



## AAUW some NEWS

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

*Volume 65 Number 1  
September 2019*



### AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch POTLUCK DINNER Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 6:00 p.m. Grove Methodist Church

Please join us for our first meeting on Wednesday, September 11 at 6:00 p.m. at Grove Methodist Church. We will start at 6:00 so we can enjoy a potluck get-together before the meeting. We ask that members bring something to share.

Last Names A-H: Desserts  
Last Names I-P: Salads/Sides  
Last Names Q-Z: Entrees

After the potluck dinner, we welcome our special guest, Robert Henry, Decade to Doorways director, and representatives from the four shelters, **Friends Association, Domestic Violence Center, CYWA Gateway Shelter, and Safe Harbor** that we will be supporting in our Gateway to Equity program for 2019-2020. For September, we ask members to please bring items to support the Friends Association. **Please refer to the article below in this newsletter for the list of donation items requested.**

At our meeting we will update members on the branch's objectives for this year, which marks the 60th anniversary of our branch! So as you can see, there is a lot to discuss and we hope you can join us for our inaugural meeting in September.

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](http://www.grovechurch.org) or 610-696-2663.

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## ***Letter from the President***

### ***Give and Take***

There is a juggling act in the Philadelphia area that has been around for years: The Give and Take Jugglers. It's a funny name. Not the "Throw and Catch Jugglers." Not the "Keep the Balls in the Air Jugglers." Two guys have a juggling act in which they sometimes handle balls or bowling pins or flaming torches by themselves, and sometimes pass them back and forth, giving and taking them from each other. They crack jokes all through the act, and it's always a fun show.

It's a pretty good metaphor for what we do. Sometimes we juggle all the things in our lives alone, and sometimes we share with our friends.

AAUW is all about giving and taking. We take inspiration, knowledge, and companionship from our club, and we give support to each other and to the community. And yes, we have a good sense of humor!

This year, which marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of our branch, will be a good year to take the richness our club has to offer. Be inspired with literature in a book group.

Explore local places of interest with the TIG group. Socialize over great food with FIG. Walk, stitch, or play bridge or mah jongg. Come to the meetings to gather with other capable women and learn something new!

It will also be a good year to give. We handle a scholarship and a grant program. Our Community Outreach efforts this year will include work at the West Chester Food Cupboard, helping the Laundromat Library League, and supporting four shelters, the most ambitious project we have undertaken. We will also be looking at developing an award for high school girls who are working on projects to help others, which will be a Junior Girls' Recognition.

For this year, resolve to give and to take. Take a little or take a lot. Give a little or give a lot. Crack a few jokes. Have some fun! The club is here for you, and you don't need to juggle the balls all alone!

*Eva Kaufmann* ([ekaufmann1@gmail.com](mailto:ekaufmann1@gmail.com))  
September 2019

## ***AAUW PA SUMMER RETREAT***

Eva and I are excited to report on our recent AAUW PA Summer Retreat in Lewisburg on July 27. We had the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with 23 branches across the state with 80 members in attendance. Along with that, the state AAUW board presented a comprehensive program of their strategic plan for the coming year.

The state goals include: pass equal pay legislation, implement Work Smart Salary workshops across the state, provide financial support for college students (NCCWSL), develop fair district lines in PA, and demonstrate support for public education.

Of all these objectives, the state's greatest emphasis is on Economic Security and Equal Pay. They want all the branches to develop their own programs to promote WorkSmart, a salary

negotiation workshop which is now available as a one hour workshop to everyone FREE of charge! Our branch will be developing our own program to promote this valuable tool. In the meantime, you can go to [salary.aauw.org](http://salary.aauw.org) to register for the WorkSmart workshop. Once you have educated yourself, you can forward to your family and friends to help achieve pay equity.

As you can see by the state's goals for the coming year, there is much work to be done. We welcome your input and are excited by the programs the state is promoting.

Anne Anderko

## ***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 assumed their positions on July 1st. We'll get that formal posed picture in an upcoming 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

## ***Members Recognized for Distinguished Service***

Each year the members of our branch give awards to those who have provided distinguished service to our organization. The following awards were presented at the May banquet.

**25 year membership:** Pat Bove

**50 year membership:** Betty Bradford.

**AAUW PA Achievement Award**, in recognition of Increased Membership: (19.4% increase this past year) to Phyllis Dunn and Pat Schultz

**The Peg Anderson Award:** Cathy Palmquist

**The Member Making a Difference Award:**

Sandy Alexander

**Named Gift Honoree:** Anne Anderko

**Outstanding Woman Award:** Peggy Staarman

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

*--Jane Schultz*

Each year our branch honors 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. This year's winner, DECADE TO DOORWAYS, is such an organization. Specifically there are four shelters under Decades to Doorways the branch will be supporting this year. They are:

- The Friend Association for the Care and Protection of Children (West Chester),
- Safe Harbor (West Chester),
- Domestic Violence Center, and
- CYWA-Community, Youth, and Women Alliance (Coatesville).

Friends Association for the Care & Protection of Children has a long history of operating as a child welfare agency. It began in 1822 as a Philadelphia orphanage, expanding in 1915 to shelter and education girls in Cheyney, advancing in 1974 to provide shelter for girls in West Chester, again widening its scope in 1982 to provide a broad range of child welfare services in Chester County. Currently, the organization's focus is on ending and preventing homelessness and sheltering families with children. The organization is

accomplishing its goals through its Outreach to Homeless Families, Emergency Family Shelter, and Homeless Prevention Program.

We will collect donations for this organization in September and June. Bring the following items to our September meeting for delivery to the shelter by Fran Pierce:

- **Gift cards for gas and groceries** (in \$10 increments)
- **Kitchen and bathroom supplies:** paper towels, toilet paper, facial tissues, dishwashing liquid, Soft Scrub liquid, Windex yellow anti-bacterial, and kitchen sponges.
- **Baby items:** (sizes 4, 5, 6 diapers, and wipes)
- **Bed and Bath:** they may be used, but clean and no stains: sheets, blankets, towels, washcloths, pillows (only new in the original wrapping)
- **Etc:** laundry detergent, feminine hygiene supplies and all household supplies!

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support of such a worthy organization!

## **Return of the Pecan Sale**

-- Fundraising Co-chairs Trish Alfano & Marie Knox

It has been a proven winner for the past few years, so all of the candied favorites and plain pecans for cooking will be offered again with an early November delivery for holiday gift giving. An order form is included at the end of this newsletter. We will also be sending out an email form with all the information so please forward it to your family and friends who may be interested in some tasty pecans.

Please remember that only \$16.00 of the AAUW dues goes back to the branch. By participating in these fundraisers, we can raise the funds to support the worthwhile programs for young girls and women. We thank you for your continued support.



## **LAUNDROMAT LIBRARY LEAGUE AT AGE 5**

In 2014, the LLL was little more than an idea, but AAUW embraced the idea of providing books to children by laundromat placement. The whole concept was to get children's books to the population of children who have few or none at home. The West Chester-Chester County Branch of AAUW became one of the original "participant organizations" and engaged some of the earliest participants. Roughly 1/3 of the 30 original LLL volunteers were Branch members. The number of all participating volunteers has now grown to over 480 nationwide.

The number of laundromats and similar sites with LLL books grew from six in 2014 to 180 in 2019. Ninety are in Pennsylvania, but the LLL is growing as a national movement. The LLL welcomes your referrals anywhere. There

## **Membership News**

-- Patricia Schultz & Susan Skiles

Wow! We now have 86 members! Our goal for the next year is 100 members in honor of the 100th year of AAUW and the suffragettes who won the right to vote for women in 1920! Only 14 to go! We will continue our PMPs so watch your email for details. We hope that each of you will talk to your friends about our branch. Bring someone to a meeting as a guest & let her meet our group. Invite a friend to attend a special interest group with you. A more intimate way to get to know us. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

610-436-9752, [pls@patriciaschultz.com](mailto:pls@patriciaschultz.com)

## **First Prospective Member Party September 17**

Save the Date-First Prospective Member Party-Sept. 17, 2019 at Avalon Restaurant, 5-7 pm, located at E. Gay Street, West Chester. Please come and bring a friend.

is no cost to participate. The LLL will mail books to any U.S. site that has a cooperating laundromat and a volunteer to steward it. On [www.laundromatlibraryleague.org](http://www.laundromatlibraryleague.org), under "printable resources," there is guidance to the easy tasks needed to start a site. Peggy Staarman has reached out to other AAUW chapters to seek organizational participation.

We are proud that the LLL has distributed over 90,000 children's books during these five years. Each book has a "book sticker" that says, "Read It. Love It. Pass It On." Stickers in Spanish accompany Spanish language books. The branch has supplied or triggered book donations through direct book drives.

**The branch will hold another book drive in the fall of 2019.**



## Laundromat Library League (continued)

- Please bring any children's books to the Oct. and Nov. meetings.
- The LLL especially needs books in Spanish and those focusing on girls.
- Monetary donations (cash or checks) are appreciated and can be used to purchase books at discounted prices.

The branch was one of the early contributors of funds to buy books in Spanish or feature diverse populations. At each branch meeting, a collection basket is available for loose change. The branch also raised \$800 for the LLL through the "piggy" fundraiser organized by Trish Alfano. THANK YOU! Additional funds from individuals are always welcome and are acknowledged appropriately for tax purposes.

The LLL thanks AAUW for its early endorsement and for maintaining its support. Several members deserve recognition: Arlene Rengert is the co-founder and coordinator of the LLL; Anne Anderko and Toni Gorkin keep the membership informed and engaged; Elaine Burgess has recruited 3 laundromats in her community; Barb Lathroum, Pat Schultz, and others continue to steward area laundromats: each summer, Pat Bove organizes a book drive at WCU; Donna Pyne keeps Grove Church engaged and helps in many other ways; and Peggy Staarman sits on the LLL Board, publicizes fundraisers within AAUW, and seeks engagement opportunities. Additional participants are always welcome! Email [laundromatlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:laundromatlibrary@gmail.com).

There are additional ways to help the LLL:

- We get regular book donations from the Easttown and Boyertown libraries. If you are in a different community, please reach out to your library to see if a donation can be arranged. Arlene Rengert can provide a letter to your librarian. A volunteer from West Chester will get the books from you.
- On the website [greatnonprofits.org](http://greatnonprofits.org), add your statement to the 4 that are presently

there. The charity gets boosted higher if there are more people expressing interest and support.

- Please support the following fundraiser: On **Sept.15th**, there will be an all-day fundraiser at Isaac's Restaurant in two locations: Exton/Lionville and Lancaster/Lititz. LLL will receive 25% of purchases if the buyer mentions the LLL to the server prior to bill preparation.



*LLL's Vice President Karen Iacobucci receives our \$800 AAUW "Piggies" donation from Anne Anderko and Trish Alfano.*



*A few of those decorated Piggies.*

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE! WATCH THIS SPACE!

### West Chester Food Cupboard:

One of the groups that lends a hand to the needy in West Chester is the Food Cupboard, located at 431 Bolmar Road. AAUW plays an active role with this worthy organization that provides food and supplies to some 600 families in the school district. Our members are encouraged to volunteer there on the last Monday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30. Tasks include stocking shelves, bagging produce, separating large items into smaller containers, or doing any number of other tasks as needed. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information about a truly worthwhile cause, please contact Jean Shervais at [jshervais@verizon.net](mailto:jshervais@verizon.net) or call 610-431-9066.

### Gateway to Equity/Decade to Doorways

(see related article): For September, donations will go to the Friends Association for the Care & Protection of Children. Please see the donation list on page 3.

#### ***Anniversary: 100 Years of Vote for Women***

*"We ask justice, we ask equality, we ask that all the civil and political rights that belong to citizens of the United States, be guaranteed to us and our daughters forever."*

— Susan B. Anthony

### CommunityWarehouse Project of Chester County (CWP).

-- Cathy Palmquist

Have you been decluttering your house this summer? Did you find an extra toaster? An extra bed frame? Unused lamps? Are you downsizing? Moving to another house/apartment/condo?? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you need to get in touch with the **Community Warehouse Project of Chester County (CWP)**.

Founded by the Rotary Club, this 501c3 organization recently celebrated its first anniversary of "Helping Us Turn Empty Houses Into Homes," with a goal of helping every family/individual suffering from poverty or other hardship to live in a furnished home. CWP collects and redistributes donated furniture and other household items to families/individuals in need within the region. It is generally a one-time, free service to pre-screened recipients who are financially unable to afford their own new or used furniture, supported through the generosity of those within the community.

The CWP is located in Downingtown. **Furniture drop off day is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month.** The CWP accepts furniture, money and volunteers. **For further information about donating items, directions to CWP or volunteering, call 484-473-4360.** Bed frames are *always* needed, and currently, there is a need for lamps.

## Year-Long Celebration of the Victory of Votes for Women

-- Fran Pierce

Women from near and far gathered at the Brandywine River Museum on June 24 to plan for a year-long celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage. June 24 was chosen because it is the date on which the State of Pennsylvania became the seventh state to ratify the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, 100 years ago. Barb Lathroum and Fran Pierce are representing our branch but the meeting also included representatives from the Alice Paul Institute in New Jersey, the Chester County Fund for Women and Girls, the county Historical Society, the Women's Commission, the *Justice Bell 2020* Foundation, the Museum of the American Revolution, the *2020 Women's Vote Centennial Initiative*, and the West Chester University Center for Women and Gender Equity.

As the organization overseeing the celebration for the greater Delaware Valley area, the Brandywine Museum hopes to educate the community at large regarding the struggles that have been fought over many years to win the privilege of voting for all citizens of our democracy. (Continued on next page)

## Year Long Celebration (continued)

The various women's rights organizations that are part of the Planning Committee will contribute to and participate in the activities that the Museum has already put together for the year 2020. The celebration will begin with an exhibit titled, *Votes for Women: A Visual History*, that will debut on February 1<sup>st</sup> and run through June 7 of 2020. A speaker series running monthly will culminate in a symposium to be held at the Chase Center on the Waterfront in Wilmington in May.

AAUW-PA will also be celebrating the suffrage anniversary and will use the State Convention in April of 2020 as a venue for celebrating the event. The state officers have already secured for the opening of their Convention on Friday evening, the author Elaine Weiss who will speak about her book, *The Woman's Hour*, which is all about the struggle for suffrage.

At the close of the Planning Committee Meeting, we were approached by Ellen Endslow from the Chester County Historical Society who expressed an interest in cooperating with us in our efforts and even offered space at the Historical Society for a large group event or for several small group gatherings if we are interested. We will follow up with her regarding this offer and further reports on the progress of plans for the celebration of the

Suffrage Centennial will appear monthly in this newsletter.



Eva Kaufmann suggested this image from the Portrait Gallery in Washington D.C.

If you have any suggestions or ideas to share, please contact Barb or Fran. Barb can be reached at [blathroum@gmail.com](mailto:blathroum@gmail.com), and Fran at [frangepierce@verizon.net](mailto:frangepierce@verizon.net).

### ***Anniversary: 100 Years of Vote for Women***

*"I want to say right here, that those well-meaning friends on the outside who say that we have suffered these horrors of prison, of hunger strikes and forcible feeding, because we desired to martyrise ourselves for the cause, are absolutely and entirely mistaken. We never went to prison in order to be martyrs. We went there in order that we might obtain the rights of citizenship. We were willing to break laws that we might force men to give us the right to make laws."*

– Emmeline Pankhurst

*"However benevolent men may be in their intentions, they cannot know what women want and what suits the necessities of women's lives as well as women know these things themselves."*

– Millicent Garrett Fawcett,

*"In the adjustment of the new order of things, we women demand an equal voice; we shall accept nothing less."*

Carrie Chapman Catt, founder of The League of Women Voters



## ***In Memory of Kathryn Retallick***

*-- Donna Eaves*



On July 29th Kathryn (known to many of us as Kit) Retallick died at the age of 93. Kathryn, who was a member of our branch for 50 years, was a very active member, serving in several board positions, was president of the branch from 2001-

03, and a member of both the non-fiction book club and the Great Decisions group. She was a named honoree for our gift to the Educational Foundation in 1998 and was selected as our Outstanding Branch Member in 2001.

Born in Buffalo, NY, she was a very proud graduate and lifelong booster of the University

of Michigan. She also earned a degree from West Chester University. She retired in 1993 from the West Chester School District after teaching Spanish for 22 years. After her retirement she continued to be a strong advocate and mentor for women and girls, and was an active volunteer with her church, the Salvation Army and many other organizations. Kathryn was married for 67 years to William, who died in 2016. She is survived by her daughter, Martha Retallick, who is a writer and photographer living in Tucson, Arizona.

Kathryn's energy and spunky personality will be greatly missed by those of us who knew her. Donations in her memory may be sent to the Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund in care of CCCF (Chester County Community Foundation), 29 W. Market St, West Chester 19382.

## ***THANK YOU***

*-- Mimi Jones*

We would like to share with everyone this delightful note from Allie Short thanking our AAUW branch for the support we have given the Resource Pantry in the past two years through the Promise Program. The Promise Program is at the core of the work of the Resource Pantry. It supports students who have aged out of foster care, leaving them homeless and without family support.

They are doing much needed work and we wish them well in their endeavors. We look forward to supporting the Friends Association, where Allie volunteers, in the year ahead as well as The Community Youth and Women's Alliance, the Domestic Violence Center, and Safe Harbor, all in partnership with Decade to Doorways as they work to end homelessness in Chester County. Here is Allie's letter as it was sent to me.

*My name is Allie. I am a volunteer at the Friends Association and also involved with the Promise Program at West Chester University. Robin Meixner gave me your contact information so that I would be able to reach out to you. Thank you for everything you have done to help support the*

*Promise Program. The Promise Program has been amazing in helping students like myself who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, so that we are able to pursue our education with less stress.*

*When I started at West Chester University, FAFSAF would not give me funding because I was not homeless until after I was eighteen years old. They wanted to go based off of my parents finances even though I have been independent for four years. Thanks to the Promise Program I am able to stay on campus all year round and maintain stable housing so I can focus on my studies. I am pursuing my degree in social work, so that I can help to improve circumstances for people similar to myself. Thanks to donors like you, the Promise Program students were provided with gift cards at Christmas time so that we could get food off campus, as well as have money for textbooks in the spring. We appreciate everything that the community does to support us, and I wanted to personally thank you for helping our program. Thank you for everything you do! Regards,  
Allie Short*



## **AAUW Mission Statement:**

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

### **Our Chapter – 2019-2020:**

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## **Newsletter**

The newsletter is published by the first of each month. The deadline for submissions is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Please send emails to [tgorkin@comcast.net](mailto:tgorkin@comcast.net). Thank you to everyone who contributes to these issues; it can't be 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://wccc-pa.aauw.net/>. Thank you to Sandy Alexander for managing it.

## **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 September board meeting will be at the home of Anne Anderko at 5:30 p.m. Light dinner will be served. Please RSVP if you would like to attend. All members are welcome to attend Board meetings.

## **National AAAUW 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).

## **Member News and Notes** **Welcome to New Members**

Welcome to several new members; welcome them to your interest groups!

### **Rohna Paskow**

Rohna volunteers at the WC Food Cupboard and the Brandywine SPCA. She has a BS in Early Childhood Education from Temple University. She is interested in TIG, FIG, Book Club 1 and Walkers.

### **Patricia Ricci**

Patricia is interested in TIG, Legislation & Public Policy, and Great Decisions. She has a BA in Social Work from WCU, JD from Temple Law, and MSW from Temple University.

## **Sandra Harrelson**

Sandra is interested in Community Outreach Programs, Scholarship, TIG, Book Club 1, PETT. Her education includes a BA in Education from

Randolph College, VA, and an MA in Elementary Ed from Emory University.

### ***We're In the News!***

#### **Equity Award to Decade to Doorways Appears in Vista Today**

Our chapter has received some very nice coverage in the local news this summer. Our selection of Decade to Doorways for our Equity Award was featured in ***Vista Today***, an online newsletter of business/organization news in Chester County. The publication is produced by the Economic Development Center and has a large and growing readership, pointed out Fran Pierce and Peggy Staarman. Here's a link to the article: <https://vista.today/2019/05/decade-to-doorways-partnership-receives-gateway-to-equity-award/>

#### **LLL Written Up in the Community Courier**

"Laundromat Libraries Offer Free Books for Children" was the headline in the July 17 issue of the Downingtown/Exton Community Courier. An extensive article included a picture featuring Arlene Rengert, LLL president and chapter member, and a picture of Anne Anderko and Trish Alfano presenting our \$800 AAUW donation to LLL's Vice President Karen Iacobucci.

#### **50 Plus LIFE**

The August edition of 50 Plus Life has the pictures and information about the the AAUW "piggy" fundraiser for the LLL. Here's a link: [https://issuu.com/onlinepub/docs/chester\\_0819\\_issuu?e=1140880/64172719](https://issuu.com/onlinepub/docs/chester_0819_issuu?e=1140880/64172719)



### ***Cathy Palmquist Named Rotarian of the Year***

AAUW member Cathy Palmquist was named Rotarian of the Year for 2018-2019 by the Rotary Club of West Chester at the club's gala presidential induction at the Chester County Bar Association. A 50+-year member of AAUW, Cathy was presented the award by the Rotary club president, in which he cited her "for nearly 27 years of capturing the moments of Rotary with her camera, her tireless work promoting the Rotary Club, and in recognition of distinguished service, loyalty and devotion to the ideals of Rotary." The Thursday lunch club, of which Cathy is PR chair, is the largest and most active of the 54 clubs in District 7450 (Philadelphia to Oxford). Rotary International is the largest service club in the world, with 1.2 million members in 35,000 clubs worldwide.

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



Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research

## *The Keystoner*

### ***PA AAUW: The Keystoner and The Pennsylvania Yearbook***

The Keystoner is published four times a year, this newsletter shares information about our work across the

state. For the first time, it was sent in early June directly to members instead of distributed by someone in our Branch. To read the current edition, click on the image above. Click [here](#) to read on the AAUW Pennsylvania website. Inside, you will find:

- Recap of Equal Pay Day events
- Invitation to attend the Summer Retreat on Saturday, July 27.
- Exciting Branch events.
- News from AAUW student organizations, the AAUW Pennsylvania Student Advisors, and NCCWSL grant winners!



Also sent was a link to the **2019 AAUW Pennsylvania Yearbook**, which focuses on recognizing the achievements of members, branches, and community organizations. To read the Yearbook, click on the image above or view it on the AAUW Pennsylvania website [here](#).



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

## Special 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. We play contract bridge

and change partners after 6 hands. We meet at a member's home; locations are sent in e-mail reminders each month. All are welcome!

To have your name added to the e-mail list, contact Sandy Alexander at [frau.salexander@gmail.com](mailto:frau.salexander@gmail.com).

The dates for 2019-2020 are:

September 20  
October 18  
November 15  
January 17  
February 21  
March 20  
April 17  
May 15  
June 19  
July 17

### 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](mailto: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.

### 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 Lit I Book Group meets at 1:00 pm on the third Monday of the month. The group will start off 2019-2020 reading ***Where the Crawdads Sing***, by Delia Owens, on September 16. The meeting will be at the home of Janet Kane, and Dot von Gerbig will lead the

discussion. Any questions? Contact Janet Kane: [jfentonkane@gmail.com](mailto:jfentonkane@gmail.com) or 610-399-1149.

## **LIT II: Evening Literature Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group**

Lit Group II welcomes new members. Please get in touch with Jean Speiser ([JeanSp@Gmail.com](mailto:JeanSp@Gmail.com)) for more details. Our September selection, *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly, is the story of three women during World War II. Library Journal describes it as "Extremely moving and memorable . . . This impressive debut should appeal strongly to historical fiction readers and to book clubs that adored Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale* and Anthony Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See*." As always, we meet on the third Wednesday evening of the month, the 18th in September, beginning at 7:00, with the discussion starting at 7:30. Our hostess this month is Phyllis Dunn and the discussion leader is Donna Eaves. It is a long book, and you might want to plan on a little extra time.

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:frau.salexander@gmail.com)), Mary Marco ([Mary.m.marco@gmail.com](mailto:Mary.m.marco@gmail.com)), or Jane McDowell ([jlmcdowell@gmail.com](mailto: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.

Look for an email soon regarding TIG outings for 2019-2020. We are working on plans to see "The Crown" exhibit at Winterthur and will organize group tickets for evening Curtis Symphony concerts at Immaculata University on October 19 (Saturday), January 30 (Thursday) and April 25 (Saturday). Save those dates!

## **Stitchers Group**

Patricia Schultz is coordinating the "Stitchers". We meet the first Friday of each month at 10:00 AM. 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. Watch your email for location.

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

## **Walkers Group**

The group meets 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 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. Contact Phyllis Dunn at [dunn.phyllis@gmail.com](mailto:dunn.phyllis@gmail.com) to be added to the email contact list.



# **FALL FUNDRAISER PECAN SALE**

**ALL ORDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY OCTOBER 18, 2019**

<b>NAME</b>
<b>EMAIL</b>
<b>PHONE</b>

DESCRIPTION	ITEM #	QUANTITY	COST Per bag	TOTAL COST
16 oz. Extra Large Pecan Halves	102		\$13.50	
10 oz. Cinnamon Glazed Pecan [gift bagged]	212		\$10.00	
8 oz. Pecan Caramel Clusters [gift bagged]	205		\$9.00	
12 oz. Chocolate Covered Pecans [gift bagged]	203		\$10.00	
8 oz. Glazed Pecans [gift bagged]	223		\$9.00	
<b>TOTALS:</b>				

- Please have all payment included with your orders with checks made out to **AAUW West Chester-Chester County**
- There is no tax
- Orders will be distributed at the **November 13<sup>th</sup>** meeting
- If you have any questions, please e-mail Trish at [ba1004@comcast.net](mailto:ba1004@comcast.net) or call 610-431-4545.



119 Llandoverly Drive, Exton, PA 19341.

*September 2019 Newsletter*

*Potluck – First Meeting of the Year*

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.

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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.

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) [www.aauwpa.org](http://www.aauwpa.org) [wccc-pa.aauw.net](http://wccc-pa.aauw.net)