



Viewpoints

<http://northhillsmcknight-pa.aauw.net>

Vol. 43 No. 4

North Hills–McKnight Branch Newsletter

January 2012

Saturday, January 28, 2012

Engineering and Construction:
Working Together for Afghanistan's Future



Presented by Mark Jones, Chief of Technical Services
for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Come hear Mark speak about his work experiences in Afghanistan.

9:30 AM: Refreshments

10:00 AM: Meeting and program

Ryan Room, La Roche College

Tozier's Tidbits

Happy New Year! 2012 and winter weather have arrived as a package deal. Fortunately our AAUW branch never has been slowed down by the elements. For the next five months, AAUW members have some terrific activities in which we can participate.

I hope that many of you have sent in your reservations for the January 16th MLK, Jr. Unity Breakfast. Our branch has been active in the North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition since its inception twelve years ago.

Our January speaker Mark Jones, army engineer and husband of Jen, will give insight into the future of Afghanistan. Linda Loewer again will lead us in nine sessions of Great Decisions, offered on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Linda will be selling the Great Decision books at our January meeting.

In February genealogist Elissa Powell will explain some of the ways to explore our roots. Elissa, the founder of the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP) is chairing a week-long institute at La Roche in July (see flyer in this issue of Viewpoints).

Please save March 31st for our Shape the Future celebration of Women's History Month. This is the date to invite your friends and prospective members to join us as we enjoy a little bit of history and a lot of entertainment about nineteenth century women composers. In February we will be providing special invitations for you to use as you invite women to this free event.

April offers two events: the April 13 – 15th AAUW-PA State Convention at the Radisson Greentree and our April 25th program on Marcellus Shale. I encourage everyone to try to attend part of the convention. I promise it's an enriching experience. The Keynote speaker is AAUW national president, Carolyn Garfein.

I will close with some updates and thanks from November and December happenings. At the November meeting, the branch voted to increase the Sr. Matilda Kelly Incentive Grant to \$2000 for 2012 and (providing the branch AAUW Funds allow) to award the grant to two deserving candidates. This will be evaluated yearly. Also the age requirement was removed and the grant was opened to juniors and seniors. Thanks to Jane Depee, Marilyn Lanz and Sina Murphy for their efforts on this philanthropic decision.

Thanks also to Jen Jones for organizing our successful first Conversations and Cocktails on November 28th. Look for a second C&C in late February.

And finally, thanks to Greens chairs Joan Killinger and Sina Murphy and to everyone whose participation in the Greens Sale enabled our branch to make \$1058.40.

Linda Tozier, President

Our Executive Committee



President:	Linda Tozier
Membership VP:	Cynthia Stewart
Program VP:	Julie Makuta
Secretary:	Jennifer Jones
Finance Officer:	Linda Loewer

BRANCH CALENDAR

January Happenings

1/10/12 Morning Book Group
The Mistress of Nothing
 by Kate Pullinger

Reviewer: Mary Ann Betush
Hostess: Audrey Parobeck, 9:30 a.m.

1/14/12 International Dinner
Theme: MLK, Jr. Day: A Taste of Gullah

1/16/12 Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast

1/16/12 Evening Book Group
Clara and Mr. Tiffany
by Susan Vreeland
Reviewer: Sina Murphy
Hostess: Bunny Roessing, 7:30 p.m.

1/28/12 Branch Meeting and Program
Engineer and Construction: Working Together
for Afghanistan's Future
Refreshments, 9:30 a.m.
Meeting/Program: 10 a.m.

February Happenings

2/1//2012 Board Meeting
Hostess: Georgiana Likar, 7 p.m.

2/14/12 Morning Book Group
Cleopatra
by Stacy Schiff
Reviewer: Judy Sparlin
Hostess: Joanne Ahlstrom, 9:30 a.m.

2/20/12 Evening Book Group
Outliers: The Story of Success
by Malcolm Gladwell
Reviewer: Teneal Caw
Hostess: Ann Carlson, 7:30 p.m.

WANTED: Gift Cards

By Julie Makuta

The board members are in the process of organizing a fundraiser for our Shape the Future Event in March. We are in need of gift cards in \$10.00 - \$50.00 increments. If you have any friends or relatives who work at local stores or restaurants, please ask them if they can donate a gift card or two. Please call Julie Makuta at 412-759-8148 or email dreamextreme@hotmail.com for gift card pickups or questions about the event. Thank you!

MLK Breakfast

By Jan Peischl

The reservations for the 12th annual MLK Breakfast to be held at La Roche College on Monday, January 16, 2012 are to be postmarked by the ninth of January. Hopefully all members have received the invitation and reservation form

via Email. If you would like to attend and have not made reservations, please phone Mary Sheehan immediately at 412-367-0383 to ask if seats are still available. Marcus Rediker, Professor of Atlantic History at Pitt will be the keynote speaker. He comes highly recommended by several Breakfast Committee members who heard him speak at the Heinz History Center. ICAP - Indian Cultural Association of Pittsburgh -will receive the Spirit of Unity Award. Joy Maxberry Woodruff will be the M.C.

AN UNRECOGNIZED ARTIST

By Sina Murphy

The Evening Book Group will be meeting on Monday, January 16, at 7:30 pm at the home of Bunny Roessing. Sina Murphy will lead the discussion of "Clara and Mr. Tiffany" by Susan Vreeland. This engaging historical novel is narrated by Clara, a middle-class creative woman who has to constantly remake her choice between her need for love and her need to work in the shadow of Mr. Tiffany, the famous stained glass maker. This is a tale of a modern woman living at a time when women were afforded few opportunities. All are welcome to share in our evening. Just give Bunny a call.



November Branch Speaker
Sister Michele Bisbey,
talking about
Women's Spirituality through Providence Colored Glasses

Garbooshian, Joanne Ahlstrom, and Jan Peischl who volunteered for the 2 hour shifts with the "red kettle".

Holiday Greens Sale was a Success

By Joan Killinger

The Greens Sale was a success making a profit of \$1,058.40, which was above our Goal. All of the money raised will go to our La Roche Incentive Grant.

Thank you to all those who purchased greens and also to those who made a donation to the Fund Raiser. A special thank you to our usual top sales person, Sr. Rita Yeasted.

MIND YOUR MANNERS!

By Linda Tozier

Fox Chapel Branch of AAUW has slated its annual fundraiser for their Education Fund for Sunday evening, January 29, 2012, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Fox Chapel Golf Club. "Mind your Manners!" is a dining etiquette experience for middle-schoolers. Cost is \$95 per student. For more information, contact Fox Chapel Funds Chair Janice Barrington at 412-767-6599 or janicebarrington@comcast.net.

Bell Ringing at New Location

By Jan Peischl

Our branch rang the Salvation Army bells on Tuesday, Nov. 18th at the Gibsonia Walmart. Because they are a service unit of the Salvation Army, North Hills Community Outreach will receive 90% of \$121.30, the amount we collected in 4 hours. Thanks go to Linda Tozier, Peggy



FINANCE REPORT FOR DEC. 2011

By Linda Loewer

Checking Account:

12/1/2011	Balance:	\$4875.98
	Income:	+ <u>2067.00</u>
	Balance:	\$6942.98
	Expenses:	- <u>3698.25</u>
12/31/2011	Balance:	\$3244.73

AAUW Funds: \$3837.54

Savings Account: \$3233.30

CD: \$3670.79 for 1 year at .55% interest

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By Cindy Stewart

Welcome to our new e-student affiliate, Khaela Butera. Some of you were delighted to meet Khaela at our meetings this fall. Please add Khaela to your directory and introduce yourself at the next AAUW event. We're excited you've joined us, Khaela! Here is her information:

Khaela Butera

School address: La Roche College

9000 Babcock Blvd. Box 5306, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Phone: 724-591-1588

Major: Education

khaela.butera@stu.laroche.edu

GREAT DECISIONS

A discussion about American foreign policy

By Linda Loewer

We'll be starting Great Decisions off in a great way this year! On **Saturday, January 28**, Mark Jones will speak at our branch meeting about specific issues related to Afghanistan's future. See the front page of Viewpoints for specific information. Then we'll start on our topics for the year. Here's the low down on Great Decisions 2012:

Meeting place: La Roche College, Room SC 108

Saturday, Feb. 11 (9:30am – 11:30am) and Tuesday, Feb. 14 (7 – 9pm)
– Promoting Democracy: Can Democracy be Exported?

Saturday, Feb. 18 (9:30am – 11:30am) and Tuesday, Feb. 21 (7 – 9pm)
– Mexico: How can the U.S. and Mexico deal with border issues and more?

Saturday, Feb. 25 (9:30am – 11:30am) and Tuesday, Feb. 28 (7 – 9pm)
– Cybersecurity: Defense in the Digital Age

Saturday, March 3 (9:30am – 11:30am) and Tuesday, March 6 (7 – 9pm)
– Exit from Afghanistan and Iraq: What is the return on investment in both blood and treasure?

Saturday, March 10 (9:30am – 11:30am) and Tuesday, March 13 (7 – 9pm)
– State of the Oceans: a Look at the Health of the World's Seas

Saturday, March 17 (9:30am – 11:30am) and Tuesday, March 20 (7 – 9pm)
– Indonesia: one of Asia's Rising Stars?

Saturday, March 24 (9:30am – 11:30am) and Tuesday, March 27 (7 – 9pm)
– Energy geopolitics: The Competition for Control of the World's Resources

Twelfth Annual
Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast
 “Honoring Diversity in Our Community”



Speaker:

MARCUS REDIKER, Ph.D.
 Distinguished Professor of Atlantic History
 University of Pittsburgh

The Spirit of Unity Award to be presented to:
INDIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH
(ICAP)

Monday, January 16, 2012
LA ROCHE COLLEGE
Zappala Student Center
9000 Babcock Boulevard, North Hills
Registration at 8:00 AM Breakfast promptly at 8:30AM

Limited seating – make reservations now!
Seating cannot be guaranteed without reservations.



For reservations to the *12th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast*, please return this portion of the form along with your check, **made payable to the North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition**, in the amount of \$18.00 for adults and \$9.00 for students **postmarked no later than January 9, 2012. No reservations accepted without payment.** Send reservations with payment to:

North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition
 MLK Breakfast
 P. O. Box 101519
 Pittsburgh, PA15237

Name _____

Number of Adults _____

Address _____

Number of Students _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

(please list names on reverse side)

Telephone _____

Organization _____

OPEN SEATING

Although I am unable to attend, I enclose my donation to support this worthwhile function. \$ _____



December, 2011
 For Immediate Release
 Contact: mcgrathaauwpa@
 Gmail.com

AAUW-PA supports public education and choice in public education, but opposes vouchers.

AAUW believes a strong, free public education system is the foundation of a democratic society. Pennsylvania should demonstrate its strong commitment to education by focusing on delivery of a quality public school education rather than vouchers. "AAUW members believe that taxpayer money should be invested in public schools" said Margaret McGrath, President of AAUW-PA.

1. **Vouchers are a diversion of focus and funds** from all public education students to enable a few to use public money to attend private and religious schools. While a voucher to help a student in a poor school is appealing, vouchers do not benefit public school children.
2. **The priority goal is for ALL PA public schools to provide a quality education.** "AAUW supports improving public education to ensure that high school graduating students are able to read, write, and do enough math to succeed in society and compete for jobs internationally" said Ms. McGrath. "Major initiatives should include implementation of common core standards, programs to reduce the dropout rate, and efforts to mitigate socio-economic disadvantages so that education can be a pathway to opportunity." She noted that the extent of remedial learning needed by college and university students demonstrates that quality is not just a problem for children attending failing schools.
3. **Vouchers are a distraction from this priority goal, especially when there already IS choice in public education in Pennsylvania through charter and cyber charter schools.** Student performance data for these schools are publicly available. AAUW PA's booklet "[Finding Your Way](#)" assists parents in choosing schools for their children. (download the booklet from www.aauwpa.org)
4. **Education reform is needed, but vouchers are not the solution.** The last PISA (Program for International Student Assessment) showed 15 year olds in the US to be average in reading and science but slightly below average in math, despite the United States' having the second highest educational expenditures of the 30 OECD (Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development) countries. Vouchers would divert funds and focus from the reforms needed to provide a quality public education for all public school students.

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The American Association of University Women (AAUW) advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Since 1881, AAUW has been one of the nation's leading voices promoting education and equity for women and girls. AAUW-PA supports and coordinates forty five branches throughout Pennsylvania. Programs include educational outreach, community service, public policy advocacy, and confrontation of barriers so that all women have a fair chance.



Get a **GRIP** on your
brick wall problems!

July 23-27, 2012

Join us for a new week-long genealogical
institute featuring national experts at
La Roche College in Pittsburgh.

<p>Beneath the Home Page: Problem Solving with Online Repositories <i>D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MS</i></p>	<p>Advanced Research Methods <i>Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA</i> <i>Richard G. Sayre, CG</i> <i>Claire Mire Bettag, CG, CGL</i></p>
<p>Intermediate Genealogy: Tools for Digging Deeper <i>Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, FUGA</i></p>	<p>German Genealogical Research <i>John T. Humphrey, CG</i></p>

Registration begins February 7, 2012

Visit <http://www.GRIPitt.org>
for more information or to sign up for email updates



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SmartPhone and then
scan this code.*

GRIP
P.O. Box 44
Wexford, PA 15090
Email: info@GRIPitt.org

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF PITTSBURGH

Note: Cost is \$280.00

MISSION STATEMENT OF AAUW ASSOCIATION AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

VIEWPOINTS

North Hills-McKnight Branch
Georgiana Likar, Distribution Manager
10150 Grubbs Road, Wexford, PA 15090

...CY FUND
...ress for sex discrimination.

...e's or higher degree from a

There shall be no barriers to
ed, age, sexual orientation,

...national origin, disability or class
because equity is still an issue

Branch President Linda Tozier 412-369-5770 or toz31@yahoo.com
Branch Program VP Julie Makuta 412-412-759-8140 or



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