

CALENDAR

Newsletter Deadline

Saturday, February 15

Branch Meeting

Thursday, February 20, , 7 p.m.

The Aging Brain

Palmer Library

Board Meeting

Monday, February 3 at 1 pm

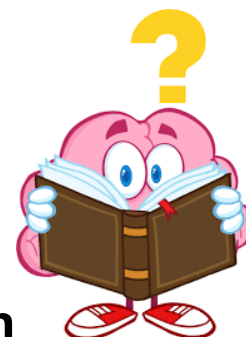
Home of Nancy Berry

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2020

Here's to strong women, may we know them, may we be them, may we raise them



The Aging Brain

Thursday, February 20, 7pm

Palmer Library

Did you know that Aging is influenced by environmental factors and that normal Aging of the brain results in only slight cognitive declines and even some positive changes in ability? The bad news is that, by 85, many of us will contend with dementia. The good news is there are clear lifestyle changes that can impact your risk.

Dr.Elaine Reynolds, the chair of Aging Studies at Lafayette College will share her expertise with us. She has over 20 years experience teaching undergraduates and in 2016 was awarded the Educator of the Year by the Faculty of Undergraduate Neuroscience. Her recent scholarly work was on the impact of nutrition on the Aging process.

From the Presidents' Pens

Becoming a “Fierce Advocate”

“Never take no for answer,” groundbreaking African American meteorologist June Bacon-Bercey taught her daughter, Dail St. Claire, who established a scholarship in her mother’s honor to assist women seeking careers in STEM fields, as reported in USA Today, Friday, January 10, 2020.

Following in her mother’s footsteps, Dail St. Claire is continuing to assist women seeking careers in STEM fields by establishing the June Bacon-Bercey Scholarship. June Bacon-Bercey won \$64,000 on a TV game show called “The \$128,000 Question” and established a scholarship with her winnings. “Scholarship was a passion and she always wanted to share it with those less fortunate,” St. Claire said of her mother.

June Bacon-Bercey was an unknown hero in meteorology with NOAA and TV weather forecasting, analysis and radar and aviation meteorology. She advocated for women and minorities in education and sciences. She died in July at age 90.

Scholarship continues to be a priority for our branch. We want to give **HOPE** to the young women in our community to continue their education. Each year, we ask our members to support our Scholarship fundraiser by:

*Attending the Authors’ Luncheon on April 18, 2020

*Bringing a friend, your significant other, book club, or relative to the Authors’ Luncheon

*Donating a basket for the Silent Auction

*Considering a financial donation to the Scholarship Fund

“Her legacy is hope.” St. Claire said.

Let us, as a Branch, establish a legacy of HOPE.

Support our Annual Scholarship Fund!

Nancy Kinzli and Karol D'Huyvetters

They cannot stop me. I will get my education, if it is in the home, school, or anyplace.

Malala Yousafzai

Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.

James Baldwin

AAUW Easton Branch Meeting
January 16, 2020 at the Palmer Library

Nancy Kinzli, Co-President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. There were 8 members present.

The minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter.

Nancy presented the following upcoming programs:

--February 20 Dr. Elaine Reynolds "The Aging Brian" Palmer Library 7:00 pm

--March 21 Luncheon honoring our Fifty Year Members. Location: The View at Morgan Hill

--April 18 Authors' Luncheon. We are asking members for donations of baskets for the silent auction. We are also asking each Interest Group to make a basket for the silent auction, baskets to be ready by April 1.

--May 19 Scholarship and Awards Dessert 7:00 pm First Presbyterian Church, Easton.

Toni asked that members read the public policy information in the upcoming newsletter.

Scholarship committee-The letters and applications are being prepared to be sent to the schools.

AAUW Funds-There have been enough contributions for the branch to award one Named Gift Honoree.

Nancy is looking into the possibility of a Work Smart Program with the Third Street Alliance.

We are working with Pre K for Pa to start a public conversation about early childhood development and education. There is a documentary film on this.

Nominations are being sought for the office of President.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Nancy introduced our speaker-Linda Featherman who spoke on the History and Art of Stained Glass. She showed us how to make a Moravian Star.

Respectfully Submitted:
Rosemary Baker



What's New in Public Policy

Excerpt from AAUW-PA Highlights

In a December 5 webinar, Kim Churches updated members on AAUW's focus for the new year which is **Election 2020: A Gender Agenda**. AAUW does not endorse candidates, but will be watching for what candidates say about the issues AAUW will focus on in 2020. They are

- Equal Pay for Equal Work
- Investing in Education
- Reducing Student Debt
- Strengthening Social Security
- Implementing Paid Leave

AAUW also published our latest research in early December, *Limiting our Livelihoods: The Cumulative Impact of Sexual Harassment on Women's Careers*. You can access it at this link. <https://www.aauw.org/research/limiting-our-livelihoods/>

Economic Security

Pay Equity

A new pay equity bill has been introduced, HB 2024. The prime sponsor is Representative Isaacson. It does not cover any of the areas we want in a pay equity bill. It requires that an employer provide the pay range of a job and the factors considered in setting that range. While this would provide good information and transparency to job applicants, it only offers this information to the employee and others with similar job titles or skills and of course does not cover all employees. AAUW-PA remains committed to passing [SB721](#) and [HB850](#) since they cover all employees and all the issues in AAUW's PA Road Map to Pay Equity.

Equal Pay Day 2020 is March 31. Neither the PA House or Senate are in session that day. Therefore, there is no rally at the state capitol this year. Instead we will focus on visiting them that day or sometime that week in their home offices.

Information you need will be available in early March. We will be talking about the wage gap and how it is impacted by unfair hiring practices such as asking salary history or not permitting employees to discuss salary, not having paid leave, and the low minimum wage in PA. The state public policy chairs will provide scripts for your visit and handouts to leave behind.

Raising the Minimum Wage

A compromise agreement to raise the minimum wage was reported to have been worked out behind closed doors between the governor and PA legislators in November. It proposed an increase in minimum wage to \$8.00 in July, 2020. This would increase incrementally until it reached \$9.50 in Jan. 2022. It is far below what the governor wanted, which was \$12 as of January 2020, rising to \$15 by 2025.

It has been reported that the governor and other groups like, **We the People** and **Raise the Wage** accepted the compromise without supporting it because it was the only way to get any kind of a raise for people making minimum wage. The governor was said to have given up on raising the overtime threshold from \$23,660 to \$45,000.

The reason groups favoring a raise in minimum wage are not supporting the compromise measure is that it has no provision for cost of living adjustments, no elimination of preemption for local governments to set their own minimum wage, no end to the sub-minimum tipped wage, and is not a high enough increase for people to live in most areas of Pennsylvania.

Every state that borders Pennsylvania has increased their minimum wage and have included cost of living provisions. Going to only \$8.00 in July might give PA hourly wage workers a few more badly needed dollars but will insure they continue to fall behind their neighbors.

While AAUW-PA does not support the insufficient increase to \$8.00, we understand that too many workers need a long-overdue raise. The PA Budget and Policy Center, (<https://www.krc.pbpc.org>), reports that almost 20% of the PA workforce makes under \$12 per hour, with 90% being adults and 60% being women.

AAUW-PA public policy chairs encourage members to continue to contact their senators and representatives as well as the members of the House Labor & Industry Committee to ask that any legislation to raise the minimum wage include a built-in cost of living provision, an end to state preemption of local wage laws, an end to the sub-minimum tipped wage, and stronger enforcement of wage violations as in HB1215 and SB12.

Family Care Act

Not convinced there is a need for paid leave? Watch Katy Tur on her first day back from maternity leave as she recounts her experience and the need for paid leave. [Katy and paid leave](#).

Education

Funding and Charter

We know that many AAUW members have a keen interest in public education matters. We need your help informing them of our activities. So, please share this information with your branch members.

AAUW Pennsylvania is a supporting organization for PA Schools Works, the coalition working on public school funding. They launched a monthly series of 30-minute webinars covering fundamental issues of public education funding. Very accessible (not wonky) and very informative. November focused on

school funding advocacy. December's topic was Basic Education Funding. Watch the webinars, download the decks, sign-up to attend at <http://paschoolswork.org/resources/webinar/>. Easy way to learn more about this complex subject.

Speaking of complicated issues – Pennsylvania's Charter School laws and regulations. AAUW PA is joining a new coalition (yet to be named) founded by Susan Spicka, Executive Director Education Voters PA, to work on charter reform. Three AAUW Pennsylvania Education Committee members are on the coalition. Expect lots of opportunity for action in 2020. To begin getting familiar with the topic, read this Washington Post article. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2019/09/03/how-big-mess-is-pennsylvanias-charter-school-sector-this-big/>

Any branch member is welcome to join the AAUW Pennsylvania Education Committee. Contact Ann Pehle for more information.

aauwpa.president@gmail.com

GOTV

In commemoration of the centennial, the United States Postal Service has released the 19th Amendment: Women Vote stamp as part of their 2020 Forever Stamp Program. The stamp design is based on historic photos from the suffrage movement and features the suffrage colors of purple, white, and gold.



Pennsylvania Election Reform

More Ways to Vote



No-excuse mail-in voting

New option to vote by mail
without providing an excuse



Permanent mail-in ballot list

Receive applications for mail-in or
absentee ballots for all elections

More Accessible Elections



More time to register

Deadline to register to vote is
now 15 days before an election



Extended voting period

Request a mail-in or absentee ballot
up to 50 days before an election



Extended deadline

Submit mail-in or absentee ballot
by 8 p.m. on Election Day

Effective for the Primary Election

NOMINATIONS

Nancy Kinzli and Karol D'Huyvetters are reaching the end of their two year term as Easton Branch Co-Presidents.

Nominations for the office of President/Co-President are now open.

Please submit suggestions and/or nominations for this office to Karol or Nancy.

Nancy Kinzli
Karol D'Huyvetters

SAVE THE DATE

50 Year Member Luncheon	March 21
Authors' Luncheon	April 18
AAUW-PA State Convention	April 24-26

Wacky February Dates

2/1	Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day
2/5	Chocolate Fondue Day
2/12	Darwin Day
2/17	Random Act of Kindness Day
2/22	World Sword Swallowers Day
2/28	Public Sleeping Day

NCCWSL: NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENT LEADERS

NOTICE: The 2020 AAUW-PA NCCWSL Grant Applications are due no later than midnight EST February 28, 2020. Recipients will be notified on or before 3/20/2020 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 27-May 30, 2020, at the University of Maryland, College Park. NCCWSL is a two-and-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.

This is the link to the [2020 AAUW-PA Grant Application](#)

Purple Sashes and Persistent Women
Celebrating 100 Years of Suffrage

It's a little less than 100 days until the start of the 2020 AAUW-PA State Convention.

Highlights include:

Keynote speaker Rebecca Boggs Roberts, author of the book Suffragists in Washington, D.C.: The 1913 parade and the fight for the vote.

The Great Suffrage Parade was the first civil rights march to use the nation's capitol as a backdrop.

Kendra Davis, Senior VP of Advancement will present updates from the National Office.

This year's Convention will be held at The Central Hotel and Conference Center in Harrisburg beginning on Friday, April 24 through Sunday, April 26, 2020



*Please join us in March to to honor the Easton branch members
who have been AAUW members for 50 years or more.*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Year became a member</i>
Carol Cochran	7/1/51
Patricia Aretz	7/1/55
Anne Thornton	7/1/55
Mildred Pitoni	9/6/56
Patricia Bradt	7/1/57
Mibs Follett	7/1/58
Helene Kaplan	7/1/58
Ann Keim	7/1/64
Eleanor Conti	7/1/67
Marie Jordon	7/1/67
Nancy Butow	7/1/68
Gretchen Reed	7/1/68

*Saturday, March 21 12:30 pm
The View at Morgan Hill*

Our honorees will receive an invitation in the mail.
If you able to join us to honor our long-time members
please RSVP by March 9 to
Nancy Kinzli 610-217-2671 or Karol D'Huyvetters 610-751-5047

IT'S ALL ABOUT BOOKS

AAUW EASTON BRANCH 7th ANNUAL AUTHORS' LUNCHEON



WHO: THREE LOCAL AUTHORS

Dr. Donald Miller, American History Scholar & Filmmaker
Elvira Woodruff, Young Adult Books
Kate Racculia, Mystery Novelist

WHAT:

Meet and Greet the Authors
Author Presentations
Book-Buying Opportunities
Silent Auction

WHERE:

Historic Pomfret Club
33 South Fourth Street, Easton, PA

WHEN:

Saturday, April 18, 2020
Doors open at 11 a.m.

WHY:

\$30 ticket supports college scholarships for local women

To register: visit <https://easton-pa.aauw.net/events/authors-luncheon>

Theme Baskets Needed

The Authors' Luncheon Committee is looking for donations of Theme Baskets to be used in the Silent Auction at our 7th Annual Authors' Luncheon on April 18, 2020. Last year, we raised almost \$900.00 as donated baskets were auctioned off. We hope to exceed that amount this year. The funds raised at this event help fund scholarships for deserving local young women planning to attend college.

This is our **ONLY** fundraiser. Please be generous.

Individuals and Interest Groups are invited to participate. Ideas for a Theme Basket include:

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

Entertainment: tickets to local event, bag of popcorn

Coffee time: a basket of different kinds of coffee, biscotti, coffee towel, kitchen items

Baskets must be completed and wrapped in clear plastic wrap. Please include a listing of items in the basket with the total value. Items in the basket must be new and current.

Baskets are due by April 1, 2020 and dropped off at Karol D'Huyvetters house. If you have any questions, please contact Karol.

Holiday Tea Recap

Easton Branch members had a lovely time at the Holiday Tea hosted by Nancy and Bob Butow. There was a delicious array of savory and sweet items to please any palate.



Public Policy Interest Group

Great **minds** discuss ideas; average **minds** discuss events; **small minds** discuss people.

So said Eleanor Roosevelt. Let's get together to discuss ideas around public policy. We will explore the topic du jour or a topic of the group's choice.

Group members will decide when and how often to meet. Members may also participate in advocacy such as visiting local legislators, writing letters to the editor, submitting an op-ed, getting petitions signed, etc.

Let Toni Hoffman know if you are interested in this group and she will set up the first meeting.

Are you looking for ways to make our planet healthier? Try out several of these ideas:

- Get an energy audit
- Say no to plastic bags
- Use both sides of paper
- Bring your own coffee cup
- Keep car tires inflated
- Turn heat down 1 degree
- Take extra hangars to dry cleaners

Newsletter Information

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 she wishes 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.

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. Ads should be no larger than business card size and 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.

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



February 17, 1:30 pm
Hostess: Denise Shelton
Book: **Beautiful Ruins**
by Jess Walter

Rotating Gourmet

Chair: Lois Wildrick



Winter menus are being planned.
Members will be contacted.

Diversity: Deeds and Dialogue

Chair: Rosemary Baker



February 19, 7:00 pm
Hostess: Froy Thompson
Topic: **Girl, Woman, Other**

International Relations

Chair: Fran Kennedy



February 25, 1:30 p.m.
Hostess: Yvonne Payne
Topic: Manufacturing & Consumer goods/Diet/Agriculture

Tuesday Afternoon Bridge

Chair: Rosemary Baker



Call Rosemary for time and place

Out To Lunch

Chair: Claire Degnan



Members meet for lunch.
All members welcome.

February 19, 1:00 p.m.
Blue Grillhouse
RSVP to Claire Degnan

Mah Jongg

Chair: Toni Hoffman



February 10, 10:00 am at Lois's
February 24, 10:00 am at Rosemary's

Tapas Dining

Chair: Yvonne Payne



Members (and spouses) explore
small plate dining.

No meeting scheduled at this time.

Stitch and Be

Chair: Yvonne Payne



February 6, 2:00 pm
Hostess: Toni Hoffman

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.



Easton (PA) Branch

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Easton

Pennsylvania

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