

AAUW Pittsburgh Branch

The Newsletter of American Association of University Women - Pittsburgh Branch

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Visit us at www.aauwpgh.org

June 2012

It's Official

By a unanimous vote of those members present at the Annual Membership Meeting in May, LaTrina Hall is our new Membership Vice President and Marci Henzi is our new Secretary.

Congratulations to both!!

Dues Increase Passes

The requested branch dues increase of \$6 passed by a unanimous vote of those members present. This increase of branch dues from \$5 to \$11 will allow us to continue sending the newsletter each month as well as maintain our branch's Web site www.aauwpgh.org

Highlights of the Annual Membership Meeting

Scholarship recipient was announced . . .
Johanna Burnett from Duquesne University was this year's recipient. Johanna was not able to attend the meeting but has agreed to come in September to tell us what she does and how this scholarship will help her continue her pursuit of her Ph.D.

Cookbook sales . . .
To-date the branch has sold 183 out of 200 copies of the "Foods We Learned To Love" cookbook. Thirteen were used for promoting the cookbook which means there are four left to be sold.

"Time does not pass, it continues."
— Marty Rubin



For many years Joyce Martin has been the Pittsburgh Branch's Recording & Corresponding Secretary. She has passed the baton to Marci but she will not be forgotten. For the time dedicated to AAUW, Joyce was presented with a clock and thanks from the branch.



Thank You Joyce!!!

Happy Birthday

June is the sixth month of the year and one of four months with 30 days. June is the month with the longest daylight hours of the year in the Northern Hemisphere and the shortest daylight hours of the year in the Southern Hemisphere.

At the Pittsburgh Branch we have four members whose birthdays fall in June.

Bernie Cerasaro – 6/1
Winnie Carr – 6/8
Lynn Block Maguire – 6/25
Flora Mosaka-Wright – 6/30

Happy Birthday, everyone!!



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.



As an added incentive, any current member who signs up a new member will receive an AAUW tote bag.

AAUW Give-A-Grad-A-Gift

AAUW members can give a recent college graduate a free 1 year membership in AAUW, at no cost! Give a free membership to anyone who has graduated in the last year or two, who has earned an associate, bachelor, graduate, or doctorate degree, and who is not currently a regular member of AAUW.

The free 1 year membership does not cover the \$15 for state and branch dues.

If you know someone you would like to gift please contact Pat Byerly at (412) 482-4419 or pabyerly@aauwpgh.org.



AAUW MISSION

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

2012-2013 AAUW Membership Drive



It is that time of year when we need to get out our checkbooks and write that check to renew our AAUW membership. Membership renewal forms were mailed to you last week and if we receive your membership renewal by June 30, 2012 you will receive an AAUW spiral bound notebook at the first meeting you attend. This includes regular and honorary members as well as "LIFE" members whose state and branch dues are current.



Dues for 2012-2013 are \$49 national, \$10 state, and \$11 branch for a total of \$70 (\$21 for LIFE members). All members (except Honorary Life members) including "LIFE" are responsible for state and branch dues.

"As an AAUW member you will belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance." (aauw.org)

As a Pittsburgh Branch member you will continue to receive the monthly newsletter as well as information about upcoming fundraisers. Belonging to AAUW is an extraordinary experience you won't want to be left out of.

If you did not receive a renewal form please contact Pat Byerly at (412) 482-4419 or pabyerly@aauwpgh.org and she will send you a form.

**BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS**

About AAUW

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.

Because AAUW is a 501(c)(3) charitable membership organization, most of your national dues are tax deductible on your personal federal income tax return.

WANTED

Pictures

Have you been someplace either in or out of the country and you took pictures that you would like to share? . . . Well, now you can.

We are starting a new project where we will take those pictures and create note cards and stickers.

We are looking for pictures of places that you have visited to put on note cards and stickers. If we get enough pictures we will sell the note cards to raise money for our general fund or scholarships.

The pictures can be either in or out of the country, scenery or landscapes only (no people please).

We'll print some sample cards of all of the photos submitted and the membership can vote on which ones we should use at the September meeting.

Do you have pictures that you would like to make note cards from for your family or friends? If so, contact Pat Byerly to find out how.

A Worthy Cause

Beautiful Lengths is a partnership between Pantene and the American Cancer Society, the largest nonprofit health organization committed to saving lives from every cancer, in every community, and improving the quality of life for people facing the disease. The role of Pantene is to help women grow long, strong, beautiful hair and provide the funds to turn this hair into free, real-hair wigs for women have lost hair due to chemotherapy and radiation treatments. So far, Pantene has donated 18,000 free real-hair wigs to the American Cancer Society's wig banks which distribute wigs to cancer patients across the country (Retrieved from www.pantene.com).

Our member, Michele Buford, on April 19, 2012 donated 9 inches of her hair to the Pantene Beautiful Lengths Program. She was kind enough to provide before and after pictures.



Before



After

Thank you Michele!

Recipe of the Month

St. Louis Pasta House Salad By Carol O'Laughlin

Ingredients:

Salad:

1 head Iceberg lettuce
1/2 head Romaine lettuce
1 jar artichoke hearts
1 cup sliced red onion
1 cup diced pimento



Dressing:

2/3 cup 5% olive oil
1/3 cup Regina red wine vinegar
1 tsp salt
1/4 tsp black pepper
2/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese

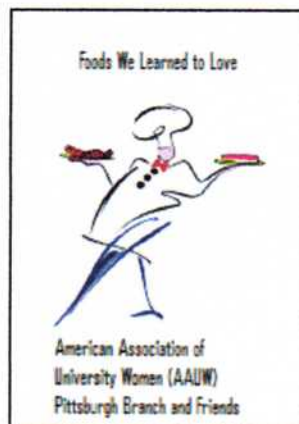
Break up lettuce into bite-size pieces. Add drained and sliced artichoke hearts, sliced onion, drained diced pimento. Mix salad thoroughly. Then mix all ingredients for dressing together. Add to salad just before serving.



This is a popular salad I enjoyed while attending Washington University working on my MBA in St. Louis, Missouri.



Cookbooks are still available – contact Pat Byerly



TIDBITS . . . Did You Know

1877 Shamokin Uprising

The 1877 Shamokin Uprising occurred when desperation and starvation drove Pennsylvania's railroad workers and miners to join the Great Railroad Strike of 1877, America's first nationwide strike.

In 1874 a third of Pennsylvania's workforce was unemployed. The Reading Railroad cut train workers' wages by 10%, resulting in an unsuccessful strike. In 1875 only 1/5 of American workers had full-time jobs. Some people vented their frustration by damaging tracks, trains, and mines. On May 11, 1875 the trestle at Locust Gap Junction was exploded by drilling holes and filling them with gunpowder. The telegraph office at Locust Summit was burned. From 1860 to 1909 arson destroyed 25 collieries between Mount Carmel and Trevorton. Knoebels Amusement Resort has a Mining Museum with a beautiful mural of the twice burned Locust Gap colliery.



Reading Depot in Shamokin, raided in the Shamokin Uprising

In July 1877 America was deep in the depression. The previous year the total revenues of America's railroads fell by \$5.8 million. But they raised profits to \$186 million (up \$0.9 million) by cutting wages. Most owners received 10% dividends. In July 1877 railroads across America conspired and lowered wages another 10%. Train brakemen and firemen's wages came to \$30 per month.

When they found out on July 16, trainmen in Baltimore left work, sparking the Great Strike. More than 80,000 trainmen and 500,000 other workers from Boston to Kansas City joined them, despite the absence of unions. In Pittsburgh when the National Guard, invited by the railroad, shot 26 unarmed strikers and bystanders, crowds burned freight cars for 3 miles (4.8 km). Troops shot more individuals, raising Pittsburgh's dead to over 40. In Pittsburgh and Saint Louis, Missouri the railroad workers were strong enough to take over management, run trains, and collect tickets. In Hornellsville, New York when scabs started a train up a mountain, strikers soaped the tracks. The train went up, slowed, stopped; the passenger cars were unhooked and slid back down the mountain.

In Reading on July 22, with the Reading Railroad 2 months in arrears of paying wages, crowds of women and children watched as strikers blocked tracks. The railroad called in the National Guard. A few people threw bricks and the soldiers opened fire in all directions, killing 10 and wounding 40, including 5 local police.

In Shamokin on the morning of July 24, miners struck at the Big Mountain Colliery. 10 families in a row of houses had no food for 3 weeks, except a few scraps from their gardens. At 2 PM a large meeting of workers on Slope Hill demanded work or food.

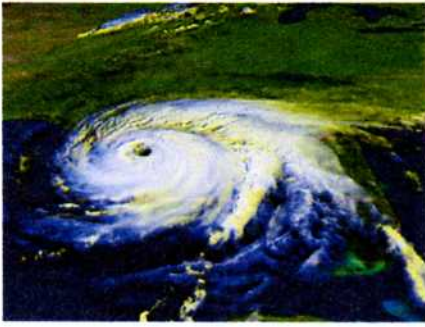
Read more at

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1877_Shamokin_Uprising

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1877_Shamokin_Uprising

Atlantic Hurricane Season

The hurricane season in the Atlantic begins on June 1st and ends on November 30th.



Hurricanes are giant, spiraling tropical storms that can pack wind speeds of over 160 miles (257 kilometers) an hour and unleash more than 2.4 trillion gallons (9 trillion liters) of rain a day. These same tropical storms are known as cyclones in the northern Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal, and as typhoons in the western Pacific Ocean.

The Atlantic Ocean's hurricane season peaks from mid-August to late October and averages five to six hurricanes per year.

Hurricanes begin as tropical disturbances in warm ocean waters with surface temperatures of at least 80 degrees Fahrenheit (26.5 degrees Celsius). These low pressure systems are fed by energy from the warm seas. If a storm achieves wind speeds of 38 miles (61 kilometers) an hour, it becomes known as a tropical depression. A tropical depression becomes a tropical storm, and is given a name, when its sustained wind speeds top 39 miles (63 kilometers) an hour. When a storm's sustained wind speeds reach 74 miles (119 kilometers) an hour it becomes a hurricane and earns a category rating of 1 to 5 on the Saffir-Simpson scale.

Hurricanes are enormous heat engines that generate energy on a staggering scale. They draw heat from warm, moist ocean air and release it through condensation of water vapor in thunderstorms.

Hurricanes spin around a low-pressure center known as the "eye." Sinking air makes this 20- to 30-mile-wide (32- to 48-kilometer-wide) area notoriously calm. But the eye is surrounded by a circular "eye wall" that hosts the storm's strongest winds and rain.

These storms bring destruction ashore in many different ways. When a hurricane makes landfall it often produces a devastating storm surge that can reach 20 feet (6 meters) high and extend nearly 100 miles (161 kilometers). Ninety percent of all hurricane deaths result from storm surges.

A hurricane's high winds are also destructive and may spawn tornadoes. Torrential rains cause further damage by spawning floods and landslides, which may occur many miles inland.

The best defense against a hurricane is an accurate forecast that gives people time to get out of its way. The National Hurricane Center issues hurricane watches for storms that may endanger communities, and hurricane warnings for storms that will make landfall within 24 hours.

Source: <http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/natural-disasters/hurricane-profile/>

World Environment Day

World Environment Day (WED) is a day that stimulates awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and public action. It is on June 5th. It was the day that the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment began. The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment was from June 5–16, 1972. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972. The first World Environment Day was in 1973. World Environment Day is hosted every year by a different city with a different theme and is commemorated with an international exposition in the week of June 5th. World Environment Day is in summer in the Northern Hemisphere and winter in the Southern Hemisphere.



The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) has named India, for the first time, as the global host of World Environment Day 2011 (WED) on June 5, for "embracing the process of a transition to a Green Economy." This year's theme 'Forests: Nature at Your Service', underscores the intrinsic link between quality of life and the health of forests and forest ecosystems. The WED theme also supports this year's UN International Year of Forests.

India is a country of 1.2 billion people, who continue to put pressure on forests especially in densely populated areas where people are cultivating on marginal lands and where overgrazing is contributing to desertification, UNEP said.

But the Indian Government has also found solutions, it said. While the socio-economic pressures on the country's forests are tremendous, India has instituted a tree planting system to combat land degradation and desertification, including windbreaks and shelterbelts to protect agricultural land.

In conserving its critical ecosystem, India has successfully introduced projects that track the health of the nation's plants, animals, water and other natural resources, including the Sunderbans; the largest deltaic mangrove forest in the world, and home to one of India's most iconic wildlife species: the tiger, UNEP said.



Sources: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Environment_Day
<http://www.hindustantimes.com/India-to-host-World-Environment-Day-2011/Article1-665730.aspx>

Shavou'ot

Shavu'ot, the Festival of Weeks, is the second of the three major Jewish festivals with both historical and agricultural significance (the other two are Passover and Sukkot). Agriculturally, it commemorates the time when the first fruits were harvested and brought to the Temple, and is known as Hag ha-Bikkurim (the Festival of the First Fruits). Historically, it celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, and is also known as Hag Matan Torateinu (the Festival of the Giving of Our Torah).

The period from Passover to Shavu'ot is a time of great anticipation. We count each of the days from the second day of Passover to the day before Shavu'ot, 49 days or 7 full weeks, hence the name of the festival. See The Counting of the Omer. The counting reminds us of the important connection between Passover and Shavu'ot: Passover freed us physically from bondage, but the giving of the Torah on Shavu'ot redeemed us spiritually from our bondage to idolatry and immorality. Shavu'ot is also known as Pentecost, because it falls on the 50th day; however, Shavu'ot has no particular similarity to the Christian holiday of Pentecost, which occurs 50 days after their Spring holiday.

It is noteworthy that the holiday is called the time of the *giving* of the Torah, rather than the time of the *receiving* of the Torah. The sages point out that we are constantly in the process of receiving the Torah, that we receive it every day, but it was first given at this time. Thus it is the giving, not the receiving, that makes this holiday significant.

Shavu'ot is not tied to a particular calendar date, but to a counting from Passover. Because the length of the months used to be variable, determined by observation, and there are two new moons between Passover and Shavu'ot, Shavu'ot could occur on the 5th or 6th of Sivan. However, now that we have a mathematically determined calendar, and the months between Passover and Shavu'ot do not change length on the mathematical calendar, Shavu'ot is always on the 6th of Sivan (the 6th and 7th outside of Israel).

Work is not permitted during Shavu'ot.

It is customary to stay up the entire first night of Shavu'ot and study Torah, then pray as early as possible in the morning.

It is customary to eat a dairy meal at least once during Shavu'ot. There are varying opinions as to why this is done. Some say it is a reminder of the promise regarding the land of Israel, a land flowing with "milk and honey." According to another view, it is because our ancestors had just received the Torah (and the dietary laws therein), and did not have both meat and dairy dishes available.

The book of Ruth is read at this time. Again, there are varying reasons given for this custom, and none seems to be definitive.

Source: <http://www.jewfaq.org/holidayc.htm>

