



Bulletin

Philadelphia Branch, Inc.

May 2006

Volume 5, Issue 11

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change.

Annual Meeting with Dot McLane

**May 20, 2006 at the Academy House
Community Room at 10:30 AM.
Lunch will be at 12:00 noon.
Cost: \$15.**

The agenda will include reports from the Committees and the election of officers. Dot McLane will be our guest speaker. All Branch Members are urged to attend.

Please fill out the reservation sheet enclosed and plan to attend the meeting on May 20.

Dot McLane, our incoming State President, will speak at our Annual Meeting on May 20. She has been a member of the State Board serving as Vice President for Program and on the

STAR Committee.

Dot received her undergraduate degree in Biology from Rutgers University and the Doctoral Degree in Biology from Drexel University. She is currently a “stay at home mom” after serving professionally as the Associate Director of Microbiology for Magainin Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Dot will tell us what her plans are for the next two years both for the Board and the branches.

We are honored to have her speak to us on May 20 and urge our members to attend the 2006 Annual Meeting.

See reservation sheet enclosed.

AAUW-PA
INVITES TWO
LEADERS
FROM EACH
BRANCH TO
PARTICIPATE
IN THE
SUMMER

LEADERSHIP
TRAINING
MEETING

On Saturday
July 15, 2006
10 AM- 3 PM

The Country
Cupboard Inn
Lewisburg, PA
See flier

**Individual
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Philly is More Fun

When You Come to the Union League

May 10 to Honor Meryl Levitz!

RSVP's are rolling in for the AUWW Award Luncheon honoring Meryl Levitz, the very effective President and CEO of the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation. Don't miss this delightful tribute to the instigator of the ad campaigns that have brought new spirit, visitors and jobs to our hospitality industry. Call now to reserve your place.

From the President . . .

Last May, our Achievement Award Luncheon celebrated President Happy Fernandez of Moore College of Art. This year on May 10, Happy will present the award to another Philadelphia booster: Meryl Levitz. She has led the Greater Philadelphia Tourism, Marketing Corporation with the slogan, "Philly's more fun when you sleep over." I hope all of our members support it and plan to be there too.

The April 22 Wyeth Tour at the Philadelphia Museum of Art is only \$17 for AAUW members and \$20 for non-members, not the higher price listed in the April flyer and calendar. Museum members may call the Museum and reserve free tickets and identify themselves with our tour. Meet at the back entrance ticket counter at 9:45 to go as a group. Afterwards we will walk a short distance to the Moore College of Art sidewalk café for lunch.

Hardworking AAUW member Dr. Claudia Curry arranged the Community College of Philadelphia "Be the Designer of Your Life" day Conference on March 25 with workshops to inspire and inform women in transition. Since we join in sponsoring this workshop, I joined them for the day and came away inspired myself.

The Marren Fellowship applicants are being interviewed by the Committee led

by Jean Givey. Other members are Barbara Barnett, Carol Clarfield, Conchita Rivera Jefferson financial aid expert, and Sally Stevenson. Five are to be chosen from some well-qualified applicants.

While it has been a good year of upbeat programs, your Board members realize it is time for reassessment. Our Nominating Committee had a difficult time filling crucial posts on the 2006-2008 Board. Therefore, the Executive Committee will meet in a special session April 19 to discuss our Strategic Plan and the challenges we face to function well as a Branch. Come to our May 20 Annual Meeting to hear a Report from that session. The latter will convene at the Academy House Community Room. (See Bulletin article and flyer for the Annual Meeting.)

Two of us, Davorka Sabljak and I, attended the Johnstown AAUW Pennsylvania Convention and came away with more information about the Jamestown Flood(s). We heard an excellent presentation by V.P. Membership Chair, Jane Snyder, on increasing membership by exciting programming and welcomed our newly elected President, Dot McLane as Karen Rowe completed her Presidency.

Sally Stevenson

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Deadline for Bulletin copy to the Editor is the Monday after the Board Meeting each month.

Submit to the office or to editors@aauwphila.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

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Students are challenged to embrace change at the 6th Annual "Be the Designer of Your Life" Conference

Nearly 60 female students, guests, and 11 guest speakers representing diverse backgrounds converged on the new Center for Business and Industry at Community College of Philadelphia ("the College") on Saturday, March 25, 2006 for the 6th Annual Be the Designer of Your Life Conference. Themed, "Women as Agents of Change," the conference offered participants strategies and action steps for managing change and identifying opportunities to serve as change agents.

Plenary speaker **Dr. Karen Bojar** challenged the participants to create change by becoming involved in the political process. "Women's voices should be part of the decision making process that affects our lives," stated Dr. Bojar. She added that Pennsylvania ranks, "number 47 of all states in women's political participation." She also encouraged the women to research The White House Project, consider getting involved in the party of their choice, and consider running for political office. Dr. Bojar is Professor of English and Coordinator of the Women's Studies/Gender Program at the College. She is also President of Philadelphia NOW which explains her passion for female representation in the political arena.

Rev. Lorina Marshall Blake, keynote luncheon speaker, challenged the participants further when she suggested that they develop strategies for their change process. Citing lyrics from Patti LaBelle's "I've Got a New Attitude," she stressed the importance of developing healthy attitudes in order to promote and implement change in our lives, in our homes, on the job, and in our respective communities. Rev. Blake shared her personal agenda for becoming a change agent and stated that her strategies have supported who she is today and her accomplishments. She is the Vice President of Government Relations for Independence Blue Cross.

Throughout the day, participants attended workshops facilitated by experts representing the coaching, financial, business development, healthcare, and communications arenas. The

students were challenged to embrace change in all aspects of their lives.

The workshops topics were: *Creating Your Way of Life* (**Joan Sloan**), *Adapting to Change* (**Dr. Renaya Furtick Wheelan**), *Discover and Engage the Source of Your Personal Power* (**Charlotte Owens**), *Top 10 Masterful Communication Skills for Women* (**Nurse Julie Fuimano**), *Developing Your Personal Formula for Wealth* (**Jacqueline Mayfield**) *From Possibility to Profitability* (**Frannie McNeal**), *Preparation for Change* (**Gloria Burgess**), and *Five Simple Steps to Master Beliefs and Embrace Challenge* (**Gerrie Dresser**).

AAUW/Philadelphia Branch, Inc. President Sally Stevenson, U.S. Department of Labor Lead Officer Lucia Bruce and AAUW Gender/Equity Chair Dr. Claudia Curry join in honoring the Designer Conference workshop presenters.

Special thanks are extended to President **Sally Stevenson** and the American Association of University Women/Philadelphia Branch, Inc. for convening the conference and Community College of Philadelphia for donating space and duplicating services. A hearty thank you is extended to **Lucia Bruce**, Lead Officer for the U.S. Department of Labor Women's, Bureau Region II for their continued collaboration on the Designer Conference and for the annual donation of Certificates of Appreciation that are awarded to all presenters.

Submitted by: **Dr. Claudia Curry**, Women's Center Director, Community College of Philadelphia and Chair of the Gender/Equity Committee



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*AAUW promotes
equity for all women
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education and positive
societal change.*

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.aauwphila.org

Calendar

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| May 2 | Board Meeting. Tuesday at noon in the Center City Office. |
| May 10 | Award Luncheon. On Wednesday at the Union League, 1450 Sansom Street. Reception 11:15 a.m. Lunch 12:00 p.m. Please send your reservation as soon as possible (see flier). |
| May 20 | Annual Meeting. Saturday, 1420 Locust Street, Academy House, Community Room, 10:30 a.m. Lunch 12:00 p.m. (see flier). |
| May 22 | Main Line Book Group. Monday, 7:30 p.m. will discuss "War Trash" by award-winning author Ha Jin, who was born in China, educated at Brandeis University and is now a professor of English at Boston University. The novel is set in a prisoner of war camp in Korea in the 1950's. Location of meeting to be determined. All branch members are welcome to attend. Call 610-664-1840 for information and directions |
| June 7-10 | Washington, D.C. National Conference for College Women Student Leaders - |
| June 12 | Board Meeting. Monday at noon in the Center City Office. |
| July 15 | AAUW-PA Leadership Training Meeting. The Country Cupboard Inn, Lewisburg, PA, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. |

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