



## AAUW some NEWS

News & Views from the  
West Chester – Chester County PA  
Branch

## Writing Memoirs: Susan Weidener

Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Grove United Methodist Church  
490 West Boot Road, West Chester, PA  
*7 p.m. Networking and Nibbles*  
*7:30 p.m. Program*

A former journalist with *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and a book editor, Susan G. Weidener is the author of two memoirs, *Again in a Heartbeat* and its sequel, *Morning at Wellington Square*. After her husband's death from cancer, she wrote in her first book about "the journey of moving forward after pain and loss, and the search for love."

Susan started the Women's Writing Circle, which meets at Wellington Square Bookshop in the Eagleview Town Center in Exton. The Circle published its first anthology, *Slants of Life*, which consists of stories and poems. Each entry addresses specific themes of daily life with compassion and insight.

Susan will discuss her inspirations, how memoirs differ from autobiographies, and her experience with the Women's Writing Circle. Her books are available on Amazon as paperbacks and on Kindle as e-books. Signed copies also will be available after Susan's program. You can find more information about her on her website:

<http://www.susanweidener.com/>

Directions to Grove United Methodist Church at 490 Boot Road, West Chester, PA 19380: From West Chester, take Route 100 North to Boot Road; turn left and follow toward the intersection of Grove Road/Whitford Road. The Church is on your left before you reach the intersection. Additional information at [www.grovechurch.org](http://www.grovechurch.org) or [610-696-2663](tel:610-696-2663).

### Contents

<i>From the Co-President</i>	2	<i>Legislation &amp; Public Policy</i>	5,6	<i>Mission</i>	9
<i>Thanksgiving Quotes</i>	2	<i>GETT</i>	6, 7	<i>Membership</i>	10
<i>In Memory of Graham Boose</i>	3	<i>Holiday Home Tour</i>	8	<i>Board Meetings</i>	12
<i>Holiday Raffle/Fundraising</i>	4	<i>Holiday Party</i>	11,12	<i>SIGs</i>	12,13

## **From the Co-Presidents**

Dear Members,

**Happy Fall!** The beautiful weather is in tune with a beautiful beginning of another exciting year at the AAUW-West Chester-Chester County Branch.

All programs are in full swing, and the diverse activities offered by the “Special Interest Groups” are being enjoyed by our members. Check out all the offerings in the branch handbook and on our website at [wccc.pa.aauw.net](http://wccc.pa.aauw.net). The handbook password is **aauwsome**.

At the October 9<sup>th</sup> membership meeting, Linda Cark enlightened attendees with her witty and informative presentation about authors of the Victorian era. Much laughter and discussion attested to the success of the evening.

The Fund Raising committee has created two beautiful baskets: “Pamper Yourself Basket” and “Restaurant Basket”. Raffle tickets are only **1 dollar each, or 6 for 5 dollars**. Look for raffle tickets to also be available at Special Interest Group meetings. Sell them to friends, family, and neighbors!

The PITT committee and interested branch members visited the Technical College High School Pennock’s Bridge campus on October 16<sup>th</sup> to actively reach out to the Hispanic community for participation in the GETT day on March 15th at Phoenixville Middle School.

Kudos to Ann Duerr and Mary Dorsey Bunnell for being awarded a \$100 mini impact grant from AAUW-PA. The committee is busy informing us about the issues on Human Trafficking as well as Fair Trade and current Public Policy & Legislation.

Sadly, we lost one of our most valued and longstanding active member since the last newsletter: Graham Boose. You can find her memorial in this newsletter and read all about this remarkable woman. As is tradition for the branch, an appropriate book will be donated to the Chester County Library System in her memory.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the next membership meeting on **Wednesday November 13<sup>th</sup> at 7p.m.** for socializing and another interesting presentation by Susan Weidener, author and leader of the Women’s Writing Circle.

Sincerely,  
Dorothea Lavigne & Sandi Kwisz  
Co-Presidents



## **Thanksgiving Thoughts**

“What we’re really talking about is a wonderful day set aside on the fourth Thursday of November when no one diets. I mean, why else would they call it Thanksgiving?”

*Erma Bombeck*

“Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.”

*Melody Beattie*

“We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives.”

*John F. Kennedy*

We think so, too! Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving with our thanks for all you do!!

--Sandi & Dorothea



Because our members are so important to us, we want to keep in touch. Do you know of a member who needs to receive a get well note or card of support? Please contact our Corresponding Secretary Laura LaBuda ([labudalauren@aol.com](mailto:labudalauren@aol.com)) with the necessary information.

# *In Memory of Graham Dunstan Boose*

By Yvonne Peiffer



*Graham Boose 1941- 2013*

Graham Boose was a remarkable woman: elegant, feminine, gracious, quiet, modest about her own accomplishments, and very private -- the picture of a true southern, gentle woman. She also was a strong role model for other women - a hard worker, an organizer with a capital "O", and a planner with strong attention to detail and great persistence until each task was complete. Graham was especially remarkable because her aim was to make those around her comfortable and to give/teach them the knowledge they would need to accomplish wonderful things themselves.

Examples given are too numerous to mention. However, I will cite a few. Graham could have become a doctor, but she chose math so she could have a family as well as a profession. (Yes, this was a sign of the times in which she grew up.) The day of her wedding, Graham wanted her guests to enjoy themselves, so she took a bus-load of guests for a tour of Alexandria, VA (including the Masonic Temple) before her evening wedding. If someone had a special talent, like making

special note cards, Graham would ask the woman to make some for her. Then she would not only pay for the cards but also send a special "Thank You" note with, perhaps, a William Penn prayer enclosed. If someone bought Graham and Barry a gift, Graham would give something in return--a cookbook, a special tomato knife, place mats, homemade soup....

Graham loved to entertain, and Barry actively supported her. She also loved rabbits: she had a collection of rabbits and held Easter Egg Hunts at her and Barry's home for family and friends. Family and friends were very important to her. Many of you in AAUW knew Graham through the book groups, Food Interest Group (FIG), Travel Interest Group (TIG), Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology (GETT), PETT, and her extensive LRM activities. Graham's gifts included the ability to write grants to fund LRM and PETT activities so that not only our local AAUW branch members would benefit, but others as well. She truly believed in AAUW's Mission Statement: "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research." Graham spoke up, asked questions, and gave suggestions to the local, state and national leaders of AAUW.

Graham was inquisitive throughout her life and wanted to explore and experience new frontiers. She and Barry traveled in the United States and abroad and then shared their experiences with others through scrapbooks and conversations after meals at their home. Graham - along with all her list making and spreadsheet organizing- had a good sense of humor, enjoyed most of the activities in which she chose to be involved, and loved being part of her grandchildren's lives. She and the grandchildren cooked together, read together, and played together. They went kayaking, ice skating, and rock climbing together. Yes, she also sorted the jellybeans to get the right colors for the Easter baskets they made, and she put labels on all the light switches for those visiting their shore home. That was Graham--a unique and interesting woman.

We have come full circle back to Graham wanting to make things easier for others. She was the consummate hostess, and she and Barry were a team. In sum, Graham was an individual, a woman, a wife, a mother, a grandmother, and a high level employee in a male dominated profession. The world is a better place for having had Graham in it. She accomplished much, and we will miss her.

### **Graham Boose 1941- 2013**

Born: May 8, 1941 (oldest of two girls)

Died: September 27, 2013

Married: February 1964

Husband: Barry Boose

Children: Stuart and Alexandra

Grandchildren: Katie, Amelia, Zoe, and Conrad (to them she was known as "Mimi")

Education: BA, MS, MBA

Profession: Retired Engineering Manager,  
Aerospace/Defense Industry

#### *Volunteer Activities:*

##### *AAUW:*

AAUW West Chester-Chester County  
President Elect, President, and Co-President;  
AAUW State Convention Organizer in Chester  
County

##### *Other:*

PA State College University Chair;  
Junior League;  
Woman's Community Club of Uwchlan (avid  
gardener, entered Philadelphia Flower Show);  
Girl Scouts during the 1980's;  
Grove Church: Trustee, implemented  
computer upgrades and more;  
Philadelphia Art Museum Docent

##### *AAUW Honors:*

Gift Honoree

Outstanding Woman Award

Peg Anderson Award

Received grants from Let's Read Math (LRM),  
Spreading LRM, and Parents/Educators  
Exploring Tomorrow's Technology (PETT).



### **Holiday Raffle Update...**

Our spectacular Holiday Raffle is now underway! Purchase raffle tickets for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Take a chance to win either the "Pamper Yourself Basket" or "Restaurant Basket" filled with over \$200 in gift certificates and merchandise. Remember you can sell tickets to friends and family, and you do not need to be present to win.

The drawing will take place on Dec. 15 at the Holiday Social. You can buy tickets at the November meeting or e-mail Anne Anderko at [ananderko@msn.com](mailto:ananderko@msn.com) if you cannot attend and want tickets. All sold/unsold tickets can be sent back to Anne Anderko at 908 Pine Valley Circle, West Chester, PA 19382. Make checks payable to AAUW-WCCC.

We are still in need of donations for the baskets, especially for the "Restaurant Basket." Please consider asking for a donation this month while dining out or pampering yourself at your favorite salon/spa.

Also, there is a thank you letter you may use for businesses who donate items for our raffle. The letter can be downloaded from our website: [wccc-pa.aauw.net](http://wccc-pa.aauw.net). Look in the "Members Only" section under "About Us" and use our password: *aauwsome*.

Please note that since our branch is not a 501 (C) (3) organization, donations are not tax deductible as charitable contributions. Thank you so much to everyone who has already provided donations for the baskets.

### **Next Fundraiser - Bus Trip**

At the October meeting members expressed interest by an overwhelming show of hands for a NYC trip in early spring. Please e-mail Anne with any thoughts or suggestions on this upcoming trip at [ananderko@msn.com](mailto:ananderko@msn.com). This will be our second fundraiser.

## **Legislation and Public Policy (LAPP)**

By Ann Duerr

Facing the Monster, Dawn's Place, Dress for a Good Cause, Senate Bill 75, and Fair Trade Products are all part of LAPP's major objective: being aware and becoming involved in human trafficking issues. Human trafficking/modern slavery involves being compelled to provide services through force, fraud, or coercion.

Carol Hart Metzker, West Chester activist and author of "Facing the Monster-How One Person Can Fight Child Slavery", stresses four areas that are currently the targets for positive action: raising awareness that slavery exists; prosecution of traffickers, holders, and abusers; support for survivors; and prevention of slavery. Carol will be the speaker for our January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 program.

Dawn's Place is a unique facility in Philadelphia that addresses the needs of victims of foreign and domestic sex trafficking. Dress for a Good Cause is an event that turns gently worn dresses and jewelry into funds for projects for resident survivors of human trafficking, including GED tests, tutors, counseling, tuition, and books. More information will be provided.

Senate Bill 75, introduced by Senators Greenleaf and Dinniman, would improve and better define Pennsylvania's human trafficking laws so law enforcement personnel have the tools they need to bring perpetrators to justice and help victims begin the path to recovery. We will keep you informed regarding this legislation.

Fair Trade Products are produced with proper wages and conditions for workers, respect between buyers and sellers, and ecological sustainability. Check out and contribute toward issues of abuse and positive stories of companies/ individuals making a difference on our local website at:

[wccc-pa.aauw.net](http://wccc-pa.aauw.net).

Mary Dorsey-Bunnell will keep us updated with AAUW-PA Action Alerts and timely items from *Washington Update*. Take five minutes weekly and check out our local website for connection to the *2 Minute Activist*, which connects you and your representatives on issues of interest. This site also will take you to the PA and National AAUW news.

LAPP committee members include: Ann Duerr and Mary Dorsey-Bunnell(co-chairs), Whitley Harbold, Mimi Jones, Linda Lang, Peggy Staarman, and Jean Speiser . We invite all interested members and your comments concerning AAUW-PA public policy.

## **AAUW LAPP: Community Safety and Reduction of Gun Violence and Gun Deaths**

By Peggy Staarman

AAUW-PA has charged Pennsylvania local, state, and federal elected and appointed officials to work together for the benefit of the community. The common goal should be to promote safety and reduce gun violence and gun deaths. The AAUW-PA proposes that laws, regulations, and related enforcement be strengthened prudently to promote the safety of all individuals. AAUW-PA supports nationwide studies on the root causes and consequences of gun violence so the nation can change the prevalence and culture of harmful gun-related behavior.

On Sept. 16, the nation experienced another mass shooting at the Washington Navy Yard. A former Navy reservist killed 12 people. Less than a year ago, the nation mourned 20 children who were killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School. However, gun violence is not limited to these horrific tragedies. Unfortunately, gun violence affects Americans each day in many ways.

Although the percentage of American households with a gun has been declining steadily, the average number of guns per owner

has increased. The United States has the highest rate of gun ownership in the world: 88.8 guns for every 100 people. The number of guns manufactured in 2011 is 6,107,512. Our country also has the highest rate of homicides with guns among advanced countries. Gun murders (11,078 in 2010) are at the lowest rate since 1981, but nonfatal gun injuries (55,544 in 2011) are at the highest rate since 2008. Gun suicides (19,392 in 2010) are also at the highest rate since 1998. (Small Arms Survey-Geneva; General Social Survey, University of Chicago; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; CDC WISQAS Injury Mortality Reports).

Passing reasonable gun legislation has proven to be very difficult and slow. The effort to reduce gun violence and to keep firearms out of the hands of criminals and mentally ill people has been thwarted, because legislation that included an expanded background check to close loopholes has not been successful. The Senate, as well, did not pass the compromise background Toomey-Manchin bill. However, there are still many who are working to pass common-sense legislation, while protecting Second Amendment Rights. A number of bills relating to gun safety are pending in the state and federal legislatures.

AAUW (National) encourages members to contact their lawmakers about the importance of addressing school climates, bullying, and harassment as they relate to gun violence prevention in schools as a key element of the gun safety debate. As always, please contact your elected officials about your views on gun legislation. To find your legislators, go to <http://www.pasen.gov>. For more information about local groups advocating for gun violence prevention legislation, contact Peggy Staarman at [peggstaar@verizon.net](mailto:peggstaar@verizon.net).

“There never will be complete equality until women themselves help to make laws and elect lawmakers.”

-Susan B. Anthony

## **GETT 2014--Back at Phoenixville Area Middle School!**

*Mary A. Smith, GETT Committee and AAUW Liaison*

I am excited to announce that the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual *Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology* (GETT) event will once again be held at the state of the art Phoenixville Middle School. GETT will be held on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Planning for the one day event is under way, and once again I will be asking for volunteers for the day of the event to staff the parent/educator event, flag ladies, serve lunch, or whatever GETT may need.

I am also the Chairperson for the parent/educator segment in which *Parents/educators Exploring Tomorrow's Technology* (PETT) will play a major role. 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 being part of such an amazing event brings them. I have been involved and am part of the original committee from 14 years ago when I sat in a boardroom at CB Technologies with 8 other women trying to figure out how to encourage young women to get into the information technology (IT) careers. Little did we know we would be creating such a long-living event. It just goes to show how one idea can spark a movement.

PETT, which received an AAUW Community Action Grant for 2013-2014, was developed in response to the ongoing needs expressed by parents and educators who attended the one-day GETT girls STEM event. PETT will provide parents and educators with knowledge, contacts, resources, and strategies to help them create a supportive, nurturing environment for girls in grades 6-12 who are interested in STEM. PETT will bridge the gap between girls' desire to pursue STEM studies and the support needed from parents and educators to realize this goal as well as work to change the negative perception of girls and STEM.

*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 computer and information technology fields. 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.

#### *Why is GETT Important?*

Although technology has a huge impact in shaping our society, the latest statistics indicate that girls shy away from technology careers. Careers in technology are financially rewarding and influential; 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 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 Recipients of the 2007 AAUW Gateway to Equity Award and the 2007 Partnership Award Presented by the CC Chamber of Business and Industry. This shows what an important event GETT is and the need for it to continue.

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

If you have any contacts for funding, if you know young women who would like to be part of the hands-on break-out sessions, or if you would like to volunteer, please let me know by emailing me at [pangea49@comcast.net](mailto:pangea49@comcast.net) or by calling me at 610-269-3375.

## **One More Member Needed for the Nominating Committee**

Jean Speiser, Patti Barker, and Elaine Burgess will be joining Chairperson Kay Philipps on the Nominating Committee. We appreciate their commitment! Members on this committee serve for 1 year. The responsibility of the nominating committee is to develop a slate of officers - elected and appointed - for the 2014-2015 program year.

**We still need one more member for the committee.** If you like to work on short term projects mostly in the comfort of your home with only a few meetings, this committee may be just right for you. The nominating committee is active mid-January through early May, and most of the work is done by phone.

If you are interested in joining the nominating committee, please contact Sandi Kwisz ([SandraK98@aol.com](mailto:SandraK98@aol.com)) or Dorothea Lavigne ([dlav43@aol.com](mailto:dlav43@aol.com)). Thank you.

Also, if you are interested in becoming active in one of the many committees or interest groups, contact the pertinent Committee Chair for more information. Check the handbook for details.





## Holiday Home Tour in West Chester to Benefit the 125 Year-old West Chester Public Library

On December 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., the West Chester Public Library (WCPL), which is celebrating its 125 Anniversary this year, will present 11 beautiful and historic homes for its Holiday Home Tour. The homes are located in the southwestern side of the West Chester Borough and will be open to tour visitors for the holidays.

Seven of the homes are nestled around the beautiful and historically preserved Everhart Park, the borough's 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest park, and those seven homes are all within easy walking distance of one another. The homes this year were built between 1787 and 1959, each with its own special charm and history. As a bonus, "Tanglewood", the home of West Chester University Presidents, will be open. Also, the West Chester University Alumni House will be open for you to tour and enjoy refreshments.

Birthday cake will be served at the WCPL as part of the Library's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, for tour participants. Tickets are on sale now at the West Chester Public Library at 415 N. Church St. in West Chester for \$30. On the day of the tour, the tickets will be available at the library for \$40. Tickets also can be purchased at the Chester County Book Company in the West Goshen Shopping Center in West Chester. Online ticket purchases: <http://wcpubliclibrary.org/>

For more information contact:  
Phyllis Dunn  
610-696-1079  
[dunn.phyllis@gmail.com](mailto:dunn.phyllis@gmail.com)

## Domestic Violence Center

For the November program meeting, Donna Golden and Marie Dunne will be collecting the following items: Pillows - twin size, paper towels, and canned goods for Thanksgiving. For health reasons the pillows need to be new. Gift cards to grocery stores would also be good for Thanksgiving.



## Alice Lawson Scholarship

As the season of giving approaches consider making a contribution to the Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund. Each year the American Association of University Women (AAUW) West Chester –Chester County Branch awards the Alice Lawson Scholarship in the amount of \$1000 to an undergraduate student 25 years of age or older. Eligible students from *West Chester University, Cheney University, Lincoln University, and Immaculata University* can apply. Scholarship information for 2014 will be available in January, but it's not too early to share the site with possible candidates.

Information can be found at:

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

*Contributions to the Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund can be sent to:*

Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund  
Chester County Community Foundation Inc.  
28 Market Street  
West Chester, PA 19382

Online contributions to the Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund can be made at:

<http://www.chescocf.org/funds/Fund%20purpose/Alice%20Lawson%20Scholarship%20Fund.htm>

### *AAUW Mission Statement*

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

*Norma George*  
610-872-7567

Newsletter Co-Editor  
[ngeorge@cheyney.edu](mailto:ngeorge@cheyney.edu)

*Tamara Hollins*  
610-399-2256

Newsletter Co-Editor  
[thollins@cheyney.edu](mailto:thollins@cheyney.edu)

*Nancy Rumfield*  
610-399-0388

Newsletter Co-Editor  
[nrumfield@gmail.com](mailto:nrumfield@gmail.com)

*Newsletter email*

[aauwsumnews@gmail.com](mailto:aauwsumnews@gmail.com)

*Sandi Kwisz*  
[610-793-3135](tel:610-793-3135)

Branch Co-President  
[SandraK98@aol.com](mailto:SandraK98@aol.com)

*Dorthea Lavigne*  
610-429-4520

Branch Co- President  
[dlav43@aol.com](mailto:dlav43@aol.com)

*Jean Speiser*  
[610-692-3227](tel:610-692-3227)

Program Co-Vice-President  
[JeanSp@gmail.com](mailto:JeanSp@gmail.com)

*Peggy Staarman*  
610-269-4866

Program Co-Vice-President  
[peggstaar@verizon.net](mailto:peggstaar@verizon.net)

*Jane Schultz*  
[610-431-3628](tel:610-431-3628)

Membership Co -Vice-President  
[mjschultz46@hotmail.com](mailto:mjschultz46@hotmail.com)

*Carol Habig*  
610-431-9987

Membership Co -Vice-President  
[whabig@verizon.net](mailto:whabig@verizon.net)

*Linda Lang*  
610-738-9678

Recording Secretary  
[lindalang@comcast.net](mailto:lindalang@comcast.net)

*Laura LaBuda*  
610-888-9509

Corresponding Secretary  
[labudalaure@aol.com](mailto:labudalaure@aol.com)

*Molly Scott*  
[484-702-7211](tel:484-702-7211)

Financial Officer  
[gollymolly44@gmail.com](mailto:gollymolly44@gmail.com)

Branch Website [wccc-pa.aauw.net](http://wccc-pa.aauw.net)

## **Guidelines for AAUW *some***

1. Deadline for articles is the 10<sup>th</sup> 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 Co-Presidents.
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. Editors and Co-Presidents 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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 Sandi Kwisz at [SandraK98@aol.com](mailto:SandraK98@aol.com)

## **Read The Keystoner Online**

AAUW PA The Keystoner, is a quarterly newsletter published by AAUW PA serving AAUW branches throughout Pennsylvania. It is available by online and paper delivery. All branch members with e-mails are currently signed up to receive The Keystoner online. Members who indicated on their membership form that they would prefer to receive a paper copy of our monthly branch newsletter will also receive a paper copy of The Keystoner. The Keystoner will be sent from the mailbox of the co-president ([SandraK98@aol.com](mailto:SandraK98@aol.com)). If you did not receive the summer Keystoner sent in mid August, please contact [SandraK98@aol.com](mailto:SandraK98@aol.com).

## **Membership News**

Welcome to our newest member!

Carole Valentine (A.T. Valentine)  
779 North Reeds Road  
Downington, PA 19335-1838  
Profession: Retired-Integrated Reading/  
Writing Specialist and Consultant  
Degree: Kent State University, BS  
Notre Dame University (NH), MA, MS  
610-321-0309 (h) 484-883-2173(c)  
E-mail: [cnsvalentine@gmail.com](mailto:cnsvalentine@gmail.com)



## Give A Grad A Gift

AAUW members can give recent college or university graduates a free, one-year AAUW membership within two years after graduation at no cost to you or them.

- Expose a graduate to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 165,000 members and supporters who believe in and advance equality and education for women and girls.
- Expand their networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects.
- Keep them current on events and people that affect their life as they receive Mission & Action, AAUW Outlook, Action Network Alerts, and more.
- Increase their buying power with access to member-only discounts.



### Member Update:

Kathy Neary moved out of the area in October.  
We wish her well in her new location.

### Address Correction:

Laura LaBuda  
827 Winters Avenue  
West Hazleton, PA 18202

### New Email Address:

Linda Lang [lindalang1426@gmail.com](mailto:lindalang1426@gmail.com)

### New Address:

Alice Delducco  
512 Crosslands Drive  
Kenneth Square, PA 19348

### Remove Email Address:

Henrietta Williams

## Shape The Future Membership Campaign Continues for 2013-2014

Individuals who have not previously been an AAUW member can join AAUW National as a new member for only \$24.50. State and local dues bring the total membership dues to \$45.50 for their first year of membership. Contact Jane Schultz, Membership VP, with the names of potential members.

## West Chester-Chester County Branch Membership Recruitment Incentive

Introduce your friends and associates to *AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch*! Each time you bring a prospective member to a branch meeting, your name will be entered into the **Membership Recruitment Incentive**

**Raffle.** The winning raffle ticket will be drawn at the May banquet. The winner will receive a free one-year national membership renewal. Entry tickets will be available at the November branch meeting.



## You Are Invited to Attend AAUW West Chester's Holiday Party

At the home of:  
Phyllis Dunn  
1035 North New Street  
West Chester, PA 19380-3835

On: **Sunday, December 15 at 2 p.m.**  
Drawing for the Holiday Raffle Basket  
will be at the end of the party.

Cost: **\$10 per Guest**

This event is a fundraiser for our branch activities and projects.  
Beverages are included in your ticket price.

If your last name begins with A through L, *please bring a dessert.*  
If your last name begins with M through Z, *please bring an appetizer.*

For Parking details, see the article in this newsletter.  
RSVP by sending the completed form with check payable to AAUW-WCCC to:  
Jean Speiser at 809 Denbi Court, West Chester, PA 19382.

\*\*\*\*\*

I/We will attend the Holiday Party on Sunday, December 15.

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_. (\$10 per person)

Make checks payable to AAUW-WCCC



## Holiday Party! Save The Date!

Continuing with our tradition, the December program will be a holiday get-together. We will meet on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at the home of Phyllis Dunn, starting at 2:00 in the afternoon. Phyllis lives at 1035 N. New Street in West Chester. Parking is a little tight, so members are encouraged to carpool. You can also park on the grass to the right of Phyllis's driveway or in the driveway itself. Since Phyllis lives on a private drive off New Street, please leave enough room for the other residents to get in and out.

We ask members whose last names begin with A through L bring a dessert, those from M through Z should bring an appetizer. In either case the item should be enough to serve six to eight people. Bring whatever serving utensils your dish needs. Hot appetizers or desserts that will need additional baking or reheating are not practical, so choose your recipe accordingly. Drinks, both wine and non-alcoholic, will be provided.

Members are welcome to bring guests – whether significant others, potential new members or friends. The cost is \$10 per person (member or guest). Please RSVP and send your check to Jean Speiser, 809 Denbi Court, West Chester, PA 19382. Checks should be payable to: AAUW-WCCC. We need an accurate count ahead of time, so **please send your check no later than December 7.**

## Membership Outreach

Your Records with the National Association can be assessed by contacting:

- Helpline Phone (800) 326-2289 or
- Internet and email: The website for national AAUW is <http://www.aauw.org/>. Once you have accessed the site go to the Member Center. Have your Membership Number available to change your record

information (see directions on page 29 of the branch member handbook). In addition, you can find your Membership Number on the address label of the Association publication (Outlook).

## 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 7:00 p.m., are over by 9 p.m., and are usually on the first Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is on Wednesday (mark the date), November 6th. The following meeting will be Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Special Interest Groups

### Couples Bridge

Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:whabig@verizon.net).

**Lit I, Afternoon Book Discussion:** Meets on the 4th Thursday. Please contact Roni Mullen [610-436-0912](tel:610-436-0912) if you are interested.

### Lit II Book Group:

Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will take place on November 20<sup>th</sup> when the group will discuss the book *Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher* (NF-Bio) by Timothy Egan. The discussion leader will be Phyllis Dunn, and the hostess will be Fran Pierce. The following group meeting will be January 15<sup>th</sup>, *The Light Between Oceans* (F) by Margot L. Stedman, with Jane Schultz as the Leader and Dorothea LaVigne as the Hostess. 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](mailto:deaves@live.com).

**Non-Fiction Group:** The Non-Fiction Book Group will hold its next discussion Monday, November 18, 2013 in the restaurant at the Days Hotel, 943 South High Street, West Chester at 7:00 PM. The discussion book is

The Boys in the Boat; Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics by Daniel James Brown. Please request a copy at area libraries by placing a hold as the book is on the NY Times Bestseller's List. You may call Paula McGinness for more information, [610-942-4852](tel:610-942-4852) (home) or [610-273-3303](tel:610-273-3303) (work).

### **FIG (Food Interest Group)**

This group dines around either at members' homes or restaurants. The group usually meets on the second Saturday or Sunday of the month. Couples (unless otherwise specified) and singles are welcome. The upcoming event is as follows:

Sunday, Nov. 10--Sunday Brunch will be held at The Drafting Room in Exton and will be hosted by Marguerite Pond and Roselyn Cadoff.

Email invitations will be sent to FIG members. If you are interested in joining, please contact Donna Eaves at [610-692-5277](tel:610-692-5277) or at [deaves@live.com](mailto:deaves@live.com).

### **Great Decisions**

For more information on the Great Decisions group, contact Jacky Page at 610-359-9887 or [jacquelinepage9@gmail.com](mailto:jacquelinepage9@gmail.com)

### **TIG (Travel Interest Group): AAUW TIGers**

The Travel Interest Group is a group who like to go on day trips. We will plan several trips before the end of the year as well as three to four in winter and spring 2014. Trips are open to all members and guests. Some are limited in numbers.

The next trip will be to the Michener Museum on Friday, November 15 at 2pm. We will have a docent for the special *Grace Kelly Collection*, which will take about an hour. We can then tour the rest of the museum on our own. Lunch plans will be announced.

The cost is \$16 per person plus a \$25 (total) fee for the docent for 20 people. If more than 20 then we will need two docents. Since a \$100 deposit is needed to hold the reservation, please respond as soon as possible. We need to have at

least 10 participants; others can be added later.

If you are interested and are fairly sure you are going, then please let me know this week if possible. We can add people later, but I want to make sure we have at least 10 participants. Contact Sue Johnson if you are interested. Email: [sueearlj@verizon.net](mailto:sueearlj@verizon.net) or h: (610) 363-8535 c: (484) 467-7640

If you are not on our email list and would like to be or wish to be removed from the list, contact Sue (numbers above) or Roselyn Cadoff (610-458-8813). They will also be happy to answer any questions about the group. Being on the list does not obligate you to attend any of the activities.



<http://www.michenermuseum.org/exhibition/from-philly-to-monaco-grace-kelly-beyond-the-icon>

*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](mailto: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.



1133 St. Finegan Dr., West Chester, PA 19382

*November 2013 Newsletter*

Writing Memoirs

November 13th, Grove United Methodist Church

[wccc-pa.aauw.net](http://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.

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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](http://www.aauw.org)    [www.aauwpa.org](http://www.aauwpa.org)    [wccc-pa.aauw.net](http://wccc-pa.aauw.net)