



Branch

Banter

NOVEMBER 2022

THE HISTORICAL CONSTRUCTION OF RACE IN AMERICA, PART II

WHEN: Tuesday, November 8 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: Dr. Joy Giguere presented 'Part I' at our April 2022 Branch meeting. It was well-received and she was invited back to continue her narration. 'Part II' will build on her overview of the historical origins for the creation of "race" in the western world, bringing us up to the present day.

Dr. Giguere is an associate professor of history at Penn State York. She has a Bachelor's in anthropology and music (Bowdoin College) and a Master's in historical archaeology and a PhD in history (University of Maine). She teaches courses on US History, African American History, History of Technology, Medical History, the Civil War era, and the History of Death & Mourning. Her research expertise centers on American commemorative culture, including cemeteries, grave markers, public monuments and memorials, and other expressions of public memory. She has published a number of research articles, and has written one book and is currently working on another.

Carol Heintzeman & Lois Conaway, Program Co-Vice Presidents

VOTE - NOVEMBER 8, 2022

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 information, election results and information on how to contact your county election office.

Betty Hooker, Get Out the Vote Chair

THANK YOU

Dear AAUW Friends,

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the cards, get well wishes, and thoughts following my recent surgery. Your concern has been very instrumental in helping the healing process. Can't wait to see everyone again!

Nancy Spataro

FROM THE PODIUM

I have spent some time recently in the York hospital and now understand why one is called a patient, as the whole experience calls for not a small amount of patience. But then patience is a virtue, so I am not only better in body but full of virtue. As a result of the former, I hope to see you all at the November meeting when we shall learn more from Dr. Giguere, who gave us a fine first lecture last year. As for the latter, I am sure it will have entirely dissipated by the 8th.

Carol Anderson, Co-President

BOARD MEETING

The November 1 Board meeting will be conducted virtually using Zoom. Carol 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.

2022-2023 YEARBOOKS

Thanks to everyone who distributed *Yearbooks* to our members. You saved us postage and made personal contacts with our members, which is always a good thing.

I mailed twenty-three *Yearbooks* on October 14. Even with the slow mail delivery, all members should have received their *Yearbook* by now. If yours has not arrived, let me know and I will send one to you.

Betty Hooker, Yearbook Chair

WINTER FUNDRAISERS

This winter, we have selected two options, both of which will help you brighten your homes for the holiday season. Both involve ordering online and delivery to your home.

Amaryllis and Paperwhite Sale

Choose from amaryllis bulbs in a variety of colors and paperwhites.

To view the catalog and place your orders, visit <http://AAUWYork.fpfundraising.com>

Place orders by December 1 for delivery before Christmas.

Holiday Greenery

Lynch Creek Farm grows and processes the greens specifically for the wreaths, centerpieces, and garlands so the items you order will arrive fresh and beautiful. You select the shipping date.

See <http://www.lynchcreekfundraising.com/c/299649> to view the catalog and place your order.

Please share the URLs with family and friends.

Nancy Buckley, Fundraising Committee 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.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

“Pronouns: What's the Big Deal and Why Should We Care?”

The DEI Committee addresses a wide range of diversity, equity, and inclusion issues. One aspect of this is the use of pronouns.

Pronouns seem to be the new buzz word. Maybe you think it is just a phase that will disappear. Maybe you have loved ones dealing with discrimination and you are open to learning more. Or maybe you do not care and will call people whatever they want to be called, but keep in mind that gender pronouns are words that people use to refer to others without using their names. Using a person's correct pronouns fosters an inclusive environment and affirms a person's identity.

Wherever you fall, it does not mean you cannot make small changes to support others. We have to remember that just because we do not understand a different perspective that we cannot be an ally. We have had many allies along the way as we strive for our goals as AAUW.

As AAUW National says,

"Fighting gender discrimination is at the heart of our mission and shouldn't be perpetuated within our own organization. We must learn to be welcoming and include different perspectives into what we do."

With pronouns, start small:

1. You may choose to ask others when you meet them, what are their preferred pronouns.
2. Out of respect for the other person, use the appropriate pronouns.
3. If you make a mistake, correct yourself in the moment. (If someone corrects you, thank them for doing so, and let them know you appreciate their help in educating you in this new exchange.)
4. Politely and privately, correct others who use the wrong pronouns.
5. You can choose to showcase your pronouns on name tags or in Zoom meetings. This shows you are a safe person (one who is open to diversity) and normalizes the process.

We can continue to learn and be sensitive to those who use pronouns.
Can we all commit to start small and see where we can grow from there?

Resources to learn more:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/dei-toolkit/dimensions-of-diversity/gender-identity/>

<https://pronouns.org/what-and-why>

<https://www.edi.nih.gov/blog/communities/what-are-gender-pronouns-why-do-they-matter>

The next DEI Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 18, 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Michelle Kern, DEI Committee Member

BANTER DEADLINE

November 22 is the deadline for articles for the December *Banter*

EDUCATION ISSUES ACTION GROUP

When: Tuesday, November 15, 10:00 a.m.

Where: Carol Little's home

Who: Anyone is welcome, including non-AAUW guests/friends

On the agenda: What's the latest on Cyber Charter school legislation? What actions can we take?

Other legislation that is currently pending

Other ideas for action by AAUW York Branch

At the initial meeting of this group, we focused on two areas where we can be effective as a group, with specific actions and a timeline: funding and accountability of cyber charter schools, and promoting a higher level of respect for educators. As a long-term goal (over the next 2-3 years, we may look into publishing a booklet highlighting current teachers in local public schools who are making a difference.

There were many other ideas brought up at the October branch meeting for ways we can help in local schools. I hope some of you who had those ideas will come and share them in this small group setting. We are certainly open to changing our focus as we go!

Do you have a friend who is interested in this topic? Please feel free to invite him or her along, even if he/she is not currently a member of AAUW.

Carol Little, EIA Group Chair

PUBLIC POLICY

Public Policy Priorities – 2022-2024: AAUW PA's public policy goals are to educate citizens about the impact of public policies on women and girls and to advocate for policies that will advance equity for women and girls. In Pennsylvania, AAUW actively endorses the national AAUW Public Policy Program. AAUW Pennsylvania supports good governance, an informed citizenry, and community dialogue on critical issues. Biennial priorities are intended to complement national priorities and to be a focus for active educational and advocacy efforts by members in the state. The priorities include: (1) To enable members and all citizens to participate fully in a representative democracy and self-governance; (2) To support a quality system of public education; (3) To improve the economic self-sufficiency of all women; and (4) To improve the operation and transparency of government.

Carol Heintzleman, Public Policy Chair

FORT HUNTER MANSION TOUR

Thursday, November 17 Cost \$7/person for both the mansion and dress exhibit.

Following the tour, we can go to the Millworks in Harrisburg for lunch and gallery browsing. Let me know if you want to do that, so I can make reservations; it is a popular place!

Sign up by contacting Carol Little no later than November 10.

Helen and John Reily lived at Fort Hunter Mansion during the Gilded Age, from their marriage in 1886 until their deaths in 1927 and 1932. Eleven dresses worn by Helen Reily during this time period will be on display for this exhibit. The elaborate hairstyles popular then have been added to the mannequins, as well. Go to www.fthunter.org for more information.

BOOK GROUP

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

November 16: *Miss Eliza's English Kitchen* by Annabel Abbs

If you are interested in joining a discussion, you can request a list of discussion questions.

BRIDGE GROUP

The Bridge Group will meet Wednesday, November 16, at 10:00 a.m. Please note the date change to the third Wednesday for this month's meeting. Hostess is Gayle Brass. She will be providing lunch. No need to bring anything.

Hostess for December 7 is Anne McFeely.

We welcome new members and subs at any time. For further information, call Lois Kulp.

GAME GROUP – DECEMBER

On Saturday, December 17, the Little's will host our Game Group at 12 noon. We enjoy a delicious pot luck lunch followed by group games! Please come and enjoy the festivities, couples and singles welcome. Call or text Carol Little to RSVP by December 10. For more information, call Anne McFeely.

LUNCH A MONTH

For November, we will be gathering at the Conewago Inn. The 1:00 p.m. lunch will be on Thursday, November 10. Please contact Kay Roddy by Monday, November 7, if you plan to join us. Text or email and include your name and phone number.

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.