



AAUW some NEWS

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

wccc-pa.aauw.net

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AAUW West Chester - Chester County Branch

How to Win in Life when the Aces Are High

Jan Mitchener, Director of Arts Holding Hands and Hearts, Inc.

Wednesday, **January 10, 2017**
7:00 p.m. – **NOTE corrected date.**
Grove United Methodist Church
490 West Boot Road, West Chester, PA

Jan Mitchener, the founder and Executive Director of Arts Holding Hands and Hearts, will speak to the branch about the mission of her organization to empower youth, strengthen families and mobilize communities through literacy and expressive arts. AHHAH serves youth and families in marginalized communities in Chester County, with its primary focus on Coatesville. Since 2013, this organization has been guided by the goal of making sure that all children in Chester County will have the tools and opportunities they need to reach their potential.

Jan has a Bachelor's Degree in Theater and a Master's in Education. She is a member of the Chester County ACE's (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Coalition. She is a professional actress and a master teaching artist. She has facilitated hands-on interactive theater, playwriting, life writing workshops and self-care workshops for over three decades. We are looking forward to hearing Jan discuss how to involve all who touch the lives of children so that they will be able to achieve their highest capacity. Please join us!

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Festive Celebration at Annual Holiday Party

Chapter members enjoyed visiting over festive beverages and delicious appetizers and desserts at the home of Terry and Tom Houle on Sunday, December 10. The annual holiday celebration was also a fund-raising event for this year's Gateway Award sinner, the West Chester University Resource Pantry, and several hundred dollars in donations and gift cards were collected (see article below).



Women's March January 20, 2018



Women's Marches are being planned across the United States for January 20, 2018, including one in Philadelphia on the Ben Franklin Parkway.

Several of our AAUW chapter members have expressed interest in attending. While we don't yet have a firm commitment for a coordinator, if you are interested, email Toni Gorkin at tgorkin@gmail.com. We can discuss details at

the January meeting, and perhaps plan to go together. One possibility is taking the train into Philadelphia. There are also buses being planned from other places in the region.

For more information see the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/415113958891295/> and website <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/womens-march-on-philadelphia-2018-tickets-41102604998>

Alice Lawson Scholarship

-- Katherine Phillips

A donation of \$112.00 from the Social Duplicate Group was sent to the Chester County Community Foundation for the Alice Lawson Scholarship on behalf of AAUW. This money was received from both AAUW and non-AAUW members who played in October, November, and December.

Laundromat Library League Adds More States and Local Sites

-- Arlene Rengert & Terry Houle

The Laundromat Library League has new laundromat sites in the East Stroudsburg area (4 of them), Conshohocken, a first in Lansdale, and several new ones in Philadelphia. We have developed networks to get books and decorated boxes to them. We have someone working on Allentown.

We also now have branches in California (Oakland, 2 laundromats at present) and Idaho, and we will soon have a presence in Navajo County, Arizona (the poorest county in the state). We have new sites in the New York, New Jersey, and Delaware branches as well. We are now over 90 sites with "Library Boxes" of children's books and an invitation for children or their caregivers to take them.

In our local area we have a new partnership with Elwyn to offer job-training activities to at least a few of its students. We have a similar arrangement with Community Integrated Services, an agency that assists in the development of job-related skills for people with disabilities. Although CIS has many locations, the Philadelphia site is presently engaged in recruiting laundromats and placing and stewarding Library Boxes there.

In addition to laundromats in this area, we have placed Library Boxes of children's books in the

Lord's Pantry, the West Chester Food Bank, the CHOP clinic in Coatesville, and the 3 sites that Chester County Women's Services maintains as "crisis pregnancy centers" in which they offer parenting classes, free pregnancy tests, and other supports for disadvantaged mothers and mothers-to-be.



The LLL now is 3 1/3 years old and in that time has received and processed over 40,000 children's books that have been donated by individuals, schools, libraries, and organizations. We have used donated funds to purchase additional books for needed categories (e.g., books in Spanish). We are grateful that AAUW keeps a basket out at meetings for monetary donations, needed for the purchase of supplies. In 2017 the AAUW donations came to just over \$100. All those loose bills add up!!! Thank you!!! And, of course, if anyone wishes to make an acknowledged individual donation know that you can do so via Pay Pal or credit card on www.laundromatlibraryleague.org, or you can send a check payable to Laundromat Library League to 100 W. Virginia Avenue, West Chester PA 19380.

LLL Fundraiser January 23



JOIN US FOR OUR
Community Day FUNDRAISER for
Laundromat Library League



A fundraiser for LLL is planned for Tuesday, January 23 at **Isaac's** restaurants in **Lionville/Exton** (630 W. Uwchlan Ave) and **Lititz** (4 Crosswinds Drive, Lititz). See the end of the newsletter for flyers to bring with you to Isaac's to hand to your server when paying.

Thank You for Support for the WCU Resource Pantry

-- -- Eva Kaufmann

I felt like Santa today as I dropped off our contributions to the West Chester University Resource Pantry! First, a huge bag full of colorful jackets and coats (thanks, Mimi!) Next, a bag heavy with toiletries and cosmetics: soaps, shampoo, lotions, lipsticks, mascara and more! (Thanks, Janet and Elaine!) And finally, a fat envelope with all the gift cards, cash and checks that we collected at our Holiday Party, totaling \$290!

The two young women who helped carry the goodies were delighted with everything. When we learned about the Resource Pantry last year, they were serving about 20 students, some of whom were homeless, all of whom experienced food insecurity. Typically, four or five students a week would come visit the Pantry to pick up food, clothing, and household supplies. This number has grown as word of the Pantry has spread. Just today, 17 students had visited the Pantry before my visit in the mid-afternoon.

Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthwhile cause!

Resource Pantry Needs List:

Clothing

Coats, jackets and other winter wear for both men and women.

Personal Care:

Tissues, Toilet paper, Women's deodorant
Women's razors, Toothpaste, Lotion
Shampoo & Conditioner

Other supplies:

Paper towels
Small bottles of laundry detergent
Reusable Shopping Bags

School Supplies:

Notebooks

Also consider:

Individually wrapped snack/on the go food, such as Granola bars, nuts, & breakfast bars

Gift cards such as:

Wawa, Bath, and Beyond, Target, Amazon

"PMP" Prospective Members Parties Continue

--Phyllis Dunn

Just a reminder that our PMP in January will be a Chat n' Chew... spaghetti dinner at my house, located at 1035 N New St., West Chester, PA 19380. If you have a friend or know of someone who has voiced interest in AAUW, now is the time to bring her to our PMP. There will be lots of food, great people, and a chance to make some new friends. Just let me know that you would like to attend and the name of your prospective member, so I can have enough spaghetti & meatballs and of course wine!

We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible on January 9th, so in the meantime have a wonderful holiday and look forward to a happy new year.

In February & March, because of the unpredictability of the weather, there will not be any PMPs. But mark your calendars for a **"POP UP Happy Hour" on April 23**. Three days prior to the event (to be held in or near West Chester), I will email the Happy Hour location to all who have responded. If you like living on the edge, not quite sure what will happen, then the April 23 Happy Hour is for you. We will be sure to have some fun!

On **May 9th, the AAUW May Banquet** will take place. 1-1 1/2 hours prior to the banquet, we will have a **mixer** before we attend the banquet. Let me know if you would like to attend and I can send out the Banquet form to you. More on that to come.

To save a spot for you & your prospective member, just email Phyllis Dunn at dunn.phyllis@gmail.com.

AAUW Mission Statement

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

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Guidelines for AAUW some

1. Deadline for articles is the 10th 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!

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.

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.

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. They are held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at West Chester University in Room 257 of the Sykes Student Union Building at 110 W. Rosedale Ave., West Chester, **except for the January meeting, which will be held on January 4th at the home of Anne Anderko** from 7:00-9:00 pm. Her address is: 908 Pine Valley Circle, West Chester PA 19382 Grove UMC. Other changes in meeting location will be announced as needed.



Reminder: The AAUW Action Network (AAUW Action Network advocacy@aauw.org) continues to send out statements about the legislation under consideration in Congress. The Action Network statements explain how each piece of legislation impacts the interests of women and girls. You are encouraged to read these emails or read the statements on the AAUW Action Network website and contact your representatives accordingly.

Membership News

Welcome new and renewed members! If you have any questions please contact me, *Patricia Schultz* at pls@patriciaschultz.com phone: 610-436-9752

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.

Francophone Group

Nancy Dore

I belong to an informal Francophone group that meets one Sunday each month. I will be hosting the group on Sunday, January 21 from 2 to 5 PM. Anyone is welcome to come. If you have any questions, please contact me at [6107250459](tel:6107250459).

Special Interest Groups

Women's Social Bridge



The AAUW Chester County-West Chester Branch Women's Social Bridge meets once a month at 1:00 p.m. for two to three hours of friendly bridge. If there is one table, we play party bridge; if there are two or more tables, we play contract bridge. We meet at a member's home; locations are sent in e-mail reminders each month. All are welcome!

Remaining date for 2017 is December 15

To have your name added to the e-mail list, contact Sandy Alexander at frau.salexander@gmail.com.

Couples Bridge

A chair is needed. Please contact *Barbara Lathroum* blathroum@gmail.com if interested.



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 Phillips-
khp65hp@verizon.net

Lit One: The daytime Literature Group will meet on Mondays January 15th and Feb. 18th, 2018. In January, Sandy Alexander will lead us in a discussion on *Bears in the Street* by Lisey Dickey at Kay Philipps' house; in February, Janet Kane will lead us in a discussion on *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance at Martina Ossman's house. We meet at 1:00 pm for refreshments. Discussion starts at 1:30pm. Please let your hostess know if you will be attending.

The chosen books for the rest of the year are: *Just Mercy*, *Ordinary Grace*, and *The Other Einstein*. Additional information about these books can be found on our website. Questions? Call or email Kay Philipps, Chair, at (610) 399-0697 or khphilipps@verizon.net.

LIT II: Evening Literature Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group

Jean Speiser - JeanSp@gmail.com

Lit group II always meets on the third Wednesday evening of the month.

On January 17 we will discuss *My Brilliant Friend*, whose author uses the name Elena Ferrante.

If you want more information please get in touch with Jean Speiser (JeanSp@gmail.com).

FIG (Food Interest Group)



This group dines around either at a member's home or at a restaurant. The group usually meets on a Saturday for dinner or Sunday for brunch on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. Couples (unless otherwise specified) and singles, as well as new members, are welcome.

We are looking for members who would like to host or plan a meal at a restaurant in the upcoming months. Please contact Donna Eaves if you are interested.

Great Decisions

For information contact Jacky Page at 610-359-9887 or 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 19th century Chester County at the Chester County Historical Museum).

Needlework Group:

Please join us if you would like to join others as we all work individually on various kinds of needlework projects! Some are knitting, some doing quilting or crewelwork, so anything you are doing or would like to learn, we are probably doing some of that!

This group is meeting regularly now, on the last Friday of the month at the home of one of our members. In December, our meeting will be on Friday, December 29. Our host is Pat Schultz whose address is 235 Chatham Way, West Chester, PA 19380..



JOIN US FOR OUR
**Community Day FUNDRAISER for
 Laundromat Library League**

On Tuesday, January 23, 2018, LIONVILLE/EXTON and LITITZ ISAAC'S will be hosting a "Community Day" fundraiser benefiting Laundromat Library League. Enjoy an evening out with your family and friends while supporting our efforts to make children's books available to homes in which there may be few or none. We hope you will come out and support us!

WHERE: LIONVILLE/EXTON – Call 484-875-5825 for Takeout
 Crossroads Square
 630 W. Uwchlan Avenue, Exton 19341

AND

LITITZ ISAAC'S – Call 717-625-1181 for Takeout
 4 Crosswinds Drive, Lititz 17543

WHEN: Tuesday, January 23, 2018, 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM

HOW: Bring this flyer with you to Isaac's, complete the information, and hand it to your server when paying. Flyer can also be shown on phone.

This form can be used for Dine-In, Takeout &
 Online Orders at www.isaacsdeli.com.

Use coupon code FUND for online fundraiser orders!

Please complete this information for your server.

Name: _____

of People in Party: ____ **Cost of Meal (excluding tax):** _____

In order to maximize the amount of donation for the organization, we ask our Loyalty members to kindly refrain from using their number during fundraisers. Meal Deals, Coupons, Discounts, and Loyalty Perks are not valid during Fundraisers.

Want to help us earn even MORE? Add a Gift Card to your check and 15% of the gift card sale will be added to the fundraiser! Gift card must be used on future visit.



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empowering women since 1881

402 Edgewood Drive, Exton, PA 19341.

January 2018 Newsletter

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