



Branch

Banter

OCTOBER 2020

TRANSFORMING DAD?: FATHERING AND MASCULINITIES

DUE TO COVID-19, WE PLAN TO CONDUCT ONE MORE MEETING OUTSIDE.

WHEN: Tuesday, October 13
TIME: 2:00 – 4:00 PM (Note change of usual time)
WHERE: Sunset Lane Park pavilion

PLEASE NOTE:

- Masks required. Hand sanitizer recommended.
- There are large picnic tables and benches that allow for social distancing. Feel free to bring your own chair.
- Refreshments will not be provided. Feel free to bring your own.
- Lanyards will not be distributed.
- No guests or public invited due to COVID-19.

PROGRAM: Dr. Sonia Molloy is an Assistant Professor of Human Development and Family Studies at Penn State York. She has a bachelor's degree in Human Development and Family Studies from Penn State, a master's degree in Psychology from Chatham University, and a doctorate in Human Development from Virginia Tech. She has over twenty years of experience working with children and families. Dr. Molloy's primary research interests include masculinity, fathering, parenting, and family diversity. Her research utilizes a feminist and intersectional theoretical lens to examine parenting and relational interactions with social institutions. Her research focuses on translatable research that can inform prevention and intervention programs and service providers.

Margaret Kremer & Amber Seidel, Program Co-Vice Presidents

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER: A Zoom meeting will take place. An email with Zoom information will be sent by noon on the day of the meeting, or a phone call to non-email members. If you are not familiar with Zoom, or do not have access to a computer, please notify Rita Meisenhelder or Barbara Woodmansee.

FROM THE PODIUM

We're Baa-ack! The first meeting of the AAUW York Branch was a hit! We gathered for a socially distanced event on a beautiful late afternoon at the Sunset Lane Park pavilion in Shiloh. Almost 30 members attended. After so many months of isolation, it was great to see each other in person. The meeting helped to clarify the direction of our group and the logistics of forging ahead with our ideals and projects for the coming year.

It is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. As Kimberly Churches, CEO of AAUW National states, "America lost one of our most beloved role models tonight, a pioneering jurist and iconic feminist who blazed new trails, not only in her own life, but in the lives of the countless women she championed — and inspired." In 1999, Justice Ginsburg was recognized with an AAUW Achievement Award. As AAUW members committed to empowering women and girls, we remember her words, "Fight for the things you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." Associate Justice Elena Kagan said of Justice Ginsburg, "More than any other person in history, she can take credit for making the law of this country work for women." So, we mourn her, honor her memory, and acknowledge and never forget her subtle yet remarkable impact upon each of us. May she inspire and empower future generations of women and girls.

This year is the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment. We are planning to have a local historian speak to our group during the year to explain the history, including the participation of women in York County, of this momentous event. Also, there is an exhibit at the York History Center featuring the Justice Bell (Women's Liberty Bell) currently through October 10.

Recently, there have been a few webinars presented by AAUW Pennsylvania. As the webinars have been recorded, they are available to you at any time at aauw-pa.aauw.net. Currently, the two featured are: "A Conversation with Frances Wolf, First Lady of Pennsylvania" and "Voting in Pennsylvania: 2020 and Beyond".

Rita Meisenhelder & Barbara Woodmansee, Co-Presidents

BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 6

The Board meeting for October 6 will be conducted virtually in Zoom. Rita will email the agenda a few days before and then lead the meeting, which **will begin at 10:00 a.m.**

AAUW FUND

The AAUW Mission is to advance gender equality for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. To help raise funds for this mission, the York Branch will be participating in *Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Days* on October 14 and October 15 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Shoppers will receive a 20% discount off the lowest sale prices for this event. Prior to checkout in the store or online, select 'AAUW York Branch' from the non-profit organization list, and Boscov's will donate 5% of your total purchase to the York Branch to support the mission of AAUW.

Jane Long, AAUW Fund Chair

GET OUT THE VOTE – ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOV.3

There is much confusion about the voting process this year. But one thing is clear. If you opted for mail-in voting, fill out your ballot and send it in immediately.

[VotesPA.com](https://www.votespa.com) is the state resource with all the information regarding voting in Pennsylvania.

Links are available to:

- Check your registration status.
- Apply to register to vote or update your registration online.
- Request a mail mail-in ballot
- Check your mail-in ballot status.
- Learn about voting in person at a polling place.

The last day to register to vote is Oct. 19. The last day to apply for an absentee ballot is Oct. 27. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court recently ruled that mail-in ballots will be accepted if they are received by 5 p.m. on the Friday after Election Day and were either postmarked by November 3 or there is no evidence to suggest that they were sent after Election Day.

A secure ballot drop box will be available in the lobby of the Election Office located at the York County Administrative Center – 28 E. Market St. – York, 17403. Check the [yorkcountypa.gov](https://www.yorkcountypa.gov) website for more information on drop boxes.

Declining To Vote By Absentee Ballot

If you signed up for a 2020 annual mail-in ballot in the spring, and do NOT want to vote by mail in the General Election, you have a couple of options. The best way is to fill out a “Request to Cancel Permanent Absentee or Mail-In Status” form on the county’s elections website ([yorkcountypa.gov](https://www.yorkcountypa.gov)):

- This is a paper form. You must print it, fill it out and mail it to the York County Election Office.
- If you signed up as a permanent mail-in voter in 2020, you will be marked in the poll books as a mail-in voter unless you fill out this form
- Once you fill out the form, and it is received and processed, you will show up in the poll books as an in-person voter.
- If you do not fill out this form, you will be listed in the poll books as a mail-in voter. If you go to the polls, you will have to cast a provisional ballot.

There are some special circumstances where mail-in voters can return their mail-in ballot and their outer envelope and fill out a declaration making them eligible to vote in person on Election Day.

The phone number of the York County Election Office is 717-771-9604. They will be able to answer any questions you may have. **You may also check the [yorkcountypa.gov](https://www.yorkcountypa.gov) website for more information.**

Betty Hooker, Get Out the Vote Chair

2020-2021 YEARBOOKS

2020-2021 Yearbooks, with the purple covers, will be distributed at the October meeting. Yearbooks that are not picked at that meeting will be mailed.

Betty Hooker, Yearbook Chair

DISPOSABLE UNDERWEAR 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 York County Food Bank Emergency Food Hub on September 28 and attended a press conference with Rita Meisenhelder and Barbara Woodmansee. The press conference was organized by Representative Carol Hill-Evans.

In this time of extreme economic hardship, your help is needed more than ever. Thanks for supporting this worthwhile community project.

Betty Hooker

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Well, we are certainly looking at things differently this year. Normally, in October, we would be well into planning for the Spring Market Faire. Due to COVID-19 constrictions, that will not be happening this year, so we are looking for different ways to make up some of the \$6000/year we earn through that event.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg was a role model for all who pursue gender equity. Throughout her career, her perseverance, fortitude, fierceness and intellect won for women many of the rights we take for granted today.

To honor her legacy of Equal Justice Under the Law, and help us continue her work, please consider a donation to our scholarship fund. *Make your check payable to 'AAUW York Branch' and mark 'scholarship fund in honor of RBG' on the memo line.*

Watch this space for future ways to augment our scholarship fund in lieu of the beloved (but lots of work) Kitchen Tour!

Nancy Buckley, Chair, Carol Little, & Betty Hooker, Fundraising Committee

SUNSHINE

A Sympathy card was sent to Suzanne Geubtner for the death of her husband. Get Well cards were sent to Phyllis Millard and Phyllis Sword.

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.

HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING COMMITTEE (HEFC)

The Graduate and Undergraduate Scholarship Committees' members are now one combined group to support local girls and young women in their pursuit of higher education. This transition gives us more options for working within our budget this year and in future years.

We met via Zoom and decided, with Board review, to develop an opportunity for female York County high school students who are qualified academically to participate in Dual Enrollment programs with our three accredited county colleges. Amber Seidel identified a need among some students who are qualified scholastically but who cannot afford the tuition to gain three college credits - at half of the cost for enrolled college students! Dual Enrollment students are also much more likely to attend college after graduation from high school. We anticipate being able to assist at least four young women students this coming year.

Please contact Martha or Nancy for questions, comments or more information.

Martha Fleischer & Nancy Spataro, HEFC Co-Chairs

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW's 2020 Gender Policy Agenda outlines priority issues for the 2020 election season. Here is what AAUW would like to see implemented in Pennsylvania to advance gender equality in the workplace in regard to economic security:

1. ENSURE EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK – Pass pay equity bills HB 850 and SB 721.
2. IMPLEMENT PAID LEAVE AND PAID SICK DAYS – Pass the Family Care Act paid leave insurance program HB 1739 and SB 580 which have bi-partisan support in both the House and Senate.
3. STOP HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE – The creation of the #MeToo in Pennsylvania General Assembly Act, SB 480 in the Senate and HB 1000 in the House, covers government employees and bans mandatory arbitration and nondisclosure agreements as a condition of employment, codifies strong anti-retaliatory policies. HB 849 also bans non-disclosure agreements.
4. RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE AND ELIMINATE THE TIPPED MINIMUM WAGE – Pass One Fair Wage HB 1215 to raise the state minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour and eliminate the tipped minimum wage.
5. CLOSE THE RETIREMENT GAP – Require employers to offer a retirement savings plan for workers or create a marketplace to facilitate plan assessments. Analysis of pending bills requires transparency of plans but seems to be mostly directed at government plans.
6. PROTECT PREGNANT WORKERS – Pass HB 1417 Workplace Accommodations for Pregnant Workers.

Carol Heintzelman, Public Policy Chair

MEMBERSHIP – ARTISTIC HELP NEEDED!

We are in need of someone who would be willing to help redesign our AAUW trifold and create a new postcard that would be used to introduce our AAUW chapter to potential members. This could be you, a family member, or friend who has some artistic talent and who is willing to use Vista Print, Gotprint.com or other printing company to produce these. Our goal is to have these marketing tools in time for our September meeting.

Please contact one of the Membership Co-VPs if you can help:

Sandra Cooley & Nancy Spataro, Membership Co-Vice Presidents

BANTER DEADLINE

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

DAYTIME BOOK GROUP

3rd Wednesdays 1:00 p.m. **via Zoom** Contact Linda Palmer

October 21: *When the English Fall* by David Williams Led by Karen Julian

EVENING BOOK GROUP

3rd Tuesdays 1:00 p.m. Contact: Sue Zitnick

October 20: *Women's Work: The First 20,000 Years* by Elizabeth W. Barber. A very interesting history from the Stone Age forward.

Book for November: *Finding Dorothy* by Elizabeth Letts.

Note: We are meeting in the afternoon for now and October is at Betty Hooker's home. Also, we are limiting attendance to 6 members so we can maintain social distancing. Please call Sue if you wish to attend. Plan on wearing a mask and bringing your own water/drink.

BRIDGE GROUP

The Bridge Group is on hold. Contact Lois Kulp.

GAME NIGHT

Game Night is on hold. Contact Karen Julian.

LUNCH A MONTH

Lunch A Month is on hold. Contact Sandra Cooley.

SUPPER CLUB

Supper Club is on hold. Contact Lois Kulp.

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.