

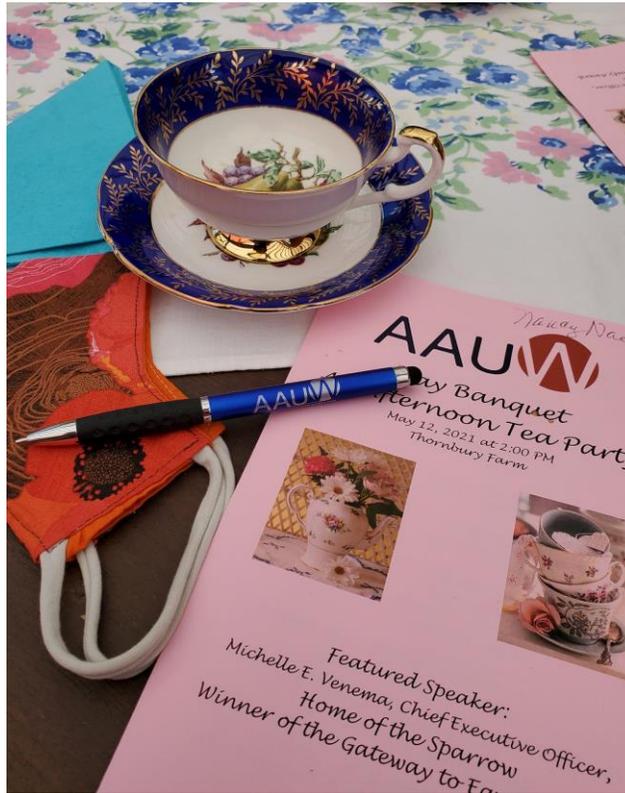


AAUW some NEWS
 News & Views from the
 West Chester – Chester County
 PA Branch
 wccc-pa.aauw.net

Volume 66 Number 10
 June 2021

AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch Annual Meeting

The AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch held its Annual Meeting / Banquet on May 12 as an afternoon tea party in the outdoor facility at Thornbury Farm. See articles inside!



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Letter from the President

This past year has been quite a ride, but I am happy to say that we prevailed. It goes without saying that this was a year like no other and although I felt ready to handle the duties of co-president, I never imagined how the pandemic would challenge us. But I am happy to say we met those challenges and achieved our goals in spite of the obstacles. We are coming to the end of our fiscal year and the new officers you elected will set new goals for 2021-2022 with the hopes that last year's covid restrictions will no longer hamper our abilities to move forward. You will be represented by an excellent group of dedicated women who will help build an even stronger organization.

First, I would like to take a moment to remember three of our members that we lost this past year. We remember Helen Reid, Rachel Mullin and Marian Stevenson who were all longtime members and contributors to our organization. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

I could not have done this job without ALL of you. I want to thank the board for attending the monthly board Zoom meetings and giving their utmost attention to the agenda items. With their input, we were able to think outside of the box and meet our goals. Special thanks to Sandy Alexander who stepped up to oversee all of our Zoom meetings, redesign our web page and was always there to answer those difficult tech questions. I could not have done it without her. There are so many others that I thanked at the May Tea, our current officers and committee chairs who through their combined collaborative endeavors helped us meet our mission of helping women and girls. Through it all, I saw so many of you grow in your positions and strengthen the branch by your efforts.

I could not have asked for a better ending to my branch meetings than to see 45 of you "in person" at our May Tea on May 12 at Thornbury Farms to honor our members, award our Gateway to Equity winner and induct our new officers. With Pat Bove beautifully playing harp, lovely teapot decorations with vintage tablecloths, and a

beautiful spring day, it was a resounding success. Thanks to Jean Shervais who headed up this committee and Suzy DeGeorge for finding the venue to make this a very special day.

Last but certainly not least, I want to especially thank my co-president Janet Kane, who was with me every step of the way. Janet and I did not know each other when she agreed to be co-president. I found out very quickly that she and I worked very well together. We are both planners and we easily divided up the tasks at hand to keep things moving. She is a wonderful listener and has excellent insight as to how to run an organization. I felt that our work together as co-presidents was seamless. You will be in very capable hands next year along with your new co-president, Deborah Liczwek.

Again, it took all of you working together to make this past year successful and put us on the road for an even better 2021-2022. It has been a privilege to be your co-president for the last two years and I thank you for all your support.

Anne Anderko



Anne was recognized as outgoing Co-President, with a certificate from Janet Kane and gifts from the Board.

At the ANNUAL BANQUET, Awards were Presented, Scholarships Recognized, Outgoing Officers Recognized, and New Officers Elected and Installed

As part of the festivities at the Annual May Banquet held at Thornbury Farm, the following awards were presented to recognize the contributions of members to the chapter.

MEMBER MAKING A DIFFERENCE – SANDY ALEXANDER



The Member Making a Difference Award is granted in recognition of recent-term contributions by an unsung hero who exemplifies the spirit of AAUW. “I can safely say that, without the tireless effort of this year’s awardee, our branch would not have been able to move forward with any of our plans for the year,” said Co-President Janet Kane. In her role as Zoom manager, she has scheduled and moderated countless meetings – our board and branch meetings as well as special program, interest group and committee meetings. This Member Making a Difference moderated them all! In addition, as Web page manager, she has re-designed our web page and made numerous updates with incredible speed. “Truly, she has been a backbone of our success in fulfilling our mission during this most difficult time. She is also a wonderful bridge partner and a formidable Mah Jongg player.”

PEG ANDERSON AWARD - JEAN SPEISER

The Peg Anderson 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. This year’s awardee has long been committed to AAUW and the ideals it stands for. She always represents members-at-large during board discussions and is highly sensitive to the process of governance that underpins our decisions. She has readily supported many of our social outreach programs, especially those focused on education or the needs of women. “I wouldn’t say that this year’s awardee is working in the background; she and her co-chair Barb Lathroum, planned and executed a wonderful array of programs for our meetings this year and helped ensure that speakers were aware of our online environment. I can also say that she, while a competitive bridge player, she is always supportive to her partner and opponents with a strong sense of justice,” said Co-President Jane Kane, while presenting this award to Jean Speiser for her ongoing leadership and support of AAUW mission and values.

NAMED GIFT HONOREES

AAUW Pennsylvania awards certificates of recognition to members who have met a certain level of giving to the organization. We are most delighted to recognize three members of our branch and express our appreciation for their generous support of AAUW National and State priorities.

Carla Grot
Cathy Palmquist
Kay Phillipps

OUTSTANDING BRANCH MEMBER – ANNE ANDERKO



The award for Outstanding Branch Member is dedicated to a member for meritorious service to the branch and the community over multiple years. “If guiding the branch through the incredible challenges of a pandemic year is not meritorious, then I can’t imagine what would be,” noted co-president Janet Kane while presenting the award. “I can’t stress how difficult it is has been this year to conduct all branch business via email or Zoom and yet Anne has never missed a beat.” Her many years of service to the branch...including several terms as Treasurer... put her in a wonderful position to ensure that all the intricacies and deadlines of our operation were handled. She is truly a collegial leader, making sure that all board

members are consulted and empowered to fulfill their responsibilities. “Anne worked hard to include me in every agenda, meeting summary and project that happened this year,” noted Janet. “Anne works incredibly hard for AAUW, including responding to numerous requests from State and National. She does all of this with grace, kindness and humility in service.”

GATEWAY TO EQUITY AWARD RECOGNIZED: HOME OF THE SPARROW

-- Cathy Palmquist

Accepting the Gateway to Equity Award for 2021-2022, Michelle Venema, CEO of Home of the Sparrow (HOS), shared some comments at the May banquet. With sincere thanks for recognizing her organization, Michelle explained “Home of the Sparrow, a 501©3 non-profit, continues to grow and innovate to end homelessness for women and children in Chester County. “We have been partnering with women facing homelessness to secure housing, achieve long-term stability and chart new paths for their futures since 1994.”

“Every year, single women, mothers and older women in Chester County lose their homes despite working full time. How is this possible? Forty-four percent of single mothers in Chester County live below the poverty line,” she said. “Why is it so hard to achieve housing and financial security in Chester County? Our county is the most affluent in the state,” Michelle explained. For example, expenses for one parent with two children are estimated at \$6,182 per month, while the typical income of HOS women is \$2,091, given the (continued on next page)



Cathy Palmquist introduces Michelle Venema, CEO of Home of the Sparrow, the chapter’s 2021-2022 Gateway to Equity Award recipient agency.

Home of the Sparrow (continued)

minimum wage is \$7.25 in Pennsylvania, according to a recent HOS report. To afford a one-bedroom apartment with a minimum wage income, a Chester County resident would have to work 81 hours a week! For single women with lower income and no support systems, it can be incredibly difficult to pay rent, care for children and save for emergencies. With no savings, unexpected events like an accident, loss of employment or a sick child can cause homelessness in less than 30 days.

Forty-four is the average age of women across all HOS programs. The women are faced with a number of life challenges: death of a spouse, divorce, loss of employment, illness or poor mental health, reduced income due to COVID-19, justice involvement or lack of education/skills. HOS provides housing support (including rent subsidies and eviction protection), access to educational opportunities and improved employment, financial literacy and life skills training, access to local resources, counseling and parenting support, affordable housing solutions, and companionship.

“These services are supported through the following programs: Supportive Housing; Pre-Senior Bridge Housing (for women aged 55 to 62), Shared Housing, Emergency Solutions, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Initiative, Graduate Outreach, and their newest program, WRAP (Women’s Reentry and Assessment Program), working with Chester County Probation, Parole and Pre-trial services to ensure a woman’s successful reentry into our community,” Michelle explained, noting there wasn’t time to explain each program, but they can be found on the HOS website.

“Again, thank you for recognizing Home of the Sparrow with this award. We look forward to working with you this coming year,” she said in closing. And our branch looks forward to getting to know HOS, supporting and working with them as well!

P.S. It was nice to meet Kathleen Sanger, HOS Development Director, who attended the banquet with Michelle.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS RECOGNIZED

This year, the Alice Lawson Scholarship was awarded to Jaleesa Washington. Jaleesa, whose family attended the banquet, is a resident of Downingtown and enrolled in business administration at Bloomsburg University. She accepted the scholarship.

In addition, through donations made by chapter members, two additional special Pandemic Relief Scholarships were awarded, to Katelyn Hollis and

Nichole Carter. Nichole, who is enrolled at the University of Valley Forge majoring in Early Childhood Education, was present to receive her award.

More complete write-ups of these scholarship recipients were included in the May 2021 issue of this newsletter.

BUSINESS MEETING . . .

While the May 12 meeting was a tea party in a lovely outdoor location, and was the first opportunity since the pandemic began for members to visit in person, it was also the year’s most important business meeting for the West Chester/Chester County chapter of AAUW. Business included acceptance of the November 2020 minutes and presentation of the Treasurer’s Report and Budget for 2021-2022. The outgoing

officers were acknowledged. And then the Nominating Committee, consisting of Fran Pierce, Donna Eaves, Peggy Staarman, and Mimi Jones, presented the slate of officers for formal vote by the membership. Peggy Staarman conducted the formal election of the officers by the members. The Nominating Committee was thanked for their efforts.

... AND NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED



Left: Some of the new officers present at the banquet. Below: Jane Schultz swears in Co-President Janet Kane.

It is an important part of the ceremonies at the annual banquet to install the officers who will serve the chapter during the coming year. Jane Schultz carried out this formal ceremony inviting each new officer to accept their responsibilities. Each was presented with a rose to symbolize their commitment.



The officers for 2021/2022 are as follows:

Co-Presidents: Janet Kane
Deborah Liczwek*

Program Co-VPs: Beryl Goldman*
Jean Speiser

Membership Co-VPs: Trish Alfano*
Kim Glavin*

Corresponding Secretary: Patricia Schultz*
Recording Secretary: Diane Dougherty

Treasurer: Suzy DeGeorge

*newly elected

Acknowledgement of Outgoing Officers

-- Anne Anderko and Janet Kane

As you know, we elected our new officers at the May Tea on May 12. Janet and I want to acknowledge all the outgoing officers and thank them for their many years of service.



Anne thanks Barbara Lathroum

First, we recognize our outgoing VP of programs, Barbara Lathroum. Barb has labored on our monthly programs for the last 3 years. She is leaving us to move to New England to be closer to her daughter and grandchildren.

Next, we thank our outgoing Membership VP's, Patricia Schultz and Susan Skiles. Pat has been



Susan Skiles and Pat Schultz

overseeing membership for the past 4 years and partnered with Phyllis Dunn her first two years when PMP (Prospective Members Parties) were created as a marketing tool to draw in new members. Susan Skiles then joined Pat for the next 2 years where they continually increased and sustained our membership. AAUW-PA awarded us a certificate recognizing our increase of 4.6% over this past year.

Lastly but certainly not least, thanks to our corresponding secretary, Carol Haaf, who was very busy this past year sending out cards and was always willing to handle additional projects. Thanks, Carol for all your help over these past 3 years.



Anne thanks Carol Haaf



Members enjoyed a tea sandwich and scone outdoors in the first in person meeting since the pandemic began.

5 Star Recognition Program Update

-- Anne Anderko

As we have reported, our branch has earned 3 stars in the AAUW National Star program. We completed the requirements for stars in Communications & External Relations, Advancement and Governance & Sustainability. We were working on our fourth star for Public Policy and Research and were awaiting our congratulatory e-mail from AAUW National. However, we had completed two of the three goals and did not realize that all three goals were required to achieve this star. Unfortunately we will not be able to complete requirements of the third goal by the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2021.

I do not want our not being able to achieve the 4th Star to take away all the hard work LAPP, the

Public Policy and Legislation committee, headed by Deborah Liczwek, has done this past year. They have brought many important political issues to our attention and put together a very informative Fair District program that was held via Zoom on March 31, 2021.

The board never intended that the 5 Star Program take over our established goals that we had set in the beginning of the year. We had decided from the beginning that we would complete the star goals that aligned with our current strategies for the year. Thank you to everyone for their work in achieving the three stars for our branch.

AAUW Vote on Membership Change

-- Eva Kaufmann

The question was, should AAUW drop its requirement that a college degree, minimally an Associate's degree, be required for membership to AAUW? The election was held in April and May, and the results were announced on May 19th. A two-thirds majority was needed to change this by-laws requirement, and the vote came up short of this number, with 63% voting to approve. In Pennsylvania, the result was 64.09%. Nationwide only 28.67% of branch members voted in the election, a disappointing turnout.

From Ann Pehle: On the AAUW website, you can find a [summary of the results and data](#) on total votes cast by members of branches and national members and interactive maps showing the percentage approval for the Public Policy Priorities and Bylaw Change (hover over a state to reveal the percentage).

As a new Board member for AAUW-PA, I was privy to some of the discussions on the topic, as well as to the responses to the vote. I must say that the most striking comment came from a Board member who has been a strong positive force in the organization for decades. I will allow her to remain unnamed here. She said, "My heart aches for the future of AAUW." Another pondered on ". . . what our next steps should be to save the

organization." I think these sum up the sentiment of the group. The financial issues that our organization must continue to deal with may have a significant impact, as a result of the decision of charitable foundations to exclude us as recipients of their funding, since we are deemed a discriminatory group.

I must also share a comment I got from one of the presidents of a branch in the Eastern District. When we discussed the proposed rules change, she was steadfastly against it. When I suggested that there may be significant financial ramifications, she was unmoved. In fact, she declared, she would never accept non-degree applicants, even if her small branch shrank out of existence.

One final anecdote: my son was at our house while I was on a Zoom meeting last fall with the AAUW-PA Board. He walked through the room as we were discussing the impact of the newly announced dues increase. There was a great deal of hand wringing and concern about the reaction of members of the local branches. The discussion on the topic lasted at least a half hour. At the end of the meeting my son said with deep concern, "Wow, Mom, everybody is really worried about the dues increase. (Continued on next page)

AAUW Vote on Membership Change (continued)

How much are they raising them?" My reply was, "\$3 this year." He was incredulous that we had fretted over an annual dues increase equal to the cost of a cup of coffee. My take-away from the discussion is that dues increases will not be an acceptable solution to our financial

problems. Deeper cuts to facilities, staff, services, legal and lobbying efforts to support our mission will be necessary. It's frightening.

The next time this membership question can come up for a vote is in 2023. Votes have consequences.

MEMBERSHIP Reminder: It's Renewal Time!

-- Patricia Schultz & Susan Skiles

The renewal form has been sent out via email and was included at the end of last month's newsletter. You will notice a couple of changes:

- The National dues have been raised to \$62 which raises the total dues to \$88. The branch and state dues remain the same.
- Please fill out page two regarding your Special Interests.

We always welcome new members so please don't hesitate to invite a friend (or 2!) to join. Word of mouth works! Please send your form with your check to Patricia's address on the form. We are looking forward to "seeing" you all in September if not before!

Patricia: 610-436-9752 pls@patriciaschultz.com

Susan: 610-431-4278 whimziecieux@gmail.com

AAUW Mission Statement:

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

Our Chapter – 2021-2022:

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Toni Gorkin</i> 484-868-1872 <i>Newsletter email</i> | Newsletter Editor tgorkin@gmail.com tgorkin@gmail.com |
| <i>Janet Kane</i> 610-399-1149 | Branch Co-President jfentonkane@gmail.com |
| <i>Deb Liczwek</i> 610-368-1360 | Branch Co-President LICZWEK@gmail.com |
| <i>Jean Speiser</i> 610-738-3363 | Co-Vice President for Program jeansp@gmail.com |
| <i>Beryl Goldman</i> 610-742-6415 | Co-Vice President for Program berdav@verizon.net |
| <i>Trish Alfano</i> 610-324-8692 | Membership Co-Vice President BA1004@comcast.net |
| <i>Kim Glavin</i> 484-354-9681 | Membership Co-Vice President kimglavin@comcast.net |

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|--|---|
| <i>Diane Dougherty</i> 610-363-9399 | Recording Secretary joedidoc@gmail.com |
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| <i>Patricia Schultz</i> 610-436-9752 | Corresponding Secretary pls@patriciaschultz.com |
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| <i>Susan DeGeorge</i> | Financial Officer suzydegeorge@yahoo.com |
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| <i>Branch Website</i> | wccc-pa.aauw.net |
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Newsletter

The newsletter is published by the first of each month. The **deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month** to ensure the issue can be distributed on the first of the next month. Please send emails to tgorkin@gmail.com -- **note change in email address**. 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 running it.

Website

Check it out at wccc-pa.aauw.net. Also, a reminder: The website and Facebook page are most effective if they have up-to-date information. It is our public face. If you are sending Toni Gorkin pictures for the newsletter, make sure to copy them to Sandy Alexander at frau.salexander@gmail.com and Alice Lenthe at alicelenthe@gmail.com. Sometimes a picture is worth a thousand words!

Reminder: Videos of Branch Programs Available to Stream

Did a schedule conflict or technological problem keep you from attending a branch program? You can stream recordings of the programs from our website – it's as easy as streaming on Netflix or Hulu! Here are the four easy steps to do it.

1. Just visit wccc-pa.aauw.net and click on **Members Only** under **About Us**.



2. To protect everyone's privacy, you will need to enter the password that is on the inside cover of your Handbook.
3. Click on the date of the program you wish to view and type the password on the inside cover of your Handbook one more time before clicking on **Submit**.
4. Then just click on the picture to start the video.

Zoom Reminder – Need a Meeting?

Zoom coordinator Sandy Alexander is busy hosting many meetings for our branch. In

addition to the monthly branch meetings, the Board, Lit I, II and III, the Stitchers, L.A.P.P. and Tutors are all meeting on Zoom. If your committee or SIG needs to meet on Zoom, please involve Sandy when selecting a day and time. One week notice is appreciated; emergency situations will be accommodated if possible.

BOARD MEETING

The JUNE Board Meeting and transition to new officers and board members is set for June 2 at 4:00 PM at the home of Janet Kane in Glen Mills. Please contact Janet if you wish to attend and/or need directions, at 610 742-5961). Also, please confirm your attendance so she can be sure to have enough seats. Although we will be meeting outside (rain date is June 9), we will not be able to fully socially distance and so, since at least one of our members has some medical concerns, we will wear masks unless eating or drinking.

Special Thanks to the Board

-- Anne Anderko

I want to thank all the board members who so generously overwhelmed me with the gifts that I received at the May Tea. My gardens look beautiful with the two hanging geranium baskets and attractive pot on my front walkway. Thanks to Trish Alfano for putting together the wonderful basket overflowing with all kinds of goodies with bottles of wine, wonderful treats, gardening gloves and a set of insulated wine tumblers. That alone is above and beyond anything I expected or deserved. You then gave me a Visa gift certificate! I will put it to good use on our vacation to Ocean City Maryland in July. As I have said, I could not have done it without ALL of your help and I hope you realize how much you have given this past year to continue our mission helping women and girls.

Laundromat Library League

-- Peggy Staarman (LLL Board Member)

The Laundromat Library League (LLL) would like to thank the West Chester-Chester County Branch of AAUW for the recent generous donation of approximately 225 books. Members of the branch help to fulfill the mission of enhancing the literacy of children who have few or no books at home. The LLL thanks the branch members for their continuing support and enthusiasm.



Summer Retreat 2021

*Let's Come Together
to Support the Mission*

Join us via Zoom on Saturday, July 24, 2021
9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Keynote Speakers:

Chrissy Houlahan

U.S. Representative Pennsylvania's 6th
Congressional District

"Initiatives to Improve STEM and STEAM
Education for Students in PA."

Leah P. Hollis, Ed.D

Associate Professor Morgan State University
Wilmington, DE

"Workplace and On-Campus Bullying"

There's more!

- We will be celebrating our Pennsylvania Star Branches and Member Award Recipients
- There will be small group sessions for Districts, Counterparts, and just Meeting-and-Greeting to share ideas with each other
- And, also included are Public Policy and National updates Breaks are built into the agenda.

Please plan to eat your lunch from 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. while enjoying the Counterparts meeting and one of the keynote addresses. Cost to participate is \$10 and there is an opportunity to donate an additional \$5.00 or more to support the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. Registration link to be provided in future publicity. Registration closes July 17th.

MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES

Barbara Lathroum

-- Peggy Staarman

We must say good-bye to our beloved member, Barbara Lathroum. She has sold her Downingtown home and will be relocating to New Hampshire where her twin daughters and their families reside.

When we first met as Co-Presidents of the branch, Barb and I discovered that we were both categorized as abstract, random learners at a Downingtown in-service workshop for teachers. We have this circuitous route to reaching goals, not always helpful as a teacher. I said, "Boy are we in trouble as Co-Presidents!" However, we found that we both prepared meticulously and wrote expansive lesson plans when we taught. This preparation and attention to detail that we practiced as teachers helped with our leadership that year.

Barbara and I also found that we had the same beliefs and attitudes about almost everything: education, religion, child rearing, and certainly politics. As a math teacher, Barb acknowledged the importance of STEM, but she also knew that the liberal arts played a significant role in educating our youth.



Barb Lathroum at the May banquet

Barbara earned an AB from Oberlin College, a BS from West Chester University, and an MA from Johns Hopkins University. She loves to learn and has a variety of interests. I think she can recite not only the title of every book she has read, but also the author and plot! (continued on next page)

Barbara Lathroum (continued)

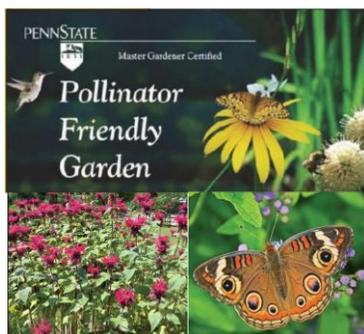
She has been active in the League of Women Voters and has been a laundromat steward for the Laundromat Library League. She has also tutored students in math skills for many years.

Barb has served our branch in many capacities. She was Membership Vice President from 2014 to 2015 and Program Vice President from 2018 to 2021. During her three-year “reign” from 2015 to 2018 as President, membership grew, new interest groups were added, and outreach to the community was expanded.

She has also given selflessly of her time and talent to benefit the branch. She has attended numerous activities and has always been willing to call, cajole, organize, participate, and donate. She has been a real blessing to our branch.

Barbara is one of the most intelligent, honest, kind, and thoughtful women I have ever met. I think everyone who knows her would say the same. On behalf of the branch, I want to thank Barbara for her leadership and friendship. Barb will be sorely missed, but she has rejoined the branch! We expect to “see” her and keep in touch through that pandemic wonder Zoom. We wish her much happiness in her new home, surrounded by the love of her wonderful daughters, their husbands, and her beautiful grandchildren.

Learn About Sustainable Gardening “Suburban Yard to Native Landscape”



Toni Gorkin, Uwchlan Township Environmental Advisory Council member and leader of the Heart of Uwchlan project, invites AAUW members to attend the Zoom

presentation of the third in the series of gardening topics, “Suburban Yard to Native Landscape”, on June 22 at 7:00 p.m. Renowned Master Gardener Connie Schmotzer will share how she converted a typical 1/2-acre lot into a landscape with over 200 species of native plants, 3 rain gardens, a small

woodland, and several meadow gardens. The Zoom link will be on the Uwchlan Township EAC page, no registration required.

Our Voice Should Be Heard

-- Peggy Staarman (Steering Committee Member)
Members of the non-partisan initiative Our Voice Should Be Heard sponsored by Black Women of Chester County in Action and Chester County Marching Forward reached out to the community before the primary election to inform citizens about voting and the voting process. We assembled packets that included a trifold that explained who can vote, how to vote in person or by mail, how to find precincts, and what offices were being contested. The trifold also highlighted important dates, the four ballot issues, and gave email addresses and phone numbers of helpful resources. The packets also included a mask donated by a group of volunteers called the Masketeers and individually wrapped candy. We are presently assessing the success of our efforts and planning activities to encourage underserved populations to vote and to participate in the November general election. Please contact Peggy Staarman (peggstaar@verizon.net) if you would like more information or if you would like to help.

Wilmington AAUW Book Sale

The 52nd annual book sale organized by the [Wilmington Branch](#) of the American Association of University Women has a new location, a new schedule – and the same great selection of gently used books and related items. The fundraiser, which has supported scholarships for Delaware women since 1969, runs June 11-13 at the Brandywine Town Center, 3300 Brandywine Parkway, Brandywine Hundred. The sale is in a domed retail space across from the center’s playground and water feature.

The sale features tens of thousands of books, plus audiobooks, CDs, DVDs, sheet music, vinyl records, puzzles and ephemera. The books are organized in more than 50 categories. Most items are \$1 to \$5, with collectibles up to \$100 plus. This year’s sale features large numbers of books related to local history and how-to subjects, thanks to donations from the estates and collections of local book lovers.

AAUW Wilmington Book Sale (continued)

Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, June 11, and Saturday, June 12; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 13. Preferred entry, 10 a.m. to noon on Friday, is \$10. Entry is free after that. All books are half-price on Sunday.

In previous years, customers paid for their purchases at various tables. This year, there will be a single combined checkout. The sale is in a large building, with social distancing possible,

and one entrance and one exit. Of course, all state guidelines for Covid-19 will be followed. For more information, visit <http://wilmington-de.aauw.net/booksale>, call 302-428-0939 or e-mail aauwwilm@gmail.com. The website has details about the scholarships that the sale funds and on how to make donations for future sales.



Special Interest Groups

Note: with the opening up of Covid-19 Coronavirus Stay-at-Home/Safe Distancing restrictions, some meetings have begun to meet in person, but some groups are still using virtual meeting options. See specific notes below.



Women's Social Bridge

To have your name added to the e-mail list,



contact Sandy Alexander at frau.salexander@gmail.com.

The Bridge group is now playing virtually on the 1st Friday of the month and in person on the 3rd Friday of the month. We start at 10:00 a.m. Anyone interested in joining us should contact Sandy Alexander.

Couples Bridge

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

Mah Jongg

Contact is Kim Glavin at kimglavin@comcast.net

FIG (Food Interest Group)

On hiatus until further notice. Contact: Donna Eaves, FIG chair, at 610-692-5277 or deaves@live.com.

Book Groups:

AAUW branches are known for their book groups, and membership in a group often encourages continuing membership. The West Chester-Chester County Branch currently has three book discussion groups meeting in the day and one 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.

Lit I will meet on June 21st at 1:00 p.m. at the home (outside) of Janet Kane to make selections for the coming year. The following process will help for review prior to the meeting and voting:

1. Members should email Janet with the two (2) books they are proposing. Please include Title, Author and, if possible an internet link to a review or Amazon. Also please check on the CC Library site to make sure the book is available in the library.
2. Please send recommendations by June 10th
3. Janet will then compile a spreadsheet of all titles and links to be sent out to the group by June 14th
4. Members can then take time to look at the proposed books and make some preliminary choices
5. Our meeting time on June 21st will be used for members to give a brief "pitch" about their book, voting on selections and setting up a tentative calendar of hostesses and leaders.
6. If the weather is bad on the 21st, we will resort to online voting.

Contact: Janet Kane:

jfentonkane@gmail.com or 610-399-1149.

LIT II: Evening Literature Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. This Lit group will meet on June 16, in person, probably preceded by a potluck dinner, to plan the books to read next year. More details being planned, email will go out. Contact Jean Speiser (JeanSp@Gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the group.

LIT III: Daytime Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group

This group will meet on Tuesday June 1 at 1:00 p.m. to make selections for the coming year. The meeting will be in person at the home of Carol Haaf; contact her for specifics at 610-793-5086 or carolahaaf@verizon.net.

Email your suggestions prior to the meeting -- with link to book reviews to aid in selection.

TIG (Travel Interest Group)

The Travel Interest Group is on virtual only hiatus until conditions improve. Contacts are: Sandy Alexander (frau.salexander@gmail.com), Mary Marco (Mary.m.marco@gmail.com), or Jane McDowell (jlmcdowell@gmail.com).

Walkers Group

The Walkers Group will reconvene the first Tuesday in June . . . at 9:00 a.m. sharp at the address below. Contact: Phyllis Dunn at dunn.phyllis@gmail.com



Stitchers Group

The Stitchers Group will be on pause until fall. If any of you would like to meet in person this summer, just send Patricia a date, location & time and she'll send out a notice.

Contact Patricia to be added to the mailing list. pls@patriciaschultz.com



empowering women since 1881

119 Llandoverly Drive, Exton, PA 19341.

June 2021 Newsletter

May Banquet

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