

# The Allentonian

December 2019/January 2020

Vol. 78 Issue 4



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



## LEADERSHIP

### The A-Team

**Finance Officer**  
**Susan Nenstiel**  
610-965-0663  
nenstiel@ptd.net

**Recording Secretary**  
**Bev Tisdale**  
610-760-1870  
bjtopr@aol.com

**Corresponding Secretary**  
**Peggy Tyson**  
610-797-4199

**Allentonian Editor**  
**Kathy Osmond**  
315-418-8633  
kosmond@fastmail.com

**Ginny Delph**  
**Linda Friscia-Oppe**  
**Mary Lou Green**  
**Cathy Kane**  
**Lesley Lojko**  
**Karen Peiffer**  
**Judy Trach**

*Greetings, Phenomenal Women,*

Often the topics of discussion during board meetings include recruiting new (younger) members, succession planning, and keeping the branch alive. Many of us are already retired and some of us are nearing retirement – I became a Medicare recipient in February! (Good grief, where does the time go?) Frequently, I ruminate on the question ... do I still have time to make an impact in some way?

So, as we approach the holidays and reach the conclusion of another year, I thought it appropriate to share with you the following article printed in the NY Times. First, please accept my warmest wishes to all for a very joyful & peaceful holiday season.

*Linda Friscia-Oppe*

## **What is your legacy?** Source: Simon T. Bailey

Recently, I came across a poem by a woman named Linda Ellis called *The Dash*.

The dash she's talking about is the one between your date of birth and date of death.

You're born a certain year, DASH (--), you die a certain year.

And it made me want to talk to you about legacy. What did you do with your dash? What are you doing to make that clear to the next generation on this planet?

Each and every person has learned things in this time on their planet that could serve someone in

the future. Often, we get so caught up in our day-to-day lives that we forget to take inventory of the wisdom we've gained.

We also forget that we are crafting our legacies *right now*. While we are living! We forget to be intentional with the finite resource of time we have available to us.

(continued on page 2)



You start to plan as if it's already happening. So, legacy looks at:

**1. If you only had 25 summers left to live, how would you make those summers count?**

How would you schedule your vacation out? How would you schedule your days off? How would you schedule the things you wanted to do, the places you wanted to go, the people you wanted to meet? These experiences will fuel your legacy.

**2. How do I move from success to significance?**

For many years, I was chasing success, but now I want to pursue significance. Legacy is tied to: how do I make it about *we*, not about *me*.

**3. Create a video to the next generation telling them about the decades of your life.**

What did you learn? What have others have told you that you want to pass on? What do you intend to do for the rest of your life to add value? For someone who is new to the world, just conceived, or not yet born: the idea that you were thinking of them and you wanted to give a piece of your soul to them as they begin to grow--that is legacy. Because now they have something to aspire to and a way to understand the generational awesomeness of you being so forward-thinking to consider them.

**4. Really step back and celebrate your wins and then reframe what might have been your losses.**

I believe the lesson in any loss is: how do I gain a better perspective? So losses become a way for us to earmark or put a marker to say: "I experienced that loss, and instead of seeing it as a negative, I reframe it and see it as a positive because it built more grit, more fiber, more resilience in life."

As we go into 2020, I invite you to make legacy-building a central focus in your thinking. How you live today, and the choices you make tomorrow, will be what fuels your legacy at the end of your dash.

**Source: Simon T. Bailey**

**life:)**

# Study/Interest Groups

## Literature of the Past and Present

Leader: Annette Bonstedt 610-395-5974

**December 19, 12:30 pm**

Holiday Gathering

Hostess: Annette Bonstedt 1042 N. 38<sup>th</sup> St., Allentown

Please call Annette if attending and sign-up to bring a sweet or savory dish to share.

New members are welcome.

**Thursday, January 16, 12:30 pm**

Muhlenberg College Trexler Library Rare Books Room (level B)

Hostess: Karen Peiffer 610-967-4515

Book: *The Little French Bistro* by Nina George

Reviewer: Annette Bonstedt

## Career Group Christmas Gathering

Date: Thursday, December 19, 2019. 6:30 pm

Hostess: Vicki Schiff  
5320 Fox Run Drive  
Allentown, PA 18103

New Members welcome!

Please email Betsy Walton-Phillips if attending and if you wish to bring an appetizer or a dessert:

[bwpbetsy@enter.net](mailto:bwpbetsy@enter.net)

## Women's Literature

*The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict

Date/Time: January 29, 2:00 p.m.

Hostess: Cathy Kane, 3930 Larkspur Drive,  
Allentown ,  
610-776-8270

Facilitator: Peggy Tyson

New members are welcome.

Please call hostess if attending.

# Public Policy

Lesley Lojko, Public Policy chair

I trust everyone voted in the November 5<sup>th</sup> election and had interesting experiences with the new system. My husband and I sat across from each other at a table that was equipped with pens and the ballot that we filled in like an SAT exam. It was so relaxing that I felt comfortable asking him a question about something until I was reprimanded by a poll worker not to talk to each other. I'll know better next time. Hopefully the election boards will have the kinks worked out in the primary and the next fall election.

Speaking of the next elections: If you are not registered or will be moving, the next registration deadline for the primary is March 29, 2020. You can register on-line, by mail or in person by that date.

The primary election for presidential candidates is April 28, 2020.

The presidential election will be held on November 3, 2020. Please be sure to vote!

The talk we had on Sunday, November 17, was very informative. Allen Jennings spoke about all the good works the CACLV is involved in, in our community. Some of these projects match our AAUW Public Policy issues such as income equality. He is working very hard to make the inner cities of Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton safe and desirable places to live.

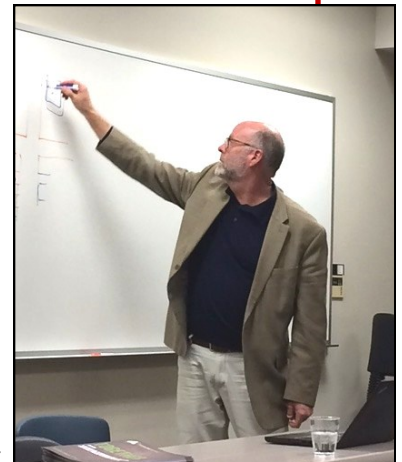
Happy Holidays to all!

## ***"Charity is what you do when there isn't justice."***

-Alan Jennings

Those of us who attended the November 17 presentation by crusader-for-justice Alan Jennings received valuable information about social and economic conditions in the Lehigh Valley, as well as current and planned initiatives to address inequities and improve our communities. A few highlights:

- One third of adults entering the 6th Street shelter are employed
- 1985 was the last time welfare was increased. A family of three receives just \$403 per month.
- The crime rate in Center City Allentown decreased 20% in 2018, vs. 12% in the rest of the city
- The Lehigh Valley will be a majority minority community in 2030, a decade or more ahead of the U.S. as a whole
- Early childhood education is the single best investment a community can make



**GOOD NEWS:** The Community Action Committee of Lehigh Valley has developed and implemented a successful model for neighborhood revitalization which concentrates efforts on a single block and includes façade renovations, micro loans for small businesses, and streetscape improvements. The 7th Street revitalization is an example, as is the area at 4th and Hay Streets in Bethlehem. The next priority is the 200 block of 10th street.

**MORE GOOD NEWS:** A coalition of community leaders, gang leaders, and philanthropists has formed to focus on challenges faced by young people, with the goal of keeping them safe and providing paths for success. Two community centers will be opened in Allentown—one an indoor sports complex, and one oriented to the arts. After-school services will provide academic help to students. AAUW members interested in helping with this project can contact Alan at the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley.

# AAUW – Our Path Forward to Gender Equity

October 2019

Linda Friscia-Oppe

As a facilitator of the Start Smart program, I was very interested to take part in the webinar and listen to the address given by Kim Churches (so were 128 other participants). I was thrilled to learn that AAUW is offering free online access to WorkSmart and that AAUW has dropped licensing fees.

Here are highlights I gleaned from the webinar.

AAUW National has made significant cuts to staff. They had to “right size” the organization due to over spending on resources and not taking in enough funding to cover operating costs and missed opportunities. Staff has been compressed drastically. They also sold the building (prime real estate) on 16<sup>th</sup> Street. New lease for current space is very costly -- \$750K monthly is required to keep afloat.

## *Continuing Challenges to AAUW*

1. US laws have changed slightly, but human behaviors have not. Women are still held back and paradigms are not changing. (1963 Equal Pay Act signed by JFK)
2. There is “increased competition” – various other women’s organizations seek support and funding. Pipelines to revenue are being deferred. Less than 2% of women’s orgs nationwide are getting funding.
3. All organizations are struggling in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This is the trend – youth are not interested in joining. AAUW’s additional hurdle is the overwhelming membership of white women over 70.
4. AAUW’s website is sorely outdated. A new site will be unveiled in a few months.

The latest AAUW strategy to appeal and bring in new audiences is being piloted in NY & DC. The goal is to develop new networks, not necessarily add new individual members. According to diverse focus groups (including men, black women, and LGBTQ), the younger generations are not interested in joining a group, but are willing to be **advocates** for gender equity. They feel strongly about moving the dial in a positive way. They need to be seated at the table with men to reach real solutions.

AAUW cannot be everything to everyone – outreach to a broader community. Funding is needed in specific key areas. Fellowships and grants are not included in the approach as there is \$120M earmarked to help educate women. Helping to insure economic security for women is a goal.

AAUW has a monthly spot (advice column) on CNBC Morning Joe, thus creating a national platform to promote the mission and generate a win-win for funders as well as staff.

*Will AAUW remain relevant today, tomorrow? To be determined.*



**AAUW Allentown  
Financial Report  
July 1, 2019 - November 11, 2019**

<i>Beginning Balance</i>	\$ 27,532.19
--------------------------	--------------

*Income:*

National Dues	590.00
State Dues	110.00
Branch Dues	165.00
AAUW Funds	10.00
Brunch Income	579.00
Change for Change	386.82
Dictionary Fund	15.00
Dan Schantz	478.00
United Way/Kathy Frazier	<u>112.94</u>
	2,446.76

*Expenses:*

National Dues	649.00
State Dues	130.00
Postage	167.35
AAUW Funds	763.82
2019 Payable - Newsletter	68.29
Yearbook	70.00
Program	80.50
Dictionary Project	966.00
Brunch	574.30
Dan Schantz	200.00
Insurance	<u>190.00</u>
	3,859.26

<i>Balance 11-11-19</i>	\$ 26,119.69
-------------------------	--------------



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

<p><b>DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE &amp; CUT FLOWER OUTLET</b> www.danschantzgreenhouse.com 610.797.2774</p> <p><b>2019</b></p> <p><b>AAUW Allentown Branch</b></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>1 80922 00079 8 exp 12/25/19</p> <p>TICKETS MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE PROPERTY OF DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE</p>	<p><b>DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE &amp; CUT FLOWER OUTLET</b> www.danschantzgreenhouse.com 610.797.2774</p> <p><b>2019</b></p> <p><b>AAUW Allentown Branch</b></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>1 80922 00079 8 exp 12/25/19</p> <p>TICKETS MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE PROPERTY OF DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE</p>
<p><b>DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE &amp; CUT FLOWER OUTLET</b> www.danschantzgreenhouse.com 610.797.2774</p> <p><b>2019</b></p> <p><b>AAUW Allentown Branch</b></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>1 80922 00079 8 exp 12/25/19</p> <p>TICKETS MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE PROPERTY OF DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE</p>	<p><b>DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE &amp; CUT FLOWER OUTLET</b> www.danschantzgreenhouse.com 610.797.2774 Lehigh ST @ I78 * BEHIND TURKEY HILL</p> <p><b>2019</b></p> <p><b>AAUW Allentown Branch</b></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>1 80922 00079 8 exp 12/25/19</p> <p>TICKETS MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE PROPERTY OF DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE</p>
<p><b>DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE &amp; CUT FLOWER OUTLET</b> www.danschantzgreenhouse.com 610.797.2774 Lehigh ST @ I78 * BEHIND TURKEY HILL</p> <p><b>2019</b></p> <p><b>AAUW Allentown Branch</b></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>1 80922 00079 8 exp 12/25/19</p> <p>TICKETS MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE PROPERTY OF DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE</p>	<p><b>DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE &amp; CUT FLOWER OUTLET</b> www.danschantzgreenhouse.com 610.797.2774 Lehigh ST @ I78 * BEHIND TURKEY HILL</p> <p><b>2019</b></p> <p><b>AAUW Allentown Branch</b></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>1 80922 00079 8 exp 12/25/19</p> <p>TICKETS MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE PROPERTY OF DAN SCHANTZ GREENHOUSE</p>

**No paper necessary! Download the app on the Google Play store or the Apple app store.**

### *The Allentonian*

Please submit news and announcements to the editor, Kathy Osmond, at [kosmond@fastmail.com](mailto:kosmond@fastmail.com)  
**Deadline is January 15 for the February 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](mailto:aauwallentown@yahoo.com)  
**National Website:** [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) **State Website:** [aauw-pa.aauw.net/](http://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** [aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/](http://aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/)  
*provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sexual discrimination.*



**Kathy Osmond**  
**AAUW - Allentown Branch**  
**1596 Silo Hill Lane**  
**Breinigsville, PA 18031**