

# The Allentonian

September 2021

Vol. 80 Issue 1



A publication of the American Association of University Women  
Allentown (PA) Branch

*Breaking through barriers!*

## LEADERSHIP

### The A-Team

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## Public Policy

### Lesley Lojko, Public Policy Chair

Our branch continues to focus on education. In PA we are concerned about the funding of education. PA ranks 44<sup>th</sup> in the country in education funding support. This in turn puts the burden on residents and small business owners in each district. As a result there is unequal funding in districts across the state and underfunding in places like Allentown. Fortunately, the PA school funding lawsuit which has been going on for a number of years is, at last, going before the PA Commonwealth Court in Harrisburg on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

Additionally, State Representative Michael Schlossberg, of Allentown, proposed legislation to add an additional \$100 million to the 100 most financially distressed school districts in PA. The proposal was adopted and will provide an additional \$16.9 million to Allentown School District over last year. This proposal was approved by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Tom Wolf.

For more information, check out Michael Schlossberg's website, or call his office. The number is listed on the website.

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On August 3, Black women earned the equivalent to the earnings a man made the previous year. As you can see, it takes 7 months for a Black woman to catch up to a man – however she will never catch up at that rate. AAUW continues to study the pay equity issue for women.

The Dan Schantz fundraiser was very successful. We sold a total of 24 coupons earning \$10 per coupon. The proceeds will go towards the Dictionary Project at Central School. This month's special is \$2 off of any purchase. **I still have one coupon for \$20 left.** Contact me if you would like to purchase the last coupon. Cathy Kane 610-428-1833 or ckane303@yahoo.com.

**AAUW Allentown Branch A-Team Meeting  
July 20, 2021**



**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM. Zoom meeting lead by Peggy Tyson.

**Members Present:** Cathy Kane, Lesley Lojko, Susan Nenstiel, Karen Peiffer, and Peggy Tyson

**Minutes:** Minutes of April 7, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Need to add Lesley as attended. Motion to accept by Susan and second by Karen. Passed.

**Finance Report:** Report was emailed to A-Team members via email and was reviewed. The entry for program consists of \$150 for Zoom paid last fall and \$116.60 for the booth/table at the Voter Registration Table in Emmaus last fall.

**Membership and Dues:** Currently 42 paid members with 14 honorary or life members. 3 members decided not to renew their membership and there are still 5 who have not yet renewed.

**Program:** The Branch Zoom account will be renewed. Discussion on possible program for September or October. Very difficult to plan with the on-going pandemic. Possibly have an outside meeting/picnic at a location like Lockridge Park. Further discussion at next A-Team Meeting in August.

**Newsletter/Yearbook:** Kathy Osmond is still willing to do the Branch newsletter even though she is no longer a member. It would be wonderful if someone would step forward and volunteer to do this important job for the branch. There will be no August newsletter. Items for the September newsletter are due to Kathy by August 15. Susan is working on updating the information in the yearbook and the branch email list.

**Website:** No report.

**Public Policy:** No report.

**Branch Updates:**

- Book Corner – Cathy will check to see the status of the Lehigh County Assistance Office and whether it is still closed to in- person clients.
- Dictionary Project – no report.
- Dan Schantz – Cathy has one coupon left for sale for \$20.
- Gateway to Equity Award – no report.

**New Business:** PA AAUW Summer Retreat will be this weekend. There is an online auction to raise funds.

By-Laws: Susan will work on updating our Branch By-Laws based on results from National elections.

National News: Kim Church, AAUW Executive Director/CEO is stepping down.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned 7:30 PM.

**Next A Team Meeting will be Thursday, August 17th at 6:30 PM Zoom. Peggy will chair.**

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Kane – Recording Secretary

Jeanette (Jan) Seaman will be moving with her husband, Bill, to North Carolina to be close to their daughter, Gabrielle. This move will take place the middle of September. Jan has been a member of the Women's Literature Discussion Group almost since its inception.

She hopes that her AAUW friends will continue to stay in touch. Jan welcomes visits. We wish Jan and Bill joy in their new adventure.

Her cell phone number and email address will remain the same. Jan's mailing address is:

825 Peninsula Dr.  
Apt. 206  
Davidson, NC 28036

### **A MEMORIAL SERVICE TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF LOIS NOWACK**

Date: Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Time: Calling hour 10:00 am

Service 11:00 am

Lunch following the service

Location: Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer (commonly referred to as Redeemer Lutheran Church)

802 N. 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Allentown, PA 18104

Unfortunately, the church does not have a parking lot, so parking will be on the street.

To assist our planning, please reply to [dlnowack@ptd.net](mailto:dlnowack@ptd.net) if you are likely to attend and if you plan to stay for lunch.

## Literature of the Past and Present

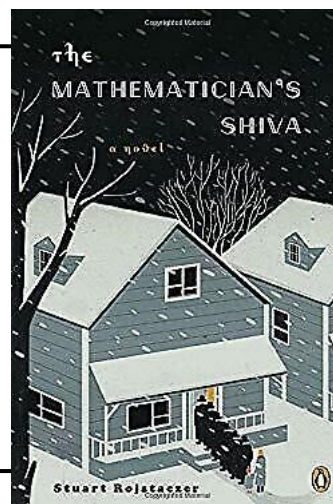
Leader: Annette Bonstedt (610-395-5974)

Thursday, September 16, 12:00 pm via Zoom

Book: *The Mathematician's Shiva* by Stuart Rojstaczer

Reviewer: Nancy Moffett

If attending, please contact Cathy Kane by e-mail  
[ckane@yahoo.com](mailto:ckane@yahoo.com) or phone 610-428-1833.



## Career Group

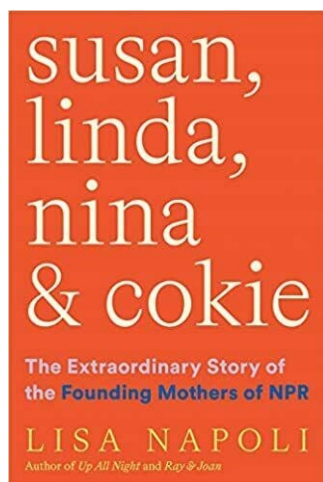
TOPIC: Book Discussion:

*Susan, Linda, Nina and Cokie: The Extraordinary Story of the Founding Mothers of NPR*  
by Lisa Napoli

DATE/TIME: Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 7 PM

LOCATION: Hamilton On The Lake (NOTE: Apartment Name Change; formerly Cedar Beech Plaza), 2248 Hamilton Street, #310 (Corner of 23rd and Hamilton Streets), Allentown, PA 18104, 610.434.5599

HOSTESS: Betsy Walton-Phillips



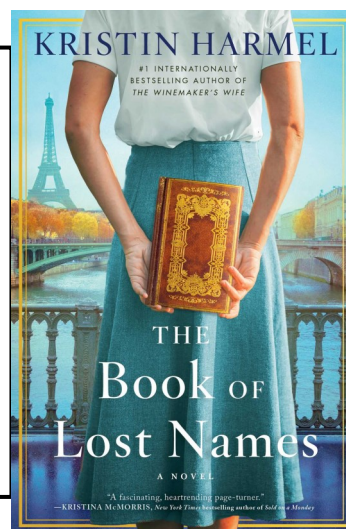
## Women's Literature Group

*The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel

September 19, 2:00 p.m., via Zoom

Zoom will be arranged by Cathy Kane, who will help anyone learn how to participate.

Call her at 610-428-1833.



## Bragging on Branches (and States!)

Virtual festivities take place on August 26 at 3:30 p.m. to celebrate all that AAUW has accomplished together through the [Five-Star Recognition Program](#), and we'll get ready for a new year of Five-Star success. [Register today!](#)

### A FIVE STAR SUCCESS STORY FROM AAUW LANSDALE: COMMIT TO PROCESS

"The success of the Lansdale Branch in attaining Five Stars is attributable to three major factors—leadership, programming and community outreach.

When the program was announced, our co-presidents set the tone by announcing we would go for it! We started with a commitment to do this. The leaders reached out to the branch board to complete the process. The leaders of the branch were confident that our branch met the goals of the program and engaged the board members to identify required information and compile it onto our website for easy transmission to National.

Our programs were all mission-based. We have a program committee that generates ideas while keeping AAUW's mission in mind. Our initiatives include diversity and equity with almost every meeting. Our speakers are diverse, and the topics at our meetings support STEM opportunities for girls.

Our website enhanced our internal and external communication. Our Facebook presence has expanded to promote branch activities, AAUW-PA, and equity for women and girls. This past year our posts have aligned with social justice issues.

We are proud of our efforts to support gender equity as individuals and as a group of strong women. We knew we could do it, and one star at a time, we did."

—Karen Holmes and Suzan Leonard, co-presidents

## *The Allentonian*

Please submit news and announcements to the editor, Kathy Osmond, at [kosmond@fastmail.com](mailto:kosmond@fastmail.com)

*Deadline is September 15 for the October 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**  
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