



Branch

Banter

APRIL 2020

**THE APRIL 14 BRANCH PROGRAM MEETING IS CANCELED AND
ALL APRIL BRANCH ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELED**

FROM THE PODIUM

We all are consumed with news of the COVID-19 virus and watch as things change on an hourly basis. The Board is taking the COVID-19 virus seriously and has taken action. Based on CDC recommendations and keeping in mind the health and safety of our members, **we have canceled the April 14 Branch meeting and all April Branch activities**. We urge everyone to follow CDC guidelines of washing your hands frequently, keeping your hands away from your face, practicing social distancing, and staying home.

Our Board will continue to conduct AAUW business, but we will have to do it more creatively. We will conduct our Board meeting on April 7 virtually through email. Voting for our new officers will take place through email. Please see the article in the *Banter* for details. The Mother's Day Card fundraiser is continuing. The cards are beautiful and we encourage everyone to purchase one. The recipient will certainly appreciate receiving such a lovely card. More information regarding this is also in the *Banter*.

We all have had to make adjustments with our schedules. The State Convention that was scheduled for April has been rescheduled for July 13, 14, & 15, 2020.

This pandemic is a challenge, but we can get through this with support from each other. Do not forget to check up on your friends, family and community members who may be most vulnerable.

The Board will continue to update you as things develop. We will keep you posted about the status of our May meeting. Feel free to contact us or any Board member if you have questions.

Stay safe and healthy. Take care.

Barbara Woodmansee & Martha Fleischer, Co-Presidents

BOARD MEETING

The Board meeting for April 7 will be conducted virtually by email. Martha will lead by asking Board members to send agenda items to her a few days before that date. She will send a Board group email on Tuesday, April 7, at 10 a.m. with the agenda and instructions for reply comments. The meeting will conclude by 12 noon.

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Our York Branch Undergraduate Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce Roxanne Humphris is the deserving recipient of our \$2,000.00 award.

A part-time student at Penn State York, Roxanne majors in Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS), with a 4.0 GPA. Her goal is to receive her Bachelor's degree and then work with the older adult population. 'I have a passion for gerontology, with special attention to marginalized communities.'

Roxanne and her husband reside near Red Lion with their nine children, several with special needs and ongoing medical concerns. Her volunteer activities involve schools, Boy Scouts, nine years with Girl Scouts, advocacy for the Spanish speaking community, and church.

The letter of recommendation from her professor and advisor states:
'While the demands of parenting are great, she balances her time to excel in the classroom. Returning to school later in life can be a challenge, but she met that with determination.'
Roxanne is a great example to her family, community, and women seeking higher education.

*Martha Fleischer, Kay Roddy, Barbara Woodmansee, Amber Seidel, & Nancy Spataro,
Undergraduate Scholarship Committee*

MAY BANQUET – HERE'S THE PLAN! (Stay Tuned For Updated Information)

On May 12, we plan to have an hors d'oeuvres/dessert party to celebrate the end of our Branch year and the anniversary of the adoption of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote. We will start early at 6:00 pm. so we have time for a busy evening.

Pat Elicker, owner of the Jewelry Barn on South George St., will present a program on jewelry entitled *Recycle, Upscale and Reinvent*. Pat is a graduate gemologist whose specialty is jewelry from 1850-1950. She will discuss how to remodel your old jewelry.

To be part of this fun, informative evening, please contact Suzy Hershey **by May 4**. We will collect a \$10 fee at the door, either cash or a check (York Branch AAUW). New officers will be sworn in and our scholarship winners celebrated.

***** IMPORTANT – VOTING FOR NEW BRANCH OFFICERS *****

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate for Branch officers for 2020-21:

Co-President, two year term – Rita Meisenhelder
Program Co-VP, two year term – Margaret Kremer
Program Co-VP, two year term – Amber Seidel
Finance Officer, two year term – Launa Groft
Assistant Finance Officer – two year term – Linda Palmer

Since the April Branch meeting has been canceled, you will be voting online OR by paper ballot for the Branch officers. **To vote online**, use the email you received with the Subject: line 'Election of Branch Officers' and click on **REPLY ALL**. Type YES or NO behind each name or simply type "YES to all candidates for Branch office" at the beginning of the email. Please sign your name as not all email addresses clearly identify the sender. **Deadline for online voting is April 14.**

To vote by paper ballot, clip this part of your paper *Banter* or print this page of the emailed *Banter*, write YES or NO behind each candidate and mail to Sue Zitnick **by April 10.**

Voting will be completed by April 14 and the new officers will be installed in May. They will take office on July 1.

We appreciate your cooperation with this different election process mandated by the COVID-19 virus situation. The results of the election will be announced in the May *Banter*. If you have questions, please contact me. Thank you.

Thank You to the Nominating Committee for their work in getting candidates for these positions. Marion Bowman was the committee chair with help from Rita Meisenhelder and Anne McFeely.

Sue Zitnick, Bylaws Chair

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Thank you to all who signed the petition seeking charter school reform in Pennsylvania. The Education Committee will continue to monitor proposals for reform as they pass through the state legislature.

Although we will not be meeting in April, we will continue to investigate funding of our public schools. This is a topic of great concern as budgets for the coming year are considered at the local, state and national levels. While we cannot get together, please feel free to share your thoughts with us via phone or email.

Betty Hooker and Nancy Buckley, Education Committee Co-Chairs

PENNSYLVANIA PRIMARY ELECTION IS NOW ON JUNE 2

The date of this year's primary election in Pennsylvania has been changed to June 2. Recent changes to Pennsylvania's voting laws (Act 77) will make voting easier and safer this year.

It is no longer necessary to provide an excuse to use a mail-in ballot. Registered voters may apply for a no-excuse mail-in ballot up to seven days before the election. **For your own health and the safety of poll workers, please consider this option.** It also will save you time because you will not have to wait in line.

Apply for the mail-in ballot at www.votespa.com or <https://www.pa.gov/guides/voting-and-elections/#RegisteringtoVote> today! [These are the *official* PA voters' websites.]

You will receive a ballot by mail. It must be received by the elections office by 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election. You may put it in the mail or take it to the county board of elections.

Use the websites above to register to vote, to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot, or for more detailed information on how to vote in this year's primary.

Betty Hooker, Get Out the Vote Chair

PUBLIC POLICY

The March 2020 *AAUW-PA Public Policy Highlights* includes the following:

- Everything You Need to Know to Meet with Your Legislators—Steps 1-7.
- Background Information and Talking Points regarding:
 - Pay Equity (HB 850/SB 721)
 - Raising the Minimum Wage (HB 1215/SB 12)
 - Paid Leave—The Family Care Act (HB 1739/SB 580)
- Script for Visit with Legislators.

For more information about any of the above items, contact either Barbara Price aauwpapp1@gmail.com or Jacqui Rogers aauwpapp2@gmail.com .

Carol Heintzelman, Public Policy Chair

NEED A RIDE TO AN AAUW MEETING?

Are you uncomfortable driving in the dark? Do you have a health problem that prevents you from driving? But, you would like to come to an AAUW meeting if you had a ride. We are here to help! Just call any one of the Board members listed in your *AAUW Yearbook* and arrangements will be made for your transportation. We would love to see you there!

FREE LECTURE ON 19TH AMENDMENT – CANCELED

This free lecture, listed in the March *Banter* to be held at York College on April 2 at 7:00 p.m. in DeMeester Recital Hall, has now been canceled.

DAYTIME BOOK GROUP

The April meeting is canceled. Contact: Linda Palmer for information.

EVENING BOOK GROUP

3rd Tuesdays 7:30 p.m. Books A Million Store Café Contact: Sue Zitnick

We canceled the March and April meetings and moved the books to the next months. Check before the May meeting to make sure we are having the meeting. Things could change.
May 19: *The Pioneers* by David McCullough. Stories of the struggles and adventures of the men and women who settled the Northwest Territory after the Treaty of Paris in 1783.
Book for June: *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson

BRIDGE GROUP

The April meeting is canceled. For information, please call Lois Kulp.

GAME NIGHT – MAY

Game Night is moved from April 26 to Sunday, May 3, 5:00 p.m., at the home of Lois Kulp. Please put this on your calendar now, and contact Lois by April 27 to let her know you are coming and find out what to bring to the potluck. New people welcome.

LUNCH A MONTH

The April 23 lunch is canceled. Contact Sandra Cooley for information.

SUNDAY BRUNCH AT ALTLAND HOUSE

The brunch in memory of Marion Bowman, scheduled for April 19 at 11:30 a.m., **is canceled.** Contact Lois Kulp.

BANTER DEADLINE

April 24 is the deadline for articles for the May *Banter*.

SUNSHINE

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.

Mother's Day Card Biannual Fund Raiser

With the cancellation of the April meeting, our committee is offering you a "stay safe at home and have a glass of wine" choice to support our local scholarships, York community projects, or the National AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.

A lovely watercolor card of Cosmos flowers has been designed by Anne McFeely and scripted by Lois Kulp to mail to your honorees. We are asking \$25 per card to support this important project, in the off year from the Kitchen Tour.

A list of participating members and their honorees will be printed in the *May Banter*.

Please mail this form and a check made out to York Branch AAUW by May 1. The committee will mail the cards and envelopes to you, or you may request that we fill out the cards and mail them for you, close to Mother's Day.

My Name: _____

___ In honor of _____

OR:

___ In memory of _____

& relationship to you

Please include addresses, if the committee will be mailing your cards for you.

I would like my donation to go to:

___ Local scholarships

___ National AAUW Greatest Need Fund

___ York Community Projects

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.