



Branch

Banter

NOVEMBER 2020

PENNSYLVANIA'S EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS PROGRAM

WHEN: Tuesday, November 10 7:00 p.m. (link opens at 6:45 p.m.)

WHERE: Using Zoom (see link information below)

PROGRAM: Sonia Pitzi is Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH) Region 3 Coordinator. She has been working with ECYEH for 25 years. ECYEH aims to help each student experiencing homelessness have a school life that is as regular as possible. The ECYEH Program informs local school districts of their responsibilities to children and youth experiencing homelessness, increases awareness about the needs of children experiencing homelessness, reveals and overcomes possible educational barriers, explains current legislation and policies, and provides practical tips for working with students experiencing homelessness. We invite you to wear red in support of the ECYEH.

NOTE: The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom link will open at 6:45 so that we all have time to get online and resolve any technological issues. If you do not have access or feel comfortable using Zoom and would like to watch at another AAUW member's home, please reach out to Co-Presidents Barbara Woodmansee or Rita Meisenhelder so they can connect you.

Margaret Kremer & Amber Seidel, Program Co-Vice Presidents

2020-2021 YEARBOOKS

Yearbooks that were not picked up at our September and October meetings were mailed on Thursday, October 15. Please call or send an email if you have not received your Yearbook yet, and I will mail one to you.

Betty Hooker, Yearbook Chair

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.

FROM THE PODIUM

As we approach colder weather, we are back to holding our Branch meetings in the evening. They will be held using Zoom, which is expected to continue until we can meet safely inside or out, hopefully in the spring. We appreciate your understanding as we plan for these uncertain times. We will resume our regular format with the program beginning at 7 p.m. The Zoom link will open at 6:45 p.m., allowing us time to check up on each other or work out any technological issues. The business meeting will follow immediately after the program. Our Program VPs have exciting programs scheduled this year, so we hope you can attend.

As you read this message you may have either voted or are getting ready to vote. We all know what a privilege and responsibility it is to vote. It is so important that women's perspectives are considered when developing our country's policies. We recognize that this election year has been challenging because of Pennsylvania's new mail-in-voting system and concerns about the pandemic. Fortunately, we have had Betty Hooker and the *Get Out the Vote Project* to keep us informed. Thank you, Betty! You have been an invaluable resource.

The newly formed Fundraising Committee has been working diligently to develop fundraisers so we can continue to provide scholarships for young women in our community. Please support the upcoming Amaryllis Growing Kits fundraiser. More information is in the *Banter*.

Please take care of yourselves and stay safe.

Barbara Woodmansee & Rita Meisenhelder, Co-Presidents

BOARD MEETING

The November 3 Board meeting will be conducted virtually using Zoom. Barbara will email the agenda a few days before and then lead the meeting, which **will begin at 10:00 a.m.** Branch members are welcome to attend Board meetings.

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW's 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 education:

1. **DEFEND AND STRENGTHEN TITLE IX:** Enact laws that align with the statutory provisions and intent of Title IX, making it clear and easy for schools to support students in accessing their education.
2. **REDUCE STUDENT DEBT:** Women hold two-thirds of the nation's \$1.46 trillion educational debt. Pass HB 244 and SB 111, the Pennsylvania Promise Act, which covers tuition and non-tuition expenses so the neediest students can succeed.
3. **EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS IN STEM:** Establish grants and programs that encourage women and minorities to pursue STEM education and training.

Remember: When Women Vote, They Change the Conversation!

Carol Heintzelman, Public Policy Chair

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

This year, there will be three fundraising efforts due to the difficulty of hosting the Spring Market Faire during the pandemic. Please consider participating in our first two events. The third, in the spring, will reach out to the community.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Scholarship Fund

Thank you to all who have contributed to this fund to commemorate the life of a woman who has been an inspiration to all women. Your support of this fund will enable our Branch to provide a gifted local student with the opportunity to begin college studies while in high school. Those who have not yet contributed may do so by sending a check to Finance Officer Launa Groft.

Holiday Bulb Sale

Brighten your lives and the futures of talented young people from York County by purchasing amaryllis and/or paperwhite bulbs. For \$22, you receive an amaryllis bulb (choice of six colors) or four paperwhite bulbs along with a flower pot and a soil disc in a burlap gift bag – ready to plant for the holidays or give as gifts. For every purchase, the Scholarship Fund will receive \$11.

There are two methods for ordering the bulbs:

- Place your order online at [], the website Flower Power Fundraising set up for us. If you order from this site, you will pay the company directly and the bulbs will be sent to your home.
- Use the order form (contact Nancy Buckley at if you need one). Make checks payable to 'AAUW York Branch' and send or deliver the form and payment to Nancy Buckley. Your bulbs will arrive about December 1.

Deadline for ordering by either method is November 8.

Nancy Buckley, Fundraising Committee Chair

HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING COMMITTEE (HEFC)

We have funding to award 4 Dual Enrollment scholarships for Fall 2021. The high school Dual Enrollment coordinators from William Penn, Central York, York Suburban, and West York will choose one female student (and one alternate) from each school who are academically qualified but unable to afford Dual Enrollment tuition at York College or Penn State York to receive the award, which will cover the cost of one course. In addition, each girl will be asked to submit a brief essay about her future educational/career goals to the HEFC. We plan to invite the students and their parents to attend a Branch meeting in late spring.

Martha Fleischer & Nancy Spataro, HEFC Co-Chairs

BANTER DEADLINE

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

DAYTIME BOOK GROUP

3rd Wednesdays 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. Contact Linda Palmer
November 18 *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris Led by Gayle Brass

EVENING BOOK GROUP

3rd Tuesdays 1:00 p.m. Contact: Sue Zitnick
November 17: *Finding Dorothy* by Elizabeth Letts. When *The Wizard of Oz* is going to be made into a movie in 1938, Maud Baum (wife of Frank Baum) wrangles her way to the set to keep the story true to the original spirit of the book.
Book for December: *Redhead by the Side of the Road* by Anne Tyler.
Note: We are meeting in the afternoon for now and November is at Barbara Rooney'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

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.