



Branch

Banter

NOVEMBER 2017

Why Are My School Taxes So High? Because State Lawmakers Won't Address the Excessive Costs of PA's Failing Cyber Charter Schools

WHEN: Tuesday, November 14 7:00 p.m.
6:30 p.m. Social Time Business meeting follows program

WHERE: York Alliance Church, 501 Rathton Road, York

PROGRAM: Susan Spicka is the Executive Director of Education Voters of PA, and is a first-term school board member in Shippensburg, where her children attend the middle and high schools. She will give a brief overview of PA's charter school law and share information about commercial cyber charter school costs in York County and overall academic performance. She will also share information about efforts to reform how our state funds charter schools, as well as what advocates can do to demand action from their state lawmakers in Harrisburg.

Come and learn *what you can do* to keep taxes down while *preserving quality education* for Pennsylvania's students.

Carol Little & Rita Meisenhelder, Program Co-Vice Presidents

Fragrance-Free Meetings Let's make our Branch meetings "fragrance free." Several members have allergies to perfume or strongly scented powders and deodorants. **So please remember, no perfume!**

MEMBERS' HOLIDAY GIFT SALE – NOVEMBER MEETING

The Members' Holiday Gift Sale will be held at our November Branch meeting. The date was changed from the tentative December date listed in the Yearbook at the request of a member. We encourage members who would like to sell their items to sign up *as soon as possible* - please contact Carol Little or Rita Meisenhelder so we can arrange the display space. This will give all members an opportunity to get an early start on their holiday shopping. Please note that the Branch requests at least a 10% donation from your sales.

FROM THE PODIUM

At last Fall, at least temperature-wise, has arrived and it feels great! Branch activities are now up and running. Check out this month's issue of the *Banter* to see the wide range of activities available to members and plan to join in an activity of your choice. See you at the Branch meeting on November 14! Take care!

Carol Heintzelman, York Branch President

NOVEMBER DIAPER DRIVE

Many mothers struggle to provide diapers for their children. This is also a problem for incontinent adults who need clean, disposable underwear. To alleviate this problem, the Pennsylvania General Assembly holds an annual Diaper Drive. All donations are sent to a Pennsylvania diaper bank that is registered with the National Diaper Bank Network.

When the Education Committee met with Representative Carol Hill-Evans, 95th District, this summer, she mentioned this project, and we agreed to bring it to the Board for approval. The Board approved, so now we are asking for your help!

Please bring a package of disposal diapers and/or wipes to our November meeting. Look for Ruth Ann Shaffer and Shirlee Smolin in the church parking lot. They will collect your donations and deliver them to Carol's office. We know as you consider this problem, you will want to help those in our community who are in need. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

The Education Committee

BOARD MEETING

The November Board meeting will be held on Monday, November 6, at Betty Hooker's home at 12:30 p.m. Feel free to come at noon with your sandwich to enjoy fellowship and conversation with each other. Please RSVP to either Betty or Carol Heintzeman regarding your plans to attend. All Board meetings are open to all Branch members.

USED BOOK SALE RESULTS

The Branch made \$293 from the Used Book Sale at the October Branch meeting! A big Thank You to all of you who donated books for the sale, who helped set up the books, who bought books during the sale and then took bags of left over books to the hospital's Book Nook. The money goes to the Convention Fund that sends the incoming president(s) to the national convention every two years - a very worthy cause. Enjoy your new books!

Sue Zitnick

MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome a new member!

Hon. Carol Hill-Evans State Representative for 95th District (her information is on page 49)

Flo Kachurak & Kay Roddy, Membership Co-Vice Presidents

PUBLIC POLICY PERSPECTIVES

Women and Student Loans: The good news is that women now comprise about 57% of all college students and earn the majority of degrees at all levels, including the doctoral level. However, Americans now owe \$1.3 trillion in student loan debt. This is the second largest category of debt in the United States, second only to home mortgages. Even more troubling is the fact that women are disproportionately affected by student loans and hold almost two-thirds of student loan debt, more than \$800 billion. The AAUW is studying this important issue and has released a report, *Deeper in Debt*, which can be found online.

Susan Baer, Public Policy Chair

BOOK GROUP I

Wednesday, November 15 1:00 p.m. Home of/Regrets: Linda Collison
Book: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles
Book for December: *A Piece of the World*

BOOK GROUP II

Monday, November 20 1:00 p.m. Perkins Restaurant Regrets: Gayle Brass
Book: *A Piece of the World* by Christina Baker Kline Led by Barbara Keith
Note: There will be no meeting in December.

EVENING BOOK GROUP

3rd Tuesdays 7:30 p.m. Books A Million Store Café Contact: Sue Zitnick
November 21: *How the Post Office Created America* by Winifred Gallagher
A masterful history of a long underappreciated institution, *How the Post Office Created America* examines the surprising role of the postal service in our nation's political, social, economic, and physical development.
Book for December: *The Firebrand and the First Lady* by Patricia Bell-Scott.

BRIDGE GROUP

Wednesday November 1 12:15 p.m. Hostess: Gayle Brass
Wednesday December 6 11:30 a.m. Hostess: Jackie Hill Held at the Blue Heron

In December we will be meeting at the Blue Heron for lunch and Bridge. Note the time change. Please call Lois Kulp to reserve your place. The Bridge group welcomes new players and subs at any time. For information, call Lois Kulp.

GAME NIGHT – DECEMBER

Sunday, December 3, at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Toni and Bill Schreiber.
Please contact Toni **ASAP** if you can come and find out what to bring to the potluck.

LUNCH A MONTH – NOVEMBER

The November Lunch-A-Month will be held at the Left Bank in downtown York on Friday, November 17, at 1:00 p.m. Carpooling will be encouraged. Due to the holiday season starting, please let me know for sure that you will be attending **by Monday, November 13**. Contact Sandy Cooley.

SUPPER CLUB

Supper Club (Yum!) will meet at Marion Bowman's on November 18. A Fall menu with old favorites will be featured. Please call Marion **by November 3** to let us know you are coming. All members are welcome – come try out our dining experience – it is fun!

BANTER DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE

NOVEMBER 21 (early) is the deadline (remember the holiday!).

Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Vision Promise

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Diversity Statement

AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.