

June 2016 Highlights

Hello everyone,

A Bit of AAUW History

June 1940 – AAUW Assists Refugees

AAUW begins raising money for its War Relief Fund, which assists European scholars and university women who are displaced by the military occupation and no longer able to continue their work. The war relief committee works tirelessly to find teaching positions for these women at American schools and universities by drawing upon connections in the academic community. Individual AAUW branch members also participate by signing immigration affidavits of support. In its inaugural year, the committee raises \$29,950 for distribution with 350 branches contributing. The effort provides assistance to many women and saves many lives.



It's June and that usually means the end of the AAUW year with everyone looking forward to a well-deserved rest over the summer. However, advocacy knows no calendar and doesn't end when summer begins. Now that many activities are on hiatus for the summer, use this extra time to make an in-district visit to your legislator. Get to know the staff. Educate them on the issues important to you. Continue working with your coalition partners and include advocacy in your program planning for the 2016-2017 year.

Are you looking for something just a little different but still under the economic security umbrella to advocate for? Look no further than Child Nutrition Reauthorization. If our children don't have enough to eat, they aren't healthy and they can't learn. Contact Senators Casey and Toomey about strengthening programs for children and supporting The Improving Child Nutrition Integrity and Access Act of 2016.

We have to build the political will to address the many problems facing our country. Use this as a talking point when registering new voters and when conversing with elected

officials. We need to let our elected officials know that we are watching their job performance. We must keep the pressure on our representatives to “do the right thing.”

As we end our tenure as your Public Policy Co-Chairs, we say thank you AAUW Pennsylvania members, thank you for supporting our efforts over these past two years, thank you for all the letters to the editor sent to local newspapers, thank you for all your calls to your elected officials, thank you for responding to our e-blasts in a timely manner, and thank you for showing up in Harrisburg when we asked. We could not have reached as far as we did without your support.

We’re proud to introduce your new immensely capable Public Policy Co-Chairs Barbara Price of the Levittown-Lower Bucks Branch and Ann Pehle of the Carlisle Branch. We know they take public policy very seriously and will take us even further down the advocacy road.

Since the hand-over does not occur officially until July 1, 2016, however, we just couldn’t leave without one last Action Request! **Please be on the lookout for this E-blast for Action** to remind our Pennsylvania legislative leaders that Equal Pay HB 1160 and SB 303 are still buried in committee and need to be brought to the floor for action NOW! It will soon be two months since they gave voice support to Resolutions declaring April 12, 2016 Equal Pay Day. Let’s demand they turn from words to action!

When there’s a vacuum of public input, lobbyists usually fill it. But when there’s public input, the people usually win.

Morgan Carroll, Senator from Colorado

June is:

National Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Month
Candy Month
Gay Pride Month
National Accordion Awareness Month

Important June Dates:

1 Flip a Coin Day
5 World Environment Day
6 National Yo Yo Day
12 Red Rose Day
15 Smile Power Day
20 Finally Summer Day
27 Sun Glasses Day
29 Hug Holiday