

# AAUW Pittsburgh Branch

The Newsletter of American Association of University Women - Pittsburgh Branch

Visit us at [www.aauwpgh.org](http://www.aauwpgh.org)

Issue No. 32

April 2013

## March's Program



Nancy Mills was our speaker in March. She gave a very interesting program on the Democratic election process in Allegheny County. She has some very interesting stories about her experience at the convention.

If you missed her program you can still see it on the branch's web site at <http://www.aauwpgh.org/WhatsNew.html>. Just click on the link for the March 2013 Program.



Michele Buford presented Jaime Turek the *Gateway to Equity Award* for her outstanding and passionate efforts to help rescue and acclimate victims of human trafficking. The GTE Award is awarded to individuals, groups, or organizations that have shown by action and philosophy that they advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, or research.

We hope to see Jaime at future Branch meetings.

**Congratulations  
Jaime!!**



Don't miss the AAUW-PA 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting . . .

This month's Pittsburgh Branch meeting will not be held at the PAA.

The AAUW-PA 84<sup>th</sup> Annual State Meeting will be held at Toftrees Golf Resort and Conference Center in State College. The meeting will begin on Friday, April 12, at 6:00 p.m. with a pizza dinner, a brief Town Hall meeting at 7:00 p.m. and the showing of the movie *Miss Representation* at 8:00 p.m.



The meeting continues Saturday, April 13 with a variety of concurrent sessions. The Keynote speaker is Christianne Corbet, author of *Graduating to a Pay Gap*. Lunch will be served at 12:15 and followed by the annual meeting and elections, district meetings, and at 3:00 p.m. the awards ceremony and dessert.

Deadline for registration is April 4. You can register online at <http://aauw-pa.aauw.net/>.

## AAUW MISSION

AAUW advances equity for Women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

## About AAUW

AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

Because AAUW is a 501(C)(3) charitable membership organization, most of your national dues are tax deductible on your personal federal income tax return.

**The Final 2012-2013 Branch  
Meeting will be held  
On May 11, 2013-03-19**



This meeting is considered our annual meeting. The slate for 2013-2015 officers will be voted on by the membership. You must be present to vote.

While the agenda is in the process of being prepared, there will be plenty of business that we need to attend to. Members attending will have the opportunity to voice their opinions about programs and how the branch is being run. You must be present to vote on any issues presented.

## Shape the Future: Teacher Appreciation

The Pittsburgh Branch will hold a "Shape the Future" event. The theme will be "Teacher Appreciation" and the event will be held at Propel Montour Charter School, 340 Bilmar Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15205.

We still need volunteers to help with this event which is to be held on Thursday, April 4 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Won't you please consider lending your support to this event?

Contact Pat Byerly for more information.





## International Women's Day 2013

On the evening of Friday, March 8, International Women's Day, I was able to attend the screening of the Academy award nominated film *The Invisible War*. The event was held at the Friends Meeting House in Oakland and was organized by the Women's League for International Peace and Freedom, the American Friends Service Committee of PA, and the Thomas Merton Center. There were at least fifty people in attendance, mostly women. I shared the feelings of dismay and indignity that they vocalized both before and after the film.

Before the film, three women spoke. The first spoke about how rape, violence, suffering, healthcare inequities, death and displacement make women victims of war -- women and children making up 85% of the victims of wars and occupations. She made the point that while intimidating women, the oppressors also punish men. She emphasized that pregnant women are especially at risk in war. But, she said, women show great strength in pulling things back together after the atrocities of war are over. The second woman had been a witness to the rapes of German women prisoners by Russian soldiers in January 1945. The third woman told the story of a Middle Eastern woman she had known personally who was freed after being beaten for hours, stalwartly refusing to give information to her torturers.

As for the film, this paragraph from the announcement for the event introduced it well.

*Violence against women in war is also experienced within the armed forces. In this country according to the Pentagon's own Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office in 2010, there were an estimated 19,000 cases of rape in the military, a large majority of which went unreported - because the crime of rape is far easier to endure than the humiliation, shunning and punishment that usually accompanies its report. Women raped or abused in the military often have to continue to work with their abusers, if they speak up they will find the burden of proof is on them and in a male dominated society proving the abuse or rape will be a challenging, humiliating experience. Often reporting the rape or abuse will have detrimental repercussions to their careers.*

The movie was a documentary with firsthand accounts of the stories of eight or so women. The movie stated that the U.S. Government estimates that about half a million women have been raped in the military over its history.

Submitted by Marci Henzy

## Pittsburgh Branch Election

New officers for the offices of Program Vice President, Finance Officer, and President will be elected this year at our annual membership meeting held on May 11, 2013.

The Nominations Committee of Karin Neilson (chair), and Gwendolyn Ormes worked very hard during the past couple of months to come up with a slate of one candidate for each office.

Those candidates are Karin Neilson for Program Vice President, Bernie Cerasaro for Finance Officer, and Patricia Byerly for President.



*Karin Neilson*

Karin is our current Program Vice President and looks forward to 2 more years.



*Bernie Cerasaro*

Bernie is currently our Finance Officer. She has done a terrific job of keeping track of our finances and making sure that our tax returns are filed on time.



*Patricia Byerly*

Pat currently serves as Communications Chair and oversees the publication of the newsletter each month as well as keeping our web site current.



Voting will take place at the annual membership meeting in May so please be sure to attend and support the candidates.

## Pittsburgh Branch Officers and Board

### *Elected Officers*

President, Dr. Shari Muench  
[aauwpgh.president@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpgh.president@gmail.com)  
Program Vice President, Karin Neilson  
[aauwpgh.programVP@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpgh.programVP@gmail.com)  
Membership Vice President, Trina Hall  
[aauwpgh.membershipVP@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpgh.membershipVP@gmail.com)  
Finance Officer, Bernie Cerasaro  
[aauwpgh.financeOfficer@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpgh.financeOfficer@gmail.com)  
Recording & Corresponding Secretary, Marci Henzi  
[aauwpgh.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpgh.secretary@gmail.com)

### *Appointed Chairpersons*

Communications/Web, Patricia Byerly  
[aauwpgh.communication@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpgh.communication@gmail.com)  
Public Policy, Advocacy & Diversity,  
Gwendolyn Ormes  
[aauwpgh.publicpolicy1@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpgh.publicpolicy1@gmail.com)  
Michele Buford  
[aauwpgh.publicpolicy2@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpgh.publicpolicy2@gmail.com)

### *Supporting Liaisons and Committees*

Public Relations Liaison, Rosemary Martinelli  
Scholarship Committee Chair, Susan Banerjee  
[aauwpgh.scholarship@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpgh.scholarship@gmail.com)  
Nominations Committee (2012-13), Karin Neilson and Gwendolyn Ormes

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## SAVE THE DATES

Shape the Future: Teacher Appreciation – April 4, 2013

World Book Night – April 23, 2013

This is an event that the board is very excited about. Learn more at

<http://www.us.worldbooknight.org/>

and watch for more information in future issues of the newsletter. It would be great if we can get everyone to participate in this very important event.



AAUW Pittsburgh Branch Blood Drive – spring 2013.

We are working with Chatham University to sponsor a blood drive. Volunteers will be needed to pass out refreshments. More details will follow.



STEM Event planned for September-October 2013

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## Letters to the Editor

Do you have something you want to say? Well, here is an opportunity to let everyone know what you think. If you have something you want to speak out about please say your piece in an email to Pat Byerly at [aauwpgh.communication@gmail.com](mailto:aauwpgh.communication@gmail.com) and watch for it to be published in future issues of *The Newsletter of American Association of University Women - Pittsburgh Branch*.

## ***MPOWERING WOMEN***

### **AAUW-PA 2013 Annual Meeting Program**

**Saturday, April 13, 2013**

AAUW Orientation Friday April 12

Toftrees, 1 Country Club Lane, State College, PA 16803

#### **Friday, April 12**

- 5:30-7:30 Registration
- 6:00-7:00 **Welcome and pizza/salad dinner**  
AAUW Orientation, board introductions  
Nominating and Elections Committee members start certification process
- 7:00-8:15 **AAUW (national) update and Town Hall (PA)**
- 8:30-10:00 Movie: *Miss Representation*

#### **Saturday April 13**

- 8:00-11:30 Registration
- 8:30-10:00 Breakfast
- 9:00-10:00 **Concurrent Sessions Part I**  
Focus on AAUW: membership, student affiliates, national priorities; website  
Book discussions: *Caleb's Crossing*, *Enrique's Journey*, favorite books
- 9:00-11:00 *Chair Massage*
- 10:00-11:00 *Chair Yoga*
- 10:15-11:00 **Concurrent Sessions Part II**  
Leadership: leader coaching and mentoring  
Advocacy: public policy, pay equity, Marcellus shale, human trafficking, CQ Tracking, gun violence  
Learn & Share: icon identification, social media, visibility & publicity, website
- 11:15-11:30 Musical Interlude, Kim Cook
- 11:30-12:15 **Keynote - Christianne Corbett**, author of *Graduating to a Pay Gap*
- 12:15-1:00 **Lunch**
- 1:15-2:15 **Annual meeting and elections**
- 2:15-3:00 District meetings and election of members of Nominating and Elections Committee
- 3:00-4:00 **Awards Ceremony and Desserts**
- 4:00 Adjourn

# AAUW-PA Annual Meeting Registration Form\*—April 12-13, 2013

AAUW-PA 84th Annual Meeting, Toftrees Golf Resort & Conference Center, One Country Club Lane, State College, PA 16803

*\*Online Registration also available. To complete:* <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AAUWPA2013RegistrationForm>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_ First-time Attendee? \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs: Dietary \_\_\_\_\_ Physical \_\_\_\_\_ Need a roommate Friday? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes

*Reminder: You must make your own reservations. See bottom of form.*

## Please indicate below if you are:

Branch member       Branch President       State Past President       State Board Guest  
 State Board Member       College/University Rep.       Student Affiliate

*Check sessions you plan to attend: (Meeting ends at 4:00 pm)*

## FRIDAY, APRIL 12:

Welcome (Pizza/Salad dinner), 6:00-7:00 pm       National Update & Town Hall, 7:00-8:15 pm  
 Movie (*Miss Representation*) 8:30-10:00 pm

## SATURDAY, APRIL 13:

Breakfast, 8:30-10:00 am       Chair massage 9:00-11:00 am       Chair yoga (group session), 10:00-11:00 am

## Concurrent Sessions I (select one)

**9:00-10:00 am**

Focus on AAUW:       Membership       Student Affiliates       National Priorities  
Book Discussions:       *Caleb's Crossing*       *Enrique's Journey*       Favorite Books

## Concurrent Sessions 2 (select one)

**10:15-11:15 am**

Leadership:       Leader Coaching and Mentoring  
Advocacy:       Public Policy       Pay Equity       Marcellus Shale  
                     Human Trafficking       CQ Tracking       Gun Violence  
Learn and Share:       Icon Identification       Social Media       Visibility & Publicity       Website

## LUNCH CHOICES (select one)

Curried veggie kabobs       Chicken picatta       Roast pork loin

**Registration:**       \$40 Early Bird by March 20       \$45 by April 4  
                             \$15 Student Early Bird by March 20       \$20 Student by April 4 (with Student ID)

**Core Sessions will be from 11:15 am—4:00 pm.**

## DISCOUNT AND REFUND POLICIES

Early Bird Registrations with full payment must be postmarked before **March 20, 2013**. Regular Registrations must be postmarked before **April 4, 2013**. Onsite registration will be available with a \$15 late fee. Registration is cancellable with full refund if AAUW is notified by April 4, 2013. Include a stamped, self-addressed postcard or your email address for registration confirmation. If you have any questions about registration, contact Sherry Crassweller at (814) 237-3861 or (814) 574-2400, [aps@psu.edu](mailto:aps@psu.edu). Use "Annual Meeting 2013" in the e-mail subject line.

**FOR HOTEL RESERVATION**—Call Toftrees for room reservation: 814-308-0782. Mention AAUW-PA.

Rate: \$99 for double occupancy. AAUW block of rooms will be released on March 20, 2013.

Send registration form/check made payable to AAUW-PA to: **AAUW-PA c/o  
Sherry Crassweller, 2264 Charleston Drive, State College, PA 16801**

**Meet AAUW-PA Officer Nominees**

*The AAUW-PA Nominating Committee is pleased to present the names of the following candidates for election at the 84th Annual AAUW-PA Meeting, April 13, 2013. Respectfully Submitted, Susan McNamara, Nominating Chair.*

**Susan Donahue—Finance Officer, 2013-2015** Susan Donahue joined the Lansdale Branch in 2006, and in that short time, she served two terms as Finance Officer, secured 501C3 status for the branch, was named an *Outstanding Woman*, and is the Co-Chair of Lansdale's Excellence in Writing Committee.

After earning degrees from Millersville University (Accounting) and Temple University (Health Care Administration), Susan worked in hospital administration, clinical research, IT and software quality and testing, in addition to raising her children. She is now an adoption consultant and consignment sale owner. Susan commented, "As finance officer, my primary role will be to continue to maintain fiscal responsibility and oversee management of state funds."

**Susan Norris—Secretary - (re-election term 2013-2015)**

Following life's path, Valley Forge is the fifth AAUW branch in which Susan Norris has been active since 1974. She served as Valley Forge branch president from 2005-2009, co-chair of the branch book sale for six years, and is a member of their *Let's Read Math* team. She has attended several AAUW national conventions, and has been a regular participant at state conventions since the 1980s.

Additionally, Susan is active with the League of Women Voters. Susan has a BA from Wheaton College, and an MLS from the University of Pittsburgh. Her professional experiences include appointments as Librarian, Library Director, and Informational Specialist. Though retired, Susan works as needed for her family-run manufacturing and self-storage business.

Susan believes that a primary focus of AAUW-PA's job is "to support and encourage struggling branches while awarding and emulating successful ones. Keeping accurate and timely minutes of board meetings is important to assisting branches." Susan says she would be honored to continue to serve the organization.

**Jackie Heaney—Co-VP Membership, 2013-2015**

Jackie Heaney has been an active member of the Beaver Valley Branch since 1990, serving two terms each as Public Policy Chair and Branch President. She developed the branch website, was named *Outstanding Woman* twice, and Educational Named Gift Honoree. Jackie attended Edinboro University (B.S.ED) and Penn State (M.ED).

Jackie's career has included work in career services, vocational counseling and case management. She volunteers with the Women's Center of Beaver County and the United Way. In her new position, Jackie wants to be sure branches are equipped with the tools to attract new members. "The more active the branch, the better opportunity for membership growth," she added.

**Linda Tozier—Co-VP Membership - (re-election term 2013-2015)**

Linda Tozier's experience with AAUW is long and broad. Currently, she is a member of the AAUW Leadership Corps and AAUW Nominating Committee, AAUW-PA membership Vice President, and North Hills McKnight branch president. Prior to this, Linda was national Director-at-Large 2009-11, Middle Atlantic Regional Director, 2005-2009 and AAUW-PA President, 2002-2004. Linda has attended many national, state, and regional conventions, some which she has chaired. She has also served as a National AAUW Leader-on-Loan to several state conventions as well as for branches within Pennsylvania.

Linda's education includes a BS in Elementary Education and MS in Education from Bucknell, which she applied to a career as mentor, teacher, and children's center director.

Linda is running for a final term as Co-Membership Vice President because she wants to mentor others who share her passion for AAUW. She feels that it is imperative that the state Board continues to encourage members to stay active and recruit others to join AAUW. She adds, "I will support each of you as we advance equity for women and girls in PA."

## 2013 OFFICIAL AAUW-PA BALLOT

Please mark choices with an "X."

### Finance Officer 2013-2015

*Nominees:*

Susan Donahue \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Secretary 2013-2015

*Nominees:*

Susan Norris (re-elect) \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Co-Vice President, Membership 2013-2015

(Please vote for 2 candidates)

*Nominees:*

Jackie Heaney \_\_\_\_\_

Linda Tozier (re-elect) \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail ballot, using instructions provided on this page, to Susan McNamara, Nominations Chair. Your ballot must be received no later than **Friday, April 5, 2013**, in order for it to be valid and counted.

### AAUW-PA Election of 2013 Voting Instructions for Members

Susan McNamara, AAUW-PA Nominations Chair

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

**Submission deadline:** Bring the ballot to the annual meeting or return it to your branch president to bulk mail or hand carry to the Annual Meeting on April 13. Alternatively, you can mail it yourself. If mailed, your ballot must be **received** no later than **Friday, April 5, 2013**, by Dr. McNamara at the address below, in order for it to be valid and counted.

All instructions for voting must be completed exactly as required in order for your ballot to be valid. Please ask for clarification from your branch officers or from AAUW-PA officers before voting if you have any questions or concerns about the appropriate way to file your ballot.

Your official ballot is on this page, to be clipped out and returned to the Nominations Chair, listed below.

- **Read** the information about each nominee on page 2 and make your choice for each office. Mark an "X" in the blank provided on the ballot. Fold and insert the completed ballot into a small (4" x 6" or similar) envelope. **Do not place any marks on this envelope.**
- **Insert** the **blank envelope**, containing the ballot, into a larger (#10 or similar) envelope. Seal the envelope and, on the reverse or flap side of this envelope, do the following:
- **PRINT legibly** your name as it appears in AAUW membership records so that the Nominations and Elections Committee can locate it in our membership files.
- **SIGN your name** as you normally would, below your printed name.
- **PRINT the name of your branch –or–** if you are not a member of any particular branch, PRINT the letters "MAL" below your signature.
- **FILE** your ballot either by returning it to your branch president or by mailing it.

If mailing your ballot, please send it to: **Susan McNamara, Ph.D., AAUW-PA Nominations, 2060 15th Street, Bethlehem, PA 18020.** Your mailed ballot must reach Susan no later than **April 5, 2013**, in order to be counted.