

The Allentonian

March 2020

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



LEADERSHIP

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A Message from Leley Lojko:

“Share the Memories”

At our last A-team meeting, Kathy Osmond, our intrepid newsletter editor, pointed out that we have fewer articles and announcements coming in for each issue and she wondered what we can do to make our newsletter more exciting? It was suggested that since we are about to celebrate our branch's 80th anniversary, we would ask our members to share their memories of their years with the Allentown branch.

Since I'm the “Guest Front Page” writer this month, I thought I would share some of my memories of my 43 years as a member of the Allentown Branch.

My first memory is that of the very first meeting I attended at Allentown Symphony Hall when Joan Pearce performed on the piano for us in December. She was a neighbor of one of our members, Ruth Meislin. I believe Anna Nakada was president then. It was quite a great start to my association with the branch. I had moved here from New Jersey with my membership intact, so I was able to transfer fairly easily and thanks to the kindness of several of my Emmaus neighbors who were members, I was able to attend that delightful meeting.

I have wonderful memories of some of the old timers, Ethel Bishop and Alice Wick, who were very strong, outspoken, and very kind women. Ethel recruited a bunch of us to work at a voter registration table at the Farmer's Market in Allentown. That was my first experience with enthusiastic voters and recalcitrant citizens who didn't want to register. Unfortunately I don't recall what election that was, it must have been in the early 80's.

Of course the strongest memory I have of our branch activities was working at the Book Sale. My most indelible memory was of people lined up early in the morning before we opened, with their shopping bags, ready to run to the section of their choice. Another memory was of a shopper who was trying to bargain the price of a bible down from the marked price! Mary Crusius was in charge then, as she was for

many years, and I don't think she gave in considering the price was very reasonable from the start. She very tactfully pointed out to the gentleman that the money was being raised for scholarships for women.

We hope you will share your memories of your years in the Allentown Branch of AAUW. We would love to hear about your experiences, your friendships and how our branch has made your lives more enjoyable over the years. Please send your memories to Kathy Osmond by email or traditional mail. She is in our yearbook. Or you may contact me and I will forward your memories to her.



Celebrate Women's History Month and the 100th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote



**Alice Paul: Women's Suffragist
with
Hallie Vaughan**

Experience the life and times of Alice Paul

Saturday, March 7, 10:00 a.m.

**Lower Macungie Library
3450 Brookside Road Macungie**

Invite your friends and family - this is a Shape the Future Event



Study/Interest Groups



CAREER GROUP

Guided Tour of the Allentown Art Museum's exhibit *COLOR AND COMPLEXITY: 30 Years at Durham Press*

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020, 6:00 pm
Coordinator: Maria Welsh
Allentown Art Museum
31 N. Fifth Street
Allentown, PA 18101
Please call Maria 610-432-4917 if you wish to attend. All members welcome.

Literature of the Past and Present

The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See

Leader: Annette Bonstedt ph. 610-395-5974

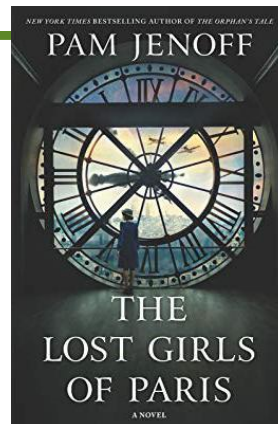
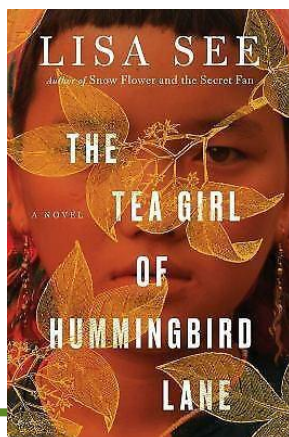
Thursday, March 19, 12:30pm

Muhlenberg College Trexler Library
Rare Books Room (level B)

Hostess and Reviewer: Lesley
Lojko ph. 610-965-6337

New members are welcome.

Please call Lesley if attending.



Women's Literature

The Lost Girls of Paris by Pam Jenoff

Date/Time: March 16

2:00 p.m.

Hostess: Judy Trach
5541 New Street
Wescosville

Facilitator: Peggy Tyson. New members are welcome.

Please call Peggy if attending: 610-797-4199

Public Policy

Lesley Lojko, Public Policy Chair

You may know by now that Pennsylvania is making voting easier beginning with the next Primary Election in April.

According to Paul Muschick in the Valentine's Day edition of the Morning Call, the state will be accepting applications for **mail-in ballots**. Anyone can vote this way as long as you meet the deadlines.

The application for a mail-in ballot must be received by 5 pm on April 21. The completed mail-in ballot must be received by 8 pm on Election Day, April 28.

You can get an application for a mail-in ballot 3 ways:

Apply online at pavoterservices.pa.gov

Go to that website, pavoterservices.pa.gov and print out an application to return to the county office by mail

Go to the Lehigh County elections office at 17 S.7th Street; Allentown

One hint given by Paul Muschick when filling out the form is that you must use the name you used exactly as it is listed when you registered to vote. If you don't know what it is you can check at votespa.com or call the Lehigh County elections office at 610-782-3194.

A final point is about ID. When voting in person, we don't need to show ID, but obviously there needs to be some sort of vetting with a mail-in ballot, which is to list the number on your PA driver's license, or PA non-driver identification card, or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number.

If you have any questions, please call or e-mail me.



THIS COULD BE A “MAKE A DIFFERENCE” MOMENT

At the Alan Jennings presentation in November, some of us expressed an interest in offering concrete assistance to projects designed to improve our communities (specifically Allentown and Bethlehem). Alan said he would meet with us to discuss ways we could help. So far, four people have committed to meeting with him, and **at this time we'd like to get a firm number in order to make a decision to schedule a meeting or not. Please let Susan know, via call or email, if you (or a friend or significant other) are interested.**

Here's a snapshot of a project about to get underway in Allentown:

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.

Making a Difference (a poem to be read aloud)

We are shaking and waking and breaking indifference
We are quaking and taking and making a difference

We are working observing recording researching
Wherein we're conferring subverting referring

We're counting the minutes the moments the loss
Redressing the balance addressing the cost

We are citing and fighting it's all in the writing
The spark is igniting in dark we are lightening

We are breaking the brackets the fact is the planet's
In rackets and rackets of rackets in brackets

The systems the victims the damning the scamming
The biased predicting the beating and banning

The skills we exchange the breaking of chains
The actions sustained the makers of change

To relentless censors the damned and defenceless
Our words are the action the louder reaction

When no one is listening we hear
When heads turn away we volunteer

We work we stand tall we rise up to be counted
We climb mountains

We are shaking and waking and breaking indifference
We are quaking and taking and making a difference

By Lemn Sissay, Chancellor of The University of Manchester

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."

— Edward Everett Hale

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



**NO PAPER NECESSARY! SIMPLY DOWNLOAD THE FREE DAN SCHANTZ APP ON THE
GOOGLE PLAY STORE OR THE APPLE APP STORE (IT'S EASY). NO NEED TO
REMEMBER A PAPER COUPON, AS LONG AS YOU HAVE YOUR PHONE WITH YOU.
AND YOUR GRANDKIDS WILL BE SO PROUD.**

The Allentonian

Please submit news and announcements to the editor, Kathy Osmond, at kosmond@fastmail.com
Deadline is March 15 for the April 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 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/
provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sexual discrimination.

Bethlehem AAUW Booksale

COLLECTION

Collecting for the 58th Annual Book Fair

April 1—22, 2020, 9am—12 pm, Monday—Saturday

Bethlehem Municipal Ice Rink, 345 Illick's Mill Road,
Bethlehem

Help us fund scholarships for college-bound high school senior girls by donating gently used books, DVDs, CDs, and books on tape.



SALE

April 23—27, 2020

Bethlehem Municipal Ice Rink, 345 Illicks Mill Road,
Bethlehem

Thursday, April 23: 2-3 pm \$20; 3-6 pm \$15

Friday, April 24: 10 am—8 pm free entry

Saturday, April 25: 10 am—6 pm free entry

Sunday, April 26: 12—6 pm free entry



Kathy Osmond
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