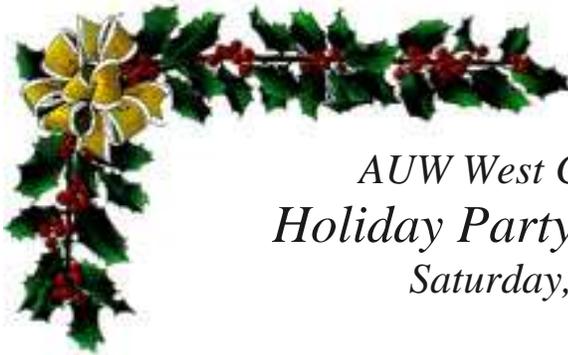




AAUW some NEWS
News & Views from the
West Chester – Chester County PA Branch
wccc-pa.aauw.net

Volume 56, Number 4 December 2012 – January 2013



*AUW West Chester-Chester County
Holiday Party -- Progressive Dinner
Saturday, December 15, 2012
6:00 pm*

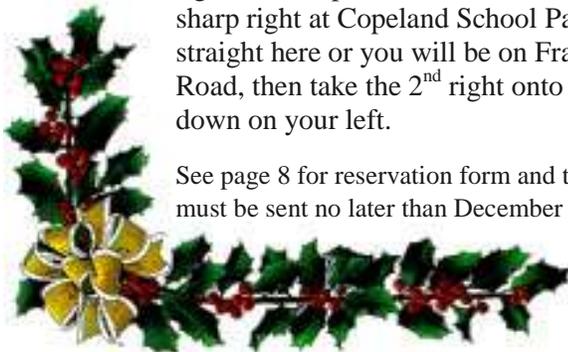
This year's Holiday Party will be a new/old format--We will start with hors d'oeuvres at the home of Cathy and Dick Palmquist, 800 Apple Hill Drive, West Chester. (Directions below) Then on to dinner at another home, followed by dessert at the home of Nancy and Jeff Dore, 3 Thayer Drive, Frazer.

The cost is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. If you are not a hostess for dinner you might wish bring an appetizer for the first course. This event is a fundraiser for our branch so we will also hold a raffle for a huge Holiday Gift Basket.

Reservations must be sent to Nancy Dore no later than December 10th to allow adequate planning for dinner hostesses.

Directions to the home of Cathy & Dick Palmquist -- 800 Apple Hill Drive, West Chester. From West Chester, take Route 322 West out of town, toward Downingtown. Just past the right turn for the Route 322-202 By-pass, take the next right onto Copeland School Rd. Follow the road around a left bend in the road, and a sharp right at Copeland School Park, staying on Copeland School Road (do not go straight here or you will be on Frank Rd.) Turn left just after that onto Shadow Farm Road, then take the 2nd right onto Apple Hill Drive. #800 will be about 500 yards down on your left.

See page 8 for reservation form and to buy raffle tickets for our Holiday Basket. Reservations must be sent no later than December 10th to allow adequate planning for dinner hostesses.



Contents

<i>From the Co-President</i>	2	<i>Dinner Registration</i>	8	<i>It's My Vote</i>	4
<i>Mission</i>	8	<i>GETT</i>	5	<i>Board Meetings</i>	6
<i>Membership</i>	5,6	<i>Legislation & Public Policy</i>	3	<i>SIGs</i>	6

From the Co-President

December, 2012

Dear Members,

We hope you enjoyed November's program at the Chester County Library. Since childhood, the library has been one of my favorite places. Back then the library system responded to our neighborhood's need for books by sending a bookmobile to our school every other week. I eagerly looked forward to "bookmobile day" to browse the shelves for old favorites and new books that I could take home with me. Today libraries continue to play an important role providing access to information as well as supportive services. As we learned, the CCLS continues to be responsive to the changing needs of the community with data bases, computers and free wireless internet, E-books and other resources. Thanks to Peggy Wadsworth for an informative presentation and library tour and to the Legislation and Public Policy (LAPP) Committee for promoting participation in activities that support public libraries.

The recent election and the important role women played in the process are still very much on my mind. As I read and watched the news, I was excited to learn that not only did women make up 53% of the voters, they were also elected in record numbers to the Senate and the House. As we look toward 2013, there will be 20 female senators and a record number of women in the House! I listened with pride to Elizabeth Warren, one of the new female senators, as she answered a question about equal pay for equal work by saying "It's time, it's time." If you would like to read more about the historical firsts made by women in this election, you can check out "Women and the 2012 Election" at <http://blog-aauw.org> and be sure to read about the role millennials played in this election in Whitley Harbold's newsletter article, *It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard*.

Also in November, Fran and I attended the AAUW-PA East District Meeting along with over 60 members from 13 branches. It was great for me to meet some of the people with

whom I have been corresponding by e-mail, and to talk to others about what's going on in their branches. The two guest speakers were enthusiastic and informative. Amanda Holt clearly explained her involvement with legislative redistricting planning in PA and her version of the legislative district maps. You can see Amanda's maps and read details of her "journey" at AmandaE.com. In her post-election analysis, Lisa Maatz, AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relations, gave her insights of the election beginning with her attendance at both the Republican and Democratic conventions. After summing up women's participation and achievements in this election, Lisa reinforced the need to move forward with promoting AAUW policy goals. As we move into the busy month of December, we hope you will take time to relax with your AAUW friends at our Annual Holiday Party. This year's Progressive Dinner will combine all the elements of previous parties – great food and company with an added element of surprise.

Fran and I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and best wishes for a happy new year.

Sincerely,
Sandi Kwisz, Co-President



Saturday, December 8, 2012 West Chester Public Library's Holiday Home Tour

This tour features "the old & the new", spanning 130 years of home building history in & around West Chester. **The homes date from 1870-2000.** If you're still interested in the tour (highlighted in last month's newsletter) Check online at: www.wcpubliibrary.org or purchase tickets at West Chester Public Library, 415 North Church St. West Chester, PA 19380.

Snow date is Sunday, December 9, 2012

Legislation and Public Policy (LAPP)

by Ann Duerr

On Election Day 2012, women turned out in droves, making up 53% of the electorate, and young people exceeded their turnout of 2008. As a result of this election, women will comprise one third of the U.S. Senate. Many thanks to all who got the vote out, especially members of the League of Women Voters and our own Student Board Representative, Whitley Harbold, for organizing AAUW-PA voters, focusing on women ages 18 to 31. Our November membership meeting featured our own member, Peggy Wadsworth, a county library employee, whose presentation exposed our members to the many library services available. These include databases, E-readers, and E-books. She will continue to write an article focusing on a different database for each month's *AAUWsome News* and the first one will highlight the "Learning Express" library. Education is one of the topics on which our branch has chosen to focus our political efforts on this year. AAUW National will be working to:

- Re-authorize and improve the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (*No Child Left Behind*)
- Pursue programs aimed at closing the achievement gap and increasing access to higher education
- Prevent the expansion of vouchers
- Protect and enforce Title IX

For our local branch, we will closely watch the upcoming 2013 State budget process and its effects on school districts.

The newest research report from AAUW National is titled *Graduating to a Pay Gap*. The report shows that just one year after graduating from college, women are still paid less than men. The information is available in booklet form and can be found on the AAUW National website at www.aauw.org.

Another AAUW website where you can find information about legislation and political

action is aauw-pa.aauw.net for PA information. You should look under "activities" to find public policy, and also check out the 2-minute activist. You may find additional information by visiting our own branch website at wccc-pa.aauw.net.



Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund

Members of our branch contributed \$305 to the Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund in honor of Harriet Jarosh. The Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund has provided scholarships to non-traditional students at local colleges and universities. Harriet Jarosh was a long time and well-respected member of our branch and served twice as president of our branch. Carla Grot wrote about Harriet's importance to our branch in the October newsletter.

Contributions to the Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund in honor of Harriet Jarosh can be sent to:
Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund
Chester County Community Foundation, Inc.
28 Market Street
West Chester, PA 19382
RE: Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund, in honor of Harriet Jarosh

Also, contributions can be made to the Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund online at:
<http://www.chescocf.org/funds/Fund%20purpose/Alice%20Lawson%20Scholarship%20Fund.htm>

Domestic Violence Center

For January the center needs crib sheets, twin sheets, and twin blankets, as well copy paper for their office. Contacts: Donna Golden: 610-344-0245; goldendonna@verizon.net or Marie Dunn at 610-431-0641; marie1227@comcast.net



By Whitley Harbold
December 2012

Although the Presidential Election is behind us, it will surely not be forgotten. In the 2012 General Election, women made up the majority of voters with a 53 percent turnout. Millennials were just as committed at the polls as well. Women under the age of 29 made up 19 percent of all the votes, which surpassed the 2008 election levels of 18 percent and the 2010 election levels of 12 percent of voters.

I would like to thank the entire branch for being supportive and committed to the 2012 National Campaign, "It's My Vote. I Will Be Heard." This was something new to many branches, but we got through the unknown and were successful. Women went to the polls and made their voices heard because of all your dedication and time registering voters, educating and informing women about the issues that were at stake and calling women in West Chester to remind them to vote on Election Day.

Our branch volunteers registered 211 people to vote, and 164 of the people registered were millennials. West Chester University was by far the prime location to register millennials, and it was great exposure for AAUW and the branch. I also want to thank all the volunteers who made phone calls to millennials in the West Chester area to inform them about AAUW issues and to remind them to vote. Whether you volunteered at West Chester University, Cheyney University, Exton Square Mall, the Valley Forge Book Sale or other various locations, all of your efforts were accounted for and greatly appreciated.

Once again, thank you very much for engaging in this campaign, and remember that every personal contact you made with a Millennial accounted for the high turnout rate at the polls. The issues that AAUW promoted were important to many women at the polls. After

speaking with several millennials, the issues of college affordability, increasing employment opportunities, equal pay and access to birth control were considered when women cast their vote at the polls.

In Pennsylvania, amongst the ten branches that participated in the campaign, we registered 1,076 people to vote and 943 of them were millennials. Within a week before the election, four Pennsylvania branches made a total of 1,617 calls to millennial women. The results of this campaign were exceedingly positive, and I hope these get-out-the-vote efforts will continue in the branch for future elections. It was great working with all of you, and I am very happy to have met some wonderful women along the way who have positively impacted my life.



GETT 2013 Site Chosen

Mary A Smith

GETT committee and AAUW Liaison

I am excited to announce the 13th Annual Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology (GETT) event will be held on March 16th, 2013 at the new, state of the art, Phoenixville Middle School. Planning for the one-day event is under way, and once again I will be asking for volunteers to staff the parent/educator event, serve as flag ladies, as lunch servers or whatever GETT may need on the day of the event. I will start making a list of those members who would like to be involved. Many who have volunteered in the past can attest to the satisfaction this brings to them to be part of such an amazing event. I have been involved and am part of the original committee from 13 years ago, sitting in a boardroom at CB Technologies with 8 other women trying to figure out how to encourage young women to get into the IT careers. Little did we know we would be creating such a long-standing event. It just goes to show how one idea can spark a movement.

Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology (GETT) began in Chester County Pennsylvania in 2001 as a response to the under-representation of young women in the fields of computer and information technology. GETT, a volunteer-driven SEPA regional project, has now expanded its scope, introducing the universe of technological and STEM careers to girls. GETT is an exciting, enlightening and educational workforce development project designed for Southeast PA girls in grades 6 through 12 and their parents, teachers, and counselors to learn about careers in the dynamic fields of technology. GETT has had partner events in Philadelphia (BioScience) and in Casper, Wyoming at Casper College.

Why is GETT Important?

Although technology has a huge impact in shaping our society, the latest statistics indicate that girls shy away from careers in technology. These careers are financially rewarding and influential, but unfortunately, the number of

women entering these fields continues to decline. In 2003, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Educational Foundation Report, *Women at Work*, highlighted the need for advanced education for women in the computer and information fields. Without this training, the technological gender gap will continue to grow. According to recent research from the Information Technology (IT) Association of America, women now represent barely one-quarter of IT workers.

GETT is an opportunity for parents, girls, and educators to learn the facts about how technology careers can be fulfilling, fun, and rewarding personally, professionally, and financially. GETT also provides an excellent way for girls to meet and interact with successful women and educators who are positive role models.

GETT Project Founders and the 2007 GETT Steering Committee were Honored as Recipients of the 2007 AAUW Gateway to Equity Award and the 2007 Partnership Award Presented by the Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry. This shows what an important event GETT is, and highlights the need to continue it.

The American Association of University Women - West Chester Branch supports GETT on an annual basis.

If you have any contacts for funding, if you know of any young women who may be a part of the hands-on break-out sessions or if you would like to volunteer, please let me know at pangea49@comcast.net or call me at 610-269-3375.



Membership News

Welcome to our newest member!

Barbara (Barb) Lathroum

Home: 305 Whistling Swan Lane
Downingtown, PA 19335
Profession: Math Teacher-Downingtown East
High School
Degree: Oberlin College, AB
West Chester University, BS
Johns Hopkins University, MA
Phone: 610-321-9783 (h)
484-995-2008 (c)
E-mail: blathroum@gmail.com
Interests: puzzles, reading, genealogy,
needlework

Updated

Samia Rishi

Home Address: 110 Hidden Pond Drive
Chadds Ford, PA 19317-9365
Phone: 302-540-0623 (c)
E-mail: samiakr@gmail.com

Branch Board Meetings

All Board meetings are open to the membership and are held at the Women's Center at West Chester University. Meetings begin at 7:15 pm, are over by 9, and are usually on the first Tuesday of the month.

Special Interest Groups

Couples Bridge

Meets the 3rd Saturday evening monthly at a member's home. We are a social group and welcome all who like to play. Contact the chair, Carol Habig, at 610-431-9987 or e-mail her at whabig@verizon.net.

Lit I, Afternoon Book Discussion: Meets on the 4th Thursday. Please contact Elaine Burgess, 610-383-7018 if you plan to attend.

Lit II Book Group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will take place on January 16th when the group will discuss the book *The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris* by David McCullough. The discussion leader will be Phyllis Dunn, and the hostess, Jean Speiser.

New members are always welcome, and can join the group by contacting Donna Eaves at [610-692-5277](tel:610-692-5277) or deaves@live.com.

Non-Fiction Group

You may call Paula McGinness for more information, 610-942-4852 (home) or 610-273-3303 (work).

Finance Discussion Group

The Finance Discussion Group meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Participants are invited to bring related articles. For information contact: Leslie Olson, 610-793-2938 or olsonfour@verizon.net.

FIG (Food Interest Group)

Dining around, usually at a member's home. This group is co-ed, singles welcome. Each member brings a dinner item. The group meets the 2nd Saturday of each month. If interested please contact Donna Eaves at [610-692-5277](tel:610-692-5277) or deaves@live.com.

Great Decisions

For more information on the Great Decisions group, contact Jacky Page at 610-359-9887 or martin_page@msn.com.

TIG (Travel Interest Group): AAUW TIGers

The Travel Interest Group is composed of those who like to go on day trips. Several trips are planned for winter and spring 2013. Trips are open to all members and guests. The contact person is Sue Johnston, suearlj@verizon.net or 610-363-8535. Contact Sue or Roselyn Cadoff with any questions. If you are not on our email list and would like to be or wish to be removed from the list please contact Sue.

Get Your *Keystoner* Online and Help the Environment

The *Keystoner* is the State AAUW Newsletter - switch to receiving it online. You will receive an e-mail notice of the posting with a table of contents and a link to a downloadable copy.

Help the environment and the state organization, plus no waiting for delivery. Archived issues also. To sign up just fill in the blanks at: <http://www.aauwpa.org/keystoner.html>

AAUW Mission Statement

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

Norma George Newsletter Co-Editor
610-872-7567 ngeorge@cheyney.edu

Tamara Hollins Newsletter Co-Editor
610-399-2256 thollins@cheyney.edu

Nancy Rumfield Newsletter Co-Editor
610-399-0388 nrumfield@gmail.com

Newsletter email aausumnews@gmail.com

Fran Pierce Branch Co- President
610-594-0625 franpierce@verizon.net

Sandi Kwisz Branch Co-President
[610-793-3135](tel:610-793-3135) SandraK98@aol.com

Jean Speiser Program Vice-President
[610-692-3227](tel:610-692-3227) JeanSpeiser@gmail.com

Nancy Dore Program Vice-President
610-725-0459 4dores@comcast.net

Jane Schultz Membership Vice-President
[610-431-3628](tel:610-431-3628) mjschultz46@hotmail.com

Linda Lang Recording & Corresponding Secretary
610-738-9678 lindalang@comcast.net

Molly Scott Financial Officer
[484-702-7211](tel:484-702-7211) gollymolly44@gmail.com

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

Guidelines for AAUW some

1. Deadline for articles is the 10th of the month unless noted in newsletter.
2. Board will develop outline/plan for newsletter.
3. Copies of each article must be sent to the President.
4. Articles should be less than 340 words (1 column in 12 pt.) and sent as .doc (Word) files whenever possible.
5. Program information should be available for publication in the month prior to the event.
6. SIG information should be specific (when, where, leader, contact info., program or book).
7. Photos should be sent in .jpg format and should be the best quality possible. Leave cropping to the editors when possible.

8. Editors must keep newsletter to 10 pages or less (5 printed front and back).

9. Editors must consult with President or designee if newsletter is too long.

10. Circulation Chair will determine number of copies to be printed.

11. Board will review and decide list of Friends who receive printed copies.

12. The newsletter should go to the printer by the 25th of the month. Copies should include the Circulation Manager, Person who distributes the e-mail version, and, if requested, other named designees.

Help AAUW Save Money

Each year our editors put together eight informative, attractive, and news filled issues of our *AAUW some* newsletter. At current prices, printing and mailing costs exceed \$1.50 a piece per issue, costing over \$12.00 per member per year. For several years, many AAUW members have received their copies via e-mail. Through e-mail they receive the news as soon as it is published. By eliminating the paper copy, they are also making a contribution to a greener environment. If you are not already receiving *AAUW some* via e-mail and would be willing to do so, please contact Fran Pierce at franpierce@verizon.net.

Membership Outreach

If you wish to review your records for the *AAUW National association* check out <http://www.aauw.org/> or use the *Helpline Phone* at 800-326-2289

Once you have accessed the site go to the Member Center. You will need your Membership Number to change your record information (see directions on page 35 of the branch member handbook). In addition, you can find your Membership Number on the address label of the Association publication *Outlook* or on the label of your branch handbook.



Holiday Party – Progressive Dinner

Please send this form to Nancy Dore at 3 Thayer Drive, Frazer, PA 19355

Name(s) _____

Phone or Email _____

Number attending _____ (\$15 per person/\$25 per couple) Amount enclosed _____

*Reservations must be received no later than **December 10** in order to allow hostesses time to plan and prepare food. **MAKE CHECKS** out to: **AAUW West Chester-Chester County**.*

Buy a Raffle Ticket and Support Our Branch!

This month we will be raffling off a holiday-theme basket at our Holiday Dinner on December 15. The basket will include wine and champagne, gift cards for gourmet food items, and other accessories that could be used in your home over the holidays. Tickets will be sold throughout the cocktail party and dinner and the raffle winner will be picked during the dessert party at the end of the evening. The value of the basket will be more than \$150.

BUT – even if you cannot attend the Holiday Dinner event, **you can participate!** Tickets are **\$2 each or 3 for \$5** and if you will not be attending the dinner, you can send your check to Fran Pierce to reach her no later than December 12th. Please make your checks payable to “AAUW West Chester-Chester County” and mail them to Fran Pierce at 717 Hunt Club Lane, Chester Springs, PA.

Indicate how many tickets you are paying for, and Fran will fill out the tickets for you and put them into the ticket bowl the night of the dinner and send you your half of the tickets by mail. Please include your phone number when you send your check so that we can call you if you are the winner of the basket!

Raffle Tickets!

Name _____

Address _____

of Tickets at \$2 each or 3 tickets for \$5 _____ = Check enclosed for \$ _____

Please mail your check with this form to:

Fran Pierce, 717 Hunt Club Lane, Chester Springs, PA 19425

*An Invitation from Roselyn Cadoff - she will be exhibiting her oil paintings in this show.
The show runs through January 5th*

ArtFusion 19464 -- Annual Holiday Open House
Friday, December 7 from 5-8pm

Make plans to join us on 12/7 for our annual holiday party! Guests will have a special chance to see the artistic and creative entries in our annual holiday show. Over 35 local artists are participating in *The Secret Life of Trees*. That evening we will also be collecting donations of canned goods for a food drive run by the Pottstown Keystone Chapter 565 of Vietnam Veterans. This food will go to local veterans and their families for the holidays.

As always, this party is free and open to the public. We do ask that you RSVP *via email* or by calling [610-326-2506](tel:610-326-2506).

ArtFusion 19464
Formerly the Gallery School of Pottstown/Gallery on High
*254 E. High St. * Pottstown, PA 19464 *[610-326-2506](tel:610-326-2506)*
www.artfusion19464.org

Holiday Gift Giving – Giving Gifts without Guilt

Thinking about gift giving this season? How about choosing gifts that give twice! Consider gifts that benefit your favorite nonprofit – wildlife, nature, breast cancer, research hospitals and many more organizations or groups. To help you make some decisions and have some extra fun shopping, here are a just few websites you can check out. Don't forget a contribution to the *Alice Lawson Scholarship* (see page 3) when you are thinking of giving.

Gifts Without Guilt – Nonprofit Organizations – a listing of many sites
<http://nonprofit.about.com/od/fordonors/tp/guiltfreeshopping.htm>

The Breast Cancer Site Store
<https://www.thebreastcancersite.com/store/bcs/site>

The Hunger Site Store
<https://thehungersite.com/store/th/s/site>

Interested in submitting an article or have information to share?

We need your News!

The co-editors of *AAUW some News*, are delighted to bring you this issue of the newsletter, but ... *We continue to need input from members!!* Please send *articles* as Word documents. Forward your news articles to the *gmail account*: aauwsumnews@gmail.com, indicating the topic and month in the subject box and cc the President. This is a shared share account, so the co-editors can access your email and keep their work or personal mailboxes from getting filled. It also makes collaborating easier.

Remember that articles for a given month of the newsletter are due on the 12th of the preceding month. Please provide all necessary information with your submission.



West Chester-Chester County PA Branch
717 Hunt Club Lane, Chester Springs, PA 19425

December 2012 - January 2013 Newsletter

Holiday Progressive Dinner

Saturday December 15, 6:00 pm

See page 8 for reservation form

wccc-pa.aauw.net

AAUW Mission Statement

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

AAUW Vision Statement

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

AAUW West Chester – Chester County Branch Vision Statement

The West Chester-Chester County Branch will

- Actively recruit members who support Association goals.
- Nurture these members through active Interest Groups, through monthly meetings with intellectual and social merit, and through member support.
- Sponsor at least one project per year with volunteers and with funds to promote Association and branch goals.
- Sponsor at least one local scholarship per year for a nontraditional student
- Support programs for training and self-development of branch members to promote Association goals.
- Raise funds through community projects and member gifts to support Association goals.

Since its first meeting in 1881, AAUW has been a catalyst for change. Today, with more than 100,000 members, 1,000 branches, and 500 college and university partners, AAUW contributes to a more promising future and provides a powerful voice for women and girls—a voice that cannot and will not be ignored.

www.aauw.org www.aauwpa.org wccc-pa.aauw.net