

The Allentonian

October 2021

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

Breaking through barriers!

LEADERSHIP

The A-Team

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A-Team Message

From A-Team member Cathy Kane

Here it is October, with the leaves beginning to turn, and soon you will be seeing pumpkins everywhere. Your A-Team members continue to work together to come up with branch activities that are meaningful and fun. Coming up with ideas for branch programs in the COVID era is challenging and input from you, the branch member, is always welcome. Contact any A-Team member if you have an idea for a speaker that would be of interest to our group. COVID is still impacting our ability to meet in person, but the Zoom option is a great way to stay connected. If you haven't used Zoom yet and would like to learn, please contact me and I would be happy to show you how easy it can be. Our two book groups are currently still meeting on Zoom, reading and reviewing books by a variety of authors and a wide array of genres. Love to read? Both groups are always open to new members. Check out the calendar for this month's meeting date and book. The Career Women Study Group is planning engaging programs for their group too. But AAUW is more than just book groups and interest groups. It's a deep seated belief in the need for equity for all women and girls in education, the workplace and leadership roles. The AAUW website has a wealth of information on these issues and ways we can all get involved to work towards equity.

THANK YOU.....

to Lesley Lojko who kindly prints the hard copies of *The Allentonian* for those who prefer that format, and to Peggy Tyson for taking care of the mailing details.

**AAUW Allentown Branch A Team Meeting
Aug 17, 2021**



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

Members Present: Ginny Delph, Cathy Kane, Lesley Lojko, Susan Nenstiel, Linda Friscia-Oppe, Karen Peiffer, Bev Tisdale and Peggy Tyson

Minutes: Minutes of July 20, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept by Susan and seconded by Lesley. Passed.

Finance Report: The Finance report was shared on Zoom and was reviewed. Susan has not yet received an invoice for the renewal of Zoom but we will renew so we can continue to have programs, interest groups and A-Team meetings on Zoom. Motion to accept by Peggy and seconded by Cathy. Passed.

Membership and Dues: Currently 58 paid and honorary members. Still 3 members who have not renewed. Jan Seaman is relocating to North Carolina. Judy will contact her and see if she would like us to put her new address etc. in the newsletter.

Program: Still very difficult to plan with the on-going pandemic. Decided against outside program/picnic at a park in September. Discussed having PA Rep. Mike Schlossberg speak in November as a follow up to the PA School Funding lawsuit and his Level Up proposal.

Newsletter/Yearbook: Susan will send updated mail and email addresses to Kathy and Cathy. The yearbook is ready to be printed, omitting programs due to difficulty in scheduling due to the pandemic. Lesley will do the honors of writing the A-Team message for the front page. Her message will be on the branch's Focus on Education. Items for the October newsletter are due to Kathy by September 15.

Website: No report.

Public Policy: Lesley reported on the PA School Funding lawsuit which goes before the court on Sept 9.

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 – Cathy will touch base with Anant Agnihotri, Community School Coordinator to organize this project.

- Dan Schantz – Cathy has one coupon left for sale for \$20.

- Gateway to Equity Award – no report.

- Central Elementary School – Karen will look into ways our branch can help the school either with school supplies, volunteers or other non-monetary assistance.

New Business:

Bylaws: No need to update bylaws as the amendment regarding membership did not get the needed 2/3 vote in order to pass.

Search for replacement for Kim Church, CEO

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned 7:30 PM.

Next A Team Meeting will be Thursday, September 16th at 6:30 PM Zoom. Peggy will chair.

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Kane – Recording Secretary

Public Policy

Lesley Lojko, Public Policy Chair

It's hard to believe that Election Day is soon upon us again, but it is, on November 2, 2021. There is still time to register to vote if you have moved or just turned 18! You can call the Lehigh County Voter Registration office: 610 782-3194. They are very helpful and friendly. You may also request a mail-in ballot from them. You can go to [VotesPA.gov](https://www.VotesPA.gov) to find out what positions are open in your community.

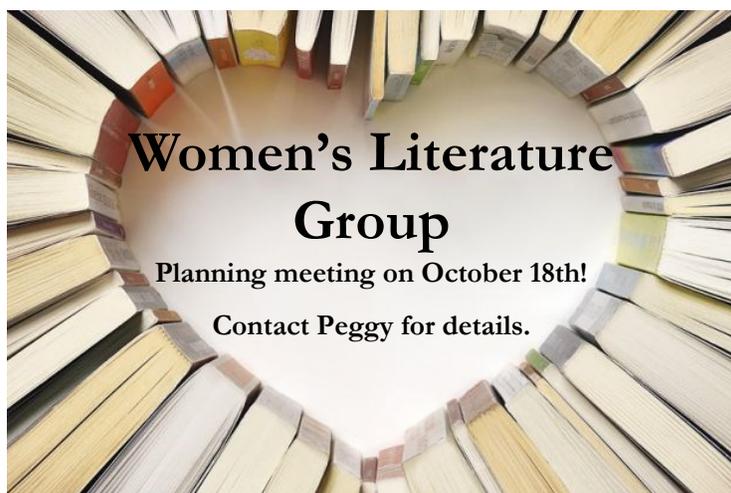
We are continuing to concern ourselves with the public policy issue of education. AAUW is also working with other “advocates” on the issue of paid leave for all that has an impact on education. We learned these past almost 2 years during the pandemic how parents, particularly moms, became teachers at home. Many had to leave their jobs without pay.

According to Kate Nielson, Senior Director of Public Policy, Legal Advocacy and Research for AAUW, “the U.S. is one of the only countries in the world that doesn't provide national paid leave to its workers. When the pandemic hit, the high cost of that failure—to women, workplaces and the entire economy—became painfully clear.”

This failure has affected children across the country and we will not know how this results in their falling behind, for some time to come.

Let your reps in Congress know how important Paid Family Leave is to the future of our children.





Career Women Study Group

October 14, 2021 at 7 pm

Hostess: Ibi Balog, 1522 ½ Chew Street,
Allentown, 610-434-3995 ibalog@verizon.net

Zoom option to be set up for alternative

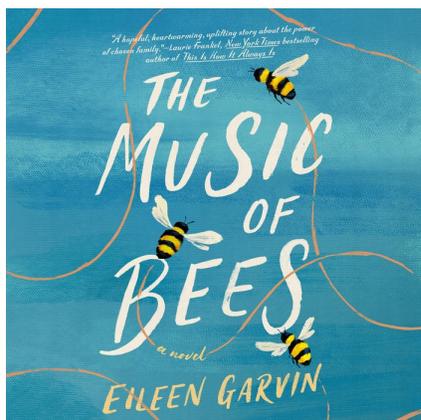


TOPIC: Community Radio and NPR

Speaker: **Cheryl A. Haughney**, REALTOR. ABR, SRS , Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Fox & Roach, formerly Patt, White Real Estate

Cheryl is the president of the board of WDIY and a founding member of WDIY
Lehigh Valley NPR affiliate Community Radio.

Cheryl is a graduate of Clark University and lives in Allentown



Literature of the Past and Present

Leader: Annette Bonstedt (610-395-5974)

Thursday, October 21, 12:00 pm, via Zoom

Book: *The Music of Bees* by Eileen Garvin

Reviewer: Lesley Lojko

If attending, please contact Cathy Kane by e-mail
ckane@yahoo.com or phone 610-428-1833.

Change of address!

Hannalore Blew is now residing at

420 N. Krocks Road #276

Allentown, PA 18106

Phone: 610-398-7873



Hannalore would love you to visit her at her new home.



Any society that fails
to harness the
energy and **creativity**
of its women is at a
huge disadvantage
in the modern world.

Tian Wei

China Global Television Network

The Allentonian

Please submit news and announcements to the editor, Kathy Osmond, at kosmond@fastmail.com

Deadline is October 15 for the November 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.



Kathy Osmond
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