

January 2018 FYI

AAUW-PA State Convention News:

Join us at the AAUW-PA State Convention April 13-15, 2018

Join us for our 2018 AAUW Pennsylvania State Convention and 89th Annual Meeting this April at Seven Springs Resort in Seven Springs, PA, located in Somerset County. Our theme, ***When Women Get Involved the Conversation Changes***, promises to be both informative and inspiring. Complete meeting information, including the agenda, registration form and meeting details can be found on the state website <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/meetings/conventions/> and will be sent out in the February *Keystoner*. The Johnstown Branch will host the meeting, and are looking forward to greeting you at the registration table and welcoming you to Western District hospitality.

The meeting will offer a variety of activities and opportunities that include “getting acquainted,” meeting with counterparts, plenary sessions, Campus Action Project report, annual business meeting, workshops, interaction with our college student affiliates, District meetings, awards, musical entertainment, a gift basket silent auction and an AAUW update from National.

Speakers include our very own **AAUW CEO Kim Churches**, **District Attorney of Green County Marjorie Fox**, and attorney for the **Women’s Law Project Jessica Beckett-McWalter**. A presentation of their **Campus Action Project** on Closing the Gender Wage Gap will be offered by Dr. Marta McClintock and students from the **California University of Pennsylvania**. And, the **State Student Advisory Council** members will present on **Intersectional Feminism**.

Our theme will be explored through an array of topics including changing the conversation and moving forward; honing your advocacy voice; breaking gender barriers; learning how oppressive institutions are interconnected; examining issues that affect women’s legal status, health, and economic security; and understanding the politics of gerrymandering.

Six of our local branches will present concurrent sessions on topics that matter to our members. There will also be an opportunity for branch networking. We look forward to seeing you there!

Attention Branches! Photos of *Women in Conversation* Needed for AAUW-PA Yearbook

The theme of our April 13-15 AAUW-PA Annual Meeting is “*When Women get Involved, the Conversation Changes*.” To relate to this theme, we’re hoping to include images of women engaged in conversation in the yearbook that will be distributed at the meeting. If your branch has some well-focused photos of members ***talking with each other*** (rather than all smiling at the camera) please send to yearbook co-editor Connie Schroeder, connieschroeder@gmail.com, by **February 23**. Thanks!

New Format for State Meetings – Alternating Years

The state has been operating under a model in which there is an Annual Business meeting held each April at either a Convention or a shortened 1-1/2-day Annual Meeting, followed by an annual July Summer Retreat meeting. The Board has decided to move to a one state meeting per year format, alternating Convention with July Summer Retreat so that Conventions would occur in April in even-numbered years and the July Summer Retreat would occur in July in odd-numbered years.

Starting in July 2018, the state Annual Business meeting in even-numbered years would occur during the April Convention and in odd-numbered years would most likely occur as part of a scheduled board meeting at which all members in good standing would be notified and invited to participate – we are still working on this format.

Proposed changes to bylaws, proposed resolutions, and adoption of the state Public Policy Priorities business would only occur biannually at the April Convention Annual Business meeting in even-numbered years when an in-person meeting would occur.

Please note this means that there **WILL NOT BE A JULY 2018 SUMMER RETREAT**. The July Summer Retreat will return in July 2019.

AAUW-PA Bylaw Amendment Proposals

The AAUW-PA Board of Directors is proposing several bylaw amendments to be voted upon by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting April 14, 2018, during Convention 2018. Most of these proposals are to accommodate the need to separate the election of state officers from the state Annual Business Meeting – see explanation above about alternating state meetings.

For odd-numbered years in which there would only be a July Retreat, we would not have a mechanism for electing our state officers in person in April. So, the Board of Directors is proposing that we separate the election of state officers from Annual Business meetings to solve this issue. To accommodate this separation, some of our bylaws have to be amended.

In addition to these proposed bylaw amendments, we took the opportunity to review the bylaws in total and are proposing a few other changes that will more accurately reflect the actual practice of the Board of directors. Please visit the state website <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/bylaw-proposals/> to review the current bylaw wording, proposed changes, and rationale for the changes document. If you need a paper copy of the document, please contact the state Administrative Director, Pat Byerly, aauwpaad@gmail.com, and she will mail you a copy.

AAUW-PA Public Policy Priorities Proposals 2018-2020

AAUW-PA's public policy goals are to educate citizens about the impact of public policies on women and girls and to advocate for policies that will advance equity for women and girls. In Pennsylvania, AAUW actively endorses the national AAUW Public Policy Program. AAUW-PA supports good governance, an informed citizenry, and community dialogue on critical issues. Biennial priorities complement national priorities and are a focus for active educational and advocacy efforts by state members.

The priorities proposed and to be voted upon by the membership at the Annual Meeting April 14, 2018 are on the state website <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/public-policy-priorities-proposal/> and will be in the February *Keystoner*.

Basket Fundraiser at Convention

We've raised a lot of funds for AAUW the past few years so we are repeating the basket raffle this year with proceeds to fund the AAUW Fund. 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 tea, kitchen, reader's basket, etc. We ask that the value be in the \$35-50 range. The baskets will be sold through a silent auction. If your branch is interested in contributing a basket, please notify Barbara Zaborowski, AAUW-PA Conference Coordinator, bzabor@pennhighlands.edu by **March 15**.

Branch Tables at Convention

If your branch would like to have table space at the Convention for displaying branch accomplishments or similar, please contact Barbara Zaborowski at bzabor@pennhighlands.edu by **April 1**. Branch sales of items is not being offered.

Candidates for State Elections

Candidates for State elections this year are Ann Pehle for President and Lee Wolfe for Program Vice President. Even though the candidates are running unopposed, it is important to receive the endorsement of our members.

President—ANN PEHLE

Ann has been a member of the Carlisle branch since May 2015. She is currently the President of the Carlisle branch and prior to that served as the Public Policy Chair (2016-2017) and Public Policy Co-Chair (2015-2016). She is also a current AAUW-PA Public Policy Co-Chair. Ann earned a BA in Communication Arts from the University of Wisconsin and an MBA from Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management.

Prior to her retirement in 2011, Ann spent over 30 years as a Human Resources executive from Fortune 125 companies to family-owned businesses. Her areas of success include aligning succession planning, performance management, and career development processes with business strategies and cultures; implementing and administering talent management software; leading global, enterprise-wide projects; and establishing and cultivating strong business relationships.

Ann believes the primary focus of AAUW starts with its Mission and Programs. "AAUW's Mission and longevity sets us apart from other organizations in our communities and on the state level, providing a unique membership opportunity for persons interested in empowering women as individuals and as a community."

"I see two focus areas for AAUW-PA. First, is to represent, support, and implement the AAUW Mission in Pennsylvania. We do this by understanding the Programs and finding opportunities to embody them in Pennsylvania, in part, through statewide coalitions, our Public Policy efforts, and promoting AAUW on college campuses. The second focus of AAUW-PA is to assist branches to fulfill the AAUW mission. This is accomplished through state meetings, facilitating sharing and learning between Branches, and providing guidance to Branches."

Program Vice President—LEE WOLFE

Lee has been a member of the Lansdale branch since 2002. She has served numerous roles in the branch including Co-President, Program Vice President/Co-Vice President for 4 years and Co-Chair of the STEM program Discover Your Future for 8 years. Lee is a professional structural engineer and in that role is also Program Co-Chair and Professional Development Chair for the Women's Transportation Seminar professional society.

Lee earned her BA in Architecture and BS in Civil Engineering from Lehigh University and a MS in Civil Engineering from the Stevens Institute of Technology. Lee is a licensed engineer in PA and NJ and currently works at TranSystems in Philadelphia as a Project Manager responsible for bridge design and structural engineering.

Lee believes her primary focus as State Program Vice-President "would be in expanding and broadening the reach of our Brand through our Programs by ensuring that they are intriguing, timely and engaging to our current and perspective members." Lee plans to "work to make AAUW-PA even better recognized as a provider of networking and knowledge-sharing programs." "I have learned that a member gains so much more from the organization when they come in from the sidelines, roll up their sleeves, and sincerely get involved. If a member is engaged, they will be inspired to participate further and hopefully, remain and become a valued Life Member."

State Officer Elections Voting Procedures

For members NOT attending the Annual State Meeting at Convention, online voting is now open for state President and PVP. **Online voting** is available by visiting the election page <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018AAUWElection> or from information provided in the February Keystone. **Online votes must be cast by midnight on April 6.**

While electronic voting is encouraged, there may be some branch members who require a paper ballot. **If you need paper ballots** for your branch, email Pat Byerly at aauwpaad@gmail.com and let her know if you can print them for that member or if you need the paper ballots mailed to you. Paper ballots **must be received by the Elections and Nominations Chair Dot McLane no later than April 6** OR if one of your branch members is coming to the Annual State Meeting, they can **bring paper ballot votes with them** if they first notify Dot McLane aauwppresident@gmail.com doing so prior to April 6.

For members who plan to attend the Annual State Meeting, they should **NOT vote online or via paper ballot**, they will **vote via voice vote** during the Business Meeting.

State Awards – Last Call

The deadline for sending in Branch Outstanding Woman Awards, Member Making a Difference Award, Gateway to Equity Award Nomination, and Branch Highlights is **February 15**. The forms for Outstanding Woman and Member Making a Difference awards can be downloaded from the state website <http://aauw-pa.aauw.net/awards/>. Information on the Gateway to Equity Award nomination and Branch Highlights submissions are on the state website.

AAUW Funds Named Gift Honorees

Please be sure to forward the names of branch members to state AAUW Funds Chair Rosemary Baker aauwpaAAUWfunds@gmail.com who have been honored as Named Gift Honorees from your branch for contributions of \$500 or more to the national AAUW Funds. **The names of these individuals will be published in the Annual Meeting Yearbook and if attending the Annual Meeting will be recognized with a nametag ribbon indicating they are a Named Gift Honoree and announced during the AAUW Funds awards.** This year again the state **will not** be providing certificates for the Named Gift Honorees. If you would like to request a certificate be prepared by the state for presenting to your branch Named Gift Honorees at one of your branch meetings, please contact the state Administrative Director Pat Byerly aauwpaad@gmail.com and she will be happy to prepare and mail your certificate to you.

Special Honorees at Convention

If your branch wishes to nominate a member for Special Honoree recognition in the Convention Yearbook, contact Dot McLane, President aauwpapresident@gmail.com, with the member's name and description of the reason for the Special Honor **no later than February 15.**

Other State News:

Grants to Attend NCCWSL

If you know college students who would like to hone their leadership skills and meet like-minded women and men, please tell them that AAUW-PA has grants for women and men studying in PA colleges and universities or from PA studying out of state to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

NCCWSL will be held May 30-June 2, 2018, at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD. Applications can be downloaded from the website (<https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/leadership-opportunities-nccwsl/>) and are **due by February 28 at 5 PM** to Dot McLane whose contact info is on the application.

State grants cover the early registration fee, which includes tuition, lodging for two nights, and most meals. Attendees pay for their own transportation to and from College Park and may choose to pay to attend pre-conference activities. If you have questions, please contact Holle Canatella at aauwpacu@gmail.com. Help us get the word out!

AAUW-PA Equal Pay Day Lobby and Rally in Harrisburg – Save the Date of April 10, 2018

It is time to pass pay equity in Pennsylvania. We now have a great pay equity bill, HB1243, which is co-sponsored by Representatives Sims and Davis that covers all the things we want in a pay equity bill. Join AAUW members from across the state and our friends from BPW-PA (Business and Professional Women-Pennsylvania) in the capitol rotunda on **Equal Pay Day, April 10, for a rally at 2:00 pm.** We will **begin our day at 11:00 am with a briefing for visits to your legislators.** We will review material in the packets for your legislators and discuss talking points on pay equity and how to respond if they have

questions or objections. Then it is off to visit with your representatives to thank them for co-sponsoring the pay equity legislation or to encourage them to do so. Lunch will be on your own when it is convenient for you working around your visits.

Start planning your visits with your legislators now. We will only be visiting representatives since the senate is not in session that day. Our focus is to get HB1243 out of committee and voted on in the House. Information will be sent to branch presidents and public policy chairs in March on how to participate locally and how to register if you are coming to Harrisburg.

Branch Events Can be Posted on the State Website

There is a new area on the state website for branches to post their events <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/branch-events/>. If you have a program or similar event you'd like to highlight, send the information to the state Administrative Director, aauwpaad@gmail.com, at least one month before the date of the event to ensure it gets posted.