

CALENDAR

Newsletter Deadline
Saturday, February 15

Branch Meeting
Saturday, February 26

Board Meeting
Monday, February 7, 7:30 pm

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2022

With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts.
Eleanor Roosevelt



Growing Up Black in Easton

February 26, 1 pm
The Sigal Museum

What was it like to be black in Easton in the 1970s?
Even though the Civil Rights Act of 1964 mandated equality for African Americans, did that equality really exist?

Dr. Karen S. Britt, a professor of Business/Economics at Northampton Community College in Bethlehem, PA and an Adjunct Faculty member at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA will share her experience of growing up in Easton during the 1970s. Her career in higher education includes academic administration and instruction with specific emphasis on non-traditional students and programming. Karen's family roots in Easton, PA date back to the mid 1920's with a strong Christian faith and belief coupled with community activism.

Tour the museum and view selections from the Petrucci Family Foundation's Collection of African American Art.

Take the 21 Day Equity Challenge on your own time.
<https://www.unitedwaydm.org/equity-challenge-about>
<https://www.unitedwaydm.org/equity-challenge>

Masks required.
Program will pivot to zoom if necessary.



Northampton
County
Historical &
Genealogical
Society



Growing Up Black in Easton

AN AFTERNOON WITH DR. KAREN BRITT

Please join us for an afternoon of conversation and insight with Dr. Karen Britt, Professor of Business and Economics and founder of Juneteenth Lehigh Valley.

DETAILS:



Saturday,
February 26, 2022



1:00 PM



Sigal Museum
John. R. Austen Auditorium



Sigal Museum

From the Leadership Team

AAUW and some of what it means to me.

“AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, 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, disability, or class”

Both of these quotes are on the back page of this newsletter. Both are related to two of my passions and their connection to AAUW. Let me explain.

My first involvement with AAUW was in Puerto Rico. As an AAUW member in Puerto Rico I was involved in programs such as “Say it in English” in a public school not far from where I lived, a glass recycling project, a program to empower young woman at a private library (There was only one public library in PR at the time), involvement with young women at the San Juan YWCA, and involvement in the “African Educator Program.”

Along with other members we applied to host two African educators for the week. The following year I went to Sierra Leone with five other US educators, members of several different AAUW branches from across the country. We were hosted by the Sierra Leone Association of University Women. At Easton’s recent 95th at the Bachman House, I was happy to learn that the Easton Branch also hosted two of the African Educators in the 70’s. This experience has led to my being interested in and chairing our International Relations interest group.

I taught mathematics and computer science in Ghana in the sixties and from the mid seventies until 2003 in Puerto Rico. While teaching, I always tried to especially encourage the female students to continue their study in both math and computer science.

Sometimes this was **not** encouraged by their parents. Still, I persisted. I sponsored a math club and encouraged girls to join. I also took some of the club members to weeklong math competitions in the States for several years. I always had several girls in the group. These are students with whom I am still in contact. AAUW has always been involved with encouraging women in the STEM fields. They are responsible for much of the research about STEM and women’s participation in school from the early years through college and to jobs.

Did you Know?

“Parents are twice as likely to google search “Is my son gifted” than “Is my daughter gifted”

“While more than 50% of US public school students are students of color 83% of their teachers are white.”

Our branch is considering a STEAM recognition event for local 7th grade girls identified by their teachers. Our branch sponsors a STEM scholarship at NCC. This was originally funded by Marian Cunningham’s sister, Jane Wait. I am also encouraged by the fact that several of our scholarship recipients have chosen to study in the STEM fields. Even my granddaughter is proud to say that she is a “Woman in STEM” as a freshman at the University of California San Diego.

Of course AAUW is involved in several other women’s issues among them: “Equal Pay for Equal Work”, gender bias in schools, scholarships for local women, the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL program), funding for K-12 public schools, issues related to

Continued from Page 2

violence against women, encouraging women in leadership positions, the environment and climate change, among many other issues.

What does it mean to you?

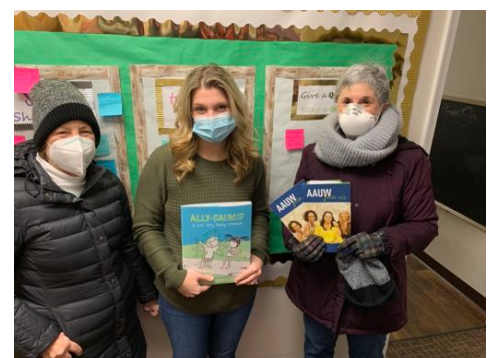
Think about what makes you passionate and join with other members to make progress in the area of your passion. Even better encourage your friends to join and help lend their support. We need all of you.

Fran Kennedy



In honor of the 95th anniversary of the AAUW Easton Branch, members collected 95 children's books, at least that was the goal. The reality is that over 110 books were collected.

Rosemary Baker and Jan Schwartz distributed some books to the Third Street Alliance and the Forks YMCA Educational Center. Randi Blauth and Toni Hoffman distributed books to the Creative Learning Center of the Lehigh Valley and The Learning Center.



**Go Beyond Recycling
Embrace a Zero-Waste Lifestyle**

Dine and drink with traditional dishes, glassware, and stainless-steel utensils

Switch to machine washable/reusable cloth towels and napkins

Choose a mop with a wooden handle and removable head that can be machine washed

Use jars to store homemade cleaning products, such as baking soda and white vinegar

WELCOME MARILYN SULLIVAN



Marilyn graduated from Rutgers University with a BA in 1978 and received her MA from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1983. She grew up in Fords, NJ and has lived in the Nazareth area for 30 years. Marilyn has been a psychotherapist since 1978 and is still practicing part-time specializing in substance use disorder and dissociative identity disorder.

She is married with three grown boys. Marilyn became a Buddhist in 1990 and meditates every day. She loves to read and listen to audio books and podcasts. Marilyn has joined AAUW Easton because she is seeking a connection with other women.

Mah Jongg

Mah Jongg continues to be a fun afternoon on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 1:30. All are invited. If we have more than 4, we rotate in and out. It's never too late to learn and it's a social time as well as a brain exercise.

Join us.

Does AAUW Have Your Email Address?

AAUW National wants to make sure your correct email address is what is in the MSD (Member Services Database). To verify your address, click the link below:

<https://aauw.us/emailoptions>

Newsletter Information

Wouldn't you like to learn how to put a newsletter together or just use 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.

PLEASE NOTE: Contact Membership VP for the correct email for Monica Seligmann

SAVE THE DATE!

WHO: Bluejay, member of the Lenni Lenape Nation

WHAT: Will present on the role of Lenni Lenape women past and present

WHERE: Palmer Library, 1 Weller Place Easton (or Zoom depending on Covid)

WHEN: March 8th at 7:00 p.m.

PLEASE JOIN US!

BREAKING NEWS

As noted in the email blast members received recently, in the works is a 2022 First Annual Girls STEAM Recognition program being planned in collaboration with the Nurture Nature Center. This event will celebrate the enthusiasm and work of 7th grade girls who show potential in the areas of science, math and art. There will be a panel of women in STEAM fields, a keynote speaker, and an award ceremony. Please consider volunteering to help in the planning and/or execution of this program. Susan McNamara and Toni Hoffman are the contacts for this event.

The AAUW Easton Branch Women in Science Interest Group will be holding its quarterly meetings at the Nurture Nature Center in Easton. This offers possibilities for expanded programming on topics of shared interest, access to resources, speakers, media, activities related to science that might enrich the Group's readings and discussions; and opportunities for dialogues and conversations from the perspectives of other voices. The meetings will be open to all members of the branch and the community at large.

Finance Report 1/17/22	Income	Cost
Banking		
Fees		
Interest	\$0.42	
Fundraisers		
Donations	\$217.41	\$10.94
Authors Luncheon		140.40
Poinsettia Sale	545.00	293.35
Other Fundraisers	\$350.00	\$200.00
Membership		
Branch Dues	\$604.50	
Brochures		\$32.00
Yearbook		\$42.00
Newsletter		\$32.35
Other Printing		
Insurance		\$200.00
Mailbox		\$146.00
Postage		\$11.00
Publicity		
Miscellaneous		
Officer Expenses		
Membership		
Leadership Team		
Finance Officer		
Programs		
Meeting Rooms		\$150.00
Public Policy		
Scholarship		\$100.00
Speaker Gifts		
Diversity		
Socials	440.00	\$578.00
Other Expenses		
Honorariums		
Totals	\$2187.33	\$1935.94

What's Your Story

Hi! I am honored to be asked to tell a bit about myself and my association with Easton AAUW. I grew up in Philadelphia, in a family that attached a lot of importance to learning and education, attending Philadelphia High School for Girls and the University of Pennsylvania, where I majored in biology. After getting my masters, I worked as an editor at Biological Abstracts, a journal for researchers in various fields of biology. In 1974, when I was about 30 years old, my husband and I moved to Easton so he could practice medicine at Easton Hospital and St Luke's.

Not too long after that, a neighbor, Rosemary Reese, invited me to go with her to an AAUW branch meeting. I was taking care of our young son at that time, and it was great to be with a group of women who were smart and interested in all kinds of topics. The monthly talks at meetings were stimulating and I soon joined Rotating Gourmet with Ken. We both made many wonderful friends through that group, who have remained good friends to this day. Soon I got involved with the book fair (so much work, but I loved it) and the Women in History 4th grade school presentations, which were always such fun (I usually portrayed Belle Archer). I held several offices, including treasurer for several terms, and eventually became president. Over the years there have been many changes in the way our branch has held meetings or had interest groups, but always the emphasis has been on learning new topics, challenging us to broaden our minds, and having good fellowship with remarkable women.

I must be one of the oldest branch members (in terms of years of membership), and am no longer active in leadership, but I always feel welcomed and encouraged to learn new things, including Mah Jongg recently. I used to say that AAUW helped keep me sane during the early years of child rearing, but in addition, it has introduced me to good friends and many fun activities over some 45 years. It's been an important part of my life, and I'm very grateful to the various members who have been there over the years.

Lois Wildrick



AAUW Easton Branch Invites
YOU
To Join Us For Our
**8th Annual
Authors' Luncheon**

What: A luncheon with presentations by three local authors:
Joyce Hinnefeld, Maryann McFadden and Jennifer Gilmore.

When: Saturday, April 9, 2022, 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Where: The Pub at Seipsville – free, accessible parking
2912 Old Nazareth Road, Easton, PA

Why: Fundraiser for our annual scholarship awards

Register: For additional information and registration Form –

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



Everyone Welcome

Proceeds benefit scholarship fund

Support Our Annual Fundraiser

We are busy planning our Eighth Annual Authors' Luncheon on April 9, 2022. In the past, we were able to raise \$1,000.00 through a Silent Auction. This year, we are hoping to exceed that amount for our Scholarship Fundraiser. Please, remember this is our **ONLY** fundraiser.

Individuals and/or 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 a local event, bags of popcorn

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

Spa: Gift certificate for a facial or to favorite Nail Salon

Do you have a favorite, local restaurant? Ask them if you purchase a gift certificate from them for our fundraiser would they match the amount, thereby doubling the amount of the gift certificate.

Baskets must be completed and wrapped in clear plastic wrap. Also, please include a listing of items in the basket with their value. Items in the basket must be new and current.

Baskets are due by March 26, 2022 and are to be dropped off at Becky Goldenberg's, 1270 Firethorne Drive, Easton PA. If you have any questions, please contact either Becky or Karol.

Public Policy

The information below is taken from the January 2022 Highlights put out by our AAUW-PA Public Policy Chairs.

In case you missed the first in the series of Public Policy webinars, you can access it below:

Exploring Tough Policy Issues Through an AAUW Lens: Political and Non-Partisan at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/>

The Public Policy team shared highlights of our proud non-partisan, yet very political, history. We reviewed how our current AAUW priorities are developed and how members can advocate those positions going forward.

Pennsylvania's school funding lawsuit is well underway. Weekly updates on what has happened in court are posted on the AAUW-PA Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/AAUWPennsylvania>

Information on the court case can also be found at **Education Voters PA** <https://edvoterspa.org> and at **Fund Our Schools PA** <https://www.fundourschoolspa.org/>

The Pennsylvania redistricting maps have been issued for the PA House and Senate. Use the link below to see how our district might change with the new maps.

https://www.spotlightpa.org/news/2021/12/pennsylvania-redistricting-house-senate-districts-lookup-tool/?mc_cid=3dcda812aa&mc_eid=343f447f14

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: Susan McNamara



February 21, 7:00 pm
 Hostess: Fran Kennedy
 Book: **Circling The Sun** by Paula McLain

Rotating Gourmet

Chair:



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

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging

Chair: Rosemary Baker



February 23, 7:00 pm
 Hostess: Meet on Zoom
 Topic Indigenous People

International Relations

Chair: Fran Kennedy



February 22, 1:30 p.m.
 Hostess: Zoom meeting
 Topic: Education for Marginalized Populations in Australia and New Zealand

Afternoon Bridge

Chair: Rosemary Baker



Contact Rosemary if interested in playing bridge again.

Out To Lunch

Chair: Claire Degnan



All members welcome.

Call Claire with restaurant suggestions.

Mah Jongg

Chair: Becky Goldenberg



February 14, 1:30 pm
 February 28, 1:30 pm
 Hostess: TBD, Toni

Tapas Dining

Chair: Yvonne Payne



March 12, 5:00 pm
 Hostess TBD

Stitch and Be

Chair: Yvonne Payne



February 3, 2:00 pm
 Hostess: Yvonne

Women & Science

Chair: Susan McNamara



April, date TBD
 Topic: **Silent Spring** by Rachel Carson and **All We Can Save** edited by Johnson and Wilkinson

American Association of University Women

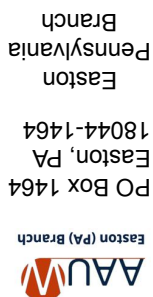
AAUW National	800.326.2289	www.aauw.org
Easton Branch		easton-pa.aauw.net
Leadership Team	Rosemary, Fran, Karol	easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/
Membership	Randi Blauth	easton-pa.aauw.net/membership/
Easton Edition	Toni Hoffman	easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/

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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