



Branch

Banter

DECEMBER 2020

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS DURING A PANDEMIC

WHEN: Tuesday, December 8 7:00 p.m. (link opens at 6:45 p.m.)

WHERE: Using Zoom (see link information below)

PROGRAM: We will hear from Melissa Martin, FACS (Family and Consumer Science) teacher at York Suburban Middle School. She will share with us some of the challenges she has faced teaching during COVID-19 and let us see what the experience is like for the students as she teaches us how to make fruit salsa via Zoom. For those who would like to join from their kitchen to cook along, the ingredient list is below (it is fine if your diet requires substitutes):

- 5 flour Tortillas
- Cooking spray or butter
- Sugar
- Cinnamon
- 1 Apple
- Lemon or lemon juice
- Preserves/jelly – flavor of your choice
- At least 3 other fruits based on your preferences, but the suggestions include:
 - Melon, Strawberries, Raspberries, Kiwi, Blueberries

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 YEARBOOK

Only one change this month: please remove Rita Meisenhelder's landline phone number from your *Yearbook*.

Betty Hooker, Yearbook Chair

FROM THE PODIUM

Happy Holidays!! December 2020 has arrived. During this age of new norms and new anxieties, we pause to reflect on this joyful holiday season of peace, light, and love. Although our family gatherings may be via Zoom or FaceTime, we are so fortunate to communicate by these “modern marvels”. It adds another dimension to “Family Time”. Plus, with all the practice we have experienced with Zoom for our meetings these past months, our children and grandchildren may be amazed by our new expertise.

In November, for the first time in our history, a woman, Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, was elected to the 2nd highest office in our country. How significant that this achievement has occurred in the hundredth year celebrating a woman’s right to vote. It is a time of inspiration, celebration, and acknowledgement of our work in AAUW in promoting equity, diversity and empowerment of women and girls.

As you have been notified, AAUW National will be gradually raising their dues starting in the Fiscal Year 2022 for three years (\$3–2022, \$5–2023, \$5-2024). In the past few years, they have reconstructed their organization and streamlined staff. In the coming months, further information and transparency will be forthcoming to understand the need for an increase.

In the Spring of 2021, each of us will be asked to vote, on a national level, regarding eliminating the requirement of educational criteria for joining AAUW. In the coming months, we will discuss the ideas and feelings of our Branch in considering a change. Plus, we will refresh ourselves as to how to participate with our vote.

So, in this season of peace, light, and love, let us continue to extend our goodwill to those we love and those in need.

Rita Meisenhelder & Barbara Woodmansee, Co-Presidents

BOARD MEETING

The December 1 Board meeting will be conducted virtually using Zoom (see link above). Rita will email the agenda a few days before and then lead the meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m. Branch members are welcome to attend Board meetings.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Good news from the Fundraising Committee this month! First, a profound thank you to all who contributed to the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Fund. Contributions were received from Carol Anderson, Nancy Buckley, Betty Hooker, Carol Little, Sue McMillan, Shirlee Smolin, Sue Robertson, Barbara Woodmansee, and Sue Zitnick.

Many of our members will have their homes brightened as a result of our Amaryllis Sale. 69 bulbs were sold for a profit of \$922. The bulbs that were ordered through me will have arrived by the time you receive this issue of the *Banter*. I will call you to arrange for pickup or delivery.

Nancy Buckley, Fundraising Committee Chair

BANTER DEADLINE

December 23 is the deadline for articles for the January *Banter*.

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW's Gender Policy Agenda outlines priority issues for the 2020-2021 program year. Here is what AAUW would like to see implemented in Pennsylvania to advance gender equality in regard to foundational rights:

1. **EXPAND AND PROTECT THE RIGHT TO VOTE:** Pass HB 22 and HB 23 to end partisan gerrymandering by creating nonpartisan redistricting procedures.
2. **ENSURE ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY HEALTHCARE:** SB 982 allows young adults to stay on parents' insurance to age 26. SB 51 protects essential health benefits. SB 50 and HB 471 protect pre-existing conditions.
3. **RATIFY THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT:** Pennsylvania ratified the ERA September 26, 1972.

Carol Heintzelman, Public Policy 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.

DAYTIME BOOK GROUP

3rd Wednesdays 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. Contact Linda Palmer
December: No meeting

EVENING BOOK GROUP

3rd Tuesdays 7:30 p.m. Contact: Sue Zitnick
December 15: *Redhead by the Side of the Road* by Anne Tyler. An intimate look into the heart and mind of a man who finds those around him just out of reach, and a funny, joyful, deeply compassionate story about seeing the world through new eyes.
Book for January: *Tightrope* by Nickolas Kristof.
Note: We are meeting in the afternoon for now and December is at Sue Zitnick'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.