

## Leader Log

Dot McLane, AAUW-PA President

Wow! What an interesting election cycle we are having for the presidency of the United States. This truly is a critical election for Americans to decide what America stands for. Perhaps more than any other election it is crucial that we mobilize women to get out and vote. Women are the majority electorate and we can greatly impact the outcome of this election if not outright decide it.

As a reminder, AAUW is a nonpartisan organization that is prohibited from supporting any candidate or party, as hard as that may be sometimes, that is our directive. But nothing prevents us from turning out the vote. Most AAUW members don't have to be reminded to vote, but take some time this fall to encourage your family, your friends, your neighbors, your recent voter registrants, anyone and everyone to vote.

A good website for checking whether someone is registered properly or not, what if any ID is required on voting day, as well as the location of their polling place is [canivote.org](http://www.canivote.org) (<http://www.canivote.org>).

For specific resources on activities that are permitted by AAUW for both 501(c)(4) and 501(c)(3) organizations, the 501(c)(3) organization has more restrictions, visit the AAUW Action Fund website at [aauwaction.org](http://aauwaction.org) (<https://www.aauwaction.org/>).

Remember the phrase: "It's my voice, I will be heard."

## 88<sup>th</sup> AAUW-PA Annual Meeting April 21-23, 2017 Heritage Hills Golf Resort, York

SAVE  
the  
DATE

We already have some wonderful and inspiring things planned for the 2017 AAUW-PA Annual Meeting! Learn how your branch can get ready for the event on page 7. The meeting theme is **Heritage: Diversity is Our Strength**. The February issue of the *Keystoner* issue will provide complete information, which will also be posted at <http://aauw-pa.aauw.net/meetings/conventions/>. —Sandy Homel, AAUW-PA Program Vice President

## AAUW-PA Public Policy Updates

Ann Pehle and Barbara Price Public Policy Co-Chairs

### Impact Grants Awarded



We are pleased to announce that AAUW-PA has awarded mini-impact grants to the Beaver Valley, Indiana County, and Lock Haven branches. Beaver Valley used their grant to distribute the AAUW 2016 Voter Guides, and Pennsylvania online voter registration information and at their 15th Annual AAUW Kitchen Tour. Indiana County hosted Susan Spicka of Education Voters PA to talk about education funding. Lock Haven is sponsoring a reading of *The Vagina Monologues*. Congratulations to these branches on their efforts.

**AAUW-PA signs coalition letter to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services commending HHS**—for its updating of regulations governing the Title X family planning program. In the proposed update, HHS clarified and reinforced the long-standing requirement that health care providers may not be excluded from receiving Title X funding for reasons unrelated to their professional qualifications. The AAUW-PA state board voted to sign onto the letter at the October meeting.

**AAUW-PA becomes an endorsing member organization of Fair Districts Pennsylvania**—this is a coalition of organizations across the state, including the League of Women Voters and Common Cause Pennsylvania, working on redistricting. This has been an issue of interest for AAUW. In Pennsylvania district lines are determined by the state legislature, who may have a vested interest in choosing their voters. States that have implemented impartial, independent citizen commissions have seen more competitive races, more cooperative governing bodies, more equal representation, and more accountable government. Legislation has been introduced to amend the PA constitution to provide for such as impartial citizens commission. Coupled

(POLICY, last page)

## AAUW-Pennsylvania BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### Archives Chair

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[aauwpaarchives@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpaarchives@gmail.com)



## AAUW-PA Fall District Meetings

### Central District

The Central District meeting was held Saturday, October 15 at the Shadow Stone Community Center in Palmyra. Cathy Wieland of Lebanon Valley Branch kindly arranged this venue for us. Our thought-provoking and informative topic, *Sexual Violence on Campus*, was presented by Annie Gebhardt of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape. After speaking with us about sexual violence, Annie asked us to think of ways we could prevent sexual violence on campuses near us. After lunch we played an informative *Get Out the Vote* game led by Ann Pehle, AAUW-PA Public Policy Co-Chair, and discussed upcoming or recent events in our branches.—*Pat Kephart, Central District Coordinator*



### Eastern District

The AAUW-PA Eastern District was held October 22 at Delaware Valley University, with about 50 women attending. The main topic was sexual assault. Jessica Rice, a very knowledgeable and excellent speaker from the Victim Services Center of Montgomery County (<http://www.victimservicescenter.org/>), addressed the group. Mary Onama, VSC Executive Director, also spoke. Chief Albert DiValentino of the Jenkintown Police Department spoke about sexual assault from the point of view of law enforcement. After lunch, AAUW-PA Public Policy Co-Chair Barbara Price reminded us of the importance of voting in national, state and local elections. She also shared that the AAUW-PA Facebook page has a countdown to the election. Thanks go to the Lansdale and Doylestown Branches for hosting the meeting, and especially to Laura Friedman, Sandy Homel, and Susan Shenberger. It would not have been successful without you! —*Brigid Heydt, Eastern District Coordinator*



### Western District

On October 15, members from eight branches met at the Butler County Community College to learn about the three phases of membership: recruitment, engagement and retention. District Coordinator Linda Tozier shared information from the national membership committee that has been used for webinars and for the last two national conventions. For details, visit <http://convention.aauw.org/2015/06/17/presentations-and-materials/>. We discussed branch successes, elevator speeches, and how welcoming their branches are to potential members. We also discussed



*Peggy Schmiedecke  
and Linda Tozier*

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## AAUW Funds Gifts Due December 31<sup>st</sup>

The end of the year is fast approaching and so is the deadline for the 2016 recognition year for your contributions to AAUW funds. The deadline for contributions is **December 31, 2016**.

AAUW-PA branches are very generous in their support of AAUW Funds. Many of our branches select big name restricted funds to support funds such as American Fellowships, the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, etc. and these funds are well endowed.



What about some of the newer, exciting programming such as *Elect Her*, *Member Leader Programs*, *Two-Minute Activist*, *Start Smart/Work Smart*, *Tech Trek/Tech Savvy*? These programs do not have designated funds and rely on contributions to the General Fund #9110 for support. If your branch feels these programs are important and deserve your support, then please consider sending your year-end contribution to General Fund #9110. Unrestricted funds support current exciting AAUW programming and new initiatives. Gifts may also be made to unrestricted funds as an individual via the General Fund #9110 or the *Charting the Course* (CtC) major donor campaign.

**For every \$500 donated to AAUW Funds, your branch is entitled to name one Named Gift Honoree, which should be submitted to me by February 1, 2017.** Please keep AAUW Funds in mind as you conduct your fundraisers. Online gifts may be made at [www.aauw.org/contribute](http://www.aauw.org/contribute). —Rosemary Baker, AAUW-PA Funds Chair

### OFFER YOUR INPUT

The comment period on national bylaws and public policy priorities is open and will end on **December 5, 2016**. To comment, visit:

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/>

#### (DISTRICT MEETINGS, p. 2)

required bylaws changes and using the MSD to keep branch information current. Peggy Schmiedecke shared some public policy materials and the Jolly Rancher ice breaker.

Beaver Valley Branch and Indiana County Branch received public policy mini-grants. Erie and North Hills Pittsburgh Branches discussed their 2016 *Tech Savvy* events.

—Linda Tozier

Western District Coordinator

## NOMINATIONS

AAUW-PA is seeking nominations for the following offices to fill 2017-2019 terms on the state board: **Membership Vice President**, **Secretary** and **Finance Officer**. Job descriptions are available on the state website—<http://aauw-pa.aauw.net/about/nominations/>.

Board expenses for state officers at state meetings are paid for by AAUW-PA. If you are interested in serving on the state board or want to nominate someone, please complete the Candidate Application which is posted on the AAUW-PA website at the above link, along with a good quality head and shoulders photo of yourself. Applications should be sent to Nominations Chair Brigid Heydt, [aauwpaeast@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpaeast@gmail.com) or mailed to her at 450 Maple Street Jenkintown, PA 19046. Email is preferred. The application deadline is open until eligible candidates are identified. Questions? Contact Brigid via email or (267) 231-3953.—Brigid Heydt, Nominations Chair

### AAUW-Pennsylvania OFF-BOARD POSITIONS

#### Bylaws Chair

Susan Nenstiel

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#### Conference Registrar

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### AAUW-PA Vision

AAUW-PA will be a welcoming and inclusive organization that serves as a significant resource and powerful advocate for Pennsylvania branches and members in their work toward achieving AAUW's mission and vision.

### Archives Update

I have finished organizing AAUW-PA archival material, including information from both disbanded and active branches, now viewable at:

<https://archon.klnpa.org/psa/?p=collections/classifications&id=917>

Thanks go to Margie Mowery of the Carlisle Branch for assisting me in this task.

Working with Suzanne Gould (AAUW National Archives), Linda Tozier, and Cathy Wieland (former and current state membership chairs), we created a data base of all branch charters (and if applicable, disbandment dates), name changes, and all past AAUW-PA award recipients. Contact me for help with your branch records.

—Linda Robbins

AAUW-PA Archives Chair



## AAUW Pennsylvania College/University Updates

*Holle Canatella, AAUW-PA C/U Liaison*

October has been a really exciting month on the C/U front. Applications for state grants to attend NCCWSL will be posted in the near future on the AAUW-PA website with announcements sent via e-mail to all student affiliates, C/U reps, branch C/U chairs, and Student Organization advisors. We have a new C/U partner in St. Francis University.

Sarah Best, a member of our AAUW-PA Student Advisory Council in 2015-16 and president of the AAUW SO (student organization) at the University of Pittsburgh, was selected from a national pool of applicants to serve on AAUW's national-level Student Advisory Council. Way to go, Sarah! This achievement marks two years in a row that a student on the national SAC has come from a university in Pennsylvania.

Finally, we welcome four outstanding students to our AAUW-PA Student Advisory Council this year. The SAC will meet for a fall retreat soon where they will begin brainstorming programming ideas for the state meeting in April and discussing other SAC duties. The four women who serve on this year's state-level SAC are:

**Suzanna Carnevali-Doan**, a sophomore double-majoring in Spanish and Sociology at the University of Pittsburgh where she is active in the AAUW SO and a program called Keep It Real, which provides mentoring and tutoring to Somali refugee children in the Pittsburgh area.

**Allison Dushack**, a junior majoring in Business Marketing at Robert Morris University where she also takes part in the campus's Women's Leadership and Mentoring Program and the university's chapter of Strong Women, Strong Girls.

**Virginia Njenga**, a senior Pre-Med major and minor in Women's and Gender Studies at Indiana University of Pennsylvania where she takes part in an impressive number of activities, like Diversity Counts. In 2016 Virginia was involved with the 60<sup>th</sup> United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

**Danita Scott**, a senior Pre-Law/Legal Studies major at the University of Pittsburgh where she is involved with the AAUW SO and an impressive number of other campus organizations including the debate team and Black Action Society. Danita is also a veteran of the United States Army.

We are thrilled to have these four remarkable women activists working with us this year on the Student Advisory Council!

## Branch Donations to Support AAUW-PA Grants to NCCWSL

AAUW-PA has been awarding grants to Pennsylvania college students to attend the AAUW NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders)



held each year in June. The state has set up an application/selection process to select these recipients. If your branch would like to support a student but doesn't have the resources to implement the process, you can send your funds to AAUW-PA in increments of \$500 and the state will use these funds to support a state student through our process.

Any branch(es) interested in this option should contact the state C/U Liaison Holle Canatella [aauwpacu@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpacu@gmail.com) to make arrangements for donating funds, which should be received no later than **March 10, 2017**. (Note: Donating funds to the state for NCCWSL will not give credit to your branch as a national funds donation, since you will be making it to the state organization.)

## Bylaws Revisions Needed

*Susan Nenstiel, AAUW-PA Bylaws Chair*

Although bylaws were updated after the San Diego Convention, the AAUW governance committee found some inconsistencies, confusing and/or contradictory clauses, and errors. To be legal, branches/affiliates now need to update their bylaws according to the model bylaws sent by National and by Susan Nenstiel, State Bylaws Chair.

Branches should have received a document titled *Best Practices for AAUW Affiliate Bylaws* and a second, *How to Use the New Model Bylaws*, which together provide a full picture of how to proceed. There are NO changes in how AAUW deals with its members or affiliates, and our use of the title "branch" does not change because the bylaws refer to us as affiliates.

(BYLAWS, p. 5)

## Sarah Best Named to AAUW National Student Advisory Council

Every year AAUW chooses 10 college student leaders committed to gender equity to serve on the National Student Advisory Council (SAC). Selected from a competitive applicant pool, SAC members advise AAUW on the needs of college students, organize campus activism projects, and assist with AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). Learn more about the ten-member council: <http://www.aauw.org/2016/10/17/ten-up-and-coming-feminist-change-makers/>.

Sarah Best, our 2015-16 AAUW-PA SAC member, has made the national Student Advisory Council! Congratulations, on joining the council, Sarah!

During her undergraduate tenure as an economics and gender studies double major at the University of Pittsburgh, Sarah Best founded the university's AAUW student organization and served on the AAUW of Pennsylvania Student Advisory Council.

Best believes that women deserve equal access in every sphere, including health care, politics, and education. A committed advocate in the reproductive rights community, she worked at the Center for Reproductive Rights during the monumental Supreme Court case *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* and is currently leading initiatives to make reproductive health care safe and accessible in Pennsylvania.



*Sarah Best has made a positive name for herself in Pittsburgh.*



**MORAVIAN AAUW STUDENT GROUP THINKS BIG:** Stacey Zaremba, advisor for the Moravian AAUW student group, reports that they have been busy with the start of the new year. They sponsored a presidential debate watch event and played AAUW Bingo. As shown above, they've been enjoying record turnouts for their weekly meetings. The Moravian AAUW is a leading voice on campus for women's issues and activism.

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS!

*Cathy Wieland, AAUW-PA  
Membership Chair*

### **Recruiting New Members**

Are you interested in helping your members learn effective ways to recruit new members? Claudia Richards, AAUW Senior Manager of Branch Relations, gave us some great strategies at the July Leaders' Retreat.

To get started on an effective elevator speech, visit:

<http://www.aauw.org/resource/presentations-to-inspire-your-branch/>

Members can discuss how they explain AAUW to someone unfamiliar with our organization by viewing the video, then looking for key words or ideas from it. Look for the green tab labeled "Write your elevator pitch now." Download and print out the form and guide your members through the process of writing and perfecting their own Elevator Speech.

If you need help finding or using these resources, contact me at [aauwpamembership@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpamembership@gmail.com).

**(BYLAWS, p. 4)**

Branches must submit revised bylaws directly through <http://www.aauw.org/resource/member-services-database> or email to [compliance@aauw.org](mailto:compliance@aauw.org). Please send to Susan Nienstiel at [aauwpabylaws@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpabylaws@gmail.com). **The deadline is JANUARY 17, 2017.** Please contact Susan if you need help or have any questions. Let's work together to be in compliance.



# Branch Bits and Pieces

## CENTRAL DISTRICT

### Lock Haven

Over three days last April, Lock Haven Branch held their annual book sale at the East Campus Gymnasium at Lock Haven University. The air really hummed with activity!



Members of the community look forward to this rite of spring, and use the opportunity to purchase their favorite genres and authors. The final days of the sale is dubbed Bag Day, very popular with the book sale customers, who took advantage of the opportunity to pay only five dollars to fill up a shopping bag with books.

The book sale netted AAUW Lock Haven \$7,000, which the branch uses for scholarships. These scholarships assist both undergraduate and graduate women students from Clinton County in completing their college educations.

Book Sale Co-Chairs Toni Tomasi and Carol Hildebrand, members of the Lock Haven University AAUW student group, and many volunteers worked hard to make the book sale a success. Book donations for next year's sale will be accepted at Ross Library starting in January, and the sale will be held May 4-6<sup>th</sup>.—*Holle Canatella*

## EASTERN DISTRICT

### Lansdale

AAUW Lansdale's program in October featured the *Her Hat Was in the Ring* - a project developed by Dr. Wendy Chmielewski, curator of the Swarthmore College Peace Collection. The project is a database of U.S. women who ran for local, state, and national offices before the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment was passed in 1920. The project has uncovered at least 3,327 women who ran in 4,572 campaigns between 1860 and 1920 and continually adds women candidates as they are discovered. Learn more at:

<http://www.herhatwasinthering.org/>

### Pennsylvania Women Running for Public Office 1873-1920

*From 1873-1919, a total of 16 women ran for public office in Pennsylvania, all for positions on local school boards. All of them won. In 1920, four women ran for U.S. Congress, and although none of them won, their time would come.*



It was a fascinating program and reminded us that Hillary Clinton is not the first woman to run for president. That distinction goes to Belva Lockwood who ran in 1884 and 1888 as a member of the Equal Rights Party. It is important to remember the courageous women who blazed the trail in politics and this website pays great tribute to them.—*Dot McLane*

## WESTERN DISTRICT

### North Hills Pittsburgh

Tech Savvy is an exciting AAUW one-day conference for girls in sixth to ninth grade focusing on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and related careers. We held it last May at La Roche College, with support from Alcoa Foundation, La Roche College AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch, several other AAUW-PA branches, and some National members.



In all, ninety-one girls from 25 school districts participated, doing hands-on STEM activities, and learning "savvy skills" such as college planning, STEM career paths and financial literacy. A complementary program for adults throughout the day provided information about research regarding "Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math," which demonstrates that girls benefit greatly from spending time with women STEM role models. Additional programs discussed the importance of encouraging STEM education and careers. The student and parent attendees also broke into groups to complete a design and engineering challenge.

We closed with remarks from keynote speaker Elisabet Rodriguez Dennehy, who shared ideas on how to *Strengthen Your Inner Voice*. We received lots of positive comments on the day!—*Peggy Schmiedecke*

## AAUW-PA Annual Meeting: April 21-23, 2017

### Calling All Branches: Award Nominations for Annual Meeting

Submissions are due February 15.



Individuals and groups will be recognized at the AAUW-PA Convention (April 21-23, 2017), and included in the AAUW-PA annual yearbook. For individual awards, please provide a well-focused head and shoulders digital photo of the awardee. For Gateway to Equity groups, please send a photo of the activity and/or an organization logo. Send **NOMINATIONS** to the individual(s) reviewing the submissions in the categories below; Send **PHOTOS** to Pat Byerly, [aauwpaad@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpaad@gmail.com).

**GATEWAY TO EQUITY AWARD**—Honors individuals or organizations that have shown by action and philosophy that they advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy or research. More information is available at <http://aauw-pa.net/awards/state/gateway-to-equity/>. Send nomination (50-word limit) to Ann Pehle, [aauwpapp1@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpapp1@gmail.com) or Barbara Price, [aauwpapp2@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpapp2@gmail.com).

**OUTSTANDING WOMAN AWARD**—Awarded to a member of the branch for meritorious service to the branch and to the community. Send submission (50-word limit) to Linda Tozier, [aauwpawest@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpawest@gmail.com).

**MEMBER MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARD**—Awarded to a member who has made a big difference in something important to the branch within the last year. This person needn't be an officer or committee chair. Send nomination (50-word limit) to Cathy Wieland, [aauwpamembership@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpamembership@gmail.com).

**BRANCH HIGHLIGHTS**—Branches are asked to submit a paragraph of their top one or two highlights of the past year (75-word limit) to Cathy Wieland, [aauwpamembership@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpamembership@gmail.com).

## AAUW CEO Search On

AAUW is currently engaged in a search for a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Recently there have been some staff changes in the national organization. In August AAUW's CEO Linda Hallman retired, and in September, AAUW's Chief Operating Officer Jill Birdwhistell resigned. Currently Mark Hopkins, Chief Strategic Officer at AAUW, is serving as interim CEO.

A search committee to engage a new CEO has been appointed by the national Board of Directors which includes Co-Chairs Peggy Williams and Krys Wulff (both former national board members), current national board members Dot McLane, Joanna Amberger, Glenda Price, and Pamela Thiel, former board member Betsy McDowell, and board chair Patricia Fae Ho (ex-officio). The search committee has identified and hired an experienced search firm, DRi Consulting, to aid in the process. The goal is to hire a new CEO by Spring 2017.

## Branch Basket Raffle to Raise LAF Funds

We plan on having a basket raffle at the April convention, to raise funds for AAUW National's Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF). Branch participation is entirely optional. Baskets may be filled with items unique to



the area of the state where the branch is located, or may be created around a theme, such as a kitchen basket.

We ask that the value be in the \$30-50 range. The baskets will be sold through a silent auction. If your branch is interested in contributing a basket, please notify Sandy or Barb by **March 1<sup>st</sup>**.

Sandy Homel, AAUW-PA Program Vice President  
[aauwpapvp@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpapvp@gmail.com)

Barbara Zaborowski, AAUW-PA Conference Coordinator  
[aauwpaconfcoord@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpaconfcoord@gmail.com)

## Website Submissions

Please send news for the AAUW-PA website to Patricia Byerly:

[aauwpaad@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpaad@gmail.com)

## Address Changes

### E-News Subscribers:

Send e-mail address changes and additions to the branch person who manages the e-mail list.

### Paper Subscribers:

Branches, by January 1st, please send an updated address list for paper subscribers to:

[aauwpaad@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpaad@gmail.com)

## Keystoner Deadline

The article deadline for the next *Keystoner* is **February 1**, and it will be delivered by **March 1**.



A part of the North Hills Tech Savvy Day (p. 6), the Girls of Steel robotics workshop (above) and Career Jeopardy (right), were sponsored by Junior Achievement.



Fox Chapel held a Voter Registration and Information Table at the Sharpsville Library. Pictured: Lynn Miller, Phyllis Bianculli, Jo McLean.



### (POLICY, P. 1)

with legislation, the number of representative districts went from 203 to 151 (the senate districts remaining at 50), we may see changes in governance in Pennsylvania.

### *Inaccurate Reporting of Sexual Harassment and Bullying in our Schools*

In the most recent data collected by the U.S. Department of Education, 66% of Pennsylvania Public Schools (K-12) reported zero incidents of sexual harassment in 2013–14. This would be good news if the numbers were believable. That means two-thirds of schools have eliminated sexual harassment and gender-based bullying completely. Many reports, including AAUW's research, refute this. We are taking action, school district by school district, to notify Title IX Coordinators, school administrators, and the public. Visit <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/policy/> for details.

### *The education working group is following several additional issues.*

Fran Pierce and Sandy Homel have joined Ron Cowell's Education Policy Leadership Center's study group on the looming teacher shortage. We are also monitoring the lawsuit concerning the constitutional right to education funding which is currently in the hands of the state Supreme Court after the case was heard in September. Finally, we will continue to follow the budget funding battle and advocate for adequate and fair funding

for all Pennsylvania public school students. To join the education working group chaired by Cheryl Towers, contact Ann Pehle, [aauwapp2@gmail.com](mailto:aauwapp2@gmail.com) or Barbara Price, [aauwapp1@gmail.com](mailto:aauwapp1@gmail.com).

### *Next up for AAUW PA public policy is our Pay Equity lobby day in Harrisburg.*

Please mark your calendars for April 4, 2017 to meet with your legislators about this issue. Start to prepare by reviewing AAUW's latest issue of *The Simple Truth* and the specific breakdown of the gap by congressional district in Pennsylvania. <http://www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/>.

**Be sure to "Like" AAUW-PA on Facebook so you don't miss updates!**

### **2017 AAUW National Convention**

June 14-17 Washington D.C.

**Registration Open:** <http://convention.aauw.org/register/>

**BEST RATES—register by January 14**  
(\$549 for members; \$319 for students)

**EARLY BIRD—register January 15—March 31**  
(\$575 for members; \$335 for students)