



Branch

Banter

OCTOBER 2024

HARRY TRUMAN: PRESIDENT IN WAR AND PEACE

WHEN: Tuesday, October 8 7:00 PM
Social time 6:30 PM Business meeting follows program

WHERE: York Alliance Church, 501 Rathton Road, York

PROGRAM: Our speaker, Chuck Buckley, grew up in Geneseo, New York, a community steeped in history. It was there that his interest in history began to grow. As an undergraduate, Chuck majored in history, and completed his master's in library science. While working at the Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library, he shared his enthusiasm for history with the patrons. This evening, his program will focus on Harry Truman, a President who faced many challenges guiding our nation from a wartime culture to a period of peace. Chuck also has a sizeable collection of American political buttons. If you have any American political buttons, please consider wearing some to our meeting.

Suzanne Robertson & Darla Stover, Program Co-Vice Presidents

***** NOTE:** Rathton Road is closed east of the church.
However, going from Queen Street or Edgar Street onto Rathton, you CAN get into the church parking lot.

FROM THE PODIUM

When our country was founded, it was based on the premise that citizens would do their part to maintain the strength of the country by voting to ensure that the government and its elected officials reflected the views of its citizens.

Voting is how we make ourselves heard. AAUW has continued to ensure that our voices are heard through their advocacy and by educating our legislators about issues important to AAUW's mission, such as the concern about the gender pay gap. AAUW makes certain that our government officials understand how the gender pay gap hurts our families and our communities.

Voting is a privilege and a major responsibility, so as you prepare to vote in November, do your research and vote for whom you feel best supports your views and AAUW's mission to advance gender equity for women and girls.

Barbara Woodmansee, President

BOARD MEETING

The October 1 Board meeting will be conducted virtually using Zoom. Barbara will email the agenda prior to the meeting, which will begin at 7:00 PM. Branch members are welcome.

AAUW FUND

Each year, AAUW invites hundreds of college women from around the United States for three days of leadership training, inspiration and networking at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). NCCWSL was founded more than three decades ago and has attracted over 10,000 student leaders.

This past fiscal year, the York Branch provided two scholarships for local students to attend the conference. To help provide funds for two 2025 scholarships, the York Branch will be participating in the *Boscov's Friends Helping Friends* fundraiser. The \$5.00 discount shopping pass entitles the customer to save up to 25% off the lowest sale price. The event will be held Tuesday, October 22, from 8 AM to 11 PM. This would be a perfect time to purchase some Christmas gifts for your family and friends. Your shopping pass may be purchased at the October 8 Branch meeting. Every \$5.00 will help support York Branch NCCWSL scholarships.

Jane Long, AAUW Fund Chair

AMARYLLIS AND PAPERWHITE KIT FUNDRAISER

\$22 includes an amaryllis bulb, soil disc, and flowerpot tucked in a burlap bag, ready to brighten your home for the holiday season or to give as gifts. For families with children on your gift list, the dramatic growth of the amaryllis bulbs lends excitement to the holiday season while the delicate beauty of the paperwhites creates an aura of calm and relaxation. Our Branch receives a commission (based on total sales) of 40% or 50% for our scholarship fund.

Order cards will be available at the October 8 Branch meeting, or give me a call and I will send you a copy.

All orders must be received by November 1 to receive delivery after mid-November. Bring your order to the October meeting or send it to me no later than November 1.

Nancy Buckley, Fundraising Committee Chair

2024-2025 YEARBOOKS

The 2024-2025 Yearbooks were distributed at the September meeting. Yearbooks will also be available at the October meeting. The remaining Yearbooks then will be mailed.

A BIG THANK YOU to those of you who took extra Yearbooks to give to neighbors and friends. In addition to saving the Branch money on postage, it gives us an opportunity to connect with members who support our mission but are unable to attend meetings.

Betty Hooker, Yearbook Chair

GET OUT THE VOTE

The Presidential Election is on November 5, 2024. The poles are open from 7AM to 8 PM

- ❖ Last Day to register to vote is October 21, 2024.
- ❖ Applications for mail-in or absentee ballots must be received at the York County Election Office by **October 29, 2024, by 5 PM**
- ❖ Mail-in and absentee ballots **must be received** at the York County Election Office by 8 p.m. on **November 5, 2024**
- ❖ You **must sign and date** the voter's declaration on the outer return envelope.
- ❖ **If you do not complete the declaration on the return envelope, including your signature and the current date, your ballot will not be counted.**

The York County Election Office Has a New Location

Office of Elections and Voter Registration
County of York
2401 Pleasant Valley Rd., Suite 219, York, PA 17402
717-711-9604

More information is available at: <https://www.vote.pa.gov>

Betty Hooker, Get Out the Vote Chair

COMFORT PRODUCTS COLLECTION

Thanks to all of you who contributed to the comfort products collection at our September meeting. A carload of items was taken to Representative Carol Hill-Evans' office and will be donated to the York County Food Bank.

The collection is part of a state-wide effort to provide diapers for babies and comfort products for those in need. As the cost of these items has increased, it has become more difficult for low-income families to afford these essential items.

I am proud of the York Branch for their whole-hearted support of this worthwhile community project.

Betty Hooker

HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

REMINDER: The Higher Education Scholarship Committee will hold a meeting on Thursday, November 7, at 1:00 PM, and will be held at Rita Meisenhelder's home. I look forward to seeing you then.

Rita Meisenhelder, HESC Chair

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee has arranged opportunities for the membership to learn with us this coming 2024-2025 year. As in past years, we are sponsoring a program at one of the Branch meetings and have suggested a book for the Book Group. We invite everyone to join us in these enlightening opportunities.

In April, the program for the membership meeting will again feature Laura West Steck, PhD, Associate Professor of Sociology at York College. She will be speaking on 'Critical Race Theory & Contemporary Conversation About Race, Part 2.' Also that month, the Book Group will be reading *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. It was the winner of the National Book Award. It is a story about small-town secrets and the people who keep them. It takes place in 1972 in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. Please mark your calendars and join us for these special events.

The DEI Committee will hold a meeting on Thursday, November 7, at 2:30 PM at Rita Meisenhelder's home. We look forward to seeing you then.

Rita Meisenhelder & Barbara Woodmansee, DEI Co-Chairs

PUBLIC POLICY

Title IX Update: The new Title IX regulations that will replace the 2020 rules for sexual harassment, pregnant and parenting student rights, and protections for LGBTQ+ students have been stalled in many states across the country as Attorney Generals have filed injunctions to stop the implementation of the new rules on August 1. In over 25 states, injunctions are in place as these lawsuits move through the judicial system.

AAUW National signed onto letters opposing the stoppage of the implementation of the new rules as they directly impact the due process rights of victims on college campuses and directly affect our efforts to support all students in welcoming and inclusive schools.

In Pennsylvania, we are not part of any of these injunctions except for the Kansas ruling that permits any Moms for Liberty members to enroll their school as a participant in this ruling. The Education Law Center PA has provided guidance to schools and the ACLU has issued a fact sheet to support our advocates. Here in PA, we have the Human Relations Act that parallels the new rules and protects our LGBTQ+ students.

Carol Heintzleman, Public Policy Chair

BANTER DEADLINE

October 26 is the deadline for articles for the November *Banter*.

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.

BOOK GROUP

The Book Group will meet on Wednesday, October 16, at 1:00 PM at Olive Garden to discuss *Astor* by Anderson Cooper and Katherine Howe.

Please RSVP to Linda Palmer if you plan to attend.

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 2, 10:00 AM, at the home of Gayle Brass. Gayle is graciously hosting a 'Fall Tea Party' for us, so no need to bring a sandwich.

Hostesses for the coming months are:

November 6 Nancy Rexrode

December 4 Anne McFeely

January 8 Carol Anderson

February 5 Jenny Sears

The Bridge Group currently has 9 members. You are welcome to join us as a substitute player at any time. For information, please call Lois Kulp.

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY

The Harrisburg Branch of AAUW is sponsoring a trip to the Canadian Maritimes from September 14 – September 25, 2025.

For information on the trip, click: <https://gateway.qocollette.com/link/1277117>

An in-person meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 8, at 1 PM at the home of Barb Warfel in the Harrisburg area. A Zoom meeting will be held simultaneously.

Please contact Barb if you are interested in attending the meeting in-person or via Zoom by October 1, and she will send you the Zoom link or directions. Barb may be reached at warfelb@yahoo.com.

Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision

Equity for all.

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.