



Branch

Banter

OCTOBER 2021

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

WHEN: Tuesday, October 12

PROGRAM: The York County Human Trafficking Task Force has created educational programs for law enforcement, behavioral health providers, medical professionals and agencies working with vulnerable youth. Crystal Perry from the YWCA will be speaking with us about what Human Trafficking is, the federal definition is, and what services and trainings we have in York.

Crystal Perry is the Human Trafficking Advocacy Coordinator at the YWCA. She joined in February 2020. Previously she has worked as an emergency shelter coordination and residential support advocate. She seeks to provide comprehensive, high quality social services to all victims of human trafficking. She uses a victim-centered approach in proactively helping clients navigate their way to the new life with a swift and coordinated criminal justice response to human trafficking, on which the rights of victims are protected under Pennsylvania and federal law.

Margaret Kremer & Amber Seidel, Program Co-Vice Presidents

2021-2022 BUDGET – VOTE AT MEETING

We will vote on the 2021-2022 budget at the October meeting (delayed from September).

2021-2022 YEARBOOKS

For the first time in a number of years, York College printed the 2021-22 Yearbooks. A big thank you to Rosanna Wood (YCP) and Sue McMillan, who made sure the pages looked right, were in the right order, and who stapled the books together. Unclaimed *Yearbooks* will be mailed after the October meeting.

Betty Hooker, Yearbook Chair

DISPOSABLE UNDERWEAR DRIVE

Thanks to all of you who brought disposable underwear to the Branch meeting on September 14. My trunk was full when I dropped the items off at the office of Representative Carol Hill-Evans. In these times of economic hardship, your help is appreciated more than ever.

Betty Hooker

FROM THE PODIUM

Once again, we will be meeting outdoors. Perhaps the leaves will be turning their beautiful fall colors and we can bask in their glory. Why not bring a friend?

In the mail this month was a reminder that many workers (mainly women) do not receive pay when they must take time away from their jobs to tend to family members or their own health. Returning to work too soon then puts children, spouses, or parents in jeopardy or further aggravates an illness or injury. AAUW has made paid leave for all a major focus of their crisis-recovery efforts.

At the meeting, we will hear from Chrystal Perry, Human Trafficking Advocacy Coordinator, about violence against women including human trafficking. We will also vote on our budget for the coming AAUW year and hear about our fall/winter fundraising project. See you all there!

Nancy Buckley & Rita Meisenhelder, Co-Presidents

BOARD MEETING

The October 5 Board meeting will be conducted virtually using Zoom. Nancy 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.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM SUE ZITNICK

I am sending a big thank you to all the members who sent me get well cards and happy birthday cards. The encouragement and well wishes were/are appreciated and helped keep my spirits up. I am using a walker to get around and can't drive at all so you know I need your wishes. I am better now than I was in the spring so I still have high hopes. Chuck and the kids have been wonderful doing everything. I may be done with the treatments by Christmas or next spring. So keep the prayers coming and your fingers crossed!

MEMBERSHIP

Currently, we have 72 members in the York Branch. We were pleased to have two visitors at our September meeting, Gina Christianson and Peggy Davidson.

Jean Quickel & Suzanne Robertson, Membership Co-VPs

YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Young Women's Leadership Conference (YWLC) will not be held again this fall at York College due to COVID-19 restrictions. The leaders wanted our York Branch to know how much they appreciate our financial and volunteer support over more than ten years since the conference's inception. Thank you, everyone.

Martha Fleischer, YWLC Chair

AAUW FUND

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) provides for hundreds of young women from around the United States to come together for three days of leadership training, inspiration and networking. NCCWSL was founded more than three decades ago and has attracted over 10,000 student leaders. The workshops, panels, speakers, and activities provide opportunities to learn from experts and also provide peer networking.

To help provide funds for a NCCWSL scholarship, the York Branch will be participating in the Boscov's *Friends Helping Friends* fundraising event. The \$5.00 shopping pass entitles the customer to save up to 25% off the lowest prices. This event will be on Wednesday, October 20, from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Your shopping pass may be purchased at the October 12 Branch meeting. All \$5.00 will help support a NCCWSL scholarship.

Jane Long, AAUW Fund Chair

AAUW –YORK BRANCH LYNCH CREEK FARM FUNDRAISER!

Tired of the long, hot summer? Ready to think about wreaths, centerpieces, and other decorations for the winter season? Look over the possibilities available from Lynch Creek Farm. Supporting this fundraiser is easy:

1. Visit www.LynchCreekFundraising.com/c/275158
2. Be sure that you are on the page headed AAUW – York Branch
3. Make your selection by exploring a product category or by clicking on Shop Online
4. Do not forget to do your gift shopping as well!
5. Your purchases will be sent in early December to you or your designated recipient
6. Now reach out to your family and friends. Using the URL above, they can order directly from Lynch Creek Farm and our Branch will receive the rebate. Flyers will be available at the October meeting.

Nancy Buckley, Fundraising Committee Chair

RECOMMENDED AAUW WEBINAR ON MEMBERSHIP

Increasing and Retaining Membership - It's an All-Member Project

Membership matters. We all hear that, and know it is true for the health of our branch. We don't focus enough on retention and growth, which is where we can improve.

You are invited to attend an upcoming AAUW-PA webinar on Increasing and Retaining Membership on **Thursday, October 14, from 8pm to 9pm** for insight and suggestions.

A panel of membership chairs from branches that have been successful in increasing and maintaining membership will present what they have done that works. There will be time for your questions. AAUW-PA Membership VP, Randi Blauth, will be available to answer questions.

All members are encouraged to attend, because branch membership growth is everyone's responsibility.

Use the following link to join the Zoom meeting at 8pm on October 14:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89034338257?pwd=VVIIY0RpUjQyQXA3N0pTRGkrMUNSQT09>
(or use Meeting ID: 890 3433 8257 & Passcode: 196827)

Rita Meisenhelter & Nancy Buckley, Co-Presidents

ELECTION NEWS

Your vote counts! Don't forget to vote in the general election on Tuesday, November 2.

Voters will choose:

- Judges for York County Court of Common Pleas.
- District Judge 19-1-01
- York City Mayor
- Borough Councils
- Township Supervisors
- School Boards

Deadlines for November 2 election are:

- **October 18** – Last day to register to vote.
- **October 26** – Last day to request a mail-in ballot.
- **November 2 at 8:00 p.m.** – Deadline for the County Election Office to receive mail-in and absentee ballots.

To register to vote, to request a mail-in ballot or an absentee ballot, check online at the new State website: vote.pa.gov

Betty Hooker, Get Out the Vote Chair

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW and AAUW-PA began 2020 with great hopes for celebrating the 100th year of women having the right to vote. Then, a small wrinkle made its way into everyone's plans throughout the world. That little wrinkle that grew to be a crushing monster is, of course, COVID-19. It caused those working on public policy to change direction, reevaluate methods and reimagine how to continue advocating for AAUW priorities in spite of lockdowns and uncertainty. One thing became apparent and that the way for women to proceed was in coalition and through coordinated goals. Women, and particularly women of color, were being negatively impacted much more than their male counterparts. Women make up the majority of front-line workers, health professionals, teachers, childcare providers, retail employees, and restaurant and hospitality workers. A new term – SHEROES – was coined as people vowed they would remember how much we all relied on these brave, self-sacrificing women. Fast forward to present day 2021 and these same heroes are now the largest number suffering economically in what is being called the SHECESSION, because women are the largest group having lost their jobs alongside a multitude of obstacles prohibiting them from returning to work. Not the least of these obstacles being lack of childcare.

Carol Heintzeman, Public Policy Chair

WRITE READ WRITE PROGRAM

Sadly, due to the continuation of COVID-19, we will not be able to participate with Phineas Davis third graders in the Write Read Write program this year.

Jean Quickel & Suzanne Robertson, WRW Program Co-Chairs

FINANCIAL THANK YOU

Thank you to Betty Hooker for a \$200 contribution to the Administrative Fund made in memory of Betty Bortner and Flo Kachurak.

Launa Graft, Finance Officer

BANTER DEADLINE

October 25 is the deadline for articles for the November *Banter*..

DAYTIME BOOK GROUP

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

October 20: *Fifty Words for Rain* by Asha Lemmie Discussion led by Linda Palmer

EVENING BOOK GROUP

3rd Thursday 1:00 p.m. Call Betty Hooker for information

Please note the change of day to the third Thursday of the month.

We are meeting in the afternoon at 1:00 p.m. for now. Also, we are limiting attendance to 6 members so we can maintain social distancing. Please call Betty if you plan to attend. Plan on wearing a mask and bringing your own water/drink.

Thursday, October 21: *Promised Land* by Barack Obama at Barbara Rooney's home.

Thursday, November 18: *Tidelands* by Phillipa Gregory.

BRIDGE GROUP

Welcome back, Bridge players. We are once again meeting in members' homes. Hostess for October 1 is Anne McFeely. Please note our new starting time is 10:00 a.m. Please be on time. We will break for lunch at noon so please bring a sandwich.

Lois Kulp will be hosting November 3, replacing Karen Julian.

New members and subs are invited to join us at any time. For information about the Bridge Group, please call Lois Kulp.

GAME NIGHT

Contact Karen Julian for further information.

LUNCH A MONTH

The next Lunch will be held at Heritage Hills on Tuesday, October 19, at 1:00 p.m. Please reserve your spot. Contact Sandra Cooley **by October 18**.

SUPPER CLUB

For many years, York Branch members enjoyed our very popular interest group, the Gourmet Club. As times and cooking styles changed, so did our name. We became the Supper Club, also doing luncheons as well, meeting in our homes. The last couple of years, interest in Supper Club began waning, then COVID-19 restrictions hit, putting a complete stop to activities. We were deeply saddened, too, by the passing of longtime Gourmet member and Supper Club co-chair, Marion Bowman.

If you are interested in participating in Supper Club activities or have any ideas about how we can continue this interest group, I would like to hear from you with your suggestions. Please email me, and I look forward to your response.

Lois Kulp, Supper Club 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.

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.