



The Easton Edition

Easton, PA Branch Newsletter

CALENDAR

Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, **September 15**

Branch Meeting

Saturday, **October 26, 10 am**

Board Meeting

Monday, October 7 at 1 pm
Home of Nancy Butow

Branch Meeting

Tuesday, November 19, 8 pm
Evening at the Williams Center

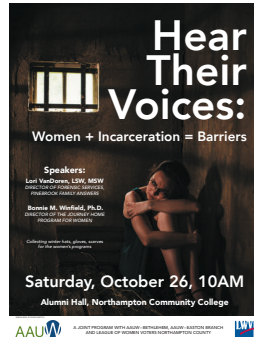
IN THIS ISSUE

October Program	1
Presidents' Pen	2
September Meeting Minutes	3
Membership Matters	4
HELP	5
Evening at Williams Center	6
Financial Report	7
Back to School	8
Notices	8
Book Group	9
Public Policy	10
Interest Groups	11

2019

"If you want something said, ask a man,
if you want something done, ask a
woman."

Margaret Thatcher



Did you know.....

- The number of women incarcerated has grown by more than 800% over the last three decades and outpaced men by more than 50%.
- A staggering number of women incarcerated are not convicted. Sixty percent of women in jails are awaiting trial.
- 80% of women in jails are mothers and most are primary caretakers. Many enter with a history of emotional, physical and sexual abuse.
- Upon release they are often discriminated against and face restrictions in housing, employment, and education. They face steep fees along with child care and transportation issues.

We have an opportunity to focus on women and incarceration and learn more about the many barriers that women face. On October 26th we will hear from two local experts, Bonnie Winfield, Ph.D., director of The Journey Home program for women, and Lori VanDoren LSW, MSW, Director of Forensic Services from Pinebrook Family Answers. Along with two returning citizens, they will share the unique experiences that women face. You will have the opportunity to have your questions answered.

Please come to this joint event sponsored by AAUW-Easton Branch, AAUW Bethlehem, and League of Women Voters. It would be great if you would bring winter hats, gloves, and scarves which will be given to the women from Journey Home and Pinebrook Family Answers.

From the Presidents' Pens

It's All About The Mission

AAUW Members across the country have the same mission –To advance equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. It's a mouthful that is packed with meaning. How do we as branch members break this down into action filled steps?

As a member, I need very concrete steps to support AAUW's Mission. The recent Keystoner outlined specific steps that we as local members can implement to support our organization. Everyone can:

- Make membership in AAUW your business – the ongoing growth of our organization is everyone's responsibility. You can invite a friend to attend an AAUW event, give a membership to a college graduate or educate others about AAUW.
- Support AAUW's critical work through contributions to AAUW Funds – advocacy and research is supported through money contributed to the different Funds. To continue, the Funds need local support.
- Advocacy to continue to move AAUW's Public Policy forward – write, phone or meet with your local representatives. Let them know your stance on critical issues.
- Take the free online AAUW Work Smart salary negotiations course at: <https://salary.aauw.org>. This course is a fantastic resource for women to understand the skills needed to negotiate salary and benefits. To promote the course, we need to understand the process. The only way to be able to discuss this with other women, is to have first hand experience.

We have many interesting, varied and exciting programs planned. See you there!

Nancy Kinzli and Karol D'Huyvetters

“We need women at all levels, including the top, to change the dynamic, reshape the conversation, to make sure women's voices are heard and heeded, not overlooked and ignored.”
Sheryl Sandberg

Interesting October Dates

October 5	Astronomy Day
October 7	National Smile Day
October 30	Checklists Day

AAUW EASTON BRANCH MEETING

September 19, 2019 at Nurture Nature Center

Karol D'Huyvetters, Co-President called the meeting to order at 6:05pm. There were 12 members present. Karol announced that we have two new members-Brianna Bancey and Denise Shelton.

The minutes and budget were approved as printed in the newsletter.

The schedule of programs for the year was distributed. Karol announced that our October 26 meeting is at NCC. This is a joint program with Bethlehem AAUW and League of Women Voters. The Evening at the Williams Center event is Tuesday, November 19.

Karol announced the Authors' Luncheon is scheduled for April 18 at the Pomfret Club. Committee members for the luncheon are needed. The first committee meeting will be held on October 16 at 2:00pm at Karol's home.

Nancy modeled new AAUW Easton branch T-shirts. All sizes are available to try on for fit. Let Toni know if you would like one and what size.

Membership brochures and postcards are available for distribution.

Public Policy - Toni announced that the Oxfam Report which lists the best and worst states in which to work in America has been published. PA ranked 24th overall. Pay Equity - We support both PA House (HB850) and Senate (SB72) bills. AAUW PA has restructured its public policy program and is looking for issue specialists to follow specific issues of interest to AAUW.

Interest Groups - Yvonne announced the new interest group, Stitch and Be, which meets the first Thursday of the month. A Tapas Event will be held on October 19 at 5:00 pm. International Relations is studying climate change this year. First meeting of the year is October 22 at the home of Phyllis Finger. Contact Yvonne if you have any thoughts for a new interest group.

The business meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm.

Karol introduced Rachel Hogan Carr who spoke to us about the history and activities of the Nurture Nature Center. At the completion of her presentation we attended the Public Program: Science on a Sphere - Energy and Solar Power.

Respectfully Submitted:
Rosemary Baker

A Message from our Membership VP

AAUW BRIGHTENS MY DAYS

When I joined AAUW I didn't realize what joy it would bring to my life. I've grown so much through meeting our members, younger and older. The value of listening to those with more life experience and hearing younger, eager, more energetic minds has expanded my ideas and life view greatly. Watching women lead, grow, and learn together should be part of the AAUW value promise! I've taken part in things that I didn't know I could do, and even became president of a branch. I did this within the comfort and guidance AAUW affords me. Every step, such as being on the nominating committee or helping at an event, led me to new friends and more confidence.

This year our branch is branching out! Have you seen the new logo on our brochures and yearbook? We plan to grow both individually and collectively. We'll do this by helping more often in the community with the Easton Ambassadors and others. And have you seen the exciting list of programs for this year? There's everything from teas and parties, to the aging brain....something for everyone. And let's not forget our Authors' Luncheon in the spring. Our interest/study groups are already on a roll! Members eat, knit, read, learn, play, advocate, and meet new friends.

Our dynamite branch t-shirts are here! We ask that you wear these shirts to the gym, to shop, wherever you go. We are asking that you be proud ambassadors of a branch that has been breaking barriers for women and girls for almost 100 years! If someone asks you about your shirt, tell them about our wonderful branch and organization. Tell them that we have a website and a Facebook page where they can find more information. It's easy to do and will help the future of the branch. You will be able to purchase a shirt at an upcoming interest group meeting. We have various sizes and the cost will be approximately \$20.00. When choosing a size, keep in mind that there are times that you will want to wear a turtleneck or something warmer underneath. Wear, wear, wear your T-shirt and help our branch grow!

Randi Blauth
Membership VP

Meet Our Newest Member

Denise Shelton was born and raised in Ulster County, NY. She is the youngest of five sisters whose mother was also an AAUW member. She holds a bachelor's degree in Communications with a minor in English from Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY. After college, she spent over 30 years living in the San Francisco Bay Area where she worked primarily as a writer and editor, and also served on the board of directors of a musical theatre company. In 2017, she received an award from the Alameda Architectural Preservation Society for her work to save and restore an historic landmark in Jackson Park, Alameda, CA. Since 2017, she has lived in Easton with her husband, Doug. Their son Logan resides in California where he is a high school Mathematics teacher. Denise's hobbies include reading, going to movies and the theatre, participating in community theatre, cooking, and gardening. In 2018, she served as a judge for the Freddy Awards at the State Theater.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

OUR Authors' Luncheon is our only fundraiser for the annual scholarships we give to local women. Last year, we asked for **ALL MEMBERS** to support this fundraiser. Through your support we had a very successful fundraiser. We especially set a record breaking number of guests who attended. Several were repeats from the previous year. We are starting to gain community involvement and participation. We really need to continue and build on this momentum!

Our goal this year is to have 100% participation and to increase the number of community members. Each and every member needs to support this event to make it a success and allow **AAUW EASTON BRANCH** to continue to provide scholarships.

There are many ways you can participate:

- Mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend – April 18, 2020
- Participate in the planning committee – we desperately need volunteers to help us plan and facilitate the Authors' Luncheon. The first **Authors' Luncheon Committee meeting is on October 16, 2019**, 2 pm at Karol D'Huyvetters house. There are many ways you can volunteer to help at the Authors' Luncheon. Plan to attend and find out how your talents can help our branch with this fundraiser.
- Share the "Save the Date Flyer" with all your friends, groups in which you are a member, and community facilities.

Easton AAUW branch's new interest group, '**Stitch and Be**', a handicraft group open to all members, has met several times already, and is open to both experienced stitchers and those who would like to learn or develop a skill. Current members are all knitters but several have experience with crocheting and are ready to assist. Our next meeting will Thursday, October 3rd at 2 PM at Yvonne Payne's home. Bring a new or ongoing needlework project– knitting, embroidery, sewing, rug hook, etc. – and a love of good conversation.

The next meeting of Easton AAUW's **Tapas group** will be held Saturday, October 19th at 5 PM. It is open to all members and partners are welcome. Bring a small dish plate to share and enjoy an evening of good cheer with your fellow members.

Contact Yvonne Payne if you are interested in either group or for more information. paynespitzer@hotmail.com.

AAUW Easton Branch
Annual Evening at the Williams Center
Tuesday, November 19, 8pm
Nobuntu



"With pure, resonant voices and exquisite harmonization, Nobuntu has become the darling of the world's festival stages. This radiant a cappella quintet is Zimbabwe's first all-female professional vocal ensemble, a musical force that stakes their claim as practitioners of *mbube*, the distinct style of South African singing—historically performed by men—recognizable by its rhythmic unity, complex harmonies, and nuanced textures. In inventive performances of Zimbabwean folk, Afro jazz, gospel, and their own original songs, Nobuntu celebrates the vibrant identity of their culture and the belief that music transcends all boundaries."

Tickets \$25. A portion of each AAUW ticket goes towards local scholarships. Spouses and friends are welcome. Please reserve tickets by October 31st.

Please send reservations by October 31st to: Rosemary Baker 2625 Anthony Court
Easton, PA 18045

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

Order Form: Evening at the Williams Center November 19, 2019

Name _____

Tickets for Nobuntu _____ (qty) @ \$25. each (unless sold out)

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

Finance Report 9/15/2019				
Projected Membership Dues				
AAUW National	\$2,773.00	50-3 Paid Life = 47 X \$59		
AAUW Pennsylvania	\$500.00	50 X \$10		
AAUW Easton	\$750.00	50 X \$15		
OPERATING FUNDS BUDGET 2019-2020 PROPOSAL 6/17/19	Budgeted Income	Budgeted Cost	Credits	Debits
Banking				
Fees		\$24.00		
Interest			\$0.22	
Conferences 7/19-6/20		\$700.00		\$ 143.19
Fund Raisers				
Williams Center(@14 people)	\$350.00	\$280.00		
Donations				
Authors Luncheon	\$2,500.00	\$400.00		
Poinsettia Sales	\$300.00	\$150.00		
Other Fundraisers				
Totals	\$3,150.00	\$830.00		
Membership				
Branch Dues	\$750.00		\$660.00	
From Fundraiser	\$580.00			
Membership-brochures, etc		\$100.00		\$ 62.00
Yearbook Printing & Mailing		\$200.00		
Newsletter		\$50.00		
Insurance		\$600.00		
Mailbox		\$106.00		\$ 106.00
Postage		\$50.00		
Branch Publicity		\$75.00		\$ 66.59
Miscellaneous		\$200.00		\$ 150.00
Officers' Expenses				
Membership		\$25.00		
Presidents		\$50.00		
Treasurer (Quicken & Postage)		\$50.00		\$ 31.79
Programs				
Meeting Rooms		\$200.00		
Public Policy		\$50.00		
Holiday Party		\$250.00		
Scholarship Des(room,desserts,gifts)	\$300.00	\$360.00	-\$60.00	
Speaker Gifts		\$140.00		
Diversity		\$100.00		
Honorariums		\$150.00		
TOTALS	\$880.00	\$3,480.00	\$600.22	\$ 559.57

Back To School



Co-Presidents Nancy Kinzli and Karol D'Huyvetters joined many community and Student Organizations at the Annual Quad Fest of Northampton Community College to welcome students to the new school year. Quad Fest is designed to introduce students to campus clubs and opportunities in the community. Nancy and Karol set up a table with information about AAUW. We had informational pamphlets on Women and Student Debt, Gender Pay Gap and The Status of Women in Leadership for the students. Also, we handed out AAUW magnets, organizational postcards, pamphlets and our branch's new membership brochures.

We generated student interest with information on AAUW's online Work Smart course on salary negotiation. There were many discussions with students about the gender pay gap and learning to negotiate a salary. Several students stated they had researched the gender pay gap for a course and written a research paper on this topic. But very few students indicated any knowledge about skills needed to negotiate salary or benefits. Many students were interested in discussing this and took the information about the Work Smart online course. We also gave the information to counselors to share with their students. One student, Brianna Bancey, signed up as a Student Affiliate. We're hoping to see her at our Branch Meetings and Programs. Overall, we felt that we were able to inform students and professors about AAUW, our mission and causes that we support.

Notices

Wouldn't you like to learn how to do a newsletter or just use WORD and put the articles together? It is a great learning opportunity and would help tremendously. If this is you, please let Toni Hoffman know.

If any member has information that they wish to have published in the newsletter, please e-mail the information to **Toni Hoffman**. 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 newsletter after that.

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!

Easton Branch Book Group

The first book group of the year was held September 15 at the home of Nancy Kinzli. This month's book, **Where the Crawdads Sing** by Delia Owens was the center of a lively discussion covering the themes of isolation, abandonment, women's empowerment, and heartbreak. In the setting of the marsh lands of North Carolina, the beautiful writing left us with an increased appreciation for respecting and loving the land. There was some disagreement regarding the murder trial and the surprise ending but it led to a great conversation.

We welcome new members. The book group meets on the third Monday of the month, alternating times between 1:30 and 7pm, every other month. Call Toni Hoffman at 610-252-7020 for more information.



Public Policy Interest Group

One of my favorite Eleanor Roosevelt quotes is "Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people.."

Let's discuss ideas at a public policy interest group meeting. Call or email me if you are interested in joining this group.

Toni

Poinsettia Fundraiser



Coming soon...The Poinsettia Fundraiser Order Form. Please plan on supporting this scholarship fundraising drive. More information soon.

AAUW-PA Public Policy Highlights

This year, AAUW-PA Public Policy Chairs, Barbara Price and Jacqui Rogers, are framing public policy as it relates to the **AAUW Strategic Plan** and the **AAUW Public Policy Priorities**.

Economic Security - To achieve economic security for all women, AAUW advocates:

- Pay equity and fairness in compensation and benefits
- Greater availability of and access to a high standard of benefits and policies that promote work-life balance, including quality and affordable dependent care and paid family, medical, and sick leave
- Increasing the number of quality jobs that pay a living wage



At the federal level, the House passed the Paycheck Fairness Act. Now we need to get it passed in the Senate.

In Pennsylvania, our work to pass **pay equity** legislation continues during this session of the state legislature which ends December 31, 2020. The good news is that we now have a senate bill, [SB721](#) sponsored by Senators Santarsiero and Collett that is exactly the same as [HB850](#) sponsored by Representatives Sims and Davis. This is the first time we have had a comparable bill in the senate. Thank your legislators if they are co-sponsors of these bills or if not, ask them to support the bills. Click on each bill to check for co-sponsors.

Another issue we will follow this year is **raising the minimum wage**. The state minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour, lower than all neighboring states. The Keystone Research Center has posted fact sheets estimating the number and characteristics of workers affected by a minimum wage increase to \$15. The factsheets present data specific to [Counties](#) and to [Senate and state House Districts](#). These fact sheets refute the usual arguments that only teens at fast food restaurants make minimum wage. The majority of people affected are women and people over the age of 40. Look up your county and your legislator. Great pieces to leave behind when you visit your legislators.

Another way to view the minimum wage issue is to compare it to a living wage. The [Living Wage Calculator](#) lets you see the hourly rate that an individual must earn to support his/her family by county. There are no counties in Pennsylvania where the minimum wage provides a living wage. Raising the minimum wage would go a long way toward alleviating the wage gap. AAUW-PA supports the One Fair Wage bills, [HB1215](#) and [SB12](#)

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



October 21, 1:30pm
Hostess: Yvonne Payne
Book: **Where Did You go Bernadette** by Maria Semple

Rotating Gourmet

Chair: Lois Wildrick



Fall menus are being planned and members will be contacted to host.

Diversity: Deeds and Dialogue

Chair: Rosemary Baker



October 30, 7:00 pm
Hostess: Norma Ferguson
Topic: Finish **White Fragility**

International Relations:

Chair: Fran Kennedy



October 22, 1:30 pm
Hostess: Phyllis Finger
Book: The Weather Makers by Tim Flannery

Tuesday Afternoon Bridge Group

Chair: Rosemary Baker



Call **Rosemary** for more information

Out to Lunch

Chair: Claire Degnan



Members meet for lunch. All AAUW members are welcome. Call Claire for information

Mah Jongg

Chair : Toni Hoffman



October 14, 10:00 at Rosemary's
October 28, 10:00 at Randi's

December 4, 12:30 pm
Hampton Winds
RSVP to Claire ASAP

Stitch and Be'

Chair: Yvonne Payne



October 3, 2:00 pm
Hostess: Yvonne Payne

Tapas Dining

Chair: Yvonne Payne



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

October 19, 5:00 - 8:00 pm
Hostess: Yvonne Payne
RSVP to Yvonne

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	Randi Blauth	easton-pa.aauw.net/membership/
Easton Edition	Toni Hoffman	easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/

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.



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Branch
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