

CALENDAR

Newsletter Deadline
Wednesday, October 15

Branch Meeting
Sunday, October 17, 2 pm
A Walking Tour of the
Karl Stirner Arts Trail

Board Meeting
Thursday, October 7, 7:30 pm

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2021

The future belongs to those who
believe in the beauty of their dreams.
Eleanor Roosevelt



A Walk In The Park
The Karl Stirner Arts Trail
Sunday, October 17, 2021 - 2 pm

Join us on a (hopefully) beautiful fall day to experience a special treat. Jim Toia, Executive Director of the Karl Stirner Arts Trail will share his expertise about the trail, explaining how it came to be, its philosophy and its connection with nature. The trail is approximately 3 miles round trip and follows the Bushkill Creek in Easton. It is designed to be an urban “green infrastructure.”

Don't miss this special opportunity. Jim has great information to share. Friends and family welcome. Park in the 524 Bushkill Drive parking lot. We will meet there and begin the walk at 2pm. This lot is a short walk from the Blue Bridge Entrance. Sidewalks and ramps make this parking lot accessible for wheelchairs and strollers. Crosswalks ensure pedestrian safety on your walk to the trail.

Please RSVP to Nancy Kinzli so we can let you know if there is a change in the weather or parking location.

From the Leadership Team



As fall approaches, we are reminded of how our lives are surrounded by change. The days shorten and become cooler, leaves fall, birds migrate. Our worlds have changed a lot in the last year due to Covid. As with nature, we have learned to adapt and find new ways of doing things. As the Greek philosopher Heraclitus said, “the only constant is change.”

Covid is not the only big change in the last year. We are now and will continue to experience the effects of climate change. It is not just the wild fires in the west or the hurricanes in the south. Close to home, in Easton, Lafayette students found that an increased risk for damaging flooding and extreme heat make our downtown more vulnerable due to the influence of the Lehigh and Delaware rivers. Easton’s west ward was found to be susceptible to extreme temperatures due to heat absorbency in pervious surfaces with a low percentage of cooling trees. Throughout the US, underground wiring used to be considered cost prohibitive. With an increase in tree mortality and black outs, it is being considered. There are suggestions to plant different trees, and shorter trees that can endure hotter climates. You may have your own stories but most everyone has noticed the change in some way.

Since most countries have failed to stop greenhouse gas emissions, we’ll need to figure out how to change things faster. It can be done by decreasing fossil fuels, switching to renewable energy and halting deforestation but it is not easy individually and not easy to battle big industry. Bill McKibben, an environmental activist sees some promise. As he stated, “Gandhi and King and the suffragettes figured out a new way of moving the world, a way for the small but many to stand up to the mighty but few.” Maybe we can too.

This is the time of year when day and night become equal which again reminds us of the importance of balance. There is a reason the Druids focused on balance in the fall, it was because it was the only time it can be observed in nature. It is time for us to reflect on balance in our lives and on our planet and try in our own ways to make a difference.

Look and listen for the welfare of the whole people and have always in view not only the present but also the coming generations.

The Constitution of the Iroquois Nations.

What's Your Story

When we moved to Easton twenty plus years ago I was still very involved in my corporate job traveling both domestically and internationally, so Easton during that interim period, was a “bedroom community” for me. When I retired twelve years ago I was looking for ways to meet people where I could share common interests and goals. AAUW came under my radar. I am not sure how, but I remember looking up both the national and local organizations and thought it would be an organization I would like; I had been brought up with a lot of focus on community. As I learned more about our community from the members of AAUW I know I have greatly benefitted from my decision twelve years ago to join the organization. I have served as both membership chairperson and on the scholarship committee and enjoyed participating in the AAUW sponsored events. AAUW has been a vehicle for meeting interesting women of like values and goals in life. I am grateful, also, for the many friendships made through this organization. It has opened doors for me to other activities and organizations I have enjoyed in my retirement.

Nancy Berry

Are You Interested

Recently I participated in a zoom meeting for the 5 star program update. I also participated in a zoom meeting with the San Juan Puerto Rico branch. And I read an article online that 7,000 steps is the new recommendation if you want to avoid an early death.

Several branches in the 5 star meeting and the San Juan, Puerto Rico branch all had vibrant walking groups. The Easton Branch used to have a walking group also. Some of you may even have been a part of it when Zoe Roble led the group. I often read about it in the newsletter but never participated when it was an active interest group.

So I was thinking that perhaps we should revive the group. I am willing to propose places to walk. I am considering Friday mornings at 9. If you would be interested in joining, please contact me at my email or phone number in the yearbook. I am recommending that the first walk be on October 15.

Please let me know if you would like to join. For the first walk we can meet near the tennis courts at Forks Community Park. This is a great way to get to know one another, stay healthy and enjoy the outdoors.

Contact Fran Kennedy if interested.



Finance Report 9/15	Income	Cost
Banking		
Fees		
Interest	\$0.14	
Fundraisers		
Donations	\$217.41	\$10.54
Authors Luncheon		
Poinsettia Sale		
Other Fundraisers		
Membership		
Branch Dues	\$559.00	
Brochures		
Yearbook		
Newsletter		\$17.35
Other Printing		
Insurance		
Mailbox		\$146.00
Postage		\$11.00
Publicity		
Miscellaneous		
Officer Expenses		
Membership		
Leadership Team		
Finance Officer		
Programs		
Meeting Rooms		\$100.00
Public Policy		
Scholarship		
Speaker Gifts		
Diversity		
Socials		
Other Expenses		
Honorariums		
Totals	\$777.05	\$285.29

Pay Equity Makes Good Public Policy

At AAUW, we represent the battle against the gender wage gap through “Equal Pay Days” that mark how far into the new year women must work to be paid what men were paid the previous year. Individual days denote how mothers and most women of color face a wider-than-average gap and need to work even longer to catch up to men's earnings.

On August 3, we marked the date that Black women must work into the new year to finally reach equal pay from the previous year. Black women working full-time had to work seven additional months to earn what non-Hispanic white men earned in twelve months last year. In Pennsylvania, median annual wages of Black women were \$38,353 compared to white men's annual wages of \$57,361, an annual gap of \$19,008 or an earnings ratio of 66.9%.

The pay gap not only hurts women but impacts their families as well. Eighty percent of Black mothers are the sole or primary breadwinner for their households.

Many complex factors contribute to the wage gap such as occupation segregation, time out of the workforce for caregiving and parental leave and using salary history as the basis to set compensation. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that the percentage of Black women who are full-time minimum-wage workers is higher than that of any other racial group. Many of these jobs were considered essential during the pandemic.

Pennsylvania cannot wait for equal pay!

State legislators are currently considering bills to end the gender wage gap in Pennsylvania today. Modernizing Pennsylvania's Equal Pay Law (HB819/SB547) will ensure policies that provide an economy that works for everyone, including:

Covering all employees by removing the exception for those covered by the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

Offering protections by not retaliating against employees who discuss their wages and not relying on, requesting, or screening for salary history.

Clarifying that employer's defenses must be job-related, a business necessity, and not based on a sex-based differential, and that a defense does not apply if there is an alternative employment practice available.

Establishing strong legal procedure and remedies such as making the employer liable for compensatory and punitive damages, authorizing reinstatement, promotion of other equitable relief, and expanding the statute of limitations for violations.

Offering equal compensation for jobs that are comparable (substantially similar skill, effort, and responsibility and are performed under similar working conditions).

In a pandemic and beyond, equal pay means stronger economic security to sustain women and families.*

*Taken from August 2021 FYI



Why A Public Policy Committee

- There is strength in numbers
- We can make “in person” visits to our elected representative
- Our elected representatives need to hear from us
- AAUW makes it easy with talking points on many issues
- We need to make our voices heard!

My vision for this committee is to coordinate visits to the local offices of our elected representatives. If we want to expand our efforts, we can work on letters to the editor and op-ed pieces on timely topics. We can start petitions on local issues important to us and to all women. We can work on registering voters - there is lots of work to be done.

Please let me (Toni Hoffman) know if you're interested in being on this committee.

Change doesn't come easily, we have to work at it. Join me and become a change agent!

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed individuals can change the world. In fact, it's the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

VotesPA.com is now vote.pa.gov

“New address but same trusted information.”

You can find voter registration here as well as being able to apply for a mail in ballot if that is your preferred voting method.

After you receive your ballot, if you decide to deliver it in person, that option is available to you.

Would you like to become a poll worker? You're able to find out how to do that on this site as well.

New Interest Group Chairs

Susan McNamara will be chairing the Book Group beginning with the November meeting.

Becky Goldenberg will be the new chair of the Mah Jongg Group starting in November.

Newsletter Information

Wouldn't you like to learn how to put a newsletter together or just use a WORD for all the articles? 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.

Annual Evening at the Williams Center
Friday, November 12, 2021 - 8:00 pm
Ak Dan Gwang Chil



Sacred, shamanic, secular *gut* and *minyo* folk music get a powerful K-pop boost by South Korea’s Ak Dan Gwang Chil, a multi-award winning group fronted by three high-octane women—vocalists Chorong Bang, Hee Rim Wang, and Minyoung An. With a traditional ensemble of zithers, flutes, drums, and gongs, Ak Dan Gwang Chil builds on Korean musical forms and delivers them with 21st-century showmanship in buoyant, swinging performances. The result is nothing short of a spiritual experience filled with positive energy. “A most astonishing show musically and immensely entertaining —WOW!!!” (NPR Music).

Tickets are \$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, address in Yearbook. Make checks payable to: AAUW Easton Branch

Order Form: Evening at the Williams Center November 12, 202

Name _____

Tickets for Ak Dan Gwang Chil _____ (qty) @ \$25 each

Updated Branch Programs

September 29, 2021 Minutes

September 29, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.
Joint Program with Bethlehem
Voices in Blue
Bethlehem Community Center

October 17, 2021 - 2:00 pm
A Walking Tour of the Karl Stirner Arts Trail
Jim Toia, Executive Director

November 12, 2021 - 8:00 p. m.
An Evening at the Williams Center
Ak Dan Gwang Chil

December 12, 2021 - 2:00 p.m.
Historic Tea
at the Bachmann Publick House

January 23, 2022- 2:00 p.m.
Chocolate Chat
Chocolate Works

February 26, 2022 - 1 p.m.
Growing Up Black in Easton-One Woman's Story
Sigal Museum

March 8, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
Lenape Women Past and Present
Presenter: Barbara Michalski
Palmer Library

April 9, 11:00 am
Annual Authors' Luncheon
The Pub at Seipsville

May 17, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.
Scholarship and Awards Dessert
The Pub at Seipsville

September 29, 2021 at Bethlehem Township
Community Center

Karol D'Huyvetters, Membership Team, called the meeting to order at 6:10pm. She welcomed everyone. There were 21 members (which included Easton and Bethlehem) and 4 guests present.

Karol presented the schedule of branch programs for the upcoming year.

Karol announced there is Authors' Luncheon committee on September 30 at 2:30pm at her home. All are welcome-committee members are needed.

Karol announced newsletter contributions are welcomed. The timeline is the 15th of each month for the next months' newsletter. Submit contributions to Toni Hoffman.

Claire Degnan announced that Janet Rosenthal has moved. She passed around a card for all to sign. Claire also announced the Out to Lunch group is meeting on Wednesday, November 3 at 12:30pm at Hampton Winds.

The business meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm.

Susan McNamara introduced Bethlehem Township Police Officer Sarah Zielinski who spoke to us about what it means to be a police officer. Sarah also answered questions after her informative presentation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rosemary Baker

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.

All meetings contingent on control of the Coronavirus pandemic and may be held virtually.

Book Discussion

Chair: Toni Hoffman



October 18 time flexible
 Hostess: Carol Inman
 Book: **Dreams of Trespass**
 by Fatema Mernissi

Rotating Gourmet

Chair:



This group needs a new chairwoman to coordinate the dinners with Margaret Skaarup.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging

Chair: Rosemary Baker



October 27, 7:00 pm
 Hostess: Meet on Zoom
 Topic: **The Sum of Us**

International Relations

Chair: Fran Kennedy



October 12, 1:30 p.m.
 Hostess: Liz Toler
 Topic: Education for Marginalized Populations in Africa continued

Tuesday Afternoon Bridge

Chair: Rosemary Baker



The bridge group would like to start playing again. If you are interested in playing bridge, please contact Rosemary Baker.

Out To Lunch

Chair: Claire Degan



All members welcome.
November 3, 12:30 pm
 Hampton Winds
 RSVP to Claire by 10/27/21

Mah Jongg

Chair: Toni Hoffman



October 11, 1:30 pm
 October 25, 1:30 pm
 Hostess: Randi, Toni

Tapas Dining

Chair: Yvonne Payne



October 9, 5:00 pm
 Hostess: Yvonne Payne

Stitch and Be

Chair: Yvonne Payne



October 7, 2:00 pm
 Hostess: Toni Hoffman

Women & Science

Chair:



November Date TBA
 Topic: Trees

American Association of University Women

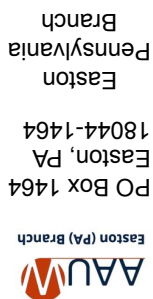
AAUW National	800.326.2289	www.aauw.org
Easton Branch		easton-pa.aauw.net
Leadership Team	Randi, Toni, Nancy K.	easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/
Membership	Randi Blauth	easton-pa.aauw.net/membership/
Easton Edition	Toni Hoffman	easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/

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.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED