



The Allentonian

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

Susan Nenstiel, President

May 2017

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Bonnie Keller, Editor

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May Luncheon Saturday, May 20, 2017 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

Hamilton Boulevard Building, Cedar Crest College, Room 9.
Margie Peterson, Journalist will speak about how she got into journalism and what it was like to have a column in The Morning Call for 10 years, journalistic ethics and fake news!

Program follows Luncheon with Awards and Installation of Officers

Please click on these links to read two of Margie's stories that would be interesting to AAUW members:

http://articles.mcall.com/2005-02-24/news/3588106_1_pattison-gorilla-mask-school-roof

http://articles.mcall.com/2014-03-08/news/mc-lehigh-valley-women-movement-history-20140308_1_national-women-three-women-history-month

May 6 Branch Meeting Membership Recruitment

Welcome to the "Rights" of Spring Potluck Luncheon at the home of Ginny Delph, 5865 Limeport Pike, Coopersburg, at 12 noon. Bring a prospective member to hear about AAUW's outstanding stars. Select either a savory or sweet dish, or a salad to share. For directions and to RSVP call 610- 965-5756 or email va.delph@lehigh.edu by **April 30**.

President's Message

May is a time to celebrate! We will do so with two events. On May 6th at noon Ginny Delph will host "Welcome to the Rights of Spring" at her home. See further details about this wonderful celebration of AAUW. Please think about someone who might be interested in learning more about AAUW.

Then on Saturday, May 20th our annual luncheon we will be at Cedar Crest College. We are pleased that Cedar Crest has rejoined AAUW as a corporate member. Margie Peterson will be our guest speaker. The League of Women Voters of the Lehigh Valley will receive our 2017 Gateway to Equity Award. Our new officers, Ginny Delph (membership VP), Bev Tisdale (Recording Secretary) and Linda Robbins (Finance Officer) will be sworn in. As always, we will award our Outstanding Woman and Member Making A Difference Awards. I'll have a quick report about our State Convention which was April 21-23 in York.

Enjoy this beautiful time of year! See you May 20th!

Susan

*May Luncheon
Saturday, May 20, 2017
11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.*

MENU

Choice of: (Please check one)

Caesar Salad w/Grilled Chicken Cobb Salad

Soup – Chef's Choice * Dinner Roll

Coffee, Decaf, Hot Tea * Assorted Desserts

Cost per person: \$23.00

If you have special dietary needs, please call Jeanne Ring (484-239-8604) to discuss menu options.

Name _____

Guest Name _____

Note Changes: Make checks payable to: AAUW Allentown and send to:

Jeanne Ring, 5171 W. Hopewell Rd., Center Valley, PA 18034.

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS – FRI., MAY 12, 2017

Public Policy

Lesley Lojko, Public Policy Chair

The following are two areas of concern we are urged by national to be aware of:

According to the AAUW Washington Update, Equal Pay Day didn't end on April 4. "The pay gap is worse for women of color, so there are many Equal Pay Days to come this year. For [Moms](#) we will mark the day on May 23, for [African American](#) women on July 31, for [Native American](#) women on September 25, and for [Latina and Hispanic](#) women on November 2. Congress will be heading home for two weeks starting today. This is a perfect opportunity for you to [meet with your senators and representative](#) in their district offices to let them know about these upcoming Equal Pay Days for women of color and for mothers. "There's no silver bullet to closing the pay gap," says Lisa Maatz. "But if we do nothing, the gap won't close for more than 100 years. It is time for us to put aside politics and do what is right for working women and their families."

The House of Representatives is expected to vote soon on a bill to reauthorize the D.C. private school voucher program. AAUW strongly opposes vouchers and contests that public funds should only be used for public education — not private or religious school voucher schemes that benefit only a few. [Urge your representative to vote NO](#) on the SOAR Reauthorization Act (H.R. 1387) now!

Legal Advocacy Cases

Nancy Moffet, LAF Chair

Gosset v. Lasch, Cooper, Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering, University of Southern California

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects employees from sexual harassment and forbids employers from retaliating against their employees for filing a charge of harassment or speaking out against harassment. Nathalie Gosset, the plaintiff in *Gosset v. Lasch, Cooper, Alfred E. Mann Institute for Biomedical Engineering, University of Southern California*, alleges that she experienced sexual harassment by her employer and was terminated after she reported the behavior. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII, and retaliation against employees who report harassment is alarmingly widespread. Nathalie Gosset has worked for 30 years as an engineer. In a dramatically male-dominated field (just 12 percent of engineers are women), she has built a career and made significant contributions to the advancement of technology. She is also an AAUW member and active AAUW Tech Trek supporter.

In 2003, Gosset was hired by the Alfred E. Mann Institute at the University of Southern California as a senior engineering manager. She went on to become the senior director of marketing and technology innovation evaluation, a position directly below the executive director, Jonathan Lasch. Gosset claims that she was subjected to ongoing sexual harassment by Lasch, who became her supervisor in 2007, and that when she reported the conduct to the senior director of finances and human resources, her claims were disregarded and she faced retaliation for reporting them. After reporting her allegations, she claims that her ability to perform her duties was obstructed, her duties were reassigned, and reprimands were issued. She was terminated in 2015, as was the full four-year scholarship awarded to her daughter by the university through its

tuition exchange program. Gosset is currently in arbitration hearings, claiming a hostile work environment and wrongful termination as well as sexual discrimination, harassment, and retaliation under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. (Adopted September 2016)

Kurz et al. v. Trustees of Indiana University et al.

Although much of the discussion about harassment on campus has focused on peer harassment and assault — students harassing students or faculty harassing faculty — Title IX also protects students from sexual harassment at the hands of faculty and staff. Kurz et al. v. Trustees of Indiana University et al. brings attention not only to the sexual harassment of students by university staff, but also to the serious retaliation those students may face if they speak out.

Several former members of the Indiana University East (IUE) volleyball team filed suit against the school under Title IX, alleging that IUE hired a volleyball coach who the players say sexually harassed them. Players claim that IUE hired the coach despite knowing that he had a history of sexually harassing female athletes. The players also allege that they notified the school of the coach's behavior and IUE refused to protect them. Further, the players claim that when the coach learned about the players' complaint to IUE, he dismissed several of them from the team. The dismissed athletes not only lost the opportunity to play, they also lost their school scholarships, jeopardizing their educational futures. At the time of the harassment, the players say that IUE did not have a Title IX coordinator as required by law. Even after they complained about the coach's behavior, the players claim that IUE did not tell them about their rights under Title IX. Although the players went to several different school administrators for help, they claim that IUE failed to intervene to stop either the harassment or the retaliation that followed when the coach learned about the complaints.

The Kurz case was successfully settled in fall 2016.

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley – A Thank You

Thanks to your generous donations, Linda Roosa and I delivered 44 day bus passes, 4 pillows, 5 gift cards, 72 AA batteries, 4 stuffed toys and various toiletries to Turning Point. I know they appreciate our support.

Peggy Tyson

Study/Interest Groups

Career Women's Study Group

No meeting scheduled for May.

There will be a planning meeting in June- date TBA.

Barbara Ashley (610-391-1217)

Literature of the Past and Present

Thursday, May 18, 12:30 pm

Planning session/luncheon for 2017-2018 book group meetings.

Leader: Annette Bonstedt (610-395-5974)

Hostess: Lesley Lojko, 932 Donald Drive, Emmaus, ph. 610-965-6337
Members are asked to bring a sweet or savory dish to share
New members are welcome. Please call or email Lesley if attending.

Recent Literature

Leader: Karen Kneifel (610-433-7288)

Thursday, May 11, 12:30 pm

Hostess: Sandra Lovett

Book: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

Reviewer: Sandra Lovett

Please call hostess if NOT attending

Women's Lit

Leader: Peggy Tyson (610-797-4199)

Please note changes: Monday, May 15, Noon

Potluck Lunch

Hostess: Margie Weiss 610-398-2136

Book: *Four Spirits* by Sena Maslund

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 the.baron@rcn.com
Deadline May 15 for June issue, No issues in July & August Allentown Branch Website: <http://allentown-pa.aauw.net>
Check the website for updated information and to read *The Allentonian* online.

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

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



Bonnie Keller
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