



# Branch

# Banter

OCTOBER 2018

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## TRAVELING TO THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL SOCIETY

**WHEN:** Tuesday, October 8      7:00 p.m.  
6:30 p.m. Social Time      Business meeting follows program

**WHERE:** York Alliance Church, 501 Rathton Road, York

**PROGRAM:** George Haldeman, retired attorney who 'enjoys travel, reading, movies and talking about all three,' will present a program titled 'Traveling to the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society.' He will accompany his presentation by a slide show of his trip to Guernsey, an island located in the English Channel off the coast of Normandy, and discuss its historical sites, its beautiful scenery, and its people.

*Suzy Hershey and Joan Beekey, Program Co-Vice Presidents*

## USED BOOK SALE AT THE NOVEMBER BRANCH MEETING

We will hold our Used Book Sale at the November Branch meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. Collect books you have read and think other members would enjoy reading and are in good condition. Please plan to bring your books to the York Alliance Church on Tuesday, November 12, between 3 and 4 p.m. so the books can be set up on tables. If you cannot make it, ask a friend to bring them. If all else fails, call Sue Zitnick for pick up. Thanks.

## FROM THE PODIUM

We are off to a great start to our 2019-2020 year. September's program on honeybees was of great interest to our members. To tie in with the 'honey' theme, the Board provided delicious refreshments that were made with honey. Ask Joan Beekey if you want one of the recipes.

One of the changes for the new year is that Board meetings will now be held at 10 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. They will be held at either Barbara's or Martha's home. All Branch members are welcome to attend. We just ask that you let Martha or Barbara know if you plan to attend. Regardless of whether or not you attend the meeting, we welcome your ideas.

All members should be receiving Pennsylvania AAUW's quarterly publication, *The Keystoner*. Please take time to review it so you can learn about the exciting things that are happening at the state level.

*Barbara Woodmansee & Martha Fleischer, Co-Presidents*

## BOARD MEETING

The Board will meet on Tuesday, October 1, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Martha Fleischer. Board meetings are open to all Branch members.

## YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE – UPDATE

**Volunteers for the YWLC** – please note a change of time for the Tuesday, October 15, event at York College. Due to school bus schedules, the conference will be a little later, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Volunteers are asked to be there from about 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. This project is inspiring, fun, and worthwhile. You can still volunteer by emailing Dianne Moore, coordinator, at [dmoore2@wellspan.org](mailto:dmoore2@wellspan.org).

*Martha Fleischer, YWLC Chair*

## WRITE – READ – WRITE

Thank you to all members who signed up at the September meeting to sponsor books for third grade students at Phineas Davis School. We currently have sponsors for 40 students. At the October 8 meeting, there will be an opportunity to sign up if you did not have a chance last month. This year, we will not be accepting money for teachers to purchase classroom materials as we did last year. To sign up, please look for our clipboard on the table.

*Jean Quickel & Suzanne Robertson, Write-Read-Write Co-Chairs*

## PUBLIC POLICY

The *Two Minute Activist* is a tool AAUW uses as part of its Action Network at the national and state levels, including Pennsylvania, to support AAUW's policy agenda on a variety of issues impacting women and girls. You receive urgent email notices when your advocacy is needed most. AAUW provides all the tools you need to call or send messages to your members of Congress, write letters to the editor for your local newspapers, and contact your state legislator about pressing issues.

To get started, type 'Two Minute Activist' in your computer browser's address box. In the middle of the page will be instructions on how to become a 'Two Minute Activist' by giving your email address. Another resource is the *Two Minute Activist Mobile*. This tool delivers timely, targeted communication straight to your cell phone via text message and offers the ability to connect with your legislators' offices by phone. To enroll in this tool, text the word 'AAUW' to phone number 21331.

*Carol Heintzleman, Public Policy Chair*

## DIAPER DRIVE

Thanks to everyone in the Branch who helped with the Diaper Drive. We appreciate both your diapers and your cash donations. Sue Zitnick and I dropped the diapers at Carol Hill-Evans's office on the day after the September meeting. The trunk and back seat of my car were full. We were met by two cheerful staff members who helped us carry the huge quantity of both baby and adult diapers.

The Diaper Drive helps local families at both ends of the spectrum, senior citizens living on a fixed income and struggling young families. Thanks for supporting this worthwhile community project.

*Betty Hooker*

## **NEGOTIATING A SUCCESSFUL FINANCIAL FUTURE – FREE WORKSHOPS**

FACT: Working women in Pennsylvania earn 80 cents for every dollar earned by a male. Committed to closing that pay gap, AAUW Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Commission for Women have scheduled eight free AAUW Work Smart Salary Negotiation Workshops throughout the state, including these two in York:  
October 3, 5:30-8:00 p.m., at York College Center for Community Engagement, 59 E. Market St. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aauw-work-smart-salary-negotiation-training-at-york-college-tickets-70735960161> (to register to attend)  
November 6, 5:30-8:00 p.m., at YWCA York, 320 E. Market St., Room 1302 <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aauw-work-smart-salary-negotiation-training-at-ywca-york-tickets-70736521841> (to register to attend)  
Free online workshops also are available at <https://aauw.us/salarynegotiation>.  
These sessions are intended to ‘empower professional women to advocate for themselves when negotiating a salary and benefits package.’

*Marilyn Jennerjohn, Publicity*

## **SPRING MARKET FAIRE – DONORS ADDITION**

Friends (\$50) – add Gayle Brass

### **DAYTIME BOOK GROUP**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m., Lyndon Diner  
Contact: Linda Palmer  
October 16: *Ginny Moon* by Benjamin Ludwig    Led by Nancie McCabe

### **EVENING BOOK GROUP**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 7:30 p.m. Books A Million Store Café    Contact: Sue Zitnick  
October 15: *Tisha: The Story of a Young Teacher in the Alaska Wilderness* by Robert Specht.  
The real story about a nineteen year old woman who goes to a small town in Alaska to teach and finds quite an adventure!  
November book: *The Storyteller's Secret* by Sejal Badani

### **BRIDGE GROUP**

Wednesday, October 2, at the home of Phyllis Sword  
Wednesday, November 6, at the home of Carol Anderson  
Starting time is 11:30 a.m. this season. Please bring a sandwich.  
New players and subs are welcome at any time. Contact Lois Kulp for information.

## **GAME NIGHT**

Sunday, October 27, at 5:00 p.m., at the home of Martha and Tom Fleischer. Please contact Martha to let her know you can come and find out what to bring to the potluck. For questions, contact Martha or Karen Julian. New players always welcome.

## **LUNCH A MONTH**

Lunch will be at the Roosevelt Tavern on Thursday, October 17, at 1:00 p.m. **RSVP by October 13** to Nancy Spataro.

*Thanks for your courtesy - if you cannot attend a lunch as planned, please let the hostess know so she can inform the restaurant.*

## **BANTER DEADLINE**

**October 24** is the deadline for articles for the November *Banter*.

## **SUNSHINE**

Sympathy cards were sent to Mary Jane and Charles Downs, whose son Charles passed away August 28, and to Barbara and Rodney Rooney, whose son Joseph passed away August 20. If you know of an AAUW member who deserves a card due to illness, death in family, or thinking of you, please notify Linda Rupert.

**CYBER CHARTER SCHOOLS REPORT on next page**

## CYBER CHARTER SCHOOLS AND TAXES

**AAUW-PA is a coalition member of Education Voters PA. One of their legislative goals is to set a single, state-wide tuition rate for both regular and special education cyber charter students that aligns with the actual cost of educating students at home on a computer. Such legislation would save Pennsylvania taxpayers approximately \$290 million a year.**

Cyber charter schools provide an **online** education to students throughout Pennsylvania. Some students benefit from the flexibility of cyber schools. They may be able to cover material faster than average students and spend additional time following their special interests such as sports or science. Other students may have problems with bullying, and benefit from being freed from the daily stress of fending off their attackers.

Cyber charter schools are public schools and are free to students; however, they are not free to taxpayers.

Because cyber charter schools do not have to provide buildings, bus service, etc., the costs of providing a cyber school education to each student is usually less than \$5,000 a year; however, school districts pay the going rate per student district rate to cyber charter school operators. This rate varies greatly from school district to school district. For example, West York pays \$10,485 a year to cyber charter school operators to educate each regular student. This means that cyber charter school operators are making a profit of \$5,485 for each regular student they educate. They get more for special education students: \$25,888 in the case of West York.

You may think this extra money would result in better outcomes, but this is not true. While some students thrive in cyber charter schools, most do not. According to a recent Stanford University study, cyber students lose, on average, 106 days of learning in reading and 118 days of learning in math each year when compared to students who remained in their district schools.

**For more information, check the Education Voters PA website. It contains a *New Report: Cyber Charter Waste Grows to \$290 Million in Taxpayer Money Annually*, with links to data on costs of cyber education in most Pennsylvania school districts, an executive summary, and the complete report.**

*Betty Hooker, Education Committee Co-Chair*

### *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.