



## AAUW some NEWS

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

Volume 67 Number 10  
June 2022



**May Banquet ...  
A Spring Soiree:  
Gateway to Equity,  
Lawson Scholarship,  
Awards, New  
Officers, Fellowship,  
and Celebration**



*Pictures (see articles inside): Officers for 2022-23; Mark Butler of Family Service of Chester County accepts Gateway to Equity Award; Ayana B. Williams-Smith receives Alice Lawson Scholarship.*

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

*“Train yourself never to put off the word or action for the expression of gratitude.”*

— Albert Schweitzer

My final President’s Letter is indeed an expression of gratitude to the Board and Members of our AAUW branch. For the past two years, I have had the privilege of working with an incredible group of talented, generous, and hard-working women. Your support has enabled our branch to move forward through the COVID pandemic without missing a beat...you have adapted to online board and branch meetings, book discussions, bridge and Mah Jongg without complaint and with good humor. Hopefully, we will be able to resume normal operations in the fall.

Our May banquet was a testament to how well we have survived the pandemic! With fifty members attending, the evening was alive with conversation and laughter. A special note of appreciation goes to Jean Shervais, chair of the hospitality committee, and her team who did a wonderful job of arranging and executing this enjoyable event.

At the banquet, we had an opportunity to recognize members who were receiving special awards as well as our board and its committees.

We also presented the Alice Lawson scholarship as well as the Gateway to Equity Award. Please see articles in this Newsletter that highlight the awardees.

We also elected and inducted a new leadership team for next year including Nancy Paiste-Riches as co-president, Jane McDowell as vice-president for programs and Jean Shervais as recording secretary. They will serve our branch along with previously elected and inducted officers.

As we close out the year, I would like to extend special appreciation to Anne Anderko, last year’s co-president and Deb Liczwek next year’s “senior” co-president. Without Anne’s tutelage, I would not have been able to step up to this year’s responsibilities... she taught me well! Of course, I owe tremendous gratitude to Deb for her unwavering support and hard work this year, and I wish her, along with Nancy Paiste-Riches, every success next year.

Best wishes to all for a safe, healthy, and enjoyable summer. Thank again, for the amazing opportunity to serve as your co-president.

-- Janet Kane

### ***Gateway to Equity Award: Family Service of Chester County***

At its annual May Banquet, AAUW West Chester-Chester County presented the Gateway to Equity Award to Family Service of Chester County. Executive Director Mark Butler accepted the award, presented by Janet Kane, co-president of the AAUW branch.

The Gateway to Equity Award is presented annually to a group, organization or individual that has shown by action and philosophy the promotion of the AAUW mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. Family Service was chosen from among about a dozen nominations from AAUW members.

In accepting the award, Butler talked about the programs of Family Service, working to improve and strengthen families. He focused attention on their Exchange Club Family Center. In addition to helping meet short term needs of the center, such as food and clothing, AAUW members will make additional donations throughout the year, which may include opportunities for volunteering. AAUW members look forward to working with and becoming more familiar with the important, critical work of Family Service during the upcoming year!



## ***Alice Lawson Scholarship: Ayana N. Williams-Smith***



The 2022 Alice Scholarship recipient is **Ayana N. Williams-Smith** of Upper Darby. Ayana, the mother of a 19-year-old son, completed an Associate in Science Degree in psychology from Delaware Community College in June

2019. Earlier, Ayana received the Holmium Laser certificate in 2010, and was awarded a Surgical Technician Diploma from Harrison Career Institute in 2002. Ayana is presently enrolled in Immaculata University's College of Adult Professional Studies (CAPS) with the goal of earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Healthcare Management. After she graduates, Ayana plans to immediately enroll in the Masters of Science Degree program at Immaculata University.

Ayana's professional goals include a future in healthcare administration, where she aspires to "bridge the gap between administration and the hospital workers". She hopes to "change the narrative and bring back the thought that everyone is important, and we are a team." Ayana values education. She acknowledges that going back to school as an adult was and is challenging, but well worth it.

Ayana is a remarkable woman, who while working as a surgical tech, managing a home and family, and recovering from COVID-19 maintained an impressive GPA and attained Dean's List status during the spring 2020 and fall 2021 semesters at Immaculata University. Ayana has been inducted into *Sigma Alpha Phi* (The National Society of Leadership and Success) and *Alpha Sigma Lambda* (The National Society for Non-Tradition Students). Her academic advisor at Immaculata University, Kate Kearney, said that Ayana is an exceptional student who has balanced the challenges of working in a Level 1 trauma center during the pandemic while excelling in her classes. Ms. Kearney has no doubt that Ayana will continue to do great things in this world and earning her Bachelor of Science degree is a vital stepping-stone on her path forward.

### ***Presentation of Awards***

*Member Making a Difference (granted in recognition of recent-term contributions by an unsung member who exemplifies the spirit of AAUW):* Kim Glavin

*Peg Anderson Award (Recognizes a longstanding member who has served in many capacities of the years and who continues to work in the background to inspire and support those who are now leaders and members):* Peggy Staarman

*Named Gift Honorees:* Deborah Liczwek and Fran Pierce

*Outstanding Branch Member (awarded to a member for meritorious service to the branch and the community over multiple years):* Janet Kane

An important part of the celebration of the annual May Banquet is the recognition of members for their many contributions to the chapter. Deb Liczwek, Jane Schultz, and Anne Anderko presented the awards.



*Right: Anne Anderko presents Outstanding Branch Member Award to Janet Kane.*



## 2022-2023 Officers Inducted

The May Banquet agenda included one of the chapter's required business meeting, at which the Treasurer's Report and Budget for 2022-2023 were approved. After acknowledgement of outgoing officers, Mimi Jones, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, conducted the formal election of officers.



Jane Schultz installed the incoming officers. Cathy Palmquist then posed the new officers for an official picture (see cover of the Newsletter).

Co-Presidents: **Deborah Liczwek** and **Nancy Paist-Riches\***  
Program Co-VP's: **Beryl Goldman** and **Jane McDowell\***  
Membership Co-VPs: **Trish Alfano** and **Kim Glavin**  
Corresponding Secretary: **Patricia Schultz**  
Recording Secretary: **Jean Shervais\***  
Finance Officer: **Suzy DeGeorge**  
\*newly elected

## More From the Soiree



*Admiring certificate from Senator Andy Dinniman, and visiting in person for a change,  
while listening to music by our own Pat Bove!*

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

-- Kim Glavin & Trish Alfano, Co-VP's Membership

We are delighted to announce that we are 98 members strong! Thanks to many of you who have referred your friends. In fact, thirteen of our sixteen new members were referrals.

This year we announced a new incentive program to promote recruitment of new members by holding a raffle for one free 2022-2023 membership. We are happy to report that because of this successful recruitment we earned three free memberships from State/National this year, so we were able to raffle off two free memberships. One free membership has been given to a new member and the second one has been given to a member who made a referral. The third free membership has been awarded to the winner of the Outstanding Branch Member as an extra bonus for that award this year and in the future.

**Our Raffle Winners:**

**Melinda Hardie:** New member referred by Deb Liczwek

**Cathy Wilson:** Member who made a referral for her sister-in-law, Steph Mitman

**Janet Kane:** Outstanding Branch Member

We want to thank you for your help and support to grow our branch and we look forward to a year of in person activities. Thank you and have a great summer!

### **AAUW Membership Renewal**

Your membership renewal forms are due for 2022-2023. Mail your form and check to Trish Alfano, 1004 Pine Valley Circle, West Chester, PA. 19382. The form is included again at the end of this issue of the newsletter. If you need a form or have any questions, please email Trish at [BA1004@comcast.net](mailto:BA1004@comcast.net)

EDITOR'S NOTE: We will have more bios of new members in September!

### **AAUW at GETT**

*GETT 2022 on April 30<sup>th</sup> was in-person, inspirational and in-credible! Thanks to all the efforts of sponsors, including our AAUW folks, GETT 2022 was an exciting day filled with STEM experiments, demonstrations, career opportunities and unique experiences for the GETT girls.*

*This year at the EXPO, our 22<sup>nd</sup> year of involvement not only was AAUW is a sponsor, but we also had a table, once again with a hands-on event. Deb Liczwek was in charge of "Extracting DNA" from strawberries. This is usually a very popular experiment. Mary Smith and Nancy Paist-Riches also worked the table!*



# **AAUW Mission Statement:**

## **To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Our Chapter – 2021-2022:**

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<i>Deb Liczwek</i> 610-368-1360	Branch Co-President <a href="mailto:LICZWEK@gmail.com">LICZWEK@gmail.com</a>
<i>Jean Speiser</i> 610-738-3363	Co-Vice President for Program <a href="mailto:jeansp@gmail.com">jeansp@gmail.com</a>
<i>Beryl Goldman</i> 610-742-6415	Co-Vice President for Program <a href="mailto:berdav@verizon.net">berdav@verizon.net</a>
<i>Trish Alfano</i> 610-324-8692	Membership Co-Vice President <a href="mailto:BA1004@comcast.net">BA1004@comcast.net</a>
<i>Kim Glavin</i> 484-354-9681	Membership Co-Vice President <a href="mailto:kimglavin@comcast.net">kimglavin@comcast.net</a>
<i>Jean Shervais</i> 610-431-9066	Recording Secretary <a href="mailto:jshervais@verizon.net">jshervais@verizon.net</a>
<i>Patricia Schultz</i> 610-436-9752	Corresponding Secretary <a href="mailto:pls@patriciaschultz.com">pls@patriciaschultz.com</a>
<i>Susan DeGeorge</i>	Financial Officer <a href="mailto:suzydegeorge@yahoo.com">suzydegeorge@yahoo.com</a>
<i>Branch Website</i>	<a href="http://wccc-pa.aauw.net">wccc-pa.aauw.net</a>

**The officers list will be updated in the September issue, after the Transitional Board Meeting.**

### **Newsletter**

This June issue of the newsletter is the last for the year. Publication will resume with the September 1 issue. Happy summer!

The **deadline for submissions is the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month** to ensure the issue can be distributed on the first of the next month. Please send emails to [\*\*tgorkin@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:tgorkin@gmail.com) -- **note use this email address.**

### **Website**

Check it out at [wccc-pa.aauw.net](http://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 articles and pictures for the newsletter, **make sure to copy them to Sandy Alexander at [frau.salexander@gmail.com](mailto:frau.salexander@gmail.com), Alice Lenthe at [alicelenthe@gmail.com](mailto:alicelenthe@gmail.com), AND Melinda Hardie at [melindalou@comcast.net](mailto:melindalou@comcast.net)** so that your information can be used to update the Facebook page and website!

### **Facebook Page**

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

### **Board Meeting**

The Transitional Board meeting of previous and new Board Members will occur on Wednesday June 1 at 4 PM at the home of Deborah Liczwek. It will include a happy hour with appetizers. Attendees were asked to RSVP and tell what item they are bringing.





## Special Interest Groups

**Note: emerging concerns with the Delta variant of the Covid-19 Coronavirus is impacting plans for some interest groups to meet in person. See specific notes below and be sure to stay in**

**contact with your group leader and watch emails for last minute changes.**



### Women's Social Bridge

The Bridge group is playing on the 3rd Friday of the month. We will be meeting in person or playing on BridgeBase Online. Decisions will be made on a month-to-month basis based on group preferences. We start at 10:00 a.m.



Anyone interested in joining us should contact Sandy Alexander contact Sandy Alexander at [frau.salexander@gmail.com](mailto:frau.salexander@gmail.com).

### Couples Bridge

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

### Mah Jongg

We continue to play MahJongg virtually the first and third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. If you would like to play, contact Kim Glavin at [kimglavin@comcast.net](mailto:kimglavin@comcast.net)

### TIG (Travel Interest Group)



Join us for a 1 1/2 hour tour of the Welkinweir house and gardens! [Welkinweir Website](#)

**When:** Friday, June 3 @ 10:00 AM

**Where:** Welkinweir, 1368 Prizer Rd., Pottstown, PA 19465

**Cost:** \$10, payable at Welkinweir

Optional Lunch at Bloom Southern Kitchen, 123 Pottstown Pike, Chester Springs, PA 19425.

(Former Eagle Tavern) [Lunch Menu](#)

We need a minimum of 8 participants for the tour. Please **RSVP**

to [jlwmcdowell@gmail.com](mailto:jlwmcdowell@gmail.com) by **May 20** to let her know if you will be joining us for the Welkinweir and/or lunch.

Hope to see you June 3!

### FIG (Food Interest Group)

Food Interest Group (FIG) explores new foods through thematically planned potlucks or at a local restaurant. Partners and singles welcome Will resume monthly as COVID situation permits. Contact: Donna Eaves, FIG chair, at 610-692-5277 or [deaves@live.com](mailto: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. **Our next date is June 20. We will be meeting in person at Eva Kaufmann's home.** We will meet at 3:00 PM. Book selections for the next season will be chosen and announced at that time. We welcome new members to join our book discussions. Contact Patricia Schultz: [pls@patriciaschultz.com](mailto:pls@patriciaschultz.com).

Reminder to follow via email.

***"There is no friend as loyal as a book!"***  
**~Ernest Hemingway**

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

We usually meet on the third Wednesday of the month. We will meet on **Wednesday, June 15th at 6:00 PM for our annual potluck dinner** and choose our books, leaders, and hostesses for the coming year at the home of Carol Zabriski - 121 Spur Lane, West Chester. 805-558-3125. Due to her traveling schedule, Carol would like all book recommendations emailed to her by May 31. Please make sure they are available at the library and can be found in paperback version. Carol will then organize

and send out for all to research. Bring your thoughts to the dinner.

Please RSVP by email to [Noway@verizon.net](mailto:Noway@verizon.net) for the dinner and let me know what dish you are bringing. Please concentrate on the main meal and not desserts. Carol will be providing red and white wine , water and ice tea.

Contact: Carol Zabriskie,  
[nowaycjz@gmail.com](mailto:nowaycjz@gmail.com).

### **LIT III: Daytime Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group**

This group meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 1:00 PM.

We will meet on **June 7th at 1:00 PM** for our final get-together this spring. It will be held at the home of Carol Haaf, hopefully outside under the pavilion with lovely weather. Driving directions will be sent closer to the date. For now, please mark your calendar and plan on attending with one or two books to recommend for our third year, which starts in September.

We do take the summer off!

Contact: [carolahaaf@verizon.net](mailto:carolahaaf@verizon.net).

### **Stitchers Group**

We are on hiatus until September. Watch the August newsletter for details. Happy Summer Stitching!

Contact Patricia Schultz at 610-322-0514 or  
[pls@patriciaschultz.com](mailto:pls@patriciaschultz.com)

### **Walkers Group**

The Walkers Group meets on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. sharp at the address below. Contact: Phyllis Dunn at [dunn.phyllis@gmail.com](mailto:dunn.phyllis@gmail.com)

### **Great Decisions**

The group meets at the West Chester Diner from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on selected (2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>)

Mondays; contact: Beatriz Wee at  
[beatrizti12@gmail.com](mailto:beatrizti12@gmail.com).

"Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves (1) reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book (sold annually by the Foreign Policy Association), and (2) meeting to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today."





## 2022-2023 Membership Form – Renewal

### West Chester-Chester County Branch

*AAUW is a non-profit, non-partisan organization with a nationwide network of ~1,000 local branches that partner to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

Please complete and return this form with your dues.

If there is anything that you wish to be kept confidential, please add a comment regarding that item.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] There are no changes since last year [ ] See changes indicated below:

Preferred first name for handbook (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Spouse/Partner (if you choose to include him/her in handbook) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Voting Township \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (please star if you have preferred number) [home] \_\_\_\_\_ [cell] \_\_\_\_\_

e-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
YEAR OPTIONAL

Occupation/Title/Company \_\_\_\_\_ Active? [ ] Retired? [ ]

#### \*\*\*\*\*PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION\*\*\*\*\*

##### CHECK MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

Regular Membership (National \$67, State \$10, Branch \$16)	\$93.00	[ ]
National Paid Life Membership (National \$0, State \$10, Branch \$16)	\$26.00	[ ]
Honorary Life (50 Years) Membership (National \$0, State \$0, Branch \$0)	\$ 0	[ ]

Please make check payable to: **AAUW – West Chester-Chester County**

Return Form and check to:

Trish Alfano  
Co-VP Membership  
1004 Pine Valley Circle, West Chester, PA 19382  
610-431-4545  
BA1004@comcast.net

Inquiries to:

Kim Glavin  
Co-VP Membership  
306 Spindle Lane, West Chester, PA 19380  
484-354-9681  
kimglavin@comcast.net

\*\*\*\*PLEASE ALSO COMPLETE AND RETURN PAGE 2: ACTIVITIES, INTEREST GROUPS & PROJECTS FORM\*\*\*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Experience/Community Activities? \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have computer experience?   Website design [   ]   Database [   ]   Desktop Publishing [   ]  
Word/Excel [   ]   Other \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUEST MORE INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES, INTEREST GROUPS AND PROJECTS**

<b>Groups:</b>	<b>Please Check</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund		
Annual Handbook		
Book Club 1 – 3rd Monday, 1PM		
Book Club 2 – 3rd Wednesday, 7:00PM		
Book Club 3 – 1st Tuesday, 1PM		
Branch Facebook Page		
Branch News & Publicity		
Branch Website		
Bridge – 3rd Friday, 10AM		
Community Outreach Programs		
Food Interest Group (FIG)		
Fundraising		
GETT (Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology)		
Great Decisions (discussion group)		
Historian		
Hospitality		
Laundromat Library League (LLL)		
Legislation & Public Policy (LAPP)		
Mah Jongg – 1st Thurs 7PM & online 3rd Thurs 7PM		
Membership		
Newsletter Publication		
Nominating Committee		
The Stitchers – Weekly Thursday 10AM		
Travel Interest Group (TIG)		
Walkers – Weekly Tuesday 9AM		
OTHER INTEREST IDEAS THAT YOU MIGHT SUGGEST		



West Chester - Chester County Chapter  
119 Llandoverly Drive, Exton, PA 19341.

*June 2022 Newsletter*

***New Officers, Awards Presented at May Meeting***

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)