

## ***THE READING BRANCH LINES***

AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

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Reading, PA

As outgoing president I would like to thank all the people that have helped me throughout the past two years.

The board members have been great! Pat Callahan has served as treasurer for four years and continues to do an outstanding job every month. She is excellent with her command of our budget and exactly “where we stand” financially. Pat will be treasurer for another two years.

First Nancy Poole and then Barbara Balsbough have been wonderful membership vice presidents. Their dedication to the tasks at hand kept all of our membership data accurate and up to date. Barbara will be in charge of membership for another year.

Carol Toomey is fantastic as program vice president. This past year she has put on a series of entertaining and informative programs that were a pleasure to all that attended. Her attention to detail and ability to get more people to participate, such as interest groups doing desserts, is wonderful. She will continue on for another two years.

Thank you all for making my job very easy!!!

Special recognition goes out to Barbara Balsbough for taking on the additional job as special liaison to the newly resurrected student affiliate at Albright. Barbara serves as point person, keeping both the branch and the affiliate advisor, Denise Greenwood, informed of the status of each organization. A mixer with the

young ladies of the affiliate was planned for February’s board meeting, but had to be cancelled due to snow. Eileen Ritz, our incoming president, will surely focus on getting a mixer organized for the 2010-11 year. It’s important to have the members of the student affiliate be aware of branch activities as they are the AAUW members of the future.

A special thank you and congratulations goes out to Carol Toomey, who was named “Outstanding Woman” of the Reading branch for the 2009-10 year. Carol was recognized at the April state convention for her superb programs and meticulous attention to detail. It’s an award she also deserves for her annual work on the Women and Girls Recognition Breakfast.

Again, thanks to all the board members, and to the respective chairs for doing their chosen jobs so well.

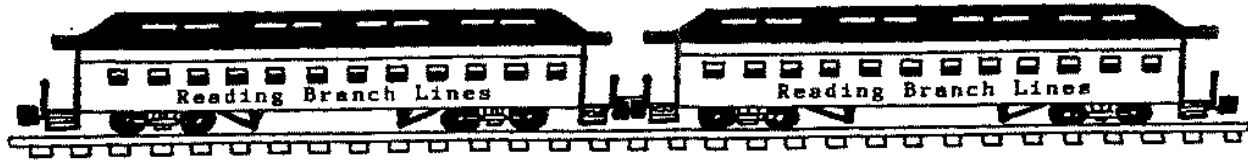
### **Kathleen Shannon Koehn**

*See inside back page for annual branch picnic details.*

Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer!!

See you in the fall!

Andrea



## AAUW 2010 Women's Recognition Breakfast

The Reading Branch of the American Association of University Women honored 20 high school senior girls and the reentry and graduate scholarship recipients during a breakfast Saturday, April 10 at Green Valley Country Club, Sinking Spring.

The association annually recognizes the female student in each of the 20 Berks County high schools who has the highest class rank at the end of the first semester and has been accepted and plans to attend a four-year, accredited college in the fall.

In addition to the recognition of these women, our guest speaker was Quinette Bowen. She is completing her MBA in New Venture & Entrepreneurial Studies at Penn State and also attends Eastern University where she is pursuing her M.S. in Nonprofit Management. She will complete both degrees in December 2010. She was awarded a Professions Fellowship from AAUW and is the founder of G.I.F.T. (Girls in Fellowship Together), Inc. G.I.F.T. addresses the needs of at-risk young women by providing social, educational, & economic resources through peer &/or mentor counseling as well as life-coach support to help the young women overcome societal obstacles. She was entertaining and inspiring.

The Senior girls honored from each of Berks County's public and parochial schools are:

Antietam	Kathryn Gensemer	Drexel or Penn State Univ.	Undecided
Boyertown	Elizabeth (Elise) Hallman	Undecided	Engineering
Brandywine	Molly Priester	Harvard or Columbia	Film
Central			
Catholic	Kathryn Hinsey	PSU or Temple	English
Conrad	Mary Kathryn (Katie)		
Weiser	Daschbach	Bucknell Univ.	Finance & Accounting
	Jacqueline (Jackie)		
Daniel Boone	Gerhart	Undecided	Pre Med Biology
Exeter	Allison Keim	University of Maryland	Chemistry
Fleetwood	Coral R. Cook	Undecided	Biomedical Engineering
Governor			
Mifflin	Deepa Lakshmin	Univ. of Pennsylvania	Undecided
Hamburg	Deanna R. Puglia	Undecided	Biological Science
Holy Name	Tinika Johns	Undecided	Animal Science, Pre-Vet
Kutztown	Mary Story	Undecided	Materials Engineering
Muhlenberg	Stephanie A. Rohrback	Penn State Univ.	Chemical Engineering
		Albright, Fl. Inst. Of Tech., or	
Oley	Jessica L. Daughtry	Penn State Univ.	Chemistry
		Carnegie Mellon,	
Reading	Katherine Graf	Drexel, or Penn State Univ.	Architecture
Schuylkill		Penn State Univ., Schreyers	
Valley	Katie M. Campbell	College	Biochemistry
Tulpehocken	Rhiannon E. Trate	USAF Academy	Political Science
Twin Valley	Sona Rathod	Univ. of Pennsylvania	Molecular Biology, Pre Med.
		North Carolina State	
Wilson	Katherine Selman	University	Zoology
			Biomedical Engineering or
Wyomissing	Katherine Leiby	Undecided	Molecular Biology

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## **Interest Group News**

Book Discussion Interest Group scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> is cancelled due to a lack of participation. It appears that it is difficult to gather a sufficient number of people in order to have a group. Therefore those of us at the last meeting (Donna Weik, Margaret Fuoco and Fran Malley) decided to try to join the Wyomissing Book Club which meets at 6 PM on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Please feel free to join us.

### **NEW INTEREST GROUP**

I thought that perhaps some folks would like to join a **TRAVEL INTEREST GROUP**. I thought that since there are so many of us that travel to different parts of the world we could have an interest group that discussed our travels. We could select a different country or place for each month and a member who has been there could present on their trip. It gives folks an opportunity to share their experience and memorabilia and perhaps motivate others to go there.

If interested contact: Fran Malley 610.796.7302 or email [fmalley@ptd.net](mailto:fmalley@ptd.net). We could have a start up meeting in June at a time and place convenient for all.

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## **BOOK BONANZA IS COMING**

Book Bonanza is coming and we are still collecting books. Remind your friends that Book Bonanza supports Berks libraries. Book donations to other organizations do not support libraries.

Books are collected on the last Saturday of the month, 9AM - NOON, in front of the old Berks Heim on County Road. The next dates are May 29 and June 26.

Books can also be delivered to us on Monday and Tuesday, 9 - 11AM, at the old Berks Heim while we are there sorting books. When facing the Heim building, we are on the far left, double tan doors are ajar. You'll find us just inside that door. These are the only times for book deliveries unless special arrangements are made by calling the Book Bonanza phone # 484-706-0731.

Book Bonanza volunteer letters will be mailed in early June. Please help us if you can. Spouses, teens and neighbors are welcome to help as long as they are registered ahead of time. We need many hands to accomplish this project. We have met several stumbling blocks this year, but we continue to try our best to produce a really great used book sale.

**BOOK BONANZA HOURS** at Leesport Farmers Market

Set-up day is Thursday July 15 at 1PM

Friday July 16, 8-10AM, admission for "early-buy" is \$10.00

Friday July 16, 10AM - 8PM free admission

Saturday July 17, 9AM-8PM

Sunday July 18, "Bag of Books" finale, 11AM - 3PM

Joan Cook 610-678-7999 [cookj22@verizon.net](mailto:cookj22@verizon.net)

AAUW READING BRANCH  
3045 Linda Lane  
Reading PA 19608

*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. Membership is not by invitation.

*Mission Statements*

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

AAUW **Educational Foundation** provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

AAUW **Legal Advocacy Fund** provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

**Branchlines**

**Editor** – Andrea Bird, 610-780-6738, [Abird23@aol.com](mailto:Abird23@aol.com)

**Web Site:** [www.aauwreadingpa.org](http://www.aauwreadingpa.org)

**Circulation Editor** – Nancy Poole

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# Annual Branch Picnic

## Wednesday, June 9 - 5 P.M.

### Shillington Park - Pavillion 2 (same as last year)

All branch members are welcome to attend the annual end of the year picnic - just bring a covered dish - contact Kathleen Shannon Koehn to let her know what you're bringing so we don't have duplicates. 610-562-6744 or [kshannonk@comcast.net](mailto:kshannonk@comcast.net).