

March's Program



Our branch had a lovely diversion for our March meeting—it was an Ode to Spring, if there was ever one. We met at the Phipps Conservatory, where we had delicious ethnic lunches in their lovely and modern cafe and afterwards toured the gardens on our own.



The entire conservatory was lovely, but the orchids were numerous, colorful, unique, and especially beautiful.



There were remnants of pieces of art glass by renowned Dale Chihuly throughout the plant display, which made for interesting occasional surprises. You can see his designs from the Phipps Conservatory show at <http://www.chihuly.com/hipps-conservatory.aspx>.



All in all, it was a lovely day and a nice excuse to be among all the flowers and plants!



Don't miss the AAUW-PA Convention and 83rd Annual meeting . . .

This month's Pittsburgh Branch meeting will not be held at the PAA.

The AAUW-PA Convention and 83rd Annual State Meeting will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Greentree. The convention will begin on Friday, April 13, at 9:00 a.m. with "Get Out the Vote" and conclude on Sunday, April 15, with the AAUW Funds Breakfast.

The DoubleTree is located at 101 DoubleTree Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Phone number is (412) 922-8400.

This year's convention deals with topics supporting "Building a Powerful Network".

Be sure to look at the available workshops on the attached registration form and note there is a charge for any meals you plan on having at the convention.

Since the convention falls the same weekend as our monthly branch meeting, we will not be meeting in April. Instead we encourage all members to attend the workshops on Saturday, April 14th. To help defray the cost of registration, the Pittsburgh branch will reimburse its members \$20 upon verification of registration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pat Byerly at (412) 482-4419 or pabyerly@aauwpgh.org.

If you have not already registered for the convention, the registration fee is \$75. Deadline to pre-register is April 4, 2012. Registration after the April 4th deadline can be made at the convention however a \$15 late fee will be added to the \$75 registration fee.



Members are invited to attend the state convention for FREE on Friday, April 13, for the 'Get out the Vote' activities from 9-11:30 for Part I and from 1:15-4:45 for Part II. This is a non-partisan voting training to engage the millennial generation and others in the voting process. Please support your branch and come if you can, for no charge!

Directions from the North:

- Take I-279 South to Pittsburgh, toward the Fort Pitt Tunnel
- Cross the bridge and head through the Fort Pitt Tunnel – as you exit the tunnel you will continue on I-376 West towards the airport. Go 2 miles and take Exit 67 Greentree/Crafton.
- The ramp will split, bear left on the exit
- At the stop sign make a left onto Mansfield Avenue
- Go straight through two traffic lights – the Doubletree Hotel will be the next drive on the right

Directions from the South:

- Take I-279 North toward Pittsburgh
- Merge onto I-376 East towards Pittsburgh.
- Exit I-376 East at Exit 67 Greentree/Mt. Lebanon.
- Stay in far left lane - at traffic light make left turn onto Green Tree Road (Rt 121)
- At the very next traffic light make a left turn onto Mansfield
- Go straight through two lights - the Doubletree Hotel will be the next drive on the right

Directions from the East/Turnpike:

- From the PA Turnpike, take the Pittsburgh exit at Monroeville (old exit 6, new exit 57)
- Take I-376 West toward Pittsburgh
- Proceed through the Squirrel Hill Tunnel
- As you are passing downtown Pittsburgh you will see signs for Fort Pitt Bridge
- Cross the bridge and head through the Fort Pitt Tunnel – as you exit the tunnel you will continue on I-376 West towards the airport. Go 2 miles and take Exit 67 Greentree/Crafton.
- The ramp will split, bear left on the exit
- At the stop sign make a left onto Mansfield Avenue
- Go straight through two traffic lights – the Doubletree Hotel will be the next drive on the right

Recipe of the Month

Chakalaka By Flora Mosaka-Wright



- 3 chopped onions
- 2 cups shredded cabbage
- 1 lb green beans
- 3 chopped medium tomatoes
- 3 medium shredded carrots
- 2 or 3 freshly minced chillies
- 1 large minced green bell pepper
- 2 to 3 minced garlic gloves
- 1 cup beef or chicken stock
- 1 tsp curry powder
- 1 tsp vinegar
- 1 Tbs sugar
- 2 Tbs olive oil

Saute onions, carrots, cabbage, green beans, and garlic with olive oil until the vegetables are soft. Add curry powder and mix well.

Add tomatoes, chillies and beef or chicken stock and mix well. Add vinegar. Let all ingredients boil for five minutes. Add a spoon of sugar, mix well, and set aside to cool.

This is a spicy South African vegetable dish liked for the readily available and simple ingredients. It is a popular side dish at barbecues and is enjoyed at African parties, gatherings, and funerals. Women exchange this and form groups to prepare this dish overnight.

Welcome Our Newest Member



Karol joined our Pittsburgh Branch in March and Chatham University in January as their new dean and professor of psychology.

Karol comes from Mount Saint Mary's College in Los Angeles, Calif., a women's college where she was professor of psychology and assistant provost in charge of institutional assessment and faculty development. At Mount Saint Mary's, Dr. Dean formerly served as department chair and interim dean.

Karol received her Ph.D. and master's degree in personality psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles, and received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Boston University.

Let's all give a warm welcome to Karol!!

Happy Birthday



April 22 – Alma Bucher

April 22 is the 112th day of the year (113th in leap years) in the Gregorian calendar. There are 253 days remaining until the end of the year.

On this day in history . . .

1863 – American Civil War: Grierson's Raid begins – troops under Union Army Colonel Benjamin Grierson attack central Mississippi.

1964 – The 1964-1965 New York World's Fair opens for its first season.

1998 – Disney's Animal Kingdom opens at Walt Disney World near Orlando, Florida, United States.

Born on this date . . .

1937 – [Jack Nicholson](#), American actor

1967 – Sheryl Lee, American actress came to international attention for her performances as Laura Palmer and Maddy Ferguson on the 1990 cult TV series *Twin Peaks* and in the 1992 film *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk with Me*. She is also known for portraying photographer Astrid Kirchherr in *Backbeat* (1994) and for her roles in *Vampires* (1998) and *Winter's Bone* (2010), as well as for her television series roles in *LA Doctors*, *Kingpin*, *One Tree Hill* and *Dirty Sexy Money*. She has also played on Broadway in a production of Oscar Wilde's *Salome*.



Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/April_22
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheryl_Lee

Be a Member Detector!

New members are the lifeblood of every organization, including ours. We encourage everyone to invite their friends, relatives, co-workers, and neighbors to our meetings throughout the year.



TIDBITS . . . Did You Know



An old ad from a wartime newspaper printed in France, circa 1918

Whitman's is one of America's largest and oldest brands of boxed chocolates. Whitman's confections have been produced since 1842, originally by Stephen Whitman in Philadelphia and currently by Russell Stover Candies. The Whitman's Sampler, an assortment of boxed chocolates, is still popular.

Whitman's confections have been produced for over 160 years. Originally a "confectionery and fruiterer shoppe" set up in 1842 by 19-year-old Stephen F. Whitman on the Philadelphia waterfront, Whitman's first became popular with travelling sailors and their wives. They would often bring imported fruits, nuts and cocoa from their trips back to Mr. Whitman so that he could make the popular European confections people craved in that era. Before long Whitman's chocolates were popular all along the north-eastern section of the United States.

The first prepackaged Whitman's candy was produced in 1854. It was a box of sugar plums adorned with curlicues and rosebuds. Whitman began advertising in newspapers shortly before the beginning of the Civil War. The business thrived and in 1866 an entire building at 12th and Market Streets in Philadelphia was taken over by the company. In 1877, Instantaneous Chocolates were introduced in tin boxes that became much admired.

Whitman's introduced the perennially popular and still best-selling Whitman's Sampler in 1912. This marked the first use of cellophane by the candy industry.

In 1946 Whitman's helped General Electric to develop a refrigerated display case to prevent melting of the product and extend the selling season through the summer months.

In the early 1960s, Whitman's was purchased by Pet, Inc., an evaporated milk company that was in the process of becoming a food products conglomerate. In 1993, the Whitman's brand was sold to Russell Stover Candies, the major supplier of boxed candy in the United States.

Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whitman's>





Facts about March

According to the Georgian calendar, March is the third month of the year. According to the early Roman calendar, it was the first month and was called *Martius*. The ancient Romans later made January 1 the beginning of the year, and March became the third month on the calendar. March has always had 31 days. Its name honors Mars, the Roman God of war.

The winter ends with March, and then comes Spring. Spring in the northern half of the world begins with March 19, 20, or 21. It's the day when the sun is directly over the equator. March can either feel wintry or springy, with as many blustery, windy days as there are mild, sunny days.

In the northern hemisphere, the animals end their hibernation and many plants come to life again in March. The sap flows in the trees again, and the buds begin to show up. Bears, woodchucks, and chipmunks leave their hibernating spots. People begin to start looking for the first robin, for the beginning of Spring arrival.

The aquamarine is the birthstone for March.

Violet is the flower for the month of March.



Source: <http://www.entourages.com/barbs/march.htm>

AAUW on Pittsburgh Live Today



On February 23, 2012, Rosemary Martinelli and Trina Hall appeared on the Pittsburgh Live Today show. The purpose of their appearance was to promote our cookbook "Foods We Learned to Love".

Rosemary spoke about our branch and some of the things we do, such as raising money for scholarships while Trina made a recipe from our cookbook.

Sales from their appearance on KDKA and the article in the Post Gazette the week before were 35 cookbooks or \$350.

Thank you Rosemary for arranging all the publicity. It really paid off!

Pittsburgh Branch Election

New officers for the offices of Membership Vice President and Secretary will be elected this year at our annual membership meeting held on May 12, 2012.

In December, 2011 a Nominations Committee was created to find members who were not only interested in being an officer but who would help promote our branch.

The Nominations Committee of Stephanie Johnson (chair), Karin Neilson, and Gwendolyn Ormes worked very hard during the months of January and February 2012 to come up with a slate of one candidate for each office.

Those candidates are LaTrina Hall for Membership Vice President and Marci Henzi for Secretary.



LaTrina Hall

Trina Hall is a current student and graduate of the University of Phoenix, Pittsburgh Campus. She has obtained her undergraduate degrees and is working on a Master's of Education in Adult Education and Training. She also works for the university as an enrollment advisor. She is a mother of two children and enjoys reading and outdoor activities in her spare time. She is an advocate for education and volunteers her spare time between her church and non-profit organization, Labor of Love Ministries, Inc. Trina desires to advance her opportunities and education while supporting and encouraging others to do the same.



Marci Henzi

I bought a house in the Crafton Heights neighborhood of Pittsburgh 3 years ago. It took me a year to get moved and detach from the York/Harrisburg area where I had been living since 1987. I had been a member of AAUW Harrisburg for several years, invited to the branch by ladies that I had met during a Spring Break trip to Athens through Harrisburg Area Community College, where I taught Mathematics for 10 years as an Adjunct. My 82 year old mother, who is living a full, active life in the York community, accompanied me on that fortuitous trip.



Voting will take place at the annual membership meeting in May so please be sure to attend and support the candidates.



Branch Dues Increase



Your board is pleased to thank every one of you for your membership and activity this past year, as it will soon come to a close in May. From cookbooks to meeting presence in local, state and national meetings to scholarships, the write-read-write program, and interesting monthly programs on fascinating topics of our times such as STEM, Marcellus Shale, women's careers, etc., we have had one of the most eventful years in our recent history. We are happy that you have decided to share yourself in whatever way you have with AAUW's goals of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. We look forward to another positive and fun-filled year next year. No doubt you have enjoyed reading your prolific and informative monthly newsletter and have become inspired to keep up your work in advocacy for women. Due to economic concerns, the board has decided to ask the membership to add \$5 to next year's membership dues. We currently only have \$6 per member for local use. We have learned that many branches charge \$20 for this. In an effort to create more funds to use locally, we respectfully request that at the May Business Meeting at our normal meeting day—the 2nd Saturday of the month—May 12, that you vote to approve this small increase for the good of your branch. We have had much fun with our door prizes this year and have earned extra money for our operating budget and for this we thank every person that has contributed. That is indeed a help, but we feel we need some additional help. As it stands, the \$6 from each member currently covers the price of about one stamp a month for the year's newsletters. Because of this, you can see why we think it is needed to raise the local branch dues from \$6 to \$11, so that we have funds to cover things in addition to the newsletter. We hope that you will agree and continue to support your local branch in its endeavors of doing good things for women and girls.

Respectfully yours,

Shari Muench,
Pittsburgh Branch President

The final 2011-2012 Branch Meeting will be held on May 12, 2012



This meeting is considered our annual meeting. The slate for 2012-2014 Secretary and Membership Vice President will be voted on by the membership. You must be present to vote.

Also on the agenda is a proposed Branch dues increase from \$5 to \$11. Members attending the meeting will have an opportunity to give their opinions about the increase before the vote is taken. You must be present to vote.

