



# The FORECASTER

Pennsylvania Division AAUW – Doylestown Branch

[www.aauw-doylestown.org](http://www.aauw-doylestown.org)

*A Platinum Branch*

Gerry Sproesser, *President*

**AAUW Mission Statement: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.**

## Doylestown Branch Meeting, February 3, 7:00 PM, Heritage Towers

### WILLS, TRUSTS AND ESTATES UPDATES

*Dave Styer*

What kind of arrangements can we make so that we (hopefully) don't run out of money? What should we avoid? How about trusts, wills, powers of attorney, long term care insurance, charitable remainder trusts? If you are not a lawyer, some of this can be confusing, but let's find out what we need to do and want to do to make our financial future secure and what we leave behind productive, as we listen to attorney Dave Styer talk to us about options, pitfalls and opportunities. Bring pencil and paper to take notes! I'm sure there will be many questions.

**We continue to collect non-perishable food items and toiletries for our outreach program. Please bring your contribution to our February meeting.**

### President's Message

*Gerry Sproesser*

#### Yesterday and Today

**Bylaw changes:** AAUW National suggested major national bylaws changes and asked input from all affiliates. Members met for a special meeting in May to hear and cull opinions. Our branch was of two minds regarding the issue of open membership. This controversial motion, allowing membership for anyone who supports the AAUW mission, was defeated in St. Louis but will most likely be on the table again in Washington in 2011. At the next national meeting, all members will have a vote rather than only those attending the convention.

Several members of the Doylestown branch have rewritten our local bylaws to coordinate with the National bylaws. AAUWPA recently approved these revisions. We will vote on the new bylaws in the spring. In the meantime, check our web site, as Louise McLeod is posting it in its entirety.

**Public Policy:** In January the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act was signed into law by President Barack Obama. It is the result of a suit against Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company brought by Ms Ledbetter when she learned that she was earning less than her male counterparts for doing the same job. Wage discrimination is not a dead issue. Women graduating from college today earn 78 cents to the dollar that a man earns for doing the same job. PLEASE fight wage discrimination by calling your Senator, urging the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Bill. The phone and fax numbers are in your membership directory.

**Activities:** On a lighter note--We strive to provide activities to stimulate and encourage fellowship. Our branch has book discussions (3 individual groups), numerous cultural trips, health / nutrition, and international culture /cuisine groups, bridge (3), mah jongg, quilters, as well as psychology and issues groups. We have added seven members this fall, therefore becoming a membership of one hundred eight. Let us all make them feel welcome at meetings and personally invite each to participate in our interest groups.

<b>Board Meeting:</b>	<b>Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2010</b>	<b>Time: 5:30PM</b>	<b>Place: Heritage Towers</b>
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## Study & Interests Groups

*Paula Young 215-794-8602 [pjyoung@pil.net](mailto:pjyoung@pil.net) and Doss Hermann 215-257-2550 [ms.Doss@hotmail.com](mailto:ms.Doss@hotmail.com)*

### Adelante Book Club

*Pat Niesenbaum 215-489-0739 [pniesenbaum@comcast.net](mailto:pniesenbaum@comcast.net)*

**Wednesday, February 17, 3:00 PM. Half of the Sky** by Nicholas Kristof. Hostess: Lois Plotnick ,R.S.V.P. if you plan to attend, 215-343-0613 or [lois.plotnick@gmail.com](mailto:lois.plotnick@gmail.com)

### Bridge

*Maureen Shuster 215-348-2071 [maureen-shu@msn.com](mailto:maureen-shu@msn.com)*

The group meets the third Tuesday of November, February and June. Newcomers are always welcome

### Bridge Lesson & Play

*Chris Dowling 215-348-1214 [cdowlinfpa@aol.com](mailto:cdowlinfpa@aol.com)*

### Curmudgeons (Book Sale)

*Besse Brindle 215-348-4942, Amy Lancaster 215-348-9654*

Meetings will be at 1:30PM at the home of Amy, 137 Lafayette St. . Meeting dates: **February 12**, March 12,, April 9 and 23.

### Daytime Literature Review

*Peggy Michaud 215-345-8470 [michaud20@verizon.net](mailto:michaud20@verizon.net)*

The daytime literature groups will be meeting

**Thursday, February 25**, at Linda Smith's home where Pat VonSeggern will lead the discussion on Uwem Akpan's SAY YOU'RE ONE OF THEM. Please let your hostess know if you do not plan to attend.

### Evening Eclectics

*Barbara Theiss 215-348-1145 [grandbtheiss@comcast.net](mailto:grandbtheiss@comcast.net)*

**February 10** --- This month we will be reading any book of our choosing that is about Abraham Lincoln. Sue Jacob will lead the discussion and Joan Worthington will host at Heritage Towers. March 10 ---- Native Speaker is the title of the book we will be discussing. The author is Chang-Rae Lee. Sue Martin will host and review.

### Health & Nutrition

*Phyllis Weir 215-345-1075 [drupesw@verizon.net](mailto:drupesw@verizon.net)*

We had to cancel our January Health & Nutrition group meeting so we will be meeting on **February 8th** at my house at 3:30pm. The topic will be the same - Foods that help fight diseases

### Issues

*Lois Plotnick 215-343-0613 [lois.plotnick@gmail.com](mailto:lois.plotnick@gmail.com)*

The next meeting will be **Monday, March15 @ 4:00 PM** to discuss "The Treatment of Muslims in our Society". Bring info & insights to share. Lois Plotnick will host. R.S.V.P. if you plan to attend

### International Culture & Cuisine

*Paula Young 215-794-8602 [pjyoung@pil.net](mailto:pjyoung@pil.net)*

### Mah Jongg

*Mary Lee Lieser 215-489-5577 [billtravel@msn.com](mailto:billtravel@msn.com)*

The Mah Jongg group meets at a member's home on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. If you are interested in joining the Mah Jongg group for fun and games on **February 2<sup>nd</sup>** and/or **February 16<sup>th</sup>**, please contact Mary Lee by phone or email. New players are most welcome

### Psychology in the Popular Media

*Mary Raskin 215-345-0961 [donald.raskin@verizon.net](mailto:donald.raskin@verizon.net)*

**February 17 @7:00 PM** at Louan Lukens' house 215 766-121, March 17 @7pm at Mary Raskin's house 215 345-0961. Both sessions will discuss Narcissistic Personality Disorder.

### Quilters-Broken Dishes

*Emily Sippel 215-340-1579 [badem52@live.com](mailto:badem52@live.com)*

Contact Emily for information

### Hospitality

Our January pot luck luncheon was a lovely affair thanks to the women who showed up at 9:00 AM to set the tables, arrange the flowers and prepare the coffee as well as those who cleaned up afterwards. It was a lovely luncheon and an enjoyable afternoon on a cold, sunny January day. Thanks for coming out.

Refreshment for our next meeting will be provided by the Mah Jongg study group.

### Pamela Good

## Curmudgeon Commotion.

*Emily Sippel*

Spring was in the air today and after a freezing December and early January it is time to get back to the barn. Paula Young and her group left it in tip-top shape at the end of November. Now we need to get back there and start sorting. My newspaper is now coming on the computer but I still get a different daily delivered. I'll never give up liking to read the paper with my morning coffee. Likewise I like a book at bedtime to put me to sleep. So after your morning routine join me at the barn Thursday mornings at 10 am to sort books. Phone me the night before to confirm at 215-340-1579. Emily

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## Membership News

*From Linda Kenyon:*

It is with sorrow that I report that Ele Denoon died last Thursday night (January 7) around midnight at Pennswood. She was an honorary life member of AAUW, National, State and Doylestown Branch (50 +years of membership). She was one of the most intelligent, lively, compassionate and active people one could ever hope to meet. She stayed very much involved with her alma mater, Goucher College, where she served enthusiastically and with distinction. Her memorial service was held at Wrightstown Friends' Meeting on Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. She is survived by her two sons, Ashby and David, her daughter in law, AAUW member, Gloria Denoon, and her grandson, Derek.

The family requests no flowers; but instead, make a donation to the charity of your choice in Ele's honor.

Remembrances about Ele: *from Mary McCaw and Amy Lancaster:*

Ele was a helpful and faithful participant in the early days Aid for Girls, during the period when we had no professional staff and we were doing all the recruiting and training ourselves .

Also, she made her lovely home available for all sorts of meetings and festive AAUW occasions. We were all pleased to go there.

My memories of Ellie are all of a warm most welcoming member. More recently, when Beverly Morgan offered to pick her up from Pennswood she called me to say she would drive herself! Fierce independence and gracious good humor would be my characterization.

*Mariana Hoffman and Nancy Brown spoke at the memorial services for Eli.*

A few comments from Mariana. Eli demonstrated her ongoing concern for the equity of girls and women and an abiding interest in government and politics.. She was a member of the Doylestown Branch for more than 50 years. The memorial service was an expression of love, very inspiring. .A representative from Planned Parenthood commented that when the Bucks County facility burned down Eli and Gov (her husband) paid to have it rebuilt. Representatives from Goucher college and Buckingham Friends Meeting where among the speakers. Several members of our branch were able to attend services. .

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*Sympathy Cards have been sent to:*

Helen Montgomery on the death of her husband and to the family of Eli Denoon.

*Thinking of You/Get Well Cards to:* Lois McClintock and Jeannette Gallagher

*AAUW Member Recognized:* Pam Good is listed on the AAUW website "Hall of Fame" as the Pennsylvania member who recruited the most members last year. Congratulations, Pam!

Two of our AAUW members have left our branch and moved out of the area: Mary Ann Czechowski, 1482 Broad Run Rd., Landberg, PA 19350 and Janet Gagnon 164 Sunridge Rd., Springfield MA 01118.

## Cultural Trips

Barbara Barney

**February. 9....Tuesday.** Chinatown, Philadelphia. A walkabout visiting Chinese art shops, grocers, bakeries, cultural centers, noodle restaurant, fortune cookie factory, seafood market, etc. Contact Barbara Barney if you'd like to join us. Train at 8:20 am and return early afternoon.

**Thursday, March 18th** we will be going to the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, New Jersey to enjoy its many marine wonders. We will meet at Marshall's at 8:45. Drivers needed. Cost of trip is \$22.00 payable on arrival at the aquarium. Call Lyn Bauer 215-230-3567 by March 5th if you would like to join us

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## AAUW Public Policy

Meg Sheketoff

Much has been happening in the news which AAUW has participated in or is involved with the issues. For example:

**1. Secretary Clinton** declared the United States' renewed support to achieve the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) goals for universal access to reproductive health around the globe by 2015. AAUW supports the right of every woman to safe, accessible, affordable, and comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services.

**2. AAUW ED Attends White House Event on STEM Education**

AAUW supports promoting and strengthening STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education, especially for girls and other underrepresented populations, and also supports efforts that train teachers to encourage girls to pursue STEM careers.

**3. Economist Analyzes Women and Work**

The Economist's December 30<sup>th</sup> [cover story](#) features Rosie the Riveter under the title, "Women and Work, We Did It," underscoring women's economic empowerment as "the biggest social change of our times." While the article does not detail the struggles faced to achieve such empowerment, it touches on issues of pay equity, under-representation in certain fields, work-life balance, and political measures for achieving equality.

**4. It is important to support candidates who champion AAUW causes.**

Several members of Congress recently announced their intentions to retire at the end of their current terms. Sen. Dodd has been a champion for many of AAUW's issues, including the [FMLA](#), [higher education](#), and the [Paycheck Fairness Act](#), during his 30 years in the Senate.

**5. Tactics to Slow Senate Work Reach Record Numbers**

The process of filing cloture for Senate Democrats requires several days before a vote is allowed and permits 30 hours of post-cloture debate. The insisted use of this procedure by Republican senators-particularly when the outcome is already certain-wastes valuable Senate floor time and is a deliberate means to slow progress of the Democrats' agenda.

**6. Stupak Day of Action**

One of AAUW's key priorities in the health care reform debate is an end to the discriminatory practice of gender rating. Gender rating can result in women's monthly premiums ranging from four percent to 48 percent higher than men's, even when under identical coverage. While the [Senate's health care reform bill](#) makes positive steps in this area, it falls short of the ultimate goal. AAUW invites you to **join us and coalition partners in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, Jan. 20** to lobby Congress and rally on Capitol Hill to protect women's reproductive rights as negotiations over health care coverage move forward.

## REVISED BYLAWS

AAUW Doylestown Branch Bylaws are now online. Hard copies will be made available to those who do not have email. The membership will vote on them at the March, 2010, meeting, so please become familiar with them. We will make sure you are aware of specific changes that have been made.



## AAUW Branches Encouraged to Take Part in Half the Sky LIVE

On March 4, 2010, CARE will present *Half the Sky LIVE* in movie theaters nationwide. Inspired by the best-selling book, *Half the Sky LIVE* will celebrate International Women's Day with musical performances, celebrity commentary, and the world premiere of *Woineshet*, a powerful short film directed by Academy Award® Winner Marisa Tomei. *Half the Sky LIVE* is the perfect way for AAUW branches and members across the country to celebrate International Women's Day and stand in solidarity with women and girls all over the world. Order *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* from Barnes and Noble to read the inspirational stories of the extraordinary women struggling under dire circumstances. *Half the Sky* is described as essential reading for every global citizen. AAUW partner, CARE, is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty. Watch for forthcoming announcements regarding International Women's Day.

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### Forecaster Format

I have changed the format of The Forecaster, thinking it would made it easier to read on the computer. I would appreciate comments on this change. Do you like it, do not like it????? e-mail comments to me at [marilyncook2015@msn.com](mailto:marilyncook2015@msn.com), or phone 215-343-0769.

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# Used Book Sale



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION  
OF  
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WOMEN

**DOYLESTOWN BRANCH**  
215- 230- 8330  
[www.aauw-doylestown.org](http://www.aauw-doylestown.org)

*May 6, 7 and 8, 2010*

Pat Von Seggern  
 1936 Street Road  
 New Hope PA 18938



AAUW

AAUW Calendar; February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Mah Jongg	<b>3 Branch Meeting</b>	4	5	6
7	8 Health & Nutrition	9 Cultural Trip	10 Evening Electics	11	12 Curmudgeons	13 Forecaster Deadline
14	15	16 Bridge Mah Jongg	17 Adelante Psychology in Popular Media	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Daytime Lit	26	27
28						

*Dates to Remember*

*Branch Meeting, February 3,*

*46<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Sale May 6,7,8*

*State Annual Meeting, April 18th*

National: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

Pennsylvania: [www.aauwpa.org](http://www.aauwpa.org)