

# The Allentonian

A publication of the American Association of University Women
Allentown, PA Branch
Breaking through barriers!

Susan Nensteil & Karen Peiffer, Co-Presidents

April 2016

Vol. 73 Issue 7

Bonnie Keller, Editor

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Tuesday,
April 12, 2016
7:00 PM
ANNUAL MEETING
ELECTION OF
OFFICERS

Cedar Crest College Tompkins College Center Room 1867

Viewing and Discussion of the film A Place at the Table

A Place at the Table is a 2012 documentary film concerning hunger in the United States.

A Place at the Table shows how hunger poses serious economic, social, and cultural implications for the United States, and that the problem can be solved once and for all, if the American public decides – as they have in the past – that making healthy food available and affordable is in everyone's best interest. (source – Wikipedia.org)

Please remember to bring items for Turning Point to this meeting.

### President's Message

Last month Susan eloquently shared her thoughts about how we can all help to achieve AAUW's mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Allentown members all know what a stellar example Susan herself provides for us. As Spring blossoms around us in the Lehigh Valley, these next few weeks offer a number of opportunities to enjoy ourselves in the company of friends while supporting AAUW goals.

We began March with the Allentown branch Dine and Donate Fundraiser at Louie's Restaurant. On **March 12**, Gloria Blackwell spoke to the Interbranch Luncheon attendees about AAUW's fellowships, grants, and global programs. The three ABE branches gave Gateway to Equity awards at that luncheon. Susan Dickerson, Executive Director of the Allentown School District Foundation accepted Allentown's award to the Foundation, educating everyone about the important role the ASD Foundation plays in the educational life of our community. You may be noticing a gastronomic theme in these gatherings. I think perhaps the conviviality of shared meals energizes us as we learn and work together. There are several more opportunities coming up this spring for supporting AAUW, learning, and enjoying the company of AAUW friends.

- ❖ Tuesday, **April 12**, we will gather for the Allentown branch Annual meeting at Cedar Crest College. We need a quorum to elect officers for the coming term. Rather than feasting, we will confront hunger in the United States as we view and discuss the film *A Place at the Table*.
- ❖ In honor of Women's History month, we will be making our annual gift to Turning Point at the end of March. Linda Roosa and Peggy Tyson are collecting donations.
- ❖ At the Pomfret Club in Easton on **April 9**, the Easton branch will hold its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Authors' Luncheon fundraiser to raise scholarships for women. Authors Kate Moretti, Karen Katchur, and Annarose Ingarra-Milch will discuss their work. Relying on past experience, I am certain that the food will be as good as the conversation.
- ❖ AAUW-PA is sponsoring an **EQUAL PAY DAY RALLY** in Harrisburg in the Capitol Rotunda 10 AM − 11 AM. There will be pre and post-rally briefings at 8 AM and 12 PM in the Harrisburg Hilton Gathering Room.
- ❖ The AAUW-PA STATE CONVENTION with the theme "Women's Leadership in Action" will be Friday April 15 Sunday April 17 at the Chateau Resort and Convention Center in Tannersville. Join women from around the state in discussing issues, advancing AAUW, and having fun.
- ❖ Allentown branch members will meet on **Saturday**, **May 21** for our year-end luncheon at The Masters at Shepherd Hills. Once again, past experience can lead us to expect good food. While we enjoy each other's company, we will have the pleasure of listen to an outstanding speaker, Asali Solomon, 2001 -2202 AAUW fellow and author of the novel *Disgruntled*.

It is obvious that AAUW events and projects could keep the most energetic among us occupied through the coming spring. However, I would like to share one more AAUW opportunity that I think you might find interesting. I took the Implicit Association Test mentioned in the following release from Washington, and I am still puzzled about the reasoning behind the conclusions. I will be waiting to hear what you think of this, and I am looking forward to reading the report that will be published at the end of March. When I learn how to watch the launch event, I will share the information. To access the test, go to the February 18 issue of *AAUW Mission and Action*. Contact me if you need help to get there.

### **Are You Biased Against Women Leaders?**

Knowing about the unconscious associations and connections we hold is the first step toward correcting our biases. That's why AAUW is conducting our own original research on people's associations between gender and leadership, and you can contribute by participating online.

Do you have unconscious bias toward women leaders? Take our new <u>Implicit Association Test</u> to find out! Your participation will help further AAUW's research on gender bias and leadership The March 30 launch event of AAUW's latest research report, <u>Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership</u>, which will feature a panel discussion moderated by Cokie Roberts.

Looking forward to sharing AAUW excitement with you this spring, Karen Peiffer, Co-President

**Board meeting:** *New date:* March 31 has been changed to Monday, April 4, 7PM at Susan Nensteil's home.

### Proposed Slate of Officers

At our Annual Meeting on April 12, 2016, we will vote on the following proposed slate of officers for the next term:

- President Susan Nenstiel
- Program Vice President Jeanne Ring
- Recording Secretary Beverly Tisdale

We need a quorum to elect new officers. Please attend this meeting.

### Interbranch Luncheon



Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> Best Western, Lehigh Valley

Left: Susan Williams, Executive Director, Allentown School District Foundation

Esther Lee, President, Bethlehem Chapter, NAACP

Judith Dickerson, Director, Cops 'n' Kids of Easton

Guest Speaker: Gloria Blackwell, AAUW Vice President of Fellowships, Grants and Global Programs

## Gateway to Equity Awards

Mary Lou Green presents Susan Williams with the 2016 Gateway to Equity Award, Allentown Branch.

Esther Lee – Bethlehem Recipient

Judith Dickerson – Easton Recipient



### Lets Read Math

Our programs in the schools are dependent on the schedules of the teachers. As yet, there are no programs scheduled for April. However, if you'd like to attend our next activity as a participant or observer, send me your name and email address. Jan Seaman -- <a href="mailto:jrouxseaman@gmail.ocm">jrouxseaman@gmail.ocm</a>

## **Public Policy**Lesley Lojko, Public Policy Chair

If you haven't been out of the country or live in a cave I'm sure you are well aware of the primary elections and caucuses which are occurring around the country. Pennsylvania's General Primary is scheduled for April 26 when we will choose the candidates for President, U.S. Senate, U.S. Congress and state representatives to Harrisburg. If you are new to PA please be aware that you must be affiliated with a party and may only vote for that party's candidates. This is only for the primary election. In the national election in November you may vote for anyone regardless of party as well as any independent candidates that may be on the ballot in November. If you are unable to get to the polls, or know of someone who is unable because of physical problems, or will be out of town, please let them know that they can submit an absentee ballot. This is also possible for the election in the fall on November 8, 2016.

Applications for absentee ballots are available for the General Primary at the Lehigh County Board of elections office by calling: 610-782-3198.

Applications for absentee ballots can also be obtained on-line at <a href="www.votespa.com">www.votespa.com</a>. Please contact me if you have no computer or printer and I will gladly get one for you. This application must be submitted to your County Board of Elections no later than 5:00PM on the Tuesday prior to the primary or election. Postmarks do not apply.

The actual ballot that you receive in the mail must be returned to your County Board of Elections Office by 5:00PM on the Friday before the elections. Postmarks do not apply. If hand delivering, only the actual voter may return the ballot. If you find you are able to vote on election day after all, then you may destroy your absentee ballot and vote in person.

Lehigh County Board of Elections: Lehigh County Government Center; 17 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street; Allentown, PA 18101.

Please keep in mind that April 12<sup>th</sup> of this year will be Equal Pay Day when women's pay finally catches up to what men earned for comparable work. Encourage your Pennsylvania lawmakers to vote for the Equal Pay Law (SB 303/HB 1160). You can call their local offices or go on-line. Senator Lisa Boscola represents most of us in our area. There are several state representatives who represent our members. If you are not sure who your state rep is please give me a call and I will do my best to find out for you. Lesley Lojko, Public Policy Chair

### **Branch Notes**

### **LAST CHANCE!** To Make Donations to Turning Point

AAUW Annual Meeting – April 12 Cedar Crest College

This is our opportunity to help make a difference in the lives of women who have been physically and emotionally abused. To this date few donations have been received. We, the Allentown Branch, can demonstrate our compassion and do better for our sisters in need.

Needed:

\$3 all day bus passes

Gift Cards: \$10-\$40 – grocery stores, pharmacies, Wal-Mart, Target, Wawa New Bed Pillows - provide daily comfort

Please give your donations to Peg Tyson, Linda Roosa, to any board member, or take them to the annual meeting on April 12.

Thank you for your thoughtful donations.



### 5K Walk/Run For Freedom

Walk or Run For Her Saturday, April 30, 2016: 9:00am – 11:30am Upper Saucon Township Community Park, 3231 Preston Lane, Center Valley, PA

5k Benefits Truth Home, A Center Helping Victims of Sexual Exploitation.

Online Registration: <a href="https://www.truthforwomen.org">www.truthforwomen.org</a> - 610-866-5755

### Study/Interest Groups

### **Career Women's Study Group**

Barbara Ashley (610-391-1217)

Leader: Annette Bonstedt (610-395-5974)

Thursday evening, April 7, 6:30pm

Visit exhibit "This Light of Ours: Activist Photographers of the Civil Rights Movement"

Meet at the Allentown Art Museum, 31 N. 5th Street, Allentown

Please call or e-mail Maria Welsh at 610-432-4917; mcw@ptd.net, if attending.

#### **Literature of the Past and Present**

Thursday, April 21, 12:30 pm

Muhlenberg College Trexler Library Rare Books Room (Level B)

Hostess: Annette Bonstedt, ph. 610-395-5974

Reviewer: Group Discussion

Book: "Disgruntled" by Asali Solomon

New members are welcome. Please call the hostess if attending.

Recent Literature Leader: Karen Kneifel (610-433-7288)

Thursday, April 14, 12:30 pm

Hostess: Karen Kneifel (610-433-7288) Book: "The Stories" by Jane Gardam

Reviewer: Mary Lou Green

Please phone hostess if unable to attend

Women's Lit Leader: Peggy Tyson (610-797-4199)

Monday, April 18, 7 PM

Hostess: Jane Snyder 610-703-7404

Book: "The Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah

New members are welcome. Please call hostess if attending.

**Diversity, Deeds, and Dialogue Study Group**Chair Ruth Skoglund (610-509-9263)

4th Wednesday in members' homes, 7 pm

Please call chair for more information and if interested in attending.

The Allentonian Please submit news and announcements to the Editor, Bonnie Keller at <a href="mailto:the.baron@rcn.com">the.baron@rcn.com</a>
<a href="mailto:Deadline April 15">Deadline April 15 for May issue</a>
<a href="mailto:Allentown Branch Website:">Allentown Branch Website:</a>
<a href="mailto:http://allentown-pa.aauw.net">http://allentown-pa.aauw.net</a>
<a href="mailto:Check the website for updated">Check the website for updated information and to read The Allentonian online.</a>

Allentown Branch email address is: aauwallentown@yahoo.com

National Website: www.aauw.org State Website: www.aauw-pa.aauw.net AAUW Member helpline: 800-326-AAUW

#### **AAUW MISSION STATEMENT**

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

**AAUW LAF/EF** 

<u>AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND</u> provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sexual discrimination.

<u>AAUW EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION</u> provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.



Bonnie Keller AAUW – Allentown Branch 2413 Kris Drive Allentown PA 18104-1209

> May Luncheon Saturday, May 21, 2016



### Registration and Happy Hour (cash bar available) 11:15 am- Noon

### Luncheon at Noon

### Menu

**Tossed Salad** 

Choice of: Chicken Caesar Wrap, Tuna Salad on Croissant or Roast Beef on Rye (tomato and onion optional)

Pasta Salad Strawberry Shortcake

Coffee, Decaf, Hot Tea and Iced Tea

Cost per person: \$20

### Program follows with awards and installation of officers

	Chicken Caesar Wrap	☐ Tomato	□ Onion
	Tuna Salad on Croissant	$\square$ Tomato	□ Onion
	Roast Beef on Rye	☐ Tomato	□ Onion
	I have special dietary needs.	(Please call S	Susan Nenstiel (610-965-0663) to discuss
enu o	options.)		
ame		Gues	Name

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS – SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2016**