



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

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

Volume 49, Number 1

September 2005

Kickoff Meeting Has International Focus

Date: Tuesday, September 13, 7:00 p.m., refreshments and networking; 7:30 p.m. program
Location: Grove United Methodist Church, 490 West Boot Rd., West Chester, directions, p. 7.

Louise McLeod, a member of the Doylestown PA Branch and a Board member of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (VGIF), will discuss VGIF's international programs for women with us at our September meeting. Guests are welcome. If you have nonmember friends who are interested, please invite them to join us.

"Part of the genius of VGIF is its respect for those to whom its resources are offered: people know what they need and how to make their lives better. We supply the funds—they do the rest," states Barbara Carey, President. VGIF currently supports 29 projects in 22 countries, directed primarily to women and children in undeveloped countries. The projects target literacy, human rights, and economic independence.

VGIF was founded in 1969 by eleven members of the International Federation of University Women. Initially, the Fund assisted women college graduates--particularly in low per-capita income countries--to identify and implement solutions to a variety of problems confronting their nations. Grants of small amounts of money were awarded in aid for educational projects and other community development projects affecting the condition of women and girls.

Within a decade, the Fund broadened its original purpose and began to encompass projects beyond those narrowly aimed at university women and to utilize a variety of conduits for aid. Today, most of the projects funded are to women in low per capita income countries. VGIF has awarded more than 250 projects for a total project aid disbursement in excess of 1,000,000 USD.

In July 2004, VGIF was granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations. Since 1997, it has also been associated with the UN's Department of Public Information (DPI). VGIF is named in honor of Virginia Gildersleeve, a noted leader in women's education and Dean of Barnard College. Gildersleeve was a co-founder and twice President of the International Federation of University Women. She was the only woman appointed by President Franklin Roosevelt to the US Delegation that established the United Nations and the first woman in the United States to sign a United States treaty.

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Branch News

New Beginnings

Please join the AAUW West Chester - Chester County Branch in welcoming new leadership. At the helm is President Graham Boose, GDBoose@comcast.net or 610-431-7701.

This is the first issue of AAUW SUM for the 2005-2006 year. The deadline for AAUW SUM is the 12th of the month preceding the month of publication. AAUW SUM is not published in December, June, July, and August. Please share your ideas, comments, and suggestions for future issues with AAUW SUM Editor, Pam Gallimore, pgallimore@ccp.edu. Deadline for January is December 1.

Welcome! I hope to see and visit with each of you several times during this year, at the interesting membership meetings and interest groups.

—Graham

Financial Officer's Report

Income and Expenses report for July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005 shows the following balances:

Cash-Checking - \$5180.29

Savings - \$4118.41

CCCF - \$20,757.68 (as of June 30, 2005)

--Nancy Dore, Financial Officer

Scholarship Winner Announced!

AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch is honored to offer congratulations to our newest scholarship recipient, Charlyanne Nester, who is pursuing a bachelor's degree in nursing at West Chester University.

The \$1,000 scholarship is awarded competitively to a nontraditional, undergraduate student, typically yearly. A nontraditional student is usually a mature woman, who has completed three years of course work, is working, and has children.. Please join us in congratulating Ms. Nestor.

--Kathryn Retallick, Chair
Local Scholarship Committee

REACHING OUT—

--Barbara Leone, Membership Vice-President

Please extend a hearty welcome to our newest branch members.

SEBRONETTE BARNES earned a Ph.D. in Music Education and also an M.A. in Vocal Pedagogy at Ohio State University. In addition, she has a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from Miami University in Ohio. At Jackson State University in MS she earned a B.M.E. in Music Education. Currently she is an assistant professor of music. She is also branch Diversity Chair and a member of the Program Committee.

JOAN BAXTER has an M.A. in Communications and a BS in Business Management from West Chester University as well as a L.A.S. Letters, Arts, Sciences degree from Pennsylvania State University. Her current profession is a Technical Communicator with Advanced Technology Solutions (ATS). She has been a member of the Wilmington, DE Branch where she was Public Policy Chairperson.

PATRICIA ENDY is a retired teacher who earned her BA degree in English at Randolph-Macon Woman's College and also an M.Ed. from Temple University. She has been a previous member of AAUW and is rejoining us this year.

ANN FIFE was an Adult Education & Communications Technology major with an M.A. degree as well as a B.S. degree in Communications Media from Indiana University of PA. Currently she is employed as an Instructional Technology Specialist and Teacher Center Coordinator at the Chester County Intermediate Unit.

BERYL GROSSMAN earned a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Pennsylvania. Currently she is a Grief Facilitator and Hospice Trainer and worker. Her former employment included work as a medical records librarian and realtor. She is a member of the *Let's Read Math* project committee. *(Continued on page 7)*

Branch News



**AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch
Raising funds and having fun**

NEW YORK! NEW YORK!

The West Chester-Chester County Branch of AAUW has planned another wonderful day trip to New York City. We will leave from **The West Chester Park and Ride** adjacent to West Goshen Shopping Center (just off Route 202, Paoli Pike exit), at **7:15 a.m.** on **Wednesday, November 9, 2005**. After our arrival in the city, you can choose your own itinerary--restaurants, theater, museums, shopping, exploring. Half-price tickets to many major shows are available at the first stop in New York, Times Square, where the TCKTS booth is located. A stop is also made at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. We board the bus at 7:45 p.m. for the return trip and return to West Chester about 10:30 p.m.

The cost of the trip is \$45.00, which includes gratuities and beverages.

The trip is sold out early, so send your reservation today!

Call Sandi Kwisz (610-793-3135) with any questions.

*****cut here and return this form with your check*****

NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIP
Wednesday, November 9, 2005

Make checks payable to **AAUW West Chester-Chester County Branch** and mail to:

Sandi Kwisz
1133 St. Finegan Drive
West Chester, PA 19382

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

*****cut here and return this form with your check *****

BOOKS! BOOKS!!! AND MORE BOOKS !!!

Join the West Chester-Chester County Branch at the Chester County Book and Music Company on **Thursday, November 17, 2005** for our Annual Book Fair. The Chester County Book and Music Company has books, magazines and music for all of your personal and holiday shopping needs. The branch makes 15% on most of your holiday purchases. Come, shop 'til you drop! Bring your friends—just check out at the register with the balloons for proper credit to the branch.

Association Opens Membership Requirements at Convention

Delegates to the 2005 National AAUW Convention, held in Washington, D.C. in late June, voted to open membership requirements to accept graduates holding an associate or equivalent degree as AAUW members. The vote was close.

The second major issue was the Association Board's recent decision to withhold our 2005 dues from the International Federation of University Women (IFUW). AAUW is a founding member of IFUW and provides 40% of its budget. The decision was purely financial. An amendment to change Association Bylaws (thus loosening the commitment to IFUW) from

"The Association SHALL be a constituent dues-paying member of IFUW" to "MAY be..." was proposed by the Bylaws Committee and defeated during the vote. The President of the IFUW addressed the convention, and the Board and IFUW representatives planned to meet later to try to work out financial arrangements more favorable to AAUW. Other significant actions:

- Ruth Sweetser, a current at-large member of the Association Board of Directors, was elected AAUW President.

- President Nancy Rustad introduced the new, encompassing theme *Envisioning the Future: Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security*. This new theme represents a shared commitment by the AAUW Educational Foundation Board and the Association Board "to build a coordinated, collaborative, and contemporary portfolio of AAUW programs that will serve the mission of AAUW, support and engage members and



Delegate Harriet Jarosh demonstrates approved lobbying style.

prospective members, and in the process, move the organization forward in a focused and strategic manner." AAUW Sum will provide more details as they become available.

Former Branch President Harriet Jarosh, Membership Vice-President Barbara Leone, and President Graham Boose attended from our branch. We concur that the convention energized us, and provided a ton of ideas for thought and possible implementation in the West Chester-Chester County Branch.

Our branch was recognized for "exemplary programming in support of AAUW's mission," and was recognized with a 21st Century Award.

Jehan Sadat, a pioneer for women's rights in Egypt, together with her late husband Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, was the keynote speaker at Friday's luncheon opening the Convention.

Sunday night's Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) dinner featured Eleanor Holmes Norton, Congresswoman from the District of Columbia, and LAF Plaintiff Charlene McMahon.

On Monday, Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, provided a rousing sendoff to over 1,000 AAUW women, who lobbied their Congressional representatives for issues important to women. Imagine the sight of all those teal Convention bags converging on the Capitol! *Purpose, Power, Progress*—three powerful words in our continued commitment to equity, and the overarching theme of the four-day convention.

Madeleine Albright, former Secretary of State, was the keynote speaker at the Educational Foundation Dinner.

She is a strong supporter of equal opportunities for women, and was pleased to share the story that Condoleezza Rice, now Secretary of State, was a student of her father's at the University of Colorado. Secretary Albright concluded her remarks with "I always say there must be a special place in Hell for women who don't help other women. I can see you are all going the other way!"

--Graham Boose

Clarification of Membership Criteria from Association (July 31, 2005)

The President received the following clarification of membership criteria after the Convention.

Dear Branch Leader,

I am sending you the latest information from Association. Please share it with appropriate officers and members as they recruit members in the new membership category.

Below, you will find a copy of the 2005 Membership Criteria clarification memo... For future reference, this information is now posted on the AAUW website (www.aauw.org, in the "Member Center" - front page) - the link: http://www.aauw.org/member_center/MemberShipCriteria2005.cfm Cathy Wieland, AAUW-PA

TO: AAUW and Foundation Boards of Directors
State and Branch Presidents

State Membership and Bylaws Chairs

FROM: Caroline Pickens, AAUW Bylaws Chair
Coco Siewert, AAUW Parliamentarian

DATE: August 1, 2005

RE: Associate or Equivalent Degrees as Criteria for AAUW Membership

What do the AAUW Bylaws now define as the criteria for membership in AAUW?

As amended by the delegates to the 2005 Convention, the AAUW Bylaws now admit to membership "a graduate holding an associate or equivalent...degree from a qualified educational institution." The Bylaws define qualified institutions as "educational institutions that offer recognized associate, baccalaureate, or higher degrees and that have full regional or appropriate professional association approval."

What is the definition of an associate degree?

The American Heritage Dictionary defines an associate degree as "an academic degree conferred by a two-year college after the prescribed course of study has been successfully completed." J.R. Whittstruck in *Requirements for Certificates, Diplomas and Associate Degrees* (State Higher Education Executive Officers Association, 1985) states, "An associate's degree is a degree awarded by community colleges, junior colleges and bachelor's degree-granting colleges and universities in the U.S. and Canada upon completion of a course of study equivalent to the first two years in a four-year college or university. It is the lowest in the hierarchy of academic degrees offered in these countries." The associate degree includes associate of arts (AA), associate of science (AS), associate of applied science (AAS), associate of arts and science (AA&S), and associate of applied arts (AAA, usually in music or commercial art). The most academic are the AA and the AS, and these programs are usually geared toward a student expecting to transfer on to a 4-year college. However, all are qualified associate degrees.

What is the equivalent of an associate degree?

The equivalent of an associate degree is an academic degree or diploma awarded by a qualified institution such as a business college or a hospital, which may not be called "associate degree" but has the same academic

requirements or greater. A qualified institution is one that has full regional or appropriate professional association approval. Examples of an equivalent degree are two- or three-year RN diplomas, usually based in a hospital or a community college, and business college/school associate degrees (usually an AAS in business-related fields). A certificate awarded by a business college normally does not qualify. For example, many business colleges offer either an associate degree (usually an AAS but some AA degrees) or a certificate in the same field (common examples are accounting and marketing). However, the course requirement for a certificate is not equal in academic credits to those required for the associate degree, and it is not the equivalent to two years of courses or the common 60 hours as the two-year standard. Furthermore, a certificate is not generally accepted by four-year colleges as equivalent to an associate degree for the purpose of transfer. Therefore, our conclusion is that "equivalent" is usually going to apply to the RN diploma and to associate degrees awarded by business colleges/schools. The latter are still going to be called "associate degrees."

Are those with more than two years of college but no degree or diploma as defined in the previous paragraph eligible for AAUW membership?

No. AAUW remains an organization whose members have completed academic work and have been awarded a degree or diploma from a qualified educational institution.

Will those members with AA degrees be eligible for IFUW membership?

No. IFUW members are women with baccalaureate or higher degrees, so just as our male members are not members of IFUW, our members with associate degrees will not be IFUW members.

What happens to student affiliates who receive an associate degree but continue on in their schooling toward a bachelor's degree?

At the time of receiving an associate degree, student affiliates will have a choice in the way they remain affiliated with AAUW. They can choose to become a full member with the privilege of voting and holding office. Or they can choose to remain a student affiliate if they continue work toward a bachelor's degree and not have a vote nor be able to hold office.

What if prospective members are not certain if they qualify for membership? Or if a program qualifies as equivalent to an associate degree?

Questions regarding eligibility and qualification can be addressed to MemberCriteria@aauw.org or the AAUW Helpline at 800/326-2289. Queries will be handled by the Membership Department, the Membership chair, the Bylaws chair, or the AAUW parliamentarian as appropriate.

Note: The AAUW Board of Directors approved the Membership Criteria clarification as presented in this document on July 31, 2005.

Branch News

Branch Hosts First 3 *Let's Read Math* Work Shops

The West Chester-Chester County Branch hosted three “math is fun” workshops at the summer educational camp (SEP, Summer Enrichment Program) of the YWCA Chester County, 123 North Church St., West Chester, during July. A success, according to Y staff, workshop teachers, and campers.

The *Let's Read Math (LRM)* project is about promoting positive mathematical attitudes in children. The concept is that what children experience at home and in other informal settings influences not only what they do in school, but also what they do in life.



Camper gives new interpretation of YWCA, using math activity of small marshmallows and tooth picks to develop geometric (and alphabetic) concepts. Activity supports *The Greedy Triangle* by Marilyn Burns.

The premise. Everyone loves children’s books, and the simple messages that are conveyed in pictures and print. There is a growing body of children’s literature with embedded math themes. Why not use these books as an avenue towards building both literacy and numeracy in children? “Math is hard, I hate math, I could never do math, Who needs it?” These messages are not good to communicate to children.

The plan. The original plan for the project, as developed by Dr. Claire Passentino of the

Makefield PA AAUW Branch, was to have AAUW book groups for adults, but the children's workshops have captured the hearts and imagination of all involved. Everyone has a good time

The West Chester-Chester County Branch *Let's Read Math* team agreed to take Dr. Passantino’s concept and develop the methodology to transport it to a different location, with different teaching personnel, and with different student demographics, that would serve as a model, if successful, for transporting the concept to other branches. Dr. Claire worked closely with us throughout the whole process. Our team included Graham Boose, Donna Eaves, Beryl Grossman, Lois Kleiman, Harriet Jarosh, Sandi Kwisz, Barbara Leone, Diane Nescio, and Fran Pierce. Diane Nescio and Sandi Kwisz conducted the workshops; Barbara Leone and Graham Boose assisted. YWCA staff Deb Barker, Executive Director, and Fran Luft, Program Director, were key to the success.

Financial support. Initial funding for the project was obtained from our branch Projects budget and the Philadelphia Interbranch Council of AAUW. We have recently received funding from Verizon to explore LRM in school-related venues and are in initial contact with the West Chester Area School District. (Continued on next page.)



Branch members Barbara Leone, Diane Nescio, and Sandi Kwisz helps camper and counselors measure and understand standard units of measure, using *How Big Is A Foot?* by Rolf Myller

Branch & Association News

Branch Sponsors *Let's Read Math* (cont'd)

What you can do: Come join us! We need planners, grant writers, book readers, shoppers, activity package assemblers, and folks who just enjoy having a good time with children. If you think your school district or PTO would be interested, please

let us know. The current plan, subject to Board approval, is to return to the YWCA CC in the fall with three more workshops. Call Graham Boose, 610-431-7701, for additional information.

Most Monthly Membership Meetings to Be Held at Grove UMC

With regret, the Program Committee announces that we are unable to meet at the West Goshen Township Municipal Building for our monthly membership meetings. The room was already booked.

Grove United Methodist Church, 490 West Boot Rd., West Chester, will be the location of our membership meetings in September, October, January, March, and April.

Directions to the church are:

- From the intersection of Boot Rd. and Pottstown Pike (approximately half way between Exton and West Chester), proceed west on Boot Rd. (that means the Wawa is

on your left after you turn at the traffic light).

- Go approximately 1 mile (through one Stop sign) to 490 West Boot Rd. The church, with its large, well-lighted parking lot, will be on the left. Go in the main building entrance (large, pointed entrance to Education Building). We are meeting in Fellowship Hall, which is directly ahead and slightly to your right, as you enter. Handicapped accessible, ladies room is across the hall, kitchen is adjacent.
- If you reach the traffic light at the intersection of Boot Rd. and Grove/Whitford Rd., you have gone too far.

Association Names Interim Executive Director

"Michele Warholic Wetherald will serve as the Interim Executive Director of AAUW, effective as of August 8, 2005. In the interest of maintaining the forward momentum of AAUW at this critical point, we believe Michele is an exceptional choice ... to fill the immediate vacancy created by Kathy Frost's unexpected decision not to take the Executive Director position. As past president of AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund, Michele is a trusted leader who has demonstrated her commitment to AAUW's

mission... We ask for your strong support of Michele as she undertakes the challenging job as Interim Executive Director of AAUW, and know you will join us in welcoming her.

A search committee will be formed at the earliest possible moment to begin working ... to fill the Executive Director vacancy. With strong hope and great expectations,
~Barbara O'Connor
President, AAUW Educational Foundation
~Ruth Sweetser, President, AAUW"

Welcome Our Newest Branch Members (cont'd from page 2)

JEAN HUSTON is a retired Public Health Nurse who studied at Muskingum College in Ohio and earned a B.S. in Nursing at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.

LOIS KLEIMAN studied at Temple University and earned a B.S. in Education and taught for 7 years. Later she worked as a

realtor for over 20 years. She is a member of the *Let's Read Math* project committee.

ELLEN SOVA is currently employed as a medical research Project Manager. She earned a B.A. in English at St. Joseph's University and also a M.A. in Education at Cabrini College. She is a member of Lit II.

Branch News

SAVE the DATES**Branch Membership Meetings**

As AAUW Sum goes to press, the hard-working Program Committee, chaired by Vice-President Sybil Schwartz and Fran Pierce, are finalizing a year's worth of interesting and fun monthly membership meetings. Details will appear in the Membership Handbook, available at the September meeting.

Branch Board Meetings

Members are invited to attend. With the exception of the November meeting, 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 essentially the northeast corner of the intersection of Route 202 and Paoli Pike.)

Tuesday, September 6, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 4, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, November 1, 7 p.m., at the home of a member, TBD

Tuesday, December 6, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, January 3, 2006, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 7, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 7, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, May 2, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, June 6, 7 p.m. Joint Board meeting.

Non-Branch AAUW Meetings

- Philadelphia Area Interbranch Council: Saturday, October 29, 2005, 10 a.m. until noon, Tredyffrin Public Library, 528 Upper Gulph Rd., Wayne, PA 19087
- International Women's Day: March 8, 2006, to increase visibility of AAUW in PA
- AAUW Middle Atlantic Region (MAR): March 18-19, 2006, Bethlehem, PA
- PA-AAUW-PA State Convention: March 30-April 3, 2006, Johnstown, PA
- Association Convention: Phoenix, AZ, June 29-July 2, 2007 (it is every two years)

Book and Discussion Groups**Lit IV, Monday Evening Nonfiction Book**

Group will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 19, 2005, at the Chester County Book Company Magnolia Grill, West Goshen Shopping Center. The book being discussed is *Mountains Beyond*

Mountains by Tracy Kidder. This book is

readily available in Chester County

libraries or you may call Paula McGinness for a copy to be reserved for you.

Questions, please call 610-273-3303 (work) or 610-942-4852 (home). This book group meets every two months.

Lit III, Wednesday Evening Book Group,

Fiction and Nonfiction will meet on

September 14, 2005. The book being discussed

is *Missing Haven* by Caroline Wagner, leader

Harriet Jarosh, host Hilary Kennedy, 610-269-

5205. The group meets monthly on the third

Wednesday evening, September through June,

at 7:30 p.m. for dessert. The book discussion

begins promptly at 8:00 p.m. Please call the

host at least 3 days ahead of time if you plan to

attend and to get information on the discussion

format.

Lit III, Thursday Evening Book Group,

Fiction and Nonfiction will meet September

15, 7:30 p.m. for refreshments, 8:00 p.m. for

book review. *The Birth of Venus* by Sarah

Dunant, host: Diane Nescio, leader Donna

Eaves. Please call Donna if you plan to attend,

610-692-5277. This book group meets

monthly.

Great Decisions will meet on September 12,

7:30 p.m., at the home of Jacky Page. Leader:

Kathryn Retallick. Topic: "Sudan and the War

in Darfur." New members welcome. Please call

610-359-9887 if you plan to attend.

(Continued on page 9)

Branch News

Save the Dates (cont'd)**Finance Study Group, Wednesday Evening, Research and Discussion of Financial Topics of Interest**

The Finance Study Group will meet on Wednesday, September 28th at 7 p.m. at the Chester County Book and Music Company, West Goshen Shopping Center, intersection of Route 202 and Paoli Pike, West Chester. The topic will be "Before the bubble bursts: is real estate still a good investment?" The discussion will be led by Stanli Cushman. All AAUW members are welcome to attend any meeting where the topic interests them.

For additional information, contact Leslie Olson, Chair, olsonfour@aol.com or 610-793-2938.

We're Invited!

Robyn Young, who was our speaker at the May Banquet, wrote to invite us all to the dedication of a historic marker to Dr. Charlotte Sitterly, a pioneering astronomer, and to thank us for the Branch's contribution to this effort.

The marker will be located at 640 Buck Run Road, Coatesville, 3 miles southwest of Coatesville. The time is **Saturday, September 24, at 11 a.m.** There will most likely be a reception afterwards at the People's Hall, within

walking distance, and located next to the Fallowfield Friends Meetinghouse.

Dr. Sitterly was born in 1898 and died in 1990. Carpools and lunch? Facilitator wanted.

New York Trip

Wednesday, November 9, 2005, all day.

Holiday Book Fair

Thursday, November 17, 2005, 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., Chester County Book and Music Company, West Goshen Shopping Center, northwest corner of Paoli Pike and Route 202, West Chester.

Governor's Conference for Women

Pennsylvania Governor's Conference for Women, Tuesday, November 15, 2005 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA. The Keynote Speaker is Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Website:

www.pagovernorsconferenceforwomen.org.

The telephone number for general conference info: 866-251-3537.

Interested in attending? Let Graham Boose know, we are trying to put together a couple of tables for AAUW-PA.

From the Membership Veep

Enrich the life of a friend or neighbor by inviting her to our September meeting. If you know of a prospective member please give her name to Membership Vice President, Barbara Leone (phone: 610 429 4520). Barbara will issue a personal invitation in addition to

sending information in the mail. Also special membership incentives are now available through the *Shape the Future* membership program for those prospective members attending and joining AAUW at a branch event.

--Barbara Leone

Wish List

✓ Bookcase for the YWCA Chester County to hold books for after school readers. In good condition, tall one preferred. Call Graham Boose, 610-431-7701, if you can donate one.

✓ Avid readers to begin a new daytime book group; contact Graham Boose if interested. Lifetime learning and fun guaranteed.



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

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

September 2005
NEWSLETTER

AAUW Mission Statement

The AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change.

AAUW Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

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.

<http://www.aauw.org>
<http://www.aauwpa.org>