



## AAUW some NEWS

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

*Volume 65 Number 2*  
*October 2019*

### AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch **From Scientist to Weaver and Dyer**

**Dr. Carol Ireland**

**Retired scientist and member of the Harmony Weavers Guild**

**Wednesday, October 9, 2019, 7:00 p.m.**

**Grove Methodist Church**

Dr. Ireland will speak about her journey from working as a scientist to weaving and using natural dyes in that endeavor. She will also discuss how she came to be involved in WARP (Weave a Real Peace) which supports textiles as key to grassroots economies all over the globe.

Refreshments: Lit Group II

Don't forget to **VOTE**  
**NOVEMBER 5, 2019**

Register to Vote by October 7  
Find Your Polling Place; Apply for absentee  
ballot if applicable - online

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

You've heard the expression "We're off and running." I think it aptly describes our branch! Like the October weather, there is a vibrancy in the air and it is contagious. It kicked off with the board meeting held on September 4th where 16 members came together and determined that the following five areas are our goals for 2019-2020. It is an aggressive list:

- 1) Supporting elections, getting out the vote, election fairness;
- 2) Political Issues, e.g., immigrant women, healthcare for women;
- 3) Community Outreach. e.g., 4 Decade to Doorways shelters, West Chester Food Cupboard, Laundromat Library League;
- 4) Start Smart/Pay Equity;
- 5) Increase membership and promote special interest groups.

Please see the subsequent article for more details on how these goals will be implemented.

Next, we followed up with our September 11th Pot Luck Dinner meeting. More than forty new and veteran members met our four shelter

groups, CYWA, DVCCC, Friends Association, and Safe Harbor in a lively panel discussion with special guest Robert Henry, Decade of Doorways director. We were very impressed by each shelter's passion to help the homeless. Thanks to all our members for their generosity for the first collection for Friends Association. We will collect for Safe Harbor at our October meeting.

Lastly, it is the year of anniversaries. Our branch will celebrate its 60 th anniversary along with the 100 th anniversary of Women's Suffrage. We will be planning activities around both of these milestones. As you can see, we have a great deal going on. We encourage all members, 86 strong, both our new and long-time, to get involved, ask questions, offer suggestions, and help us achieve the plans we have proposed for 2019-2020. Eva and I are very excited about all we can accomplish together.

Anne Anderko ([ananderko@msn.com](mailto:ananderko@msn.com))  
October 2019



*Officers and Committee Chairpersons for 2019-2020 were photographed at the September board meeting. Front: Anne Anderko, Eva Kaufmann, Peggy Staarman. Back: Jean Speiser, Mimi Jones, Deb Liczwek, Susan Skiles, tonya thames-taylor, Patricia Schultz, Suzy DeGeorge, Barbara Lathroum, Toni Gorkin, Pat Bove, Trish Alfano, Marie Knox.*



## ***Chapter Begins a New Season of Activities: Food, Outreach, Guests, and Goals***

The West Chester-Chester County chapter of AAUW started the 2019-2020 season with a delightful pot luck dinner and an evening of very interesting guests. Co-President Eva Kaufmann started the meeting by noting the chapter will celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year and also the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's Suffrage.



*The Pot Luck was a great time to get back together! And as always, the desserts were fabulous!*

### ***Guests Introduced***

Eva then introduced Sandy Alcidonis. Sandy is the Director of the Center for Women and Gender Equity at West Chester University. She got her Bachelors Degree at WCU and her PhD at Temple. In her final year of her doctoral studies she was awarded a grant from AAUW that enabled her to complete her degree.



She got resounding applause from the audience, when she noted her educational achievements were made possible in part by AAUW.

*LEFT: Sandy Alcidonis*

The next guest introduced was Robert Henry, representing the four homeless shelters the chapter will support in the coming year as recipients of the Gate to Equity Award to Decade to Doorways.



Rob Henry pointed out that the focus of Decade to Doorways is to move in front of homelessness with outreach and to address chronic homelessness with programs that prepare individuals to

function successfully in the community. He noted they will be more data driven in their efforts. And he noted they would recognize National Homeless Week November 24 with a "Be The Key" event.

The AAUW chapter will support four shelters over 2019-2020: Friends Association, Domestic Violence Center, CYWA Gateway Shelter, and Safe Harbor. Focus will be on one shelter at each of two months of the year. A panel discussion moderated by Mimi Jones gave each shelter organization's representative

## ***New Season Begins (continued)***

to provide information about their programs and to field questions from AAUW members. See summary article below and related article about Safe Harbor. More information about the shelters and our chapter's opportunities to support will be included in each month's newsletter.

## ***General Meeting: Goals and Announcements***

Barb Lathroum and Jean Speiser, Program Co-Chairpersons, then led a panel discussion about

## ***About the Gateway to Equity Partners***

A panel of representatives gave the AAUW chapter members valuable information about each of the four shelters the chapter will support in the coming year.



*Mimi Jones introduces the representatives of the four Decades to Doorways agencies our AAUW chapter will support during the coming year as our Gateway to Equity awardee.*

Amelia Reyburn spoke about the **Domestic Violence Center of Chester County**, which serves victims and dependent children. The center provides a safe and confidential space for those in immediate danger, provides support groups with instruction on nutrition, budgeting and finance, and coaches on transitional options to other housing.

Robin Meixner spoke about the **West Chester Friends Association**, which was started in 1822 and is the oldest child welfare agency in Pennsylvania. Their focus is on enabling

the goals for the chapter for the coming year that were suggested at the September meeting of the Board and Members. See related article. As part of the official general meeting, Committees and Special Interest Groups gave announcements about upcoming activities, many of which will be communicated throughout this and future issues of the newsletter, on the website and Facebook page, and via emails. Members are encouraged to follow the news and become involved in this anniversary year.

families to live in their 6 units in a dignified space, with a normal family experience in an environment like a regular apartment. They also perform outreach to prevent homelessness before it occurs.

David James described **Safe Harbor**, which houses single men and single women, typically for 90-120 days. They work to help individuals plan and reach contacts for help with financial issues, addiction, etc., in preparation for when they leave. He noted all meals are donated by volunteers who cook, drop off, and service meals. See related article in this issue.

Deborah Bookman spoke about **CYWA (Community Youth and Womens Alliance)**, which serves women with children in shelters in Coatesville seeking help because of poverty, abandonment, abuse, mental health and addiction challenges. They provide intensive case management services to move them into self-sufficiency and independence, including safe shelter, access to bath and kitchen facilities, food, clothing, employment assistance, childcare, and a plan for their future.

All of the shelters depend on contributions and volunteer support. Throughout the coming year, AAUW chapter members will be kept informed of opportunities to help.

**CORRECTION NOTE:** collection of donation items for West Chester Friends Association will occur in ***September and January***. It incorrectly stated September and June in last month's newsletter.



## **Pecan Sale**



All of the candied favorites and plain pecans for cooking are being offered again with

an early November delivery for holiday gift giving. The candied favorites are great to have around for a last-minute hostess gift or snack for company. An order form is included in this newsletter. We have also sent 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. Completed orders may be turned in at the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting or mailed to Trish Alfano, 1004 Pine Valley Circle, West Chester, PA 19382.

## **Teapots**

Last year we had a very successful “Feed Your Piggy” fundraiser. Beginning in October, we will be starting our “Teapot” fundraiser to raise money for the 4 shelters we are sponsoring this year. We will be handing out porcelain “teapot planters”. You are invited to get rid of your loose change in the next seven months. It may seem like an insignificant amount to you, but when we combine the contents of all the donations, we’ll have a nice sum which will be donated to the 4 shelters. At our May 13, 2020

banquet you will turn in your donation and your decorated teapot and we will have a contest for the most creative teapots.

-- Fundraising Co-chairs Trish Alfano & Marie Knox

## **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 100<sup>th</sup> year of the suffragettes who won the right to vote for women in 1920! Only 14 to go! The PMPs are scheduled (see Handbook) and we hope that each of you will talk to your friends about our branch. Bring someone to a meeting as a guest & let them meet our group. Invite a friend to attend a special interest group with you, it’s a more intimate way to get to know us. Feel free to contact either of us with any questions.

Patricia: 610-436-9752

[pls@patriciaschultz.com](mailto:pls@patriciaschultz.com)

Susan: 610-431-4278

[whimziecieux@gmail.com](mailto:whimziecieux@gmail.com)

## **Prospective Member Party November 12**

Save the Date - Prospective Member Party  
November 12, 2019 at Green Street Grill, 10-12 a.m. Downtown.

Please come and bring a friend.

## **BRANCH GOALS FOR 2019-2020**

-- Anne Anderko

At the September 4<sup>th</sup> board meeting, sixteen board members developed the following goals that we will be the focus of our strategic plan for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Below is an explanation of each goal and our plans to implement them.

Our first goal is supporting elections, getting out the vote, and election fairness. This is in conjunction with AAUW National and State objectives as well. We plan to collaborate with other groups (e.g., League of Women Voters),

contact our local congressman through phone, e-mail and postcards, and send out information on the Fair Districts PA Steering Committee.

Our second goal is Political Issues. The board identified a number of areas that were of interest, e.g., support of immigrant women, climate change/sustainability, women’s healthcare, public/charter schools, and gun control. Since there are so many areas of interest, our Public Policy & Legislation Group (LAPP), met in mid-September to plan their

## **BRANCH GOALS (continued)**

objectives. At the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, Ann Tomalavage will introduce the LAPP committee objectives, starting with a pay equity initiative based on current state legislation. This includes two current bills, one in the State Senate (SB721) and one in the House (HB850). They will present a two-minute activist postcard activity which will take place at the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting once the membership has been educated on these bills. All of these activities would fall under the umbrella of “getting the vote out” for initiatives (local, state, and national) which benefit women. Future topics may include minimum wage and family/medical leave.

Our third goal is Community Outreach with Mimi Jones as coordinator. This program is well underway with our support of the four homeless shelters (our Gateway to Equity winner). Donations for a specific shelter will be collected on a monthly basis. We also support the West Chester Food Cupboard and Laundromat Library League.

Our fourth goal is Start Smart/Work Smart/Pay Equity. This objective is also an AAUW National and State initiative. Information was recently sent from AAUW State outlining their plans for state salary negotiation courses (eight

workshops across the state endorsed by the PA governor, Tom Wolfe). Our branch will hold our own Start Smart/Work Smart program on November 10<sup>th</sup> at West Chester University led by our member, tonya thames taylor. More information will follow with opportunities to volunteer. We also ask each of our members to take the online Work Smart course at [salary.aauw.org/PA](http://salary.aauw.org/PA). Once you have completed the one hour course, please forward to friends so they too can learn how to negotiate in business and in everyday life situations.

Our fifth goal is Club Issues. We currently have 86 members and in recognition of our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, we plan on adding fourteen new members to make it an even 100! Pat Schultz and Susan Skiles are the membership chairs. Through board incentives and Perspective Member Parties this is an achievable goal. We also encourage attendance at the many special interest groups the branch has to offer.

As you can see, it is an aggressive list with many opportunities for members to get involved. We urge you to take an active role in the areas that interest you. Please reach out to the goal chairs mentioned above or the co-presidents for any questions you may have.

## **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

October, donations will go to the Safe Harbor. Please see the donation list in the related article.

- **Laundromat Library League:**

We will schedule a second book drive in the fall of 2019. Please bring any children's books to the October and November meetings. Books in Spanish and those focusing on girls are in demand. Monetary donations (cash or checks) are needed as well to give the LLL the opportunity to purchase books at discounted prices. Your help is greatly appreciated.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

(CONTINUED)

- **Community Warehouse Project of Chester County (CWP)**

This organization's goal is "Helping Us Turn Empty Houses Into Homes," by helping families/individuals 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.

## Safe Harbor

-- Peggy Staarman

Safe Harbor is a non-profit charitable organization whose mission is to provide housing, food, and access to support services in a structured environment for homeless single men and homeless single women in Chester County. Established in 1995, it is one of the providers that Decade to Doorways, our Gateway to Equity Award winner, uses to meet its goal to prevent and end homelessness in Chester County in ten years. Safe Harbor not only provides housing and food for its residents, but also it also seeks to rebuild lives and life skills, to reestablish self-esteem, and to help people become independent and productive. With the help of a minimal staff, action plans are designed to address the unique challenges and needs of each resident.

Melissa Trexler, the Volunteer and Development Coordinator, led Anne Anderko, Eva Kaufmann, Mimi Jones, Kim Levan, and Peggy Staarman on a tour of the spotless and well-organized facility recently. We met some of the dedicated staff as well as West Chester University student volunteers. Melissa showed us a well-equipped kitchen, a central dining area, and the men's living quarters that shelters up to twenty men. The women's living area also houses twenty and contains a small kitchen and dining area. The residents must complete chores and follow facility guidelines while a case manager works with each resident to meet specific needs. Safe Harbor receives its referrals through Connect Points, a Chester County agency that assists homeless individuals, families, and veterans.

Safe Harbor vows to support its Chester County residents until they have places to call home. Our branch will collect items for Safe Harbor in October and February. Melissa gave us a list of the greatest needs. If you can help, please bring the following items to the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- **A MONETARY DONATION is the biggest need. You can make out your check to Safe Harbor.** Please give your checks to Peggy Staarman.
- **CLEANING SUPPLIES:** dishwasher detergent, HE laundry soap, food-preparation gloves in large and extra-large sizes
- **WOMEN'S NEEDS:** (New clothing only) Sports bras (sizes small to 4XL), sweat suits, raincoats, pajamas in all sizes
- **MEN'S NEEDS:** (New clothing only) Boxers (sizes small to large), hooded and zippered sweatshirts, sweat suits, pajamas in all sizes
- **FOOD ITEMS:** Individual snack packs, regular and decaffeinated coffee, creamer powder, sugar and sugar substitute packets, powdered lemonade, powdered iced tea mix
- **MISCELLANEOUS:** Paper towels and napkins, toilet paper, travel size umbrellas, towels and washcloths, disposable hand warmers.

Kim Levan and Peggy Staarman will deliver the donations to Safe Harbor in West Chester. In addition, Safe Harbor would appreciate meals prepared by individuals. Please contact Kim or Peggy if such a donation interests you. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and generosity to help this deserving organization.

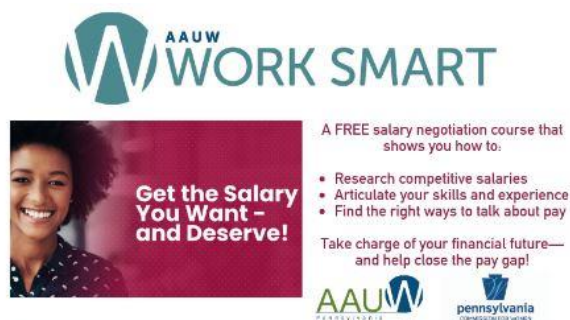
## Year-Long Celebration of the Victory of Votes for Women

As noted at the September Pot Luck meeting, there will be many interesting observations of this 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's Suffrage in our area. The Brandywine Museum will be an umbrella for these commemorations. A "Community Read" is being suggested of the

book *The Women's Hour*, the Great Fight to Win the Vote, by Elaine Weiss. If you have any suggestions or ideas to share, please contact Barb Lathroum or Fran Pierce. Barb can be reached at [blathroum@gmail.com](mailto:blathroum@gmail.com), and Fran at [franpierce@verizon.net](mailto:franpierce@verizon.net).

### AAUW IN WASHINGTON and the PA STATE HOUSE

#### Take the Work Smart Workshop (1 Hour, Available online)



-- Ann Anderko

AAUW State has made Economic Security and Equal Pay one of their goals for the coming year. They will be promoting the Work Smart program as the integral part of this plan. An important e-mail about AAUW Work Smart Workshops was sent to our members.

Following is a link to the AAUW Pennsylvania web page **Empowering Working Women in Pennsylvania**: <https://salary.aauw.org/PA/> This Page shows the workshops being given in the commonwealth. At the bottom is the following link, <https://salary.aauw.org/salary-negotiation/> to the AAUW site where you can register to take the one hour online WorkSmart workshop.

This is one of our branch goals for this year so we are asking all of our members to acquaint themselves with the WorkSmart program. Even if you are retired, think of all the times you use negotiation skills in your everyday activities.

We will also host our own WorkSmart workshop on November 10 at West Chester University led by our member, tonya thames taylor. More information to follow.



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.

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

*"I always feel the movement is a sort of mosaic. Each of us puts in one little stone and then you get a great mosaic at the end."* -- Suffragette Alice Paul

*"I think, with never-ending gratitude, that the young women of today do not and can never know at what price their right to free speech and to speak at all in public has been earned."* == Lucy Burns

*"If women want any rights more than they's got, why don't they just take them, and not be talking about it."* -- Sojourner Truth

*"There never will be complete equality until women themselves help to make laws and elect lawmakers."*  
-- Susan B. Anthony



## **Harriet Jarosh Environmental Education Fund**

- Nancy Dore

The fund sponsored two projects this year. We again sponsored the Chester County Envirothon for \$1000. The Envirothon is open to all students in Chester County and is organized by the Chester County Conservation District. The Envirothon was held May 1-2, 2019 at Hibernia Park.

We also sponsored a tree planting project at Owen J Roberts Middle School in the amount of \$250 for the purchase of trees. This project was under the guidance of The Green Valleys Watershed Association. On May 6, 2019 students planted trees at Lundale Farm in South Coventry to improve the riparian buffer along Beaver Run just above its confluence with French Creek.

### **AAUW Mission Statement:**

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

### **Our Chapter – 2019-2020:**

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

### **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 October 2 board meeting will be at the home of Pat Schultz at 7:00 p.m. 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 Involvement Items of Interest

### **Interested in Butterflies? Want to Support Pollinators?**

Toni Gorkin has obtained Uwchlan Township's signature as a partner organization for the first phase of "Heart of Uwchlan," a project to introduce more native plants and sustainable gardening practices into the township building's campus in Exton. The project was developed as part of Toni's recent training as a PA Master Naturalist. Through volunteer hours and education she hopes to become fully certified as a PAMN in the fall of 2020. The first task in her project is to start a milkweed garden to host monarch butterflies and other pollinators. Toni has packages of milkweed seeds for you to plant this fall from the Save the Monarch Foundation. Contact her if you would like some for your own garden and maybe volunteer in her project.

### **Gun Sense: Best "B.E.T." for Gun Safety – Meeting October 7**

Peg Staarman shares this information from GunSenseUs, which will hold an open, public forum on Monday, October 7, at 7:15 PM at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 W. Pleasant Grove Rd., West Chester. All are invited to the free program to listen to a thoughtful discussion, featuring the perspective of firearm owners on a consensus agenda to reduce gun violence and increase gun safety.

"B.E.T." agenda:

- "B" = Background checks for every firearm purchase to keep those prohibited from owning firearms from purchasing them;
- "E" = Extreme Risk Protection Order (a.k.a. Red Flag Law) to help families and law enforcement petition a court for temporary removal of firearms where an individual is a threat to their own safety or that of others;
- "T" = Training before a first firearm purchase to keep the firearm owner and those around him or her safe.

The speakers are experienced firearm owners, who will review why these policies can make a difference.

## 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:

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)**

This group dines around either at a member's home or at a restaurant. The group usually meets on a Saturday for dinner or Sunday for brunch on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. Couples (unless otherwise specified) and singles, as well as new members, are welcome.

**Next event: Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm**  
– A Downton Abbey inspired Afternoon Tea for branch and prospective members only, held at the home of Donna Eaves and hosted by Donna, Mary Jo Baldino and Nicole Gallo. FIG members will receive invitations by email.

For more information or to join the group, contact Donna Eaves, FIG chair, at 610-692-5277 or [deaves@live.com](mailto:deaves@live.com). We are also looking for members who would like to host or plan a meal at a restaurant in the upcoming months. Please contact Donna if you are interested.

## **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. For the October 21 meeting the group will read ***Educated***, by Tara Westover. The meeting will be at the home of Elaine Burgess, and Elaine 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. We are reading C. J. Sansom's ***Dissolution*** for the October discussion. It's a mystery set in Tudor England and Thomas Cromwell, of Wolf Hall infamy, is one of the characters. As always, we meet on the third Wednesday of the month

which is October 16. Please get in touch with Jean Speiser ([JeanSp@GMail.com](mailto:JeanSp@GMail.com)) for more information.

## **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**

The "Stitchers" 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.

*Moonlight Walk: The walkers met for a moonlight walk on Tuesday, September 17.*



# **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.
- You can send orders to Trish at 1004 Pine Valley Circle, West Chester, PA 19382



119 Llandoverly Drive, Exton, PA 19341.

*October 2019 Newsletter*  
*From Scientist to Weaver*  
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](http://www.aauw.org) [www.aauwpa.org](http://www.aauwpa.org) [wccc-pa.aauw.net](http://wccc-pa.aauw.net)