



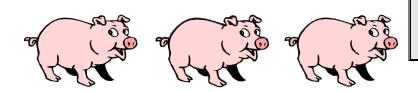
News & Views from the

West Chester – Chester County PA

Branch

wccc-pa.aauw.net

Volume 64, Number 9 May 2019



AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch
Spring Barbecue

Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony FEED YOUR PIGGY COUNTDOWN!

Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Time: 4:30 P.M.

Place: Home of Carol Haaf

1923 Marlboro Road, Kennett Square, PA 19343

Speaker: Delores Colligan

Decade to Doorways, Gateway to Equity Award Winner

Dinner is a buffet with Pulled Pork and BBQ Chicken, various salads, dessert, coffee, tea, iced tea, and lemonade. BYOB

Cost: \$25.00 per person

See sign-up sheet at end of this newsletter.

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Letter from the Presidents

"If it's drama that you sigh for, plant a garden and you'll get it. You will know the thrill of battle fighting foes that will beset it. If you long for entertainment and for pageantry most glowing, plant a garden and this summer spend your time with green things growing."

From Plant a Garden by Edward A. Guest

Every year back comes Spring, with nasty little birds yapping their fool heads off and the ground all mucked up with plants. Dorothy Parker

Whether you enjoy the sharp wit of Dorothy Parker or prefer the more benign observation of Edward Guest, most of you welcome May! We always look forward to our May banquet and hope that you will attend this year's banquet/barbecue on May 8th at 4:30 at Carol Haaf's lovely home. We will present this year's branch awards and will induct our officers for 2019-2020. We also look forward to the display of our decorated piggy banks and the donation of their contents to the Laundromat Library League. Our barbecue will be catered, but you may wish to bring your own "adult" beverage. Please be sure to send your reservation form and check in the amount of \$25 to Anne Anderko by May 1st. You may wish to enclose your membership renewal of \$85 in the same envelope! You can also send your membership form and check to Pat Schultz.

April was another busy month. On April 3rd, Eva, Mimi Jones, and I attended the Junior Girls Recognition Award ceremony hosted by the Eastern Delaware County Branch of AAUW in Springfield. Sixteen young women who are high school juniors were honored primarily for their community service. Jennifer O'Mara was the inspirational keynote speaker. The youngest member of the PA State House of Representatives, Jennifer spoke about the problems she faced as a youth and her determination to help others in need by serving her constituency as a government official. Each high school student spoke for a few

minutes about her activities. The evening motivated us to replicate a similar recognition for high school students in Chester County. Some members have already expressed interest and please let one of the Presidents know if you would like to help organize and implement our program.

Our April Branch program featured one of our own members, Dr. Chiwoneso Tinago, who told of her work with adolescent mothers in Zimbabwe. Her mission, her determination, her poise, and her message impressed all of us.

Some members also had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Curtis Symphony Orchestra concert at Immaculata University. It was delightful to watch the renowned Yannick Nezet-Seguin conduct these talented young musicians with such joy.

Please remember to complete your program evaluation and send it to Barbara Lathroum. The evaluation helps the Program Chairpersons select presenters who will address issues, interests, and concerns of the members.

We hope you will attend our banquet. It will give us a chance to socialize with our members and to thank all of you who have made this year so successful.

Peggy Staarman (<u>peggstaar@verizon.net</u>) Eva Kaufmann (ekaufmann1@gmail.com)

Membership Renewal Time is Here!

Membership-Patricia Schultz & Phyllis Dunn

The Membership form was sent via e-mail and is also included at the end of this 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.

Dr. Tinago Speaks on Project to Improve Maternal Care in Zimbabwe

-- Jean Speiser

The April branch meeting presenter was one of our own members, Chiwoneso Tinago, PhD. Dr. Tinago, who grew up in Zimbabwe, has a BS in Psychology from William Carey University in Mississippi, an MPH in Health Education from the University of Southern Mississippi, and a PhD in Public Health from the University of South Carolina. She is an assistant professor at West Chester University where she teaches both undergraduate and graduate public health courses. Last year she received a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Round 20 Grand Challenges Exploration Grant to test a community based peer-support intervention for adolescent mothers in Zimbabwe.

Her program is designed to develop ways to improve maternal health among adolescent mothers in Harare, Zimbabwe's capital, by developing community-based peer-support. Improved maternal care results in lower infant mortality figures as well. Zimbabwe has the 14th highest infant mortality rate in the world with 581 deaths per 100,000 births. The five major contributors to this appalling statistic are HIV/AIDS, eclampsia, hemorrhage, peri-natal sepsis and malaria, but much of this could be prevented by appropriate intervention and care.

Dr. Tinago explained that waiting to address infant and maternal mortality until a woman or teen is already pregnant is far too late. The entire spectrum of what she refers to as "antenatal" care ideally starts with pre-teens and should include family planning education and advice. She cited as an example one of the young mothers in the study, a 14-year old, who said that she had no idea that the sex she was having with her boyfriend led to her child's conception. This young mother did not know how babies were created. The schools do not teach health and sex education and contraceptives are not widely available.



Chiwoneso Tinago, PhD, spoke to the April meeting of our AAUW Chapter.

Community buy-in ideally involves as many people as possible in family planning education and pre-natal care precisely because it is so difficult to get information at school. Key community stake-holders include not only girls and their immediate families, but also the health-care community, religious leaders, and even elected officials and police officers. Basically, however, it is the teens who need to appreciate the program and work with it. For example, the girls themselves often develop program content and they can keep in touch with each other by using inexpensive and easily-available apps such as WhatsApp. Open communication within the group of teen mothers is the best way to get the information and education that they need to them.

Once the program is established in Harare, Dr. Tinago hopes to expand it outside Harare and possibly beyond Zimbabwe.

"Feed the Piggy" to Benefit Laundromat Library League: Return Your Filled Piggy





Members will return their Piggies at the May Banquet / Annual Meeting, filled with spare change they have collected all year.

"Members can compete in the contest for the best decorated Piggy," says Trish Alfano. "Please bring your piggy in a bag or box to turn into the display tent. We want to keep secret the owner of each pig to help make the voting process fair."

All the "Feed the Piggy" money will be donated to the Laundromat Library League. We will also accept paper money or checks in lieu of change. (Make checks out to AAUW-WCCC.)

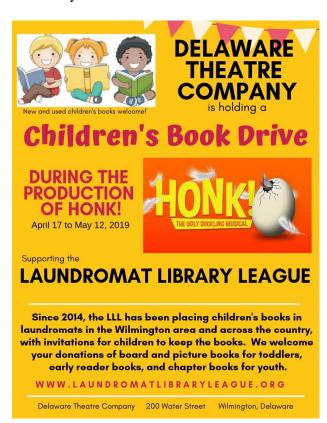
Laundromat Library League Notes

-- Patricia Schultz

Our AAUW chapter will schedule a second book drive in the fall of 2019. Please don't bring any books to the monthly meetings. Monetary donations are welcome at the monthly meetings or mailed to Patricia, who will make sure they are sent to Arlene Rengert.

LLL Fundraiser by Delaware Theatre Company

Arlene Rengert wanted you to know that the Delaware Theater Company is holding a children's book drive for the Laundromat Library League during its run of "Honk" April 17 to May 12.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE! WATCH THIS SPACE!

1. West Chester Food Cupboard: 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 ananderko@msn.com. 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. Hope you can join us. It is a great cause. Thanks to all of you that are already helping out.

Cathy Palmquist Receives Peg Anderson Award



President Peg Staarman presented the Peg Anderson Award to Cathy Palmquist at the April meeting. This award recognizes a longstanding member who has served in many capacities over the years and who continues to work in the background to inspire and support those who are now leaders and members.

AAUW Mission Statement:

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

Our Chapter:

Toni Gorkin Newsletter Editor 610-363-7627 tgorkin@comcast.net Newsletter email aauwsumnews@gmail.om or tgorkin@comcast.net Peggy Staarman **Branch Co-President** 610-269-4866 peggstaar@verizon.net Eva Kaufmann **Branch Co-President** 610-793-3809 ekaufmann1@gmail.com Terry Houle Co-Vice President for Program 610-269-7271 thehoules 2004@yahoo.com Barbara Lathroum Co-Vice President for Program blathroum@gmail.com 610-321-9783 Membership Co-Vice President Patricia Schultz 610-436-9752 pls@patriciaschultz.com

Membership Co-Vice President

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Phyllis Dunn

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Pat Bove
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Anne Anderko
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xarolahaafwa.e.
xarolahaa

Newsletter

Please let your editor 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, Toni Gorkin, at tgorkin@comcast.net.

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://wcc-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).

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. All members are invited to attend.

NOTE: The May 1 Board Meeting will be held at the home of Peggy Staarman.

Member News and Notes New Members 2019

Our chapter welcomes the following new members; an addendum to the Handbook will be issued. Meanwhile, check their interests and be sure to help them become involved.

Suzanne Bragg

braggio1@verizon.net

Interests: Community Outreach

Education: Bethany College W. VA Education

Kent State Univ: MA El Ed

Susan DeGeorge

suzydegeorge@yahoo.com

Interests: Fund Raising, Immigration, Political Issues, Programs, TIG, World Affairs, FIG, Finance Discussions, GETT/PETT, Domestic Violence Center, Community Outreach Education: Clarion Univ. Elem. Ed Houston Baptist U. M Ed

Nicole Gallo

nigallo@us.ibm.com

Interests: Political Issues, World Affairs, Book

Club 2, FIG, Community Outreach

Education: Boston College English/Communication BA

American College Wash College of Law JD

Michele Ferguson

michele.a.ferguson@gmail.com

Education:

Immaculata U. Economics BA

Kathleen Ganley

kganley00@aol.com

Interests: TIG, Book Club 2

Mary Pinkney Gets Legislative Citation

-- Cathy Palmquist

Our long time member, Mary Pinkney, was recently honored by her 160th Legislative District Representative Stephen Barrar, at the urging of AAUW member and 156th Legislative District Rep. Carolyn Comitta.



At a lovely gathering in her home at Crosslands were (from left) Carolyn Comitta, Mary's daughter, Catherine, Mary, Stephen Barrar, and AAUW branch co-president Eva Kaufman. Mary's smile revealed how pleased she was as Barrar sat at her side and read the legislative citation, noting the many contributions Mary has made to the community, and to AAUW, over many years. After the reading, Mary, her daughter and others shared stories and gave everyone a chance to meet Mary's daughter, who has been integral in providing biographical information about Mary, to include with AAUW information and stories shared by Kay Philipps, Eva and others. It was another wonderful celebration of our 105 year-old member and friend, which she seemed to thoroughly enjoy, and which we were honored and pleased to share with her.

Members Invite Members

Members involved in several upcoming events in the community would like to extend the following invitations.

As a member of the **West Chester Garden Club**, Eva Kaufmann would like to invite you to their annual plant sale! It will take place on **May 3rd and 4th** at the Landhope Farms parking lot at the corner of Rt 926 and Rt 82. We will have a large variety of plants, including flowers, herbs and vegetables! Native trees will be available only on Saturday, May 4th.

Toni Gorkin would like to invite you to the Uwchlan Women's Club Garden Class Plant Sale on Saturday, May 4, at the Uwchlan Meeting House, on Rte 113 in Lionville, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Toni would also like to invite members to the Sustainable Uwchlan Open House to be held outdoors at the township building from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 11. This family friendly event will offer information about local environmental initiatives and topics such as recycling, native gardening, and renewable energy. More information is at www.Uwchlan.com.

Cathy Palmquist would like to invite members to the screening of the Black Lives Matter May film "The Hate You Give" by Angie Thomas on Sunday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m. at Unitarian Congregation of West Chester at 501 High Street. Admission is free. A discussion will follow the screening.

Voter Guide for the May Primary Election

--Peggy Staarman

It's important to learn about the candidates and issues before you vote in any election. Your local government controls funds and selects your community's priorities. Its decisions will directly influence your life. On May 7, the League of Women Voters of Chester County will host a county-wide candidates forum at St. Paul's Baptist Church in West Chester from 6:30-8:30. The positions of judge, commissioner, District Attorney, and row officer will be contested on Primary Election Day. Anyone can attend the forum and there is free admission.

The following dates are important:

May 14: Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot

May 17: Last day for the County Board of Elections to receive a voted civilian absentee ballot

May 21: Primary Election Day

May 22: First day to register after the primary

Gun Violence Legislation

--Peggy Staarman

GunSenseUs will host a meeting on May 15 at 7:15 pm at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Exton. The guest speaker Mary Beth Christiansen of Moms Demand Action in PA will discuss "Red Flag Laws." A red flag law is a gun violence prevention law that allows a family member or police to petition a state court to order the temporary removal of firearms from a person who may be a danger to others or himself/herself.

It has been twenty years since the Columbine High School shootings in Littleton, CO. This massacre is the reason I became active in the movement to address gun violence. I lived several blocks from Columbine High School where I used to take my daughter for story time in the school's library. My neighbors' children attended the high school and some neighbors (continued on next page)

Gun Violence Legislation

(continued from previous page) were school employees. Even though I had moved to PA before the shootings, I kept in close touch with my friends. I will never forget that April day. I immediately contacted my former next-door neighbor. Ray's granddaughter Lisa Kreutz had been severely wounded. Lisa experienced unbelievable physical and mental trauma. She recovered enough to attend her high school graduation in a wheelchair and went on to attend college. Ray later said she coped very well but that he would never heal. This kind of tragedy affects not only the victim, but the family, friends, and social fabric of the community.

Although school shootings like Columbine receive extensive publicity, mass shootings are still relatively rare. According to Everytown USA, 100 Americans are killed by guns each day. Urban areas where gang violence is prevalent experience many gun fatalities. Everytown USA states that gun violence in the United States results in the deaths of over 30,000 people each year and firearm injuries affect more than 100,00. A majority of these shootings are suicide attempts. All shootings have rippling consequences. Isn't it time that you joined the movement to prevent gun violence? Contact any of the following

organizations to see what you can do: GunSenseUs, Everytown for Gun Safety, CeaseFire PA, Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, Brady Campaign to Stop Gun Violence, Giffords Law Center to Stop Gun Violence, Sandy Hook Promise, or Moms Demand Action.

AAUW IN WASHINGTON and the STATE HOUSE



Equal Pay Day

On April 2 — the symbolic day when women's earnings caught up to men's from the previous year — women everywhere made their voices heard. It was a time to take stock of progress while continuing the fight for pay equity.

View from the Hill

On Capitol Hill, Deborah Vagins, AAUW's Senior Vice President of Public Policy and Research, joined legislators and advocates to encourage the Senate to follow in the House's footsteps and pass the Paycheck Fairness Act.

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:

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.

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)

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. Please contact Donna if you are 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-(khphilipps@verizon.net).

The afternoon Lit Group will meet on Monday, May 20, 2019 at 1pm for refreshments and at 1:30pm for discussion of *Killers of the Flower Moon, the Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*, by David Grann. 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 deaves@live.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 Mc Dowell (jlmcdowell@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.

April showers bring may flowers, so we have decided to move the visit to the Morris Arboretum to Tuesday, May 21st. More information to come soon!

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

Stitchers Group

The Needlework Club_meets regularly 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.

The Stitchers are meeting at Barb Lathroum's house on Friday, May 3 @ 10:00. Please let Barb know if you are coming to stitch. 305 Whistling Swan Lane Downingtown 484-995-2008

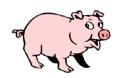
Please contact Patricia Schultz if you have any questions or would like more details about the upcoming meetings.

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 dunn.phyllis@gmail.com to be added to the email contact list.





AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch Spring Barbecue

Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony FEED YOUR PIGGY COUNTDOWN!

Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Time: 4:30 P.M.

Place: Home of Carol Haaf

1923 Marlboro Road, Kennett Square, PA 19343

Speaker: Delores Colligan

Decade to Doorways, Gateway to Equity Award Winner

Dinner is a buffet with Pulled Pork and BBQ Chicken, various salads, dessert, coffee, tea, iced tea, and lemonade, BYOB

Cost: \$25.00 per person

RSVP: Send the form below by May 1st to:

Anne Anderko, 908 Pine Valley Circle, West Chester, PA 19382 Send a check payable to AAUW West Chester-Chester County (AAUW- WCCC)

AT THE BBQ, RETURN YOUR "FILLED" PIGGY.

Compete in the contest for the best decorated pig. <u>Please bring your piggy in a bag or box to turn into the display tent.</u> We want to keep secret the owner of each pig to help make the voting process fair.

ALL the "Feed the Piggy" money will be donated to the LAUNDROMAT LIBRARY LEAGUE. We will also accept paper money or checks in lieu of change. (Make out to AAUW-WCCC.)								

will attend the Spring Barbecue on May 8th at Carol Haaf's.								
Enclosed is \$ forperson(s). Check Number								

AAUW West Chester-Ches	ter County Branch		Date			
IF NO CHANGES, check	MEMBERSHIP RE	ENEWAL FO	RM (2019-2	020)		
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College/University	State/Country	Major Arc	ea of Study	Degree Earned	<u>Date</u>	
AAUW Bylaws require that you	have at least an Associate Deg above, please check here to v				her information	
Occupation /Title/Company Volunteer Experience/ Comn Hobbies Will you take the newsletter via	nunity Activities					
Need a ride? (We can't promise	, but we'll try)	Can you provide	a ride occasion	nally?		
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Membership	Book Club 1 (3	Mon Days		Annual Handbook		
Scholarship	Book Club 2 (3			Branch Website)	
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Patricia Schultz, Member	rship, Co-VP		•	Dunn, Co-VP		
235 Chatham Way		610-696-1079				
WC, PA 19380				nn.phyllis@gmail.	com	
			uu	am.buyms@gman	,CUIII	
610-436- 9752						
pls@patriciaschultz.com						



119 Llandovery Drive, Exton, PA 19341. May 2019 Newsletter Spring BBQ, Annual Meeting & Awards 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