



Don't Forget:
Get Out the Vote!!!!

AAUW some NEWS

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

Volume 64, Number 2
October 2018

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR MUSLIM NEIGHBOR

SPEAKER: Bushra Quereshi

October 10, 2018 at 7:00 PM
Grove United Methodist Church

Bushra Quereshi will relate her personal experience as a Muslim woman and mother. Americans are in general uninformed about Muslim culture and practices. We read that women across the Mideast live under repressive regimes which regulate women's dress and their conduct and which limit women's access to education and opportunity. We hear about female circumcision and honor killings in some Muslim communities. Bushra will describe how Muslim women live and raise children in the U.S. while remaining committed to their faith.

Suggested Reading: Nine Parts of Desire by Geraldine Brooks. This book describes the journalist's explorations of the lives of women in Muslim countries.

Refreshments: Lit I and Great Decisions

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

"There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on, and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October."

Nathaniel Hawthorne

By the time this newsletter arrives, let's hope the heat and rain of September are gone, and the fresh, cool, golden days of October are here! Chester County in October is simply gorgeous: the corn husks and pumpkins, the hay bales and golden leaves, and the eager trick or treaters at your door!

As an organization with a keen sense of how politics affects the issues we hold dear, we know that October has another meaning. It is going to be one of the most important months of 2018. One more month of effort to influence what we all know will be a crucial election. One more month to register voters and to get out the vote!

In my remarks at the September meeting I asked each of you to make three resolutions:

— the first for yourself: learn more, experience more, enjoy more, all through the programs and activities offered in AAUW. Join a book club, or check out one of our many interest groups. Attend the monthly meetings to learn from our wonderful speakers.

—the second: give back to our organization. This would be a good time to make that offer to help in some way. Can you write for the newsletter, take pictures, or help set up the chairs for our meetings? Check your Handbook for contact information, and make an offer to help out.

—the third: for the community. Now is the time to turn your beliefs into action! What can you do this month to help register voters and to GET OUT THE VOTE! There are many organizations, both partisan and non-partisan, that would love to accept your help in these final few weeks. Voter registration ends on October 9, and the election is less than a month later. Now is the time to volunteer to help a candidate, to stuff envelopes, or to canvas neighborhoods!

As we move through this political season, there are many issues that we should keep in mind. Here are

a few to ponder. (From AAUW PA "Highlights," September 2018)

- **Fair Districts:** the movement to create fair districts has seen major set-backs, but they do not feel defeated. The goal of this movement is to have a commission created that will redraw legislative districts by 2021.
- **Overtime pay:** Did you know that employers do not have to pay overtime to employees who earn more than \$23,660? Governor Wolf has proposed to gradually raise that limit to \$47,892 by 2022. With wages losing their purchasing power every year (4.7% loss between 2012-16) more families depend on the extra pay that overtime provides.
- **Paid Family and Medical Leave:** The U.S. is one of the few developed countries that does not provide paid leave for people who are suffering a major medical problem, bonding with a child, or caring for an ailing family member. The PA Department of Labor has completed a feasibility study on this topic. Since women are often the primary care-givers of children and parents, this issue is of great interest.

So, ladies, resolve to engage in the political process this October! So many things are dependent on the results next month!

See you at our regular meeting at Grove Church on October 10th, at 7:00 p.m.!

Best Wishes,
Eva and Peggy

Peggy Staarman (peggstaar@verizon.net)
Eva Kaufmann (ekaufmann1@gmail.com)



2018-2019 Kickoff Meeting and Pot Luck

--Jean Speiser

We always start the AAUW year, running from September through August, with a pot luck dinner. This year we met at Grove Church on September 12 for an evening of good food, good conversation, and good information.

Eva Kaufman, one of our two co-presidents, opened the program by wishing us all a Happy New Year as it is the beginning of our program year, and suggested three resolutions each member might want to consider and commit to. The first is to do something for each of us as individuals, such as getting involved in a new AAUW interest group. The second is to do something for our group, such as getting more actively involved in fund-raisers, committees, or working on the newsletter. Finally, to do something for the community where we're located by enlarging our outreach such as working with the Laundromat Library League (LLL) that places books in laundromats both locally and in various other states, GETT (Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology), the West Chester University support group, and actively working with the League of Women Voters' voters registration drive.



Co-President Eva Kaufmann talked about the three goals of our branch for the upcoming year and showed the new trifold information brochure that was passed out to be shared with prospective members. (Picture by Cathy Palmquist)

Barb Lathroum read comments she took from phone interview with longtime member Carla Grot on why Carla values AAUW and why she has maintained her membership for over 50 years. The various committee chairs spoke briefly about their programs. Toni Gorkin asked for more people to work on the newsletter, both to share the load and to widen our voice. Alice Lenthe described our Facebook page and asked members to send information. Sandy Alexander asked for information that she can put on our website including links where appropriate; Sandy also spoke about the newly-active Travel Interest Group and asked members to suggest TIG excursions. Donna Eaves mentioned the Food Interest Group where we meet, more or less monthly, in members' homes or local restaurants. Jenn Schultz was commended for her excellent work on the Handbook, which was distributed to all attending members.

Anne Anderko and Trish Alfano spoke about fund-raising including our annual pecan sale and offered piggy banks to take home to fill with loose change and to decorate for presentation at our May Banquet. Pat Schultz gave us information about the LLL and asked for book donations. Phyllis Dunn gave us a summary of our membership initiative. The evening concluded with a how-to talk on taking pictures for the newsletter from Cathy Palmquist. Who knew that Cathy could be a stand-up comedian? But it was an extremely funny talk filled with useful information beyond the obvious--don't cut off people's heads was just the beginning.

All in all, a very pleasant start to our year.

Events for 2018-2019

While the year's meetings, with details about topics and speakers are in the new Handbook handed out at the September meeting, it has been suggested that we list out the schedule for the entire year of meetings here in the newsletter, to help you mark your calendar to hold space for them. Look it over, and consider inviting guests to topics of interest to them. Here goes . . .

- October 10: **Getting to Know Your Muslim Neighbor**, speaker Bushra Quereshi
- November 14: **The Maternal Care Coalition**, speaker Lonnese Bodison
- December 9: **Holiday Party** at the Ellerslie Farmhouse at Crosslands Retirement Community, Kennett Square
- January 9, **Gerrymandering in Pennsylvania: What Now?** Speaker Carol Kuniholm, Director of Fair Districts
- February 9: **Self-Reliance is the Fine Road to Independence**: Mary Ann Shadd Cary, 1823-1893, speaker Robyn Young
- March 13: **Gardening with Native Plants**, speaker Sharon Richardson, Master Gardener
- April 10: **Improving the Care of Mothers and Children in Uganda and Zimbabwe**, speaker Dr. Chiwonesco Tinago
- May 9: **Annual Meeting and Banquet** (Picnic Style) at home of Carol Haaf

SO no excuses for not posting these dates into your calendar, paper or smart phone!!

FUNDRAISING – Pecans and Piggies

Feed Your Piggy



What is a pig's favorite holiday in October?

Hoggy Walloween.

We started the new "Feed Your Piggy" Campaign by handing out porcelain piggies to all members who attended. You are invited to feed your piggy to get rid of your loose change in the next nine months. It may seem like an insignificant amount to you, but when we combine the contents of all the banks, we'll have a nice sum to add to our treasury.

If you did not pick up your piggy bank at the September meeting, they will be available again at the next meeting on October 10th. At our May 8, 2019 pulled pork/BBQ feast you will return your "filled" pig and we will have a contest for the best decorated pigs.

Pecans Pecans Pecans

Please don't forget to order your pecans! You can send me your orders along with your check to Anne Anderko, 908 Pine Valley Circle, West Chester, PA 19382 or give them to me at the next meeting, Oct. 10th. If you have any questions, you can contact me at ananderko@msn.com.

Please remember to share this fundraiser with your family and friends. Deadline for orders is Oct. 19th and I will deliver them at the Nov. 14th meeting in plenty of time for holiday gift giving.

Thanks for your support,
Trish Alfano & Anne Anderko

Remember PMP's - Prospective Members Parties

-- Phyllis Dunn

Do you have a friend or do you know someone who has voiced interest in knowing more about AAUW? If so, our PMP's are a perfect venue to introduce them to our organization. The parties are just the right size to allow potential members to ask questions and casually get to know some of our current members. Just join us for any of the parties listed below:

November 13, 2018

Mix & Mingle at The Social 5-7pm

January 10, 2019

"Souper Dinner"...soup & salad

**As a current member of AAUW all you have to do to attend these parties is bring a potential member with you. We will introduce your guest to new members who have joined in the past year and those members who will be in attendance with their prospective member. It's a great way to get to know one another in a more intimate and relaxed setting conducive to building friendships. To save a spot for you & your prospective member just email Phyllis Dunn at: dunn.phyllis@gmail.com*

MAKING A DIFFERENCE! WATCH THIS SPACE!

Editor's Note: We instituted this column as a regular feature in the newsletter to keep you informed about opportunities to become involved in activities that support our community. So watch this space!

1. **West Chester University Resource**

Pantry: This organization is our Gateway to Equity Award recipient for a second year. This organization assists poor and homeless students at WCU. You can help by contributing supplies for the Pantry at our monthly meeting. Watch for an email before the each meeting with an update on needed items. See Community Outreach Update article below.

2. **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 Anne Anderko (ananderko@msn.com) if interested in helping.

3. **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. See Community Outreach Update below for info about book drive in January and www.laundromatlibraryleague.org for more information.

Community Outreach Update

-- Eva Kaufmann

WCU Resource Pantry

The WCU Resource Pantry has completed renovations of its small facility and is open for business. At the last branch meeting, I was overwhelmed with donations for this wonderful organization. The trunk of my car was totally full of paper towels, laundry supplies, and personal care products. I always send out a list of products they need, but please don't feel you

must limit your donations to those things. The Pantry will always welcome all kinds of personal care products, such as deodorant and feminine products, so if you see a sale, grab a few things to donate!

When I arrived at the Pantry the next day, the two students who came out to carry the donations were amazed and very, very thankful for your generosity. It touched my heart!

Laundromat Library League

This year, most likely in January, we are going to have a book drive to benefit the LLL. This is a good time to keep an eye out for children's books! Yard sales are a great source. Parents who are cleaning out bookshelves are more than happy to sell books cheap, or to donate them at the end of the sale for a worthy cause. Toni Gorkin has labels that we use to identify our donations!

Patricia Schultz also attended the annual LLL meeting and met many enthusiastic board and committee members. She will be sending emails and posting information in the newsletter to keep you informed of the next fundraising and donation events.

A Candidates Forum: Mondays October 8 and October 15



*Get to know which candidates on the
Chesco ballot represent your values*

6:30 – 9:00 PM

**St. Paul's Baptist Church
1 Hagerty Blvd, West Chester, PA
Presented by: WC Branch NAACP
& Partners: League of Women**

Voters, MLK365, AKA

Refreshments will be served

For more information, contact

cjones.naacppac@gmail.com

Get Out and Vote!

--Cathy Palmquist

The Center for Women and Gender Equity at West Chester University (WCU) sponsors "Women on Wednesdays." September's focus was **Get Out and Vote**, offered by Melissa Robbins, a community organizer/political strategist. Robbins, a single mother of four and Army veteran, attended community college, got a full scholarship to Temple University, and graduated with a degree in Political Science.

"We share the same level of frustration right now," she said as she started her talk, explaining she became an advocate for racial equality while at Temple. In 2008, when she was doing political canvassing door to door, she was met with the "N" word at many homes.



Cathy Palmquist with Melissa Robbins. Cathy attended as part of AAUW's Get Out the Vote effort.

A resident of Philadelphia, Robbins is a member of Philadelphians for Change, Philadelphia Association of Black Journalists, and a host on WURD, the only black radio station in PA. One of her proudest moments was when she was summoned to Governor Tom Wolf's office where he signed an executive order for equal pay for equal work in PA.

Robbins' talk focused on "The Challenges of Women, People of Color and LGBTQ."

Get Out and Vote *(continued)*

Housing, objectivity, police brutality, over policing, violence/gun violence, poverty, high incarceration rates, and sexism are among the challenges. She talked about what poverty looks like, and mentioned she was in a homeless shelter for a short time when she fell on hard times. "Black, transgender women are the most abused and killed of all."

"How can we create change? What can you do? What policies can be changed on the state and federal level?" she asked. "Who are our leaders? Are they effective? We need to take *(continued on next page)* time to look at leaders' voting records and confront them in public meetings about their

records. We need to become activists, whether it's about one or several issues. We must lobby, volunteer, work on a campaign, donate, endorse, and run for office. There is an election of some sort every six months!" she added.

"Why should you run for office? Who better to create policy? Who better to represent the underrepresented? Who better to build and gain trust? If not you, then who?" she asked. Most important, you must have self-belief. **You CAN win!**" she said in closing, encouraging and challenging the mostly college aged audience to get involved.

Gun Sense Chester County Voter's Guides Available

--Peggy Staarman



Gun Sense is a non-partisan organization that seeks to find common ground with gun owners in order to pass sensible gun legislation. The organization questioned

state and local candidates about their views on several issues. A voter guide has been produced and is available [here](#). Information is provided about candidates county residents will have the opportunity to vote for in the federal and state races including:

US Senator from PA
US Representative from PA 6th Congressional District
PA Governor
PA Senators (Two districts in Chester County)

PA Representatives (Every Chester County district)

A quick "cheat sheet" is available: [Check this out](#). A [Canvassing Guide](#) provides a script to help you encourage informed voting in support of reducing gun violence. Gun Sense Chester County brochures or "Vote to Reduce Gun Violence" buttons are available by emailing gunsensecc@gmail.com.

Gun Sense Chester County has held several meetings and information tables during September at community day and other events. On **Saturday October 6, 10:00 am to 4 pm**, there will be a **Gun Violence Prevention Student Activist Forum** at West Chester University. Free and open to all interested high school and college age young adults. Details [here](#).

2018 SHALE & PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE November 14

The sixth annual Shale & Public Health conference will be held Wednesday November 14, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (registration/sign-in at 8:30) at the University of Pittsburgh University Club, 123 University Place Pittsburgh PA 15260. The conference

itself is free; there is a \$14 charge for buffet lunch.

The conference is presented by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania and hosted by the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health at the University of

Shale and Public Health Conference *(continued)*

Pittsburgh's University Club. The conference features new research and practical applications:

- Unconventional Natural Gas Development, Pediatric Asthma and Infant Health (Elaine Hill, PhD, University of Rochester Medical Center)
- Shale Gas Activity and Sexually Transmitted Infections in Ohio (Nicole Deziel, PhD, Yale)
- Human Health Impacts of Spreading Oil & Gas Wastewater on Roads (Nathaniel Warner, PhD, Penn State)
- Research on Shale Development & Childhood Cancer in Pennsylvania (Shaina Stacy, PhD, UPMC Hillman Cancer Center)
- Public Health Impacts across the Plastics Lifecycle
- Improving access to health information and treatment
- A special break-out session for physicians and health professionals (Ned Ketyer, MD FAAP & Jessa Chabeau, MSW)

This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. The University of Pittsburgh is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution. Visit www.shalepalwv.org or call 1-800-61-SHALE for more information.

AAUW Eastern District Meeting Set for November 3

On November 3, 2018, the AAUW Doylestown and Lansdale Branches will co-host the Eastern District meeting program featuring the Honorable Judge Andrea Hudak Duffy of Montgomery Township District Court. Judge Duffy will share with us her mission to save lives ravished by the opioid addiction crisis in her township and throughout Pennsylvania. She will discuss her formation of the Drug Addiction Resource Alliance (DARA); a collective of local and Montgomery County agencies and facilities involved in different aspects of drug treatment. The meeting will be at Delaware Valley University, Mandell

Lecture Hall, 700 E. Butler Avenue, Doylestown, PA. 18901. The program will begin at 11:00 AM., followed by lunch (box lunches and drinks provided) and will conclude at approximately 2:00 PM.

The cost is \$10.00 per person for a box lunch. To order your box lunch (and register for the event), please complete the Registration Form forwarded by Peg Staarman and send \$10.00 to Sandy Homel, Financial Officer, Doylestown Branch, 175 Ash Way, Doylestown, PA. 18901. Please make checks out to: "AAUW Doylestown".

AAUW Mission Statement: *To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.*

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Newsletter: Taking Good Photographs

---Toni Gorkin and Cathy Palmquist

We hope you enjoyed the demo by Cathy Palmquist at the September meeting about how to take good photos. Photos of meetings, events, and activities are very important not only for our newsletter, web page, and Facebook page, but also for getting good coverage in the media in our community. Good photos help us tell the story of the many important things we do as an organization.

For those of you who missed the demo, here are Cathy's tips for taking good photos. Please use them and send us your photos!!

- Avoid "grip & grin", huddling, cuddling fig leaves (hands in front of private parts – mostly men).
- Posing people or photographing a group? Stand folks shoulder to shoulder, turned toward each other.
- Large group? Have a sit-down row in front.
- Don't be rushed – take time to get photo right! Ask the speaker or certificate presenter ahead of time to stand for you to take the picture.
- Over 4 or 5 people in photo? Have everyone close their eyes and open their eyes on your count of 3.
- Leave space around who/what you are photographing; don't shoot right to the edge of the subject(s). Allow for us to crop in the publication.
- Make sure photo matches the information – i.e., if doing a tea, show person pouring tea for another person, such as person in charge of event, president, etc.
- Take photos of action, activity, etc. These are more interesting than a group standing picture (OR do both).
- Background is as important as taking photos. Check what is behind your subject. Watch for exit signs, fire alarm boxes, light fixtures, pictures on walls, plants around and above people. Don't shoot into sun, glass windows/doors, mirrors.

Please let me know if you are interested in any of the tasks we need help with for our media or have other ideas. Contact me at tgorkin@comcast.net.

About timing: The newsletter comes out on the first of each month. While I have been able to accept articles up to the last week of the month, it helps to have them by our "official" deadline of the 10th.

How to submit: Please send your articles as MS Word documents to me at tgorkin@comcast.net or gmail account: aauwsumnews@gmail.com.

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. They are held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Generally they are held 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.

Facebook Page

Have you checked our Facebook Page? Thank you to Alice Lenthe for getting it up and running.

Chapter Web Page

And check the Web Page at <https://wccc-pa.aauw.net/>. Thank you to Sandy Alexander for managing it.

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).



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.

Member News

-- Patricia Schultz/ Phyllis Dunn

We added three new members to our organization after the latest PMP! Thanks to those who brought their friends to the gathering and to the branch meeting. If a person joins within 30 days of the PMP she will receive a discount in the membership dues and will pay \$50.50. **A very good incentive to attend a PMP and join this year!**

Our newest members are Yvonne Heckman referred by Fran Pierce, Greta Fiest, referred by Phyllis Dunn, and Janet Turner, also referred by Phyllis.

Membership forms are available at every meeting. If you need one sooner just let me know.

Member Notes

In this section we feature activities in which our members are involved, with information how you can become involved too, if relevant.

Patricia Schultz – Obama Rally

Patricia Schultz attended the Obama Rally in Philadelphia on Sept 21 with 5 women from East Goshen and the Chester County Controller. She reports it was an inspiring and amazing experience. There were approximately 5,000 people of all ages, genders and races. The message of the speech: VOTE!

Pat Bove – Harpist and Baby Cuddler

Patrice Bove is a retired music teacher from Tredyffrin-Easttown School District. She is a PAWLP fellow in writing and reading. She is a member of CCRA, AAUW, PMEA, PSEA, NAMT, and MTA. Presently she is a volunteer at Chester County Hospital and a Cuddler in their baby program (see related article). She also is a harpist and will be performing in a workshop in October as a well as in a Harp program on November 11 at WCU. She is a member of the WCU Harp Ensemble.

A Baby Cuddler

The research of Fritsch-deBruyn, Capalbo, Rea and Siano in 1990 demonstrated that human touch in premature babies can promote weight gain, improve brain development and support shorter hospital stays. Also the studies of Howard, Schiff, and Penwill in 2017 pointed out that more human contact at the bedside can decrease withdrawal severity in infants with NAS (Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome). One baby is born every fifteen minutes with NAS.

In December 2017, through the training by Stefanie Steinberger, Susan Cacciavillano, Matt Leocha, Tracy Bredding and Alyssa Kilby, the baby cuddler program began at Chester County Hospital. A group of volunteers had a day of training and at least two mentor sessions with trained NICU personnel.

Babies come to us with medical issues. Our job as teams is to help babies grow and mature so they can go home to their families.

The primary duties of a cuddler are to hold babies, to comfort and contain babies for procedures, sing, read or speak softly and to rock babies. It is touch which will help babies relax, sleep and grow to be healthy children.

As a retired teacher, I enjoyed the love of children, teaching my subject and learning every day. I am still learning as I cuddle these young babies who are coming into the world. I love holding different babies with different personalities, meeting new parents, and best of

all working with an outstanding and competent staff of nurses and doctors. For more information about this program, contact Kathy Stocker, Head of Volunteers at CCH. Email is kathystocker@pennmedicine.upenn.edu

Toni Gorkin: Environment



Toni attended the Chester County March for Climate Justice and Environment on Saturday, September 8 at the Court House in West Chester. Members recognized her in a picture that made it into the Daily Local News.

An advocate on environmental issues, Toni has also been selected to serve on

Uwchlan Township's new Environmental Advisory Council. The EAC meets every other month and has a section on the Uwchlan Township web page; Toni encourages members to check out links to helpful information at there about issues of concern right now in the area, including the invasive insects Spotted Lantern Fly and Emerald Ash Borer, and recycling.

Toni is an avid gardener and advocate of planting native plants to support pollinators and monarch butterflies, and encourages those of you with landscapes to consider the new practice of not cleaning up your garden in the fall, but using leaves to mulch and leave hibernating beneficial insects in place. She also recommends reading *Bringing Nature Home*, by Douglas Tallamy, and visiting the Meadow Garden at Longwood Gardens, in which she volunteers. And she encourages you to plan to attend our March 13 meeting, **Gardening with Native Plants**, with speaker Sharon Richardson, Master Gardener.

Special Interest Groups

Women's Social Bridge



The AAUW Chester County-West Chester Branch Women's Social Bridge meets once a month at 1 pm 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!

The dates for 2018-2019 are:

October 19
November 16
January 18
February 15
March 15
April 19
May 17
June 21
July 19

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 [one of the presidents if interested](#).

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.

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 Group I meets at 1:00 pm on the third Monday of the month. The next meeting will be October 15, 2018. The group will discuss *Clara and Mr. Tiffany*, by Susan Vreeland. The meeting will be at the home of Elaine Burgess, who will lead the discussion.

LIT II: Evening Literature Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group

Jean Speiser - JeanSp@gmail.com

Lit Group II meets at 7:00 pm on the third Wednesday evening of the month in members' houses in the West Chester-Downingtown area. On October 17 the group will meet at the home of Terry Houle to discuss *Tyrant: Shakespeare on Politics*, by Stephen Greenblatt. Dot von Gerbig will lead. For further information please get in touch with Jean Speiser at JeanSp@Gmail.com.

Great Decisions

We work with a book produced by the Foreign Policy Association called *Great Decisions* (cost \$30). It contains 8 topics and questions for discussion. Some topics this year include China's geopolitics, Turkey, and Global Health Issues. One person leads and all look for additional material. We meet at the West Chester Diner at 2:00 pm and generally spend approx. 2 hours. The first half hour is social. We usually meet on the second Monday in the month, but since we are a very small group we can be flexible. We would welcome new members. 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 Sandy Alexander

(frau.salexander@gmail.com), Mary Marco (Mary.m.marco@gmail.com), or Jane McDowell (jilmcdowell@gmail.com) 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.

Note: a survey was emailed out to members on the current list or who expressed interest at the September meeting. Contact the members above if you want to complete the survey.

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.

The group will meet on Friday, October 5, at 10:00 A.M. at the home of Pat Schultz.

For more information, contact Fran Pierce at frangepierce@verizon.net.

Walkers Group

This group has met twice to walk trails in West Chester area. Walks are on easy trails with markers at half mile intervals; you can walk as far or as fast as you want. Lots of camaraderie and conversation makes it go easier! We expect to start up again as the weather turns nicer.

Contact Phyllis Dunn at dunn.phyllis@gmail.com to be added to the email contact list.



119 Llandoverly Drive, Exton, PA 19341.

October 2018 Newsletter

Getting to Know Your Muslim Neighbor

wccc-pa.aauw.net

AAUW Mission Statement

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

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