

# The Allentonian

March 2022

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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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“Don’t be breaking  
your shin on a stool  
that’s not in your  
way.”

- Irish saying



## A-TEAM MESSAGE

*From the A-Team of the Allentown Branch of AAUW*

*The A-Team met February 9, 2022, after our most recent branch meeting, in order to determine the next steps to be taken for our Allentown branch to disband. Our next step is to take a vote.*

*A letter will be coming to you in the mail with an enclosed postcard on which you can make your choice of action known. According to the instructions from National, we need to have signatures of all who vote. So it is important for you to sign and return the card (your privacy will be respected).*

*Disbanding our branch does not mean you will no longer be a member of AAUW. Included in the letter will be information about the choices you have to continue or transfer your membership.*

*This has not been an easy decision for any of us. We have made lifelong friends through our association in AAUW, learned about our community, and contributed to the education of many women through our Interrupted Studies grants funded by our book sales, and other fundraisers.*

*Thank you.*



March  
Branch  
Program

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Let's celebrate Women's History Month!**

Our March program will be a presentation by Moravian Museum docent Mary Brown on the importance of education for girls among the early Moravians. She will tell us how, in 1742, a sixteen year-old girl founded Moravian Seminary for Young Girls, which was the first all-girls school in the American colonies, and would later become Moravian College. Imagine how unprecedented this was for the 18th century! Please join us Thursday, March 17, at 7 pm, for what promises to be a very informative and entertaining program. Watch for an email providing the Zoom link.

**AAUW Bethlehem announces the return of their annual Book Fair in 2022**

The 60th annual Book Fair will be held April 28-May 2, 2022,  
at the Bethlehem Ice Rink, 345 Illick's Mill RD, Bethlehem, PA 18017.  
Since the book fair began in 1962, \$979,000 has been raised for scholarships for  
high school girls and adult women.  
This year our goal is to reach \$1 million in net sales.

*Donation of gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and audiobooks will be accepted April  
4 to April 26, Mon. – Sat. 9 AM to Noon.*

**Hours are:**

- April 28, 2-6 PM (paid entry required)
- April 29, 10 AM – 7 PM
- April 30, 10 AM -6 PM
- May 1st 12-6 PM (Half-price Day)
- May 2nd 9-12 AM (Bag Day - \$10 a bag)



## AAUW Allentown Branch A Team Meeting

Feb 9, 2022

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM. Zoom meeting lead by Peggy Tyson.

**Members Present:** Ginny Delph, Cathy Kane, Lesley Lojko, Karen Peiffer, Bev Tisdale, Judy Trach, and Peggy Tyson.

**Minutes:** Minutes of Jan 11, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept by Karen and second by Lesley. Passed.

**Finance Report:** No change in financials. Discussion to reimburse Lesley for the ink used to print copies for the branch. She said to consider it a donation to the branch as she and her husband had no idea what amount to even request.

**Membership and Dues:** No report

**Programs:** Zoom program for February 17 at 6:30 PM with Jan Fishler on “What To Do With the Rest of Your Life”. Thank you, Linda, for setting this up.

Ginny has been in contact with Mary Brown from the Moravian Museum of Bethlehem and is trying to secure a date March for a Zoom program on the importance of education for girls and women among the early Moravians. It is noted that March is Women’s History Month.

**Newsletter/Yearbook:** Items for newsletter are due to Kathy O. by Feb 15. Lesley with help from Karen will write the front page article. Cathy will tell Kathy to remove Mary Lou Green from the A Team list and add Bev Tisdale who has been omitted from the list for a while.

**Website:** No report.

**Public Policy:** Lesley let us know that applications for mail-in ballots will be available soon. She will double check on the particulars and report in the next newsletter

### **Branch Updates:**

- Book Corner – Cathy will check with the Lehigh County Office to see about the children’s books stored there. If the books are no longer needed, Cathy will arrange to pick them up and donate them to Central School.

- Dictionary Project – The A Team decided to purchase dictionaries for Central now. Cathy will check with Megan at Central to try to determine how many dictionaries they would need for next fall and if they are able to store them at the school. Then Cathy will order the dictionaries.

-Gateway to Equity Award – No nominee this year.

-Central Elementary School – Ginny will pick up the boxes of books stored at her daughter’s place that were designated for the Book Corner and drop them at Central Elementary School. Bev also has two boxes of children’s books in her garage. Karen offered to pick them up and deliver them to Central. A few members have sneakers for Central and are working to coordinate their delivery. Megan was looking for in-person and/or zoom readers for classrooms for Read Across America Day on March 2. The deadline to let her know has passed but Cathy will check and see if she still needs readers. *Continued on page 4*

*February Minutes, continued*

**Old Business:** Regarding the scholarships (now to be called “gifts”) for women with interrupted studies attending Lehigh County colleges (Cedar Crest College, Penn State Lehigh Valley, Muhlenberg College, DeSales University and Lehigh Carbon Community College), Susan has heard back from all 5 schools. All are happy to receive the funds (\$4000 per school) however Penn State states that they cannot guarantee that the money would go to a woman. The A-Team decided that if the money cannot go to a woman, then we would rescind the offer to Penn State and up the amount given to the other 4 schools to \$5,000 each. Funds will be dispersed soon to be used for either Summer or Fall Sessions.

**New Business:** At the Branch meeting on Feb 2, six branch members attended this Zoom meeting and heard the A-Team discuss the “Dear Sister” letter. They were given the opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts about the future of our branch and their thoughts about AAUW and their time in our branch and what it has meant to them. The A-Team now needs to determine how to move forward and will propose a vote to the branch members on our future. How this will take place is still to be decided. Susan will be in touch with Randy Blauth, State Membership VP on how best to proceed.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned 7:45 PM.

**Next A-Team Meeting will be March 10, 2022 at 6:30 PM on Zoom. Peggy will chair.**

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Kane – Recording Secretary

## Public Policy

Lesley Lojko, Chair

Applications for mail-in ballots for the May 17 Primary election are now available. You may be receiving yours in the mail soon if you have requested them in the past.

Primary Election Day as I just mentioned is Tuesday, May 17, 2022. We’ll be voting for candidates for governor and a U.S. senator to fill Pat Toomey’s seat.

As you must know you may only vote for candidates running in the party in which you are currently registered.

There has been some question as to whether we can vote by mail this coming primary election but when I called the Lehigh County Election Board there was no mention of that from the woman I spoke with. She was very helpful and willing to mail me my application for a mail-in ballot. Some of you may have requested to have an application sent to you for every election. If you don’t receive yours soon don’t hesitate to call them. Their records are quite complete if you have voted before in Lehigh County.

Lehigh County Election Office  
17 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18101-2401  
(610) 782-3194



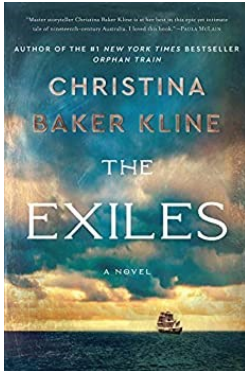
Heartfelt condolences to Ibolya (Ibi) Balogh on the death of her mother, Adela.

**Career Women Study Group**  
Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 4:00 pm

**Program:** Visit the Allentown Art Museum

**Current exhibit:** Eclectic Collecting:  
Curiosities from the Vault

Please call Maria Welsh at 610-432-4917 if you plan to attend



**Literature of the Past and Present**

**Leader:** Annette Bonstedt (610-395-5974)

Thursday, March 17, 12:00 pm via Zoom

**Book:** *The Exiles* by Christina Baker Kline

**Reviewer:** Susan Galius

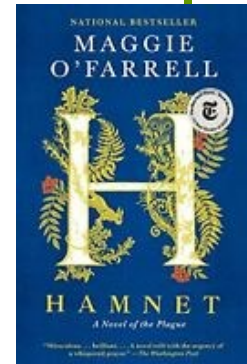
If attending, please contact Cathy Kane by e-mail, [ckane@yahoo.com](mailto:ckane@yahoo.com) or phone 610-428-1833.

**Women's Literature Group**

March 21st, 2:00 p.m.

The group will discuss *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell

Bev Tisdale will be our guest hostess



***The Allentonian***

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



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