

# The Easton Edition

Easton, PA Branch Newsletter February 2019

Vol. 54 No. 5

## The Beauty Ideal: The Ugly Side of Gender



Tuesday, February 19, 2019 7 PM Palmer Library 1 Weller Place, Easton Speaker: Dr. Mary Armstrong

If beauty is only skin deep, why does the US cosmetics industry have an annual revenue of about 62 billion dollars a year? This talk examines the importance of beauty through the lens of "The Beauty Ideal." This surprisingly complex construct helps us think through the many intertwined ways gender roles, economics and cultural expectations keep women (and some men) locked in an endless chase after something that may never be caught.

Mary A. Armstrong is Professor of Women's & Gender Studies and English at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, where she also chairs the Women's & Gender Studies Program. She is interested in how gender studies can empower people to create social change. Her research areas also include issues of gender and race in science/technology fields and promoting equality in higher education.

We welcome community participation. This program is free and open to the public. Invite your friends.

#### From the Presidents' Pen



Welcome to 2019! A New Year, New Beginnings! I would like to take a different perspective on our mission to promote equality for all. Typically, we have focused on equality in the workforce: equal pay, equal opportunities for advancement. This month, I would like to broaden our focus to include equality for the disabled. Recently, I was temporarily physically handicapped. Due to a knee operation I was in a wheelchair or walker for eight weeks. The experiences I had during this period

were eye opening as to struggles a person with a disability lives with on a day to day basis.

To go out to dinner or shopping, one with a physical disability must do a tremendous amount of planning. You no longer can decide you want to go somewhere, get in your car and go. One must call ahead to check on the accessibility of a facility and plan. One grocery shopping trip highlighted the frustrations that the disabled encounter. We arrive at grocery store; my husband gets the walker out of the car for me. Using the walker, I walk over to the fleet of motorized shopping carts, get in a cart and it is out of power. My husband checks out the other seven carts. They are all out of power! The store attendant informs us that they weren't plugged in overnight and this happens often. Sadly, to say the same process happened at the next grocery store we tried on the same day.

This experience and stores that are so overcrowded with merchandise that a walker or wheelchair can't go through the aisle made me realize the scope of difficulties a person with lifelong disabilities has on a day to day basis in every life situation. We have laws that guarantee equality for all throughout the educational systems, work environments and the community. But we need to make sure that the implementation is effective. And fight for the continuation of the laws. We have seen progress in equality for women and rights for disabled but there is still a long way to go.

"We needed now to be resolute, to keep our feet pointed in the direction of progress" Michelle Obama in **Becoming Michelle Obama** 

Nancy Kinzli and Karol D'Huyvetters

nancykinzli@gmail.com kadh54@gmail.com



# Save **The**Date

AAUW Easton Branch Authors' Luncheon April 27, 2019 Pomfret Club Easton, Pa. Featuring Local Authors: Pat Brisson Jenn Rossman Stephanie Watts For Information: easton-pa.aauw.net

#### Theme Baskets

Looking for a way to support our Authors' Luncheon and help us raise money for our annual scholarships? The Authors' Luncheon Committee is looking for donations of Theme Baskets to raffle at the luncheon. Individuals or Interest Groups are requested to participate. Ideas for a Theme Basket:

Italian Night: a bottle of wine, specialty snacks and gift certificate to a local restaurant

Entertainment: tickets to local event, bag of popcorn

Sweets: a basket of different kinds of candy, gift certificate to grocery store

Beach Funtime: a beach bag filled with suntan lotion, sunglasses, a beach towel

All items in the basket must be new and current. Also donated items must be in a basket or container (example-drink bucket filled with specialty drinks and a gift card), and complete. They should be ready by April 13. If you are interested in donating a basket, please contact Karol D'Huyvetters at 610-751-5047 or <u>kadh54@gmail.com</u>. Be sure to let her know the value of the basket you are donating. Thank you.

#### HOLIDAY TEA PHOTOS



**Table Setting** 



Paul, Ken, and Janice Lupackino

#### **Getting to Know New Members**

#### Barbara Albi

Barbara grew up in Kingston PA. and moved to Dover New Jersey after getting married to her husband Jim in 1980. Barbara met her husband while attending King's College where she received a B. A. degree in Social Work and a Teaching Certification in secondary Social Studies. After graduation she worked in the Drug and Alcohol field as a counselor and then as Treatment Coordinator of a Detox Center, and Counselor in a Rehabilitation Center. When Barbara moved back to PA. (Lower Mt Bethel) in 1986 she worked as a psychiatric social worker in a hospital setting, after taking some time off to have her 3 sons Jim, Stephen and Christopher. Her career then took another turn and she started to teach. She began as a substitute, and it turned into a career of almost 25 years. She worked mainly with at - risk students of all ages. Eventually she was fortunate to receive her master's degree in Education from East Stroudsburg University in 2007 with a Special Education certification. During her teaching career she worked for CSF, an alternative school in Bethlehem, CIU20 as a special education teacher at the Northampton County Detention Center and Colonial Academy. Her last 10 years she was a special education teacher for the Bangor School District.

Barbara retired in 2017 and has been enjoying the next chapter in her life's journey with her husband Jim and her family. One of the things she has focused on since retiring is her health and fitness. Taking daily classes of Zumba, Toning and Spin she keeps busy. In addition, she started doing something she thought she would never do and that is become a runner. Since last spring she finished four 5K races. Her children now have joined her in her races, and they are planning some events in the future. One never seems to know where life may take us. Barbara hopes to continue to enrich her life with new experiences and efforts as much as she can in the future taking one day at a time.

Welcome Barbara

#### Condolences



Condolences to the family of Margaret Bose who was a member of the Easton AAUW for several years. She belonged to several interest groups and served as Historian and chaired the Phone Call Chain.

She had 3 daughters and 3 sons and 12 grandchildren.

Projected Membershir		Approved 2018-19 Budget		
Projected Membership Data AAUW National AAUW Pennsylvania AAUW Easton		\$500.00	50-3 Paid Life=_ 47 50X10 51 X \$15	X \$59.00
Budget Proposal 12/5/	2018	Budgeted Income	Budgeted Cost Budgeted Profit	
Banking	Fees Interest	\$1.25	\$24.00	(\$24.00)
Conferences				
			(\$700.00)	(\$700.00)
Fund Raisers				
	Williams Center Donations	\$350.00	\$260.00	\$90.00
	Author's Luncheon Poinsettia Sales	\$2,000.00 \$450.00	\$1,000.00 \$280.00	\$1,000.00 \$170.00 \$1,970.00
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Operating Expe Easton Branch Contri	nses portion of dues Printing Insurance Mailbox Postage bution AAUW Funds	\$765.00	(\$350.00) (\$185.00) (\$95.00) (\$75.00) (\$130.00)*	
	Total	\$765.00	(\$835.00)	(\$70.00)
Scholarship Awards				
	Stem - NCC		-1,000.00	(\$1,000.00)
Programs				
	Diversity Meeting Rooms Public Policy Holiday Party Scholarship Desert Speaker Gifts Total	\$100.00 \$100.00	(\$75.00) (\$50.00) (\$250.00) (\$300.00) (\$150.00) (\$825.00)	

\*Members contributed \$370.00 to AAUW Funds Board voted match funds to \$500,

#### Public Policy Report 1/14/2019

There was a conference call for Branch Public Policy Chairs on January 9, 2019. Highlights of the call follow:

#### **Equal Pay Update**

- Because this is a new legislative session in Harrisburg, all bills will have to be resubmitted.
- Rep. Brian Sims is working with AAUW-PA and the Women's Law Project to introduce a bill we can support.
- Equal Pay Day is April 2, 2019.
- There will be a rally in Harrisburg on April 8th at 1 pm since the House and Senate are not in session on April 2.
- Branch members should contact their legislators about equal pay.
- National sent a letter to every representative asking him/her to support the Paycheck Fairness Act.

#### **Education Committee Update**

- The committee is working on clarification on how to handle girls' recognition as well as high school senior scholarship programs.
- AAUW-PA will probably join a coalition PA Schools Work, made up of all organizations associated with anything to do
  with schools plus organizations like ours that believe in good education.
- The coalition will be advocating for a full budget to increase the amount of money going to education.
- The coalition formed expressly for the budget fight that is sure to take place in Harrisburg.
- Susan Spicka of Education Voters PA is on the steering committee of the coalition.
- You can find information about the coalition on the AAUW-PA website at <a href="https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/education-funding-advocacy-in-a-box/">https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/education-funding-advocacy-in-a-box/</a>
- The coalition is looking to collect stories about the impact of loss of funding.
- · Is there interest in linking up with a local coalition representative?

#### **Redistricting Reform Update**

- Again, we must wait for new legislation to be introduced.
- Fair Districts PA has been working with legislators who will introduce two mirror bills in the House and Senate.
- The first bill deals with the drawing of the US congressional lines.
- The second bill deals with changing the Pennsylvania constitution.
- These bills need to be passed in this General Assembly and then introduced and passed immediately in January 2021 to be on the primary ballot in 2021.
- Draw the Lines is a program that aims to educate the public in a fun way about redistricting.
- There is money for branches to put on that program.
- All branch presidents have been sent the Draw the Lines Guide.

#### Title IX Update

- The Department of Education is proposing drastic changes that will negatively impact women and girls.
- Proposed changes include schools not responsible for addressing sexual harassment unless there was actual knowledge of harassment by a Title IX coordinator
- The RA will no longer be the person getting the reports
- Off campus harassment is excluded
- There must be repeated offenses to the extent that the victim is damaged in order to qualify as harassment
- Support measures are weakened.
- The deadline for public comment is January 28, 2019
- This is a link to the <u>National Women's Law Center explanation of Devos' changes</u>, which is very informative and helps to EXPLAIN what it all means.

#### Two additional Title IX links/resources:

https://www.aauw.org/article/the-attack-on-title-ix/ http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action KEY=25579

Toni Hoffman Public Policy Chair

## TIME SENSITIVE (In Case you have stories to submit)

#### **Request for Stories to Support Public School Funding**

WHY?	The Pennsylvania Legislature has already begun considering the 2019-2020 State Budget. <b>PA Schools Work</b> is a coalition of public school entities and organizations, like AAUW Pennsylvania, fighting for equitable, adequate funding necessary to support educational excellence. PA Schools Work believes investing in public education excellence is the path to thriving communities, a stable economy and successful students. They have asked for our help because we have the advantage of being able to				
	reach members in many different public-school districts throughout Pennsylvania.				
WHAT?	gislators consistently tell us that it is <b>real stories</b> that make a difference when by are considering their funding choices. After all, doesn't it make sense that en a human situation can be explained with <b>real life examples</b> , legislators can be that situation translated into votes?				
	AAUW Pennsylvania members are asked to <b>find those stories!!</b> And because the drastic cuts in funding over the last few years have had such negative impacts on our children's schools, such stories are easy to find.				
HOW?	Two Options				
	<ol> <li>Hold a question and answer session (15 minutes) at your next branch meeting. Ask the questions on page 2 and record responses. Transcribe responses into an email to Fran Pierce by email at <u>franpierce@verizon.net</u>. In the "Subject" line please indicate AAUW-PA Education Survey.</li> </ol>				
	NOTE: By engaging all meeting attendees at one time and asking questions out loud, the group energy is activated, and people are more likely to respond than if you hand out forms or ask them to respond at a later date!				
	<ol> <li>Print enough copies of page 2 to distribute to members at your next branch meeting. Ask them to complete before leaving. Collect sheets and either</li> </ol>				
	<ul> <li>a. Transcribe responses into an email to Fran Pierce by email at <u>franpierce@verizon.net</u>. In the "Subject" line please indicate AAUW- PA Education Survey. OR</li> </ul>				
	b. Mail to Fran Pierce at 717 Hunt Club Lane, Chester Springs, PA 19425.				

#### **Share Your Public Education Stories**

### Please Send any stories to Toni Hoffman and she will forward them or send directly to Fran Pierce (See above.)

What School District and/or individual school is your story from?					

What curriculum-related topics or courses did this school or district offer previously that it is no
longer offering due to budget cuts?

What extra-curricular activities or pupil services (e.g., nurses, librarians, art teachers, etc.) did this school or district offer previously that are no longer available?

Have class sizes or teacher loads increased due to budget cuts?

What other stories or information can you offer about the changes in your local schools due to inadequate funding?

# NCCWSL PA GRANT APPLICATION 2019 (Do you know a college woman. This is a great opportunity.)

"NOTICE: The 2019 AAUW-PA NCCWSL Grant Applications are due no later than midnight EST February 28, 2019. Recipients will be notified on or before 3/18/19 and are to notify AAUW-PA within three business days about whether they will accept or decline the grant.

AAUW of Pennsylvania is proud to offer opportunities for leadership development for university and college women in Pennsylvania through grants to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). AAUW-PA will be selecting up to four recipients this year to receive grants to attend NCCWSL. Grants cover conference registration (lodging and most meals). Funds to cover costs for transportation and optional pre-conference activities are the responsibility of the applicant.

NCCWSL will be held May 29-June 1, 2019, at the University of Maryland, College Park. NCCWSL is a twoand-a-half day conference designed to enhance the leadership skills of college women students and to promote effectiveness in their work on campus and in the community. For more information about NCCWSL, go to www.nccwsl.org.

Here is the link to the 2019 AAUW-PA Grant Application"

Taken from AAUW-PA website

#### **Notices Regarding the Newsletter**

If any member has information that they wish to have published in the newsletter, please email 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 send your submissions in **WORD**.

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. Submissions may be edited.

#### **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. If you have ideas for additional groups, let us know. Every group looks forward to new participants. Call if you are interested in joining a group.

#### **Book Discussion**



**Chair**: Toni Hoffman - Third Monday of month Date: February 18, 1:30pm Hostess: **Toni Hoffman** Book: *The Sixth Extinction* by Elizabeth Kolbert

Diversity: Deeds and Dialogue

Tuesday Afternoon Bridge Group

information



Chair: Rosemary Baker Hostess: TBD February 27, 7:00 pm

Chair: Rosemary Baker -

Tuesday afternoons

Call Rosemary for more

#### **Rotating Gourmet**



Chair: Lois Wildrick

The winter meal menu and recipes have been sent to participants. Hosts Elle Conti

and Lois Wildrick will be calling their group to set a date soon before the end of March.

International Relations:



**Chair:** Fran Kennedy Hostess: Liz Toler Tuesday, February 26, 1:30

## Out to Lunch



Members meet for lunch. All AAUW members are welcome to join this group. Call Claire Degnan for information.

#### Mah Jongg



**Chair**: Toni HoffmanSecond and fourth Mondays at 10:00 am

Feb 11 home of Lois Wildrick Feb 25 home of Randi Blauth

# Tapas Dining

This is a group of AAUW members (partners welcomed) who will meet to explore small dish dining. If you are interested in being a hostess, please contact Yvonne Payne or Fran Kennedy.

#### American Association of University Women

AAUW National	800.326.2289	www.aauw.org
Easton Branch		easton-pa.aauw.net
<b>Co-Presidents</b>	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.

Advances equity for women and girls

Easton, Pennsylvania Branch

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

P.O. Box 1464 Easton, PA 1464-1464

