



AAUW some NEWS

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

Volume 63, Number 9
April 2018

AAUW West Chester - Chester County Branch

“Title IX Issues in Education and its Impact on Women”

Patty Canterino

Wednesday, April 11, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Grove United Methodist Church

490 West Boot Road, West Chester, PA

Our speaker for the April membership meeting is **Patty Canterino**, who is the Vice President for Student Development and Engagement at Immaculata College. Patricia is responsible for implementing strategic direction and leadership that focuses on enhancing the student experience and quality of life for Immaculata. For the past seventeen years Patty has served Immaculata College in the area of athletics, administration, and student life. She is very well qualified to address the many aspects of Title IX in our society. We look forward to her valuable insights from her varied experiences.

Our program will begin with a brief presentation by our branch member and Pennsylvania State Representative **Carolyn Comitta** (District 156). Carolyn has been appointed to Governor Wolf's Commission for Women that is responsible for advising the Governor on policies and legislation that impact women. She will tell us about her work on the Commission and is eager to hear concerns and to seek guidance from our members.

Refreshments: Board

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 or 610-696-2663.

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Letter from the Presidents

Dear Members,

I am hoping that March has forgotten its lionish ways and will march out lamb-like by the time this newsletter arrives in your mailbox. I think we are all ready for spring.

April is a busy month for our branch. Our alliance with the Southeastern PA Girl Scouts of America has resulted in two joint projects. First, throughout the month of April, we will join with the Girl Scouts in collecting new or gently used children's books for the Laundromat Library League. Our thanks to those members who already donated books at the March meeting. Please bring your book donations to the April 11th meeting. Second, on April 8th we will hold a tea for middle school Girl Scouts who are planning silver award projects. The tea will take place at WCU's Brandywine Hall, room 011, on the WCU campus. Thank you, thank you to all the members who have signed up to donate tea sandwiches and cookies and to those who have volunteered to serve the tea and cookies and who will facilitate discussions on the 8th.

On April 9th, tonya thames-taylor and Victoria Heimann will hold our 3rd annual Equal Pay event, *Start Smart*, for young women on the WCU campus. Assisted by members and outside volunteers, tonya and Victoria will teach the participants how to negotiate when applying for jobs. Tonya is an Associate Professor of History and Women Studies at WCU, and she is our current Public Policy chair as well as the liaison with A.W.E., our branch's student affiliate. Victoria works for Morgan Stanley in human resources and interviews prospective employees as part of her job. We anticipate another successful AAUW-sponsored event.

Peggy and I plan to attend the AAUW-PA Annual Meeting on April 23-25 at Seven Springs, PA. Jennifer Schultz will speak on Student Debt in one of the Saturday sessions. Information for anyone interested in going to

the convention can be found on the state website, aauwpa.org. Kimberly Churches, the CEO of the national AAUW organization, will be speaking on what AAUW hopes to accomplish in the coming years. Stay tuned for a full report!

Your branch membership is due for renewal beginning this month. Dues for 2018-2019 must be paid by **June 30** in order for you to appear in next year's directory. For the first time in ten years, AAUW National has raised its portion of our dues by \$10. Those renewing memberships should write checks for \$85 enclosed with a new information sheet. Besides \$59 for National, the dues include \$10 for Pennsylvania (no change), and \$16 for our WCCC branch (no change). *Did you know that the West Chester-Chester County Branch of AAUW will celebrate our 60th Anniversary in 2019?* You will not want to miss on our next year, so do not delay! Get those renewals in ASAP!

The National AAUW has also proposed three amendments to the bylaws on which *all* members of AAUW are invited to vote beginning April 25th. For more information, please read Patricia Byerly's letter *partially* reprinted in this newsletter. (Patricia Byerly is the Administrative Director for AAUW-PA.) Byerly's full letter will be posted on our website. The full letter includes pros and cons for each proposed amendment. I found these extremely helpful in making a decision on each proposed amendment.

Mark your calendars: yes, it is that time again! The **May Banquet** will take place on **May 9th!** Please look for more information at both the April 11th meeting and in your mailbox later this month. The banquet will again take place at Timothy's in Exton.

Happy Spring?

Barb Lathroum
Peggy Staarman

How Women Are Wired to Invest

-- Cathy Palmquist



At the March meeting, Meg Todd (left) and Denise Wine, financial advisors, discussed the main reasons they see how and why women are “wired to invest.” “Women are different than men, and it matters,” said Meg. Women have different priorities. They value spending quality time with family, being a good parent, being financially prepared, and having a balanced life, in that order. Women tend to live longer than men, have less earnings, and are risk averse. Investing is challenging. It can be

overwhelming, complicated, boring, emotional, and investment terms sound like Latin.

“However, women are equipped to be strong investors, but take a different approach than men,” said Denise. They tend to trade less, do more research, seek their information from trusted sources, and learn from their mistakes. Key attributes of female investors are that they are risk averse, more realistic about their expectations, more collaborative when making decisions, and have a “female brain.”

Denise and Meg have many suggestions for women investors are: get organized; figure out what you have and what you need; define your vision, your priorities, responsibilities and dreams; invest often; and pay yourself first. Have a plan that accounts for you. Your priorities, goals and longevity are important. Your goals should be measureable and achievable.

Talk with a financial professional as you define your vision and determine how your best life would feel.

Denise and Meg's goal is improving financial security for people, particularly women. Although Denise and Meg have each been in their profession for over 25 years, they noted that only 16 percent of financial advisors are women.

“PMP” Prospective Members Parties Continue

--Phyllis Dunn

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

Gateway to Equity Award



Our branch overwhelmingly voted to give the Gateway to Equity Award to the WCU Resource Pantry that supports students who are homeless or coming from foster homes. The photo shows Barb, Eva, and Peggy presenting the award to Resource Pantry directors Tori Nuccio and Jodi Roth-Saks at the Pantry. On the wall nearby is the certificate for last year's award. Choosing the same recipient twice is unprecedented, and Tori and Jodi were overwhelmed with our support for their efforts.

Not only is the Pantry serving an increasing number of needy students every week, but also Tori is being recognized as a national leader in the effort to assist students who are trying to finish college under the most difficult of circumstances. She has been invited to several conferences, sometimes as the keynote speaker, to describe the process involved in setting up a Pantry like this one, as universities around the country recognize the need for such assistance. We will look forward to hearing about this incredible progress when she and Jodi come to speak at our May banquet!

MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

With so many problems that we see in today's society, we sometimes wonder if there is anything we can do to help. AAUW focuses on community outreach as one of the goals of our branch. Here are a few things you can do that will make a real difference!

-- Eva Kaufmann

1. **West Chester University Resource**

Pantry: This organization is our Gateway to Equity Award recipient for a second year (see article above). This organization assists poor and homeless students at WCU. You can help by contributing supplies for the Pantry at our monthly meeting. In addition to the usual items, items needed this month include:

- Lotion
- Body Wash
- Tissues
- Paper Towels

- Floss
- Dish Soap
- Laundry Detergent

Watch for an email before the each meeting with an update on needed items.

2. We are setting up a **tutoring service for students at the Resource Pantry**. If you would be willing to tutor a student, contact Eva Kaufmann. (ekaufmann1@gmail.com). This commitment will be for at least twice a month on or near WCU campus. Study skills, paper writing, and similar topics are needed as well as specific subjects.
3. **Girl Scouts of America:** We have begun a collaboration with the Girl Scouts of the Southeastern Council. Our first co-project is to collect children's books for the **Laundromat Library League** for

International Children's Books Month. Bring a gently used or new book or two to our April meeting.

4. **Girl Scouts of America:** There will be a **Tea at West Chester University on April 8** at which our members will talk with middle-school girls who are working toward their Silver Award that requires the development of a community service project. To volunteer, contact Barb Lathroum (blathroum@gmail.com). We will also need tea and cookies for that meeting. Can you help?

NOTE: Anyone who wants to volunteer for the Girl Scout Tea on April 8th or for tutoring at the WCU Resource Center must have a state background check. See related article below.

5. **West Chester Food Cupboard:** Donna Eaves has set up a monthly program to help out at the Food Cupboard that is located on Bolmar Street. Volunteers will spend an hour after the Food Cupboard has closed its doors for the day to sort through donations and to stock shelves. Contact Donna to volunteer: deaves@live.com.
6. On **April 9**, Dr. tonya thames-taylor, Associate Professor of History and Women Studies at West Chester University, is running "**Start Smart**" at WCU, the third time our branch has supported her in this. This program, developed by AAUW national, teaches young women how to negotiate salaries in an effort to achieve parity in pay for women. If you would like to participate in this two-hour program, tonya needs volunteers to help the young women practice negotiation skills and to provide donations of snacks and bottled water. Contact tonya at tonya@tonyathames.com.
7. **Laundromat Library League:** LLL places library boxes of children's books in

laundromats as a way to get books into homes that may have few or none at all. Book donations are important, and LLL has frequent fund raisers.

Note the collaboration with Girl Scouts in April to collect books for LLL (Item #4).

Also, on **Tuesday, April 10, 2018**, **LIONVILLE/EXTON and LITITZ ISAAC'S** will be hosting a "Community Day" fundraiser benefiting **Laundromat Library League**. See flyer at the end of the newsletter to bring along when you visit Isaac's for this fundraiser.

For more information about LLL, visit www.laundromatlibraryleague.org.

*Editor's Note: **MAKING A DIFFERENCE!** is a new section in our Newsletter to provide quick information about opportunities to become involved in our community. Thank you to Eva for compiling this issue's list. Be sure to see articles in the Newsletter that provide additional detail about these community outreach projects.*

Background Check Information

--Barb Lathroum

Anyone who wants to volunteer for the Girl Scout Tea on April 8th or for tutoring at the WCU Resource Center must have a state background check. Here is a link that explains the background check process for all Girl Scout volunteers.

<http://www.gsep.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsep/documents/CBC%20Packet.pdf>

Obviously, the AAUW volunteers don't have to become GSEP members, but we welcome anyone who would like to do so. The rest of the process is outlined, and copies can be saved by you and shared in person when we meet. Contact Barb if you have any questions.

Message from Patricia Byerly, AAUW-PA: Bylaw Changes

The following is part of the letter Pat Byerly sent from AAUW-PA, referenced in the Presidents' Letter above. The letter discusses the three amendments proposed by National on which all members have to vote. The letter in its entirety will be put on the chapter website.)

To All AAUW-PA Members:

AAUW National has put forth three bylaw amendment proposals that will be put to a vote by the membership starting April 25. The AAUW-PA Board of Directors supports and endorses the three bylaw amendments. In order for you to make an informed vote, we are providing some rationale and explanations about each of the bylaw proposals.

Bylaw Change Proposal 1 – Staggered terms of office for AAUW Board of Directors on a 3-year rotation

Rationale – AAUW National Website (abridged):

A staggered term refers to the practice in which members of a board of directors are not all up for election at the same time, with staggered term models often electing one-third of their members in each election.

The AAUW Governance Committee and Board of Directors recommends AAUW move to three-year staggered terms to ensure board continuity, preservation of institutional memory, leadership development, and board innovation. This recommendation is that we increase the term of office from two to three years and that elections for board officers will occur annually to fill vacancies.

Explanation – AAUW-PA:

The existing number of board officers, both elected and appointed, would be retained as outlined in the bylaws. A phasing in process would be used in order to set up the staggered terms (e.g. in 2019 12 members elected of which 1/3 of the board elected for a 1-year term, 1/3 board elected for a 2-year term, 1/3

board elected for a 3-year term; 3 members appointed, 1 for a 1-year term, 1 for a 2-year term, and 1 for a 3-year term). Elections and appointments would then occur every year with 1/3 of the board elected and 1 appointed member named.

Bylaw Change Proposal 2 – Membership requirement for AAUW Board of Directors

Rationale – AAUW National Website:

AAUW is undergoing an important and robust strategic planning process at a critical time in the national conversations on equity. In planning discussions with members across the United States it has become apparent that we need to open our board to people who may not be members of AAUW but bring a wealth of experience and expertise to our organization. As an equity-seeking organization we need to welcome those who are not currently members of AAUW but can make an invaluable contribution to steer AAUW into the future based on their personal and professional experience, industries, geographic location, and other diversity views that can help propel AAUW's mission forward.

Explanation – AAUW-PA:

The AAUW National board is very different from a branch or state AAUW board. For states and branches, the board members do everything. They determine the direction of the affiliate, direct programming both in the affiliate and the community, fundraising, advocacy efforts, scholarship awards, and anything else the affiliate does, then they make sure it is implemented.

The AAUW National board functions more as a corporate board, meaning their role is one of fiduciary responsibility, overseeing the direction of the organization, monitoring programs and finances, participating in strategic thinking to provide organizational direction linked with sustainable resources and measurable outcomes, and so forth.

(continued on next page)

Message from Patricia Byerly, AAUW-PA (continued)

AAUW recognizes that we could expand our influence and deepen our impact if we could add board members from outside of AAUW that are prominent leaders in equity work. Imagine how our work could be amplified if someone like Neera Tandan, President of the Center for American Progress or Fatima Goss Graves, CEO and President of the National Women's Law Center were to sit on AAUW's board.

Even though the bylaw proposal is to allow non-members to serve on the national board, it is our expectation that once elected or appointed, non-AAUW board members will become AAUW members. If they believe strongly enough in the mission of AAUW to be on the board of directors, then it is anticipated that they would be more than happy to join the organization.

Bylaw Change Proposal 3 – Degree requirement for membership in AAUW

Explanation from AAUW-PA with some Rationale from AAUW National Website (in italics):

INCLUSION AND EQUITY.

For the past 4 or 5 years, the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, which has recently become the Inclusion and Equity Committee, has worked very hard to provide information, resources, and suggestions for ways in which the membership of AAUW can become more diverse and inclusive working from the AAUW Diversity Policy which states “There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.”

Included in the Diversity and Inclusion Tool Kit (2015) are the statements:

“Diversity is critical to AAUW's mission. We recognize that issues of equity — from fair pay to sexual assault to access to health care — affect all women, and we recognize that women

in marginalized groups often disproportionately experience the effects of these issues. To succeed in empowering women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research, we must have diverse voices contributing different perspectives.”

“As a membership organization, AAUW depends on our ability to attract and retain new members. To continue to grow and thrive, we must be responsive to changes in our demographics and include individuals with diverse backgrounds and perspectives.”

Our current policy that you must hold an educational degree to be a member of AAUW is at odds with our efforts at inclusion and equity and is counterproductive to recruiting members of diverse race/ethnicity and younger members. *Simply put, AAUW cannot promote equity for all women and girls if the organization maintains exclusionary membership requirements.*

Diverse Race/Ethnicity.

According to the US Census, in 2016, 46 percent of non-Hispanic white women aged 25-29 years completed four years of college. For African American and Hispanic women, the numbers drop to 25 percent and 31 percent, respectively (US Census Table A-2 Percent of People 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed High School or College, by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Sex). This means that before you even start recruiting amongst the population of women, you have eliminated 54 percent of non-Hispanic white women, 75 percent of African American women, and 69 percent of Hispanic women from becoming members. African American and Hispanic women are disproportionately eliminated compared to non-Hispanic white women – how can we achieve diversity in race/ethnicity with this handicap? Not to mention that the women eliminated are aged 25-29 years old, so you are also eliminating young members when holding to the policy of requiring an educational degree.

(continued on next page)

Message from Patricia Byerly, AAUW-PA (continued)

Younger Members.

In addition to eliminating younger members who don't achieve educational degrees, we are also alienating them as a group because they do not like the educational degree requirement. "Younger feminists do not want to join an organization that does not appear truly intersectionally feminist. It's not simply because AAUW can't recruit them, they do care about the mission yet don't want to be affiliated with an organization that claims to be feminist but is exclusionary. Without their membership, AAUW will cease to exist one day. A Fourth Wave has arrived; we can either reach out to them or fail to survive." (AAUW-PA C/U Liaison Dr. Holle Canatella, Associate Professor; History, Political Science, International Studies, and Foreign Languages Department, Lock Haven University).

The average AAUW member age is in the neighborhood of 70+. If we want to attract younger members so that the organization can continue, we have to be the organization they want to join. Retaining our exclusive policy of requiring an educational degree will prevent us from attracting younger women – some because they don't have a degree and some who have a degree but don't like the policy of requiring one to be a member. This makes it extremely difficult to attract young women to AAUW.

FUNDING from CORPORATIONS and FOUNDATIONS

AAUW membership dues are important to AAUW, but to put it into perspective in FY 2017 the membership dues represented 13 percent of revenue received (AAUW Annual Report, Fall 2017). Membership dues are increasing for FY18 which may put a burden on some members. In order to minimize the financial dependency on members through dues and our very generous member donors, AAUW is continuously seeking other streams of revenue including corporations, foundations, and other grant-making organizations. AAUW

has had some success with corporations, for example, sponsors for the Tech Trek STEM camps and NCCWSL.

AAUW as an organization is potentially a great partner for corporations and foundations because our mission of advancing equity for women and girls resonates with them. However, these same corporations and foundations often have policies and practices in place that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in their organizations and with the partners with which they collaborate. *AAUW doesn't meet basic inclusion language required for many of these funders* and as a consequence are *prospectively losing* these opportunities putting even more burden for funding on our members.

In order to expand fundraising efforts outside of going to our members again and again, AAUW needs to eliminate what is seen as an exclusive policy in requiring an educational degree.

FUTURE OF THE AAUW ORGANIZATION

AAUW is in a period of change. With the new CEO Kim Churches and the Board of Directors, we are plotting our path for the future. A first order of business is drafting a strategic plan for the organization to determine among other things what issues are we the go-to organization for, where do we lead, where do we support, how can we move forward in a strategic manner to ensure we are around to fulfill our mission that we all care so deeply about and are no longer needed?

To remain relevant and impactful, we need committed members and funds. With our membership demographic of overwhelmingly white and an average age in the 70+ area, we cannot survive. In order to remain strong, we need to diversify our membership in terms of race/ethnicity and infuse it with younger members. We can't do that with the roadblock of requiring an educational degree for membership for the reasons given above. *(continued on next page)*

Message from Patricia Byerly, AAUW-PA (continued)

We've made difficult changes before, if you remember in 2005 when we voted to merge the Educational Foundation and the Association (membership) branch of the organization we were faced with the option of merging or going out of existence because financially we could not sustain the Association as it existed. We face a similar crossroads with this proposed amendment. If we do not change our membership requirements so that more diverse and younger members join, we will face the potential of going out of existence and that would be a great loss for everyone.

AAUW Mission Statement

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

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*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.

Guidelines for AAUWsome

1. Deadline for articles is the 15th of the month prior to publication.
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.

Membership News

-- Patricia Schultz

Kim Levan and Jane Saddoris are the latest new members. This brings our total branch membership to 78! Thanks for all your referrals and to Phyllis Dunn for her creativity and diligence in recruiting new women to our group. Next PMP is April 23. Renewals will begin soon!

If you have any questions please contact
Patricia Schultz at
pls@patriciaschultz.com phone: 610-436-9752

RENEWAL TIME!

Watch your emails for the renewal application. Let's keep our membership numbers high!

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 that can be found on the address label of the Association publication (Outlook).

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. Changes in meeting location will be announced as needed.

Members Making a Difference

Patricia Schultz is on the East Goshen Township ballot to become a Committee Person for District 6, Precinct 8 which is in Hershey's Mill. The term is 4 years and she is looking forward to continuing to be an active member of the East Goshen Democrats in the next several election cycles.

Jennifer Schultz to speak at AAUW Annual PA Conference April 13-15



89th Annual Meeting
April 13-15, 2018
Seven Springs Resort

The AAUW PA state Annual Meeting in April will include many topics likely to be of interest to our chapter members.

Of particular note, our member Jennifer Schultz will be speaking on "Reaching Out: Student Loan Solutions for College Students". This will teach other branches how they can use Jenn's student loan class as a way to connect with college students, introduce them to AAUW, and increase membership as students graduate.

Registration options:

- Online: <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/meeting-registration/>
- Paper or electronic in February 2018
AAUW-PA Keystoner newsletter



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.

Special Notes from Members

The newsletter editors continue to include news about our AAUW chapter members in this newsletter. This is an opportunity to tell us what you are doing, and where appropriate, to share involvement.

Gun Sense Chester County

-- Peggy Staarman

Members of Gun Sense have been visiting Chester County legislators to urge them to support various bills that address gun violence. Six members visited State Representative Becky Corbin's office on March 15 to try to persuade her to co-sponsor HB 1400. The bill has the bipartisan support of Carolyn Comitta, Warren Kampf, Harry Lewis, Duane Milne, Eric Roe, and Stephen Barrar. In PA, all purchasers of handguns must complete a background check through a Federal Firearms Licensee before the sale can be completed. However, individuals who want to buy long guns (firearms with barrels over 16 inches long) through a private sale currently do not need to complete a background check before the sale has been completed.

Long guns can be classified as hunting rifles or sports shooting guns such as shotguns used for trap shooting. However, some semiautomatic rifles such as the AR 15 have been used to commit several mass shootings. All long guns have the capacity to maim or kill. HB 1400 would close the long gun loophole by requiring background checks for all sales of long guns as well as handguns.

A 2017 Pew Research Center survey, "American's Complex Relationship with Guns," reveals that 88% of non-gun owners and 77% of gun owners support background checks for private and gun show sales. Despite the reasons the members gave for supporting this sensible gun legislation, Representative Corbin declined to cosponsor or support **HB 1400**. The results of this meeting as well as other legislative interactions will be reported in a "Gun Sense Voter Guide" for contested primary races in the county (PA Senate, PA

House of Representatives, and the 6th US Congressional District.) The guide will be available in early May before the May 15 primary.

There will be an April 11 rally in Harrisburg to support a slate of "gun sense" bills that include:

- a bill to remove guns from households where Domestic Violence has occurred and a Final Protection from Abuse Order has been issued
- background checks for every gun purchase
- a ban on bump stocks
- the introductions of a new tool, the Gun Violence Restraining Order.

Details about the proposed legislation event are on the website: www.gunsensecc.com.

On **April 3rd**, there will be a **Member & Guest Meeting** at 7:15 pm at the Chester Valley Grange on [3285 Phoenixville Pike in Malvern](#). There will be a review of common ground beliefs and a discussion about how to support associated legislation. We will also have some gun owners at the meeting who will be willing to share their views and perspectives.

On **May 30th**, there will be a **Member & Guest Meeting** at 7:15 pm at the Goshen Friends School on [814 N. Chester Rd. in W. Chester](#). At this meeting, we'll learn about the structure of the legal system, who makes decisions about law enforcement and prosecution, and how the legal system and personnel influence various aspects of the presence of guns in our communities.

Gun Sense Chester County Program and Light Fare Potluck April 29, Open to All

-- Arlene Rengert

All are invited to an interesting and provocative program in Grove Church's Fellowship Hall on Sunday April 29th, 12:15 p.m. A "light fare" lunch is provided — bring a salad or other side dish to go with it, and/or contribute toward the cost via free will offering basket.

The event features Ann Cummings and Starr Cummin Bright, two Board Members of GunSense, known to and recommended by several AAUW members.

We'd appreciate knowing you are coming so we can plan the numbers: email to Arlene Rengert (arengert@gmail.com) or call the church office (610-696-2663). This event is open to the public, so feel free to bring new people.

Film to Air at WCU April 10 on School Privatization Impacts



The film **Back Pack Full of Cash** will be airing at **West Chester University** on **April 10th** (the snow date) in the Sykes Theater. Screening begins at 4:00 p.m. and Talkback with Philadelphia parents and teachers begins at 6:45 p.m.

The film explores the growing privatization of public schools and the resulting impact on America's most vulnerable children. Branch member Fran Pierce recommends the film because it is "super excellent and speaks exactly to the situations happening here in Chester County as well as all over the country."

This is a critical time to galvanize people around the need to support public schools and educators. In February, 34 communities organized screenings of *Backpack Full of Cash* and discussions about the threat to public education posed by "choice" and privatization. Check <http://www.backpackfullofcash.com> for more information or contact Dana Simone at DSimone@wcupa.edu.

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!

Dates for 2018 are:

April 27
May 18
June 22
July 27

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*

Our April meeting will be on Monday, April 16th at 1pm at Eva Kaufmann's house.
Discussion of *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent

Krueger will be led by Martina Ossman at 1:30pm. Please let your hostess know whether or not you will be attending our meeting. Contact information can be found in our handbook. Hope all can attend. Kay Philipps, Chair.

The chosen book for the rest of the year is *The Other Einstein*, by Marie Benedict. 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 meets at 7 PM on the third Wednesday evening of the month in members' houses in the West Chester-Downingtown area.

We will discuss *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren on April 18. Toni Gorkin will lead that discussion at the home of Pat Schultz.

If the weather forces a cancellation, we'll meet the following Wednesday. Please get in touch with me, Jean Speiser, if you want to know more. Phone (610) 738-3363, email 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.

For more information or to join the group, contact Donna Eaves, #610-692-5277, or deaves@live.com. We are looking for members who would like to host or plan a meal at a restaurant in the upcoming months. Please contact Donna 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.

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!

All meetings are on the first Friday of each month, beginning at 10:30 A.M. Needlework Group Meeting locations for 2018:

April 6 - Pat Schultz, 235 Chatham Way, West Chester, PA

May 4 - Toni Gorkin, 119 Llandoverly Drive, Exton, PA

June 1 - Fran Pierce, 717 Hunt Club Lane, Chester Springs, PA

Please email your hostess to let us know if you are coming.



JOIN US FOR OUR

Community Day FUNDRAISER for Laundromat Library League

On Tuesday, April 10, 2018, **LIONVILLE/EXTON** and **LITITZ ISAAC'S** will be hosting a "Community Day" fundraiser benefiting **Laundromat Library League**. Enjoy a meal 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, April 10, 2018, 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM

HOW: Bring this flyer with or show it on your phone, complete the information and give to your server.

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.



402 Edgewood Drive, Exton, PA 19341.

April 2018 Newsletter

Program: Title IX Issues in Education and Its Impact on Women

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