

The Allentonian

June 2019

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

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President's Message

Dear Friends,

Another AAUW year has passed and so has my presidency. I thank all of you for your support over the past two years and for your passion of our mission. I especially want to thank our board for their support and work the past two years.

I am pleased to report the election results:

The branch unanimously approved the board's recommendation to establish an administrative team of at least five and no more than 10 to work as a committee in directing the branch.

The branch approved the proposed slate of officers:

Susan Nenstiel – finance officer

Peggy Tyson – corresponding secretary

Beverly Tisdale – Recording Secretary

We certainly had great programs this year and our May luncheon was no exception. Elisabeth Cohen was excellent, as was Alan Jennings (whom we hope to have back next year).

At the May meeting, "Change for Change" was introduced. By now you should have received an envelope from me with a change box and instructions. Since the book sale, we have tried to come up with ways to raise funds for AAUW. We continue with the Dan Schantz fundraiser throughout the year. I am happy to see that members are responding to mailings sent by National in support of our mission. Put your loose change in the "Change for Change" box over the next several months. Then in September count your change and write a check to AAUW. We will announce what we have raised at the September meeting. Don't feel like counting change? Bring your box with you.

Even though our meetings cease over the summer, there still are things to do. Be an advocate for women and girls. Visit www.aauw.org for the latest news.

Enjoy the summer (hopefully it won't be a rainy one) and see you in September.

Most sincerely,

Susan

Join the administrative team!

Contact Susan Nenstiel if interested

nenstiel@ptd.net or call 610-965-0663

Tackling a difficult subject, the recent VAST (Valley Against Sex Trafficking) presentation and film at Cedar Crest College was both enlightening and moving.

The free program, open to the public, featured speakers Nani Cuadrano and Sandra Sabbatini, plus a viewing of the VAST PBS movie, *Close to Home*,

<https://video.wlvt.org/video/close-to-home-human-trafficking-fg4bhj/>

In 2018, the Allentown AAUW presented the Gateway to Equity Award to VAST for their work in raising awareness of and taking action to stop human trafficking in the Lehigh Valley.



Clockwise from left: AAUW Allentown president Susan Nenstiel welcomes attendees and speakers; Nani Cuadrano; Sandra Sabbatini; A thank you gift for our speakers



VAST's Mission: Through collaboration, education, and advocacy, VAST empowers survivors and encourages the community to take action in the anti-trafficking movement

VAST's Vision: Eliminate human trafficking/End sexual exploitation

Public Policy

Lesley Lojko, Public Policy Chair

Since AAUW's founding our members and supporters have spoken out about policies important to women and girls. Without their voices, invaluable legislation would have never been passed. In recent years, such legislation included the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.

AAUW's policy work connects and rallies advocates at the local, state, national, and global levels to advance our work to empower women and girls. With the member-endorsed [Public Policy Priorities](#) as our guide, AAUW uses lobbying and grassroots efforts to push forward policies that break through educational and economic barriers for women.

The AAUW Public Policy and Government Relations Department, with input from the member leaders of the AAUW Public Policy Committee, leads AAUW's lobbying and grassroots efforts. However, AAUW member advocates across the country who give their time, energy, and voice to AAUW issues deserve the credit for truly advancing women.

We have many [resources](#) available, and the AAUW policy staff can be reached at 202.785.7793 or advocacy@aauw.org.

Study/Interest Groups

Literature of the Past and Present

Leader: Annette Bonstedt (610-395-5974)

Book reviews will resume Thursday, September 19, 2019.

Check the September Allentonian for further information.

Women's Lit

Date: **June 17**, 7:00 p.m.
Hostess: Jeanne Ring, 484-239-8604
Leader: Peggy Tyson
Book: *Nothing Daunted* by Dorothy Wickenden

Date: **July 15**, 7:00 p.m.
Hostess: Cheryl Hausman, 610-395-2777
Leader: Peggy Tyson
Book: *The Last Days of Night* by Graham Moore

Date: **August 19**, 7:00 p.m.
Hostess: Linda Roosa, 610-966-1459
Leader: Peggy Tyson
Book: *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng

New members are welcome. Please call hostess if attending.



AAUW Allentown members extend our condolences to Linda Cassady on the death of her beloved mother.

Annual Luncheon, Family Style

We celebrated literature, activism, and community at the May Annual Luncheon, held at Melt at the Promenade Shops. Many thanks to Jeanne Ring for organizing this event!



Social justice crusader Alan Jennings, director of the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, accepted the *Gateway to Equity Award* for 2019 on behalf of the organization. As mentioned in Susan's letter, we hope to schedule him as a program speaker soon. You won't want to miss it!

Our keynote speaker was the thoughtful and articulate Elisabeth Cohen, author of *The Glitch: A Novel*, who spoke about her book, her life as a writer, and answered many questions.



Elisabeth with her parents Bonnie and Jay. Bonnie is an AAUW member.

More photos from the annual luncheon



Congratulations to Jeanne Ring (left), who received the “Member Making a Difference Award,” presented by Allentown president Susan Nenstiel.



And congratulations to “Outstanding Woman” recipient Kathy Osmond.



23 guests enjoyed the food and the fun.

Don't forget to support AAUW when you shop at Dan Schantz!

<p>DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE & CUT FLOWER OUTLET www.danschantzgreenhouse.com 610.797.2774</p> <p>2019</p> <p>AAUW Allentown Branch</p> <p>will receive a \$2.00 donation, when this coupon is presented via the APP or paper. Minimum purchase is \$10.00</p> <p>exp 12/25/19</p>	<p>DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE & CUT FLOWER OUTLET www.danschantzgreenhouse.com 610.797.2774</p> <p>2019</p> <p>AAUW Allentown Branch</p> <p>will receive a \$2.00 donation, when this coupon is presented via the APP or paper. Minimum purchase is \$10.00</p> <p>exp 12/25/19</p>
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NO PAPER NECESSARY!!! PLEASE DOWNLOAD OUR APP ON THE GOOGLE PLAY STORE OR THE APPLE APP STORE. IT IS FREE AND WILL MAKE IT HASSLE FREE WHEN SHOPPING AT DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE AND DONATING TO YOUR FAVORITE ORGANIZATION!

The Allentonian

Please submit news and announcements to the editor, Kathy Osmond, at kosmond@fastmail.com
Deadline is August 15 for the September issue. Check the website for updated information and to read *The Allentonian* online.

Allentown Branch Website: <http://allentown-pa.aauw.net>

Allentown Branch email address is: aauwallentown@yahoo.com

National Website: www.aauw.org State Website: 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 Pennsylvania

36 Branches divided into three regional districts—Western, Central, Eastern

1,172 AAUW National members

2,017 Members of Branches (as of February 1, 2018)

6,066 Two Minute Activist Supporters

Public Policy

AAUW Pennsylvania Public Policy Priorities <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/policy/priorities/>

112 Public Policy activities or events 2017-2018. **22** of 36 (61%) branches held at least one activity or event. A [summary](#) report and [detail](#) are sources of ideas for your branch.

Draw the Lines <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/draw-the-lines/>

State Meetings

Summer Retreat	July 27, 2019	Lewisburg
State Conference	April 24-26, 2020	Harrisburg Area

What Your Branch Can Do

- Hold Draw the Lines event
- Sponsor an AAUW Work Smart workshop
- Register voters

Advocacy in a Box <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/advocacy-in-a-box/>

What You Can Do

Sign up for two minute activist. And take action when you receive an alert.

<https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

Become a AAUW Pennsylvania Lobby Corp member for your Pennsylvania Representative and/or Senator. Contact Barbara Price aauwpapp1@gmail.com

Donate to AAUW unrestricted funds. <https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/support-aauw/>

Stay informed: AAUW Pennsylvania website <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/>

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