

News from around Pa.

Central District led the October District meetings with a presentation on Marcellus shale by York Branch. Their presentation and resources on shale drilling will be available to all on the aauwpa.org website.

The Western District Meeting featured a fascinating presentation by Professor Lu-in Wang on “Not so Few...Women in Law,” which compared and contrasted women in law with “Why So Few” women in STEM and concluded that some of the same factors are holding women back from parity at the highest levels.

The Western District meeting also included an update on activities of the Female Alliance STEM Excellence, which is collaborating with AAUW branches in Southwestern PA to encourage excellence in STEM among the women and girls of this region.

Pittsburgh Branch is now taking orders for its Foods We Learned to Love Cookbook fundraiser. Single copies may be obtained for \$11.95 each. Multiple copy orders are also available, call 412-482-4419 for more information.

Continued on page 2

What on earth is the new Branch TEAL Award?

By Linda Tozier, AAUW-PA Membership VP

In an effort to update the awards presented each year at our annual meeting, AAUW-PA has made a few changes for 2012.

New this year is the **Branch TEAL Award**, given to someone who made a big difference in something important to the branch within the last year. The recipient is chosen by the branch because she may exemplify the spirit of AAUW or perhaps she is an unsung branch hero.

She need not be a branch officer or committee chair. The TEAL Award form can be downloaded from the website. Please send completed forms, including name, photo and a one-sentence description of why this person has been selected to me by Feb. 15.

Because of the limited number of submissions for Branch Emerging Stars, this award has been eliminated. The Outstanding Woman Award remains the same, with submissions due to Outstanding Woman Chair, Suzanne Kerlin, by Feb. 15.

Branch Recognition will be promoted at convention in the form of **Branch Highlights**. This collection of branch activities replaces the branch recognition awards.

Every branch is asked to submit a summary of an event, process, change or initiative to share with other branches. Because this summary is limited to one or two paragraphs, it is recommended that your branch focus on one specific item of which you are proud (something that is working well in membership retention and recruitment, programming, public policy, the list goes on). This may be something old that's still working, something borrowed or changed or

Continued on page 5

President's Message

Looking Backward; Looking Ahead

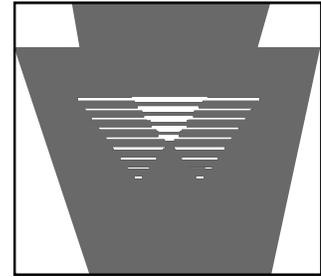
By Margaret McGrath, President

We're fast approaching the end of 2011, with last minute goals to meet and plans for the new year to be made. Looking backward for the 130 years of AAUW existence, we've come a long way. Looking ahead "if I had a dream," there's still much to do, and each small step taken together will become a giant step for womankind.

As the electoral process heats up, AAUW PA needs to decide what contributions we can make toward civil discussions, respectful debates, meaningful progress and reforms. We'll hear suggestions from our government relations staff at the April convention. Collectively we all need to find our voices and be sure they will be heard.

Internally, we also need to decide what type of participation members of AAUW PA will have in the future. Several options were presented at the District Meetings and are posted on the aauwpa.org website. If you'd like to discuss further or share your thoughts on where we're headed, please let me know (mcgrathaaauwpa@gmail.com) We are also trying to collaborate more around the state, and hope to start an Eastern District website soon.

We're also looking forward to seeing many at the April convention in Pittsburgh. The presentations and activities are mostly planned, and its "auld lang syne" quality of new and old friends also fit the holiday season. Best wishes to all until we meet in April.



AAUW-PA

President

Margaret McGrath
mcgrathaaauwpa@gmail.com

Executive Committee

Linda Tozier
Membership Vice President
toz31@yahoo.com

Janice Barrington
Program Vice President
janicebarrington@comcast.net

Susan Norris
Secretary
Sue.norris@verizon.net

Leslie Wachob
Finance Officer
aauwpafin@comcast.net

Nancy Weinreb
Administrative Director
neweinreb@comcast.net

District Coordinators

Barbara Wheatall,
District Coordinator (West)
bawheatall@zoominternet.net

Susan McNamara,
District Coordinator (East)
smc8066@yahoo.com

Carol Heintzelman
District Coordinator (Central)
Carol.heintzelman@millersville.edu

Claudia Mosso
KEYSTONER Editor
aauwpakeystoner@aol.com

Around the state *Continued from page 1*

A AUW-Bethlehem has posted its first program video on its website. Branch members, as well as visitors to the branch's website, www.aauwbethlehempa.org, can now watch the video of September's branch meeting speaker Sara Klingner, RN, manager of the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP), a program of the Visiting Nurse Association of St. Luke's Health Network. The branch chose this agency to receive branch funding this year.

"Our branch is making an extra effort to reach out to younger women considering membership in AAUW; social media can no longer be ignored and we do have members willing to help with postings," Communications Officer Linda Robertson commented.

A AUW How to market your branch tool Kits have been mailed to recipients of the annual starter kit. Info is available from Cindy Miller, millerca@aauw.org

Marcellus Shale focus of sessions

Over 75 members from 12 branches attended the Oct. 22 District East meeting at Northampton Community College, Bethlehem.

With the promise of a panel presentation on the 'hot' public policy issue of Marcellus Shale, members were joined also by friends, spouses, and other interested community folks.

Beginning with the geological perspective offered by Dr. Dru Germanoski of Lafayette College, attendees traveled below the earth's surface to its substructures and back in time thru many geologically formative eras and events that make up the history and biography of Marcellus Shale.

We went upstate to the town of Towanda, Bradford County, presently the heart of drilling territory in the Northeast of PA for a 'bird's eye view' of the impact on the landscape, economy, and culture of the community with Joyce Kerrick, AAUW member, Towanda resident, and Chesapeake Energy Corporation Community Advisory Board leader.

Tracey Carluccio, Deputy Director of Delaware RiverKeeper Network, took us back in time to the age of the Industrial Revolution, dawning and dying, for an understanding of the potential impact of the era of shale drilling on the Delaware River.

Finally, we travelled to Harrisburg to learn from AAUW member and State Senator Lisa Boscola about the status of legislative efforts to address Shale drilling fiscal and environmental issues. Many of us were surprised to learn, for example, that from a geologist's perspective, concern about destruction of aquifers from drilling is largely misplaced.

(Reports of incidents of flaming tap water produced by methane gases from a variety of sources have long pre-dated shale fracking.) Most were unaware that gas companies have created citizen advisory boards and hold regular town meetings in affected communities. Eye-opening as well was the consensus among panelists that the most serious concerns about Marcellus Shale drilling relate to the issue of scope; that is, the risks to landscapes, rivers and streams, water and food, community cultures and economic well-being from an exponential increase in the number of drilling activities,

Panelists also offered suggestions about measures for addressing the concerns including: a moratorium on drilling permits to allow for essential impact analyses and recommendations; strengthened regulations; adequate financing for the state Department of Environmental Protection and especially for support of the staff adequate to meet the health and safety demands posed.

Asked about citizen action, panelists suggested calls to legislators, signing a RiverKeeper petition on the moratorium and/or attending a Delaware River Basin Commission Hearing planned for Nov. 21.

In the afternoon, members turned attention to matters primarily AAUW—national, state, and district: news from the National Convention in June, membership incentives, the SAVE-U petition, the AAUW-PA Public Policy Grant funded voter registration ad campaign, 2014 AAUW-PA nominations, proposals for voting and by-law changes and the April 13-15 Convention.

In the Western District

The Johnstown Branch also held a public meeting on the Marcellus Shale natural gas extraction issue at Pennsylvania Highlands Community College.

David Yoxtheimer, P.G., a hydro-geologist/extension associate with The Pennsylvania State University's *Marcellus Center for Outreach and Research*, presented an "Overview of Marcellus Natural Gas Development in Pennsylvania."

This presentation provided an overview of geology, horizontal drilling, hydraulic fracturing and environmental considerations.

NCCWSL enthusiasm from winners

Over 500 students from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Jamaica attended the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders held June 2-4, 2011, on the campus of the University of Maryland in College Park.

Among them were the three AAUW-PA scholarship winners, a national scholarship winner, and other Pennsylvania students, some supported by their local branch or college. Two of these students will speak at the AAUW-PA conference in April.

To whet your appetite for that presentation and, more importantly, to show you how well your AAUW-PA dollars were spent on our scholarships, we share with you now the experiences of two of the AAUW-PA winners, both highly engaged and accomplished leaders on their campuses.

Stephanie Metal '14, is studying music education at Lebanon Valley College in Annville.

“Attending the National Conference for College Women Leaders was my most anticipated event of the summer,” she said. “When I arrived, I was not disappointed. It was inspiring to hear the stories these diverse women had to share. I feel so honored to have had the chance to share this experience with all of them. I always loved hearing other women speak about their life experiences. It made me realize how similar we all are. No matter where we are from, we all face the same things every day.

“My favorite experience of the conference was the Women of Distinction ceremony [for more information, go to <http://www.nccwsl.org/index.php/wod/>]. I listened in awe as each woman spoke about her achievements and what she needed to overcome in order to be standing in front of us. It made me reflect on the things I could do right now to prepare myself for the future I want. The whole tone of the weekend was about acting now, instead of waiting until it is too late.

“I have already begun applying some of what I learned at the conference to our Women’s Services and Gender Resource Center on campus.

“The workshop on how to be a good CEO helped me realize that in order to keep our women’s center alive, we were going to need to work hard to promote ourselves.

“I was inspired to act as a leader, instead of waiting for someone else to lead me. I am very proud of the achievements of all the women at the conference. Thanks to them, I will be a stronger leader in the future.

“I know I am still growing and attempting to find the best way to take charge of a group, but having the ability to think back to all those wonderful women gives me the inspiration I need to keep trying. I am so grateful for the opportunity to attend the conference, and I hope to be able to attend again next year.

Jade Wronowski '13, is studying health communication at Juniata College in Huntingdon.

“Before the conference began, attendees could choose a preconference activity,” she said. “I volunteered with the set up of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

“The coolest part was that the stages and major activity area was right in the middle of the National Mall! The number of hands and hours that go into such a set up was absolutely astounding. It was really neat and rewarding to volunteer my time in yet another breast cancer fighting event.



Stephanie Metal (left) and Teddi Hermes at NCCWSL. Teddi, an AAUW-PA scholarship winner, and Tori Rehr, a national scholarship winner, will speak at the spring conference.

Continued on page 5

Scholarship winners share insights

Continued from page 4

“At NCCWSL, I listened to countless speakers and held more conversations with young women from all over the country, all over the world, than I could have ever imagined. There were a ton of breakout, “ice-breaker” type things to get everybody talking with people outside their groups, and it was really just empowering standing in the same room with some of those young women.

“Some of the most empowering were those few women who had children, husbands, families, and were back in school pursuing what they really wanted out of life.

“My absolute favorite part of the conference was the speakers. There was not a single one of them that I did not enjoy. Every woman was completely unique in every aspect, but all were fighting for the same thing, equality for women. Humor and storytelling were the most popular methods used to convey their message, and trust me: it really aids the retaining process.

“A close second was the Women of Distinction award ceremony. Every one of these women shared the most compelling stories along with the most valuable advice. My favorite quote of the night came from Connie Chung: “Let people know who you are just by the way you walk into a room.”

“Now that I have become a member of AAUW, I am excited to contribute to the movement towards more equity for women; even the smallest effort here on the small Juniata campus makes a difference.

Consider helping support one or more young women student leaders in your area attend the NCCWSL conference May 31-June 2, 2012, said Deb Roney, AAUW-PA College/University Liaison. “Your branch can offer a full or partial scholarship, you can donate directly to AAUW’s leadership programs, you can donate all or part of a scholarship for PA students (contact Kathy Thrush Shaginaw for details), or you can give the money directly to a student you know who wants to hone her leadership skills.”

By Deb Roney

Awards *Continued from page 1*

something brand new.

Please send your branch highlights (with name and contact information) to Linda Tozier by Feb. 15. Reports may be edited for space. Additionally, branches are strongly encouraged to prepare a Branch Highlights Poster to display at convention.

Gateway to Equity: This branch award recognizes someone in the community who has advanced equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, or research. The award is traditionally given on March 8, International Women’s Day. No changes have been made. Most branches watch for items in the news in the fall, select their awardee in January or February, inform the recipient and arrange a time to present the certificate, issue a press release, and send the info for inclusion in the PA Convention yearbook. Reports should be submitted by March 8 to Toni Simmers.

Special Honorees: If your branch has a longstanding member you believe should receive a special award, please tell us! Contact Margaret McGrath, mcgrathaauwpa@gmail.com.

Public Policy via Facebook

If a tree falls in the wilderness, its' sound won't impact the world.

AAUW PA received an impact grant to dialog and communicate on key issues for AAUW members, and thus to encourage more to register and vote.

We started with the Campus SaVe Act, which would update the rules, reporting and resources available to deal with sexual assault on campus.

We had 164 signatures delivered to Senator Toomey asking him to co-sponsor the act - - and that was before the Penn State scandal. For those who would like to provide additional remarks to Senator Toomey, visit http://toomey.senate.gov/contact_form.cfm.

Our online petition at aauwpa.org will remain open until Senator Toomey ends his silence on this issue.

The next initiative in the pipeline is education. Public school education is near and dear to all in AAUW, and creates an educated citizenry that can participate in the democratic process. We're working on our AAUW PA position on vouchers, but so far the sentiment is that the biggest problem with them is they take the focus and funds away from public school education, which already has funding equity and adequacy issues. Reforms should start where they are needed most.

Please mark your calendars for Friday April 13, to learn more about participating in this democratic process and discourse on government priorities.

AAUW government relations staff will have a workshop to help us make a difference on issues of importance to AAUW PA members.



Bylaws changes now being studied

AAUW-PA is moving toward adopting procedures that will allow for more participation in elections and in other actions that require the vote of members.

The Board will weigh the possibilities that have been tried in other states against the unique characteristics of Pennsylvania's issues and geography in order to craft proposals for amending our bylaws that will accomplish this goal.

At the District meetings in October, a presentation was made to members to solicit feedback on the method of voting preferred by members. Fortunately, there was lots to talk about at the meetings. Unfortunately, the voting discussion was hurried, so we're offering another opportunity for early member input: The District presentations on bylaws are being posted on aauwpa.org, and all are invited to consider the voting options and provide feedback to mcgrathaaauwpa@gmail.com and/or fran-pierce@verizon.net.

We hope to have first drafts of proposals by December. Sometime in late winter, we will then circulate information on the proposed amendments along with rationale on each one.

It is the intention of the board to have these amendments voted on by the members who attend the AAUW-PA Convention in April so that implementation can occur as soon as possible in the next program year.

*F. Pierce, Chairperson
AAUW-PA Bylaws Committee*

Public Policy Impact Grant

AAUW-PA received an impact grant from AAUW to build relationships with women aged 18-30, and to work to increase the number of women who vote. We've chosen to do this primarily through ads on Facebook. We were thrilled when Social Media Coordinator Lisa Frikker-Gruss emailed: "My guess is that the ads have started because we just received 5 NEW Likes within LESS THAN 5 MINUTES from young ladies". **How can you help?** As easy as A, B, C: A) On Facebook, "like" AAUW-PA, our public face. B) If you see something there you like, "like" the post, or C) even better, "share" the post or repost it yourself. Not on Facebook? Ask younger friends and family to friend you, and enjoy sharing more of their lives.

'Cocktails and convos' fun new program

In honor of AAUW's 130th anniversary in November 2011, there is a fun new "Program in a Box (PIAB)" idea that branches can use to increase visibility and recruit new members during November (or any month, once a month, if you like).

It's called **Cocktails and Convos** (short for conversations). This semi-structured event can be held at a restaurant for about two hours on a non-busy evening – Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays are suggested – guaranteeing business for the restaurant and at no cost to the branch.

This is a great way to draw in members of the community in a fun and casual setting where members and nonmembers come together and discuss women's issues. The branch selects the site, chooses a topic to discuss, asks a knowledgeable person to run the discussion and sends out the electronic invitations to members and guests.

Some branches have gotten other groups to co-host. Door prizes are a big hit. Download the program: http://aauw.org/member_center/programs/PIAB.cfm

by Linda Tozier
AAUW-PA Membership VP

AAUW Student Organizations Policy Updates

AAUW is revitalizing its efforts to support the formation of student groups at colleges and universities! Recently, the AAUW Board unanimously passed policy updates about AAUW student groups. Previously termed "AAUW Student Affiliate Satellites," they are now called "AAUW Student Organizations" to better resonate with students and school personnel.

A few additional points of information:

Registration of student groups: Students wishing to register a group should visit the AAUW website to download the [student organization registration form](#). The student organization leader must complete the form and e-mail it back to AAUW at coll-univ@aauw.org. Registration of these groups is processed through the AAUW national office and information about them is shared with branches and states via e-mail.

Student affiliate status and dues: Students who participate in an AAUW student organization and *do not* attend an AAUW college/university partner member school are expected to [pay national dues](#). Those who *do* attend an AAUW college/university partner member school must [register as e-student affiliates](#). No additional branch/state membership dues should be charged to student members of AAUW student organizations.

Graduate student participation: Graduate students are encouraged to participate in AAUW student organizations and/or AAUW branches. Graduate students must [pay national dues](#) as they do not qualify for e-student affiliate status.

For more information about AAUW student organizations, and to read the updated policy in its entirety, please refer to [AAUW Policy 205](#), call [800/326-2289](tel:8003262289), or email coll-univ@aauw.org.

Congratulations to seven Branches Celebrating Significant Anniversaries

Erie (Chartered in 1902) – 110 years;
Huntingdon (Chartered 10/12/1926) – 85 years;
Hazleton (Chartered on 5/31/1932) – 80 years;
Murrysville Area (Chartered on 7/15/1971) – 40 years;
Clearfield Area (Chartered on 1/15/1972) – 40 years;
California (Chartered on 4/1/1972) – 40 years;
York (Chartered on 2/1/1971) – 40 years.



Has your branch planted some AAUW seeds in your community? REAP with AAUW. AAUW supports equity for women and girls through Research, Education, Advocacy and Philanthropy.

By Linda Tozier, Membership VP

AAUW-PA
Keystoner editor
P.O. Box 22
North East, PA 16428

NON-PROFIT ORG
US Postage
PAID
Erie, PA
Permit # 283

Save the date!

AAUW-PA will hold its Convention Friday, April 13, and Saturday, April 14, at the Radisson Doubletree in Pittsburgh.

Plans include something for everyone, ranging from sightseeing, knowledgeable speakers, interesting study sessions and award presentations. There will even be a town hall event and a flash mob for equal pay!



Sign up for the electronic Keystoner.

Just paste <http://aauwpa.org/content/?page id=92> into your browser and fill in the form.