



Branch

Banter

MAY 2020

**THE MAY 12 BRANCH PROGRAM MEETING IS CANCELED AND
ALL MAY AND JUNE IN-PERSON BRANCH ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELED**

FROM THE PODIUM

To assure our Branch members that we will persevere through this viral pandemic, please know that your Board continues to 'meet' at least monthly. We now use the popular Zoom video conferencing to provide a safe forum. Our next Board meeting will be May 5 at 1:00 pm. Please contact any Board member if you have questions, suggestions or concerns.

National AAUW has directed that no Branch meetings or activities take place in person through the end of JUNE, for liability concerns and for the safety of all members. We will abide by this directive and await further information from our AAUW leaders, and PA public officials, to know when we can safely have a regular Branch meeting. In addition, the 2020 AAUW PA Convention that was rescheduled from April to July is now canceled.

Our five newly elected York Branch officers will be inducted, by the current Board via Zoom, on May 12, which is the usual date of our May Branch meeting. They will assume their duties on July 1 for two year terms. Hopefully we can meet together in the fall to more formally recognize the new officers and our award recipients. Now we extend special gratitude to Jean Quickel who served as interim secretary for four months. Donna Fulton will resume those duties in May.

Sincere THANK YOU to the many Board and Committee members who continue to perform their duties and responsibilities, which keeps our organization functioning. Thank you to ALL members who purchased the beautiful Mother's Day cards, too. Please remember to renew your memberships and send those checks promptly.

Hoping that you and your family and friends stay safe and well.

Martha Fleischer & Barbara Woodmansee, Co-Presidents

BOARD MEETING

The Board meeting for May 5 will be conducted virtually in Zoom. Barbara will lead, emailing the agenda a few days before and then conducting the meeting which **will begin at 1:00 p.m.**

MEMBERSHIP – IT IS RENEWAL TIME!

Your current membership ends on June 30. This year, the only way to renew is to mail a check and the renewal form (in this *Banter*) to Sandra Cooley.

Renew now to ensure you are included in the 2020-2021 Yearbook.

GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



The Graduate Scholarship Committee has awarded our 2020 \$3,000 scholarship to Thais Vasquez-Carrero. She will be pursuing a Master's degree at York College in Public Policy and Administration. Thais is very active in the York community. She is the Pennsylvania Director of CASA which is an organization that promotes civic engagement among the region's growing and diverse Latino and immigrant populations. She has held a variety of positions within Pennsylvania state government in conjunction with her undergraduate degree in Journalism. Thais also is a graduate of Leadership York and continues as a mentor. We are impressed with her commitment to the underserved in York and the future contributions she will make.

*Kathleen DePorter, Chair, Carol Anderson, Linda Collison, Rita Meisenhelder, Louise Scalet
Graduate Scholarship Committee*

NEW BRANCH OFFICERS ELECTED

The following slate of Branch officers for 2020-21 has been elected to office. There were 39 members who voted in the election and the officers were elected unanimously. Thank you to all who voted.

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

Sue Zitnick, Bylaws Chair

BANTER DEADLINE

May 24 is the deadline for articles for the June *Banter*, the last issue until September. If you have any Branch summer events that you want listed, please send them by the May deadline.

VOTE IN PENNSYLVANIA'S PRIMARY ELECTION ON JUNE 2

Recent changes to Pennsylvania's voting laws (Act 77) will make voting easier and safer in Pennsylvania's Primary Election on June 2.

It is no longer necessary to provide an excuse to use a mail-in ballot. The deadline to apply for a no-excuse mail-in ballot is May 26. For your own safety and the safety of poll workers, please consider this option. Apply for a mail-in ballot today at www.votespa.com

You will receive a ballot in the mail. It must be returned 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.

For new voters, the last day to register to vote in the Primary is May 18. Use the www.votespa.com website to register to vote, to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot, or for more detailed information.

Betty Hooker, Get Out the Vote Chair

PUBLIC POLICY

Barbara Price and Jacqui Rogers, AAUW-PA Public Policy Co-Chairs, in their April 2020 *Highlights*, which included a summary of 'Coronavirus Federal Legislation that Aids Workers,' highlighted the two major laws passed March 2020 to support workers affected by the COVID-19 public health emergency. The first mandated paid sick days and paid family leave in some COVID-19 related situations ('The Families First Coronavirus Response Act;' 'The Emergency Family and Medical Leave Act Expansion'). The second mandated significant unemployment benefits for workers ('The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act). For more information about these two pieces of legislation, go to www.familyvaluesatwork.org or aauwpapp1@gmail.com or aauwpapp2@gmail.com.

DAYTIME BOOK GROUP

The May meeting is canceled and Daytime Book is postponed until further notice.

Contact: Linda Palmer for information.

EVENING BOOK GROUP

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

The Evening Book Group meetings have been canceled at least through June. We have moved the books to the next months. Check with me to see if we will be having the book group meeting in July.

First month we meet again: *The Pioneers* by David McCullough

Second month we meet: *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson

BRIDGE GROUP

Bridge is canceled until further notice. For information, please call Lois Kulp.

GAME NIGHT – MAY

The May 3 meeting is canceled and Game Night is postponed until further notice. For information, contact Karen Julian.

LUNCH A MONTH

The May lunch is canceled and lunches will be suspended until further notice. Contact Sandra Cooley for information.

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.