

## CALENDAR

### Newsletter Deadline

Friday, April 15

### Branch Meeting

Authors' Luncheon  
Saturday, April 9th

### Board Meeting

Monday, April 4, 7:00 pm

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2022

Spring is the time of plans and projects  
Leo Tolstoy

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, Kate Brandes 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>



## From the Leadership Team

I think we can all agree that we never expected to have a pandemic occur in our lifetimes. It changed our lives, left us diminished in some ways and yet, going forward, we are encouraged that some positive elements are emerging.

We learned to zoom and now we've learned how to have hybrid meetings and programs so that those members who, for one reason or another are not comfortable meeting in person, will still be able to participate.

We are planning for in-person participation from all branch members in our upcoming events such as the Authors' Luncheon on April 9th, our inaugural Girls Recognition Night on May 5th and our May Scholarship Dessert and Award Ceremony on May 17th. **The question is:** Should we try for a hybrid Authors' Luncheon and will it work? Ditto that for our May Scholarship Dessert and Award Ceremony. Stay tuned. Accommodations for zooming for the Girls' Recognition Night, though, are likely because the Nurture Nature Center should have good internet access and all the props we need to set up a laptop and zoom link.

While we're looking ahead to being and working together for the betterment of women and girls, we do so recognizing that the pandemic has brought into sharp relief the many injustices that affect women and girls around the world, in our country and in Pennsylvania. One such injustice is the minimum wage around the country and certainly in Pennsylvania. For example, Pennsylvania's minimum wage, now \$7.25/hour, has not changed for more than a decade.

**This is not a livable wage!**

Governor Wolf did raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour for all Commonwealth employees and recently moved to raise the wages for tipped workers with an update to the 1977 rules that govern how employers pay them. Governor Wolf also included a request in his budget address that the legislature boost Pennsylvania's minimum wage to \$12/hour by July 1, with the eventual goal of raising it to \$15/hour. Time will tell if that request is granted.

Two quotes come to mind - "The minimum wage should be a living wage" said Jon Ossoff, (Senator from Georgia) and from Richard J. Codey (Senator, NJ Legislature) "If a man or a woman puts in an honest day's work, they should be able to earn a living wage."

It's time to vote in legislators who believe in fair pay and a living wage. Use your vote wisely.

Toni Hoffman  
Leadership Team



## New AAUW Community Hub: Create your login!

By now you've likely seen our updates about the newly launched [Community Hub](#), your personal portal into AAUW. If you haven't already, please create your account login. Visit the [Systems Update](#) page for helpful instructions and tutorials on how you can start navigating and accessing your personal and affiliate information. If you have additional questions or feedback, please reach out to [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) or join the weekly [Office Hours](#) on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. ET.

## AAUW Webinars Galore Member Gathering and More

In a January webinar, CEO Gloria L. Blackwell and national board leaders provided important updates about the year to come and reflections on AAUW's 2021 accomplishments. They also listened to members' feedback and answered their questions. Visit the [online archive](#) to watch a recording of the event and any other previous AAUW webinars of interest.

## FY23 National, State and Local Dues Rates

Beginning July 1, the AAUW national dues will be \$67, of which \$64 will be tax-deductible. State dues will remain at \$10.00 and branch dues will remain at \$15.00.

**The National website is under construction. Our Finance Officer, Fran Kennedy, will notify members when it is open so you can renew your membership for 2022-23.**

## Consider Lifetime Membership!

This is a great time for current members to upgrade to lifetime membership for \$1,240, a \$100 savings compared to the cost after June 30. Lifetime membership is fully tax-deductible and allows you to put your values into action for many years to come! Log in to your [AAUW account](#) and upgrade your membership today! As a lifetime member you will continue to pay both state and branch dues.

## 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.**

**DID YOU KNOW**

**A Moment in History**

In 1919 AAUW urged the creation of the U.S. Department of Education. In 1920 members raised \$156,413 toward the purchase of one gram of radium for Professor Marie Curie's research.

**Important Dates**

- April 1** Fun at Work Day
- April 3** World Party Day
- April 10** Siblings Day
- April 12** Grilled Cheese Day
- April 15** File Your Taxes Day
- April 14** International Moment of Laughter Day
- April 17** Haiku Day
- April 22** Jelly Bean Day
- April 25** DNA Day
- April 29** Zipper Day



Just one of the fabulous baskets in the silent auction at our 8th Annual Authors' Luncheon.

Finance Report 3/18/22	Income	Cost
<b>Banking</b>		
Fees		
Interest	\$0.56	
<b>Fundraisers</b>		
Donations	\$217.41	\$10.94
Authors Luncheon	\$1,194.88	\$890.00
Poinsettia Sale	\$545.00	\$293.35
Other Fundraisers	\$350.00	\$200.00
<b>Membership</b>		
Branch Dues	\$634.50	
Brochures		\$32.00
Yearbook		\$42.00
Newsletter		\$44.65
Other Printing		
Insurance		\$200.00
Mailbox		\$146.00
Postage		\$11.00
Publicity		
Miscellaneous		
<b>Officer Expenses</b>		
Membership		
Leadership Team		
Finance Officer		
<b>Programs</b>		
Meeting Rooms		\$150.00
Public Policy		
Scholarship		\$100.00
Speaker Gifts		
Diversity		
Socials	\$440.00	\$578.00
Other Expenses		
Honorariums		\$50.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$3,382.35</b>	<b>\$2,748.34</b>

**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER and BRANCH OPPORTUNITIES**

Dear Members:

Our community needs our help. Cops 'N' Kids of Easton and Sigal Museum offer many volunteer opportunities and one could be right for you. Visit the websites listed below and find your perfect volunteer job. If you like to work with books and children, check out the Cops 'N' Kids website. If quieter activities, such as doing research appeal to you, The Sigal Museum might be your spot. **Keep in mind that there are some opportunities to work with children at the Sigal Museum too.** If you enjoy writing, computing, planning programs, or working with numbers, your BRANCH has a NEED for YOU!

**COPS 'N' KIDS OF EASTON:**                    [www.copsnkidseaston.org](http://www.copsnkidseaston.org)

Click on the 'Support Us' tab and then 'Volunteering' and you'll be taken to a page that has the volunteer application links in Word and PDF format .

Download the Application as a **Word document** that you can complete and attach to an email, or print and send by regular mail.

Download the Application as a **PDF file** that you can print and then fill in by hand.

**Your security clearances will be paid by Cops N' Kids**

**SIGAL MUSEUM:**    Type: SIGAL MUSEUM VOLUNTEER APPLICATION into your internet browser or use this link: <https://sigalmuseum.org/support/volunteer/> to find and fill out the volunteer application.

**AAUW EASTON:** contact any one of our Leadership Team: Nancy Kinzli, Karol D'Huyvetters, Toni Hoffman, Rosemary Baker, Fran Kennedy or Randi Blauth using contact information in your branch yearbooks or go to our website and send us a 'Contact Us' email. We need your help.





## Meet The Authors



Kate Brandes is a creative writer and artist who's also worked as a geologist and environmental scientist for more than twenty years. She's written two novels, *The Promise of Pierson Orchard* (2017) and the forthcoming *Stone Creek* (late 2022). Kate writes stories about rural places and small-town dynamics with underlying environmental themes. Her characters often struggle with setting boundaries and balancing individuality with the desire to be part of a community. She currently teaches geology, creative writing and a course on Landscape, Culture and Story of Place at Moravian University.



**Jennifer Gilmore** is the author of three novels for adults, including *The Mothers*, which is currently being adapted for film with Gilmore writing the script and Executive Producing, *Something Red*, a *New York Times* Notable Book and *Golden Country*, also a *New York Times* Notable Book and a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and the National Jewish Book Award. She is also the author of two young adult novels, *We Were Never Here* and most recently, *If Only*. Her critical and creative non-fiction work has appeared in magazines, journals and anthologies. She has been a MacDowell Colony fellow and has taught creative writing and literature at Barnard College, Cornell University, Fordham University, Harvard University, The New School, New York University, Princeton University, and Sarah Lawrence College. She is currently an Assistant Professor at Lafayette College.



**Joyce Hinnefeld** is the author of the short story collections *Tell Me Everything* (1998; winner of the 1997 Bread Loaf Writers' Conference Bakeless Prize in Fiction) and *The Beauty of Their Youth* (2020) and the novels *In Hovering Flight* (2008) and *Stranger Here Below* (2010), along with other stories and essays. She is a Professor of English at Moravian University in Bethlehem, PA, and the founder and co-director of the Moravian Writers' Conference.

## 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



April 18, 7:00 pm  
Hostess: Carol Inman  
Book: **Ballad of the Sad Cafe** by Carson McCullers

### Rotating Gourmet

**Chair:**



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

### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging

**Chair:** Rosemary Baker



April 27, 7:00 pm  
Hostess: Meet on Zoom  
Topic: Readings from Daughters of the Earth

### International Relations

**Chair:** Fran Kennedy



April 26, 1:30 p.m.  
Hostess: Zoom meeting  
Topic: Education for Marginalized Populations in South Asia

### Afternoon Bridge

**Chair:** Rosemary Baker



Contact Rosemary if interested in playing bridge again.

### Out To Lunch

**Chair:** Claire Degan



All members welcome.

Call Claire with restaurant suggestions.

### Mah Jongg

**Chair:** Becky Goldenberg



April 11, 1:30 pm  
April 25, 1:30 pm  
Hostess: Susan, Lois

### Tapas Dining

**Chair:** Yvonne Payne



Spring date to be determined  
Hostess TBD

### Stitch and Be

**Chair:** Yvonne Payne



April 7, 2:00 pm  
Hostess: Yvonne Payne

### Women & Science

**Chair:** Susan McNamara



April 21, 2:00 pm  
Topic: **Silent Spring**  
by Rachel Carson  
Hostess: TBD

## American Association of University Women

AAUW National	800.326.2289	<a href="http://www.aauw.org">www.aauw.org</a>
Easton Branch		<a href="http://easton-pa.aauw.net">easton-pa.aauw.net</a>
Leadership Team	Nancy, Randi, Toni	<a href="http://easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/">easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/</a>
Membership	Randi Blauth	<a href="http://easton-pa.aauw.net/membership/">easton-pa.aauw.net/membership/</a>
Easton Edition	Toni Hoffman	<a href="http://easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/">easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/</a>

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, 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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