

# Inclined to AAUW

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Johnstown Branch of American Association of University Women

## Joining the Dialog at AAUW National



The AAUW National has launched a new blog called *AAUW Dialog*. It began in February. It allows you to log on and to discuss various topics of interest for women and girls. All you have to do is log onto [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and link to *AAUW Dialog*. You can also access it directly at <http://blog-aauw.org>.

Currently, some of the topics are “Is there a boys’ crisis in education?”, “What can you do about sexual harassment?”, “Is negotiation really the answer to pay equity?” These are all topics about which you can share your thoughts, among many more listed.

You can get more information about the new *AAUW Dialog* blog in the AAUW Outlook Spring/Summer 2008. AAUW included an article about the blog in the News and Notices Section.

## AAUW Mission

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

## Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, 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.

## February and March Programs

The **February** meeting will be held on **Saturday at noon** at the **Boulevard Grill**. Make sure you fill out the form to confirm your attendance for this luncheon. Presenting will be Barb Duryea from the Murtha Neuroscience Research Institute. Barb will present *Field of Dreams—Neuroscience Research in Johnstown*. Barb is the Director of the Neuroscience Research Institute and an adjunct faculty member of UPJ. Don’t miss this one!

In **March**, we will hold the meeting on **Saturday at 1:30** at **Westmont Presbyterian Church**. Speaking will be Kim Astonevich who will give us a presentation on *Women in Today’s Workplace*. Kim is a business and entrepreneurial instructor at Mount Aloysius College and is pursuing her PhD in Business with a focus on women in business. She has a broad background and her anecdotes are always full of surprises. Another great opportunity to hear a dynamic woman presenter.

## **Dottie Glass: EF Awardee ~ Submitted by Ann Furlong**

Long-time member, Dottie Glass, has been chosen as the Educational Foundation awardee for 2009. Dottie has been an involved member of AAUW since 1959. She served as president of the Johnstown Branch of the AAUW organization from 1966 to 1968. She was previously honored with the EF award in 1971. It was then called the Named Gift award.

Dottie presently serves on the Board as Chairperson of the Rules/By-Laws Committee. She participates in the Contemporary Literature group, co-chairs the hospitality for the annual Holiday Luncheon, and contributes actively in time, energy and space to the book sale.

It was with gratitude for her many years of service and friendship that we announce this award.

## **~Public Policy News~ Submitted by Barbara Procko**

### **WAGE DISCRIMINATION**

Energized by the prospect of a pro-labor president, House Democrats marked their first week of the new Congress by pushing through two bills to help workers, particularly women, who are victims of pay discrimination.

Unlike President Bush, who threatened to veto the two bills when they came up in the last session of Congress, President-elect Barack Obama has embraced them.

“Today we face a transformational movement,” said Representative Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn, chief sponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act. “With a new Congress, a new administration, we have a chance to finally provide equal pay for equal work and make opportunity real for millions of American women.”

The other bill, Lilly Ledbetter Act, would reverse a 2007 Supreme Court ruling that a worker must file claims of wage discrimination within 180 days of the first decision to pay that worker less, even if the person was unaware of the pay disparity.

The Paycheck Fairness Act would close loopholes that have enabled employers to evade the 1963 law requiring equal pay for equal work. The first passed 247-171, the second 256-163.

US Representative John P. Murtha, D-Johnstown, voted in favor of both bills. Representative Bill Shuster, R-Hollidaysburg, voted against them.

Lilly Ledbetter was a supervisor at a Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company plant in Gadsden, AL. She sued the company over pay discrimination when she learned, shortly before retiring after a 19-year career, that she earned less than any male supervisor. A jury ruled in her favor, but the Supreme Court, in a 5-4 vote, threw out her complaint, saying that she failed to sue within the 180-day deadline after a discriminatory pay decision was made.

Republican opponents argued that the bills would foster lawsuits against business and mainly benefit trial lawyers. Apparently, they gave no thought to the fairness part of wages being paid to workers.



## 2008—2009 Meeting Schedule

February 21 at Boulevard Grill  
Saturday, 12:00 noon  
Field of Dreams—Neuroscience Research in Johnstown

March 21 at Westmont Presbyterian Church  
Saturday, 1:30 pm  
Women in Today's Workplace

April 27 at Bottleworks Arts Center  
Monday, 7:00 pm  
PA Humanities Council—History of Dance in America

May 18 at Westmont Presbyterian Church  
Covered Dish Dinner at 6:00 pm  
Master's Puppets Dinner Theater



### Branch Meeting 2007-2008 Program Hospitality Reminder

2-21-089	Amy Noon — Checks made out to AAUW
3-21-09	Wanda Keller, Kristine Olsen
4-2009	Maryann Minahan, Kay Kusibab
5-18-09	Dottie Glass, Carole Schrum, Barbara Swanson—Covered Dish

### Extra Curricular.....

Martha Banda and her husband, Nick, traveled to Georgia this year. As it has been in the news lately, she has volunteered to present a 15—20 minute presentation with slides from this country to our members. If you would be interested in our Program Committee scheduling this presentation, either scheduled following a regular meeting or as an additional evening or afternoon session, please contact President, Jo Romani. Please indicate your choice for how this presentation is scheduled. Members will be notified in the newsletter for date and time.

### ~ Attendance RSVP for February Luncheon ~

February 21, 2009, at the Boulevard Grill, 165 Southmont Blvd, Johnstown.

Presentation by: Barb Duryea, Murtha Neuroscience Research Institute

Menu: **Grilled Chicken Tenderloin Salad** on mixed greens with cheddar and mozzarella cheese, tomatoes and cucumbers, served in a crispy herb and garlic tortilla bowl, **Fruit Cup**, and a dessert of **German Chocolate Cake**. Iced tea, coffee or soda.

Cost: \$18.30 per person (tax and tip are included)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_ X 18.30 = \_\_\_\_\_ (total enclosed)

Mail this form with check made payable to AAUW Johnstown Branch to:

**Wanda Keller, 200 Fernwood Place, Johnstown, PA 15905.** RSVP due by February 7.

## President's Perspective

Dear Fellow Members:

Here we are at the beginning of a new calendar year, but halfway through our program year. I hope that 2009 brings you only Good things—health, happiness, and prosperity.

National has instituted some changes that will take place next year. They are giving us the opportunity to pay our dues on-line and also have offered us a method to have them research our scholarship applicants: Both of these are voluntary. However, voluntary soon becomes obligatory, so I made the decision to opt out of both of these new changes until we can discuss them as an entire group.

At the Convention in St. Louis this summer, one of the changes to the by-laws that will be voted on is the removal of the educational requirement for membership.

Because of the icy weather conditions, I have not yet held the executive board meeting, but I plan to do so on January 19th. I hope to have clear directives from the board on how the Johnstown Branch of AAUW wishes to proceed. I shall pass them on to you at our February meeting.

Hope to see you all there. Bring a guest, or two. The program sounds interesting.

~~your President, Jo Romani

**Board Meeting.** Monday, March 2nd, at 7:00 pm. Will be held at the home of Jo Romani, 660 Russell Avenue in the Moxham section of Johnstown.



Think you missed something? Well, ladies, don't let it BUG you!

For a complete listing of ALL the activities of the Johnstown Branch of AAUW, visit our website at:

[www.aauw.johnstownpa.com](http://www.aauw.johnstownpa.com)

## Upcoming Events / Second Tuesday Study Group



E.A. Poe

This group meets in a member's home the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm to discuss the book for that month. The schedule of upcoming meetings is as follows:



Dickinson

February 10 at the home of Anne Desimone, 870 Thermal Ave. The book will be Loving Frank by Horan.



Alcott

March 11 at the home of Anne Fattman, 1408 Coventry Ct. The book will be A Thousand Splendid Suns by Hosseini.



Shakespeare

April 14 which will be a luncheon, destination to be announced. The book will be The Zookeeper's Wife by Ackerman.

May 12 at the home of Mary DePra, 135 Breck Lane. The book will be Playing for Pizza by Grisham.

**Johnstown Symphony Orchestra**

Performances are held at the Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center. Saturdays.

February 7 "Romance and a Touch of Jazz" Featuring Dena Miller—Violin and Kevin Eisensmith and Matthew Barabas—Trumpets

March 7 "Central Europe on the Orient Express" Featuring Jon Gonder—Piano

For tickets or more information, visit their website: [www.johnstownsymphony.org](http://www.johnstownsymphony.org)

**Pittsburgh Opera**

Performances held at the Benedum Theater

February 7, 10, 13, 15 "Don Pasquale"

March 28, 31, April 3, 5 "La Boheme"

For tickets or more information, visit their website at: [www.pittsburghopera.org](http://www.pittsburghopera.org)

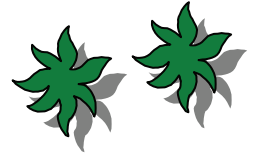


**River City Brass Band**

Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center

March 1, Sunday at 3:00 pm. "American Graffiti"

For tickets or more information, visit the website: [www.rcbb.com](http://www.rcbb.com)



**Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center**

February 13, Friday, at 7:30 pm "Get the Led Out", a Tribute to Led Zeppelin.

February 25, Wednesday, at 7:30 pm Stig Rossen, Danish Singer

March 10, Tuesday, at 7:30 pm "Ahn Trio, Contemporary Chamber Music"

March 18, Wednesday, at 7:30 pm "Footloose" a Broadway Musical

March 21, Saturday, at 7:30 pm "Winter Jazz with Maria Schneider Orchestra"

March 28, Saturday at 7:30 pm "An Evening with Groucho"

For tickets or more information, visit [www.upj.pitt.edu](http://www.upj.pitt.edu)

**Contemporary Literature Group**

This group meets Thursdays at 1:00 pm in a Member's Home. Guests are welcome. For information call Judy at 814-255-3591.

February 12 at the home of Anne Desimone, 870 Thermal Ave. The Reviewer will be Nancy Miller.

March 12 at Westmont Presbyterian Church, 601 Luzerne St. The Reviewer will be Jo Romani.

**Upcoming Events / Dining Around the World**

Rita King is organizing some **Food Tasting Events**. She would like you to contact her if you are interested in joining her and other members as they sample various cuisines at area establishments. They are held the last Thursday of the month. Call Rita at 266-8493 if you would like to be included and to receive a schedule of the dining dates and venues. February event will be held at NYKO's Restaurant at 935 Scalp Ave.

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY EVENTS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE PUBLISHED IN OUR NEWSLETTER, PLEASE NOTIFY: Amy Noon [amy4aauw@gmail.com](mailto:amy4aauw@gmail.com)



**Upcoming Events**

**Bridge Special Interest Group**



All levels of Bridge playing ability and experience are welcome. Meets last Wednesday of the month.

If you would like to join us, please contact Mary DePra at 266-1712 / [mdepra@aol.com](mailto:mdepra@aol.com) or Judy Papineau at 255-3591.

American Association of University Women

First Class Mail

Johnstown Branch

520 Eisenhower Boulevard

Johnstown, PA 15904

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

Diversity Statement: In principle and in practice, 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.

**Vision Statement:** AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equality and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting lives of women and girls.