

AAUW-PA Summer Retreat 2014

The AAUW-PA Summer Retreat was held on July 12 in Lewisburg with 71 AAUW-PA members in attendance. We were fortunate to have two representatives from the AAUW national office, Laura Stepp, AAUW National Vice President of the Annual Fund, who spoke about AAUW Fundraising Policies and Guidelines answering members' questions on what types of fundraising can be done and where our funds can be spent among other topics; and Deborah Swerdlow, AAUW National Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator, who was part of the presentation on Public Policy giving attendees ideas for thinking outside the box when it comes to advocacy. Also participating in the Public Policy presentations were Tam St. Claire, President, and Nancy Morrill, Past President, of the Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition who talked about the power of coalitions and how to form an advocacy coalition in your community; and our state Public Policy Co-Chairs Toni Hoffman and Susan McNamara, who announced that Pennsylvania has been awarded an AAUW national Public Policy Impact grant, one of nine awarded nationally, in the focus areas of Equal Pay/Economic Self-Sufficiency and Common Core State Standards.

If you were not able to attend this year's retreat, all the PowerPoint presentations and associated links are posted on the AAUW-PA website home page www.aauw-pa.aauw.net.

State Student Advisory Council

AAUW-PA is forming a state Student Advisory Council (SAC) modeled on the AAUW national SAC. The members will consist of up to five full-time undergraduates from College/University partner members of AAUW in Pennsylvania with one member coming from each of the three state districts plus two others. They will serve for one academic year as AAUW ambassadors, to advise the AAUW-PA board on the needs of college students, and lead gender equality projects on their campuses. SAC members will also help plan and participate in appropriate sections of AAUW-PA's Annual State Meeting. The SAC will be directed by an AAUW committee consisting of Linda Tozier, Fran Pierce, Susan McNamara, Connie Schroeder, and chaired by the state C/U Liaison, Deb Roney. This committee will coordinate the activities of the state SAC and mentor them during their work.

National Public Policy Impact Grant Awarded to AAUW-PA

AAUW-PA is honored to have been awarded an AAUW-National Impact Grant Award for a third time. The Priority Issues of this year's AAUW-PA Impact Grant are Economic Sufficiency/Pay Equity and Education/Common Core Curriculum as well as Get Out The Vote (GOTV) activities. Specifically, the Grant provides for programs, events, activities, and projects that will inform our understanding of the issues, encourage our collaboration with organizations and individuals sharing our goals, and prepare us to advocate for those public policies and legislation that will effect change. Branches have already received applications for Mini-Impact Grant awards to help support these goals. We encourage members to get involved now with planning for your branch's public policy projects.

District Meetings Planned for Saturday October 18

All three District meetings will be held on Saturday October 18. The events promise quality programs and will energize all the branch initiatives on this year's public policy issues. Plan to Attend! Lunch will be included and reservations are required. For meeting details, visit <http://aauw-pa.aauw.net/districts/>, or contact your district coordinator: Central District—Cathy Weiland, aauwpacentral@gmail.com, Eastern District—Martha Czop, aauwpaeast@gmail.com, or Western District— Cheryl Towers, aauwpawest1@gmail.com and Nancy Weinstein, aauwpawest2@gmail.com.

Re-Notification of Paper Subscriber Version of *Keystoner* Required

Branch Presidents/Administrators are asked to please review and send your updated list of any branch members who need to receive a paper copy of the *Keystoner* to Pat Byerly, aauwpaad@gmail.com no later than October 1st. Paper newsletters will not be sent to members of branches who have not

supplied the list by this date. Thank you for helping us become more efficient! For 2014-2015 some additional changes will be made in the delivery of the state newsletter, the *Keystoner*. Each branch president will receive one electronic copy to distribute to branch e-subscribers and one paper copy of the *Keystoner*. If you have more than one president, only one of you will get the paper copy.

Call for Nominations for State Officers

AAUW-PA is seeking nominations to fill 2015-2017 terms on the State Board for Finance Officer, Secretary, and Membership Vice President as well as a one year term (2015-2016) for Program Vice President. The state board meets four times annually: in July, October, January, and at April's State Convention or Annual Meeting. Board expenses for attendance at meetings are paid by AAUW-PA. To apply for any of these positions, please complete the Candidate Application which is posted on the AAUW-PA website and return it with a photo to Barbara Price, aauwpabylaws@gmail.com (e-mail is preferred) or send to 133 Liberty Drive, Langhorne, PA, 19047 by October 1, 2014. To recommend a candidate, get a copy of the form or obtain more information, contact Barbara Price by e-mail or at (215) 943-7110 (home) or (215) 208-1475 (cell).

Branch Conversations

Branch Presidents/Administrators will once again be engaged in Conversations with state board members. We will be sending out a list of questions for you and your board/branch to consider prior to the window of October 15-30, 2014. Please discuss these questions with your board and/or branch and be receptive to the state board member who contacts you about setting a time to chat. As always, this is also an opportunity for you to express any concerns or questions you may have.

AAUW-PA Virtual Branch Interest

The state board has recognized the need for the formation of a state-wide virtual branch to serve both those members who cannot participate in a traditional branch, for various reasons, as well as those who belong to a traditional branch but wish the extra experience of a virtual branch. There are over 1,000 national members in our state as well as many recent college graduates who do not currently belong to a branch and a virtual branch may provide the level of engagement in which they are able to participate. A virtual branch can also provide opportunities for branch members to work with other members in the state who are not in their branch. There are many ways to format a virtual branch and to ensure its success we wish to enlist the help of knowledgeable and/or interested members to participate in the formation of the branch and/or serve as its founding officers. If you or someone you know has any knowledge, skills, information to share, etc. in a state virtual branch or you are interested in being a leader in that branch, please contact the state Membership Vice Presidents – Linda Tozier aauwpamembership@gmail.com and Jackie Heaney aauwpamembership2@gmail.com. Additionally, if you are simply interested in joining a virtual branch once formed, the state MVPs would be interested in that information as well, please let them know.