



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

**AAUW SUM**  
News & Views from the  
West Chester – Chester County PA Branch

Volume 50, Number 5 February 2007

**A WOMAN'S STORY: WOMEN SPEAK IN POETRY, SONG, AND DANCE**

Reader's Theater by the West Chester Community Performers

Tuesday, February 13, 2007, 7:00 pm

Grove United Methodist Church

490 West Boot Rd., West Chester, PA 19380

ALWAYS AMPLE FREE and LIGHTED PARKING

Please come for an entertaining evening of theater when the West Chester Community Performers present an original production of *A Woman's Story*. The performance chronicles the joys and sorrows of ordinary, or in some cases extraordinary, women as they go through life experiences. Poetry, dance, skits and music will be used to tell *A Woman's Story*. The West Chester Community Performers is a not-for-profit volunteer cultural and performing arts organization that was founded in 1983. The troupe is very excited about performing for AAUW for the first time, and we are able to provide this entertainment free of charge, due to a generous grant from the Philadelphia Area Interbranch Council. This program will be open to the community, so please bring a friend or two. Suitable for teenagers. It is a *Shape the Future* membership event, offering reduced rates.



**AAUW-PA Offers Convention Scholarships  
to Younger Members**

Are you under 40 and want to attend the State Convention, April 27, 28, and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007? This is an opportunity to network with like-minded women, learn more about AAUW at the State level, attend two interesting workshops, and visit interesting, historical sights in Scranton, PA. You will also participate in an important Younger Members' Caucus. An application and a short essay are required. Info? Call Yvonne or Graham. Awardees will be notified by March 18. Application deadline is March 15.

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Next AAUW Sum DEADLINE (for the March issue) is February 12. Email Word attachment to [GDBoose@comcast.net](mailto:GDBoose@comcast.net), with a copy to [peiffer@erols.com](mailto:peiffer@erols.com). Pam is on vacation this month.

***Reaching Out –***  
**Barbara Leone, Named Gift Honoree and Our Current Membership VP, has a “Can Do” Philosophy and Says Each Member Has Something to Offer!**

by Co-President Yvonne Peiffer

**The Branch Board has chosen Barbara Leone as the honoree for our 2006 gift to the Educational Foundation.**

Listen to Barbara's own words "Think positively about how *YOU* can make a difference and be part of the generosity of spirit within this community. As members of this fine, peer-run organization we all must focus on creative ways to expand our diverse membership and be open to opportunities to share our unique talents, perspectives and life experiences.



As educated, like-minded women we celebrate the capacity to support, encourage, and empower other women."

So many thoughts ran through my mind as Barbara shared with me her experiences in childhood and adulthood. Barbara is a quiet unassuming woman, a gracious hostess, and has a beautiful home in which her decorating skills are evident. She plays piano and organ, paints in watercolors and uses calligraphy to make her own personalized note cards, makes wonderful homemade soups, is a great grandmother, and has the gift of follow-through. (Barbara's words about any task: "You just have to keep working at it."). What follows is Barbara's story in her own words.

"I was born in Philadelphia and later moved to Bala Cynwyd. During my formative years my parents were my prime role models. Their wisdom and guidance enabled me to develop self-confidence, a positive attitude, intellectual curiosity, adaptability in life, and a sense of humor.

"After graduating from Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA I was fortunate to get a job teaching chemistry at my alma mater, Lower Merion High School in Ardmore. Following the success of the Russian space ship, Sputnik, the methods of teaching science and math changed dramatically. The new math, along with laboratory-based science courses that had been developed by the National Science Foundation, was implemented. I felt most privileged to be teaching with colleagues who had been my teachers. Honors/AP courses, along with Saturday morning enrichment courses soon

followed. Lower Merion offered a 4-hour Organic Chemistry program that is still in effect. While I was teaching, we progressed from using slide rules to working with graphing calculators and computers.

After losing my husband to a massive heart attack at age 50, I remarried and moved to Toms River, NJ. **In 1986, a neighbor introduced me to the local AAUW branch.** This gave me the opportunity to meet people, make new discoveries, and get involved with the mission of AAUW. I served as branch Financial Officer for 4 years and then as President for 2 years. At that time we had about 70 members. We then moved to Hershey's Mill in 1997. I transferred my membership to our branch and am currently serving as the Membership Vice President. By becoming involved in leadership roles in any organization that is devoted to worthy causes, one derives a personal satisfaction in helping to build a just, compassionate and economically viable society. I believe that AAUW, through its numerous activities, helps to prepare women to succeed and lead in the complex contemporary world of today.

I have had the opportunity to improve my own communication skills and computer proficiency because of my work with our dedicated board members, who blend their unique skills to provide branch leadership. In addition, at the 2005 AAUW National Convention (continued on page 9)

**AAUW Sum, pronounced awesome, is the newsletter of the West Chester-Chester County PA Branch of the American Association of University Women. It is normally published 8 times each year: September, October, November, January, February, March, April, and May. Deadline for copy is the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding.**

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## Call Us, Before We Call You!

The Branch Nominating Committee has begun its work for the coming year. Positions to be filled are President(s), Co Vice President for Membership, and Secretary. Committee chairs are also needed.

If you are interested in enhancing your leadership skills, in giving back to the branch, or in just enjoying the teamwork with a bunch of gifted women, please let Donna Eaves, Nominating Committee chair, know. Email is [deaves@chesco.org](mailto:deaves@chesco.org); phone is 610-344-5612. Training and support are provided. Would you like to be more active, but don't know how? We'd LOVE to help you figure that out! You can shadow a Board member to learn the ropes--no commitment, just learning and exposure on your part. You can call Yvonne, Graham, Donna, or Barbara Leone to discuss a topic that interests you.

### GETT Helps Girls Get IT (Information Technology)

by Mary A. Smith, GETT Planning Committee

This year's event will be held at the Educational Service Center (ECS) at 455 Boot Road, Downingtown, PA (Chester County Intermediate Unit) on Saturday, March 24. **Volunteers are needed:** 1) to help stuff our GETT goody bags on Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> after 4:00 p.m. at ESC; and 2) to help with registration starting at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>. We have had a good turn out of AAUW members in the past and hope you will support this branch project this year!

In 2003 AAUW's report *Women at Work* highlighted the need for advanced education for women in the computer and information fields. Without this training, the technological gender gap will continue to grow. GETT is a great opportunity for girls and their parents and teachers to see what exists in Chester County in IT and other technology fields. Please help! E-mail me at [pangea49@comcast.net](mailto:pangea49@comcast.net) or call 610-269-3375 today.

#### What is GETT?

Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology (GETT) began in Chester County in 2001 with a core group of six women who saw a need to encourage young women in information technology. It began as a response to the under-representation of young women in the computer and information technology fields. We used AAUW's Educational Foundation report *Tech Savvy* as a model for our first GETT in 2001.

It has now evolved into the addition of information regarding many aspects of technology with the addition of women of various backgrounds from the Chester County community. We try to keep up with the changing landscape by adding or changing

venues yearly. We also find many girls are returning to GETT from previous years.

#### Why Is GETT Important?

GETT is a free, fun informational event where Chester County girls in grades 6 through 12 and their parents learn about some exciting careers in technology directly from successful businesswomen and educators. It is important because technology is having a huge impact in shaping our society, and yet the latest statistics show that girls shy away from technology careers. The number of women entering into the technology fields continues to decline in this financially rewarding and influential industry.

This is an opportunity for parents, girls and educators to learn the facts about how technology careers can be fulfilling, fun and rewarding personally, professionally and financially. It also provides an excellent way to expose girls to successful entrepreneurial women and educators who can be positive role models.

Please contact me if you have any comments or questions concerning this worthwhile event.

**We are now pre-registering girls, so if you have someone in mind or would like to bring someone register at [GETT2IT@cciu.org](mailto:GETT2IT@cciu.org).**

## Board Highlights from January 2, 2007

- ✓ Congratulated ourselves on our yearend Branch gifts:
 

Educational Foundation	\$500 in honor of Barbara Leone
Legal Advocacy Fund	\$100
Alice Lawson Local Scholarship Fund	\$600
Domestic Violence Center	\$150 (gift cards)

Thanks and a pat on the back to everyone!!!
- ✓ Chester County Library is buying a copy of *A is for Abigail* by Lynn Cheney, in memory of Hilda Fell, a member who was a lifelong advocate of education and equity for women and girls.
- ✓ Discussed Pay Equity as a theme for action, community visibility in April, which is Pay Equity Month.
- ✓ Selected candidate for Gateway to Equity Award
- ✓ Selected candidate for Susan Nensteil Humanitarian Award (AAUW-PA)
- ✓ *Shape the Future* membership events will be held in February, March, and April, with substantial cost reductions in membership available.

### *Membership Report*

As we celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AAUW, it is important for all members to recruit new members. Don't forget the *Give a Grad a Gift* program. Please call me at 610-429-4520 with your information and suggestions.

--Barbara Leone, Vice-President for Membership

### **Financial Officer's Report**

The Income and Expenses Report for July 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006 shows the following balances:

Checking - \$2,229.63

CD Account - \$2,540.64

CCCF - Alice Lawson Fund (9/30/06) - \$22,437.76

Let's Read Math (9/30/06) - \$1,072.50

The following contributions were mailed: \$100 to LAF, \$500 to EF in honor of Barbara Leone, and \$600 to Alice Lawson Scholarship (CCCF)

--Rosemary Brown MacDonald, Financial Officer

### *Applications Due March 30*

## **\$1,000 Local Scholarship to Be Awarded in Spring 2007**

Our branch gives an annual \$1,000 Local Scholarship to a nontraditional student each year. Applications are currently being taken, with the deadline being March 30. A successful applicant is an undergraduate, must have completed 60 hours with a GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 by the spring semester 2007, and be a student at Cheyney University, West Chester University, or Immaculata College. The applicant must be at least 25 years old. The award is applied to tuition.

Applications are available at <http://www.aauwchestercounty.org>. Dorothy Ward, our Scholarship Chair, has been having some health problems, necessitating her not being home at times. Barbara Leone, Membership Vice-President, will accept scholarship applications for this year. Barbara's address is 1311 Robynwood Lane, West Chester, 19380.

## Making MY History OUR History

--- by Shemica Johnson

Who would have ever thought that a 13-year old beautiful Black child could leave me speechless? “Blacks are bad and are meant to be bad, and White is good.”

Never have I been at such a loss of words in my own classroom! I have always had an idea that people thought like that, but this was the first time I ever heard it out of the mouth of a babe.

Although I have lived around the world, I cannot remember when I was first taught anything about MY history: Black History. Perhaps it was in my early childhood in Atlanta. Every school in the city took a field trip to visit the Martin Luther King Jr. Center. Who hadn't been to the King Center was more the question, as opposed to who had.

I can also recall reading books by Black authors in middle school. I remember having one Black teacher -- my music teacher. She had short blonde hair that was curly, and I remember thinking that she was the coolest lady around. Yeah, she had attitude, but so did my mother, and so did my grandmothers, and so did my aunts. It was natural to me. This teacher felt familiar. I guess that back then, she was one of the only Black women I knew who appeared to be socially conscious, but again, this is me as an adult looking back. I wonder if I was as apathetic then as my students are now. Did I even care?

I continued to read Black literature in high school, but no one told me MY history was important. Although I read other authors, Black literature was what I read most; yet still, I was unaware.

Maybe it was the *JET* magazines I read on a continuous basis as I sat in the beauty shop my grandmother owned, waiting patiently for my turn to sit in her chair. That magazine offered me many of the positive images of Blacks that the media lacks today. Here many learn of important moments in history, have the ability to see successful, well-educated people of color, and are exposed to the possibility of Black Love, both old and new, as the audience reads of new nuptials and proud anniversaries.

I do know that I was able to turn on BET (Black Entertainment Television) and not have to worry about half-naked women gyrating in front of this young and impressionable little Black girl. I can say that I was glad to be me! Glad that I was able to hear and understand the music then. It was positive. Although beef (conflict) did exist, it was never violent. Although I was constantly around those who did not look or act like me, I was okay with that--I always felt beautiful.

I cannot say for sure when I actually became aware of the Middle Passage or the real reasons behind the Civil Rights Movement. I don't remember.

Editor's Note: This is an invited essay in honor of Black History Month. Its author, Shemica Johnson, is a new member of our branch and co-wrote *The Dream Realized*, a play to celebrate Martin Luther King Day. The play was performed by West Chester University Students. Shemica is a Reading Specialist in the Coatesville Area School District. The Atlanta, Georgia native is a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University and West Chester University. Her passions are reading and traveling.

College? Yes, it had to be then. I attended an HBCU (Historically Black College and University) and well, I was exposed. I was just as ignorant then as my students are now, but I was granted the gift of knowledge, of heritage, of MY history. I am still unsure as to the exact moment when everything changed for me or when I became privy to such valuable information, but I did. So why, then, do I take it so personally? Why then am I so hurt that my students are unaware?

I wonder if I was as stubborn as well. Did I want to know? Did I care? I cannot for the life of me remember.

In reflecting on my past educational experience, I can honestly say that someone somewhere saved me by giving me this knowledge. This may not mean much to those

(continued on next page.)

## Making MY History OUR History (continued)

who care not about their ancestry, but I can, however, say that it meant the world to me and made me who I am today.

I fear for my Black youth. They have little pride and little purpose. Most of all, many have no respect for their education and what it required of their ancestors in order to be able to even sit in a classroom and learn. I fear that they may never really know or understand that many died for that right. I fear that they will never really care.

Working in the educational system, I try not to be the one who fails our children. Although it is not in my curriculum, I try to slide in a fact here and there so that they are not completely ignorant of OUR history, but I know that this may not be sufficient. Some children will get it and some will not. I just hope that it is adequate.

I just hope it is not too late.

## Domestic Violence Center Update

Thank you very much to those who brought gift cards to the Holiday Party at the Hickman. I turned in \$150 in gift cards on Friday, Dec. 15. The following donated gift cards: Leslie Jean Allison, Elaine Burgess, Donna Eaves, Barbara Leone, Fran Pierce, and a very large group of anonymous donors--9. You know who you are and keep that good feeling of helping others.

Next month it is time to clean! Please bring dish soap and laundry detergent. DO NOT BRING OVER 100 FL OZ. (Too hard to carry, for me and others.) Thanks.

--Marian Stevenson, Chair

## Doylestown Branch Sponsors *Day at the U.N.*

The Doylestown Branch AAUW Cultural Interest Group invites members and friends of your Branch to join in a day trip to the United Nations .

If there is sufficient interest, we would like to charter a bus to leave from a mutually convenient location for the transportation to and from NYC.

### *A Day at the UNITED NATIONS*

**Wednesday, April 25, 2007**

We are working with Carolyn Donovan,  
AAUW Representative to the United Nations.

A Day at the United Nations will include Tour, Buffet Lunch in the Delegates' Dining Room;

And a briefing by UN Staff on an AAUW topic,  
1-Hour tour; time to visit Bookstore and International Shops  
Approximate Cost \$50.00 plus transportation to NYC

Anyone interested? Let Yvonne or Graham know, and we can try to set up carpools to Trenton, and take the local, New Jersey (inexpensive) train in. If sufficient members want to go, we will charter a small bus and driver. Cost would be in addition to the \$50. Doylestown needs to know by February 15, so please **let us know by not later than Tuesday, February 13.**

**Doylestown Contact -Jean Kraus 215-453-1306 or [jeankraus@juno.com](mailto:jeankraus@juno.com) for questions**

211 Dorchester Drive  
Sellersville, PA 18960

### *Up front and personal--*

Member **Rachel Mullin and husband William** celebrated 50 years of marriage on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007! We congratulate them!

Former member **Evelyn Love and husband Steve** have moved to 7770 Eastridge Drive, La Mesa CA 91941. Their telephone number is 619-697-5093. This is just up the mesa from their previous home, and has a grand view of the San Diego countryside. Evelyn reports a very active AAUW branch with lots of bridge and book discussion opportunities. The homeowners association had just approved their landscaping plan, in late December when Barry and Graham Boose visited them, so look for palm trees and citrus soon.

We rejoice with **Dorothy Ward** that her recent surgery was successful. Cards are welcome.

Vice-President for Membership **Sebronette Barnes** says, "Rehearsals [for *Porgy and Bess*] have started, and it is great to be with wonderful singers. I will be performing excerpts on the 28th and Gershwin songs." See Save the Dates for opera performance info.

## **AAUW (Association) Launches the AAUW Member Services Database**

**By Yvonne Peiffer, Co-President**

This Database is just that – a Member Services Database. So use it! **All AAUW members** can go to the AAUW Website, [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

- Look at the top of the page and click on the "Member Center".
- Once in this section look at menu on left side and click on "Member Services (on line)". You can register by putting in your member number. **For your member number** check your *Outlook* Magazine top right of address label after USA; or contact Barbara Leone at 610-429-4520 or [leone219@verizon.net](mailto:leone219@verizon.net); or ask Co-President Yvonne Peiffer. The Association website gives excellent directions for creating your very own password to go along with your AAUW online login i.e. member number. Don't be surprised when you are told they'll send you by e-mail the procedure for creating your AAUW on line login and password. (Took only a few minutes for me to receive the e-mail.)
- In that e-mail click on the link they give you and you will see an online form to fill out. Fill out the form.
- Once you have submitted the form you will be welcomed to the site.
- Member Access to various functions will depend on your status as an individual member or as a member leader within your branch and/or state organization.
- So each time you go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) you can click on "Member Center" at the top of the page, then click on left side menu item "Member Services (On line)", then login.
- I also recommend that once you have accessed Member Services that you at least once click on "My Profile" left side menu, and check to see if your personal data is accurate. A real benefit for members will be the ability to go in and change personal contact information. So if your name, address, phone or e-mail is not accurate you can easily follow the directions given for making the needed changes.

The members' only section provides great tools, information and features just for members: event reminders, tools, resources, etc. I (Yvonne) especially enjoyed clicking on the "Share Your AAUW Story" and reading members' stories (Ex - why persons joined AAUW, memorable moments in AAUW). If a member wishes to write a story of her own for others to read, that can be done as well. Cool! **REGISTER TODAY!**

## SAVE THE DATES

### Branch Board Meetings

Members are invited to attend. All Board meetings are held at the West Goshen Township Municipal Building Community Room, first floor. The building is located at 1025 Paoli Pike, West Chester, PA 19380, 610-696-5266. It is the northeast corner of the intersection of Route 202 and Paoli Pike. Mondays: February 5, March 5, and April 2; TUESDAY, May 1, and Monday, June 4 (joint board meeting). Tuesday, June 12, 2007, 7:00 p.m., Program Planning Meeting.

### Branch Membership Meetings

Most Membership Meetings will be held at Grove United Methodist Church, 490 West Boot Road, West Chester, PA, 19380, because of its central location, lighted parking, good

kitchen facility, and accessibility. Meetings are held in Fellowship Hall on the first floor. Tuesday, February 13  
Tuesday, March 13  
Tuesday, April 10  
Tuesday, May 8--May Gala at a local restaurant  
*If you can give a member a ride, please do so. If you would like a ride, no promises, let Barbara Leone, Membership Vice-President, know.*

### State Conventions

State Convention, April 27-29, 2007--Scranton; details soon in *The Keystone*.  
State Convention, April 11-13, 2008, at the Inn at Chester Springs.

### Association Convention (National)

AAUW National Convention, June 29-July 2--Phoenix, AZ

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

### Bridge

**Women's Social Bridge.** *New members welcome.* Beatriz Wee chairs the group. If you have questions or want to play bridge, please contact Beatriz: 610-594-2719 (h) or [beatrizti@ctsi.net](mailto:beatrizti@ctsi.net).

**Couples Bridge.** *New members welcome.* Couples Bridge is scheduled for Saturday, February 17th, at 7:30 p.m. Please call Kay Philipps at 610-399-0697 if you can hostess on this date. Great time of year to play bridge. Come join the fun.

### Strictly Social--New Group

**The Food Interest Group (FIG)** is having a Mardi Gras Party 7:00 p.m., Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, at Leslie Wachob's. Leslie will make gumbo. Members will bring appetizers or desserts and byob. All members are welcome and may bring a guest. To attend, call 610-458-1837 or email [rbs857@yahoo.com](mailto:rbs857@yahoo.com) by February 6th. Comfortable for singles.

### Book and Discussion Groups

#### Lit II, Fiction and Nonfiction

Chair is Donna Eaves, (h) 610-692-5277; (o) 610-344-6350; email [deaves@chesco.org](mailto:deaves@chesco.org).  
*New members welcome.*  
Thursday, February 15, 7:30 p.m., dessert, 8:00 p.m., book discussion. Book is *1776*, by David McCullough. Host is Elma Mack at The Hickman, 610-430-2280 or [ElmaMack@hotmail.com](mailto:ElmaMack@hotmail.com).

#### Lit III, Wednesday Evening Book Group, Fiction and Nonfiction

Chair is Martina Ossman, (h) 610-793-1469, email: [ossman1072@aol.com](mailto:ossman1072@aol.com). *New members welcome.*

Wednesday, February 21, 7:30 p.m., dessert, 8:00 p.m., book discussion. Book is *Color: A Natural History of the Palette* (nonfiction) by Victoria Finlay. Leader is Eleanor Sinclair. Host is Hilary Kennedy, 610-269-5205.

#### Lit IV—Monday Evening Nonfiction Book Group

Chair is Paula McGinness. *New members welcome.* Please call Paula if you have a question: 610-942-4852 (home) or 610-273-3303 (work). (continued on next page)

**Save the Dates** (continued)

Meets every second month.

**Finance Discussion Group**

Chair is Leslie Olson, 610-793-2938 or [olsonfour@aol.com](mailto:olsonfour@aol.com). *New Members welcome.*

Wednesday, February 21, from 7-9 p.m. at the Magnolia Grill, at the Chester County Book and Music Company, West Goshen Shopping Center, Route 202 at Paoli Pike, West Chester. Topic is *Freakonomics, rogue economist explores the hidden side of everything*, with discussion led by Paula McGinness. Call Paula at 610-442-4852 or email her at [pmcginness@chesco.com](mailto:pmcginness@chesco.com) with questions.

Wednesday, March 2, 7-9 p.m., it's *Get Up on Technology* with Carla Grot leading the discussion. Call Leslie Olson 610-793-2938 or Carla Grot 610-388-6201 with questions or to say you are coming.

("Leslie Olson led the informal discussion at the January meeting on *Taxes*, based on an article from *The New York Times*. Although finance is not a special interest of mine, all of us could have benefited from the discussion -- very thought provoking. Paula McGinness and Kathryn Retallick contributed as well. Join us at the Magnolia Grill. The tea and coffees are great, too, and make for a cozy, satisfying evening." --Yvonne Peiffer reporting)

**Great Decisions — Monday, February 12, 1:30 p.m. NOTE CHANGE IN TIME,**

Chester County Book & Music (same place as Finance above). Topic: *Turkey – on the Verge of Europe*. Leader Kathryn Retallick. *New*

**Reaching Out: Branch Honors Barbara Leone** (continued from page 2)

I received many new ideas to increase branch membership.

Our branch then set up its own web site to attract potential members, and I developed a branch information brochure that is placed in real estate offices, libraries, and local businesses, and is mailed to prospective members. Last spring we gained six new

members welcome. Call Jacky Page for a copy of the material or with questions -- 610-359-9887.

**Community Calendar*****Porgy and Bess* Performances**

Philadelphia Opera performances are Friday evenings, February 9 and 16; Sunday matinees, February 11 and 18; Wednesday evening, February 14; and Friday evening, February 16. Tickets range from \$9 to \$170. Information at [www.operaphilly.com](http://www.operaphilly.com).

Our own Sebronette Barnes is performing.

**Chester County Fund for Women and Girls- Grant Application Workshop**, January 31 — 9 a.m. at Penn State Great Valley to learn more about the Fund's 2007 Grant Guidelines and Application.

RSVP to Lisa Baehre by Friday, January 26, at [lisa@ccwomenandgirls.org](mailto:lisa@ccwomenandgirls.org) or 484-356-0940.

For those experiencing difficulty in viewing the Application and Guidelines on the website, you may download the application at [www.ccwomenandgirls.org/grants.html](http://www.ccwomenandgirls.org/grants.html).

**YWCA of Chester County and Home of the Sparrow Benefit**

**Sunday, March 18, 5:30-9:30 p.m.**, at the Desmond Hotel in the Great Valley Corporate Center. The Party Dolls will feature a tribute to the Classic Music of American Women. The \$50 admission includes Classic American Dinner Stations plus a Sundae Dessert Bar, a Silent Auction and lots of other fun, dancing, singing, etc! Hope you will all come. Tables of 6 or more may be reserved. --From Fran Pierce

members at our *Shape the Future* events which were open to the public and offered a ½ membership fee discount for 15 months. As a result, we earned three free memberships (Association and State). In addition, our branch was the recipient of a PA State Membership Grant for two consecutive years.

Editor: Thank you, Barbara, for your hard work. Barbara is in her fourth year as Membership VP and is looking for someone to work with her in 2007-2008 as a Co-Membership VP. Call Donna Eaves to say you are interested.



West Chester-Chester County PA Branch  
415 Sunset Hollow Rd.  
West Chester, PA 19380

## ***FEBRUARY 2007*** ***NEWSLETTER***

### **AAUW Mission Statement (2006)**

The AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

### **AAUW Vision Statement (2006)**

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

### **AAUW West Chester – Chester County Branch Vision Statement**

The West Chester-Chester County Branch will

- Actively recruit members who support Association goals.
- Nurture these members through active Interest Groups, through monthly meetings with intellectual and social merit, and through member support.
- Sponsor at least one project per year with volunteers and with funds to promote Association and branch goals.
- Sponsor at least one local scholarship per year for a nontraditional student
- Support programs for training and self-development of branch members to promote Association goals.
- Raise funds through community projects and member gifts to support Association goals.

\*\*\*\*\*

Since its first meeting in 1881, AAUW has been a catalyst for change. Today, with more than 100,000 members, 1,300 branches, and 500 college and university partners, AAUW contributes to a more promising future and provides a powerful voice for women and girls—a voice that cannot and will not be ignored.

**[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)**

**[www.aauwpa.org](http://www.aauwpa.org)**

**[www.aauwchestercountypa.org](http://www.aauwchestercountypa.org)**