

# **AAUW some NEWS**

News & Views from the

West Chester – Chester County PA

Branch

wccc-pa.aauw.net

Volume 64, Number 10

June 2019

# AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch Have a Happy, Enjoyable Summer! See you in September!



Officers for 2019-2020 installed at the May Banquet included Susan DeGeorge, Susan Skiles, Pat Schultz, Jean Speiser, Barb Lathroum, Anne Anderko, Eva Kaufmann, Pat Bove, and Carol Haaf. Jane Schultz handled installation.

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#### Letter from the President

Just like schoolchildren, we look forward to the end of the year, and to the relaxation of the warm summer months. I hope you have made wonderful plans that include cool waters and cool drinks!

Looking back over the year, we are reminded of the inspiring programs that we have all enjoyed, thanks to our Program VP's, Barb Lathroum and Terry Houle (who has moved to sunny southern California). The programs covered a wide variety of topics, including the historical contributions of Pennsylvania women, health care of mothers in Zimbabwe, meeting a Muslim neighbor, gerrymandering in Pennsylvania, the importance of native plants, and many more.

Among our activities we had the revival of TIG (Travel Interest Group) thanks to Sandy Alexander, Mary Marco, and Jane McDowell; the creation of a walkers' group by Phyllis Dunn; and the regular get-togethers of our book clubs, Great Decisions, Bridge club, Needlework group, Mah-Jongg, and the Food Interest Group, featuring lovely dinners for members and their spouses. Kim Levan generously took charge of Hospitality.

Our Membership Committee, in the capable hands of Phyllis Dunn and Pat Schultz, brought new faces to our organization with their PMP events (Prospective Member Parties). These casual affairs welcomed new members in a friendly environment and proved to be a great way to meet new, like-minded women.

Among our accomplishments, we note our members' enthusiastic support of the WCU Resource Pantry. We took a carload of contributions every month, and gave the students \$600 in gift cards for the holidays. The folks at the Pantry are deeply grateful.

When asked to help out the Laundromat Library League, our members responded with donations of children's books, about 600 of them throughout the year! Kudos to Pat

Schultz for managing these stacks of books! Trish Alfano deserves our thanks and appreciation for her fantastic management of the "Piggy Bank Fundraiser" which benefited the LLL. We also gave a generous Alice Lawson scholarship and supported the Envirothon, which involves students in conservation projects.

Spreading the word about our organization was the focus of Cathy Palmquist, our PR chair, as well as Sandy Alexander with the website, and Alice Lenthe with our newly-functioning Facebook page. Toni Gorkin continues to publish excellent newsletters for our branch!

We give many thanks to our outgoing officers. Anne Anderko, who has been handling our finances and much of our fund-raising, is stepping up to the job of Co-President. Susan DeGeorge will be our new Finance Officer. At our banquet we honored our dear Peggy Staarman, who is finishing up her successful term as Co-President. She will be back as Co-chair of the Community Outreach Committee in the fall.

While we have no meetings in the summer, our work continues with updates on our Handbook. Our Board will be meeting to make plans for the coming year, and Anne and I plan to attend a retreat with AAUW-PA to connect with the folks at that level.

Looking back on a great year, one thing is clear: we have so many generous, caring, fun women in our branch! Thank you to all for your contributions to this organization!

Eva Kaufmann (<u>ekaufmann1@gmail.com</u>)

#### THANK YOU

"No one who achieves success does so without acknowledging the help of others. The wise and confident acknowledge this help with gratitude."

-- Alfred North Whitehead

As my second year as Co-President approaches its end, I hope you will agree that our West Chester-Chester County Branch has experienced much success. We've had many knowledgeable, motivating, and inspirational speakers. We received an award this year from PA State AAUW for our increase in membership. Our special interest groups have increased in size and number and our TIG group has been reinvigorated. We have given community organizations like GETT, the LLL, the West Chester Food Cupboard, the Chester County Envirothon, and The WCU Resource Pantry support through volunteerism and material and monetary donations.

We awarded another deserving student an Alice Lawson scholarship and have updated the scholarship application. We've reached out to other branches to share ideas for projects. Our fundraising efforts have not only been varied and rewarding, but also they've also been creative and fun!

We have an active Facebook page in addition to an informative website and we've received welcome publicity in suburban papers as well as the Daily Local! Our newsletter is the envy of other organizations for its news, photos, and layout.

New venues for our holiday party and banquet received cheers from members. The Co-

Presidents and Program Vice Presidents had consistent help with set-up and cleanup at meetings and our big coffee pots have found a home in between meetings.

Our expansive handbook was published on time, our minutes are up-to-date, and our finances are in order. The list is incomplete, but it highlights some of the branch's success. None of these accomplishments could have been achieved without the dedication of an incredible board and wonderful committee leaders and members. These outstanding branch volunteers address the demands of their branch jobs, constantly step forward to assist with any need, and enlist members to help. Of course, our members share in the branch's achievements through their generous support of all our activities and projects. My heart is full of thanks to every member of this extraordinary branch.

Eva Kaufmann and Anne Anderko's leadership will inspire innovative approaches to our mission, will seek more community engagement, and will keep our branch strong. They will have the support of another wonderful group of board members and committee people. All will need your help to continue our achievements and to explore new ways to address the needs of our members, to serve the community, and to advocate for women and girls.

With much gratitude, *Peggy Staarman* 

## Branch officers for 2019-20

Officers for our branch were elected and installed at the May Banquet. Jane Schultz handled the formalities of the installation. New officers will assume their positions on July 1st. We'll get that formal posed picture in the September newsletter.

Co-Presidents: Eva Kaufmann and Anne Anderko\*

Program Co-VPs: Barbara Lathroum and Jean Speiser\*

Membership Co-VPs: Patricia Schultz\* and Susan Skiles\*

Secretaries: Patrice Bove and Carol Haaf

Treasurer: Susan DeGeorge\*

\* newly elected officer

# May Banquet at Home of Carol Haaf

-- Jean Speiser

The West Chester-Chester County AAUW chapter enjoyed its annual May banquet, a barbeque held at Carol Haaf's lovely and gracious home in Kennett Square. The chapter elected and installed new members. Dolores Colligan, the deputy director of our 2019-2020 Gateway to Equity honoree, Decade to Doorways, told us about the organization's initiatives to eliminate homelessness in Chester County. And the piggies were unveiled!

# Piggies! Yes, Piggies!

-- Eva Kaufmann

Yes, piggies! Last fall, each member was given a plain, white ceramic piggy bank to fill with change throughout the year. Trish Alfano, creator of the project, reminded members every month to fill the piggies and to decorate them. A group of members went to The Pottery Place (Fran Pierce's sister's studio) to paint the piggies in creative ways, and others used fabric, beads and other materials to create outstanding designs.



The theme of "piggies" was carried out at the Banquet with a barbecue dinner featuring pulled pork, as well as a sheet cake decorated with a piggy bank. Members brought their decorated creations, full of change. More than thirty piggies were on display, and members were invited to vote for the most attractive

ones. There was a flying pig, Sonny and Cher pigs, rainbow pigs, a political statement pig, a pretty tutu-clad pig, and even an AAUW-themed pig! Trish tabulated the results and gave prizes to the winners in the form of pigpens and gift certificates.



Contemplating the piggies in preparation for voting on most attractive.



Chef Andrew and Arlene Rengert, founder of LLL display piggy cake.

All proceeds from this project will go to the Laundromat Library League.

Many thanks to Trish for organizing this fun and creative fund-raiser that became the focus of our culminating event! Many thanks to our generous members for donating their change and for engaging in this fun activity!

The prize-winners:

3<sup>rd</sup> prize: Cathy Wilson 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: Marie Knox 1<sup>st</sup> prize: Barbara Lathroum The final totals show that members contributed about \$975 in change and checks. After expenses we will be able to give the LLL \$792 to purchase books for needy children!

Thanks, everyone!

# At the Banquet



Jane Schultz installed new officers at the Banquet: Susan DeGeorge, Susan Skiles, Pat Schultz, Jean Speiser, Anne Anderko, Eva Kaufmann







# Decade to Doorways: The Gateway to Equity Award for 2019-2020

-- Mimi Jones

The Gateway to Equity Award is awarded each year to "an individual, group or organization that has shown by action and philosophy the promotion of the AAUW mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research." We are pleased that our branch has chosen to support Decade to Doorways in the coming year, and we were delighted to welcome Dolores Colligan, the Deputy Director of the Chester County Department of Community Development, to speak to us about the organization at our May Barbeque.

Decade to Doorways' mission is to end homelessness in Chester County by 2022. In order to achieve that goal the organization works through a collaboration of public and private entities, consumers, and concerned citizens. As Dolores Colligan explained, the reality of living in Chester County means a family must make over \$77,000 per year and work 81 hours a week at minimum wage to afford a one-bedroom apartment. As a result of these issues and others, on any given night, 570 people are experiencing homelessness, and there are several shelters funded by Decade to Doorways that we can help with needed supplies. They include Safe Harbor of Chester County, Friends Association for the Protection of Children, The Domestic Violence Center and the Community Youth and Women's Alliance.

We expect to hear from volunteer coordinators this summer about their particular needs. We can also help by volunteering at Decade to Doorways events, referring those in need to local support organizations, and contacting elected officials to advocate for better funding.

Decade to Doorways reminds us that there are many and complex causes of homelessness, but homelessness does not define anyone and is a temporary situation to which an end is achievable. We are proud to join with this excellent organization to help with their goal to end homelessness in Chester County in the next ten years.

# Alice Lawson Scholarship

-- Deborah Liczwek and Diane Dougherty

Diane and I were pleased that the Alice Lawson scholarship received 6 applications. There were several women who were worthy candidates, making it a very difficult decision. However,

we unanimously agreed that Serena Hill, a 3<sup>rd</sup> year student studying Psychology at West Chester University was the outstanding choice for the 2019-2020 Alice Lawson Scholarship Awardee. But before sharing Serena's winning qualities, I believe it is important to know something about Alice Lawson. Serena mirrors several of Alice's qualities, making her an exceptional awardee.



Serena Hill awarded Alice Lawson Scholarship

I presume that most of you, including me, did not know Alice Lawson. Her daughter told me that Alice loved teaching and helping others. She remembers neighborhood kids coming to her mother for help with many subjects, from math to English, and as they grew older they turned to Alice for advice and guidance (and homemade chocolate chip cookies)!

One of Serena's professors described her as bright, motivated and responsible. She shared that Serena is collaborative and thoughtful. Because of her academic strengths and especially her excellent interpersonal skills, this same professor asked her to act as a peer tutor for the class. Quite an honor! (continued on next page)

#### Alice Lawson Scholarship

(continued from previous page)

Serena volunteers as a youth minister and leads developing and overseeing outreach programs that focus on mentoring youth, young adults and single parents in low-income communities. But she doesn't stop there. She also evaluates the impact and effectiveness of the programs. She is passionate about helping families but especially mentoring young girls. She has a special concern that she is addressing, the fact that there is a generation of young girls who don't feel or see their own value. Serena is doing something to assure that those girls recognize their own value and can follow their dreams and achieve their goals. This is not only Serena's desire. It was Alice Lawson's desire; and it is the desire of the AAUW.

Diane and I are proud to recognize Serena Hill and wish her the very best in achieving her dream – a dream that will benefit all of us.

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE! WATCH THIS SPACE!

West Chester Food Cupboard: This is a reminder for those of you who would like to volunteer just once a month for an hour to help out the West Chester Cupboard located at 431 Bolmar Street, please e-mail Anne at <a href="mailto:ananderko@msn.com">ananderko@msn.com</a>. We normally meet the last Monday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30 getting things ready for the next day -- no heavy lifting. We usually have 10 volunteers to help but we can take more.

We are getting into the summer months when many of you may have conflicts with vacations, so now is the time to let me know if you want to be put on the list. I send out a notice a week before and ask if you can help or not. I hope you can join us. It is a great cause. Thanks to all of you that are already helping out.

# AAUW Pennsylvania Summer Retreat

**Saturday, July 27 10:00 am to 3:00 pm** 

\$25 per person (includes lunch) Best Western Plus and Country Cupboard Inn, Lewisburg, PA

It's All About the Mission
Explore how members and
branches are supporting the
AAUW strategic plan

#### **Highlights include:**

- Exploration of AAUW's Strategic Plan, Beyond Aspirations
- Update on <u>AAUW Pennsylvania's</u> Strategic Plan
- How are we going to pass Pennsylvania Equal Pay legislation in this General Assembly?
- Time to meet members from around the state

New this year for those arriving Friday night... Informal meet and greet with AAUW Pennsylvania Board on Friday night at 6:30 with pizza. Optional and free.

Registration closes July 13th

Click on link below to register and for hotel information.

https://www.surveymonkey.co m/r/AAUWretreat2019

#### AAUW Mission Statement:

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

#### Our Chapter - 2019-2020:

	•
<i>Toni Gorkin</i> 610-363-7627	Newsletter Editor tgorkin@comcast.net
Newsletter email	tgorkin@comcast.net
Eva Kaufmann 610-793-3809	Branch Co-President <a href="mailto:ekaufmann1@gmail.com">ekaufmann1@gmail.com</a>
Anne Anderko 484-885-4943	Branch Co-President ananderko@msn.com
Barbara Lathroum 610-321-9783	Co-Vice President for Program blathroum@gmail.com
Jean Speiser 610-738-3363	Co-Vice President for Program jeansp@gmail.com
Patricia Schultz 610-436-9752	Membership Co-Vice President pls@patriciaschultz.com
Susan Skiles 610-431-4278	Membership Co-Vice President whimziecieux@gmail.com
Pat Bove 610-692-2742	Co-Secretary pmbove@aol.com
Carol Haaf 610-299-8801	Co-Secretary <u>carolahaaf@verizon.net</u>
Susan DeGeorge	Financial Officer suzydegeorge@yahoo.com

#### Newsletter

The next newsletter will be published in September, 2019. The deadline for submissions is August 10. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this year's issues; it couldn't have been done without you!

-- Toni Gorkin

# Facebook Page

Don't forget to check our Facebook Page. It's AAUW Chester County PA. Thank you to Alice Lenthe for getting it up and running.

# Chapter Web Page

And check the Web Page at https://wccpa.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).

# **Board Meetings**

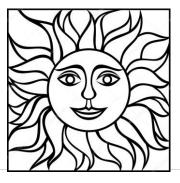
Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. Due to traffic problems at WCU, we have decided to hold meetings at Board members' homes. The next meeting on June 5th will be held at Eva Kaufmann's home beginning at 6:00 pm. Please RSVP if you would like to attend. All members are welcome to attend Board meetings

# Membership Renewal

wccc-pa.aauw.net

**Branch Website** 

The Membership form was sent via e-mail and is also included at the end of the last newsletter. Please mail them to Patricia Schultz at 235 Chatham Way, West Chester, PA, 19380, with your \$85 check. Feel free to contact Patricia with any questions.



#### Member News and Notes

#### Sandy Alexander in Orchestra

Sandy Alexander extended an invite to members to hear the Rose Tree Pops Orchestra, in which she plays, at 7:00 pm on June 15 at Rose Tree Park.

#### Sue Johnston Letter to Editor Noted

Fran Pierce forwarded this item she received from Carol Hodes who is on the AAUW-PA Education Committee with her. This letter to the editor by Sue Johnston was just published in the State College newspaper. Sue was our branch President before Barb Lathroum. She moved to State College several years ago.

#### CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL REFORM WOULD SAVE LOCAL DISTRICTS, TAXPAYERS

According to a wellresearched report from Education Voters of PA, "Commonsense Cyber Charter School Funding Reform Would Eliminate Wasteful Spending and Save \$250 Million in Taxpayer Money," \$250 million of taxpayer money is being wasted. When a student leaves the brick-and-mortar school for a cyber charter school, the per student expenditure of the school district from which that student comes goes with him/her as tuition.

Charter school tuition for regular (non-special) education ranges from about \$7,300 per student to \$18,000 per student. Special education tuition ranges from about \$14,900 to well over \$40,000 per student (varies with disability). It cyber charter schools the costs are less than \$5,000 per student for regular education and special education costs average \$8,865 due to fewer expenses (no building upkeep, etc.).

If the tuition for cyber charter schools was based on actual cost, the savings would be about \$250 million.

How does this affect Centre County school districts? Using \$5,000 for each regular education student and \$8,865 average for each special education student that transfers to a cyber charter school, money saved would be as follows, according to the report. Bald Eagle School District, \$98,554; Bellefonte School District, \$394,309; Penns Valley School District, \$131,622; State College Area School District, \$367,914.

r Since Pennsylvania funds education at one of I the lowest rates in the nation (currently 46th) this money could be used to increase education funding with our new taxes.

Susan Johnston, State College

#### A Note from Eva Kaufmann

After hearing our own Chiwo Tinago talk about her efforts to help girls in Zimbabwe, I was pleased to see this article in a recent AAUW newsletter. In case you missed it, here's the link. I think you'll find it a worthwhile, heartwarming story!

https://www.aauw.org/2017/04/13/the-power-of-education/

#### Toni Gorkin

Toni received a second place award for her etching "Four Seasons," exhibited in April at the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove's 13th Annual Juried Art Show "Drawn From Nature."

#### Ann Duerr

-- Peggy Staarman

Many of you know Ann Duerr, who has been an active member of our branch for many years. She has been a dear friend since we first joined the branch and served on the LAPP Committee together. Unfortunately, she was unable to participate in our activities this year because of her husband's illness. Ann's beloved Werner died in early May. Ann's address is Anne Duerr, 110 Stuart Avenue, Downingtown, PA 19335, in case you would like to send her your condolences.

# Jenn Schultz Wins in Primary

On Tuesday, voters nominated candidates for the Philadelphia Common Pleas Court. This court handles major criminal and civil cases. According to the Philadelphia Inquirer, with 97% of the precincts reporting, Jennifer Schultz, an attorney with Community Legal Services, received the most votes of the Democratic candidates for the position of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. Jenn was recommended by the Philadelphia Bar Association. She will serve a ten-year term if she is successful in the November election. Our branch is very proud of Jenn and congratulates her.

#### AAUW IN WASHINGTON and the PA STATE HOUSE



#### Noted in AAUW's Mission and Action Newsletter: Women Hurt Most by Student Loan Crisis

When women take the stage to get their diplomas this spring, they'll be graduating to staggering debt. As of early 2019, women hold almost two-thirds (\$929 billion) of the country's \$1.46-trillion student debt, according to a new analysis of AAUW's report Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans.

To address the crisis, join AAUW and call on lawmakers to:

- Safeguard and expand Pell Grants and other aid.
- Support efforts toward tuition- and debt-free options for students.
- Help meet students' academic and financial needs, including affordable access to child care.
- Narrow the pay gap through equal-pay legislation at the local, state and federal levels.

How can you help? One way is to tell #5GradsYouKnow about AAUW's free Work Smart online salary-negotiation course, so they can enter the job market on strong financial footing

# AAUW Washington Update: Abortion Restrictions, #StopTheBans

As you have likely seen flooding the news, the last few weeks have seen draconian abortion restrictions passing through state legislatures, as well as renewed attacks on access to reproductive and other health care from the federal government. These policies are an affront to women's well-being and jeopardize their economic self-sufficiency. Expanding reproductive services, information, and access to healthcare increases women's prospects of attaining economic security. Indeed, people denied abortions are more likely to receive public assistance and have incomes below the federal poverty level.

As part of our public policy work, we joined other advocates in the #StopTheBans campaign, a national day of action to demand access to reproductive health care. AAUW will also continue to join legal briefs arguing against these bans and lobby at the state and federal level to stop policies that curtail reproductive rights or limit people's equal access to healthcare. Just this week, Congress reintroduced the Women's Health Protection Act, which would stop needless and harmful restrictions on access to abortion. AAUW will continue to fight for its passage while opposing other problematic bills and administration rollbacks. Onward!

Deborah J. Vagins

AAUW Senior Vice President of Public Policy & Research

# State Conventions Update: This Is Your Moment

If you couldn't make it to your state AAUW convention this year, a <u>video presentation</u> from AAUW CEO Kim Churches will bring you up to speed. It highlights three immediate actions you can take to help women achieve economic security:

- 1. Take the Work Smart negotiation course and spread the word.
- 2. Advocate for our policy initiatives.
- 3. Support our greatest-needs fund

# AAUW PA: Direct to Branch Members

#### Ann Pehle, President of AAUW

Pennsylvania, reports that news from AAUW Pennsylvania will now be delivered to members' inbox. At present, branch members receive AAUW Pennsylvania information via the branch board officers. This isn't efficient or effective. It is important for all AAUW members in Pennsylvania to be informed and invited to engage in accomplishing AAUW Pennsylvania goals and supporting the AAUW. (continued on next page)

#### AAUW PA Direct to Branch

(continued from previous page)

strategic plan. From time to time, emails will come to members directly from <a href="mailto:aauwpainfo@gmail.com">aauwpainfo@gmail.com</a>.

Direct communication to branch members is intended to supplement your branch's communication. Don't worry – we won't flood your inbox. We will send an email to:

- Distribute the Keystoner, AAUW Pennsylvania's newsletter four times a year, beginning with the June issue.
- Provide AAUW Pennsylvania meeting information and registration. First up is the 2019 Summer Retreat on July 27.

 Share information about AAUW Pennsylvania initiatives needing member attention.

You may have to "train" your email not to consider emails from <a href="mailto:aauwpainfo@gmail.com">aauwpainfo@gmail.com</a> as SPAM or Junk. Of course, you may unsubscribe (see footer). And, if you change your email address, make sure you update your contact information by logging into MSD (Member Services Database) at <a href="www.aauw.org">www.aauw.org</a> or sending an email to <a href="mailto:connect@aauw.org">connect@aauw.org</a>. We welcome your feedback via email to <a href="mailto:aauwpainfo@gmail.com">aauwpainfo@gmail.com</a> or directly to Ann Pehle at <a href="mailto:aauwpa.president@gmail.com">aauwpa.president@gmail.com</a>.

# **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 2019 are:

June 21 July 19

To have your name added to the e-mail list, contact Sandy Alexander at <a href="mailto:frau.salexander@gmail.com">frau.salexander@gmail.com</a>.

## **Couples Bridge**

A chair is needed. Please contact one of the presidents if interested.

### Mah Jongg

For anyone interested in joining the Mah Jongg group, contact Jennifer Schultz at attorneyjenn@gmail.com for details. Newcomers are welcome - we can teach you how to play.

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

There will be a FIG dinner hosted by Beatriz Wee at Fusion Restaurant in West Chester on Sunday, June 23 at 5:00. Those who would like to attend should contact Beatriz by June 16.

For more information or to join the group, contact Donna Eaves, FIG chair. We are looking for members who would like to host or plan a meal at a restaurant during the remainder of the year.

### **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-(khphilipps@verizon.net). Lit I meets at 1:00 pm on the third Monday of the month. The group has completed its year of book readings, and will meet in June to set the schedule to start in the Fall. Any questions? Call chair Kay Philipps at 610-399-0697.

# LIT II: Evening Literature Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group

Lit Group II meets on the third Wednesday evening of the month.

Lit Group II meets in June every year to select books for the following 11 months and to enjoy good food and conviviality. Dinner is a potluck with food provided by the members. We'll meet on **Wednesday**, **June 19 at 6 PM**. We meet earlier than usual so we'll have time to eat. The selection process is an informal one in which members propose one or two books, the group discusses them, and somehow we reach a consensus. It's a lot of fun and we end up with a varied list that is usually more fiction than non-fiction.

This year we'll meet at Donna Eaves's home, please get in touch with her for more information. Please RSVP to Donna and to let her know what you're planning to bring. Her email is <u>deaves@live.com</u>.

#### **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

(<u>frau.salexander@gmail.com</u>), Mary Marco (<u>Mary.m.marco@gmail.com</u>), or Jane Mc

Dowell (<u>ilmcdowell@gmail.com</u>) 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.

Preview of coming attraction in September: Costuming the Crown exhibit at Winterthur!

#### **Stitchers Group**

The Needlework Club\_meets on the First Friday morning of each month. Meetings begin at 10 A.M. but scheduling may change (emails will announce) and members stay until around noon or can leave whenever necessary.

We bring our stitching projects to work on as we chat. Some crochet or knit, others cross stitch or quilt. We welcome your skills, whatever they may be. Please join us, it's an enjoyable morning.

Please contact Patricia Schultz if you have any questions or would like more details about the upcoming meetings.

#### Walkers Group

The group plans to meet on Tuesdays at the Trestle Bridge Trail (officially the Brandywine Meadows Trail) off Rt. 322 near Downingtown. Parking is in the lot near the Trestle Bridge. They will leave promptly at 9 A.M. You can walk as fast and as far as you would like. Expect lots of talking and laughter. No emails will go out; just show up and be ready to shove off at 9:00 A.M.

"We don't walk in the rain or snow," says organizer Phyllis Dunn; "drizzle, yes . . . snow and rain, NO! Don't worry if you miss a walk; just show up the next Tuesday." Contact Phyllis Dunn at <a href="mailto:dunn.phyllis@gmail.com">dunn.phyllis@gmail.com</a> to be added to the email contact list.



119 Llandovery Drive, Exton, PA 19341.

June 2019 Newsletter

Officers Installed at Banquet

wcc-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.
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Since its first meeting in 1881, AAUW has been a catalyst for change. Today, with more than 100,000 members, 1,000 branches, and 500 college and university partners, AAUW contributes to a more promising future and provides a powerful voice for women and girls—a voice that cannot and will not be ignored.

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