



Branch

Banter

OCTOBER 2022

CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF THE YWCA YORK

WHEN: Tuesday, October 11 4:00 p.m.

Business meeting follows program

WHERE: York Alliance Church, 501 Rathton Road, York

- *Masks optional; please bring your own refreshments if you wish.*

PROGRAM: Our speaker is Kim Bracey, the CEO of YWCA York since July 5, 2022. She is the first African American CEO of YWCA York in its 131-year history. Prior to accepting the YW's position, she served as the Executive Director of the Governor's Center for Local Government Services in Harrisburg. Her background includes serving in the United States Air Force and as Director of the Crispus Attucks Youth Build Program in York. In addition, she served as President of the South George Street Community Partnership and was Mayor of the City of York for eight years (2010-2018).

In 2017, she received the Athena Award. This award is bestowed upon female leaders around the world, after being selected by past honorees. In 2021, Kim Bracey co-chaired the 100th United Way of York County Campaign and helped raise \$5.6 million. Her educational background includes York City schools, attending Bloomsburg University, USAF Community College, and Drexel University. She also has received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from York College.

For many years, the York Branch AAUW partnered with the YWCA York to sponsor the Young Women's Leadership Conference. Let's learn about Kim Bracey's plans for YWCA York, both now and in the future.

Carol Heintzelman & Lois Conaway, Program Co-Vice Presidents

GET OUT THE VOTE

VOTE NOVEMBER 8, 2022

Last Day to register – October 24

Last Day to request absentee and mail-in ballots - November 1

For more information check the website:

<http://www.vote.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

The website provides online voter registration, applications for mail-in or absentee ballots, election results and information on how to contact your county election office.

Betty Hooker, Get Out the Vote Chair

FROM THE PODIUM

AAUW York Branch is returning to our pre-COVID meeting place at York Alliance Church. While we have been meeting on Zoom and in Sunset Park, it seems like eons since we could feel comfortable meeting indoors. Welcome Back!

As we begin meeting again, we would like to remind you of our committees and interest groups. The Fundraising Committee, the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (DE&I), the Higher Education Scholarship Committee, the Education Issues Action Group, the Book Group, the Bridge Group, the Game Group, and the Lunch-a-Month Group all welcome new members. Look for sign-up sheets on the table in the back of the room and/or notices in each issue of the *Banter*. Are you interested in a topic or activity not mentioned? Let us know and we will help you organize a group.

Nancy Buckley & Carol Anderson, Co-Presidents

BOARD MEETING

The October 4 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.

DISPOSABLE UNDERWEAR DRIVE

Thanks to everyone who brought disposable underwear to the Branch meeting on September 13. We have been helping families in need of disposal underwear since 2017, but inflation has made the problem even more urgent this year. Thank you for supporting this important community project.

Betty Hooker

2022-2023 YEARBOOK and UPDATES

Sue McMillan helped with the *Yearbook* in many ways. She did proofreading, delivered the proofs to York College, oversaw the printing, and stapled the books together. She even helped me distribute the *Yearbooks* at the September meeting. THANK YOU, SUE!

Unclaimed *Yearbooks* will be mailed to members after the October meeting.

Please make the following updates to your *2022-2023 Yearbooks*:

- P. 7 – Nancy Spataro and Michelle Kern are Co-Chairs of the Higher Education Scholarship Committee.
- P. 11 – The “Education Study Group” is now the Education Issues Action Group.

Betty Hooker, Yearbook Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome our new members! Connie Keeney and Nancy Rexrode

Please remember to carry our Branch business cards with you to help recruit new members. Contact us if you have not yet received your business cards.

Jean Quickel & Suzanne Robertson, Membership Vice Presidents

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 19, from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Your shopping pass may be purchased at the October 11 Branch meeting. All \$5.00 will help support a NCCWSL scholarship.

Jane Long, AAUW Fund Chair

PUBLIC POLICY

This summer, the Pennsylvania House advanced a package of constitutional amendments that would allow voters to decide how they choose to be governed. The following amendments were passed in SENATE BILL 106:

1. Clarifies that abortions are not a right provided in the state constitution, and that taxpayer funds may not be used for abortion.
2. Requires valid ID to be presented to cast an election ballot.
3. Requires the auditor general to complete audits of Pennsylvania election results.
4. Allows the Legislature the authority to disapprove of regulations.
5. Allow candidates for governor to choose their own lieutenant governor nominee.

Constitutional amendments must be passed in two consecutive sessions, published publicly statewide, and then approved by a voter referendum. That means both chambers of the State Legislature must pass the amendments again in next session, which begins January 2023, and the amendments could then be on the ballot when you head to the polls on May 9, 2023. For more information, contact the Pennsylvania officials listed on pages 39-45 of the *York Branch Yearbook 2022-2023*.

Carol Heintzelman, Public Policy Chair

BANTER DEADLINE

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

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee is now a standing committee. Its purpose is to explore diversity, equity, and inclusion as they relate to our members personally, the Branch as a group, and the community. The committee shares resources such as books and films and encourages discussions regarding these topics.

In an effort to bring these issues to our Branch members, the committee has suggested speakers for two of our Branch meetings this year and has recommended a book regarding diversity to the Book Group.

The committee usually meets on Fridays at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. Anyone interested in joining this committee should contact Rita Meisenhelder or Barbara Woodmansee. New members are welcome.

Barbara Woodmansee & Rita Meisenhelder, DE&I Committee Co-Chairs

BOOK GROUP

3rd Wednesdays 1:00 p.m. via Zoom Contact Linda Palmer
October 19: *The Bookwoman's Daughter* by Kim Michele Richardson
If you are interested in joining a discussion, you can request a list of discussion questions.

BRIDGE GROUP

The Bridge Group will meet Wednesday, October 5, at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Janet Misiolek. Please bring a sandwich.

Hostess for November 2 is Gayle Brass. Anne McFeely will host December 7.

We welcome new players to join or substitute in this interest group at any time. We play a very friendly game, while helping each other hone our skills. For further information, please call Lois Kulp.

GAME GROUP

The Game Group will meet on Saturday, October 8, at noon at the home of Anne McFeely. New players welcome. Contact Anne to let her know you would like to come or have questions.

LUNCH A MONTH

Please join us for a friendly, casual lunch at the First Post on October 20 at 1:00 p.m. Please contact Darla Stover by October 17, if you will be joining us.

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.