



## AAUW some NEWS

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

*Volume 62, Number 3*  
*April 2017*

## Voting in Chester County

### Kara Rahn, Director of Chester County Voter Services

### Wednesday, April 12, 7:00 p.m.

**Grove United Methodist Church**  
**490 Boot Road West Chester, PA**

We are so pleased to have Kara Rahn, the Director of Chester County Voter Services, speak to us this month. As voters, we appreciate our democracy every time we enter the voting booth, but we seldom stop to consider the effort expended to make this democratic right a smooth process. Ms. Rahn is one of the people who makes sure that voters are registered and Election Day preparations are completed on time. She served first as assistant director of Voting Services and is skilled in the PA election code and election programming software. She is also proficient in voter registration and absentee ballot processes and procedures. Before becoming assistant director of Voting Services, Ms. Rahn held a managerial role at Exelon, was deputy director of the Delaware County Transportation Management Association, and served as government affairs coordinator and community relations representative for PECO. Ms. Rahn lives in West Chester, PA, is a graduate of Shippensburg University and has an MBA degree from Eastern University. We look forward to hearing from her about what goes on behind the scenes, as Voter Services prepares for elections.

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

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## Letter from the President

*Barbara Lathroum*

Hello Everyone,

Happy Spring! The next couple of months are chock full of events for branch members!

On April 3rd, we will be helping at Start Smart, an event that tonya thames-taylor, our Legislative and Public Policy chair, has organized with our student affiliate at West Chester University. We need ten volunteers from the branch to help facilitate this event. Students attending this event will come away with negotiating skills for when they interview for that first job.

On April 21-23, AAUW-PA will hold a convention in York. I attended the Saturday of the convention last year and found it very worthwhile. It would be fun if several of us from the West Chester-Chester County Branch drove down on the 22nd. We could attend different workshops and compare notes at the end. Let me know if you are thinking of going.

On May 7, our L.A.P.P. Chair has organized a Women in Politics Forum. Tonya has invited some local women who have both won and lost in their quests for office to discuss their experiences as candidates. Together, these women and members of the audience will develop an action plan for supporting women candidates in local and state elections. This forum is open to the public. The place is yet to be determined.

We will be holding our May Banquet on May 10 at Timothy's in Exton at 6 P.M. (I cannot believe our year is almost over!) Our speaker will be from the West Chester University Resource Center, which helps students in need at the university.

A special thanks to Fran Pierce, Ann Duerr, and Arlene Rengert for their hard work on the nominating committee. They will soon be announcing the results of their "talent search".

Barb Lathroum

## GETT 2017

AAUW branch members helped girls attending this year's GETT event explore origami in art and in daily life at the EXPO . GETT was held on March 25 at West Chester East High School.



Left to right: Jean Speiser helps fold an origami piece at the AAUW EXPO table at GETT 2017. . . showing off origami . . . Jennifer Schultz, chair of the AAUW Branch committee for GETT's EXPO helps participants with folding.

## West Chester University Resource Pantry 2017-18 Gateway to Equity Award Winner

*Eva Kaufmann*

*The Gateway to Equity Award honors an individual, group or organization that has shown by action and philosophy the promotion of the AAUW mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. The 2017-18 Gateway to Equity Award winner is the West Chester University Resource Pantry.*

The WCU Resource Pantry is a new program which serves students with financial need. There are currently 20 students in the program, both men and women, and that number is expected to grow rapidly. The students are low-income students, and some are "unaccompanied," which means they have no home to return to when school is not in session. They are permitted to live in the dorms year-round and receive financial assistance. Next fall the Resource Pantry will cooperate with a new group of women students who are raising children, who call themselves "SuperMoms."



*Elly Gerhardt, Graduate Social Work student, helps manage the Pantry and counsels students.*

The Resource Pantry plans to move to a larger facility in the Student Counseling Center, which is more centrally located on campus. Currently the Resource Pantry is in a back room, very private, providing clothing, food and school supplies. After a screening process by the Financial Aid Office, students are eligible to come by and take what they need on a loosely scheduled basis. Each student gets

counseling to deal with budgeting, career counseling, and job applications.



*Part of the display of available clothing with student worker Gordina Butts.*

Most of the food they have on hand is supplied by the Chester County Food Bank. The West Chester University Foundation and private donors provided funds to cover the start-up costs. Clothing, toiletries, and school supplies are provided by individual donors, and this is where we will focus our efforts. Tori Nuccio, director of the program, says she is "humbled and thrilled" with our offer of assistance to this wonderful program!





## #MyLifeMyLabel Campus Action Project

Our guest speaker for the March 8 chapter meeting was Tia S. Brown, MPH, Associate Director of Health and Wellness Programs at Cheyney University. Tia was project advisor for the #MyLifeMyLabel Campus Action Project at Cheyney University, and she reported on the project, which received a 2014-2015 AAUW Campus Action Project grant. The project was a multi-tiered programmatic effort aimed at breaking down stereotypes by targeting how young women view themselves, view the possibilities available to them, and by motivating them to define for themselves who they are and their value to society.

A major success of the project, Ms. Brown pointed out, was that students took ownership and drove the implementation of the several phases of the project, which took place in a crunched timeframe during February and April, while students were in class. The program included a Speaker Series with speakers who focused on examples of career pathways in “male dominated” fields and on empowerment, self-esteem, and encouraging the heart. The program also included a visual campaign on social media and posters of local women and the labels by which they defined themselves. It also included panel discussions (women only, one for males only, and coed) to explore what the media says about black women, and it collated results of a Gender Attitudes Survey. A one-day #MyLifeMyLabel Women’s Empowerment Conference was also held, with 90 participants, that included speakers, workshops and panel discussions.

Ms. Brown expressed her confidence that the project helped the students to look forward and see benefits from their efforts, in changes on Cheyney campus and beyond; she cited one example of a student leader in the project who used her experience to present her graduate school application and was admitted.

*Reported by Toni Gorkin*



*Cheryl Messere*

The Staff and Volunteers sincerely want thank AAUW for your support this year. The House is a place for women to heal. Reminder: Donations for the Phoenixville Women’s Outreach: The House -- Bring to any Branch meeting:

- Dish soap
- Dish towels
- LED light bulbs low watt
- Dryer sheets
- Kleenex
- Coffee (loose, not “capsules”)

The House is holding a Fashion Show fund raiser on Thursday, April 6, at the Sunnybrook Ballroom, 50 North Sunnybrook Road, Pottstown. To reserve a ticket: [www.springfordchamber.com](http://www.springfordchamber.com) or 610-489-7200. \$30 per person includes a hot lunch.

A poster for a "WOMEN IN NETWORKING FASHION SHOW". The poster has a light blue background with floral and leaf patterns. At the top, it says "WOMEN IN NETWORKING" in a small, black, sans-serif font. Below that, "FASHION SHOW" is written in a large, bold, black, serif font. Underneath is the "Spring-Ford Chamber of Commerce" logo, which consists of a blue circle with "SF" inside, followed by "SPRING-FORD" and "Chamber of Commerce" in a smaller font. The date and time are listed as "Thursday, April 6th" and "11 a.m. to 2 p.m.". The location is "The Sunnybrook Ballroom (newly renovated) 50 North Sunnybrook Road, Pottstown". To the left, it lists "Ladie's and Men's Fashions", "Featuring Dress Barn Fashions", "Basket Raffles", "Door Prizes", and "50/50 Raffle". To the right is a silhouette of a woman in a long dress. Below that, it says "\$30.00 per person (includes hot lunch)" and "Open to the general public". At the bottom, it says "To reserve a ticket today: [www.springfordchamber.com](http://www.springfordchamber.com) Or call the chamber office at 610-489-7200". A small note at the bottom left says "\*A portion of the proceeds will benefit The House; Phoenixville Women's Outreach". At the bottom right, it says "Phoenixville Women's Outreach works to move previously homeless women to self-sufficiency by providing resources and tools needed to break the cycle of dependence and poverty." The logo for "The House Phoenixville Women's Outreach" is at the bottom left, and the phrase "Housing and Support for Women" is at the bottom right.

# Laundromat Library League Activities and Fund Raisers

*Arlene Rengert*

## **LLL Exhibits at Chester County Single Mother's Expo and Conference**

The Laundromat Library League provides children's books to children primarily by placing them in Laundromats. However, it also seeks other opportunities to put books in the hands of children that might have few or none at home. This month the LLL is an "exhibitor" at the Chester County Single Mother's Expo and Conference. At its table the LLL will distribute its own literature, and a sheet on the importance of reading to babies (separate sheets in English and Spanish), and will place into the hands of each mother that stops by free children's books appropriate to the ages of each of her children. The Expo/conference takes place on Saturday, April 22nd at Henderson High School (see [www.singlemotherscc.org](http://www.singlemotherscc.org)). Free child care is offered, and LLL participants will offer a story hour during it.

As of this writing additional volunteers are needed to staff the table or to participate in the reading. If you can offer participation get in touch with Arlene Rengert ([arengert@gmail.com](mailto:arengert@gmail.com); [610-696-2282](tel:610-696-2282).)

## **LLL Gives Books to Bridge of Hope Families**

Last month the LLL provided each family in the Bridge of Hope program with a packet of books specific to the ages of the children. Each family's books were in a colorful cloth bag sewn by children at West Chester Friends School as a service activity. Bridge of Hope "bridges" homeless women and children to economic independence.

(See [www.bridgeofhomelcc.org](http://www.bridgeofhomelcc.org).)

Provision of books to children in the program may become a quarterly event.

## **LLL Gives Books to AHHAH**

The LLL also recently provided hundreds of books to AHHAH, a nonprofit organization that

puts them in "PULL" (Pop Up Lending Libraries) in over 50 sites in Coatesville. AHHAH also does many other activities to empower children and families. (See [www.artsholdinghandsandhearts.com](http://www.artsholdinghandsandhearts.com).)

## **Other LLL Activities**

Also, this month the LLL is placing a box of books in Spanish in Puentes de Salud, a women's health clinic in South Philadelphia that serves the Latino community. (See [www.puentesdesalud.org](http://www.puentesdesalud.org))

This summer the LLL will provide books for each of the 130 campers in Camp Dreamcatcher, a residential week-long camp for children aged 6-16 that are affected by HIV/AIDS. (See [www.campdreamcatcher.org](http://www.campdreamcatcher.org).)

The above is not a complete list of ways in which the Laundromat Library League provides children's books to children in need of them other than through Laundromat distribution. It is intended to demonstrate the variety--and, of course the great needs that are "out there." If you would like to be kept informed of ongoing activities be in touch with Terry Houle to be on her e-list with updates on the LLL. Email her at [thehoules2004@yahoo.com](mailto:thehoules2004@yahoo.com).

## **LLL Fundraisers**

Also, if you are able, please spread the word of two restaurant fundraisers for the LLL that are coming up: April 19 at Pizza Uno in Exton, and May 25th at Snap Pizza in Exton. The latter gives the LLL a full FIFTY percent of what supporters spend that day! Coupons to hand in with payment are on the Laundromat Library League Facebook page and website ([www.laundromatlibraryleague.org](http://www.laundromatlibraryleague.org)), and will be available on paper at AAUW meetings.

See coupons on following page.



Dine at SNAP Custom Pizza and present this coupon or display it on your smart phone when you pay for your meal.

SNAP Custom Pizza will donate 50% of the proceeds to:

### Laundromat Library League

**WHERE:** Snap Custom Pizza  
291 Main Street, Exton PA 19341  
(Near Barnes and Noble at Exton Main Street)  
484-875-5800

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 25, 2017, 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM

In addition to signature and custom pizzas, the menu offers a variety of interesting signature and custom salads and 'grain bowls' (e.g. quinoa).



## Tech Savvy Coming to a Town near You

Tech Savvy is a daylong science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) career conference designed to attract girls in sixth–ninth grade to these fields and to inform families about STEM education and careers. Tech Savvy was founded in 2006 by the AAUW Buffalo (NY) Branch, under the leadership of then- branch president Tamara Brown. With the support of Praxair and community groups, this annual event has become a huge success, serving upwards of 700 girls and 200 parents each spring at the University of Buffalo in New York.

AAUW 2017 National Tech Savvy Program sites take the AAUW Buffalo (NY) Branch's highly successful STEM conference for girls nationwide. The 18 sites will be hosted by AAUW branches or states that will each receive a grant from AAUW to implement Tech Savvy. The full schedule can be found at <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/stem-education/tech-savvy/#schedule>.



## EAT, DRINK & RAISE MONEY!

COME SUPPORT A DOUGH RAISER TO BENEFIT

**Laundromat  
Library League**

**DATE:**

**Wed; April 19, 2017**

**VALID AT:**

**UNO Pizzeria and Grill  
8 N. Pottstown Pk, Exton PA  
610.280.4555**

UNO® will  
donate up to  
**20%**  
of your check

**DINE-IN  
or  
TAKEOUT!**

Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have up to 20% of your check's value, excluding tax and tip, donated to the organization above. Not to be used with other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking area. Valid only for the date listed above.

[unodoughraisers.com](http://unodoughraisers.com)

**PRESENT THIS TO YOUR SERVER**

Photo: Jim Coppolino © 2014

**On April 29, 2017, Tech Savvy will be at the Agnes Irwin School in Rosemont, PA.**

Although the program focuses on exciting girls about STEM, Tech Savvy also includes an important program for parents. This component encourages families to reinforce the girls' interest in STEM.

## Donation to Envirothon

*Nancy Dore*

This year's Harriet Jarosh Environmental Education Fund donation is again going to the Chester County Envirothon. The Envirothon will be held May 3rd and 4th at Hibernia Park. This year the current issue is "Agriculture Soil and Water Conservation Stewardship." Anyone interested in volunteering, attending, or for further information about the Envirothon please contact Lynn Criswell, Envirothon Coordinator, Chester County Conservation District, 610-925-4920x108.



## Jenn for Judge Fund Raiser Held

Branch member Jennifer Schultz is a candidate for Judge of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. In support of her campaign, numerous AAUW branch members attended a wine and cheese fundraiser, Jenn4Judge, on Sunday, March 12, 2017, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the home of Mary A. Smith and Walter Smith.



*Mary and Walter Smith hosted fund raiser for Jennifer Schultz*



*AAUW branch members met with Jenn.*

Jenn and her campaign person spoke about her commitment to issues for families, and especially to the underserved community in Philadelphia. Those interested in supporting her may send checks made out to Friends of Jenn for Judge.



Reminder: The AAUW Action Network (AAUW Action Network [advocacy@aauw.org](mailto:advocacy@aauw.org)) has been sending out statements about the legislation under consideration in Congress, for example, the American Health Care Act, stating AAUW's position. These statements provide useful information on the impacts specifically to women and girls by the legislation. You are encouraged to read these emails or read the statements on the AAUW Action Network website and contact your representatives accordingly.

### Two Minute Activist

Don't forget your commitment to be a frequent *Two Minute Activist*. Make your voice heard in Congress regarding education, economic security, and civil rights. Using our website (under AAUW Links) is so easy!

Note: AAUW (and numerous other organizations we may belong to, such as National Audubon Society and Sierra Club) are making it easy to send letters to your senators, using links on their websites and pre-authored sample letters expressing opinions about issues at the forefront today. Be sure to check the websites of your favorite organizations.

## AAUW #StandUptoSexism

*tonya thames taylor*

### Another (smile) **Message from Legislative And Public Policy (LAPP):**

AAUW's new [#StandUptoSexism campaign](#) has sparked lively conversation on social media, in the news, and in communities. AAUW and NYU Washington, DC, are convening a series of panel conversations now through October 2017 to keep this important dialogue going both online and off. Join us online or in person for this discussion series to learn how to fight gender bias in your thoughts, at your workplace, and through your activism. Link: <http://www.aauw.org/event/2017/03/tune-in-for-our-panel-on-how-to-standuptosexism/#OnlineReg>

## Gun Sense Chester County

*Peggy Staarman*

The Chester County Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence has changed its name to Gun Sense Chester County. It also has a new leader, Ann Cummings, who is working very diligently along with the members of the group to communicate the need for effective and sensible gun legislation that would help prevent the almost 33,000 American deaths each year due to gun violence. Everyone is invited to attend a presentation on current and proposed gun regulations on Tuesday, April 11 at 7:15 p.m. at the Church of the Loving Shepherd on 1066 South New Street in West Chester.

You may not realize that Pennsylvania requires no training, education, or certification to own a gun. It is legal to openly carry guns in public spaces and, over the past twenty years, it has become easier to buy and carry a gun. Gun Sense Chester County is committed to working in a bipartisan fashion. The group encourages anyone who is concerned about gun regulations to attend the April 11 presentation. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Staarman at [peggstaar@verizon.net](mailto:peggstaar@verizon.net).

## AAUW Equal Pay Rally and Lobby Day at Pennsylvania State Capitol April 4



If you haven't registered for Equal Pay Lobby Day, April 4 in Harrisburg, time is running out. Senate bill (SB241), which passed the senate in February, is not the answer for pay equity in Pennsylvania. A recent editorial by the prime sponsors that appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer promoted SB241 as a remedy that all women in Pennsylvania deserve. In response, the Women's Law Project wrote an editorial that explains why **SB241 is not the remedy it**

**might seem to be.** The editorial explains why this is a fake equal pay bill. It makes our AAUW PA lobby day even more important. If this bill passes, legislators will think they have addressed equal pay when this bill is just not adequate.

Please read the editorial at [http://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2017/03/pa\\_women\\_deserve\\_real\\_equal\\_pa.html](http://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2017/03/pa_women_deserve_real_equal_pa.html) and register for Equal Pay Lobby Day at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aauw-pa-equal-pay-lobby-day-tickets-31785693866>.

Please join AAUW of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg on **April 4, 2017 to rally for pay equity and visit your legislators!** At this event, you'll have the opportunity to discuss various pay equity bills that the Pennsylvania General Assembly will take up this session. AAUW supports strong, effective legislation aimed at closing the gender pay gap. Sometimes, faux equal pay bills like SB 241 are introduced. Learn more about why SB 241 is not the pay equity answer for Pennsylvania. **Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Location:** Pennsylvania State Capitol, 501 N 3rd St, Harrisburg, PA 17120 *Lunch will be provided at the Capitol.*

To close the pay gap in Pennsylvania, we need legislation that includes the following elements: cover all public and private employees; offer workplace protections; clarify employer defenses; establish strong legal procedures and remedies; compensate men and women equally for comparable jobs. On April 4, we want you to join us to spread this message in Harrisburg. Please contact [advocacy@aauw.org](mailto:advocacy@aauw.org) with any questions.



### **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](mailto:ngeorge@cheyney.edu)

Nancy Rumfield                      Newsletter Co-Editor  
610-399-0388                      [nrumfield@gmail.com](mailto:nrumfield@gmail.com)

Toni Gorkin                      Newsletter Co-Editor  
610-363-7627                      [tgorkin@comcast.net](mailto:tgorkin@comcast.net)

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

Barbara Lathroum                      Branch President  
610-321-9783                      [blathroum@gmail.com](mailto:blathroum@gmail.com)

Mimi Jones                      Program Vice-President  
610-269-9162                      [Danandmimi1@verizon.net](mailto:Danandmimi1@verizon.net)

Peggy Staarman                      Membership Vice-President  
610-269-4866                      [peggstaar@verizon.net](mailto:peggstaar@verizon.net)

Eva Kaufmann                      Secretary  
610-793-3809                      [ekaufmann1@gmail.com](mailto:ekaufmann1@gmail.com)

Anne Anderko                      Financial Officer  
484-885-4943                      [ananderko@msn.com](mailto:ananderko@msn.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 prior to publication – e.g., October 10, December 10, January 10, etc.
2. Board will develop outline/plan for newsletter.
3. Copies of each newsletter article must be sent to the President and the President Elect.
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. Be sure

to provide names of the people and description of the happening in the photo.

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 President 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.

*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.

## **Membership News**

*Peggy Staarman (Vice President for Membership)*

Chiwoneso (Chiwo) Tinago and Sarah Caspar are the newest members of our branch. Chiwo is an Assistant Professor at West Chester University and a former AAUW International Fellow. Members may not be aware that this fellowship program provides support for women pursuing full-time graduate study in the

United States and who are not US citizens. An award winner must commit to the advancement of girls and women in her home country. Prior to her fellowship award, Chiwo had already demonstrated community and civic service in her homeland of Zimbabwe. Sarah has been a national AAUW member, but has chosen to become a member of our local branch as well. She has extensive volunteer experience and many interests, especially environmental and legislative issues. Please give Chiwo and Sarah a warm welcome when you see them at our meetings and activities.

National AAUW is considering a \$10 increase in national dues. The AAUW Board of Directors will vote on the proposal on June 13, 2017. If the increase passes, it will become effective the following fiscal year, beginning on July 1, 2018. If you have a comment or question about this increase, you are encouraged to contact the national organization at [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org).

## **Membership Outreach**

Your Records with the National Association can be accessed by contacting:  
--Helpline Phone (800) 326-2289 or  
--Internet and email: The website for national AAUW is <http://www.aauw.org/>.  
You'll need your membership number, which can be found on the address label of the Association publication (Outlook).

## **Member Special Notes**

*The newsletter editors continue to include news about our AAUW chapter members in this newsletter.*

Many of our members are involved in other projects that also support women's issues, support our community, or express their passion and creativity. This is an opportunity to tell us what you are doing, and where appropriate, to share involvement. Please see the AAUW some guidelines for sending your articles and information to the newsletter's gmail account --[aauwsumnews@gmail.com](mailto:aauwsumnews@gmail.com).

## **Cathy Palmquist attends tea**

Cathy attended a tea with Frances Wolf, wife of our governor, held at the home of outgoing West Chester Mayor/newly elected State Representative (and AAUW member!) Carolyn Comitta. Twenty-four women of diverse racial, cultural and social backgrounds had an opportunity to hear Mrs. Wolf talk a little about what her husband has and hopes to accomplish, about their personal life (hosting and supporting refugees/immigrants) and then, hearing from us about the concerns and issues that we would like to see addressed in PA. What an interesting afternoon with some of West Chester/Chester County's fascinating women! And yes, Cathy reports, they did have tea, little sandwiches and sweets!

## **Toni Gorkin preparing for art show**

Toni is preparing artwork for exhibition in the Historic Yellow Springs Annual Art Show April 29 to May 14. The show is in Chester Springs. Her work includes landscapes and still lifes in handmade paper.

## **Board Meetings**

All Board Meetings are open to the membership. Board Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month, 7-9 pm. The next Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 5, 2017. The Board will meet at West Chester University, **Sykes Room 257**.

## **Special Interest Groups**

### **Couples Bridge**

A chair is needed. Please contact [Barbara Lathroum](mailto:BarbaraLathroum@blathroum@gmail.com) [blathroum@gmail.com](mailto:blathroum@gmail.com) if interested.



### **Women's Social Bridge**

Women's Social Bridge meets at 1:00 p.m. on the third or fourth Friday of the month. Upcoming 2017 dates are April 28 and May 19. Please email Sandy Alexander at [frau.salexander@gmail.com](mailto:frau.salexander@gmail.com) if you'd like to be on the email mailing list. All are welcome! This group meets monthly and is composed of both AAUW and non-AAUW members. Contributions received go toward the Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund provided to a non-traditional student.

### **Book Groups:**

*AAUW branches are known for their book groups, and membership in a group often encourages continuing membership. The West Chester-Chester County Branch currently has two book discussion groups meeting in the day and in the evening at different times of the month.*

### **LIT I: Daytime Literature Group –**

*Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group- Kay Philipps-  
[khp65hp@verizon.net](mailto:khp65hp@verizon.net)*

Our daytime Literature group meets the third Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. for refreshments followed by discussion beginning at 1:30 p.m. We read both fiction and non-fiction. Our March book is *The Boston Girl* by Anita Diamant. Eva Kauffmann is our discussion leader and Sandy Alexander is our hostess. On April 17th we will discuss the *Children Act* by Ian McEwan. Dorothy von Gerbig will lead the discussion and Kay Philipps will host. On May 15th, we will discuss *The Dream Lover* by Elizabeth Berg. Carla Grot will be our discussion leader and Eva Kaufmann our hostess. We welcome new members. Please call the hostess if you plan on joining us. Questions? Call Kay Philipps, Chair.

### **LIT II: Evening Literature Group –**

*Literature II - Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group -  
Jean Speiser - [JeanSpeiser@gmail.com](mailto:JeanSpeiser@gmail.com)*

Focusing on fiction with occasional non-fiction thrown in, Literature II meets on the third Wednesday of each month for lively and often opinionated discussion.

We always welcome new members. Snow and some of our members' schedules have brought about a change in our April plans. We are still reading Lauren Groff's *Fates and Furies* on April 19 with Fran Pierce leading the discussion, but we'll be meeting at Peggy Staarman's house at 307 Benning Lane, Downingtown at 7:00 with with the discussion starting at 7:30. *Fates and Furies* was highly praised when it came out and was shortlisted for the 2015 National Book Award. Please let Peggy ([peggstaar@verizon.net](mailto:peggstaar@verizon.net)) and me ([JeanSp@Gmail.com](mailto:JeanSp@Gmail.com)) know if you're planning to attend.

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

This group dines around either at a member's home or at a restaurant. The group usually meets on a Friday or Saturday for dinner, or Sunday for brunch or dinner, on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. Couples (unless otherwise specified) and singles, as well as new members, are welcome. We have no events currently on the FIG calendar and are looking for members who would like to host or plan a meal at a local restaurant in the upcoming months. Please contact Donna Eaves, 610-692-5277 or [deaves@live.com](mailto:deaves@live.com), if you are interested in hosting, want additional information or wish to join the group.

### **Great Decisions**

For information contact Jacky Page at 610-359-9887 or [jacquelinepage9@gmail.com](mailto:jacquelinepage9@gmail.com)

### **TIG (Travel Interest Group)**

The Travel Interest Group is composed of members and their guests who like to go to interesting places and often enjoy a meal together before or after. We usually do something 7 or 8 times a year.

Also, please contact Barbara Lathroum if you want to be on the list for future events. Being on the list does not obligate you to attend any trips. Anyone is welcome to coordinate an event or trip they are interested in. Examples are historic house tours, museums, interesting collections (e.g., we enjoyed a collection of women's costumes in 19<sup>th</sup> century Chester



County at the Chester County Historical Museum).

**Needlework Group:**

This group includes all forms of needlework – *knitting, crochet, embroidery, applique, quilting, needlepoint* and any other needlework members would like to share. We'll meet again on Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. (note the time change) at the home of Carol Zabriskie, 121 Spur Lane, West Chester, PA. RSVP to Carol at (610) 399-6846.



402 Edgewood Drive, Exton, PA 19341.

*March 2017 Newsletter*

**March 8, 2017 – #MyLifeMyLabel**

***Campus Action Project***

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)