



AAUWsome NEWS

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

Volume 68 Number 6
April 2023

AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch
April Meeting: "Diversity and Bayard Rustin"
Presented by Kenneth Winston
Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 7:00 PM
Grove Methodist Church

PROGRAM: Kenneth Winston, Executive Director of the Charles A. Melton Arts & Education Center, will delve into the life and career of West Chester's own Bayard Rustin.
Refreshments and Setup/Cleanup: Mah Jongg

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 or 610-696-2663.



AAUW May Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony
A Spring Fling

Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Time: 5:30-8:30 P.M.

Place: McKenzie Brew House

240 Lancaster Avenue, Malvern, PA 19355

(On Rt. 30, approximately 2¼ miles East of the intersection of Rt. 202)

Speaker: 2023-2024 Gateway to Equity Award Winner

See the Invitation at the end of this Newsletter for details and to sign up!

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Letter from the President



Welcome Spring! We celebrate the annual arrival of new growth, warmer temperatures and long sunlit days.

An event we celebrate is our branch presentation to the Women In Business Club at West Chester University. Our members shared insights on job negotiation to the young women involved in the club. Special thanks to Suzy DeGeorge, Jean Shervais, Robin Paragone, Anne Anderko, Diane Hoffman, Trish Alfano, Deb Liczwek and Nancy Paist-Riches for helping to make the event meaningful and engaging.

Celebrating also continued at our March meeting, as we highlighted our Outstanding Branch Member - Jane Schultz. Please read about her many contributions to our branch as well as her position in other organizations.

Our guest speaker was Marie Frey, VP of Operations for Volunteers in Medicine. She provided information about the agency, populations they serve, the medical, dental, and behavioral services they provide and how they receive funding. They are seeking bilingual Spanish and Portuguese volunteers as well as drivers for the Volunteer Assisted Ride Program. At our April 12th meeting we will enjoy each other's company as we listen to the featured program "Diversity and Bayard Rustin" presented by Kenneth Winston.

If not already highlighted please mark Wednesday, May 10th on your calendar. This is our annual banquet meeting where the winners of the Peg Anderson award, Member Making a Difference award and the Gateway to Equity award winner are announced. You can find out all the particulars in the newsletter.

As we begin to close out the 2022-23 branch year and begin to make plans for 2023-24 year, you will be asked to make your financial commitment to AAUW in April. There are several factors you need to be aware of so please take a moment to read.

AAUW National dues for FY24 will be \$72 in accordance with the three-year increase implemented by the AAUW Board of Directors back in October 2020. This rate becomes effective in the system on April 1st and is included in your dues for 2023-24. The PA part of the AAUW dues will be increasing from \$10 - \$12 as of July 1st but anyone paying their dues prior to July 1st will only pay \$10.00

The renewal membership forms will be sent out mid April.

Looking forward to continued community through special interest groups, social outings, branch meetings, advocacy, and friendship.

Nancy Paist-Riches and Deb Liczwek

Co-Presidents

OUTSTANDING BRANCH MEMBER

-- Donna Eaves



Jane Schultz was presented with the Outstanding Branch Member Award at the March meeting.

We are pleased to announce that **Jane Schultz** has been named as the 2023 Outstanding Branch Member. The award, honoring a member for meritorious service to the branch and the community over several years, was presented to Jane at our March branch meeting.

For decades, Jane has been an active volunteer, organizer and leader in all aspects of her life. She has served our AAUW branch in many capacities, including President, Membership Vice-president, Educational Foundation and Alice Lawson Scholarship Fund Chair, and she has volunteered for or supported many other AAUW activities and events.

Jane, a retired Reading Specialist, has also served the community in many capacities, with board membership or leadership roles in organizations including Mill Valley Civic Association, Brian's House, Malvern Public Library, Chester County Literacy Association, and DKG Alpha Eta. She has also served as Regional Director for the Keystone State Literacy Association, and she is currently their Conference treasurer. She has also led many community and educational initiatives and is currently on the board of the Chester County Reading Association, volunteering to read to pre-school and Head Start students as part of the organization's 10-year literacy project. Jane is truly deserving of the branch Outstanding Woman award!

Reminder to Vote: Member Making a Difference, Peg Anderson Award, and Gateway to Equity

The nominations will close on March 31 so that we have time to circulate the top 3 nominations in April in advance of the May awarding.

OUR AWARD NOMINATIONS:

Member Making a Difference Award Nomination Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CAQTwR743S-dMzyCobo7exw8mCFesh_p24tbzwFe3VQ/edit

Peg Anderson Award Nomination Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1O_X1VmClxej6ktAF-0-3X3elTUVfdRZxUoqqRa3ZuuQ/edit?ts=61ed7368

Gateway to Equity Award Nomination Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/14_OLytAPYj50VI0wbPwumHj3sy_sXitsi1cOhi2g4kU/edit?ts=61ed7358

Also a Reminder to Vote for PA-AAUW OFFICER CANDIDATES:

Please review the candidates up for election for PA - AAUW and vote! Your vote makes a difference. Below is the link or by following the directions in the most recent issue of the Keystone.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2023AAUWElection>

Membership: PMP Pairs with TIG on April 18th

Bring a guest and tour the Antique Ice Tool Museum!



When: Tuesday, April 18
(this is a change from the date mentioned at the March meeting)

Where: Antique Ice Tool Museum
825 Sconelltown Rd.
West Chester, PA 19382

What: 2-hour tour starting at 10:00 am
No admission fee but donations accepted

Lunch: 12:30pm
Four Dogs Tavern
1300 W. Strasburg Rd.
West Chester, PA 19383

RSVP to Jane McDowell jlwmcowell@gmail.com in an email
by **Monday, April 10.**

Include the following information in your RSVP:

1. Your name
2. Are you attending just tour, just lunch, or both tour and lunch
3. Number and names of guests

This event is co-sponsored by the Travel Interest Group and Membership.

We will be holding our Prospective Member Party in combination with the Travel Interest Group on Tuesday, April 18th. (Please note change in date). We will be meeting at 10:00 am at the Antique Ice Tool Museum located at 825 Sconelltown Rd, West Chester. There will be a two hour tour followed by lunch at 12:30 pm at the Four Dogs Tavern, 1300 W. Strasburg Rd, West Chester.

Members attending are encouraged to bring a friend who might be interested in meeting/ learning about our group and perhaps joining at the discounted Shape the Future rate of \$57 (regular dues \$98).

Please feel free to join us (with or without a guest) for the tour or lunch or both! Please contact Jane McDowell via email at jlwmcowell@gmail.com by April 10th and include your guest's name.

Member Meet Up at Wegmans Café in Downingtown - Tuesday, April 4th @ 10:30am

We will meet at the Wegmans Cafe food court in Downingtown, on Tuesday, April 4th at 10:30. You buy your favorite beverage and we'll purchase a bakery item 😊. This gives members and potential new members the opportunity to meet socially without having a connection to a specific Special Interest group.

We hope you will be able to join us for one of these events!

Kim Glavin 484 354-9681 kimglavin@comcast.net Trish Alfano 610 431-4545 BA1004@comcast.net



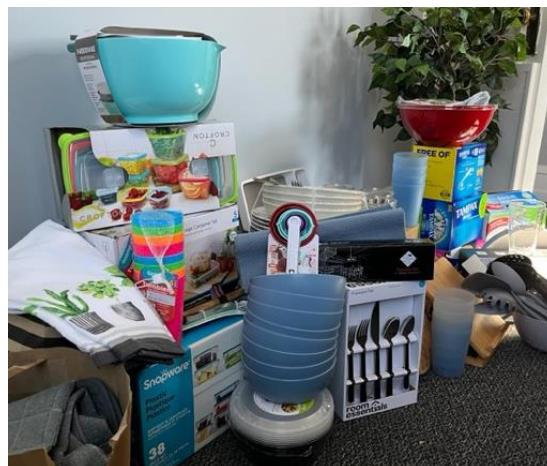
Family Service of Chester County: Donations from AAUW March: Kitchen Supplies April: Cleaning Supplies

Peggy Staarman, Eva Kaufmann, Mimi Jones -- Your Community Outreach Committee Co-Chairs



The Community Service committee delivered kitchen supplies to Family Service on March 15. The staff was overwhelmed by our generosity! Director Mark Butler said that AAUW was featured on their social media for our significant, regular contributions.

In April we will be collecting cleaning supplies, particularly bathroom cleaners, dish



soap, 409, floor cleaners, and the like. Please bring your contributions to the meeting on April 12, or bring/send it to Eva's home at 717 Isaac Taylor Dr, West Chester, PA 19382.

We thank you again for your generosity. Our AAUW branch consists of truly extraordinary women.

West Chester University Women in Business Students Salary Negotiation Workshop

-- Deb Liczwek



In anticipation of Equal Pay Day, our branch sponsored a workshop on salary negotiation for the student group Women in Business at West Chester University. A brief presentation given by Nancy Paist-Riches, AAUW co-president, and Diane Hoffman, branch member, set the framework of the inequities that women face, as well as where and how to find information about salaries in different industries and geographies to support

negotiation. Approximately 70 young women in attendance then broke into small groups for more personal discussions with "seasoned" women. Eleven volunteers, some AAUW members and other women with a strong interest in supporting young women entering into their careers, worked in small groups to discuss how to approach salary negotiation, with a special focus on entering into their first career position. Some of the young women expressed strong interest in learning how to build and extend

their networks, others were interested in more clearly understanding benefits and how they become part of their salary structure. The feedback we received was very positive; the organization looks forward to our participation next year.

Food Bank Update / March Madness – Slam Dunk Hunger



March Madness is upon us! Get your game faces on and join us for our March Madness Final Four Food Drive. **Slam dunk hunger by collecting our four most needed items:**

Canned tuna/salmon/chicken Olive Oil (in plastic bottles)
Canned Fruit (in juice) Peanut Butter

>> The Game Plan <<

>> Food Donations can be dropped off Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm at our warehouse ([650 Pennsylvania Dr., Exton in the Eagleview Corporate Center](#)) or at your [local pantry](#).



**Review and comment on AAUW's
bylaws and Public Policy**

This spring AAUW members are being asked to vote on amendments to the national bylaws recommended by the AAUW Board of Directors and AAUW Governance Committee. In accordance with AAUW's bylaws, every AAUW member has the right to comment on proposed changes to the bylaws before they are put to the membership for a vote. Members may also propose changes to the Public Policy Priorities. [Here](#) you'll find all the information you need to comment on the proposed bylaws changes and propose your own changes to the Public Policy Priorities.

Key Dates for 2023 Vote

- January 27 | Comment period ends at 5:00 pm ET
- **April 5** | Voting opens (online voting is encouraged)
- May 15 | Online voting ends at 5:00 pm ET
- **May 17** | Vote results announced online

We encourage your participation and look forward to hearing your thoughts.

INTERESTING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



AAUW PA: "Contributions by Women of Mexican Descent"

On Thursday March 30th from 7:30pm-8:30pm, AAUW American Dissertation Fellow Paulina A. Rodríguez will discuss broader contributions made by women of Mexican descent in Twentieth-Century America. The event is being organized by AAUW Huntingdon and Juniata College. Register in advance for this webinar at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rcFLiJ5WSv2eSjbdAPO_pw

AAUW PA: "Celebrating Diversity Month" Webinar Rescheduled to April 24

AAUW PA's upcoming webinar on Celebrating Diversity Month has been rescheduled to Monday, April 24, 2023 at 2:00pm ET. If you have already registered, there is no need to take action. If you haven't yet registered, please join us by [registering](#) today. The webinar is designed to aid local branches and states as they prepare to celebrate Diversity Month in April and the World Day for Cultural Diversity on May 21. The webinar is designed to be interactive, with ample opportunities for participants to make suggestions and ask questions.

Crossroads and Connections Environmental Workshop: The Impact of Plastics and How to Reduce Its Use

-- forwarded by Sara Caspar



Crossroads and Connections: Building Relationships and Community is hosting this workshop 4 times. They will all be the same, so you only need to attend one. The workshop you attend will be relevant, impactful and compelling for participants and a step forward in educating and advocating for change and environmental health. These workshops are being repeated from the fall

because of the interests and outcry of concerned citizens regarding the Plastic Crisis.

Registrants will have the opportunity to learn about the following:

1. The health, environmental and climate impacts of plastics and how it is a major crisis. The lies from the industry that produces plastics and the lie about recycling.
2. Practical day to day ways in which you can reduce and eliminate plastics from your home and world. For those who want to step up, a six-week plan and support will be provided to reduce plastics in your home and in your organizations.
3. An awareness of corporations that are major contributors to the plastics crisis and simple things you can do to advocate for the reduction/elimination of plastics.

Whether you are concerned about the environment, the planet or health, you are invited to join this timely and thoughtful discussion. Please rally yourself, colleagues, office members, boards and others in your reach and sway to join us. It will be totally worth your time to gain the knowledge and ability to do something about plastics.

Registration Links:

Monday, April 10, 2023 - 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/571043575707>

· Tuesday, April 18, 2023 - 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/571048550587>

· Saturday, April 29, 2023 - 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/571049282777>

Information provided by Kathy Cook, LWVPA Environmental Policy Director,
environmentalpolicy@palwv.org

March Women's Herstory Month theme, Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories

--forwarded by Peggy Staarman from Represent PA

In celebration of this year's Women's Herstory Month theme, *Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories*, this article from Represent PA highlighted 4 different Pennsylvanian women (2 past, 2 present!) whose storytelling has forever changed our state for the better.

In the past...



Elizabeth Jane Cochran, better known by her pseudonym, **Nellie Bly**, was born in the town of Cochran Mills, PA, in 1894. A fearless investigative journalist, Bly rose to prominence after purposely getting herself committed to a women's "lunatic" asylum to expose its horrific conditions and treatment of patients. She went on to expose major cases of political corruption, worker abuse and countless other social ills of the time, all the while breaking perceptions about the potential of women journalists

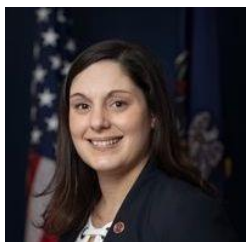
Herstory Month Theme (Continued)



Born in 1882 and raised in Philadelphia, **Jessie Redmon Fausett** was a prominent novelist, essayist and poet, whose work investigated topics spanning racism and sexism to love, loss and sacrifice. Fausett was a foundational voice of the Harlem Renaissance, and also helped launch the careers of countless other young Black writers during her time as the literary editor for W.E.B. Du Bois's publication: *The Crisis*. Unfortunately, despite her immeasurable contributions, Fausett has often been erased from the more well-known narrative of the Harlem Renaissance.

In the present...

On the last day of February this year, **Rep. Joanna McClinton** was elected Speaker of the House, making her the first woman and Black woman to do so in Pennsylvania's herstory! Since her first run for office in 2015, Speaker McClinton has been an exemplary advocate for marginalized Pennsylvanians in her district and across the Commonwealth, and we can't wait to see her lead the House with those stories and needs front and center.



As co-chair of the Pennsylvania Women's Health Caucus, SD-17's **Senator Amanda Cappelletti** is spearheading the fight for accessible and affordable healthcare, including reproductive healthcare, for all Pennsylvanians. And just yesterday, she made herstory as the first Pennsylvania Senator to give birth while in office, sparking important conversations and blazing a path forward for mothers and lawmakers.

AAUW Mission Statement:

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

Our Chapter – 2022-2023:

Toni Gorkin 484-868-1872	Newsletter Editor tgorkin@gmail.com
Newsletter email	tgorkin@gmail.com
Deb Liczwek 610-368-1360	Branch Co-President liczwek@gmail.com
Nancy Paist-Riches 302-547-7540	Branch Co-President nancy.paist-riches@gmail.com
Beryl Goldman 610-742-6415	Co-Vice President for Program berdav@verizon.net
Jane McDowell 610-574-3463	Co-Vice President for Program jlwmcdowell@gmail.com
Trish Alfano 610-324-8692	Membership Co-Vice President BA1004@comcast.net
Kim Glavin 484-354-9681	Membership Co-Vice President kimglavin@comcast.net
Jean Shervais 610-431-9066	Recording Secretary jshervais@verizon.net
Patricia Schultz 610-436-9752	Corresponding Secretary pls@patriciaschultz.com

Susan DeGeorge 724-712-1650	Financial Officer suzydegeorge@yahoo.com
Branch Website	wccc-pa.aauw.net

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**](mailto:tgorkin@gmail.com) -- **note use this email address.**

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 articles and pictures for the newsletter, **make sure to copy them to Sandy Alexander at frau.salexander@gmail.com, Alice Lenthe at alicelenthe@gmail.com, AND Melinda Hardie at 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 APRIL Board Meeting will be held on TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023, at 7:00 pm via ZOOM. The schedule is published in the Handbook. All members are welcome to attend.



Special Interest Groups

Note: while most groups are meeting in person, some meetings are still conducted by Zoom. 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 at frau.salexander@gmail.com.

Dates include February 17, March 17, May 19, and June 17.

Couples Bridge

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

Mah Jongg

Jane Schultz will host MahJongg on Thursday, April 6th at 1:00pm.

Online MahJongg will be April 20th at 7:00pm. Please remember to order your new 2023 MahJongg card because we might start using it on the 6th!

If you are interested in playing MahJongg, please contact Kim Glavin at kimglavin@comcast.net or call at [484 354-9681](tel:484-354-9681)

TIG (Travel Interest Group)

See article above, *TIG joining with PMP to visit Ice Tool Museum*. Contact Jane McDowell jlwmcdowell@gmail.com if interested.

FIG (Food Interest Group)

Food Interest Group (FIG) explores new foods through thematically planned potlucks or at a local restaurant. It usually meets on a Saturday for dinner or Sunday for brunch. Partners and singles are usually welcome. For more information or to join the group, 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. The list of books is published on the Branch web page. At the meeting on **April 17** the book will be *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn. Sandy Alexander will lead the discussion and we will be meeting at Beryl Goldman's house.

Our **May 15** meeting will be held at Carla Grot's home and Beryl will lead discussion on the *Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich.

On **June 19** we will meet at Janet Kane's house to select next year's books.

Contact: Janet Kane 610-742-5961 - jfentonkane@gmail.com

LIT II: Evening Literature Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm. The full schedule is available from the Branch website. The book for the **April 17** will be *Firekeeper's Daughter*, by Angeline Boulley. Toni Gorkin will lead the discussion. Donna Eaves will host. Social at 7 o'clock discussion begins at 7:30 The group will meet Wednesday, May 17, to discuss *Winter's Bone*, by Daniel Woodrell. Jean Spicer is our leader, Carol will host. To join, contact: Carol Zabriskie, nowaycjz@gmail.com.

LIT III: Daytime Fiction & Nonfiction Book Group

This group meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 1:00 pm. The list of books is published on the Branch website. The group will meet on **April 4** at the home of Sandy Alexander to discuss *Stolen*, by Richard Bell. Carol Haaf will lead. On **May 2** we will be meeting in person at Robin Paragone's home to discuss *This Tender Land*, by William Kent Krueger. Jean Shervais will lead that discussion. Contact: carolahaaf@verizon.net.

Stitchers Group

Stitchers has been discontinued until interest grows. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Patricia Schultz, pls@patriciaschultz.com

Walkers Group

The group meets every Tuesday at 9:00 am at the Trestle Bridge parking lot...or officially the Brandywine Meadows Trail...off Rt. 322 near Downingtown from January thru May, and from June through December they meet at the Sugarsbridge parking lot off route 322 nearer to West Chester. They leave promptly at 9 am. Walk as fast and as far as you would like. Lots of talking & laughter! No other emails will be sent out to remind anyone...just show up and be ready to shove off at 9am on Tuesdays. They don't walk in the rain or snow...drizzle YES...snow & rain NO!

Contact: Phyllis Dunn at dunn.phyllis@gmail.com

Great Decisions

The group meets **on a date and time agreed on by a majority of our 8 members**. Contact: Beatriz Wee at 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." The group is currently using the 2022 book.



AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch

A Spring Fling Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony

Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Time: 5:30-8:30 P.M.

Place: McKenzie Brew House

240 Lancaster Avenue, Malvern, PA 19355

(On Rt. 30, approximately 2¼ miles East of the intersection of Rt. 202)

Speaker: ***2023-2024 Gateway to Equity Award Winner***

Join Us. Come out and enjoy an evening of good food
and spending time with your fellow members in person.

We will raffle off an "AAUWsome Bowl" assortment.

Raffle tickets will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5
and will benefit the Harriet Jarosh Fund.

Banquet Cost: \$40.00 per person

Dinner is a buffet with several hot entrees. There will be soft drinks & Cash Bar.

RSVP: If you plan to attend, you must return your check
and the form below by Saturday, April 29th

If you have any questions, please contact Terry Daniele at terrydaniele@verizon.net or
610-306-9470

.....

You may return this at the April 12th branch meeting at Grove Church
OR

Mail this section & your check for \$40.00 made out to AAUW WC-CC

To: Terry Daniele, 1704 Wisteria Ln, West Chester, PA 19380

Name: _____ Ck # _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____





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

April 2023 Newsletter
Diversity and Bayard Rustin
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