



Branch

Banter

FEBRUARY 2025

HISTORY OF INDIAN STEPS MUSEUM & SUSQUEHANNOCK NATIVE AMERICANS

WHEN: Tuesday, February 11 1:00 PM
Social time 12:30 PM Business meeting follows program
WHERE: Glatfelter Center, 1802 Folkemer Circle, York

PROGRAM: Our speaker, Judith Englert, is the Outreach Coordinator for the Indian Steps Museum. She is a native of Allentown, PA, but has lived more than 30 years in the York and Windsor areas. She has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of NY. She had been an elementary teacher for 38 years. Judith has been employed by the Conservation Society of York for 7 years at Indian Steps Museum and 4 other properties. She is involved in numerous clubs and societies. She has started or been involved with many interesting programs for all age groups at Indian Steps. Judith has been a presenter for many various groups, organizations and events.

Suzanne Robertson & Darla Stover, Program Co-Vice Presidents

FROM THE PODIUM

As I sit here surrounded by snow and freezing temperatures, I think of the author Katrina Mayer's quote: 'Winter reminds us that everyone and everything needs some quiet time.' I believe that we all need time to slow down and take advantage of going at a slower pace. You can escape by reading a book, connecting with friends, completing a project you may have started and have not had time to complete, or simply by taking a nap.

Having quiet time will hopefully reenergize us as we prepare for the upcoming months. Our Branch embraced the importance of quiet time (as well as weather concerns) by not scheduling a Branch meeting in January. I hope that, as February approaches, we will enthusiastically continue our involvement in AAUW activities.

The Program VPs have outstanding programs planned for the rest of the year and our interest groups have activities that enable us to enjoy the camaraderie with our fellow AAUW members. I am looking forward to seeing all of our 'rested' members at the February Branch meeting.

Barbara Woodmansee, President

BOARD MEETING

The February 4 Board meeting will be conducted virtually using Zoom. Barbara will email the agenda prior to the meeting, which will begin at 7:00 p.m. Branch members are welcome.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Ajla Laussegger, Diversity & Inclusion Chair, DEIBelonging Book Series: AAUW PA is launching its 2025 DEIB Book Series come February 2025! 'The Book Series aims to incorporate the DEIB topics into something we all connect with – reading – and create the opportunity to discuss such topics in a meaningful, well-reasoned, and respectful manner, to broaden our understanding in order to effectuate greater impact in our advocacy.' The topics will include Reproductive Rights, War + Impact on Women, Immigration, Trans Impact, Race, Athletes and Mental Health, Unconscious Bias, Women & Tech, and Disability. Look for the Book Series. We hope you find several that pique your interest.

Rita Meisenhelder & Barbara Woodmansee, DEI Co-Chairs

PUBLIC POLICY

There is no longer a path for the ERA in the 118th Congress, but our work continues in coalition. AAUW joined the League of Women Voters and more than 140 partners in a recent letter calling on President Biden to act for publication of the ERA. The U.S. Archivist and Deputy Archivist issued a statement on the ERA ratification process. Gloria L. Blackwell, AAUW CEO, issued a response which can be found on the AAUW home page and the social media channels: Facebook, X(Twitter), Instagram. AAUW's official statement: "We are extremely frustrated at the National Archivist's refusal to publish the ERA. Her decision to side with the Trump administration and against legal scholars and the American Bar Association is reprehensible. Dr. Shogan, publish the ERA. Women around the country have waited long enough." Gloria L. Blackwell, Chief Executive Officer.

A special "Thank You" to York Branch AAUW members who contacted President Biden's office to act for publication of the ERA.

Carol Heintzelman, Public Policy Chair

BOOK GROUP

The Book Group will meet on Wednesday, February 19, at 1:00 PM at Olive Garden to discuss *The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. Please RSVP to Linda Palmer if you plan to attend.

BRIDGE GROUP

The Bridge Group will meet Wednesday, February 5, at Noon at the home of Jenny Sears. Please bring a sandwich for lunch. For information on how you can participate in the Bridge Group, please call Lois Kulp for information.

BANTER DEADLINE

February 24 is the deadline for articles for the March *Banter*.

Mission

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