Easton Edition	Fran Kennedy	

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, 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.

The AAUW funds include the Educational Opportunities Funds (formerly a part of the AAUW Educational Foundation) which help us to advance equity for women and girls through programs such as American and International fellowships and Community Action grants.

AAUW Funds also include the Legal Advocacy Fund which provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sexual discrimination, the Leadership Programs Fund (formerly the AAUW Leadership and Training Institute), the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, and the Public Policy Fund.



P.O. Box 1464
Easton, PA
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Easton,
Pennsylvania
Branch

Advances equity for
women and girls

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED