



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

Volume 56, Number 8 May 2013

Annual May Banquet of the AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch

- WHEN:** Wednesday, May 8, 6:30 p.m.
WHERE: West Chester Country Club, Ashbridge Street at North High Street, West Chester
WHO: All members and their guests
WHAT: Banquet, Annual Meeting, and Awards Ceremony

Join us for our end-of-year celebration! Enjoy a delicious meal and be inspired by our special guest speaker, Heidi McPherson, Executive Director of The Fund for Women and Girls. She will discuss the mission of the organization, how it operates, what it supports and how our organization can get more involved. This foundation is “dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls, and all members of the Chester County community” -- “*We envision a country in which all women and girls have access to resources and opportunities for economic freedom, well-being, and security.*”

The Fund is the 2013-14 recipient of our branch ***Gateway to Equity***. With each organization we honor with our “Gateway to Equity Award” we educate our members about their mission, vision, activities, and fundraisers. Our branch commitment also is to support the honored organization throughout the year by encouraging our members to get involved, buying ads in its fundraising booklets, and providing auction items or whatever the organization members suggest to assist their cause.

We also will announce our Branch Award Winners for the ***Outstanding Woman, TEAL*** award, and for our new ***Peg Anderson Special Achievement*** award. All nominees listed in the April newsletter should plan to attend the banquet to receive your award, if you are one of the lucky winners!

If you have not yet made your reservation, it’s not too late. But hurry because **the deadline is May 1st**. Choose your entrée -- *Chicken with Angel Hair Pasta* or *Salmon Filet*, then contact Phyllis Dunn by e-mail dunn.phyllis@gmail.com or by phone at 610-696-1079. You can bring your check for \$28 to the banquet or mail it to Phyllis Dunn, 1035 North New Street, West Chester, PA, 19380. Phyllis must receive your call or e-mail no later than Wednesday, May 1, so don’t delay. ***Sorry, but absolutely no drop-ins can be accommodated at this banquet!!***

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From the Co-President

Dear Members,

It seems like just the other day I was writing my first newsletter correspondence as Co-President, and now we are wrapping up another successful program year. I wrote in my first letter that I expected the year to be a one of opportunities to learn and grow. I wasn't disappointed; there were many highlights for me – getting out the vote with It's My Vote: I Will Be Heard, seeing the excited faces of girls at GETT as they took apart and put together a computer, learning about various programs in our community that empower women and girls, and watching our membership numbers grow. And, of course, there were the fun events with our special interest groups in addition to the holiday party.

Recently, on a rainy and gloomy Friday afternoon, I headed to State College to attend the AAUW PA 84th Annual State Meeting. Arriving tired and hungry, I soon became energized by the friendly and positive attitudes of the AAUW PA members (pizza helped, too). Friday night consisted of an AAUW (national) update by Connie Hildebrand, a member of AAUW Board of Directors, and the inspiring documentary "Miss Representation" (<http://www.missrepresentation.org/the-film/>).

On Saturday, Christianne Corbett, co-author of *Graduating to a Pay Gap*, was the keynote speaker and summarized the important new research that "explores the pay gap between male and female college graduates working full time one year after graduation." To read the complete report, go to <http://www.aauw.org/files/2013/02/graduating-to-a-pay-gap-the-earnings-of-women-and-men-one-year-after-college-graduation.pdf>. The weekend went by quickly with presentations, the annual meeting, and opportunities to learn and share. More details of the meeting will be in the spring *Keystoner*, which is coming out soon.

While attending the AAUW PA Annual Meeting, I felt the impact of belonging to a large network of women sharing the same mission and vision. The meeting also reinforced my appreciation of how our branch embraces the mission of empowering women and girls to make a positive difference in so many ways. Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." I continue to be impressed by your talents, dedication, leadership and spirit.

A representative from AAUW (national) reported that leadership development will be an important focus. In the area of leadership, our branch is very fortunate. For the past three years, Fran Pierce in her role as president has encouraged and supported us to be leaders in our endeavors. *Thanks, Fran, for being an awesome leader of our branch and patient mentor to me!*

So, as we get ready to attend the May Banquet, we have much to celebrate. I look forward to working with the incoming board and all of you to further the goals of AAUW. Thanks so much for your support this year.

Sincerely,
Sandi Kwisz

Nominations for Offices

Here is the list of those who have graciously offered to run for offices for next year.

Co-President - Dorothea LaVigne

Co-Vice President of Programs

- Peggy Staarman

Co-Vice President of Membership

- Carol Habig

A special thanks to our Nominating Committee: Molly Scott, Kay Philipps, Sue Ciorletti, Roni Mullen and Elaine Burgess.

And the Nominees are...

Submitted by Fran Pierce

Thanks to all of you who sent in nominations for our annual awards that will be announced at the banquet on May 8 at the West Chester Country Club. Here are the nominees for our 2013 awards:

Outstanding Woman – Awarded to a member for meritorious service to the branch and the community over multiple years.

- Donna Eaves
- Norma George
- Nancy Rumfield
- Mary Smith

TEAL Award - Granted in recognition of recent-term contributions by an unsung member who exemplifies the spirit of AAUW.

- Sandy Alexander
- Valerie Connors
- Ann Duerr
- Tamara Hollins

Peg Anderson Award – Recognizes a longstanding member who has served in many capacities over the years and who continues to work in the background to inspire and support those who are now leaders and members.

- Donna Eaves
- Norma George
- Yvonne Peiffer
- Mary Smith

Gateway to Equity – This award is given to an organization in the community that has advanced equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, or research.

1. Chester County Fund for Women & Girls
2. Girl Scouts of Southeastern Pennsylvania
3. Mommy's Light

Flower Power Fundraiser



Thanks for “digging in” and making “Flower Power” a successful fundraiser for our branch! As of today, April 17th, with one more week to shop, we raised \$555. Our branch received 50% profit on every sale. Funds will be used for programs, scholarships, and other branch activities. Happy Planting and enjoy your flowers!

GETT 2013 got it Right!

By Mary A. Smith

GETT was a great success! Thank you so much for all the wonderful support you give to make it successful year after year. Without women such as you there would be no GETT. We had over a dozen volunteers from West Chester-Chester County AAUW.

This year we had 500 registered girls from 97 schools in Southeast PA and 401 girls (279 middle school girls and 122 high school girls) actually attended. We ran 28 concurrent career sessions; 87 parents attended and 29 educators attended of which we provided 3 sessions tailored to their needs. One of the important features coming from their input was the desire and need to have a website dedicated to and for parents and educators.

Valerie Connors has taken that responsibility and has come up with a high quality, informative website that went on-line the end of March. Please make sure you visit it at <http://valeriewconnors.wix.com/gett-resource-center>. It will be updated on a regular basis. If anyone has an event, summer camp, or link to a STEM website, then please email me at pangea49@comcast.net or valeriewconnors@gmail.com. We would love to have your comments and input. We have already begun planning GETT 2014!

Alice Lawson Scholarship Winner

By Mimi Jones

We are pleased to announce that the winner of the 2013-2014 Alice Lawson Scholarship is Kristen Merk. Kristen is a student pursuing a degree in Healthcare Management at Immaculata University. Kristen impressed us with her mature approach to her choice of careers and her ability to maintain an excellent GPA while working fulltime. Recently Kristen was promoted to Human Resource Manager at BJ's Wholesale Club. She writes that she is working to "increase the communication between the management staff and the team members", thus developing a skill that will certainly apply to the healthcare field. She plans to graduate from Immaculata in 2014. We believe that she will make excellent use of the scholarship.

Legislation and Public Policy (LAPP)

*Legislation and Public Policy (LAPP)
Ann Duerr*

Governor Corbett has slashed funding for public education by nearly 1 billion dollars over the past two years. **Mark Your Calendar:** Join "Call to Action for Education" on Tuesday, May 7th and June 4th. Request your Governor, state Senator and Representative to:

- Reinststate \$270 million in funding to this year's budget
- Restore the nearly 1 billion cuts over a 3 year timetable
- Work toward and adopt a permanent, rational funding formula

For additional "talking points," check the 2013 Budget Summary on our website (wccc-pa.aauw.net). Click on "Activities" and then on "Public Policy". Contact information for legislators is supplied by the League of Women Voters at chesco.palwv.org.

Thanks to Peggy Staarman for organizing the Equal Pay Day Bake Sale to benefit the Women's Club at WCU on April 10th. Fifteen

members provided an assortment of delicious bake goods. Workers included Peggy, Fran, Sandi, Donna, 2 students from the Women's Center, and 5 Friar Club members (men's service organization on the WCU campus) who capably and enthusiastically supplied background information on the pay gender gap with conversation, pamphlets, and posters such as "Pay Gap = Women at a Discount-100% UNACCEPTABLE" and "Pass The Paycheck Fairness Act in 2013" that stresses these points:

- Require employers to show pay disparity is truly related to job performance and not gender
- Strengthen remedies for pay discrimination
- Prohibit retaliation against workers who disclose their wages to their co-workers

Check our website (click on "2 Minute Activist" under "AAUW LINKS") to make your voice heard in Congress. On April 11th the House of Representatives voted against bringing the Fairness Act to a vote. This is 100% UNACCEPTABLE!

The League of Women Voters' Civil Liberties Committee (similar to LAPP) invites our AAUW branch to take part in their topics of interest that include Citizens United, human trafficking, and drone privacy. Let us know if you want to join the conversation in the coming 2013-14 year.

Transforming Women's Water Burdens into Opportunities

By Ann Duerr

Yvonne Peiffer's articles (February, March newsletters) provided excellent background on our AAUW branch's connection to the Philadelphia Global Water Initiative (PGWI). On April 10th, I joined Yvonne, John, and Linda Lang for the 6th annual PGWI one-day conference entitled "Gender and Water: Leading the Burden" at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

It is estimated that on a single day women spend over 200 million collective hours fetching water. This occurs mainly in poor, rural areas of Africa, India, and Haiti to name a

few. The women typically carry 20 liter containers that weigh 44 pounds and face a daily threat of violence or rape when they travel long distances. They walk 10 miles each day--more in the dry season. Girls drop out of school or miss 1 week per month when they start menstruating due to lack of toilets and bad sanitation. Unless it is for reasons that are commercial, work related, or a long drought, men rarely help. Women and young girls carry 90% of the water.

UN agencies now recognize that the exclusion of women from the planning of water supply and sanitation projects is the major cause of their high rate of failure. Agencies such as CARE, Water Aid America, Food for the Hungry, and Catholic Relief Services have learned to listen to the women in the areas they serve. The women often know the locations of the available and seasonal water sources as well as which sources are safe. The heterogeneous divisions of women such as religion, class, education, tribe, urban exposure, marital status, and care giving responsibilities must be taken into consideration.

With training and support, women have an opportunity to provide much needed service to their communities by introducing locally built technologies and simple health strategies that can lead to an invitation to the decision making table. One example of support is the Global Women's Water Initiative (GWWI), which provides a comprehensive program that can address a variety of water-related health challenges in their local communities. GWWI trains women to be water and sanitation technicians and educators, teaches them entrepreneurial and advocacy skills, and funds them to launch their own clean water programs designed to last. These women-led Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Service Centers will have the knowledge and technologies to address four areas: water access, water quality, sanitation, and hygiene. This integrated approach is needed to initiate individual and community behavior change that can reduce water-related illnesses, protect water sources, and provide opportunities for

women, girls and other vulnerable people to thrive and uplift them from poverty.

The United Nations Development Program estimates that for every \$1 invested, there is a return of up to \$4 in increased productivity. To learn more, check out www.pgwi.org (on our website, too) for its 2012 Accomplishment Report and summaries of conference topics. Also the *wH2o Journal* at wh2ojournal.com is a valuable source of information on the projects to transform women's water burdens into economic opportunities.



Membership News

Welcome to our newest members!

Fran Bierwirth

Home Address: 19 Harvey Lane
Malvern, PA 19355
Profession: Retired
Degrees: Duke University, BA
Temple University MED
Phone: 610-644-2637 (h)
E-mail: fhbierwirth@hotmail.com
Interests: travel, swimming, reading, gardening

Jennifer Phillips

Home Address: 933 Jaine Lane
Chester Springs, PA 19425
Profession: Office Manager
Degrees: West Chester University, BA
Phone: 484-947-6969 (h)
215-768-2194 (0)
E-mail: jenphillips89@yahoo.com
Interests: bridge, culinary, travel, reading

Anne Anderko (John)

Home Address: 908 Pine Valley Circle
West Chester, PA 19382- 5299
Profession: Office Manager
Degrees: Pennsylvania State Univ., BA
Phone: 610-692-1810 (0)
484-885-4943 (C)
610-692-4583 (F)
E-mail: ananderko@msn.com
Interests: gardening, decorating,
wallpapering, painting, reading

AAUW Membership Renewal

Dues Renewal Notice (see page 10)

It's time to renew your annual AAUW dues. Please continue your membership in AAUW, our vital organization for the promotion of equity, education, and self-development for women and girls.

Payment of dues is for the membership period **July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.**

Mail the attached **membership renewal form** and **check** to: Jane Schultz

1300 Amstel Way
West Chester, PA 19380-5818

Make **check payable** to:

AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch
for **\$75.00** (life members \$26.00)

Special Offer: All members who have paid their dues **prior to** or **at the May Dinner** receive an entry into a surprise gift raffle. Don't delay. Send your renewal today. The raffle winner could be YOU!

Ways and Means

Our fundraising efforts include recycling *used ink cartridges*. Please bring these to the meetings. Mary Smith will be collecting these and dropping off on a regular basis.

Email questions to: pangea49@comcast.net.

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. The next meeting is on Tuesday, May 7th.

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 May 15 when the group will discuss the book *Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan. The discussion leader will be Jane Shultz, 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: Meets every two months. Contact Paula McGinness for upcoming readings and location information. 610-942-4852 (home) or 610-273-3303 (work) or pmcginness@chesco.com.

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

On *April 9th*, we traveled to West Chester for the WCU Travel Adventures Film "Along the Royal Inca Road" and dinner featuring foods of the area.

On *May 19th*, there will be a guided tour of Kennett Underground Railroad sites. More detailed information will be sent to TIG members. If you are interested in being a TIG member contact Sue Johnston: sueearlj@verizon.net or 610.363.8535.

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.

Interested in submitting an article or have information to share?

We need your News!

The co-editors of AAUWsome 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 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 10th of the preceding month. Please provide all necessary information with your submission.

Domestic Violence Center

At the May Banquet, we will be collecting small denomination gift cards.

Contacts: Donna Golden: 610-344-0245; goldendonna@verizon.net or Marie Dunn at 610-431-0641; marie1227@comcast.net

GETT Photos ... by Linda Lang



Cindy Dufour and Linda Lang



Jane Schultz, VP Membership



Please Join
AAUW West Chester-Chester County
 For Our
**Annual Meeting &
 Spring Banquet**

Time: 6:30 p.m.
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2013
Place: West Chester Country Club
 111 West Ashbridge Street *Corner of North High & Ashbridge Streets
Cost: \$28 per person -- Same as last year!
RSVP: Send the form below by **Wednesday, May 1, 2013** to:
 Phyllis Dunn
 1035 North New Street, West Chester, PA 19380
 -OR-
 email her at dunn.phyllis@gmail.com

Join your AAUW friends for our Annual Meeting, Awards Ceremony, and another exciting program featuring a discussion of women musicians.

Don't forget to BRING A GUEST and receive a free entry
 in our Membership Development Raffle!

I/We Will Attend *the Annual Spring Banquet* on *May 8* at the West Chester Country Club

Dinner Choices -- Chicken Capellini: Boneless breast sautéed with garlic, sundried tomato and spinach,
 tossed with angel hair pasta
Salmon Filet Imperial: Salmon with a Dill Buerre Blanc Sauce

Name _____ **Chicken** **Salmon**
 Guest _____ **Chicken** **Salmon**
 Phone _____ **E-Mail** _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ @ \$28 Per Person Check Number _____

Send a check made out to: AAUW, West Chester, Chester County Branch to
 Phyllis Dunn, 1035 North New Street, West Chester, PA 19380
 or you can pay at the door with exact cash or check but you **MUST** reserve your spot by May 1 (NO
 DROP-INS!) by contacting Phyllis at dunn.phyllis@gmail.com.

AAUW - West Chester-Chester County Branch **RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP FORM** Date: _____

Name (Ms/Mrs. /Miss/Dr.) _____

Preferred first name for handbook (If different from above): _____
Last _____ First _____ "Maiden" Name _____
Name of Spouse/Partner _____
(if you choose to include him/her)

Mailing Address: _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Voting Township _____

Telephone (H) _____ Office or Cell _____ FAX _____

E-mail _____ Birth Date (Optional): _____

College/University State/Country Major Area of Study Degree Earned

AAUW Bylaws require that you have at least an Associate's Degree. If you do but you prefer not to list your college and other information above, please check here to verify that you do have a degree. _____

Occupation/Title/Company _____ Active? ___ Retired? ___

Volunteer Experience/ Community Activities: _____

Hobbies _____

Will you take the newsletter via e-mail? Yes ___ use e-mail address above. No ___ use my mailing address

Need a ride? (We can't promise but we'll try) ___ Can you provide a ride occasionally? ___

Do you have computer experience? Website Design ___ Database (which one) ___ Desktop Publishing ___

Previous AAUW Member? ___ Member # _____ Branch? _____ Offices held? _____

ACTIVITIES, INTEREST GROUPS AND PROJECTS OF AAUW W.C. - CHESTER COUNTY

Please check any of the following that you might like to **LEARN more** about; we will get the information to you.

Board Position	_____	World Affairs	_____	Girls Math Project	_____
Programs	_____	Finance Discussion	_____	Newsletter Production	_____
Membership	_____	Book Club 1 (4 th Thursday)	_____	Newsletter Circulation	_____
Scholarship	_____	Book Club 2 (3 rd Wed PM)	_____	Annual Handbook	_____
Branch News & P. R.	_____	Book Club 3 (Non fiction)	_____	Branch Website	_____
Fund Raising	_____	Bridge (Women)	_____	Girls and Technology	_____
Political Issues	_____	Bridge (Couples)	_____	Domestic Violence Center	_____
Immigration	_____	Culinary Club	_____	Crafts	_____
Travel	_____	Women's Issues/Legislation	_____	Other Ideas?	_____

Please complete and return this form with your dues. **If there is anything above that you wish to be kept confidential, please CIRCLE that item.** Membership Renewal is **DUE** no later than **June 30** of each year. **Make Check for \$75.00** (life members \$26.00) payable to **AAUW - West Chester-Chester County Branch**. Payment of dues is for the membership period **July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014**.

Return to:

Jane Schultz, Membership VP
1300 Amstel Way
West Chester, PA 19380-5818

Inquiries at 610-431-3628(H)
mjschultz46@hotmail.com



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

April 2013 Newsletter

**Annual Meeting & Spring Banquet
May 8, West Chester Country Club**

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